

**Preparations, &c.**

## SAPO VIRIDIS.

THE green soap which is so often mentioned by our American contemporaries, and which is recommended by Mrs. Hampton Robb in her book, which is now recognised as a standard work on nursing, is very little known on this side the Atlantic. It is a most valuable preparation, but an objection to using it in large quantities arises from its expense. We, therefore, cull from an article in the *Nursing World*, by Esther Robertson, a formula from which this excellent soap may be prepared.

Buy from some manufacturing druggist a half-pound of caustic potash. It comes in sticks which resemble chalk crayons, and must be treated with caution, as it eats with equal facility human flesh, all kinds of dress goods, shoes, varnish, and paint, as it does oil, with a much less happy effect. In a two-quart granite iron measure place the potash, and pour over it a little less than a pint of water. As you stir this to dissolve the potash, pour at the same time three cups of either cotton or linseed oil. The cotton seed will make a clearer, nicer looking soap.

The potash will heat the water sufficiently as it dissolves, and so much so that it will not do to dissolve it in glass, as the heat will break the ordinary glass vessel. When it is cool enough, however, it may be transferred to a two-quart preserve jar. The oil will rise at first and separate from the potash solution. Fasten down the top of the preserve jar securely, and from time to time shake it vigorously. Very soon the oil will thicken and become absorbed by the solution, and by the end of forty-eight hours you will see streaks of transparent jelly beginning to form in the mass; these will increase until the whole becomes a transparent soft soap.

Now is the time to place this in a gallon measure which may afterwards be filled to the top with boiling water. Stir this with your soap until they are evenly mixed, and then transfer into glass covered jars or dishes. When it has cooled it will look like a hard, clear lemon jelly.

This soap is in America considered indispensable in the operating room. It is also used for washing patients, and for the necessary ward scrubbing. It is known as antiseptic green soap, or sometimes as German soft soap. If an alcoholic solution is required it may be prepared as follows:—Green soap, ten ounces (avoirdupois); oil of lavender, three drachms; alcohol, q. s. to make fifteen ounces. Let this stand until dissolved, and filter.

**Outside the Gates.**

## WOMEN.



AN address to the Queen is being prepared by the women of Great Britain, Ireland, and the Colonies who have done practical public work. After congratulating Her Majesty, the address refers to the growing sense in women of their responsibility in public affairs, and continues:—"Although much has been done, much still remains undone, and we present our earnest appeal to your Majesty, on this unparalleled occasion, still further to encourage the good work of extending to your women subjects the legal protection, the educational opportunities, and the equality of civil rights for which they have so long and ardently striven. One royal word of sympathy with the progress which women have achieved during your Majesty's illustrious reign, one expression of gracious confidence and hope in the happy results which may be expected to follow from still further enlarging the area brought under the influence of women, would greatly promote and consolidate throughout your Majesty's realms those principles of justice and equity which will sustain in permanence the vast Empire over which your Majesty reigns. We pray that your Majesty may see fit to grant this our petition."

Mrs. Creighton usually says wise things, and her remarks at the annual meeting of the London Women's Union of the Church of England Temperance Society were not an exception to the rule. Speaking on temperance work for women, she remarked that the temperance work to be done for women was of two kinds—the work of reclamation and the work of prevention. One was often told that it was impossible to reclaim a woman given over to drink. That this was not true she knew, but it could only be denied partly from personal experience and partly by an absolute refusal to believe that it was impossible to reclaim a sinner. There was, however, a very important truth behind the allegation, for it was certainly more difficult to reclaim a woman given over to drink than it was to reclaim a man, the reason being that in the woman's case drunkenness meant a far greater loss of character. In reclaiming work among women, therefore, not only had the craving for drink to be overcome, but the character had to be built up again. Much of the intemperance of the present day sprang from the unwholesome conditions under which people lived. She thought temperance work might well be applied to check many forms of over-eating. When one saw the gorgeous display of sweetmeats in our shops and the crowds of ladies, old and young, trooping in to buy them, one could see but another form of intemperance tending to weaken the power of resistance to the impulse of the moment.

The Duchess of Teck has written to Lady Inchiquin, inviting assistance towards providing a carpet to be used on State occasions, which she proposes to present to the Queen as a specimen of English and Irish industry.

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