CHAP. XXV.

LINIMENTA, UNGUENTA ET CERATA.—LINIMENTS, OINTMENTS, AND CERATES.

These are compositions of a soft consistence, having some unctuous substance for their basis, such as oil, lard, spermaceti or wax. When the consistence is so soft as to be thick, but nearly fluid, it is termed a Liniment; when it is more firm, it is an Ointment; and when still harder, it forms a Cerate. It is evident that these different degrees of consistence depend on the proportions of the ingredients. Where the oil is in large quantity, a liniment is formed, and the addition to this of a larger proportion of wax forms an ointment or cerate. The following general directions are given in the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia for their preparation.

In making these compositions, fatty and resinous substances are to be melted with a gentle heat, stirring them constantly, sprinkling in at the same time the dry ingredients, if there are any, reduced to a very fine powder, until the mixture, by cooling, become firm.

Formerly ointments were numerous and complicated in their composition, and surgeons adapted, with much formality, different ointments to answer different indications. The practice is now more simple; the principal intention in these applications is to keep the parts soft and easy,

and to exclude the atmospheric air, and therefore the simplest composition that is of a proper consistence and tenacity answers the purpose. It is only in a few cases that certain substances are added to these simple compositions, with the view of obtaining peculiar effects from their stimulant, or sometimes their specific operation, or from their chemical action. The consistence of a cerate is usually the most convenient, at least for continued application, that of an ointment being rather too thin, especially as it is rendered thinner by the heat of the part applied.

LINIMENTUM AQUÆ CALCIS, *sive Oleum Lini cum Calce.* Liniment of Lime Water. Ed.

Take of Oil of Lintseed, Lime Water, of each equal parts. Mix them.

LINIMENTUM CALCIS. Liniment of Lime. Dub.

Take of Lime Water, Olive Oil, of each three ounces. Mix by agitation.

This is a saponaceous compound, formed by the mutual chemical action of the lime water and oil. It is a thick bland fluid of a white colour, and is sometimes used as a soothing application to inflamed parts, more particularly to burns, being spread over the surface with a feather. It requires to be extemporaneously prepared, as after a little time the soapy matter separates from the water.

LINIMENTUM SIMPLEX. Simple Liniment. Ed.

Take of Olive Oil, four parts; White Wax, one part.

UNGUENTUM SIMPLEX. Simple Ointment. Ed.

Take of Olive Oil, five parts; White Wax, two parts.

CERATUM SIMPLEX. Simple Cerate. Ed.

Take of Olive Oil, six parts; White Wax, three parts; Spermaceti, one part.

These compositions differ merely in consistence. They are applied, spread on linen, as usual dressings to slight wounds and excoriations. The cerate affords the composition, which, from consistence, is best adapted to this, The following compositions, in the London and Dublin Pharmacopœias, are nearly the same, and are designed for the same purposes.

UNGUENTUM CETACEI. Spermaceti Ointment. Lond.

Take of Spermaceti, six drachms; White Wax, two drachms; Olive Oil, three fluidounces. Having melted them with a gentle fire, stir them constantly until they cool.

UNGUENTUM SPERMATIS CETI. Ointment of Spermaceti. Dub.

Take of White Wax, half a pound; Spermaceti, one pound; Prepared Lard, three pounds. Form an ointment.

CERATUM CETACEI. Spermaceti Cerate. Lond.

Take of Spermaceti, half an ounce; White Wax, two ounces; Olive Oil, four fluidounces. To the spermaceti and wax melted, add the oil, and stir them until they cool.

CERATUM. Cerate. Lond.

Take of Olive Oil, four fluidounces; of Yellow Wax, four ounces. Add he oil to the wax melted, and mix.

UNGUENTUM CERÆ FLAVÆ. Ointment of Yellow Wax. Dub.

Take of Purified Yellow Wax, a pound; of Prepared Lard, four pounds. Form an ointment.

UNGUENTUM CERÆ ALBÆ. Ointment of White Wax. Dub.

This is made in the same manner, employing only White for Yellow Wax.

UNGUENTUM RESINOSUM. Resinous Ointment. Ed.

Take of Hogs Lard, eight parts; White Resin, five parts; Yellow Wax, two parts.

CERATUM RESINÆ. Cerate of Resin. Lond.

Take of Yellow Resin, Yellow Wax, each a pound; Olive Oil, a pint. Melt the wax and resin with a slow fire, then add the oil, and strain the cerate through linen while warm.

UNGUENTUM RESINÆ ALBÆ. Ointment of White Resin. Dub.

Take of Yellow Wax, a pound; White Resin, two pounds; Prepared Lard, four pounds. Form an ointment, which, while hot, strain through a sieve.

The addition of the resin renders this considerably more stimulating than the preceding ointments. Hence it is used as a dressing where the object is to promote suppuration.

UNGUENTUM PULVERIS MELOES VESICATORII, *olim Unguentum Epispasticum fortius*. Ointment of Powder of Cantharides. Ed.

Take of Resinous Ointment, seven parts; Powder of Cantharides, one part.

CERATUM LYTTÆ. Cerate of Cantharides. Lond.

Take of Spermaceti Cerate, six drachms; Cantharides rubbed to a very fine powder, a drachm. To the cerate, softened by heat, add the Cantharides, and mix.

UNGUENTUM CANTHARIDIS. Ointment of Cantharides. Dub.

Take of Ointment of Yellow Wax, half a pound; Cantharides in powder, an ounce. Form an ointment.

This is the ointment commonly employed to establish a purulent discharge, or form a superficial issue in the part to which a blister has been applied: this it does from the acrid and stimulating quality of the cantharides, which quickly changes the serous discharge from the blister into one of a purulent nature, and by continuing the application, this may be kept up for any length of time. In preparing it, the cantharides ought to be reduced to a very fine powder.

UNGUENTUM INFUSI MELOES VESICATORII, *olim Unguentum Epispasticum mitius*. Ointment of Infusion of Cantharides. Ed.

Take of Cantharides, White Resin, Yellow Wax, of each

one part; Venice Turpentine, Hogs Lard, of each two parts; Boiling Water, four parts. Macerate the cantharides in the water for a night, and strain the liquor, pressing it strongly; having added the lard, boil it until the water is evaporated; then add the wax and resin. These being melted and removed from the fire, add the turpentine.

The ointment with the powder of cantharides sometimes occasions too much pain and irritation. The composition obtained by this process is designed as a milder application, adapted in such cases to answer the same indication. The water, by infusion on the cantharides, extracts the acrid matter, but this, from being in a state of solution, is, after the subsequent evaporation, diffused through the unctuous matter in a state of finer division than the powder can be: it is also from the proportions ordered, in smaller quantity, but its stimulating quality is aided by the turpentine, and it is still sufficiently so to keep up the purulent discharge.

UNGUENTUM SUB-ACETITIS CUPRI, *olim Unguentum Æruginis.* Ointment of Sub-Acetite of Copper. Ed.

Take of Resinous Ointment, fifteen parts; Sub-Acetite of Copper, one part.

UNGUENTUM ÆRUGINIS. Ointment of Verdigrease. Dub.

Take of Resinous Ointment, a pound; Prepared Verdigrease, half an ounce. Form an ointment.

This ointment is used as a stimulant and escharotic, applied to foul ulcers. It is rather too active, and in general requires to be mixed with an additional proportion of resinous or simple ointment; nor is it used but as an occasional dressing.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI, *vulgo Unguentum Cæruleum.* Ointment of Quicksilver. Ed.

Take of Quicksilver, Mutton Suet, of each one part; Hogs Lard, three parts. Rub the quicksilver thoroughly in a mortar with a little of the lard, until the globules disappear; then add the remaining fats. It may be made also with a double or triple proportion of Quicksilver.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI FORTIUS. Stronger Ointment of Quicksilver. Lond.

Take of Purified Quicksilver, two pounds; Prepared Hogs Lard, twenty-three ounces; Prepared Tallow, one ounce. Rub first the quicksilver with the tallow and a little lard, until the globules disappear; then add the remaining lard, and mix them.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI. Ointment of Quicksilver. Dub.

Take of Purified Quicksilver, Prepared Lard, equal weights. Rub them together in a marble or iron mortar, until the globules of quicksilver disappear.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI MITIUS. Milder Ointment of Quicksilver. Lond.

Take of the Stronger Ointment of Quicksilver, one pound; Prepared Hogs Lard, two pounds. Mix them.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGARI MITIUS. Milder Ointment of Quicksilver. Dub.

This is made with double the weight of Lard.

Of these ointments, the one always employed for mercurial friction is that formed from equal weights of quicksilver and lard. The only use of the lard is to facilitate the extinction, as it is called, of the quicksilver, and the introduction of it through the cuticle: these purposes are perfectly attained from this proportion, and any larger quantity of unctuous matter merely weakens it, and renders it necessary to continue the friction longer. For application in some cutaneous affections, the milder ointment is some-

times used. The proportion of one part of quicksilver to four of unctuous matter, ordered in the Edinburgh Pharmacopœia, gives an ointment weaker than any that is ever used or kept in the shops; and it would be preferable, therefore, to order the preparation as is done in the other Pharmacopœias.

This, like other mercurial preparations obtained by trituration, was at one time regarded as deriving its efficacy from the mere mechanical division of the metal. The reasons have been already stated for believing, that in all these preparations the mercury is oxidated, and that their action on the living system depends on this oxide. There are even additional grounds for admitting this conclusion with regard to mercurial ointment. Unctuous matter appears in general to promote the oxidation of metals by the action of the air, as is exemplified in the green crust which copper speedily acquires when coated thinly with grease: quicksilver being in a fluid state, and the surface being extended and renewed by the trituration, these circumstances are still more favourable to the same change being effected more speedily. The improvement of the ointment from keeping, affords a similar presumptive proof. The ointment is, when newly prepared, of a light bluish grey colour, but when kept for some time it becomes of a much darker colour, probably from the oxidation of the metal becoming more complete; and it has accordingly been found, that from ointment long prepared, less metallic quicksilver subsides, when it is kept liquid by the heat of a water-bath, than from ointment newly prepared. Even from the latter, only part of the quicksilver subsides in globules, the remaining quantity is in the state of a grey powder, which there is every reason to conclude is the grey oxide of the metal.

It has been supposed, that the quicksilver in the preparation may suffer a still farther change. Unctuous matter, and more especially that of animal origin, is known to become rancid from the action of the air, and this rancidity appears to be connected with the formation of an acid, probably the acid produced from fat, the Sebacic. This change may take place to a certain extent during the trituration, and still more when the ointment is long kept, and may promote the oxidation of the mercury, while any acid that is formed may combine with the oxide. According to this view, mercurial ointment will consist of unctuous matter, in which is diffused oxide and sebate of mercury, with a portion generally of metallic mercury, its activity, of course, depending on the former.

The extinction of the mercurial globules by trituration being rather a laborious process, several expedients have been contrived to facilitate it. Several of these are inadmissible, such as the use of sulphur or turpentine. In the ointment prepared with the former, the mercury is probably not in an active state; it is known by its deep black colour, and by the smell of sulphur exhaled when paper covered with it is kindled. Turpentine renders the ointment too acrid, so that when applied by friction it produces irritation on the skin or inflammation; it also can be detected by the odour exhaled in burning. Rancid fat, it has been found, extinguishes the quicksilver better than recent fat, and may be allowed, as by the action of the metal the rancidity of the fat appears to be corrected. The trituration should always be made at first with a little tallow, as lard does not oppose sufficient resistance to afford all the assistance that may be derived from the interposed matter, in facilitating the mechanical division.

Mercurial ointment is the form under which mercury is

introduced into the system by external friction. It is a mode employed with advantage in cases where the preparations administered internally are liable to be too much determined to the intestines, so as to occasion griping or purging, or when it is necessary to introduce a large quantity of mercury speedily into the system; the general mercurial action being thus soon induced. It is likewise sometimes employed in some local affections, particularly bubo. One drachm of the strong ointment (that containing equal parts of mercury and lard) is introduced by friction on the skin in the evening, and frequently also in the morning, until the system is affected, the part on which the ointment is rubbed being occasionally changed to avoid irritation or inflammation. The weaker ointment ought not to be employed, as it merely gives unnecessary trouble, by the necessity of rubbing in so much lard. It is used therefore only as a dressing to ulcers, or as a local application.

UNGUENTUM OXIDI HYDRARGYRI CINEREI. Ointment of Grey Oxide of Quicksilver. Ed.

Take of Grey Oxide of Quicksilver, one part; Hogs Lard, three parts.

This is designed as a substitute for the mercurial ointment, and, as the quicksilver is fully oxidated, it has been supposed that it will prove more active and certain. It probably would have this advantage; but it has been said, that it is not easily introduced by friction, the unctuous matter passing through the cuticle without the whole of the oxide,—a difference which, if it do exist, must depend on the combination being less intimate.

UNGUENTUM OXIDI HYDRARGYRI RUBRI. Ointment of Red Oxide of Quicksilver. Ed.

Take of Red Oxide of Quicksilver by Nitric Acid, one part; Hogs Lard, eight parts.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI NITRICO-OXYDI. Ointment of Nitric Oxide of Quicksilver. Lond.

Take of Nitric Oxide of Quicksilver, an ounce; White Wax, two ounces; Prepared Lard, six ounces. To the wax and lard melted together, add the nitric oxide of quicksilver, rubbed into a very fine powder, and mix.

UNGUENTUM SUB-NITRATIS HYDRARGYRI. Ointment of Sub-nitrate of Quicksilver. Dub.

Take of Ointment of White Wax, half a pound; Sub-Nitrate of Quicksilver, half an ounce. Form an ointment.

This is applied as a mild escharotic to remove the diseased surface of ulcers, and as a stimulant to promote suppuration; and in cases of languid ulceration and chronic inflammation is often used with marked benefit. In some forms of ophthalmia much advantage is derived from it, particularly where the edges of the tarsi are raw or ulcerated, or where, from the continuance of inflammation, the vessels on the surface have become weakened, and where specks are beginning to form on the cornea; it is also useful in the scrofulous ophthalmia of children. Care ought to be taken in its preparation, that the mercurial preparation is reduced to a very fine powder. It ought also to be prepared only when it is to be used, or at least ought not to be long kept, as the mercurial oxide or rather sub-nitrate soon undergoes decomposition, which is indicated by the colour changing from a bright red to a grey.

UNGUENTUM NITRATIS HYDRARGYRI FORTIUS, *vulgo Unguentum Citrinum.* Stronger Ointment of Nitrate of Quicksilver. Ed.

Take of Purified Quicksilver, one part; Nitrous Acid, two

parts; Olive Oil, nine parts; Hogs Lard, three parts. Dissolve the quicksilver in the acid; then beat up the solution strongly with the lard and oil previously melted together, and beginning to cool, in a glass mortar, so as to form an ointment.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI NITRATIS. Ointment of Nitrate of Quicksilver. Lond.

Take of Purified Quicksilver, an ounce; Nitric Acid, two fluidounces; Prepared Lard, six ounces; Olive Oil, four fluidounces. Dissolve the quicksilver in the acid; then mix the liquor, while still warm, with the fat and the oil melted together.

UNGUENTUM SUPER-NITRATIS HYDRARGYRI. Ointment of Super-Nitrate of Quicksilver. Dub.

Take of Purified Quicksilver, an ounce; Nitrous Acid, two ounces; Olive Oil, a pint; Prepared Lard, four ounces. Dissolve the quicksilver in the acid, mix in the oil and lard melted together, and form an ointment in the same manner as the nitrous acid ointment.

In this ointment the nitrate of quicksilver is combined with the lard; and as there is also an excess of nitric acid, it acts chemically on the fat, and notwithstanding the quantity of oil used, gives to the composition a firm consistence. It forms like the preceding ointment a very excellent application in various forms of chronic inflammation, such, for example, as psorophthalmia; it is also used in different kinds of cutaneous eruption, herpetic, or connected with superficial inflammation or ulceration. It is either rubbed gently on the part affected, or where this would produce irritation, it is applied, softened by heat, by a hair pencil.

UNGUENTUM NITRATIS HYDRARGYRI MITIUS. Milder Ointment of Nitrate of Quicksilver. Ed.

This is made in the same manner as the preceding with a triple proportion of lard and oil.

This is designed to afford an application milder than the former, and also of a softer consistence; but, to obtain the latter convenience, it is better to reduce the strong ointment with the requisite proportion of lard, when it is to be used, as, from the operation of the acid, the milder ointment, even with the increased proportion of unctuous matter, is nearly equally firm as the stronger ointment.

UNGUENTUM ACIDI NITROSI. Ointment of Nitrous Acid. Ed.

Take of Hogs Lard, one pound; Nitrous Acid, six drachms. Mix the acid gradually with the melted lard, and beat the mixture thoroughly while it cools.

UNGUENTUM ACIDI NITROSI. Ointment of Nitrous Acid. Dub.

Take of Olive Oil, a pound; Prepared Lard, four ounces; Nitrous Acid, an ounce. Add the acid to the oil and the fat melted together in a glass vessel; apply a moderate heat in a water-bath for a quarter of an hour; then removing from the bath, stir constantly with a glass rod, until they become cold.

In this preparation part of the acid is decomposed, and part of it is combined with the lard. It is designed as an application in cutaneous affections, and has been said to be similar in its effects to the preceding ointment. It appears, however, considerably inferior in efficacy, and since its first introduction it has been little used.

UNGUENTUM OXIDI PLUMBI ALBI. Ointment of White Oxide of Lead. Ed.

Take of Simple Ointment, five parts; White Oxide of Lead, one part.

UNGUENTUM CERUSSÆ, sive SUB-ACETATIS PLUMBI. Ointment of Cerusse, or Sub-acetate of Lead. Dub.

Take of Ointment of White Wax, a pound; Cerusse, reduced to a very fine powder, two ounces. Form an ointment.

This has been used principally as an application to burns and superficial inflammation.

UNGUENTUM ACETATIS PLUMBI, *vulgo Unguentum Saturninum.* Ointment of Acetate of Lead. Ed.

Take of Simple Ointment, twenty parts; Acetate of Lead, one part.

CERATUM PLUMBI SUPER-ACETATIS. Cerate of Super-acetate of Lead. Lond.

Take of Super-acetate of Lead in powder, two drachms; White Wax, two ounces; Olive Oil, half a pint. Met the wax in seven fluidounces of the oil; then add to them gradually the super-acetate of lead, rubbed down with the rest of the oil, and stir with a wooden spatula until they unite.

UNGUENTUM ACETATIS PLUMBI. Ointment of Acetate of Lead. Dub.

Take of Ointment of White Wax, a pound and a half; Acetate of Lead, an ounce. Form an ointment.

The preparations of lead have been supposed to possess a specific power in abating inflammation by local application. They are usually applied under the form of solution; but where that of ointment is preferred, this composition has been considered as preferable to any other, as containing the most active preparation of lead. It is accordingly often used as a dressing to inflamed parts.

CERATUM PLUMBI COMPOSITUM. Compound Cerate of Lead. Lond.

Take of Solution of Acetate of Lead, two fluidounces and a half; Yellow Wax, four ounces; Olive Oil, nine ounces; Camphor, half a drachm. Mix the wax melted, with eight fluidounces of the oil; then remove the mixture from the fire, and as soon as it begins to become thick, add gradually the solution

of acetate of lead, and stir them constantly with a wooden spatula. Lastly, mix with these the camphor dissolved in the remaining oil.

A composition similar to this was introduced by Goulard, as a form of applying lead in ointment. It has been known by the name of Goulard's Cerate, and has been supposed preferable to the preceding ointment. It may derive some advantage as a soothing application to inflamed parts, from its soft consistence, and from the acetate of lead being diffused through it in a dissolved state.

CERATUM CARBONATIS ZINCI IMPURI, *olim Ceratum Lapidis Calaminaris.* Cerate of Calamine. Ed.

Take of Simple Cerate, five parts; Prepared Impure Carbonate of Zinc, one part.

CERATUM CALAMINÆ. Cerate of Calamine. Lond.

Take of Prepared Calamine, Yellow Wax, each half a pound; Olive Oil, a pint. Mix the oil with the wax melted, then remove from the fire, and when they begin to thicken, add the calamine, and stir constantly until they cool.

UNGUENTUM CALAMINARIS. Calamine Ointment. Dub.

Take of Ointment of Yellow Wax, five pounds; Prepared Calamine, a pound. Form an ointment.

This is the common healing cerate, Turner's Cerate as it has been named, which has long been used as a dressing to slight wounds, excoriations and ulcers. It appears to act simply by excluding the air and keeping the surface to which it is applied soft; but it is preferable to the composition of wax and oil alone, from the levigated calamine giving a degree of consistence, which is not altered by the heat of the body.

UNGUENTUM OXIDI ZINCI IMPURI, *olim Unguentum Tutiæ.* Tutia Ointment. Ed.

Take of Simple Liniment, five parts; Prepared Impure Oxide of Zinc, one part.

UNGUENTUM TUTIÆ. Tutia Ointment. Dub.

Take of Ointment of White Wax, ten ounces; Prepared Tutia, two ounces. Form an ointment.

This has been used as an application in chronic ophthalmia, but it appears to have no particular virtue.

UNGUENTUM OXIDI ZINCI. Ointment of Oxide of Zinc. Ed.

Take of Simple Liniment, six parts; Oxide of Zinc, one part.

UNGUENTUM ZINCI. Ointment of Zinc. Lond.

Take of Oxide of Zinc, an ounce; Prepared Lard, six ounces. Mix them.

UNGUENTUM OXYDI ZINCI. Ointment of Oxide of Zinc. Dub.

Take of Ointment of White Wax, a pound; Oxide of Zinc, an ounce and a half. Form an ointment.

This was introduced as a substitute for the calamine cerate, oxide of zinc being supposed a purer substance than the calamine stone. Calamine, however, acts merely mechanically in the composition, and there is no advantage in the substitution of the more expensive oxide; hence this ointment is seldom used. Sometimes it has been applied in ophthalmia.

UNGUENTUM PICIS. Ointment of Tar. Ed.

Take of Tar, five parts; Yellow Wax, two parts.

UNGUENTUM PICIS LIQUIDÆ. Ointment of Tar. Lond.

Take of Tar, Prepared Tallow, each a pound. Melt them together, and strain them through linen.

UNGUENTUM PICIS LIQUIDÆ. Ointment of Tar. Dub.

Take of Tar, Tallow, each half a pound. Strain them, melted together, through a sieve.

This stimulating ointment is sometimes applied to foul ulcers, and has been used with advantage in tinea capitis.

UNGUENTUM PICIS ARIDÆ. Pitch Ointment. Lond.

Take of Pitch, Yellow Wax, Yellow Resin, of each nine ounces; Olive Oil, a pint. Melt them together, and strain through linen.

This is applied to the same purposes as the preceding ointment, from which it differs a little in consistence, and in its smell being less strong.

UNGUENTUM SULPHURIS. Ointment of Sulphur. Ed.

Take of Hogs Lard, four parts; Sublimed Sulphur, one part. To each pound of this ointment, add of Essential Oil of Lemon, or Essential Oil of Lavender, half a drachm.

UNGUENTUM SULPHURIS. Sulphur Ointment. Lond.

Take of Sublimed Sulphur, three ounces; Prepared Lard, half a pound. Mix them.

UNGUENTUM SULPHURIS. Sulphur Ointment. Dub.

Take of Prepared Lard, four pounds; Sublimed Sulphur, a pound. Form an ointment.

Sulphur is applied under this form as a remedy in psora, the surface affected with the eruption being rubbed with the ointment.

UNGUENTUM SULPHURIS COMPOSITUM. Compound Sulphur Ointment. Lond.

Take of Sublimed Sulphur, half a pound; Root of White Hellebore, in powder, two ounces; Nitrate of Potash, a

drachm; Soft Soap, half a pound; Prepared Lard, a pound and a half.

White Hellebore root has been applied with advantage in psora, and this compound ointment may perhaps prove successful in cases where the simple sulphur ointment might be more slow in its operation, or fail.

UNGUENTUM ELEMI COMPOSITUM. Compound Ointment of Elemi. Lond.

Take of Elemi, one pound; Common Turpentine, ten ounces; Prepared Suet, two pounds; Olive Oil, two fluidounces. Melt the elemi with the suet, and having removed them from the fire, mix them immediately with the turpentine and oil; then strain through linen.

UNGUENTUM ELEMI. Elemi Ointment. Dub.

Take of the Resin of Elemi, a pound; White Wax, half a pound; Prepared Lard, four pounds. Form an ointment, which strain, while warm, through a sieve.

This ointment is moderately stimulating, somewhat similar to the resinous ointment, and is applied to the same purpose, that of exciting suppuration from an ulcer.

UNGUENTUM SAMBUCI. Ointment of Elder. Lond.

Take of the Flowers of Elder, Prepared Lard, of each two pounds. Boil the flowers of elder with the lard until they become friable; then strain through linen.

UNGUENTUM SAMBUCI. Ointment of Elder. Dub.

Take of the Fresh Flowers of Elder, three pounds; Prepared Lard, four pounds; Tallow, two pounds. Form an ointment in the same manner as the ointment of savine.

The elder flowers communicate to the unctuous matter a rich green colour. Ointments and plasters thus coloured

by different herbs were formerly in use, but they have been properly discarded as possessed of no useful quality, and as the easier mode of giving them a colour, by the addition of some green pigment, came to be substituted in the shops for that of boiling the unctuous matter with the fresh vegetable.

UNGUENTUM VERATRI. Ointment of White Hellebore. Lond.

Take of White Hellebore, rubbed to powder, two ounces; Prepared Hogs Lard, eight ounces; Oil of Lemon, twenty minims. Mix them.

UNGUENTUM HELLEBORI ALBI. Ointment of White Hellebore. Dub.

Take of Prepared Lard, a pound; Hellebore Root, in powder, three ounces. Form an ointment.

Hellebore is used, under this form, as an application to psora. It proves sometimes effectual, and is less disagreeable than the application of the sulphur ointment.

UNGUENTUM HYDRARGYRI PRÆCIPITATI ALBI. Ointment of White Precipitate of Mercury. Lond.

Take of White Precipitate of Mercury, a drachm; Prepared Lard, an ounce and a half. To the lard melted with a gentle heat, add the precipitate of mercury, and mix them.

UNGUENTUM SUB-MURIATIS HYDRARGYRI AMMONIATI. Ointment of Ammoniated Submuriate of Mercury. Dub.

Take of Ointment of White Wax, a pound; Ammoniated Submuriate of Mercury, an ounce and a half. Form an ointment.

This is sometimes used as a very mild escharotic, and as a remedy in some cutaneous eruptions.

CERATUM SAPONIS. Cerate of Soap. Lond.

Take of Hard Soap, eight ounces; Yellow Wax, ten oun-

ces; Semi-vitrified Oxide of Lead in powder, one pound; Olive Oil, one pint; Vinegar, one gallon. Boil the vinegar with the oxide of lead on a slow fire, stirring constantly until they unite together; then add the soap, and again boil in a similar manner until the water is entirely dissipated: lastly, mix with these the wax previously melted with the oil; then mix with it the other ingredients, so as to form a cerate.

This composition must derive any efficacy it has, principally from the acetate of lead, formed by the boiling of the vinegar on the litharge, and it appears to be an operose process to obtain a composition which has no very particular advantage.

CERATUM SABINÆ. Cerate of Savine. Lond.

Take of the Fresh Leaves of Savine, bruised, one pound; Yellow Wax, half a pound; Prepared Lard, two pounds. Boil the leaves of the savine with the lard and wax melted together; then strain through linen.

UNGUENTUM SABINÆ. Ointment of Savine. Dub.

Take of the Fresh Leaves of Savine plucked from the stalks, and bruised, half a pound; Prepared Lard, two pounds; Yellow Wax, half a pound. Boil the leaves with the lard until they become crisp, then strain with expression; lastly, add the wax, and melt them together.

This ointment is designed as a substitute for the cantharides ointment, as an application to excite suppuration, and keep up a purulent discharge, which it is said to do without producing pain or irritation, consequences that occasionally result from the common issue ointment. It is also sometimes used, prepared from the leaves of savine, reduced to fine powder, and mixed with lard.

UNGUENTUM PIPERIS NIGRI. Ointment of Black Pepper. Dub.

Take of Prepared Lard, one pound; Black Pepper, rubbed to powder, four ounces. Form them into an ointment.

This must form a very stimulating ointment. For what purpose it is designed is not very obvious.

LINIMENTUM HYDRARGYRI. Liniment of Quicksilver. Lond.

Take of the Strong Mercurial Ointment, Prepared Lard, each four ounces; Camphor, one ounce; Rectified Spirit, fifteen minims; Water of Ammonia, four fluidounces. Rub the camphor first with the spirit, then with the lard and mercurial ointment; lastly, adding gradually the water of ammonia, mix the whole together.

This is designed as a stimulating application and discutient, to be applied to indolent tumours or collections of fluid; by its stimulant action it may promote absorption, and the mercury introduced by the friction may exert a more permanent action.

LINIMENTUM TEREBINTHINÆ. Turpentine Liniment. Lond.

Take of the Resin Cerate, a pound; Oil of Turpentine, half a pint. To the melted cerate add the oil of turpentine, and mix them together.

Oil of turpentine has been found to be a successful application to burns, and this liniment is a form under which it has been used.