

is endemic will greatly oblige me by giving the medicine a fair trial, and reporting their experience.*

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WM. KERR.

Rosehill House, Galt, 28th December, 1852.

Having learned from several medical friends that they had failed in making the persesqui-nitrate of iron, I take this opportunity of stating the mode of preparation, I trust with sufficient fullness and perspicuity.

Mix three fluid ounces of nitric acid with fifteen ounces of water in an earthenware or glass vessel. Put into this one ounce of iron-wire (that known by the name of No. 18) broken into several pieces, and so twisted as to extend into every portion of the liquid. Let the temperature of the apartment, if possible, be not lower than 55° or higher than 75° . In twelve hours the solution will be completed, when the liquid is to be poured off the residue of the wire, and one hundred and two ounces of water added, thus increasing the solution to one hundred and twenty ounces. The liquid ought to have the color of dark brandy, be perfectly transparent, and with carbonate of soda give a red precipitate unmixed with green. A greenish tint in the precipitate indicates that the temperature of the liquid was not sufficiently high while the solution was going on, or that the liquid has been allowed to remain too long on the residue of the iron. A turbid solution or a red magma indicates too high a temperature while the wire was being dissolved. The large quantity of water finally added is for the purpose of preserving the solution transparent a reasonable length of time in warm weather.

If a smaller quantity of the persesqui-nitrate is to be made, say one third, then the dilute acid in which the iron is to be dissolved ought to be stronger, otherwise owing to its smaller bulk, its temperature will not rise sufficiently high to peroxidise the metal. Not to leave free acid, the wire ought to extend into every portion of the liquid, and

*Jackson, in his account of Morocco, says, "that leprosy is very prevalent, and that on any change of weather, and particularly if the sky be overcast, and the air damp, lepers will be seen sitting round a fire warming their bones, as they term it, for they ache all over till the weather resumes its wonted salubrity." Similar conditions of the system will give rise to similar symptoms; no person acquainted with ague can fail to recognize in the above a description as applicable to ague as to leprosy, and every one acquainted with the use of the persesqui-nitrate in the former disease must know that this medicine easily removes the disposition to the extraordinary chillness now described.