

of the fact. According to Calmeil, hepatization of the lung occurs once in every five bodies. According to Thore, the proportion is 1 in 7; according to Lechler, 1 in 9; according to the author, 1 in 6. In 134 autopsies, the author found 22 instances of pulmonary hepatization; 3 instances of extravasation of blood in the tissue; 1 instance of pulmonary gangrene. In many cases there were present co-existent pleuritic effusions. The histories of the patients present nothing worthy of remark. Of seven cases, five had long suffered from deep-seated cerebral disturbance. The author accounts for the frequency of pneumonia in the insane by a lessening of energy or a paralysis of the filaments of the nervi vagi distributed to the lungs; and he refers to the experiments of Majendie, who proved this connexion by poisoning animals with medicines whose action is especially exerted upon this nerve; (ipecac. ; tart. stib. ; d. r. t.), inflammation of the lungs ensued in each experiment. He brings forward the experiment of Volkmann, who proved that division of the nervi vagi produces congestion of blood in the lungs. According to Griesinger, pneumonia occurs especially in those cases of typhus where the patients have long lain in a state of sopor. The author also remarks upon paralytic patients, in whom hepatization of the lung ensues after long sopor. Finally, the excessively rapid exudation indicates that inflammation in these cases arises from paralysis of pulmonary capillaries.—*Damer. Ztschr.* x. 4.

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*Inga*.—*A new Astringent*.—This substance enjoys a reputation as an astringent and tonic in some European countries, and also in America. The bark is compact and heavy, and its fracture presents alternate layers of white and red. When chewed it is found to be astringent to the taste, and quickly imparts a red hue to the saliva. It is thick in extractive principles. The alcoholic extract resembles that of rhatany, both in its color and general properties. In America inga is extolled as an astringent tonic in diarrhœa, in gonorrhœa, in hæmoptysis, in incontinence of urine, and in relaxation of the tissues. As an antiseptic its powder has also been used in the same instances as cinchona. Some trials already made in Paris appear to justify its reputation and its claim to take rank in our *Materia Medica*.

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*Method of Detecting whether Olive or other Non-Drying Oils have been adulterated with Poppy or other Drying Oils*.—Nitric acid has the property of converting the oleine or the liquid constituent of almond, olive, and other non-drying oils into a crystalline substance, termed elaidin, while it has not the same action upon the drying oils. Wimmer has accordingly proposed a process to detect whether olive or almond oil has been adulterated with any of the cheap drying oils, founded upon this property. He introduces some iron filings into a flask, provided with a cork, into which he inserted a long bent tube, and then pours some strong nitric acid upon them; a part of the nitric acid will be decom-