

experiments of Fleck prove that this gas is liberated under the joint action of organic matter and moist air, and its presence is, therefore, possible wherever free arsenious acid comes in contact with organic matter.

Quite recently it has been learned that a substance is used in artificial port wine, (which includes 99 per cent. of that stuff sold in this country) which is, in some cases, dangerous, especially when partaken of by the feeble, delicate and convalescent. It is an artificial colouring, which, Shuttleworth says, consists of a mixture of azalin and magenta red. The aniline colours, objectionable in themselves, are the more dangerous, because they not unfrequently contain arsenic. The adulteration is detected by shaking the suspected wine (and all cheap wines are to be suspected) with an equal volume of amylic alcohol (fusil oil). If the wine is genuine port, the amylic alcohol remains colorless; but if adulterated, it dissolves out the coloring matter, and itself appears of a purple-red color.

Of the forms in which the action of this poison may manifest itself, a baffling one is arsenical paralysis.

Dr. Scolosaboff, of Moscow, has had the opportunity of observing two cases of this rather rare disease. The paralysis affected the extremities exclusively, and was more marked at the part furthest from the heart. The cases were marked by (1) alterations of all kinds of sensibility; (2) extreme muscular atrophy, with loss or diminution of electro-muscular contractility, both faradic and galvanic; (3) alteration of the circulation and nutrition in the extremities, as proved by decrease of temperature, œdema, change of colour, etc.

It has been remarked that gangrene of the extremities has been seen in similar cases to those recorded by our Russian *confrere*. Arsenical paralysis resembles in some respects that caused by lead, while in others it is not unlike poisoning by ergot.—*Med. and Surg. Reporter, Philadelphia.*

INSECTICIDE.—According to the *Industrie Blatter* of Berlin the use of wild rosemary (*Ledum palustre*) is recommended as a substitute for the well-known Persian powder. This plant whether fresh or dry, will kill lice, bed-bugs, fleas, moths, beetles, and their larvæ, the maggots, and blue-bottles, and probably other insects. It is also the best remedy for mosquito-bites, and the bites of all other insects. A little of the tincture of the plant applied to the bite not only relieves the intolerable itching, but also relieves the pain. If the tincture be mixed with glycerine and rubbed on the skin it will drive the mosquitoes away.—*Sanit. Rec.*