by the undeliquesced portions of the salt. This liquid, applied by means of a spun-glass brush to a bleeding surface, arrests the bleeding almost instantaneously. This mode of application is particularly valuable in applying the styptic to such cases as excision of the tonsils, bleeding from the deeper-seated gums, &c."—*Pharmaceutical Journal*, Oct., 1859.

6. *Alum Lozenges in Affections of the Throat*.—M. ARGENTI, of Venice, proposes, as a substitute for alum gargles in affections of the throat, lozenges formed of alum, sugar, and tragacanth, mixed up with diluted laurel-water, so as to form lozenges, each containing a suitable dose of alum. The mass is to be well manipulated, and, after division, to be put on a sheet of paper and dried by a gentle heat. The lozenges keep well, and form an agreeable medicament, which, by aid of the saliva, becomes effectually applied to the parts. A pharmacien of Paris has for some time past prepared chlorate of potash in the same manner.—*Med. Times and Gaz.*, Dec. 3, 1859, from *Bull. de Thérap.*, tome lvii.

7. *New Method of applying Chloride of Zinc*.—Dr. G. W. SPENCE recommends (*Lancet*, Oct. 29, 1854) the following formula for the preparation of a paste or magma of chloride of zinc:—

"Dissolve fifty grains of prepared chalk in two drachms (by measure) of commercial muriatic acid; dissolve a hundred and fifty grains of sulphate of zinc in two fluidrachms of boiling water. When required for use, mix the two solutions, and the result will be a paste weighing nearly an ounce, and containing about one-sixth of pure chloride of zinc. The proportions are nearly, but not exactly, those indicated by the atomic weights. A little study would easily produce a paste of harder or softer consistency."

8. *A New Disinfectant for Dressing Putrid Sores and Ulcers*.—Considerable discussion has recently taken place in the French Academy respecting a new preparation, introduced by MM. Demeaux and Corne, for dressing and disinfecting putrid sores and ulcers. It consists of a mixture of 100 parts of commercial plaster of Paris in very fine powder, and from one to three parts of coal tar. This mixture forms a powder of a more or less grayish colour, and a slightly bituminous odour. For application, it may also be made into a paste with olive oil, which binds the powder together without destroying its absorptive power. The following are the properties of this substance, as described by the above gentlemen: A gangrenous sore, with an abundant fetid suppuration, treated with this dressing, is immediately freed from all disagreeable odour, and the bandages, even after 24 or 36 hours, exhale no more odour than if taken from a simple fracture. An ulcerated cancer producing a fetid serous suppuration, dressed with this substance, is entirely deprived of odour as long as the dressing remains on. So also the linen saturated with pus, cataplasms impregnated with the suppuration, &c., placed in contact with this substance lose all their disagreeable odour; the infectious liquid produced by gangrene, clots of decomposed blood, tissues in a state of advanced putrefaction, treated with this substance, are immediately disinfected. Its action appears to be to arrest the work of decomposition; it removes the insects, and prevents the production of maggots. The consistence acquired, either by the powder alone or the paste with oil, does not cause the least pain to the patient, or harm to the sore. Its application may be indirect or direct, the latter produces no harm, but rather exercises a detersive action favourable to cicatrization. This dressing has the double power of disinfecting the pus and other morbid products, and of absorbing them; the last circumstance is of the greatest importance, because it enables the use of lint to be dispensed with. Fifty kilogrammes of this powder may be made in Paris for one franc. M. Velpeau, at the Hôpital de la Charité, and several other French surgeons have employed this preparation with great success, and speak very highly of its disinfecting properties. Mr. Grace Calvert, of Manchester, has addressed a letter to the French Academy, in reference to this subject, pointing out the great variation which exists in the composition of coal tar, and the consequent necessity for more accurately ascertaining to which of the constituents the disinfecting properties are really due, in order to insure the uniform action