

as podophyllin, or croton oil, both of which are of so drastic a nature as to make it unwise to give them to a delicate patient. The second class of efforts have been made principally by medical men and nurses, and have consisted in floating the oil on some vehicle, such as tea, coffee, punch, wine, beer, etc., etc., The result is that the patient, in spite of the most careful management, finds some of the oil sticking to his mouth, and sinks back in the bed with the conviction impressed on his mind that oil is abominable stuff. The most successful vehicle of this kind that has come under my observation is flax-seed tea, well sweetened and flavored with any agreeable aromatic. If the oil be floated on this, and before the dose is taken, the lungs be thoroughly exhausted, so that the whole can be drunk with a deep inspiration, the taste is very little noticed. The third direction in which inventors have exercised their ingenuity in endeavoring to cover up and disguise the unwelcome flavor is by adding various ingredients to the oil, and by making it into an emulsion. Of this class are Copland's Sweet Castor Oil, which answers admirably for children, but for adults has the disadvantage of retaining its natural appearance, and of being much too thick and clammy for reasonably pleasant use. Wilson's Castor Oil Emulsion has the taste well disguised, and has a little less of the clamminess, but is open to the objection of being too thick, and there is just the suspicion in my mind that the strength may have been fortified by the addition of some more powerful purgative.

In the May number, p. 357, of the *JOURNAL* is an article by Mr. Herbert G. Rogerson, in which he gives a formula adapted to emulsify most oils and balsams. It certainly makes a very nice looking preparation, having a white pearly lustre, and with the taste and smell of the active ingredient very well disguised. But it is too thick and must be gulped down.

For some twelve or fourteen years past I have used the following formula for a Castor Oil draught which has proved very acceptable to adults who could not get down the pure oil. For children it does not answer so well, the dose of necessity being double that of the oil :

℞. Ol. Ricini, ℥j.
 Mucil. Acaciæ ℥ij.
 Shake well together, then add
 Syr. Simp. ℥ij.