secondary products upon which, according to our view, the question of whether or not the spirit is genuine brandy can be decided, the following were the results recorded in grammes per hectolitre of alcohol (100°): acidity, calculated as acetic acid, 82.08 grammes; aldehydes, 14.24 grammes; furfural, 1.36 grammes; ethers, expressed as ethyl acetate, 90.28 grammes; and higher alcohols, 129.96 grammes. We have no doubt that this brandy is genuine grape spirit and of a good class, and it is stated that it is a blend of various shipments by well known Cognac growers. The amount of extractives is somewhat high, while the colour is dark rather than pale. The sample possessed the pleasing flavour and aroma of mature Cognac brandy.

(1) INVALID PORT; AND (2) PORT MATURED IN NEWFOUNDLAND.

(HUNT, ROOPE, TEAGE AND CO., 3 AND 4, WATER-LANE, GREAT TOWER-STREET, LONDON, E.C.)

1. On analysis the invalid port gave the following results: total extractives, 8.34 per cent.; mineral matter, 0.18 per cent.; alcohol, by weight 18.85 per cent., by volume 23.10 per cent., equal to proof spirit 40.48 per cent.; volatile acidity, calculated as acetic acid, 0.072 per cent.; fixed acids, calculated as tartaric acid, 0.21 per cent.; and sugar, 7.10 per cent. This is a good full fruity wine soft to the taste and dark in colour; it is said to be produced in the best district of the Alto Douro. An interesting point in regard to the analysis is that we found distinct traces of manganese in the mineral matter. The wine is mature yet full-bodied and suitable as a restorative in special cases. 2. This wine is of the "tawny" type. Analysis gave the following results: extractives, 8.07 per cent.; mineral matter, 0.22 per cent.; alcohol, by weight 18.08 per cent., by volume 22.18 per cent., equal to proof spirit, 38.87 per cent.; volatile acid, *nil*; fixed acids, calculated as tartaric acid, 0.15 per cent.; and sugar, 7.10 per cent. This is practically a non-acid wine. It is said to have been matured in Newfoundland. It possesses excellent æsthetic qualities. Both specimens are good sound wines and suitable for invalid use.

PENFOLD'S AUSTRALIAN WINES.

(J. G. THOMSON AND CO., 17, FENCHURCH-STREET, LONDON, E.C.)

These specimens are interesting in proving that Australian wines imported into this country need not necessarily be of a heavy character. The following are the results of the analysis of a specimen of claret and of a specimen of chablis. Claret No. 0: extractives, 2.63 per cent.; mineral matter, 0.28 per cent.; alcohol, by weight 11.15 per cent., by volume 13.81 per cent., equal to proof spirit 24.19 per cent.; volatile acids, calculated as acetic acid, 0.096 per cent.; fixed acids, calculated as tartaric acid, 0.23 per cent.; and sugar, 0.43 per cent. Chablis No. 1: extractives, 1.86 per cent.; mineral matter, 0.2 per cent.; alcohol, by weight 11.08 per cent., by volume 13.71 per cent., equal to proof spirit 24.03 per cent.; volatile acids, calculated as acetic acid, 0.12 per cent.; fixed acids, calculated as tartaric acid, 0.35 per cent.; and sugar, 0.57 per cent. Both are sound, light, agreeable wines.

CHAD VALLEY PINE PAPER.

(JOHNSON BROTHERS, CHAD VALLEY WORKS, HARBORNE, NEAR BIRMINGHAM.)

We have examined specimens of this paper and amongst other things found that ether extracts a resinous oil possessing a smell of fresh sawdust. The addition of this oil is regarded as a sanitary precaution.

BARDELLA BANDAGE.

(AGENTS: DOWN BROS., 21, ST. THOMAS'S-STREET, LONDON, S.E.)

The bardella bandage consists of a roll of lint loaded heavily with a mineral powder which, according to our examination, contained chiefly bismuth and zinc. The bandage is well spoken of as an application for burns,

scalds, and injuries. It certainly has a soothing and healing effect upon burns. The bandage admits, of course, of a number of useful applications.

STERILISING SOAP.

(F. S. CLEAVER AND SONS, 32, 33, 34, RED LION-STREET, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.)

This soap is excellent in use, lathers well, and contains no free alkali. In the course of its preparation a volatile antiseptic substance is added owing to which, we assume, the soap is regarded "as a preventative against bubonic plague and malaria." Of course, the free use of soap is always calculated to preserve the cleanliness of the person and the conjoint use of an antiseptic with it is no doubt an advantage in some circumstances. But it is an exaggeration to say that this soap would prevent bubonic plague and malaria.

New Inventions.

A SERVIETTE CASE FOR OPEN-AIR SANATORIUMS.

EVERYONE who has experience of sanatorium life is familiar with the table napkin question. At many open-air institutions the patients are provided with Japanese paper serviettes, but nine out of ten patients object to the sensation of applying the paper napkin to their mouths and the tenth does not like its smell, and nearly all would rather be deprived of serviettes altogether than be dependent upon the paper variety. There are objections to the use of the linen napkin in that being used for more than one meal and packed away in a drawer in the interval with only the protection of the napkin ring an undesirable contact between the serviettes of different patients is unavoidable. The phthisical patient who not only uses his table napkin in the ordinary manner but instinctively raises it to his mouth when obliged to cough at table cannot fail to infect it with tuberculous bacilli, and since the aim of every sanatorium superintendent must be to achieve the most perfect possible condition of hygiene in his institution he cannot afford to risk infection by serviette. To meet the difficulty which ensued when I had to admit that the paper napkin and the unclosed linen serviette were unsatisfactory I devised a serviette cylinder made of solid celluloid with smooth surfaces which is easily cleansed and which entirely envelopes the napkin, thus

protecting it from all contact with others. These cylinders are not unattractive in appearance and they are so much appreciated by patients that many ask to be allowed to take one away when leaving the sanatorium. It would be a decided advantage to visitors at boarding houses, where, unfortunately, so many tuberculous patients are wont to congregate, were some such arrangement adopted to prevent infection by means of tuberculous table napkins, and in families where some member is phthisical the use of the cylinder would be equally advantageous. At my suggestion Messrs. Allen and Hanbury have made a supply of serviette cylinders an illustration of which is reproduced here. They are quite inexpensive.

CHARLES E. REINHARDT, M.D. Brux., L.S.A. Lond., &c. Chelsea, S.W.

A NEW FORM OF FINSSEN LAMP.

THIS lamp is designed to meet the demand for a very small lamp, automatic in its action, burning iron or carbon electrodes, and working direct from the electric supply main. These conditions are fulfilled by making the shell of the lamp a water jacket of very small proportions, mounted on a frame which permits motion in all directions and at the same time is rigid when in working position. It is imperative that the diseased area to which the lamp is applied should be rendered anæmic, so that the rays can penetrate