

## CAMPHOR MIXTURE.

The following are two forms of this mixture, neither, in our opinion, equalling the simple solution in water, which that fluid will take up :

*Parrish's camphor mixture.* ℞—Aquæ camphoræ, f ʒ iij. Spiriti lavendulæ compositi, f ʒ j. Sacchari, ʒ j. Misce. Give a tablespoonful every two hours in diarrhœa and cholera, adding ten drops of laudanum when there is much pain. This preparation was originally prescribed by Dr. Parrish, senior, of Philadelphia, many years ago, and has since become a standard remedy. *Hope's camphor mixture.* ℞—Aquæ camphoræ, f ʒ iv. Acidi nitrosi, m xxx. Tincturæ opii, m xx. vel xl. Misce. Dose, a tablespoonful every two hours in diarrhœa and dysentery. It is to be particularly observed that the good effects of this famous remedy depend on the employment of *nitrous acid*, not *nitric acid*, in conjunction with opium. Mr. Hope, by way of trial, substituted the latter acid for the former in the mixture, but found that the altered preparation was not in any way beneficial to his patients.—*Chemist and Druggist.*

## STEADINE A SUBSTITUTE FOR HOG'S LARD.

Steadine is but a contraction of the word stearaidine, resembling fat, and is prepared as follows :—

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| Lard . . . . .                                       | 3½ ounces. |
| Water . . . . .                                      | 3½ “       |
| Soda deprived of its carbonic acid by lime . . . . . | 15 grains. |

The soda is weighed and used dry. It should be melted in about four drachms of water; the lard is then gradually added alternately with the remaining water. The operation of this mixture is both swift and simple; in ten minutes four pounds of steady may be prepared. This new adipose substance presents the appearance of a whitish, fatty compound, inodorous, insipid, and intermediate between cerate and lard. Its consistency, soft at first, soon acquires more firmness; it is not, like axunge, liable to liquefy during warm and to harden in cold weather. It indefinitely preserves its color and density, unless left constantly exposed to the atmosphere—a practice injurious to other pomades and fatty matters, which turn rancid from prolonged contact with the oxygen of the air.

The slight addition of the alkaline ingredient is undiscoverable from taste or from examination with test-paper, being entirely saturated by the fatty excipient. It suffices, however, to create a new fatty substance of a mixed nature, a medium between fats and bodies soluble in water. A new and solid species of glycerin is thus produced, which is to a certain extent soluble in oils and water. This double property renders it capable of being in the preparation and use of pomades as serviceable as glycerin itself for oils and liniments. Ointments containing metallic bases, oxides, chlorides, sulphurets, iodides, salts, etc. remain unaltered; the iodide of potassium pomade preserves its whiteness, and does not lose its iodine. For the purpose of manipulation, it will be found most convenient. Insoluble powders mix with it promptly and with great accuracy. It is more readily combined with vegetable powders than lard, a bad solvent of their active principles. Soluble salts, extracts which require previous dilution in water, can be immediately and completely associated with steadine, whereas, when hog's lard is used, the repulsion between the ingredients is so great that a very protracted and persevering manipulation is necessary before even a badly-assorted union can be effected.—(*Journal of Practical Medicine and Surgery, and Pharmaceutical Journal, London, December, 1860.*)