It is bitter, acrid, and emetic, similar to emetine, and highly poisonous. (Orfila.)

Vipera. Viper. *Coluber berus*, or *Adder*. The flesh of this reptile is used on the continent to make a broth, said to be nutritive for the sick. The fat is used for making ointments; but it has no advantage over lard.

Virga Aurea; Flores, Folia. D. Golden-rod Flowers, and Leaves. *Solidago virgo aurea*. A native plant, not very common, which is astringent and tonic, in doses of gr. x to ʒj, in visceral debility.

Virginian Snake-Root. See Serpentaria.

Virgin's Milk. Several preparations are sold under this name. One is a tincture, of equal parts of benzoin, and storax, with about twenty parts of rose water; and another, is a saturated solution of alum, agitated, with a third part of the solution of subacetate of lead.

Virgin Oil is that which flows first from the pulp of the ripe fruit of the olive, when put under the press.

Viscum Album. Missletoe. A parasite native shrub, esteemed sacred by the Druids, and is supposed to be good for epilepsy, in doses of ℈j to ʒj of the leaves. The berries are purgative, and are also used to make birdlime.

Vitellus Ovi. See Ovi Vit.

Vitis Vinifera. The Vine. See Uvæ Passæ.

Vitriolum. O. Vitriol. An old term, applied to sulphate of iron, which was called *green vitriol;* to sulphate of copper, which was called *blue vitriol;* to sulphate of zinc, which was called *white vitriol;* and to sulphuric acid, which was called *oil of vitriol*, or simply *vitriol*. As the term is so ambiguous, it ought to be discarded.

Vitrum Antimonii. See Antimonii Vitrum. L.

Vitrum Præparatum. Prepared Glass. Triturate the glass to an impalpable powder, in an agate mortar. It is applied, mixed with honey, or blown through a quill, to remove specks on the cornea; but appears to be a hazardous remedy. It is also used to adulterate snuff, and may be detected by a magnifying glass.

W.

Wade's Drops. See Tinct. Benzoini Compos.

Walker's Jesuit's Drops. Take ℔j of gum guaiac, ʒiij of balsam of Peru, Oijss of rectified spirit; make into a tincture. Dose ʒj to ʒij as an antivenereal. It is the same as the balsam of guaiac, and the antivenereal elixir.

Walnuts. See Ketchup and Pickles.

Want's Powder, for gout and rheumatism, is the powdered bulb of colchicum, with some other powders, to disguise it. Mr. Want was the first modern surgeon who discovered the influence of colchicum on gout, though it was known to the ancients.

Ward's Essence for Headache. See Liniment. Camph. Comp.

Ward's Paste. For Fistula, Piles, &c. See Confect. Piper Nigr.

Ward's Red Drops. See Vinum Antimonii Tartariz.

Ward's Sweating Powders. A combination of opium and white hellebore-root.

Ward's White Drops. A solution of corrosive sublimate with carbonate of ammonia; or a nitrate of mercury, prepared by dissolving mercury in nitric acid, and adding solution of carbonate of ammonia.

Ware's Golden Ointment. Take ʒj of fresh butter, free from salt, ʒj of the powder of nitrated oxide of mercury; make an ointment for ophthalmia, and ulcers.

Warner's Cordial. Take ʒj of bruised rhubarb, ʒss of senna, ʒj of saffron, ʒiv of powdered liquorice, ℔j of pounded raisins, and Oiij of brandy; digest for 14 days, and filter.

Wash. See Lotio. We thus have the *Black Wash*, Lotio Nigra; the *Yellow Wash*, or *Aqua phagedenica*, Lotio Flava, which is a mixture of ʒss to ʒj of corrosive sublimate with Oj of lime water; the *White Wash*, or Liquor Plumbi Subacetatis Dilutis, &c.

Wash Balls are preparations of soap, which are made in great variety by perfumers. The following receipts from Lillie are a specimen of those compositions:—

Common Wash Balls. Take ℔lvj of fine, dry, wheaten flour, ℔lvj of Spanish white, entirely freed from sand and dirt. This must be broken between the hands, and passed once or twice through a hair sieve, and then dried in the sun. Then mix the flour and whiting together, and add to them ℔lvj of starch powder, or rather of ground rice. Then mix and sift the whole intimately together; and if the soap used be white, and the balls to be made are intended to be of a yellowish colour, add to the composition about ʒiv (not more) of Dutch pink, in fine powder.

Or, Take ℔xl of rice, in fine powder, ℔xxviij of fine flour, as above, ℔xxviij of starch powder, ℔xii of white lead, and ℔iv of Florentine iris root, in fine powder; but no whiting. Mix the whole well together, and pass it twice through a fine hair sieve; then put it in a dry place, and keep it for use.

Great care must be taken that the flour be not musty, in which case the balls will in time crack and fall to pieces. To this composition may

be added Dutch pink, or brown fine damask-powder, &c., according to the colour required when the wash-balls are quite dry.

Camphor Balls. Take ℔vj of very dry starch, and put to it ℔viij of very dry white lead; grind the whole in a starch-mill, and sift it through a fine lawn sieve. Mix this compound well with ℔xiv of very fine and good rice-powder. In the grinding of the starch and white lead, great care must be taken that the compound does not fly about: as it is very hurtful and poisonous, owing to the presence of the white lead.

Best Common Wash Balls. Take ℔xl of foreign oil-soap, either Castile, Marseilles, or Gallipoli, and ℔lx of English tallow-soap. Shave both these together, and mix them in a trough or box, with ℔xxx of the preceding composition; add eight pints of the water that comes over in the distillation of lavender, rhodium, orange, or any other essential oil; or in default of these, the same quantity of clear rain-water. Into this water put ʒj of oil of lavender, ʒj of oil of rosemary, and ʒj of oil of origanum. Shake these oils and the water well together, so that when the paste comes to be mixed the oil may not swim on the top. Beat the whole well together so as to make it incorporate; and at the end of three or four days (during which time it will become mellow) beat again. Care must be taken to add no more water than what is above directed; unless the soaps used be of a hard nature, and free from superfluous ley: in this case, another quart may very well be added. The paste is now to be laid by in an earthern pan, covered with a wet cloth, for several days after its last beating, before it is made up into balls; because, the stiffer and harder it is, the rounder and handsomer will the balls be which are worked from the mass.

It is to be observed, that, if the trough or box in which the paste is made consists of oak or wainscot, it will, in the course of one night, turn quite black. Also, when the balls are to be dried, the perfumer must not be tempted, merely for the sake of gaining time, to carry them to the fire, or to put them in an oven or stove, for by this method the outer surface only will be dried into a sort of crust of the thickness of a shilling, whereby no evaporation can take place from the centre, and consequently it must remain completely soft; whereas, if these balls are dried merely by exposure to the air, they will be harder and drier in three months than those dried by the fire will be in twelve. As to putting them into the oven, it may be here noted, that, by such treatment, they will be speedily melted or broken to pieces.

Inferior Common Wash Balls. Take ℔lxxx of tallow-soap, and ℔xx of Gallipoli; shave or scrape as above, and add to them ℔l of the

composition. Proceed in every thing else as before, except that here, on account of the addition of ℔xx *more* of the composition than in the former paste for wash balls, it will be necessary to add two quarts of water more than has been used in the best common wash-balls.

Or, One hundred weight of tallow-soap, and ℔l of Spanish or common whiting, are mixed and beaten up with double the above quantity of water, and scented with oil of caraways or some other cheap essential oil. These wash-balls are made large; and, to deceive the buyer, are made very round, by being skin-dried or crusted, by lying in the stove for 12 hours; whereas, good wash-balls, dried in the air, generally lose their shape. They will no more lather than a piece of clay or a stone. There have been wash-balls frequently made for this sort of trade, which are merely the shells of large French walnuts, covered over with the above base composition.

Ambergris Wash Balls. Take ℔xvi of the best Joppa, or the whitest Alicant, soap, cleansed well from dirt and lime. Shave or scrape it very thin, and expose it to the air for several days. Now have, ready mixed, ℔ij of ambergris powder, ℔j of musk and civet powder, ℔ss of fine starch-powder, and ℔ss of Florentine iris-powder: all of which are to be well incorporated with the soap. Then take gr. xx of pure musk, gr. xx of civet, and gr. xxx or gr. xl of the remains of musk and ambergris spirit. Grind all these to a very fine powder, with loaf-sugar, and add to them, whilst in the glass mortar, ʒij of spirit of ambergris, ʒj of spirit of musk, 20 drops of oil of rhodium, and ʒ¼ of apoplective balsam. Mix all well together, and put the whole into a quart of the remains of honey water. Shake the mixture well, and put it into the compound of soap and powders above mentioned, and mix the whole well.

This mixture must be made in an earthern pan, but by no means in a wooden vessel, which would absorb the best part of the perfumes. The incorporation of the above substances must be effected by beating very finely; and, if it is found to be too stiff for working, rose, or orange-flower water may be added at discretion; still remembering that the wash-balls are to be made up as stiff as possible. They are to be dried in the shade, and are not to be touched or meddled with for a month at least, to prevent bruising or putting them out of shape. When quite dry, some manufacturers choose to gild these wash-balls on their impressions. It is impossible to make any sort of wash-ball superior to this.

Inferior Ambergris Balls. Take the same quantity of soap as above; but, instead of ℔iv of the compound perfumed powder, here use six, taking care to proportion the several articles accordingly. In this

case, also, it is to be noticed, that one-half of the perfumes prescribed for the best ambergris balls will be sufficient; and likewise that rose water may be used instead of honey water. In every other particular, the previous directions are to be strictly followed.

Bologna Wash Balls. Take ℔xx of very old and brown Castile soap; shave or scrape it very thin, and place it in the air to dry; then add to it ℔iij of the second remains from honey water, in fine powder, ℔ss of cassia wood, ℔jss of labdanum, both finely powdered. Mix the soap and powders well together, and wet them with about a pint and a half of rose water, and a pint of muddy liquid remains of honey water. Now beat the whole well two or three times, at intervals of a few days, to let the paste become quite mellow; and then make up the mass, when stiff, into round balls, and dry them in the shade as above directed. The colour of these wash-balls will be either light brown, or nearly black; or will possess the different shades of each, according to the colour of the ingredients used.

Best Marbled Balls. Take ℔x of the best Genoa, or rather, of oil-soap, made in England, and ℔x of Joppa soap of the whitest sort. Cut the whole into small square and triangular pieces, which set to dry for two or three days; the oil-soap, particularly, must be thus dried. Then shave, or scrape, very finely, ℔v of oil-soap, which dry for about one day in the open air, and then mix it well in the shaving-box with ℔v of powder, and ʒjss of the best and finest vermilion. In mixing, it will be necessary to place the pieces of soap, and the coloured powder, in layers in the box, making in all four alternate layers of each, beginning with coloured powder, and ending with the square and triangular pieces of soap.

When a layer of each has been placed in the box or trough, a pint of rose water is to be sprinkled over the upper one, namely, the *cut soap;* for, if it be much combined with the powder, it will cause it to become lumpy and hard, and consequently spoil the wash-balls made from it. The same quantity of rose water is likewise to be used for moistening each of the other soap layers, that is, in the whole, four pints. Now have ready a pint of thin starch, which has been well boiled in half a pint of rain water, and then mixed with half a pint of rose water, and distribute it equally among the whole mass; which is now to be well mixed, by turning it over repeatedly, and then to be pressed down close and even, by the hands. If a piece be now cut out, quite through the mass, the operator will perceive whether the marbling and colour are sufficiently good; and, if so, he may proceed immediately to form his wash-balls.

When these wash-balls have been made about two or three days, it will be time to shave off their rough coats; they are then to be left for

two or three months in the air, during the summer; and, when quite dry, are to be properly shaved and weighed for sale.

The shavings which come off these balls are to be kept for the next manufacture of wash-balls of the same sort. They are to be mixed with the red soap-powder, mentioned above; but, in such a case, there is no occasion to put so much vermilion as before; as, thereby, too high a colour would be produced. As to the perfume to be used for these wash-balls, the manufacturer must vary it according to taste, fancy, or the price he intends to sell his commodity for; remembering that it is to be mixed with the liquid starch previous to incorporation with the layers of soap and powder.

Inferior Marbled Balls. Take ℔xx of the best curdy tallow-soap, shave it thin, and mix with it ℔iv of the composition for camphor wash-balls. Beat the whole, without any water, to a fine and even-coloured paste, which will be very white. Now make this up into cakes of about an inch thick, and set them in the air to dry. Cut these cakes, when hard, into squares and triangles, as before, in the case of Joppa, or oil-soap, for the groundwork of the wash-balls to be manufactured. Now take ℔iv of oil-soap, ℔ij of the coloured powder used for the best marbled balls, and ℔ij of starch-grounds. Shave the soap, and proceed in every other respect as before. These wash-balls are to be scented with some cheap perfume, because they are designed to be sold for about half the price of the best sort; though, in appearance, they are so beautiful, and in quality so excellent as often to be sold for as much money as the best.

Figured Wash Balls. These wash-balls, though troublesome to make, answer very well to surprise and please: they also may be made quite as good as any other.

Take ℔xvij of the best and whitest Genoa soap, shave it fine, and mix with it ℔iij of the composition for camphor balls. Beat the whole into a fine even paste, with rose water. Now have ready four or five different colours, in powder, viz., a dark and a pale *green*, two *reds*, two *blues*, a *yellow*, and a *brown*. Then divide the paste into as many parts as there are colours at hand; and beat and mix each very intimately with its separate colour, so that the several masses may have no streaks, spots, or irregularities of hue, but may be entirely homogeneous; in doing which, it is necessary to be very clean and nice. When the coloured masses are pretty stiff, roll them out into cakes on a marble slab, to about a quarter of an inch thickness; then, with tin stamps, cut them out into the shapes of birds, beasts, sun, moon, stars, &c. &c.; always observing to match the colour of the paste to the form of the stamp; viz., the quadrupeds to be generally brown; the birds to be green, or otherwise, as may be proper; the sun,

golden yellow; and the moon and stars, very pale blue, approaching to white. The stamp should never exceed half an inch in size. When each cake is entirely cut out, for the first time, the shapeless cuttings, or pieces, may be again worked up separately, and rolled out and cut as before; and so on, until not a shred remains; or the cuttings may be preserved for the groundwork or field of the wash-balls. When all the figures have been properly formed, they are to be dried separately in the air, on sheets of paper, according to their colour; and then they are to be properly proportioned to the intended groundwork; for example, when the wash-ball is to be formed of birds and beasts, the field or groundwork must be green; when suns are to be introduced, the field is to be of a very pale sky-blue; and, when the moon and stars are intended to be shown, the field should be a *true* sky-blue, whilst the figures themselves are of a very *pale* blue colour. These colours, figures, and grounds, may be varied without end, according to the fancy and taste of the operator.

The perfumes, the quantities of ingredients, manner of making up, and weight of balls, are exactly the same as for the best marbled wash-balls. Although, in the making of these, it will be impossible to be regular, some of the figures being broken, others whole, and all huddled together; yet, when the balls are old and properly shaved by a smooth brass knife (called a shaver), they will plainly show the intended design; and even their irregularity will both please and surprise, in the same manner that people wonder at the existence of flies, and other insects, in pieces of amber.

Camphor Balls. Take ℔xlviij of the best white English oil-soap, or of the best sort of Genoa soap; shave and dry it very clean. Now mix with the shavings, ℔xx of the composition for camphor wash-balls; rubbing the whole together. When properly incorporated, take ℔jss of camphor, and grind it in an iron mortar, with about half a pint of the best English Hungary water; put in, by degrees, ʒss of oil of rosemary, and ʒss of oil of lavender. When the camphor has been thus reduced to a fine powder, add to it, in the mortar, ℔iv or ℔v of the composition above mentioned, and also the soap shavings. Beat the whole well together; and, when properly combined, take it out and mix it with the remaining quantity of composition and soap shavings; then beat it well twice over, at an interval of about ten or twelve hours. The incorporated powders are now to be kept in a well-covered earthern pan, to be made up; when the perfumer is to proceed in every respect as in the manufacture of ambergris wash-balls.

Very little water is to be used in the making up of these wash-balls, and what is used should be entirely rose water. In the making up, the operator must be very quick, and he must not leave off until the

rolling is completely finished; because the camphor is so volatile as to evaporate surprisingly, even in the open air. These camphor-balls are to be dried well in the air; and, during the whole time, are to be entirely covered with white paper, not only to keep off the dirt and dust, but also to prevent the camphor from evaporating so much as it would assuredly do, if freely exposed to the air.

Chemical Wash-Balls. Take ℔v of white oil-soap, shave or scrape it as above, and then add to it ℔ij of fine rice powder, ℔ss of white lead, and ℔ss of pure and unmixed subnitrate of bismuth, both in the state of fine powder. Previously to mixture with the soap shavings these powders must be put into a basin, with about ʒxij of orange-flower, or myrtle, water, and ʒj of essence of ambergris. When this has been well mixed, the soap shavings are to be put in, and the whole is to be well beaten two or three times every day, for several days. After the whole mass is well incorporated and stiff, it is to be made up into balls, which must be very round, and must weigh ʒjss. Dry these very cleanly, on sheets of white paper, and, when perfectly hard, wrap and seal each, singly, in a separate piece of paper of the same colour.

Greek Wash-Balls. Take ℔xx of fine old Joppa, or Alicant soap, cut and dried as before. Now scrape, very thin, ℔vj of white oil-soap, and mix with it ℔vj of fine powder, and a little Florentine iris-powder, just enough to turn the colour. Proceed, in every thing else, as directed for the red marbled balls, except in using the vermilion. In the perfuming of these Greek wash-balls, use, to the above quantity of paste, only ʒij of the essence of ambergris, with about 40 drops of the oil of rhodium, mixed with a quart of rose water. These wash-balls, like the others, will be ready for shaving, for the first time, in two or three days; but will not be fit for sale or use, for three months, at least, in summer, and a longer time in winter.

Marseilles Wash-Balls. Marseilles wash-balls differ from the foregoing, only, that as *these* are of a whitish colour, and made from Joppa soap, *those* are somewhat of a light brown colour, being made from Marseilles and Alicant soap, both of which retain their native bluish colour, and large marbling or veins, for a long time.

Inferior Venice Balls. Cut fresh Genoa soap into pieces of at least three inches square (otherwise the balls will be too small); pare them pretty round with a common knife, and then finish by shaving neatly with the brass shaver. When properly and cleanly dried they will be ready both for sale and use.

Best Venice Wash-Balls. The above described sort of Venice balls may be much improved by the following method. Shave down the soap very finely, and to ℔viij add ℔ij of fine rice powder. Now beat the whole well with some rose water, and, when stiff, make the paste up

into pretty large balls, each of which must weigh ʒv at least. When they are perfectly dry, shave them for sale. The reason why this sort is better than the foregoing is, that the former can be perfumed, whereas the latter cannot, on account of their previous solidity. The mixture with powder, also, improves them greatly, as it prevents the soap from coming off too freely, in washing; which in all balls, not so prepared, is apt to be ropy, or gelatinous, especially when used with hot water.

WATER. See AQUA, COLLYRIA EAU, LIQUOR, SOLUTIO, and HUNGARY, LAVENDAR, PEPPERMINT, SODA, &c.

WATER COLOURS in painting, are chiefly introduced under their appropriate words, such as CARMINE, LAKE, SULPHATE OF BARYTES, and also under OIL COLOURS, &c.

WAX for sealing is prepared by melting together different proportions of lac, resin, oil of turpentine, and olive oil; and colouring with vermilion, armenian bole, or lamp-black. See CERA.

WAX CASTS for ornaments. Melt three parts of spermaceti, and two parts of white virgin wax in an earthen pan, set in boiling water; when melted, and not too hot, pour it in the mould. If the mould be of plaster of Paris, sponge it first with warm water all over. When quite cool, it will come out easily.

WAX PAPER. *Charta cerata.* P. Take 48 parts each of white wax and pure turpentine, 32 parts of spermaceti; melt in a water-bath, and spread on paper.

WHEAT. See TRITICUM.

WEBSTER'S (LADY) PILLS. See PILUL. STOMACH.

WHEY. *Serum lactis.* Is often prescribed for the sick, and may be made by adding rennet to warm milk; or by boiling milk with cream of tartar, citric acid, vinegar, alum, mustard, or white wine.

WHITEHEAD'S ESSENCE OF MUSTARD does not contain, according to Dr. Paris, a particle of mustard, but is merely balsam of Tolu with resin. According to Mr. Brande, it is composed of camphor, oil of turpentine, and spirit of rosemary, mixed with mustard flour.

WHITE (PERMANENT). See SULPHAS BARYTÆ.

WILSON'S TINCTURE FOR GOUT contains most probably some preparation of colchicum; but it is much stronger than any preparation of it yet known, while at the same time it seems to act less unmanageably. A tincture of the acetate of veratrine resembles it in medicinal effects, though the veratrine of Wilson's tincture seems to be in the state of a gallate.

WHITE WASH. See LIQUOR PLUMB. SUBAC. DILUT.

WINE. See VINUM.

WINE TESTS are intended to detect lead, which is often mixed with

wines to improve their taste, by converting the acids into salts of lead, which taste sweet. For the method of detecting lead, see PLUMBI ACETAS. What is sold as a wine test is prepared by dissolving ℥ss of sulphuret of arsenic and ℥j of lime in Oss of distilled water, and filtering the solution.

WINTERA AROMATICA. E. P. Winter's Bark. An acrid aromatic stimulant, stomachic, and carminative. It is prescribed in scorbutus, dysentery, and atonic disorders, in doses of gr. x to ℈j, or in form of a tincture, but is usually employed as an adjunct to other remedies.

WIRE. The best iron for medicinal purposes is that which is drawn into fine wire, as none that is hard or bad will draw.

WOAD. See ISATIS.

WODROOF, ASPERULA ODORATA. A native plant, common in woods, which has a fine odour of hay when dried, but when green is nearly inodorous. It is said to be deobstruent. The flowers give a fine flavour to tea and to wines.

WOODS, or *the* Woods, are guaiac, sarsaparilla, sassafras, and mezereon.

WOORARA. See WOURALI.

WORM BALLS, in *Farriery*. See BALLS.

WORM CAKES. See STOREY.

WORMS. See OLEUM DE LUMBRICIS. P.

WORM SEED. See SANTONICA.

WORMWOOD. See ABSINTHIUM.

WORMWOOD (SALT OF), a subcarbonate of potass, prepared by burning wormwood.

WORT is Teutonic for "herb;" hence lung-wort, rag-wort, nipple-wort, liver-wort, pile-wort, spleen-wort, St. John's wort, &c.

WOURALI, improperly *Woorara*, is prepared by the Macoushi Indians with the wourali vine, and several other plants, the strongest Indian pepper, two species of ants, and the fangs of two species of snakes. These are made by a tedious process into thick syrup of a deep brown colour, and kept very dry in a calabash covered with deer-skin.

Poisonous, almost instantaneously, when introduced into a wound, even in small quantity; and no antidote has been hitherto discovered.

X.

XANTHINE. A yellow colouring principle recently discovered in madder by M. Robiquet.

Y.

YARROW. See ACHILLEA and MILFOIL.

YEAST. See CEREVISIÆ FERMENTUM. It may be made artificially,