

PHAR MACY.

Preparations.

flower. When in perfection, it is very light and thin; pale, and almost colorless; of great fragrance, the' not quite for a belemary idelf. It is recommended, in the dose of a few drops, in nervous and hysterical complaints. Borchave holds it in great esteem against epileptics, and fuppreffions of the usetrie purgations, occaulted by weakens and indelhvity.

__535: Efential oil of ruse-laaves.__ L. L.

The oil of rue has a very acid taste, and a penetrating (well, refreshing the one of the herb, but rather more unpleasant. It is sometimes made use of in hysterical disorders, and as an anthelmintic; as also in epilepsies proceeding from a relaxed state of the nerves.

Rue yields its oil very sparingly. The larger quantity is obtained from which the flowers are ready to fall off, and the seeds begin to flow them!veres: suitable maceration, previous to the distillation, is here extremely mesclitary.

__536: Efential oil of fuerin leaves__ L. E.

This oil is a celebrated uterine and emmenagogue; in cold plegmatic habits, it is undoubtedly a medicine of good fender, though not capable of performing what it has been usually represented to do. The dose is, two or three drops or more.

__537: Efential oil of fulnfras__ L. E.

This is the most pondense of all the known essential oils, but rises in distillation with efficient care: it appears limpid as water, has a moderately pungent taste, a very fragrant (well), exactly resembling that of the inflates. If hands greatly commended a flourir, and for purifying the blood and joves: it is likewise topped to be of review in humoral astmas and coughs. The dose is from one chop to eight or ten, though Geoffroy goes as far as so.

The decoction remaining after the distillation of the oil, afford, by infiltration, an useful extract of a mold, bitterish, albastringed taste. Huffman says, he has given it with great benefits, in doses of a teruple, as a corroborant in cachectic cafes, in the decline of intermitting fevers, and for abating hypochondriacal spasms.

__538: Oil of turpentine__ L. E.

This is distilled in the time manner as the foregoing oils, and is finally an official one, though not usually ranked in this class: it is commonly, but improperly, called 'sprins of turpentine'. It is employed in large quantities for tone mechanic purpoda and hence the distillation of it is become a particular business.

This oil is a very hot, stimulating medicine. It is sometimes given as a sudorific and diuretic, in the dose of two or three drops in larger doses, it is apt to greatly heat the body, coactialion pain of the head, an effusion of the fenect and liquor of the parasite glands. It has nevertheless been of late taken in considerable dose (along

with honey or other convulsant) against the delicate; and, as is said, with good success. Some have recommended it against vertical ruminants - but here it has produced mischievous consequences, inflaming the parts and aggravating the disorder. Externally it is not unfrequently employed against rheumatic pains, aches, sprains, for discharging cold tumours, and restraining hemorrhages.

539. After the distillation of the turpentine, there remains in the still a brittle refinous substance, of a yellow colour, called 'yellow resin' [L.]

The only use of this is in external applications, for giving confidence to plasters, and the like purposes.

540. Most of the foregoing oils are drawn by our chemists, and easily procurable in a tolerable degree of perfection; those of cinnamon, cloves, nutmegs, and maces, accepted. There are usually imported from abroad; and are for the most part so much adulterated, that it is difficult to meet with such as are at all fit for life.

Nor are the adulterations of these kinds of preparations easily discoverable. The groffer abuse indeed may be readily detected, thus if the oil is mixed with spirit of wine, it will turn milky on the addition of water; if with essential oils, rectified spirit will differ the effect, and leave the other behind; if with oil of turpentine, no dipping a piece of paper in the mixture, and drying it with a gentle heat, the turpentine will be betrayed by its smell. But the more subtle artifice have corrected other methods of falsification, which elude all trials of this kind.

Some have looked upon the specific gravity of oils, as a certain criterion of their genuineness. This, however, is not to be absolutely depended on; for the genuine oils, obtained from the same plant, oftentimes differ in gravity as much as those drawn from different ones. Cinnamon and cloves, whole oils usually sink to water, yield, if slowly and vastly distilled, as oil of great fragency, which is nevertheless specifically lighter than the aqueous fluid employed in the distillation of it; whilst, on the other hand, the full ruminants of some of the lightest oils prove sometimes so poucious as to sink in water.

As all essential oils agree in the general properties of solubility to spirits of wine, individuality in waters, miscibility with water by the intervention of certain intermediaries, volatility in the least of boiling water, &c. is so plain that they may be variously mixed with one another, or the denser heightened with the cheapers, without any possibility of discovering the abuse by any trials of this kind. And indeed, it would not be of much advantage to the purchaser if he had infallible criteria of the genuineness of every individual oil. It is of as much importance, then they may be 'goods', as that they may be 'genuines'; for we have often seen genuine oils, from incautious distillations, and long and careful keeping, weaker both in smell and taste than the common sophisticated ones.

The smell and taste form to be the only certain tells that the nature of the thing will admit of. If a bark should have in every refined the appearance of good cinnamon, and should be proved indispensable to be the genuine bark

of the cinnamon trees yet, if it wants the cinnamon flavors, or has it but in low deer, we yriclet it and the cage is the time with the oil. It is only from uie and habit, or

comparison with fpecinens of known quality, that we can judge of the goodhefs, either of the droge themfrelves, or of their oils.