



PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS' BILLS.

ON the motion of Sir Fitzroy Kelly, the following Members of the House of Commons have been appointed on the Select Committee:—

Sir Fitzroy Kelly (East Suffolk), Sir John Shelley (Westminster), Lord Elcho (Haddingtonshire), T. G. Baring (Penryn and Falmouth), Dr. Brady (Leitrim), F. C. Hastings Russell (Bedfordshire), Charles W. Wynn (Montgomeryshire), A. S. Ayrton (Tower Hamlets), G. Selater-Booth (North Hants), W. Cox (Finsbury), H. W. Schneider (Lancaster), Sir J. Ferguson (Ayrshire), Charles Forster (Walsall), J. A. Roebuck (Sheffield), Adam Black (Edinburgh).

The first meeting of this Committee was held at the House of Commons, in Room 14, on Thursday last. Mr. Baring, Under Secretary of State for the Home Department, presided.

Dr. ALFRED SWAINE TAYLOR, the first witness called, stated that for thirty-four years he had given his attention to medical jurisprudence. He was not prepared to state how many cases of poisoning happened in the year, and he would not attempt to explain the difference between negligence and culpable negligence. Coroners' inquests were so loosely conducted that the truth was seldom arrived at. He had examined several exhumed bodies that had been certified as having died from cholera and other causes, and had detected arsenic in them. He thought many of the poison cases that had come under his notice might have been prevented had the persons who retailed the poisons been better acquainted with their nature. He did not suppose that the Legislature could ever prevent mistakes; but it certainly was desirable that every one who dispensed prescriptions should undergo an examination. He did not complain so much of the regular chemists and druggists, but of the little country shopkeepers, who did not know arrowroot from arsenic. He thought great credit was due to the body of chemists for proposing to put some prohibition upon the sale of dangerous drugs. The Arsenic Act was a dead letter. He then read a report upon poisoning cases, and expressed his opinion that every one not in business at the present time should pass an examination before being allowed to *sell poisons*. There was great difficulty in describing what really is a drug, but he had prepared a list which contained certain articles that none but a registered druggist should sell. He did not think that this restriction would interfere with the legitimate freedom of trade. It might at first be considered irksome, but that feeling would soon wear away. When the separation took place between the apothecaries of old and the barbers it was considered a great hardship; but he thought few of the present day would go to the gentleman with the pole to be bled. In 1815, when a change took place, all were incorporated; and although a number of unqualified persons were registered as apothecaries, they had nearly all died out, and the members of the Apothecaries' Society now were properly qualified. And so it should be with the chemists, as a part of the medical profession. He would make the examination as easy as possible, and considered there might be two grades of chemists. The list of dangerous drugs might be amended, as he had hurriedly compiled it; but to check crime, and save life, there ought to be greater difficulty in obtaining them than in obtaining harmless medicines. It was possible now for any one for threepence to procure as much strychnine as would kill a person, and it was most desirable that this state of things should cease. He alluded to "Vermin destroyers." Chloroform was an article which it was very desirable should be administered only by medical men. In chlorodyne he had found prussic acid, and therefore thought that the sale of that preparation should be confined to competent persons only. But by far the greater number of cases of poisoning in this country occurred from arsenic and opium. In France, the poisoning by oxalic acid was very rare. In Denmark, strong acids were often employed for suicidal purposes. Oxalic acid certainly ought to be restricted; also salt of sorrel, which was derived from it. Cyanide of potassium—for which there was an extensive

call, it being used in electro-plating, photography, and many other purposes in manufactures—was virtually solid prussic acid, and should not go out of the chemist's charge. If country shopkeepers were allowed to keep this article, so close was its resemblance to sugar, that mistakes might readily occur. The preparations of lead, he thought, might be left to any one, as he had scarcely known, during the many years he had devoted to these matters, a case of lead poisoning to end fatally. In agricultural districts, sulphate of copper was extensively employed in the destruction of fungi, and might also be omitted from the dangerous class, as it was an excellent emetic, and no harm was likely to accrue from its being taken internally. He saw no reason for prohibiting ergot of rye, as it was not likely to be taken in doses sufficiently large to be dangerous. Nitro-benzol was a very dangerous poison, little known, but much used in the preparation of the new dyes; this compound ought to be reserved for chemists. In France they had nineteen articles specified as dangerous; and he thought it desirable to make the number here as few as possible. There also they had two grades. The higher class *Pharmaciens* only was allowed to dispense prescriptions; but syrups and simple medicaments might be procured from the ordinary druggist. Homœopaths used aconite and other dangerous drugs; but there need be no restriction placed on globules, as he had examined a great many, but had never discovered anything but sugar and starch in them. These globules were manufactured at Berlin. A mixture of starch and sugar was held for a short time over the vapour of the medicine they professed to contain, but they were quite harmless. In this country we had no means of determining quantities more minute than the thousandth part of a grain; but it was necessary, according to homœopathy, to discover the millionth part. It was true that homœopathic practitioners did not confine themselves to globules, but used tinctures, which might be treated as the ordinary tinctures of the allopathists. He remembered having six homœopathic powders to examine, three of which contained sugar, and three morphia, to be given alternately, the latter containing doses larger than he should have dared to have prescribed. Patent medicines ought to be done away with altogether; but as the Medical Council failed to put down quack doctors, he thought it quite useless for them to attempt to abolish patent medicines. Dalby's Carminative and Daffy's Elixir were both opiates, and their sale ought to be restricted. Other patent medicines should have their composition described on the labels. Medical men might then make use of those that were valuable, as they now made use of James' Powder. He had never known any fatal cases from patent medicines, except those mentioned. He thought as a rule the chemists and druggists made their medicines of a uniform strength; but so impressed was he with the necessity of examination, that he should hesitate to take any medicine, unless it had been prepared by an examined person. He would not say that others could not dispense; but he considered every one entrusted to dispense prescriptions, and sell dangerous drugs, should be examined, and if he was in a village, rather than purchase medicine at the general shop, he would wait until proper remedies could be obtained from a competent druggist. He thought the examiners should have two Fellows of the College of Physicians to guarantee their efficiency, and that they should be paid by fees. It was not desirable to have local examination, but for all to come to London to pass.

Dr. SIMON, medical officer of the Privy Council, quite agreed with Dr. Taylor as to the necessity for legislating on the question of poisons. He thought that there should be more difficulty in obtaining the dangerous articles. He should advise that they be placed under the same restriction as arsenic, and that the Arsenic Act be put into working condition. He could not see that an examination as to ability was of such great importance, because no Act would do away with carelessness. He did not believe that ignorance could be imputed to those who committed the mistakes. At the same time he wished to be understood that he highly approved of making those entrusted with medicines well acquainted with their nature, and he most decidedly advocated a high-class education for dispensers of medicines. He thought there might be several gradations. Such persons as would be considered ordinary assistants for the better shops, might be considered fit to sell dangerous medicines.

Mr. ROEBUCK said he wished Dr. Simon would draw up a plan describing the course of examination suitable to each grade, so that the Committee might have an opportunity of judging what these examinations were to consist of.

Dr. SIMON replied that, although he had his own views on these matters, he thought there were others far more competent to decide such a plan, and he would rather it should be left for those who practically understood the matter.

The time having expired, the Committee adjourned until Monday (to-day), at 12 o'clock, when it was understood that the leading members of the Pharmaceutical Society would give evidence in favour of Sir Fitzroy Kelly's Bill.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEDICAL COUNCIL.

THE annual sittings of the General Council of Medical Education and Registration were held during the past month. We present our readers with a condensed report of the proceedings of the Council with respect to questions affecting the interests of chemists and druggists.

MEDICAL PRACTICE BY CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

At the meeting on April 7th, a letter was read from Mr. J. F. Milner, of Hereford, praying for protection of registered medical practitioners against the practice of medicine by chemists and druggists, and against the holding of club appointments by the same.

Dr. ACLAND moved that a committee be appointed to consider and report whether the Medical Council was charged under the Medical Act with any duty in relation to medical and surgical practice by chemists and druggists, and whether any changes were desirable with regard to it. He said that the position of chemists and druggists was exceedingly unsatisfactory. Two Bills in reference to pharmacy were now before Parliament, and under the consideration of a select committee; and it was of the highest importance that the Council should come to a decision as to whether it has any duty in relation to medical and surgical practice by chemists and druggists. He did not propose at present to discuss the question, but only to refer it to a committee. His opinion was that, under the present Act, the Council was charged with no such duty. There were several reasons why the question should be settled at once. He did not know how it might be in Ireland or in Scotland. There were great differences, he believed, in the modes of practice in the three branches of the kingdom. Certain it was that in many parts of England the chemists and druggists were, without blame to themselves, by the very nature of the case, becoming the small practitioners of the country district, becoming, in fact, without any medical education whatever, what the apothecaries were prior to 1815. No doubt amongst the eminent practitioners in large towns there were some who were not aware of the extent to which the practice was carried on, and of the very complicated nature of the question. He knew that there were chemists and druggists who had considerable medical practice both in and out of the house. He also knew that there was a fresh condition of things arising, which was somewhat singular—namely, that some registered practitioners found it to be worth their while to appear as chemists and druggists, opening regular chemists' shops, finding it to be more to their worldly advantage to practise in that manner than in the ordinary way. It would be remembered that, by a previous vote of the Council, it was decided that the new Act should require that all those persons should be subject to compulsory registration. There were other cases, with which they had nothing to do, in which chemists thought it desirable to retain the help of registered medical practitioners. Thus the question was more complicated than might at first appear. There were skilled pharmacutists who would not prescribe for the world; there was another class of chemists and druggists who practised both in and out of the house; and there were qualified practitioners keeping regular chemists' shops. It was absolutely necessary that they should consider whether the Medical Council stood in any relation of responsibility towards the public in the matter; and if they had no such responsibility, whether it was desirable that the question should be handed over to another body having no relation whatever to the Medical Council.

Dr. PARKES seconded the motion, and suggested that the committee to be appointed should also take into consideration the two Bills now before Parliament. The letter that had been read from Mr. Milner certainly represented a very great grievance, and the Council ought to take it into its serious consideration. He observed that in the Chemists and Druggists' Bill, No. 2, there was no saving clause protecting the rights of medical men. In the other Bill, Clause 17 did save the rights and authorities of medical men, but not in a sufficiently stringent and comprehensive manner. He thought also that Clause 13 might be found to bear rather hardly upon some classes of medical men. He thought they would be entitled to call upon the Pharmaceutical Society, or the Chemists and Druggists' Society, to insert a clause providing that no pharmacist should take charge of any Club or Friendly Society which required a knowledge of the practice of medicine and surgery.

Dr. CHRISTISON supported the motion, believing that it was imperative upon the Council to take the subject into consideration. The Council had formerly applied to Government, pointing out the condition in which the practice of pharmacy was, and the necessity of legislating in the matter, and the proposed committee would be really following up the step then taken. He thought the Council should take an active part in the consideration of the two Bills before Parliament. One of them, the Pharmaceutical Society's Bill, seemed a very useful measure, and, with some alterations, might secure the object they desired to accomplish.

Dr. ANDREW WOOD called attention to Clause 55 of the Medical Act, and expressed his opinion that the Council should not agree to any Bill that did not contain a clause which should specifically protect the rights and privileges of practitioners in medicine and surgery, and also define what was the occupation and business of a chemist and druggist. Unless some such clause were inserted, prohibiting chemists and druggists from practising or prescribing, the Bill before Parliament might become a very dangerous one. If the Bill were to pass in any dangerous form, such as he had indicated, it might be the means of raising up a new Apothecaries' Society. He supported the motion, and thought the subject well worthy of consideration.

Mr. COOPER thought the subject should be entered into with great caution. He was glad to hear that a committee was to be appointed, and hoped their deliberations would be attended with a beneficial result.

Dr. ACLAND said he wished to present his motion in a somewhat modified form:—"That, with reference to the letter of Mr. Milner, of Hereford, a committee be appointed to consider and report whether the Medical Council is charged under the Medical Act with any duty in relation to medical and surgical practice by chemists and druggists, and whether any, and, if so, what changes in the Medical Act are desirable in regard to it; and to consider and report on the two Bills with respect to pharmacy now before Parliament. He hoped the committee would consider that the question was a most important one as regards the future of medical practice in this country. Having thought over the matter for a lengthened period, he was very doubtful whether it would not be for the genuine interests of the public and the medical profession, in the event of the regulation of pharmacy in this country being committed to the Medical Council, that some eminent pharmacist should have a seat at their board. The compounding of medical men's prescriptions, and carrying out their directions, were so intimately connected with the discharge of their functions, that, should their conclusion be to separate them entirely, and remove them from their regulation, it would be a most unfortunate thing for the public and for themselves.

The motion was put, and unanimously adopted.

The following gentlemen were appointed on the committee:—Dr. Acland, Dr. Alderson, Dr. Paget, Dr. Storrar, Dr. Thomson, Dr. Apjohn, Dr. Parkes, Mr. Rumsey, and Dr. Christison.

On the 17th ult. the Report of the Committee was discussed, amended, and finally adopted in the following form:—

"REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL PRACTICE BY CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS, AND ON THE PHARMACY BILLS.

"The Committee appointed on April 7th, 1865, to report

whether the Medical Council is charged under the Medical Act with any duty in relation to medical and surgical practice by chemists and druggists, and also to consider and report on the two Bills relating to pharmacy now before Parliament, report as follows:—

"In 1864, the General Medical Council represented to Her Majesty's Government the necessity of regulating by statute the practice of pharmacy by chemists and druggists throughout the kingdom. The Committee are of opinion that this necessity continues as cogent as ever; and that the Council ought to encourage and support any approved measure for effecting such legislation.

"Two Bills for the purpose have been introduced into the House of Commons during the present session, one promoted by the Pharmaceutical Society, the other by chemists and druggists not belonging to that body. The Bill of the latter is confined to England and Wales, that of the former to Great Britain.

"After carefully considering both Bills, the Committee are of opinion that the preferable mode of legislation is that which adopts the Pharmaceutical Society, with the Pharmacy Act of 1852 as a basis. They think the Bill promoted by the Society well fitted to attain various important objects, and reasonable in its demands for powers and privileges.

"The main objects of the Bill are to form a register of legally qualified Pharmaceutic Chemists; to prohibit the use of certain pharmaceutic titles by persons not on the Register; to confine to those registered the privilege of executing the prescriptions of medical practitioners, subject to the provisions hereinafter named; but not to restrict the sale of medicines asked for in any other manner.

"The Committee desire to bring before the Council certain defects which it appears to them necessary to correct before the Bill becomes law.

"1. The Bill should be altered so as to apply to Ireland, as well as to England and Scotland. They are not aware that any state of things exists in Ireland to render the regulation of pharmacy by the State less necessary there than in Britain.

"2. The Committee are of opinion that a clause should be inserted in any Pharmacy Bill, rendering it imperative on chemists and druggists to follow, in compounding prescriptions, the formularies of the British Pharmacopœia, unless otherwise directed by the prescriber.

"3. The Committee consider that the promoters of the Bill, probably from a desire to disarm opposition, propose to admit, on too easy terms, into their Society, practising chemists and druggists not now belonging to it. The proposal is to admit all who offer themselves for examination, or who produce a certificate from a qualified medical practitioner that they have been in the practice of dispensing medicines from the prescriptions of medical men before January 1, 1866. The latter alternative implies a facility of entrance which will be apt to lead to abuse. The Committee are of opinion that more satisfactory evidence of qualification should be required.

"4. The last important defect in the Bill which the Committee have to notice is, that no adequate provision has been made towards preventing registered Pharmaceutic Chemists from converting themselves into unqualified medical practitioners.

"Looking to the history of medical practice in this country, the Committee see great danger to the interests of the public and of the medical profession from the body which will be constituted by the Bill, should it become an Act in its present shape. The General Medical Council, in carrying out the objects of the Medical Act, have raised, and, it is hoped, may further raise, the qualifications of legally-qualified medical practitioners. But their labours will be in vain, should the creation of a new race of unqualified practitioners be inadvertently encouraged by an Act of Parliament. It is well known that many existing chemists and druggists, both members of the Pharmaceutical Society and others, practise medicine, although unqualified by law, and not competent by education. To a limited extent this practice may be inevitable, and, at all events, cannot be prevented. But the existence of it gives peculiar facilities and temptations to the Pharmaceutic Chemist to embark largely in irregular medical practice as an unqualified practitioner.

"The Committee have considered whether the danger here indicated might not be averted by extending the jurisdiction of the General Medical Council, so as to include control over Pharmaceutic Chemists as well as over practitioners in

medicine. But they believe that such a plan is at present attended with difficulties.

"By Clause 55 of the Medical Act, chemists and druggists are expressly exempted from the provisions of the Act, so far as the 'selling, compounding, and dispensing medicines' is concerned. Nor is there any provision in the Act which gives the Medical Council any greater power to prevent chemists and druggists from practising medicine also, than the Act enables the Council to exercise over all other unqualified medical practitioners. It is plain, therefore, that the Act did not contemplate the exercise by the Medical Council of any control over chemists and druggists; and the Committee consider that it would be unwise to seek to alter the existing relations between the Medical Council and chemists and druggists.

"The Committee have further considered whether the danger they have pointed out might be averted by some simple provision in the Pharmacy Bill. By Section 17 of the Bill of the Pharmaceutical Society, it is declared that—

"Nothing in this Act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to lessen or prejudice, or in any wise to interfere with, any of the rights, privileges, and immunities heretofore vested in, and exercised and enjoyed by, any duly qualified medical practitioner."

"This clause sufficiently protects medical practitioners in such right of practising pharmacy as they have hitherto enjoyed, but it does not attempt to prevent Pharmaceutic Chemists from practising medicine. Considering their peculiar temptations to practise it, however, some check seems desirable. The Committee suggest that this object may be attained, in some measure, were the following clause to be added to Section 17, viz.—

"Or to entitle any person registered under this Act to practise medicine or surgery, or any branch of medicine or surgery."

"The members of the pharmaceutic body would thus have constantly before them the sentiments of the Legislature as to the principles on which the Pharmacy Act was founded.

"The Committee have reason to believe that the Council of the present Pharmaceutical Society have every desire to discourage the practice of medicine by its members. They, therefore, apprehend that no opposition would be made to the addition of such a clause.

"The Committee call attention to the fact, that the Bill proposes to confer on the whole body of chemists and druggists the right of dispensing and selling medicines without any control on the part of the Government, except such as is exercised under the Pharmacy Act over registered Pharmaceutic Chemists. The medical profession has not been so dealt with in the Medical Act. The Medical Council is properly restricted in its action by the Medical Corporation and Universities, and is also controlled by the Privy Council. They submit that the whole profession of pharmacy ought to be subjected to some control.

"The Committee recommend that the above observations should be laid by the President before the Secretary of State for the Home Department, and the Chairman of the Select Committee on the two Bills.

"Signed on behalf of the Committee,

"HENRY W. ACLAND, Chairman."

BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA.

At the meeting on the 13th April, Dr. CORRIGAN moved:—

"That a clause be inserted in the amended Bill, or any Bill to be introduced relative to pharmacy, rendering it imperative on the apothecaries and compounding chemists of the United Kingdom to follow, in compounding prescriptions, the formularies of the British Pharmacopœia, unless otherwise specially directed by the prescriber; inasmuch as the practice at present existing of compounding indifferently from the formularies of four different Pharmacopœias is dangerous to the lives of the community."

As legislation existed previously to the publication of the British Pharmacopœia, there was a Pharmacopœia for Ireland and one for England, both published under the sanction of an Act of Parliament; also a Pharmacopœia for Scotland, but not published with the sanction of an Act of Parliament. When the new Pharmacopœia was introduced, the College of Physicians of Ireland passed a resolution, and

conveyed it to the Under-Secretary for Ireland, that they would no longer take charge of the inspection of apothecaries' shops, or ascertain whether medicines were or were not compounded according to the new Pharmacopœia, inasmuch as, the new Pharmacopœia being published by the General Medical Council, they considered their functions superseded. He did not know what the College of Physicians of London had done, but he was aware that one or more of that distinguished body had given utterance to strictures on the new Pharmacopœia.

The PRESIDENT said, if Dr. Corrigan was referring to the President of the College of Physicians, his recommendation was, that if physicians were in doubt as to which Pharmacopœia they should use, they had better put at the head of their prescriptions some short words to show which Pharmacopœia they desired to be used.

Dr. CORRIGAN wished to mention no names, but the impression made on his mind was that some of the members of that College were under the impression that the new Pharmacopœia was not right, and that it was better to adhere to old forms. In his own experience as a prescriber, he confessed that scarcely a day passed in which he did not feel great anxiety and occasional terror on that subject. In Ireland they had two Pharmacopœias, in England two, and in Scotland one; and they knew that such was the difference of strength that what was the minimum dose in one Pharmacopœia was poison in another. Take the case of aconite: in the old Pharmacopœia five drops was poison, while in the new Pharmacopœia it was only a very small dose. He did not think it would be judicious to propose to the Secretary of State to insert, either in the amended Bill or in any Pharmacy Bill, a clause making it imperative on apothecaries and compounding chemists, unless otherwise directed, to follow the new Pharmacopœia. If a case of poisoning occurred, under the present state of the law, a chemist would very fairly plead that he did not know which Pharmacopœia he was to follow. The question would naturally arise, What had the General Medical Council ever done to bring the matter before the Legislature? A letter was addressed by the President, in accordance with the wishes of the Council, stating that amendments were required in the law as regarded pharmacy. That should be followed up by a resolution, such as he proposed, stating that the present want of any uniformity was dangerous to the lives of the community. They would by that means wash their hands of all imputation of neglect or carelessness; so that if a case of poisoning occurred, they might lay their hands on that resolution, and say it was not their fault. They all knew that when a single case of poisoning occurred, the public press very properly hunted it up until they came to the guilty person; and he confessed, if matters remained as they were, and if they did not take some such step, it would be perfectly justifiable to say that the crime rested with the Medical Council.

Dr. APJOHN seconded the motion.

Dr. LEET said part of the clause seemed to reflect injuriously upon Irish apothecaries.

Dr. SMITH said every man who compounded prescriptions ought to be provided with a copy of the British Pharmacopœia. He had inquired at the booksellers in Dublin, and found there had not been 1,000 copies sold, while there were upwards of 2,000 practitioners in Ireland, so that there were a great number who could never have seen the British Pharmacopœia.

Dr. CHRISTISON thought a fair and reasonable interpretation of the Act would give the meaning Dr. Corrigan's motion was intended to convey. There was no medical practitioner in Scotland who did not understand that when he prescribed he was to get his prescription executed according to the British Pharmacopœia, unless some other Pharmacopœia was notified. He had spoken to several of the druggists in Edinburgh, who assured him they considered themselves bound to make their preparations according to the British Pharmacopœia, unless they had express instructions to the contrary. He was perfectly certain that the law would be superfluous as far as Scotland was concerned. He had also taken the trouble to inquire amongst many of his medical friends, since coming to London, as to the practice here, and found, however averse some practitioners were to following the British Pharmacopœia, that they still considered themselves bound, by what had passed

in various Acts, to specify when they wished their prescriptions to be made up in accordance with the London Pharmacopœia, knowing that when no direction was given the British Pharmacopœia was understood. If such were not the case, Dr. Corrigan's motion would be most valuable; but if it were the case, then he did not think they should go to the Legislature and ask for such powers, because it would be holding out that the Pharmacopœia had not attained its object.

Dr. ALDERSON said he had made inquiries, and found that there was no edition of the old London Pharmacopœia in existence, it having been sold out for the last ten years.

Dr. QUAIN said it would be a grave thing to enact a clause which would compel the chemist to make up what he might know to be a fatal dose.

Dr. STOWAR was prepared to support the motion if it was framed in such a way as to steer the Council clear of any action further than putting it before the Secretary of State.

Dr. CORRIGAN said he would insert the words, "That it would be advisable to have a clause inserted in the amended Bill." He said some measure ought to be taken so as to draw the attention of chemists and compounding apothecaries to the subject. He did not care whether the penalty was ever imposed or not, but only wished to clear the Council from the charge of neglect. With regard to Dr. Quain's objection, he did not think they should avoid legislation because a physician might possibly get into a scrape. As to the apothecaries, he had often put the question as to what Pharmacopœia they compounded by, and the answer was—"We never mind the British Pharmacopœia; we compound by the old Pharmacopœia."

The amended clause stood as follows: "That it would be desirable to have a clause inserted in the amended Bill, or in any Pharmacy Bill introduced to the Legislature, rendering it imperative on the apothecaries and compounding chemists of the United Kingdom to follow, in compounding prescriptions, the formularies of the British Pharmacopœia, unless otherwise specially directed by the prescriber, inasmuch as compounding indifferently from the formularies of four different Pharmacopœias is dangerous to the lives of the community."

It was put to the Council, and carried *nem. con.*

Dr. CORRIGAN.—I will follow it up by moving that a copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Secretary of State, and then I believe we are free from all responsibility.

Dr. WOOD seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

REVISED EDITION OF THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA.

On the 15th of April the following report from the Pharmacopœia Committee was taken into consideration:—

"The Pharmacopœia Committee beg to report that, after much careful consideration, they requested Mr. Warrington, of the Apothecaries' Hall, and Dr. Redwood, of the Pharmaceutical Society, to undertake the preparation of the next edition of the Pharmacopœia, under the supervision of the Committee. The gentlemen named accepted the duty, and they are engaged actively in its performance. The Committee, in the first instance, prepared an outline of the subjects which seemed to them to require revision; and these subjects are made the basis of careful inquiries by Messrs. Warrington and Redwood, who have submitted, and will continue to submit, their reports thereon, together with such suggestions as they think proper to make, for the consideration and decision of the Committee. The Committee have also received valuable assistance from Dr. Farre, appointed by the English Branch Council, from Dr. Moore, appointed by the Irish Branch Council, and from Dr. Christison, appointed by the Scottish Branch Council, to report on the improvement in the progress of pharmacy; and they hope that the services of these gentlemen may be continued.

"Taking the first edition of the Pharmacopœia as a basis, compiled, as it has been, with great labour and expense, the Committee hope that, without making any very extensive or fundamental changes, the next edition will be found acceptable to the profession.

"GEO. BURROWS, M.D., *Chairman.*"

Dr. QUAIN moved the adoption of the report, stating that the Committee hoped the Pharmacopœia would be made as perfect as possible. It was not proposed to publish it in two

sizes. It was hoped that at the next meeting of the Council a proof of the work would be laid upon the table.

Dr. ARJOHN seconded the motion, and deprecated the unjust criticism to which he said the Pharmacopœia had been subjected.

Dr. WOOD asked when the next edition was likely to be published, whether it was to include a posological table, and whether attention would be called to the principal changes from the old Pharmacopœia.

Dr. QUAIN said that the work would be published after the next ordinary meeting of the Council; that the doses of all remedies would be mentioned in connexion with each article, but not in a posological table; and that every change from the previous edition of the Pharmacopœia would be mentioned.

Dr. A. SMITH thought that no definite promise should be given as to the time when the work would be published. No time would be lost; but the Committee desired to make the Pharmacopœia as complete as possible, and it might be injurious to fix definitely any particular date.

Mr. HARGRAVE said that the work was not sufficiently known in Ireland, and suggested that it should be advertised in the Irish journals.

Mr. COOPER urged the importance of indicating the doses.

Dr. CORRIGAN inquired if the members of the Council would be furnished with a copy before the work went to press.

Dr. QUAIN replied in the affirmative.

Dr. CORRIGAN said he had not seen any copy of the last edition prior to publication. The members of the Council ought to have an ample opportunity for examination and revision. He hoped that a proof would be in their hands at least one or two months before the meeting of the Council.

Dr. CHRISTISON thought that the Committee should be trusted in the publication of the work; and if it was to be open to the criticism of every member of the Council, he should not like to remain any longer on the Committee. If Dr. Corrigan and other gentlemen wished any particular preparations to be introduced, they should send them to the Committee before the work went to press, and they might be sure that the Committee would attend to all their communications. The Committee had given specific directions that no article should be omitted which was believed to be in use by any person known to be in extensive practice. If any error was committed, it would be rather in admitting what might be deemed superfluous than in the way of omission.

Dr. ANDREW WOOD said that there had been great dissatisfaction expressed with regard to the Pharmacopœia, and the Council was bound to take every means in its power to make it as complete and as satisfactory as possible. Unless a proof was placed in the hands of the members, it was impossible that they could ascertain its defects and suggest remedies. He had every confidence in the Committee; but as the Council was to be responsible for the publication, he thought every member should have an opportunity of revising it.

Dr. CORRIGAN moved,—“That it is desirable to have a proof copy of the Pharmacopœia in the hands of the members of the Council at least one month before the meeting of the General Medical Council, at which the opinion of the Medical Council is to be given relative to its being published.”

Dr. WOOD seconded the motion.

Dr. CORRIGAN was sorry to hear Dr. Christison talk of retiring from the Committee in the event of such a resolution being carried. If the members had any suggestions to make, it would very much facilitate matters if they had an entire copy of the work before them.

Dr. CHRISTISON said, if it was understood that the object of the motion was to afford members of the Council an opportunity of sending in any suggestions to the Committee within a given time, he had no objection to offer. What he objected to was, that the work should be subject to revision at the meetings of the Council.

Dr. CORRIGAN said his object was to afford an opportunity to the members to communicate with the Committee, and, with that view, he would add to the resolution—“In order to afford each member of the Council the opportunity of making such suggestions to the Committee as may appear desirable.”

The motion was then unanimously agreed to, and the report of the Committee was adopted.

On the motion of Dr. QUAIN, seconded by Mr. HARGRAVE, the Executive Committee was authorized to obtain estimates,

and make contracts, for printing and binding the Pharmacopœia as soon as it was ready for the press.

It was also resolved, on the motion of Dr. QUAIN, that the sum of £100, ordered last year to be placed at the disposal of the Pharmacopœia Committee, be extended to £300.

UNITED SOCIETY OF CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

BRISTOL.

A meeting of the non-pharmaceutical chemists and druggists of this city and its neighbourhood was held at the Athenæum on the 20th ult. Resolutions were unanimously passed condemning the proposal of the Pharmaceutical Council to tax chemists and druggists without admitting their right to representation, expressing the firm determination of the Bristol chemists to oppose any legislation of so partial and exclusive a character, and at the same time calling upon their members of Parliament to press their claims in the most effective manner upon the Special Committee, so that full justice might be done to the large body of non-pharmaceuticalists who were not consulted by the Pharmaceutical Council in the framing of their Bill.

FAREWELL DINNER TO DR. HOFMANN.

Dr. HOFMANN is not likely to forget the hearty farewell of his old pupils and fellow-workers in England. On the evening of the 28th ult., just before his departure for Berlin, he was entertained by them at a dinner at the Albion Tavern, and we now give our readers an account of the proceedings condensed from the excellent report printed in the columns of the *Chemical News*.

Dr. Warren De la Rue, F.R.A.S., F.R.S., occupied the chair. Those who took part in the entertainment were:—Their Royal Highnesses the Comte de Paris, the Due de Chartres, and the Prince de Condé; Messrs. F. A. Abel, F.R.S., A. H. Church, M.A., W. Crookes, F.R.S., G. B. Buekton, F.R.S., F. Field, F.R.S., W. Odling, M.D., F.R.S., E. C. Nicholson, J. Kayess, B. Condy, G. Maule, A. P. Price, Ph.D., W. Valentin, W. H. Perkin, G. de Mussey, M.D., R. M. Hands, H. Müller, Ph.D., M. Holzmann, Ph.D., W. Squire, Ph.D., S. Heywood, M. Garcia, J. S. Brazier, — Böttinger, Ph.D., P. Griess, B. Duppa, H. Basset, W. Scott, — Barrett, Ph.D., E. Owen, H. Medlock, Ph.D., T. Bealey, W. T. Dent, J. Spiller, E. O. Brown, R. E. Alison, J. A. Spencer, C. Berger, J. Newlands, E. Southby, W. Wilson, J. Matthews, E. J. Chapman, P. Chabot, M.A., A. Vaucher, R. Barton, J. B. Barnes, W. Spiller, B. Cooper, G. F. Ansell, A. Murgatroyd, W. J. Belton, C. O'Sullivan, G. Davis, G. F. Pritchard, W. T. Fewtrell, F. A. Potter, H. T. Lowe, J. Romanes, F. A. Manning, J. Davidson, W. J. Barnes, H. Tomlinson, J. Williams, W. J. Roberts, J. P. Wilson, T. Royle, L. Heseltine, etc.

After the usual loyal toasts,

Mr. FIELD, as Secretary to the dinner, presented his report, and explained the unavoidable absence of Sir James Clark; of Mr. Graham, the Master of the Mint; of Drs. Rowney, Muspratt, Galloway, D. S. Price, and Geiger; of M. Kuhlmann, Captain Hore, Mr. Edward Thomas, Mr. McLeod, and other friends of the Professor. Some were kept away by illness, some by domestic affliction, and some engagements abroad; but all joined the entertainers of Dr. Hofmann in spirit.

The CHAIRMAN, in proposing the toast of the evening, said: With mingled emotions I rise to propose to you the next toast, for I am deeply impressed with a desire to do justice to my subject; while, at the same, I am fully aware of my inability worthily to acquit myself of the task. Literally and metaphorically, my heart is in my mouth, for I have to propose for your acceptance the health of one of my oldest and most loved friends on the eve of his departure. For twenty years I have been acquainted with Dr. Hofmann. I have known him under a variety of circumstances, and it is not assuming too much for me to say that I know his innermost heart; and the more intimately I have become acquainted with his motives of action, the more highly have I appreciated his great moral worth. Twenty years!—years that have passed with me almost as a dream; yet how eventful a period in the progress of chemical science. I look back,

and try to fix some of the marks by which to measure out and fully appreciate the continuous current of invaluable discovery inaugurated by the advent in England of Dr. Hofmann, and I recall at once the fact of his introducing me at an early period to one to whom he was much attached. Ani-line, then a very coy personage, would throw around herself a purple veil, and disappear when brought into the presence of such energetic personages as chlorine. *Aniline* is now a matron, with numerous offspring, whose names I do not pretend to recollect, for names with me are slippery things, and some of them are nearly unpronounceable. But I recollect one on whom we have all gazed with admiration—her beauteous daughter *Rose*. The mention of the family of aniline at once reminds us of a long series of substantial benefits conferred upon England by Dr. Hofmann's teaching; but I must take you back to the earlier years of his stay amongst us. The promoters of the College of Chemistry, in their zeal and confidence in the support of the public, made such offers to Dr. Hofmann that he was induced to accept the professorship. Some of us know that the ability of the promoters to perform their part of the arrangement fell very far short of their anticipations—the existence of the College being, in fact, in danger—and Dr. Hofmann voluntarily gave up in succession—first a portion of his salary, then his share of the students' fees, and lastly his house. Yet during this trying period he never in the slightest degree relaxed his efforts to establish the reputation of the College. He not only gave up the money which was his due, but, out of his extreme devotion to the educational objects of the College, abandoned what to a German *savant* is of still greater importance, his original scientific investigations. This, I know, he felt at the time most keenly, for not only was he relinquishing a pursuit productive of the highest and purest pleasures, but he was jeopardizing his future if the College should unfortunately fail to establish itself. Happily the College has stood fast, and our friend has built up the temple of his fame on so many bases that it cannot fail to endure so long as chemical literature shall exist. While speaking of the early trials of the College, I must not omit to mention the honoured name of one for whom I have the highest reverence: I allude to Sir James Clark, who stood by our College and our friend in every difficulty. Sir James Clark's efforts in promoting science will hardly ever, perhaps, receive proper recognition, for his labours have been so unostentatious that scarcely a record of them is left, except in the memory of his friends. Science and men of science have few such staunch friends as Sir James Clark. Dr. Hofmann has been extremely happy in his choice of assistants, and throughout his long and prolific career has been surrounded by such a staff as it has rarely been the lot of any chemist to attract about him. But so, also, has he shown great judgment in selecting other agents—perhaps I ought to say re-agents; and although it would be invidious to select any of his animate friends, when so many are present, yet I may, without danger of wounding the susceptibilities of his inanimate aids, name iodide of ethyl as a substitution agent, which has done much for the progress of organic research. We are all aware that many inducements were offered to Dr. Hofmann, to direct his thoughts to technological chemistry—for a long time, however, without effect; and that when he did almost reluctantly consent to undertake such work, it was usually prosecuted at that period of the day which is generally devoted to recreation or rest. It gives me great pleasure to call to mind, as also it must do in the case of several around me, the many profitable hours spent with our friend in this extraneous work, which usually commenced about midnight, and terminated only when the small hours had grown sensibly larger. Of Dr. Hofmann's teaching it is hardly necessary for me to speak, except to express in his presence the exalted estimation in which it is held by us all. His deservedly high reputation as a chemist is not greater than his fame as a teacher. We all know that when he speaks the various bodies of which he discourses seem no longer inanimate, so vividly does he portray their habits and affections, their dislikes and preferences, the causes and characteristics of their mutual actions and relations. Even the crotchets of the atoms are laid bare, and we learn that if it be desired to hold more than a certain number of them in friendly union with some other body, it is needful first of all to induce the co-operation of auxiliary groups. One prominent feature in Dr. Hofmann's teaching has always been the kind and pains-

taking encouragement he has invariably bestowed on those of his pupils who have desired to enter on original research; and it is gratifying to notice among those met here to-day to say farewell so many who have distinguished themselves in the various branches of chemistry to which they have devoted their attention. You are aware that Dr. Hofmann has, after much persuasion, assented to propositions made to him by the Prussian Government with a view of inducing him to undertake a most important mission. It is most creditable to that Government that they so fully appreciate Dr. Hofmann's high mental, moral, and social qualities, which so peculiarly fit him for the honourable post to which they invite him. It was at one time thought that this would have to be a final leave-taking; but, fortunately, our Government having at the eleventh hour become aware of Dr. Hofmann's intended departure, and being keenly alive to the loss the country would thus sustain, have declined to release him from all the bonds by which he is bound to us, and so we hope in a few years to ask him to meet us again on his return to our land. It is our fervent wish that in the meantime he may enjoy continued health and ever-increasing prosperity. We should be sorry if this meeting were to pass away just as a passing tribute of our gratitude, and we desire to record in some formal manner that we are here assembled to wish you farewell, and to express a hope that we may see you here again. (The speech was frequently interrupted by cheers and laughter, and at its conclusion the applause was quite enthusiastic.)

The memorial (a record of the entertainment on vellum, with the signatures of those who joined in it attached), was then presented to Dr. Hofmann.

The toast was drunk upstanding, with hearty English cheers.

Dr. HOFMANN, in responding, warmly expressed his gratitude to the chairman for his kind words, and to the company generally for their enthusiastic reception of the toast. He spoke most affectionately of Sir James Clark, and lamented that illness prevented him from joining so large an assemblage of gentlemen connected with the College of Chemistry, an institution for which he (Sir James Clark) had done so much. The concluding portion of the Professor's speech must be given without abridgement:—And now, gentlemen, I have reached a point at which I feel deeply the inadequacy of words to express the sentiment of proud delight, of joyous enthusiasm, with which I see myself surrounded this evening by this large assemblage of sometime students, many of whom were afterwards my assistants, all of whom are now my friends. In moments like this a man's existence is, as it were, concentrated; for, from the beaming eyes which meet mine, to whichever side they are turned, the happiest memories of my life come back, as if reflected from a mirror. Every face awakens a delightful tradition of years gone by, of successful collaboration, of mutual consolation in the hours of failure, of animated discussion, but always of good-fellowship and perfect understanding. Yes! this is indeed a golden moment, and one for which the labours of a lifetime would not be too high a price to pay. In glancing round this table my heart swells with an emotion of indescribable satisfaction. I see our beloved science of chemistry, as it were, vividly personified before me in all its noblest branches. I see here some of those who are gloriously devoting their laborious lives to the development of chemical philosophy—to the patient investigation of its recondite truths—to the discovery of new elements, to the revelation of new laws. In others here present I see represented the grand movement of industrial chemistry in our time; that movement which is covering Europe with factories, in which the transformations of matter are made subservient to the happiness of man. Prominent among such establishments are those from which innumerable exquisite colours are now so lavishly poured forth, to delight the eye and refine the taste of the masses with decorative splendours, which but a few years since even princes would have desired in vain. And as the word "princes" has escaped my lips, may I not venture to hint, in passing, at the lustre which science both gives and gains, when it sheds its light in palaces, and receives the homage of "princes" in return? In such homage, nobly rendered, do we not recognise one of the most marked signs of an age when all ranks unite in one ardent aspiration—to promote the happiness of humanity at large? But I am detaining you too long. "Out of the fulness

of the heart the mouth speaketh," and my heart is beating too high at this moment to be easily restrained. I would fain dwell upon the future of the College; I would fain stretch my vision through years to come, and forecast the destiny of an institution which will be dear to me as long as I live. That it will continually prosper, continually advance, the enthusiasm displayed in its behalf this evening would be earnest enough, were there not in its high mission, and in the abundant proofs of its utility, still stronger guarantees. It is with deep satisfaction that I reflect on the ability, so far superior to mine, of the distinguished chemist and esteemed friend who is about to preside over its destinies, and whose teaching, I have not the shadow of a doubt, will receive from the pupils of the Institution the same generous appreciation as you, my dear friends, in old student days, so affectionately accorded to me. But I must not enlarge on a topic which the programme, I see, reserves to be dealt with by abler hands; nor, indeed, must I any longer trespass on your indulgent attention. Let me, only for one moment, before I conclude, turn to those who represent here the rising generation of chemists, in order that I may point out to their emulation the brilliant careers and enviable positions of distinguished men here present, but a few years since young students like themselves, now the conspicuous ornaments of our profession. Into whatever department of our noble science the pupil's inclination or capacity may lead him, he will find in this assemblage abundant proofs of the pre-eminence which, by the exercise of similar ability with equal perseverance, it is open to the youngest in his turn to attain. . . . My dear friends, I am putting off, I feel, that painful parting word, Farewell! But it must come at last—and I pronounce it in its fullest, deepest sense—may you, all and each, Fare well! Believe me, in quitting the glorious country of my adoption, in quitting dear old England, I carry with me to my new sphere of labour some of the brightest, some of the most cheering memories of my existence; and among the most consoling of my thoughts at this moment is the reflection that I may still hope for the happiness of meeting you again!

Mr. ABEL then proposed "The future prosperity of the Royal College of Chemistry," associating with the toast the health of Dr. Hofmann's successor, Professor Frankland.

Professor FRANKLAND in responding said:—I cannot help feeling the responsibility cast upon the successor of the gentleman who has so successfully raised the Institution to its present brilliant position. If earnestness of purpose, and love for our science, could secure success in carrying on this establishment during the absence of Dr. Hofmann, I should feel no fear of failure. But, unfortunately, other qualities are necessary. There is the power of organisation, there is the method of management and the tact of arrangement in these matters, and last, though by no means least amongst them, is the sympathy of those who have been connected with such an establishment, and especially of those who have been connected as students with it. From the manner in which you have just drunk my health, I cannot but feel secure in this last help to my success.

Dr. ODLING, in proposing the next toast, said that the chemists of England would not only remember Dr. Hofmann as a great master, but also as a great "Fellow,"—in fact, a grand Fellow of the Chemical Society. He was sure that it would be a source of gratification to Dr. Hofmann to feel that the chair of that Society was now occupied by so able a chemist, and so accomplished a gentleman, as Dr. Miller. In conclusion, he called upon all present to drink success to the Chemical Society and its President.

Dr. MILLER having replied in an eloquent speech,

The CHAIRMAN proposed the health of their Royal Highnesses the Comte de Paris, the Duc de Chartres, and the Prince de Condé.

The COMTE DE PARIS gracefully returned thanks.

Mr. NICHOLSON then proposed the health of the Chairman, and the company unanimously proclaimed him to be "a jolly good fellow."

The CHAIRMAN having responded to the toast, the company dispersed with unmingled feelings of satisfaction at the success of the entertainment.

Great credit is due to Messrs. Abel, Nicholson, Maule, and Field, to whose exertions, as the Executive Committee, must be mainly ascribed the great *total* of this parting demonstration to Dr. Hofmann.

ACCIDENTAL POISONING BY OIL OF BITTER ALMONDS.

AN inquest was held at Penenden-heath, near Maidstone, last month on the body of a lad named John Clements, 12 years of age, who had been poisoned under the distressing circumstances stated in the following evidence:—

Mr. H. Tasker, banker, stated that the deceased had been in his service a month, as page. The lad was taken ill, and, on making inquiry, witness found that he had taken something from a bottle labelled "Essence of almonds for scenting." Deceased told him that the bottle was handed to him, and that he put it to his lips, but he thought he did not swallow any. Witness called in Mr. Barham, surgeon, of Maidstone, who attended the lad until he died, at half-past 11 o'clock. The oil was purchased at the shop of Messrs. Argles, Son, and Stonham, pharmaceutical chemists, Maidstone, on the 16th December last, by Mrs. Tasker, who sent a written order for it, stating that she wanted it to scent pomade for the hair. Since then the oil had been kept in the store-room, and on the day the lad was taken ill Mrs. Tasker put some of it into a quantity of pomade, and left the bottle standing on the table in the kitchen. Neither witness nor his wife knew that the oil would prove fatal unless it was used in large quantities.

Esther Goodhew, about 24 years of age, cook in the service of Mr. Tasker, stated that, after Mrs. Tasker had used the essence of almonds, she left the bottle standing on the kitchen table. There was no label on the bottle, to show that it contained poison. She had used bitter almonds; and although she knew she must only use a certain quantity, she did not know it was poison. She merely put the bottle to her lips, but did not swallow any of the contents. It tasted bitter, and she ate a piece of bread immediately afterwards to take the taste out of her mouth. She also had her dinner shortly afterwards. In an hour from the time she tasted the oil she was taken ill, and vomited. She saw deceased take up the bottle and put it to his lips. He did not ask for it. She took it away from him, saying, "Oh, John, you should not do that—it is mistress's." He then put it down, and did not touch it again. She took the oil to the store-room. Deceased told her he did not swallow any, but only put it to his lips.

By the Jury: Deceased ate his dinner with the same appetite as usual; and just before two o'clock he went out to the harness-room, to get the horse ready to take his mistress out for a ride. Witness was quite sure she did not swallow any of the oil.

Mrs. Brooker stated that she was called to attend to last witness, and saw her lips were black and her face purple and white. She said she had got palpitation of the heart. She quickly got worse, and vomited. Witness gave her some brandy. The contents of the stomach smelt very strong of almonds, as also did the contents of deceased's stomach. She said to deceased, "Dear me, John, what have you been doing?" and he replied, "I did not swallow any. Esther (the cook) swallowed some, and she is worse than I am." Witness said, "You must have swallowed some," to which he replied, "I did not, Mrs. Brooker;" and those were the last words he spoke. He was carried upstairs a little before seven o'clock, and died at a quarter past eleven. Deceased was a very good boy.

Mr. H. Barham, surgeon, Stone-street, Maidstone, stated that he was called to see Mr. Tasker's cook, whom he found in an unconscious state in the kitchen. He had previously attended her for disease of the heart, and when he first saw her, he thought she was suffering from that cause. He inquired what she had taken, and was told, "Nothing but a little mincemeat." He gave her some brandy, after which she rallied, and gradually got better, but retained the livid hue about her lips for several hours. Shortly after he left the house he met Mr. Tasker with the deceased in his carriage; and on telling Mr. Tasker he had been to see his cook, and describing the state she was in, the boy stated that the cook had tasted some oil of almonds. There was then nothing the matter with the boy; and witness told Mr.

Tasker that if he should show any symptoms, he had better give him some brandy at once. Mr. Tasker asked the lad several times if he felt ill, and he said he did not. At about eight o'clock in the evening, witness was sent for; and on going to Mr. Tasker's house, he found the deceased insensible, almost pulseless, and his teeth were so tightly closed that he had great difficulty in getting a piece of cork between them. His skin presented the same appearance as the cook's. Considerable time had elapsed before the boy was taken ill. Witness administered brandy liberally, and Mr. and Mrs. Tasker did all they could to assist the deceased. The symptoms were such as would be produced by a strong sedative poison acting powerfully on the nervous system, and then on the heart. He had no doubt that deceased died from the effects of having taken oil of almonds. He believed it was not the custom to put "Poison" on bottles containing preparations of this kind, although they were sometimes five or six times stronger than laudanum. "Oil of almonds" had a very innocent sound, and from this fact many persons were led to suppose it was perfectly harmless; but it ought never to be sold without a "Poison" label being placed on the bottle. If there had been a label on this bottle, probably the jury would not have had to meet. If the boy had taken a larger quantity, his stomach would have rejected it at once, and it might not then have got into his system. He should say the deceased and the cook must have taken a teaspoonful each.

A Juror remarked that he had made inquiries of a respectable chemist, who had told him it was not customary to label such drugs as "Oil of almonds" as poison.

The Coroner having summed up the evidence, the jury returned a verdict,—

"That deceased was accidentally poisoned; and that it would be highly conducive to the safety of the public if preparations of this kind were labelled 'Poison.'"

The chemists and druggists of Maidstone, feeling that some reflection on them was implied by the remark appended by the jury to their verdict, held a meeting, and drew up the following declaration, which was published in the advertising columns of the local journals:—

"The Jury in the late case of Poisoning at Boxley having stated in their verdict that 'it would be highly conducive to the safety of the public if preparations of the kind were labelled "POISON,"'—We, the undersigned Chemists and Druggists, do hereby declare that it is, and has always been, our uniform practice to place a 'POISON' label on all dangerous preparations, and we believe such to be the practice of the trade generally.

JOHN KIRK.
WIMBLE & NUTT.
J. W. G. SIMPSON.
J. R. COOPER.
EDWARD VINSON.
SAMUEL COX.
J. R. PRICE.
J. W. HOLLIDAY.
WM. ROGERS & Co.
THOMAS FARNON.
ROBERT WHELPTON.
F. S. WIMBLE."

The following letter, referring to the remark of a juror, also appeared in the Maidstone journals:—

"Sir,—At the inquest held at Boxley on the body of the unfortunate boy, John Clements, a statement was made by one of the jurymen, that he had inquired at a chemist's shop in Maidstone, and was told that essence of almonds was not labelled 'Poison,' when sold for flavouring or scenting. We are the firm to whom that gentleman applied; and we think it necessary to state, through the medium of your columns, that we gave this information from the fact that preparations bearing this name, and sold by us, do not contain poison, being deprived of prussic acid before they are sold to the public; and we believe, with rare exceptions, it is the custom of the trade.

"We remain, Sir, yours obediently,
"WIMBLE & NUTT."

[We have been informed that the poison was not genuine oil of almonds, but a factitious oil. This fact, however, does not appear in any of the reports we have seen.—
Ed. C. & D.]

LAW AND CRIME.

FATAL EXPLOSION OF CHEMICALS—MURPHY V. SMITH.

This case, which came before Mr. Justice Keating in the Court of Common Pleas, on the 29th ult., was an action brought by the father of a little boy, one of a family of five, who was killed while employed in making "Vesuvian matches," to recover damages for the loss of his services; and the defendant's liability for the boy's death was said to arise from the fact that, instead of being employed in filling the frames ready for dipping, he had been improperly set to stir the material in which the matches were dipped.

Mr. Serjeant Atkinson stated that certain materials—chlorate of potash and phosphorus—which ought to have been mixed wet, were brought together in a dry state, and that the mixture had exploded while the son of the plaintiff was stirring it in accordance with the directions of the foreman, a German, who had said to the boy, "Stir him a littel."

The evidence given for the plaintiff was very meagre. The boy was seen stirring the dangerous composition, and the foreman was standing near him; but how the explosion took place, and by whose direction the child was stirring the stuff, did not appear. The foreman was not called, and the opening of the learned serjeant was not fully borne out.

Mr. Williams, on the part of the defendant, took several objections to the plaintiff's right to recover, and raised several legal points, which will, by leave of the learned Judge, be argued before the Court *in banco*.

No witnesses were called by the defendant.

The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff.—Damages, £20, subject to the opinion of the Court above.

POISONING BY ARSENIC.—MATTHEWS V. KING.

This was an action brought by Phillip Matthews, of Sunny House, Chacewater, a small farmer, against Mr. Edward King, a gentleman, of London, and large shareholder in the Great Wheal Busy mine, to recover damages for an alleged injury inflicted through the manufacture of arsenic at the said mine. The case was tried at the Cornwall Spring Assizes, held at Bodmin, before Baron Channell and a special jury. The plaintiff having lost four beasts from somewhat the same symptoms, he determined upon having the last (a valuable mare) examined. The stomach and its contents, together with its attachments, were accordingly taken out and forwarded to Mr. S. T. Rowe, operative and analytical chemist, Redruth, who stated that he found red patches in the stomach such as might be produced by arsenic, and that he afterwards obtained about 15½ grains of that poison from the stomach. Dr. Alfred Swaine Taylor proved that the method pursued by Mr. Rowe in his analysis was careful and highly scientific, and concluded from the appearance of the viscera, described by Mr. Rowe, that the arsenic must have been taken in small quantities. The whole of the evidence for the plaintiff's case went to prove the correctness of Professor Taylor's opinion. The vegetation upon the farm was also tested by Mr. Rowe, and traces of arsenic were detected therein. For the defence, an attempt was made to prove that the death of the animal resulted from a fall into a pit. It was also shown that Mr. Pearce, of Truro, had tested the vegetation; but the method of testing adopted by that gentleman did not appear to be satisfactory either to his lordship or the jury. The finding, by his lordship's direction, was, therefore, for the plaintiff, for the value of the horse.—Damages £10, and costs.

CORONER'S INQUEST—ALLEGED IMPROPER TREATMENT BY A CHEMIST.

On the 17th ult. an inquest was held at Smethwick, on the body of Michael Hall. It appears that the deceased had a painful boil on the nose, and by the advice of his shopmates he called upon Mr. White, a chemist, thinking he was suffering from erysipelas. Mr. White said it was not so, and took out four of his teeth, with considerable difficulty. He then gave Hall a teaspoonful of whitish liquid, and mixed him up a bottle of medicine, charging for his services three shillings and sixpence. Deceased took a dose of the medicine the same night, had no sleep, and was unable to go to work afterwards. He took Mr. White's medicine on the following day, was sick at breakfast-time, and very much relaxed the

whole of the day. He grew worse on Friday, and expired on the Sunday morning. Medical testimony was given to the effect that no trace of poison could be found on the body, and that the deceased might have survived had a surgeon been called earlier. The coroner, in summing up, severely censured Mr. White, and the jury returned the following verdict:—"That in the opinion of the jury deceased was very improperly treated by White, as he appeared to have been suffering from erysipelas at the time his teeth were extracted. The jury hope that this will act as a caution, not only to Mr. White, but to persons of a similar occupation in this district."

DIVORCE CASE—DUNN v. DUNN.

This case was tried on the 29th ult. It was a petition by a wife on the ground of the husband's adultery with her sister. The respondent was a chemist and druggist, and he married the petitioner in May, 1845. He carried on his business in Oxford-street until about 1855, and he then removed to Chepstow. In January, 1861, he left his home, and in the following month he went to Australia with his wife's sister, Elizabeth Bridges. They passed by the name of Wilson, and lived as man and wife.

Decree *nisi*, with costs.

CHOICE OF A TRADE MARK.—HARRISON v. TAYLOR.

This was a suit in the Vice-Chancellor's Court for the purpose of restraining an infringement of the label and trade-mark under which the plaintiff sold his Durham mustard. The plaintiff, who had since 1858 adopted the figure of an ox in his labels, exhibited his mustard at the Great Exhibition of 1862, and obtained "honourable mention" for it, to which circumstance he had since called attention in his labels. The label used by the defendants for their mustard also contained the figure of an ox similar to that on the plaintiff's label, omitted the word "Durham," substituted "Taylor" for "Harrison," and contained the words "First prize and medal" above the figure of the ox, and "in any class, Exhibition 1862," underneath it. The defendants, after the passing of the Exhibition Medals Act, 1863, to prevent false statements as to the grant of prize medals and certificates, had added the word "ox" after the word "medal," and changed "Exhibition" into "exhibited." It appeared that the defendants had in the first instance consulted a Mr. Kennedy, advertising agent, as to the form of their advertisement and the choice of a trade-mark. As a bull's head was already in use on the labels of Messrs. Colman, it was suggested that the whole animal would form a good design for the label of the defendants. Mr. Kennedy accordingly went to the Islington Cattle Show in December, 1862, to study from the life, and being struck with the symmetry and proportions of Mr. Overman's prize short-horn, especially as portrayed in a picture of the animal hanging over its stall, he bought the picture, and determined to adapt it to the required label. This was done; and Mr. Overman's ox appeared upon the labels of the defendants with the legend "First prize medal in any class, Exhibition 1862," attached.

The ease of the defendants was that at the time of adopting this label they knew nothing of the ox label used by the plaintiff, nor of his "honourable mention" at the Exhibition of 1862. In August, 1863, they had altered their label in the manner above stated, in order, as they said, to make it appear, "beyond the possibility of a doubt," that the ox selected for their trade-mark was that of Mr. Overman. They also relied upon the insertion of their own names, in combination with the ox, as forming a distinctive trade-mark impossible to be mistaken for that of the plaintiff. The plaintiff not being satisfied with the explanation offered by the defendants, had filed his bill to restrain the alleged infringement of his trade-mark, and the case came on for hearing on the 1st inst.

The Vice-Chancellor, after hearing the evidence, held that the plaintiff had acquired a right to his trade-mark, which was proved to be of value to him, and that the figure of an ox which had been taken by the defendants was the essential part of it. It was immaterial whether the defendants were aware of the plaintiff's mark when they first used it, and he would give them the benefit of their assertion that they were not. The explanation of the way in which they came to use the ox mark was certainly extraordinary; but truth was

often stranger than fiction. Mr. Kennedy's motive in devising the advertisement, and especially in adding the words "Exhibition 1862," was, however, very palpable, and could only have been with a view to mislead. The defendants must, therefore, be restrained from using the device of an ox, or otherwise imitating the plaintiff's trade-mark; but as the plaintiff had been guilty of delay in seeking relief, he was not now entitled to an account of profit. The defendants must pay all costs.

BANKRUPTCY.

IN RE WRIGHT.

The bankrupt was a chemist of Gravesend. He applied for an order of discharge. Debts, £1,323; assets, about £400.

Mr. C. E. Lewis opposed on behalf of the assignees.

It was stated in opposition that the bankrupt had, during a trading of only twenty-six months, incurred losses amounting to £1,000. The unsecured creditors were about 150 in number. Against profits of £435, there were trade and domestic expenses of £1,143; the losses having been at the rate of £450 a-year. Very shortly before the bankruptcy, he had made untrue statements as to his position to Mr. Southgate, a solicitor, of Gravesend, from whom he obtained advances from time to time. He proposed to examine the bankrupt.

From the evidence of Mr. Southgate, it appeared that in September last the bankrupt then owed him £650, and he made him further advances of £200. He charged 10 per cent. interest, the bank rate of discount at time being 9 per cent. The bankrupt made out lists of debts from time to time. He presented one in September, which shows debts of £200 only, and said that that was all he owed. Believing this statement to be true, witness made further advances amounting to £50. Witness heard of executions being in the bankrupt's private house on the 11th November, 1864, amounting altogether to £150. Witness paid out the executions, and took goods, leaving the bankrupt in possession. He did so purely out of kindness to the bankrupt's family, and to prevent them being turned out of doors. Witness would never have assisted the bankrupt but for his statements in the first instance. He continued to help the bankrupt, thinking he was a struggling man, and wished to constitute himself the only creditor. Witness knew that the bankrupt had been sued before making him any advances.

The bankrupt was shortly re-examined, and

His Honour granted an immediate order of discharge, being of opinion that the bankrupt could not be said to have contracted the debt of Mr. Southgate without reasonable expectation of payment, as he had given that gentleman what was considered to be a sufficient security for his debt.

Order granted.

IN RE MATTHEW POUND.

The bankrupt was a wholesale and retail chemist and druggist of Leather-lane. At the last meeting, a resolution of creditors was passed for taking the case out of court, and the examination sitting was now adjourned for that purpose. On debts of £5,000, it is expected that a dividend of 10s. in the pound will be paid.

IN RE J. D. PRITCHARD.

The first meeting in connexion with the bankruptcy of J. D. Pritchard, oxalic acid manufacturer, was held at the Bristol Bankruptcy Court on April 28th, when the assignees were chosen.

GOSSIP.

A LARGE and very influential public meeting was held at Nottingham on the 1st instant, under the presidency of the Mayor, when it was cordially resolved to invite the British Association for the Advancement of Science to hold their annual meetings for the year 1866 in that town. The invitation should have some effect, seeing that nearly £2,000 have already been subscribed towards meeting the expenses.

Mr. James Pattinson, chemist and druggist, has removed to 19, Bothergate, Carlisle.

The directors of the Wholesale and Export Drug Company, (Limited), have secured the lease of the extensive warehouses in Swan-lane, Upper Thames-street, City, formerly occupied by Messrs. Deane, Dray, and Co., and they purpose to commence business on 1st day of July next.

Mr. W. Sarsfield, chemist and druggist, has succeeded the business conducted for so many years by the late Mr. W. Trueman, Market-place, Durham.

Mr. H. Peele has entered into partnership with Mr. George Robson, as chemists and druggists, at 4, Saddler-street, Durham.

Tenders are invited for about 10,000 gallons of gas tar and ammonia water, annually produced at the Whitby New Gas Works, and also about 2,500 gallons of gas tar, at the Thirsk Gas Works.

Mr. J. F. Smith, (a member of the United Society of Chemists and Druggists), has written a lengthy letter to the editors of the *Liverpool Mercury*, advocating the United Society's Bill.

A most destructive fire has happened on the premises of Messrs. Woodcock and Woodyatt, chemists and druggists, St. Peter's-street, Hereford. The various oils, spirits, etc. gave considerable fury to the flames, and if it had not been for the prompt attention of the fire brigade, the whole premises would have been speedily consumed. The property destroyed was worth about £700, but the loss is covered by insurance.

Henry Lawton, chemist and druggist, Stafford-road, Wakefield, has made an assignment of all his estate and effects for the benefit of his creditors.

Mr. Joseph Goddard retires from the firm of J. and B. Goddard, chemists and druggists, 67, Middle Hillgate, Stockport. Mr. B. Goddard will in future conduct the business alone, and discharge all claims upon the late firm.

Mr. Thomas Jones, of the firm of T. Jones and Son, chemists and druggists, Broad-street, Welshpool, has retired, and the business in future will be solely conducted by the son.

Mr. James Chandler has commenced business as a chemist and druggist, at 9, Sidmouth-street, Devizes.

Mr. A. D. Davey has commenced business as a chemist and druggist, at 125, Union-street, Stonehouse, Devon.

Messrs. G. Oldham and Co., chemists and druggists, of 107, Grafton-street, and 64, Dame-street, Dublin, have opened a branch business at 1, Rathmines-terrace.

The chemists and druggists' assistants of Plymouth are using great exertions to get the shops in which they are employed closed earlier.

A firm of pharmaceutical chemists in Sunderland advertise "patent medicines and perfumery, paints, varnishes, oils, and colours."

Mr. R. W. Adams has commenced business as a chemist and druggist, at 56, High-street, Charlton, Dover, (pro tem.), and will shortly remove to a permanent place of business in Park-street.

It is announced that the leading tradesmen of Norwich will close their shops on Thursdays at 5 p.m.

Mr. Arthur Watling has succeeded the late Mr. Martin, chemist and druggist, in his business at Boscawen-street, Truro.

We are sorry to record the very sudden death in the Rev. Dr. Davidson's Church, Edinburgh, of the wife of Mr. Aitken, chemist and druggist, Pitt-street, Edinburgh.

Mr. George Roberts, family and dispensing chemist, of West Bromwich, has purchased the drug business of Mr. J. W. Willcox at Madeley. It will be carried on as a branch of the West Bromwich business by Mr. Roberts's brother.

Mr. Mather has applied the sweet name of "Aërosmic Skedator" to the pretty little perfume distributor sold by him. The bottle of perfume packed with the contrivance is evidently a bribe to induce people to adopt the new name.

The business which for the last forty-five years has been carried on by the late Mr. Henry Walters, Derby-road, Alfreton, has been purchased by Mr. D. Spencer Robinson, of the Market-place, who intends to continue business at both establishments, under his personal supervision.



DISPENSING COUNTER, DESIGNED BY MR. INCE.

At the *conversazione* of the Pharmaceutical Society tomorrow evening, Messrs. G. Treble and Son will exhibit a dispensing counter which they have constructed for Mr. Joseph Ince, the well-known pharmacist. We have been permitted to examine this remarkable piece of shop furniture, and will now proceed to indicate its leading characteristics. The counter is in oak, a material more in keeping



with the grave business of dispensing than its showy foreign rival, mahogany. The design is excellent, and the decoration in very good taste. In front, the light wood is relieved by mouldings of ebony, and by a medallion of the same material, displaying Mr. Ince's family crest. The metal-work at the sides of the counter is remarkable for its graceful design and perfect execution. The general effect of the structure is satisfactory, and proves Mr. Ince to be a good artist.

On going behind the counter, one sees that convenience has not been sacrificed to elegance. The whole space between the table and the floor is ingeniously turned to account. A Japanese cabinet-maker never packed so many useful things in the same space. Everything that a dispenser is ever likely to require in the ordinary course of business is brought within reach. There are drawers for labels, bottles, pill-boxes, corks, and other indispensable articles; shelves for books and stock-bottles; and pigeon-holes for envelopes, letters, and papers. If the pharmacist has to make up some pills, he draws out a sliding ledge, upon which are fixed the slabs and pill-machine. If he wants to pack up a powder, his magic table furnishes him with a convenient folder. A large drawer near his right hand, when opened, turns out to be a pewter sink, provided with a water-tap and an ingeniously constructed waste-pipe, which acts whether the sink-drawer is open or shut. A gas jet for sealing is immediately in front of him. A handy little gas-stove for boiling is at one side of his table, and a gas-heated plaister-spreader on the other. There is a place for everything, in fact, and everything is necessarily in its place. ~~All who are accustomed to pharmaceutical work will admit that~~ Mr. Ince's counter is an admirable contrivance, as they know how frequently an operation is spoiled for want of something that happens to be missing at the moment it is required. In carrying out Mr. Ince's design Messrs. Treble and Son have spared no pains, and have produced a perfect piece of workmanship. It is to be hoped that they will manufacture counters similarly arranged, but in cheaper materials, so that they may be within the reach of dispensing chemists of small means. The present counter must be looked upon as a show article. It is intended to form the nucleus of an industrial museum in Liverpool, connected with the Pharmaceutical body of that town, and, after exhibiting it at the Bloomsbury *conversazione*, Mr. Ince will present it, through Dr. Edwards, to his Liverpool brethren.



LONDON, MAY 15, 1865.

CORRESPONDENCE.—All communications should be addressed to the Editor, at 24, BOW-LANE, E.C.; those intended for publication should be accompanied by the real names and addresses of the writers.

QUERIES.—The Editor cannot undertake to attend to those which are anonymous, or to send answers through the post.

SUBSCRIPTION.—The subscription to the CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is 5s. per annum, payable in advance. Should a receipt be required, a stamped envelope must be sent with the amount of subscription. A specimen number may be had upon application, price 6d.

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The CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is published on the Fifteenth of every month, and regularly supplied direct to the Members of the Trade in Great Britain, Ireland, the Colonies, and all the principal seats of foreign commerce.

Everything intended for insertion in the current Month, must be sent in before the 10th, except Employers' and Assistants' Advertisements, which will be received until 9 a.m. on the morning previous to publication.

LEGISLATION AFFECTING CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

FROM the cauldron of legislation Bill No. 3 will soon arise. What form will it take? Will it present itself as an armed head, or as a child bearing an olive branch? In other words, will it give the Pharmaceutical Council despotic power over the whole trade, or will it fuse the two sections of the trade into one homogeneous body?

The evidence of Dr. Taylor, the well-known analyst, and of Dr. Simon, the medical officer of the Privy Council, reported in another part of our journal, is virtually in favour of the clauses in the United Society's Bill, which place restrictions on the sale of dangerous drugs. We are not surprised at this. The public have little to fear from those chemists who dispense physicians' prescriptions. The danger from which they require to be protected lies in the ignorance of the little shopkeepers who keep arsenic in the arrowroot drawer, and laudanum in the tincture of rhubarb bottle. The measure framed by the Pharmaceutical Council does not strike at the real evil, and were it to become law the public would soon cry out for a new Act.

While this article is being printed, the leading members of the Pharmaceutical Society are giving evidence in favour of their Bill. We trust they will be brought to see its defects, and that they will not allow private interest to obscure public duty. The Pharmaceutical Council have now the opportunity for winning the confidence of the trade and the public. Will they take advantage of it, or will they persist in claiming the right to register men from whom they withhold the privileges enjoyed by unexamined members of their own Society?

Leaving the unexamined members out of the question, the fact that the Council are now registering men in business as full-blown "pharmaceutical chemists," without subjecting them to a more severe test than they propose for future "registered chemists," proves the injustice of their measure.

It is not unlikely that the Select Committee will commit the registration and examination of chemists to the Pharmaceutical Council, but it is very unlikely that they will reject the just claim of the chemists to be represented in the Council.

We publish a lengthy report of the proceedings of the Medical Council to remind our readers that other ingredients will be cast into the cauldron of legislation besides those furnished by the Pharmaceutical and United Societies. The medical body must add a few demands to the pretty mixture of claims, pretensions, and interests before the Select Committee.

THE PHARMACEUTISTS AT LEEDS.

UNDER the head of "Gossip," we printed in our last number the following paragraph:—

"A meeting of the pharmaceutical chemists of Leeds was held at Messrs. Harvey and Reynolds', 13, Briggate, March 27th, 1865. Eight out of thirteen were present. It was resolved to petition the House of Commons in favour of the Pharmacy Act, 1865. The petition was signed by seven pharmaceutical chemists and their assistants, and presented by Mr. Baines."

We now give the report of this meeting from the *Pharmaceutical Journal* of the present month:—

"A meeting of the pharmaceutical chemists of Leeds was held at the Philosophical Hall, on March 27th, 1865; Mr. Harvey in the chair.

"It was resolved:—

"1st. That it is desirable that further legislation should take place to institute compulsory examinations for persons who may hereafter commence business as chemists and druggists. That the Pharmaceutical Society is capable of serving as a basis for such an enlarged institution, and what it has already accomplished would justify its receiving such a trust. At the same time, the fact that there are a considerable number of chemists and druggists well qualified to become members of the Pharmaceutical Society, renders it both just and politic to act liberally towards such persons.

"Proposed by Mr. Williamson, seconded by Mr. Smeeton. Carried unanimously.

"2nd. That the petition in favour of Sir Fitzroy Kelly's Bill be adopted.

"Proposed by Mr. Haigh, seconded by Mr. Reinhardt. Carried. (Signed) R. REYNOLDS, Local Sec.

"Upon the 27th and 28th, the petition received the signatures of thirteen pharmaceutical chemists and of fourteen assistants, and was forwarded to Mr. Baines."

In a note appended to this report, Mr. Reynolds calls attention to our paragraph, and tries to persuade us that we ought to publish the name of its author. He says—

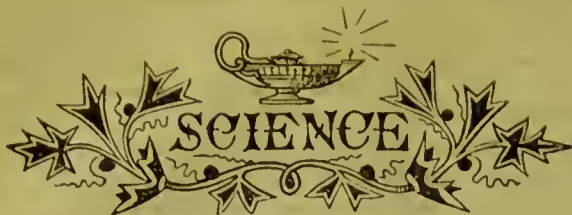
"I am sure that the gentleman who edits the CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST would not intentionally propagate such false news, and I trust that he will feel bound to publish the name of the person who furnished him with this bundle of misstatements."

We will not forfeit Mr. Reynolds' good opinion by adopting the course he has indicated. We will not produce discord by naming our correspondent, as we are convinced that he did not wilfully misrepresent the meeting. In publishing the report signed by Mr. Reynolds, we show our desire to act fairly towards the pharmacutists of Leeds, and we feel sure that they will not blame us for withholding the name of their townsman.

Another petition to the Commons has been drawn up in Leeds and signed, *we are told*, by six pharmaceutical chemists and thirty chemists and druggists. It will be found appended to Mr. Atkinson's letter in our correspondence.

EDITORIAL NOTE.—In consequence of the length of our reports, we are compelled to omit several letters, book notices, and formulæ.

F.R.S.—The Council of the Royal Society recommend the following gentlemen for election:—Sir F. L. McClintock, Lieutenant-Colonel J. T. Walker, Dr. G. Harley, Dr. R. McDonnell, Rev. W. R. Dawes, and Messrs. H. Christy, J. Cockle, A. Geikie, G. Gore, R. Grant, G. R. Gray, W. Huggins, W. K. Parker, A. Tennyson, and G. H. K. Thwaites.



BISMUTHI ET AMMONIÆ CITRAS.

BY N. GRAY BARTLETT.*

A PREPARATION, under the somewhat empirical name of "Liquor Bismuthi (Schacht)," was introduced to the profession, some years since, in England, and more recently it has been the subject of several notices in foreign medical publications.

This liquid contains a bismuthic salt in permanent solution, and is miscible with water without precipitation; its reaction is alkaline, and it possesses but little taste. These desirable properties, in a remedy usually administered in a comparatively insoluble condition, would seem to indicate that this solution had not received undue attention.

It is asserted by the originator, Mr. Schacht, apparently after abundant observation, that a fluid drachm of his preparation, containing one grain of teroxide of bismuth, is equivalent, in medicinal value, to a full dose of the subnitrate of bismuth.

The liquor bismuthi was subjected to analysis by Mr. Tichbourne, who found its constituents to be bismuth, citric acid, and ammonia. (*Lond. Pharm. Journ.*, Jan. 1, 1864.)

Following the directions of that gentleman for its preparation, recently precipitated teroxide of bismuth was boiled in a solution of citrate of ammonia; repeated trials proved the oxide to be but sparingly dissolved by this treatment, and demonstrated the impracticability of this process. The alternative method suggested, that of substituting citrate of bismuth for the oxide, yielded a more satisfactory product.

The writer, having observed the solution of citrate of bismuth obtained by the addition of ammonia to have an acid reaction, and also that an excess of that alkali occasioned a precipitate of oxide of bismuth, inferred the existence of a compound salt of bismuth and ammonia; this was subsequently confirmed.

The following formulas, suggested by theory and numerous experiments, were finally adopted:—

Bismuthi Citras.

Take of

- Subcarbonate of bismuth a troy ounce;
- Citrate of potassa a troy ounce and 120 grains;
- Nitric acid a troy ounce and a-half;
- Distilled water a sufficient quantity.

Dissolve the subcarbonate of bismuth in the nitric acid, and, when effervescence has ceased, dilute the solution with a fluid ounce and a-half of distilled water, gradually added. Dissolve the citrate of potassa in two pints of distilled water, and to this liquid add slowly, with constant stirring, the acid solution of bismuth.

Permit the mixture to stand for several hours; then pour it on a moistened paper filter, and, when the liquid has nearly ceased to pass, cover the surface of the precipitate with distilled water.

Repeat this operation until the washings no longer contain nitric acid. Allow the magma to drain, and dry it on bibulous paper, with a gentle heat.

Bismuthi et Ammoniaë Citras.

Take of

- Citrate of bismuth, in powder, a convenient quantity;
- Stronger water of ammonia,
- Distilled water, each a sufficient quantity.

Rub the citrate of bismuth with sufficient distilled water to reduce it to a uniform pasty consistence, and add, cautiously, with constant trituration, stronger water of ammonia, until a solution is obtained, observing to avoid an excess of ammonia.

Filter the liquid through paper, returning the first portions that pass, should they be turbid.

Spread the clear solution on glass, that the salt may dry in scales.

Liquor Bismuthi et Ammoniaë Citratis.

Take of

- Citrate of bismuth and ammonia 260 grains;
- Alcohol two fluid ounces;
- Distilled water fourteen fluid ounces;
- Water of ammonia, a sufficient quantity.

Dissolve the citrate of bismuth and ammonia in the distilled water, neutralize the liquid with water of ammonia, and mix it with the alcohol.

Or, take of

- Citrate of bismuth, recently precipitated and still moist, a convenient quantity;
- Water of ammonia,
- Alcohol,
- Distilled water, each a sufficient quantity.

Add gradually to the citrate of bismuth water of ammonia, until the precipitate is dissolved and a neutral solution is obtained. Dilute this with its volume of distilled water, and filter through paper, returning the first portions of the filtrate, if necessary, until the liquid passes clear.

To half a fluid ounce of this solution, add hydrosulphate of ammonia in slight excess. Pour the mixture on a tared paper filter, wash the precipitate thoroughly with distilled water, and dry it at a temperature of 212°. Weigh the filter and its contents, deducting the weight of the former to obtain that of the tersulphide of bismuth, which, in grains, is to form the third term in a rule-of-three proportion, thus:—

$$\begin{array}{l} (\text{BiS}_3) (\text{BiO}_3) \\ 261 : 237 :: \end{array}$$

the weight of tersulphide of bismuth to that of teroxide of bismuth in half a fluid ounce of the solution.

Apply the same ratio to the remainder of the liquid, and dilute it to such an extent that a grain of teroxide of bismuth will be contained in each fluid drachm of the finished solution: seven-eighths of which measure must be made up with distilled water, and the remainder with alcohol.

For preparing the citrate of bismuth the subcarbonate is preferable to the subnitrate, because of its more uniform composition, as well as its greater purity, at least in commercial specimens of these salts. The metal itself is inferior to either, as it is almost invariably contaminated with arsenic.

The bismuth and potassa salts are employed in nearly atomic proportions for the production of a neutral citrate of bismuth; the potassa salt, however, is in slight excess on account of its deliquescent nature. By using solutions considerably diluted, the precipitate is rendered less dense, and the washing, by displacement, is thereby facilitated. This is a tedious part of the process, but the best means of accomplishing the purpose. Washing by decantation is inapplicable, for before it has been carried to a sufficient extent a portion of the powder will remain suspended in the liquid, and can only be separated by boiling.

It also entails a greater loss of the citrate of bismuth, which is slightly soluble in water. The absence of nitric acid from the washings can be judged of approximately by the taste, but better by faintly tinging a portion of the liquid with sulphate of indigo, and boiling in a test-tube for a few minutes; if the colour be retained, no nitric acid is present.

In the preparation of citrate of bismuth and ammonia the citrate of bismuth previously dried is employed, in order that a concentrated solution may be obtained without resort to evaporation, as the heat necessary in this operation occasions a precipitate, caused, apparently, by a loss of ammonia.

The solution should be spread with a brush on panes of glass to dry.

Citrate of bismuth and ammonia as thus prepared is in the form of brilliant white, semi-translucent scales, not at all deliquescent, but readily soluble in distilled water.

An aqueous solution of this salt, if long kept, like those of the citrates in general, is subject to spontaneous change. The addition of small portions of alcohol and ammonia, as indicated in the formulas for a solution of citrate of bismuth and ammonia, will, it is believed, preserve it indefinitely. The same result could probably be secured by means of sugar, with the additional advantage of a more agreeable taste.

The composition of the compound salt, determined by direct analysis, is as follows:—

* From the *American Journal of Pharmacy*.

BiO_3	=	237	=	50.11	per cent.
NH_4O	=	26	=	5.50	"
$\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_5\text{O}_{11}$	=	165	=	34.88	"
5HO	=	45	=	9.51	"

$\text{BiO}_3, \text{NH}_4\text{O}, \text{C}_{12}\text{H}_5\text{O}_{11} + 5\text{HO} = 473$ 100.

The bismuth contained in the washings can be recovered by neutralizing them with ammonia, and treating with sulphuretted hydrogen. The precipitated tersulphide of bismuth, after having been washed and dried, may be reduced to the metallic state, or converted into the subcarbonate by suitable means.

The writer is unable to state any facts in relation to the therapeutical properties of citrate of bismuth and ammonia. Owing to its solubility, it would undoubtedly be more perfectly diffused over the mucous surfaces, or more readily absorbed into the system, than the ordinary salts of bismuth.

Accepting the evidence of Mr. Schacht as conclusive, the dose of this salt would be two grains, or of the solution a fluid drachm.

MAGNESIUM.

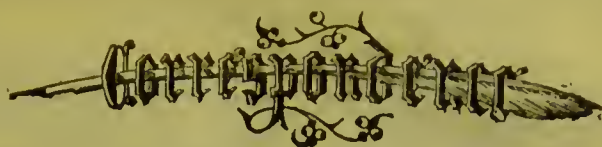
Mr. J. N. Harder, of Plymouth, in experimenting with this new metal has discovered some explosive compounds of tremendous power and striking peculiarities. He ignited a small portion (about twenty grains) of one of these compounds during a lecture which he gave at the Plymouth Mechanics' Institute, the instantaneous and dazzling effect of which upon the audience was like that of a flash of lightning, causing the room to appear for some seconds afterwards to be enveloped in darkness, though it was at the time brilliantly lighted with gas. On causing two bars of magnesium to form the terminals of a powerful voltaic battery, which was prepared to exhibit the electric light, a most intense combustion ensued, one of the bars speedily became red-hot, entered into ebullition, and then burnt spontaneously so furiously that it became necessary to plunge it into water to prevent its falling on the platform. In this process portions of the burning metal detached themselves, and floated blazing on the surface of the water, decomposing it after the manner of potassium, and liberating hydrogen, which also burned. The experiment had never been tried before, and the result possesses much scientific interest.—*Mining Journal*.

HOW TO COMBINE FAT AND OIL WITH ANILINE RED.

Dr. E. Jacobsen gives the following process:—He first separates rosaniline from commercial fuchsine by heating with soda or digestion with ammonia, washes and dries it. He then adds the rosaniline to oleic acid or melted stearic acid as long as it will dissolve, or puts them together in equivalent proportions. An excess of oleic acid must be avoided when the compound is required for a varnish, as it delays the drying. Oleate or stearate of rosaniline easily dissolves in fats or oils, and colours these an intense red. If it is wanted for a linseed oil varnish, the linseed oil must be free from lead. The compound must be kept from the fire, or it soon burns blue, probably by the reducing action of the fatty acids. The best red colour is obtained in linseed oil varnish. Stearin with oleate or stearate of rosaniline appears a bluish red. Paraffin appears to act as a reducing agent with the compounds of fatty acids and aniline, and changes to a dirty violet colour; the mixture then is inapplicable to the colouring of paraffin or stearic candles. The oleate or stearate of rosaniline is a good colouring agent for hair oil or pomatum, but from the instability of the colour seems inapplicable for oil painting or varnishes.—*Dingler's Polytech. Journ.*, *Chem. News*.

ACTION OF PETROLEUM ON THE HUMAN SYSTEM.

Landcrer relates the case of a man who swallowed a quantity of petroleum; the greater part he vomited again. It caused a strong burning sensation in the tongue and throat, which were reddened and became swollen. The stomach and bowels were also affected, and slight gastro-enteritis ensued. For several days the urine and sweat smelt strongly of the oils, and the odour was specially strong under the arm-pits. The patient was very weak for a time, but recovered.—*Chem. Central Blatt*.



THE TWO SOCIETIES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

SIR,—In the present day, when every system and every new discovery is subjected to the severest examination, the public are not likely to allow any sham long to escape detection and consequent exposure; more particularly if it be a matter in which important interests are concerned.

The Pharmaceutical Society is doing its best to make us believe that it has especial claims upon the support and gratitude of the trade, and that the United Society has no such claims. Now, I have been pretty well acquainted with the doings of both societies, from their commencement up to the present time. My candid verdict is, that the Pharmaceutical Society has done very little, compared with what might have been expected from it, considering the advantages it has so long enjoyed. This I am prepared to prove, and could do so without difficulty. Well, then, as to the United Society, considering the difficulties it has to contend with—the short time it has been in existence—and its limited resources, it seems to me to have made great strides. Its influence for good has been exerted, both directly and indirectly;—directly, in bringing the trade, the public, and the Legislature to see the need of reform amongst Chemists and Druggists, as a body; indirectly, in stirring up the Pharmaceutical body to do something, or to make an appearance of doing something, towards protecting trade interests. Had the Pharmaceutical Society acted in a liberal and comprehensive spirit towards the trade, the United Association would never have been needed, and could never have made any way. The fact of its being really needed is the secret of its success. One thing is certain, that the Society in Bloomsbury-square will be consistent to the end, and make no concessions to the trade except it be forced. I, therefore, trust the members of the United Society will stand by the Executive Committee, and support it both by their countenance and by their contributions. It is not necessary to suppose it to have been infallible—What human institution is? No one can deny that it has done good work, and I am convinced that it is still capable of doing more.

I should have rejoiced to have seen a Bill emanating from the Pharmaceutical Society, which would have deserved the support of the trade. It has always been my desire that the two societies should become one really United Society. The Pharmaceutical body has never yet made this possible. As far as concerns myself, it matters little to me how things go now; having stood the brunt for thirty years, I can go on a little longer. It is for the future race of Chemists and Druggists I am concerned.

Yours, very truly,

21, High Ousegate, York, May 10, 1865.

WM. CHAS. HAYLAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

DEAR SIR,—The *Standard*, it appears, is not the only paper that has been biased by pharmaceutical misrepresentation.

In the *Scotsman* of April 5th I find a long article, evidently written by one of the would-be "upper ten," in which the United Society is represented as a body, "of which the public knows little, and scientific world nothing," subsisting "only obscurely," and dating merely from 1861. The writer asks the question,—“How and wherefore” has this young Society “sprung up into fiscal, if not into scientific, competition with the earlier Pharmaceutical Society?” Our very age seems to excite disgust in the Bloomsbury devotee, who can trace the existence of his Society as far back as twenty-four years. The writer informs the public that this old and scientific Institution can boast of a Benevolent Fund amounting to £7,000, a Museum, a Library, a Laboratory, and “a meritorious Journal.” But what says he of the younger body, whom he is pleased to stamp with ignorance and obscurity? That we are “destitute of all apparatus for study or teaching, whether lectureship, museum, library, laboratory, or journal.” What about our Journal! Is there nothing worth reading in it; nothing scientific to be gleaned from its pages; have the last twelve months' reviews of the *Pharmacopoeia*, and other scientific papers, been of no use; or is scientific pharmacy only to be learned from the pages of the *Pharmaceutical Journal*? Surely, if spiteful, our enemy ought at least to respect the truth.

Though the museum and laboratory are wanting, we have our Journal, and also our Benevolent Fund, amounting to upwards of £600. Other improvements will follow in due time. The *Scotsman*, in comparing the resources of the two societies, seems to forget that we are only four years old, whilst the Pharmaceutical Society has existed twenty-four years. How were they off for apparatus for study at our age? Were they wealthier, more scientific, and better known to the public, or had they reached their present acme of perfection? According to the *Scotsman's* logic, the doctor may expect to find the wisdom tooth in the mouth of an infant.

However, if, because of our age, it is impossible for pharmacutists to find wisdom or science in our proceedings, we may reply in the happy, significant, and pertinent language of Pitt, slightly paraphrased:—

“If it is an atrocious crime to be young and ambitious, which the writer has with such malice charged upon us, we shall neither attempt to palliate or deny it; but content ourselves with wishing that we may be one of those societies whose follies cease with their youth, and not of those who continue ignorant in spite of age and experience.”

It is strange, Sir, if, according to the *Scotsman*, we are a society of such doubtful and obscure origin, that so much misrepresentation and scurrility are requisite to damage our name in the eyes of the public.

I am, Sir, yours truly,

Ilawick, April 27th, 1865. J. H. H.

[We do not like to weaken the above letter, but we must state that we are not connected with the United Society. That body has our warm support, because we believe that it is working for the benefit of the whole trade.—ED. C. & D.]

ANOTHER PETITION FROM LEEDS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Sir,—As legislation on the trade of chemists and druggists is of no avail, unless some system of license be adopted to protect not only the legitimate trade from unfair competition, but also to protect the public from spurious, worthless, and adulterated drugs, I am induced to send you several clauses for insertion, and also to ask your support in carrying them.

Some years ago I undertook, with the assistance of a public company, to obtain the number of huckster druggists, or dealers in drugs, in Leeds alone, when the comparative numbers fully averaged 1,700 petty hucksters to 70 educated druggists. Now, as the trade is bounded within very narrow limits, from the fact that no one will take a course of physic unless nature fails, infirmities come on, or some sudden shock prostrates the system, we may readily presume that no inducement, however pleasing, will create a sale of what is at once both disagreeable and abnormal to our instinct. The grocer can readily persuade a customer to buy his spices or teas. The draper has but little difficulty in selling any article of dress if he only speaks of fashions. The jeweller has merely to spread out his trinkets of gold or gems; and immediately the eye rests upon them, there is a desire to purchase. Yet for these, and other classes, no standard of education is required. Should the one deal in articles of comparative value, the purchaser can immediately detect the quality. If, again, the other is a good artisan, or merely a mechanical botcher, no harm can be done to the public welfare; his hatching neither brings cares upon a premature widow, nor produces orphans. With the druggist, however, it is widely different. He must be educated not only in his own, but also in the Latin language. His maturer studies must range over botany and chemistry. His mind must be trained to understand the qualities of drugs, their doses and effects, to detect their admixture, and account for any change that may take place in their properties when they are brought together in preparations. He must also know something of physiology, of the nature of diseases, and of the action of poisons and their antidotes.

It is true the Pharmaceutical Society is educating many of our young men, and praise is due to those who have taken this high trust upon them. But when those young men, now so full of hope and high aspirations, commence life, and do battle with the most ignorant, most reckless, and most selfish, they will soon find out that a gentleman is no match for a blackguard; the latter will always win, and the gentleman then feels doubly his own weakness and despair. Does it not behove the Pharmaceutical Society to endeavour to weel out the petty dealer from the fold, and give their trained men a fair chance of success? Why should the tea-dealer, the tobacconist, the jeweller, the wine merchant, the publican, the dealer in pepperts, with other trades, be protected by license, and we, the most important of classes or trades, with smallest returns and greatest calls, be allowed year after year to be worried, without our helping hand to assist us to our rights.

Happily, an occasion now offers, by the two Bills being sent to committee, which will meet on the 25th inst. for action. The Pharmaceutical Society has again the opportunity of redeeming its pledge of more than twenty years promise, to make the drug trade for the druggist alone. Let us trust they will now do their duty, and meet the United Society with that hearty good feeling we all so ardently wish for. But should the present occasion pass, years may roll on before another opportunity may offer, and until then we must either push into quackery, or subside quietly into undignified poverty.

"Nil habet infelix paupertas durius in se
Quam quoddam ridiculos homines facit."

Dark clouds are somewhat visible in the horizon; let us hope they have a silver lining.

Leeds, April 8th, 1865.

R. M. ATKINSON.

The clauses referred to in the above letter are contained in the following petition:—

"TO THE HONOURABLE THE HOUSE OF COMMONS IN PARLIAMENT ASSEMBLED.

The humble Petition of

Showeth,—That whereas two Bills entitled respectively "The Pharmacy Act, 1865," and "The Chemists and Druggists' Act," have been brought before your Honourable House, and referred to a Select Committee.

That your Petitioners are aware of the difficulties which are presented in any attempt to legislate for the trade of a Chemist and Druggist, and therefore, your Petitioners venture to suggest to your Honourable House the following Clauses, as an addition to either of the said Bills, or to any other Bill which your Honourable House may enact for regulating the qualifications of Chemists and Druggists.

ADDITIONAL CLAUSES FOR THE PHARMACY BILL.

Clause 1.—And be it enacted, that on and after the 1st day of January, 1866, the two Licenses, now known as the License for the Sale of Patent Medicines, and the License for the Use of Stills, be discontinued and repealed; and in place of the aforesaid two Licenses another License, which for the purposes of this Act shall be called the "Pharmacy License," be substituted, the value of which shall not exceed Forty Shillings.

Clause 2.—And be it also enacted, that any person or persons keeping open shop for the Sale of Drugs, Chemicals, Compounds, Patent Medicine, other Medicine or Medicines, or causing to be sold, for the cure of disease or diseases, any such Drug, Chemical, Compound, Patent Medicine, other Medicine or Medicines, not having taken out the said Pharmacy License, shall for each offence be subjected to a penalty of for each offence, or twenty-eight days imprisonment, as the Magistrate or Magistrates may direct.

Clause 3.—And be it also enacted, that the meaning, rendering, or definition of the words, "Drugs, Chemicals, or Compounds," shall be any article, simple or compound, named or described in the British Pharmacopoeia, unless the said article be distinctly marked in a schedule to certify the free sale thereof.

Clause 4.—And be it enacted, that all the essential Clauses relating to the putting up for sale or illicit sale of Patent Medicines, or to the use or illicit use of Stills, shall be in all respects the same as the Clauses already enforced in the two several Acts now in use and known as the Patent Medicine License and the License for the use of Stills."

GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.

ALLAN, JOHN, Scarborough, chemist.
GROSS, W., Bury St. Edmunds, chemist.
HAYWARD, SAMUEL HENRY, Gloucester, chemist.
READ, THOMAS, Great Grimsby, chemist.
SEYMOUR, J., New Camden-town, chemist's assistant.
TURNER, CHARLES, late of Cromer-street, King's cross, chemist.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

ASLETT and DAWSON, Loughborough, chemists.
GONDARD, J. and B., Stockport, chemists.
HOLMES and TOMLINSON, Birmingham, chemists.
HORSFALL BROTHERS, Leeds, chemists; as far as regards G. Horsfall.
PIVER, A., and LAUVERGNAT, C. and J., Regent-street, perfumers; as far as regards A. Piver.

B. S.—Ten graduates have passed the examinations of the University of London for the degree of Bachelor of Science. Those who passed with honours were:—Alexander Morrison Thomson, private study, first in chemistry (disqualified by age from receiving the scholarship), and first in geology (disqualified by age from receiving the scholarship): Arthur M'Dougall, Owens College, second in chemistry, and fifth in geology; James Pearson Irvine, University College, alone in biology, second in geology (scholarship), and third in chemistry; Philip Magnus, University College, alone in moral philosophy; Charles Graham, University College, third (*æq.*) in geology; William Chatterton Coupland, University College, third (*æq.*) in geology.



IN the market for Chemicals business in several articles has been more active, and prices in many instances are higher. The conclusion of the war in America is also likely to give a stimulus to business ere long. A fair business has been done in Tartaric Acid at 1s. 6½d. to 1s. 6¾d. Citric is in much better request, and prices have advanced to 1s. 10½d. to 1s. 11d.; few sellers even at the latter price. Moderate sales in Oxalic Acid at 9½d. to 10d. Chlorate of Potass in moderate quantities sells at 13¾d. to 14d. Small sales of Bichromate made at 6d. nett. Prussiate of Potass is dull, and the prices nominal at 11½d. to 11¾d. A large business has been done in Quinine; the last price of French is 5s. 9d., and English at 6s. Several small sales in Sal Acetos have been made at 12d. A good business has been done in Iodine, and the last prices paid were 6½d. to 6¾d. for firsts. Cream Tartar is quieter at 105s. to 107s. 6d. Sulphate of Copper is dull at 27s. to 28s. according to quantity. Sulphate of Ammonia is selling at 13s. 6d. to 14s. Rough Brimstone is firm. Flour is dull at 12s. to 12s. 6d. Scarcely any business in Sulphate of Ammonia; prices steady at 13s. 6d. to 14s. Bleaching Powder is quiet at 10s. 9d. to 11s. 3d. A fair business has been done in Alum at £6 5s. to £6 15s. Sal Ammoniac remains without change. Saltpetre is lower; refined is now 30s. to 31s. per ewt. Linseed Oil is steady at 31s. 6d. to 32s. Rape quiet. Rosin is quite nominal: some common French at sale was bought in at 12s. 6d. to 13s. Turpentine is lower: the nearest price on the spot is 57s. Several parcels Petroleum have been sold at 2s. to 2s. 0½d. Crude is nominal. Tar is quiet. Ashes are dull.

The market for Drugs has been very quiet: a few articles were more or less affected by the favourable news of the settlement of the American question; but generally the market is quiet. Rhubarb has continued to advance, and

some good China has been sold at 9s. to 9s. 6d., and common 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d., being fully 1s. to 2s. advance on last month's prices. A large parcel of Jalap has been sold at 3s. 6d. to 4s. 2d. for common to good, and 1s. 7d. to 2s. 5d. for Tampico. Camphor is lower: last sales made in China at 112s. 6d. to 115s., and Japan 125s. Turkey Opium has declined to 14s. for fine, at which a good business has been done. Ipecacuanha is quiet at 10s. 6d. China and Japan Galls are 2s. 6d. to 5s. cheaper. Some good Cape Aloes sold at 42s. to 43s. Castor Oil is steady; some fine Italian pale went at 7½d. to 8d. Oil Aniseed and Cassia are both quiet at our quotations. Gum Arabic is steady; other gums are quiet. Gamber is firm at 22s. to 23s., and Cutch 24s. 6d. to 26s., at which prices a good business has been done. All kinds of Bark are steady. Cod Liver Oil has been taken in at 5s. to 9s. No sales in Cubebs. Shellac is fully 5s. to 10s. lower. Senna remains without change. Several parcels of Barbadoes Aloes of the new crop sold at £9 to £14 5s., and low quality from £3 10s. to £7. Colocynth has sold at 7½d. to 7¾d. Cubebs chiefly taken in at stiffer prices. Turmeric is steady. Malabar Cardamoms are held for higher prices. Some parcels of Tonquin Musk sold at 29s. 6d. to 34s., being much higher prices. Sarsaparilla, no change. Bees' Wax is steady. Several parcels Jamaica sold at £7 15s. to £9 17s. 6d. Cochineal is more in demand, and prices fully 1d. dearer. Safflower has sold at full prices; good and fine £6 10s. to £7 10s. In other goods there is no change.

PRICE CURRENT.

These quotations are the latest for ACTUAL SALES in Mincing Lane. It will be necessary for our retail subscribers to bear in mind that they cannot, as a rule, purchase at the prices quoted, inasmuch as these are the CASH PRICES IN BULK. They will, however, be able to form a tolerably correct idea of what they ought to pay.

	1865. s. d.	1865. s. d.	1864. s. d.	1864. s. d.
ARGOL, Cape, per cwt.	80 0	100 0	87 6	105 6
French	60 0	85 0	60 0	84 0
Oporto, red	45 0	47 0	46 0	48 0
Sicily	72 6	75 0	74 0	77 0
Naples, white	68 0	76 0	65 0	80 0
Florence, white	85 0	90 0	87 6	95 0
red	80 0	85 0	80 0	85 0
Bologna, white	90 0	95 0	90 0	95 0
ARROWROOT, (duty 4½ per cwt.)				
Bermuda, per lb.	1 4	1 7	1 6	1 10
St. Vincent	0 2½	0 6½	0 4½	0 8
Jamaica	0 3	0 6	0 4	0 6
Other West India	0 2	0 3	0 3	0 4½
Brazil	0 2½	0 3	0 2	0 3
East India	0 3	0 4	0 3½	0 6
Natal	0 4	0 8	0 5½	0 8½
Sierra Leone	0 3½	0 4½	0 5	0 5½
ASHES, per cwt.				
Pot, Canada, 1st sort	31 0	0 0	35 0	36 0
Pearl, ditto, 1st sort	31 6	0 0	34 0	35 0
BRIMSTONE,				
rough, per ton	152 6	155 0	170 0	180 0
roll	195 0	210 0	215 0	220 0
flour	245 0	250 0	245 0	250 0
CHEMICALS,				
Acid—Acetic, per lb.	0 4	0 0	0 4	0 0
Citric	1 10½	1 11½	1 8½	1 9
Nitric	0 5	0 5½	0 5	0 5½
Oxalic	0 9½	0 10	0 11	1 0
Sulphuric	0 0½	0 0½	0 0½	0 0
Tartaric crystal	1 6¼	1 6½	1 7½	1 8
powdered	1 6½	1 7	1 8	1 8½
Alum	125 0	130 0	122 6	135 0
powder	140 0	145 0	145 0	150 0
Ammonia, Carbonate, per lb.	0 5	0 5½	0 5½	0 6
Sulphate	260 0	290 0	265 0	290 0
Antimony, ore	160 0	180 0	200 0	210 0
crude	24 0	25 0	26 0	0 0
regulus	34 0	35 0	36 0	37 0
French star	35 0	0 0	36 0	37 0
Arsenic, lump	15 0	15 6	15 0	15 6
powder	6 3	6 6	0 0	9 3
Bleaching powder	14 0	11 3	14 6	15 6
Borax, East India refined	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
British	54 0	0 0	56 0	6 0
Calomel	2 8	0 0	2 11	0 0
Camphor, refined	1 8	0 0	1 6½	1 7
Copperas, green	52 6	55 0	52 6	55 0
Corrosive Sublimato, per lb.	2 3	0 0	2 3	0 0
Green Emerald	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
Brunswick, per cwt.	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0

	1865. s. d.	1865. s. d.	1864. s. d.	1864. s. d.
CHEMICALS,				
Iodine, dry	0 6½	0 6½	0 6½	0 7
Magnesia, Carbon	42 6	45 0	42 6	45 0
Calced	1 6	1 8	1 6	1 8
Minium, red	21 6	24 6	21 0	21 6
orange	32 6	33 0	32 6	33 0
Potash, Bichromate	0 6	0 0	0 7½	0 7½
Chlorate	1 1	1 2	1 1	0 0
Hydriodate	0 5½	0 6½	0 6	0 6½
Prussiate	0 11½	0 11½	0 11½	0 11½
red	1 9	1 9½	1 10	1 11
Precipitate, red	2 9	0 0	3 0	0 0
white	2 9	0 0	3 0	0 0
Prussian Blue	1 0	1 10	1 0	1 10
Roso Pink	29 0	0 0	29 0	0 0
Sal-Acetos	0 11½	1 0	0 0	1 0
Sal-Ammoniac				
British	36 0	38 0	36 0	38 6
Salts, Epsom	9 0	0 0	8 0	8 6
Glauber	5 0	5 6	5 0	5 6
Soda, Ash	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½
Bicarbonate	11 3	0 0	12 0	12 3
Crystals	97 6	0 0	0 0	97 6
Sugar Lead, white	37 0	37 6	38 0	39 0
brown	26 0	26 6	28 0	29 0
Sulphate Quinine				
British, in bottle	6 0	6 3	6 3	6 6
Foreign	0 0	5 9	6 0	6 1
Sulphate Zinc	14 6	15 0	14 6	15 0
Verdigris	0 11	1 0	0 11	1 0
Vermilion, English	2 11	3 3	2 8	3 0
China	2 6	0 0	2 9	2 10
Vitriol, blue or Rom. per ct.	27 0	27 6	32 6	33 0
COCHINEAL, per lb.				
Honduras, black	3 0	4 6	3 3	4 6
silver	2 8	3 5	2 4	3 7
Mexican, black	3 2	3 5	3 5	3 9
silver	2 10	3 0	3 2	3 4
Lima	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
Teneriffe, black	3 2	3 8	3 6	4 0
silver	2 11	3 1	3 4	3 6
DRUGS,				
Aloes, Hopatic	100 0	170 0	100 6	170 0
Socotrine	170 0	300 0	170 0	300 0
Capo, good	42 0	43 0	45 0	47 0
inferior	25 0	41 0	30 0	42 0
Barbadoes	40 0	360 0	50 0	320 0
Ambergris, grey	22 0	24 0	15 0	19 0
Angelic Root	20 0	35 0	20 0	35 0
Aniseed, China star	130 0	135 0	180 0	200 0
German, &c.	24 0	40 0	20 0	39 0
Balsam, Canada	0 10	0 0	0 11	0 0
Capivi	1 5	1 7	1 8	1 9
Peru	4 8	4 9	4 9	4 11
Tolu	3 4	3 6	3 6	3 7
Bark, Cascarilla	25 0	36 0	25 0	40 0
Peru, crown & grey	0 8	2 0	1 0	2 0
Calisaya, flat	2 10	3 4	3 0	4 0
quill	2 8	3 2	2 9	3 3
Carthagena	0 10	1 9	1 2	2 0
Pitayo	1 0	2 3	1 8	2 6
Red	3 0	11 0	2 6	3 9
Bay Berries	0 0	0 0	0 0	0 0
Bucca Leaves	0 4	0 10	0 3	1 0
Camomile Flowers	20 0	65 0	25 0	65 0
Camphor, China	115 0	130 0	100 0	165 0
Canella alba	23 0	33 0	23 0	35 0
Cantharides	2 2	2 3	2 4	2 6
Cardamoms, Malabar, good	6 6	7 0	5 6	6 0
inferior	4 4	5 9	4 6	5 3
Madras	2 6	5 9	3 3	5 0
Ceylon	4 0	5 3	5 1	5 3
Cassia Fistula	16 0	28 0	20 0	35 0
Castor Oil, 1st pale	0 6	0 7½	0 6	0 7½
2nd	0 4½	0 6	0 4½	0 5½
inferior and dark	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½
Bombay, in casks	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½	0 4½
Castorum	1 0	20 0	1 0	20 0
China Root	18 0	22 0	15 0	20 0
Cocculus Indicus	26 0	28 0	18 0	20 0
Cod Liver Oil	5 0	12 0	6 3	12 6
Colocynth, apple	0 7	1 0	0 7	1 0
Colombo Root	150 0	230 0	90 0	120 0
Cream Tartar				
French	102 6	105 0	117 6	0 0
Venetian	105 0	107 6	120 0	0 0
grey	92 6	95 0	95 0	105 0
brown	85 0	92 6	85 0	92 6
Croton Seed	90 0	95 0	70 0	80 0
Cubebs	82 6	85 0	92 6	97 6
Cummin Seed	20 0	26 0	21 0	32 0
Dragon's blood rocd	200 0	300 0	200 0	300 0
lump	70 0	260 0	90 0	260 0
Galangal Root	15 0	17 0	20 0	23 0
Gentian Root	21 0	22 0	18 0	19 6
Guinea Grains	85 0	95 0	130 0	187 6
Honey, Narbonne	40 0	80 0	40 0	80 0
Cuba	25 0	33 0	26 0	38 0
Jamaica	25 0	60 0	27 0	68 0
Ipecacuanha	10 0	10 6	8 3	8 9
Isinglass, Brazil	1 8	4 6	1 10	4 6
East India	1 0	4 0	0 6	4 3
West India	3 0	3 4	3 2	3 4
Russian	9 0	10 8	9 6	11 0
Jalap	1 0	5 3	0 9	5 2

DRUGS—continued.

Table listing various drugs and their prices in 1865 and 1864. Columns include drug name, unit, and price in shillings and pence for the years 1865 and 1864.

OILS—continued.

Table listing various oils and their prices in 1865 and 1864. Columns include oil name, unit, and price in shillings and pence for the years 1865 and 1864.

