DR. FRANKLAND ON THE PROGRESS OF ORGANIC CHEMISTRY.

At a late evening meeting of the Royal Institution, Dr. Frankland gave a very interesting account of some of the more recent chemical researches which had been made in the laboratory, and in particular of the method of scrutiny which had been followed in order to ascertain the arrangement or grouping of the elements entering into the formation of certain organic bodies, as distinguished from their percentage composition as determined by ultimate analysis. The series of organic compounds recently investigated was that constructed on the model of oxalic acid. The mode of operation consisted in employing certain substances as materials of scrutiny. These materials so employed were mercury, iodine, sodium, and ethyl ($C_2 H_5$). Dr. Frankland first showed that when iodide of ethyl is mixed with an amalgam of sodium the materials do not re-act on each other until the double decomposition is determined by the addition of a few drops of acetic acid, when iodide of sodium and mercuric ethide, a compound of mercury and ethyl, the formula of which is $Hg \left\{ \begin{matrix} Et \\ Et \end{matrix} \right.$, result. Corresponding methods of procedure enable us to obtain mercuric methide, $Hg \left\{ \begin{matrix} Me \\ Me \end{matrix} \right.$, and mercuric amylide, $Hg \left\{ \begin{matrix} Am \\ Am \end{matrix} \right.$. These substances may be regarded as organic metals, possessing in many cases most remarkable properties. Thus mercuric methide is a colourless transparent liquid having the appearance of water, but with a specific gravity so great that the heaviest flint glass floats on its surface.

If these organic metals are heated with zinc, compounds of a higher energy are produced; thus zinc ethide, $Zn \left\{ \begin{matrix} Et \\ Et \end{matrix} \right.$, is spontaneously inflammable, producing brilliant jets of flame when projected into the air; and substances of a yet more energetic character are produced when lithium forms part of these compound organic metals.

When these energetic bodies are allowed to re-act upon other compounds, particularly those of an organic character, substitutions occur which throw great light upon the arrangement of the atoms of the elements in the compounds so treated. For example, the composition of oxalic acid is

$$C_2 \left\{ \begin{matrix} O \\ O \\ OH \\ OH \end{matrix} \right.$$

If zinc methide is allowed to act on it, two atoms of methyl are substituted for one of oxygen, and a compound termed Di-methyl-oxalic acid is produced, the composition of which is $C_2 \left\{ \begin{matrix} Me \\ Me \\ O \\ OH \\ OH \end{matrix} \right.$.

In the same manner, by using other zinc compounds as a means of attack on oxalic acid, a large number of new acids may be formed, including leucic acid (hitherto found only in the spleen and lungs of animals) and certain substances isomeric with it; the grouping of the elements in each case being rendered evident by the mode in which the compound was formed, and thus clear evidence afforded not merely of the percentage composition of complex substances, but of their actual internal structure and arrangement,—a kind of knowledge which is essential to the progress of science and to the reduction of the chaotic mass of organic materials to order and arrangement.

[In the above article the new atomic weights are adopted—O=16, C=12.]

THE ORGANIC PEROXIDES THEORETICALLY CONSIDERED.

A very important paper on this subject was read before the Chemical Society on May 5th by Sir B. Brodie. By treating anhydrous acetic, benzoic, and succinic acids with peroxide of barium, the peroxides of acetyl, benzoyl, and succinyl were obtained. The peroxide of acetyl is a viscid liquid, capable of being crystallized by artificial cold. It has powerfully explosive properties, and in solution closely resembles chlorine—in bleaching indigo, peroxidising protoxide of manganese, and of liberating iodine from iodic acid. Light decomposes it freely with the evolution of oxygen gas. While engaged in its analysis, Professor Brodie met with the accident which prevented his attending the Society on the evening originally appointed for the delivery of the lecture. While dropping some fused chloride of calcium into a tube containing about thirty drops of the substance, it suddenly exploded, shattering the glass apparatus that held it, the pieces of which wounded the Professor severely about the face and hands.

The peroxide of benzoyl is only slightly explosive as compared with the peroxide of acetyl. It is a solid substance, crystallizing from its solution in bisulphide of carbon in splendid white crystals resembling sugar candy. Boiled with a solution of caustic potash an alkaline benzoate is formed, oxygen being liberated. The Professor showed, conclusively, that from their properties the organic peroxides must be considered as the perfect analogies of chlorine and peroxide of hydrogen. The peroxides of succinyl, camphoryl, and some others had also been formed, but they had not yet been thoroughly investigated. Those who consider that chlorine is the peroxide of an unknown elementary radicle, will see in Professor Brodie's interesting discovery a confirmation of their views.

THE CONSTITUTION OF WOOD SPIRIT.

At a late meeting of the Chemical Society Mr. William Dancer, of Manchester, laid before the members a careful analysis of crude wood spirit, from which it appears that that substance consists mainly of methylic alcohol mixed with variable proportions of acetate of methyl, acetone, and bi-methyl-acetal. Mr. Dancer ignores the existence of the body named xylyl, said by some chemists to be found in crude wood spirit.

UNITED SOCIETY OF CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

HULL.

The monthly meeting of the Hull branch of the United Society of Chemists and Druggists, was held on the 20th ult., when the President gave a brief report of his visit to London as their representative at the annual meeting of the Parent Society. The information he was able to afford, met with the most cordial and unanimous approval, particularly that portion of it which referred to the rules in their revised and amended form.

The rule which furnishes the local committees with a discretionary power to admit or refuse members, embodies a principle which, as far as practicable, the Hull branch has adopted from the commencement, therefore, to all the members, its incorporation into the general code is highly satisfactory. The claims of the Benevolent Fund were advocated by the Chairman and others, when it was freely admitted that this fund commends itself to the charitable consideration of all members, and it may be confidently expected that, irrespective of any private contributions, a sum will be presented through the President of the Hull branch, which will place him on the list of life governors.

SHEFFIELD.

At the general monthly meeting of the Sheffield Local Association, held July 27th, it was unanimously resolved that the first anniversary of the Association should be commemorated by a dinner on the 13th of August (last Saturday). As this important branch of the United Society comprises nearly seventy members, there was doubtless a large gathering. We hope to be able to publish a short report of the proceedings in our next.

LAW AND CRIME.

MAGENTA DYE.—SIMPSON *v.* HOLLIDAY.

On the 15th ult. the Vice-Chancellor, Sir W. P. Wood, gave judgment in this important case. The plaintiffs, Messrs. Simpson, Maule, and Nicholson, manufacturing chemists of the Atlas Works, Newington, are assignees, from Messrs. Hands, of Birmingham, of a patent for "improvements in the preparation of red and purple dyes," obtained by Dr. Medlock in January, 1860, and the present proceedings have been taken for the purpose of establishing the validity of Medlock's patent, and restraining the infringement alleged to have been committed by the defendant. In January, 1860, Dr. Medlock obtained his patent, the principle of which consists in treating aniline with arsenic acid so as to form an arseniate of aniline, and then decomposing such arseniate of aniline into crimson or "magenta" dye. Within a few days after Medlock had filed his specification, Mr. Nicholson, one of the plaintiffs in the present suit, filed a provisional specification for obtaining the colouring matter by taking a solution of arsenic acid in combination with aniline. Upon discovering, however, that Medlock had already taken out a patent for obtaining a crimson colour by the application of arsenic acid, Nicholson abandoned his own specification, and in October, 1860, purchased Medlock's patent for £2,000 from Messrs. Hands, of Birmingham, to whom Medlock had in the first instance assigned it. In May, 1860, Messrs. De Laire and Girard obtained a patent for producing "red and violet colouring matter" by mixing arsenic acid with water, adding aniline, and heating the homogeneous mass at a low fire, the claim, like that of Medlock, being for the use of arsenic acid for converting aniline into colouring matter. The defendant Holliday, who was a manufacturing chemist at Huddersfield, had made and sold "magenta" dye by what was admittedly De Laire and Girard's process, and, as the plaintiffs alleged, in infringement of Medlock's patent. The bill was filed to restrain such alleged infringement, and the case came on for trial before the Vice-Chancellor without a jury, on issues raising questions as to the novelty and originality of Medlock's patent, sufficiency of specification, practical utility, and infringement, all of which were denied by the defendant. Medlock's specification, upon the construction of which the case turned, was as follows:—

"I mix aniline with *dry* arsenic acid, and allow the mixture to stand for some time; *or* I accelerate the operation by heating it to, or near to, its boiling point, until it assumes a rich purple colour, and then I mix it with boiling water and allow the mixture to cool; when cold it is filtered or decanted. The aqueous solution which passes through the filter contains a red colouring matter or dye, while a tarry substance remains on the filter. This tarry substance, dissolved in alcohol, methylated spirit, or other suitable spirit, furnishes a purple dye. These solutions of colouring matter may be used at once in the process of dyeing, concentrated or diluted, according to the tints required. The mixture of aniline and arsenic acid, after being heated, may be allowed to cool, and then forms a paste which may be preserved; when required for use it is mixed with boiling water and treated as above described. I have found that the proportion of two parts by weight of aniline to one part by weight of arsenic acid yields a good result, but I do not confine myself to that proportion, as it admits of variation. What I claim is the manufacture or preparation of red and purple dyes by treating aniline with arsenic acid, as hereinbefore described."

In reference to this specification, the two important words in which are printed in italics, it was admitted on all hands that perfectly "anhydrous" arsenic acid, or acid free from all element of moisture, would not produce the effect described, and the contest was almost entirely confined to the meaning of the word "dry." The defendant's contention was shortly as follows:—

1. That "dry" arsenic acid meant "anhydrous" arsenic acid. 2. That if "dry" arsenic acid included hydrated as well as anhydrous acid the patent would be equally bad, from not indicating that which would, and that which would not succeed. 3. That if "dry" meant "hydrated" only, the patent would also be bad, as the degree of hydration was left uncertain. 4. The claim was for a double process, "or I accelerate," &c., and that, as the mixture without the application of heat would not produce colour, the specification was ambiguous, would mislead operators, and therefore rendered the patent bad.

The evidence occupied the Court for five days, and among the scientific witnesses were Drs. Hoffmann, W. A. Miller, A. S. Taylor, Letheby, Odling, Frankland, Professor Abel, Mr. Dugald Campbell, &c.

The Vice-Chancellor, after stating the issues, observed that the only questions of real importance were as to the sufficiency of specification, and infringement by the defendant, there being no doubt upon the evidence either as to the novelty and utility of the process at the date of the patent, or that Medlock was the first true inventor. The difficulties upon the specification were reduced to two: first, that two processes, cold and hot, were described so as, according to defendant's contention, to render the patent void, either as misleading an operator, or as being erroneous in claiming too much; and secondly, as to the use of the words "dry" arsenic acid. Before proceeding to deal with these difficulties, he might observe that immediately before the date of the patent there had been a perfect rush of inventions, all seeking to effect that result which was ultimately obtained by Medlock. It had been contended that, under the circumstances, Medlock's was a mere chance discovery, and that he was not entitled to any favour or to that liberal construction which the Court was accustomed to give to patents. But he did not at all accede to that view. Medlock had hit upon the very successful result for himself, and the very circumstance that so many previous attempts had failed, made his success all the more meritorious. With respect to the first objection to the specification, that it described two processes, cold and hot—one of which (the cold) had admittedly no effect, a great difficulty, no doubt, arose. If the Court had any notion that the words creating the difficulty had been put in with fraudulent intent to mischief, the patent would be held to be bad. If again, the words, whether put in by mistake or otherwise, contained such a description as could or would mislead any ordinary man, the patent would be equally bad. Having regard, however, to the authorities that had been cited on this branch of the case, he thought, upon a proper and reasonable construction of the patent that this objection (from the use of the words "or I accelerate," &c.,) ought not to be held fatal. Every effort had been made to invalidate the patent, but no one had been produced who could say that he had been misled by the expression. Any one would naturally consider that heat was the best and quickest process, and the defendant's own witnesses were important on this point, as showing their view of the processs—viz., that it consisted of "mixing dry arsenic acid with aniline, and subsequently heating it to, or near to boiling point." (His Honour referred to the evidence of Dr. W. A. Miller and of Dr. Campbell.) As to Medlock having claimed too much by having claimed a cold process, which would not succeed, as well as the hot process, what he really claimed was the mixture of arsenic acid with aniline, and afterwards heating the mixture. The misleading effect was, in his opinion, as nothing compared with that in some of the cases cited, where, notwithstanding, the validity of the patent had been affirmed. The main question, however, was as to the use of the words "dry" arsenic acid. It appeared that by taking a mixture of white arsenic of commerce and nitric acid and evaporating it to dryness, stopping there, you would obtain what was known as "dry" arsenic acid. If you proceeded further, and heated it to a low red heat, you would proceed to get pure and "anhydrous" arsenic acid, not only dry to the touch, but chemically dry, or perfectly anhydrous. There were three stages in which arsenic acid would be hydrated without being physically moist. (His Honour referred to the scientific evidence upon this point, and to the statement that in evaporating to dryness from 12

to 14 per cent. of water of hydration would remain in the arsenic acid.) In what sense, then, did Medlock use the term? According to his own statement, to designate that which he bought as dry arsenic acid, and he gave the names of several persons and firms from whom he had purchased the substance. He preferred taking dry arsenic acid—and that, when mixed with water took a longer time to produce colour—and for this reason, that it was necessary to reach the boiling point of aniline (much higher than that of water), and that until the water of solution was got rid of by evaporation it was impossible to bring the aniline up to its boiling point. A further difficulty was raised by the use of the term "dry arsenic acid of commerce," and it was said on behalf of the defendant that there was no such thing known at the date of the patent, and that "anhydrous" acid would have answered the description just as well. But this was not so. Arsenic acid was in use before the date of the patent for calico printing, and also as a substitute for tartaric acid, which was a dearer material. There was no such thing known in commerce as anhydrous arsenic acid. It could not be bought, and was never asked for, as it was difficult and expensive to obtain, while there was great risk of spoiling it at the last moment, and great loss of weight. His Honour, after adverting to the evidence upon this point, said that, after all, the meaning of the word "dry" was more a matter of opinion than of fact. There was a discrepancy in the evidence of the scientific witnesses, no doubt, but it must be remembered that the patent, although taken out by one who was described as an analytical chemist, was addressed to manufacturers and not to workers in the laboratory. Medlock meant to indicate that persons following his process were to use that substance which they would get from manufacturing chemists under the term "dry arsenic," and that would not be anhydrous, but would contain from 12 to 14 per cent. of water of hydration. Dry arsenic containing a less amount of water of hydration would not have been obtained from the chemists, and it was sworn and proved that with this substance, and following Medlock's specification, most beautiful colours, both magenta and purple (which were exhibited in court), had been produced. Many of the most eminent witnesses stated, that at the date of the patent they had never heard of anhydrous arsenic acid, while others who had heard of it had never seen it. Was it to be supposed that Medlock had "walked out" of his character of manufacturer to describe a substance scarcely known, and only obtainable in the laboratory? Upon the whole, he was of opinion that the use of the word "dry" could not have the effect of vitiating the patent. With respect to the question of infringement, the defendant employed arsenic acid in solution, introducing water during, instead of before the process. The result was the same as that of the plaintiff, the colouring matter being produced by the mixture of hydrated arsenic acid with aniline as a base. The addition of "free" water had nothing to do with the formation of colour, except in assisting the combination. His Honour, after some further observations, concluded a most elaborate judgment by holding that the plaintiffs had succeeded upon all the issues, thus establishing the validity of Medlock's patent.

The defendant having been ordered by the Vice-Chancellor to give security for £5,000, or submit to an injunction, applied, through Mr. Rolt, on the 23rd ult. to the Lord Chancellor to fix a day for hearing a motion for a new trial, and to vary the order of the Court below respecting the security.

The Lord Chancellor, after some discussion, fixed the second day of Michaelmas Term for hearing the motion for a new trial, and reduced the security to be given by the defendant to £3,000.

PARAFFIN OIL.—YOUNG *v.* THE CANNELINE OIL COMPANY (LIMITED).

This case, which came before Vice-Chancellor Stuart on the 26th ult., was an action on behalf of Messrs. Young, Meldrum, and Binney, of Bathgate, in the county of Linlithgow, for an injunction to restrain the defendants, who carry on business in North Wales, from manufacturing or selling any paraffin oil, or oil containing paraffin, or paraffin made in infringement of the patent granted to the plaintiff James Young, in October, 1850.

After some discussion, the following order was made by arrangement between the parties:—£400 to be paid by the defendants to the plaintiffs within twenty-eight days from to-day as a compromise, and in full of all claims by the plaintiffs, for past workings by the defendants; a royalty of 3d. per gallon to be paid by the defendants to the plaintiffs from the present time until the expiration of the plaintiffs' patent on the 17th of October next on all oil manufactured by the defendants according to the plaintiffs' process, an account of the oil so made to be taken monthly, and the royalty of 3d. per gallon to be paid within a fortnight afterwards; the royalty so to be paid to be returned by the plaintiffs to the defendants if the bill in "Young *v.* Fernie," lately decided in this branch of the Court, and now under appeal to the House of Lords, should be dismissed, and the costs of this suit to abide the result of "Young *v.* Fernie."

METALLIC CAPSULES.—BETTS *v.* DE VITRE.

This is a suit for the purpose of restraining an alleged infringement by the defendants—"Wimshurst's Patent Metal Foil and Sheet Metal Company (Limited)"—of the plaintiff's patent for metallic capsules, taken out by him in 1849, and, as may be remembered, the subject of frequent and protracted litigation, not only in the courts of equity and common law, but also in the House of Lords and Privy Council.

The hearing of the case in the Vice-Chancellor's Court commenced on the 22nd ult. It will not be finished until after the long vacation, some time in November next. The terms upon which the case stands over are that the defendants shall abide by such order as the Court shall make at the hearing for payment in respect of the articles sold by them during the interval, and that they shall keep an account of everything manufactured and sold by them.

OFFENSIVE EXPOSURE OF DISEASE.

At the Maidstone Assizes, on the 26th ult., Jesse Grey, described as a herbalist, was placed at the bar on an indictment charging him on several counts with unlawfully, and without just or reasonable cause, exposing to public view in the window of his shop at Chatham a filthy and disgusting picture of a man naked to the waist, and covered with filthy and disgusting and coarsely-painted eruptions and marks of disease on the skin, which was so offensive as to be likely to be injurious to the health of people passing, and, at all events, was calculated to cause great disgust and annoyance, and to be a common nuisance to the highway.

Mr. F. Russell appeared for the prosecution; Mr. Ribton appeared for the defence.

The defendant, in the first instance, pleaded "Not Guilty." When, however, the learned counsel for the defendant saw the picture, which was produced in court, and abundantly supported the description in the indictment, he at once strongly recommended his client to plead "Guilty," which he accordingly did.

The Judge (Mr. Justice Willes) said the defendant had taken a wise and proper course in acknowledging that the exhibition of this picture could not be legally justified. Having looked at it, he could say with truth that it had gone far to "turn his stomach," and he could well believe that its constant exhibition must be an intolerable nuisance in the neighbourhood. No doubt it was done by the defendant with no improper purpose or intention, but only with a view to exhibit the nature of a disease, and the case was quite of a different character from the class of cases in which the pictures were calculated to injure public morals. Nevertheless, it was beyond all doubt a public nuisance, as it was offensive and disgusting to the last degree, and such exhibitions could not be permitted. No man could be allowed to offend and disgust people by public exhibitions of this kind. Even medical men did not present such representations to the public view, nor would they be allowed to do so. Therefore, beyond all doubt, the defendant was amenable to this indictment, and if he had persisted in defending it it might have been necessary to inflict some punishment, but as he had wisely and properly acknowledged the impropriety of the act, he might be liberated on his own recognizances.

THE CASE OF ACCIDENTAL POISONING AT LIVERPOOL.

On Thursday last, Richard Poole was brought before th Lord Chief Justice, at Liverpool, and charged with the manslaughter of John Lingard, on the 11th of April.

Mr. Aspinall, Q.C., and Mr. Samuell appeared for the prosecution, and the Hon. A. Liddell, Q.C., and Mr. Potter defended the prisoner.

The prisoner was a dispenser of medicines in the shop of Messrs. Clay and Abraham, the well-known pharmaceutical chemists, of Bold-street, Liverpool, and he was charged with manslaughter in having committed gross and culpable negligence in wrongly making up a prescription given to him in the course of his business, whereby he caused death. Mr. Lingard, the deceased, was a plumber and glazier of respectability, in Mount Pleasant, Liverpool, and had enjoyed good health, with but slight exceptions, up to the time of his death. On the 11th of April he had some inflammation in his eyes, to prescribe for which a Dr. Nottingham was called in. That gentleman ordered a lotion and a powder, the latter to be composed of five grains of James's powder and six of Dover's, and the prescriptions for these were handed by the deceased to a Miss Whitter, who was staying with him and his wife, to be taken to Messrs. Clay's shop to be made up. She took it there and gave it to a person in the shop named Witton, who handed it to an intermediate attendant to be copied, and he in turn gave it to the prisoner to make up. The medicines, when made up, were handed to Miss Whitter, through Witton, whose duty it was to test them by taste and smell, but on this occasion he only looked at and smelt them. The powder was not taken until the deceased's bed-time, about a quarter to ten, when he took a small quantity of it only, and almost immediately feeling uncomfortable, he asked for a cup of milk and then an orange, and went up to his bedroom. Very shortly after Miss Whitter was summoned by his ringing his bell, and on going up she found him in great pain. She raised his head, when he said he was dying, and almost immediately after he went into a fearful fit, accompanied by blackness of the face and terrible yelling. His partner, Mr. Meyrick, came into the room, and he told him that he was afraid he was poisoned, and had taken strychnine, and he said "God be merciful to me." Dr. Harris and Dr. Smythe were then called in and ordered a mustard plaster, which was applied by Miss Whitter; but Mr. Lingard almost immediately after had another terrible convulsive attack, in which he died, having previously repeated to Dr. Smythe that he was afraid he must have taken strychnine, since he was familiar with its taste from having taken it in prescriptions some years before. Dr. Nottingham, the deceased's ordinary medical attendant, did not arrive until after his death, and he proved that his patient was a healthy, though not a very strong man, and that he had prescribed strychnine in small doses of about 1-20th of a grain, for him some years before. He made the *post mortem* examination, and the appearances of the body were, generally, those of great fluidity of blood and darkness of the lower part of the body, which, coupled with the speediness and violence of the convulsions, could be produced by no other poison than strychnine, nor by any natural and spontaneous disease. In addition to this the contents of the stomach had been examined by Dr. Edwards, by whom the colour tests for strychnine to the number of five, had been applied, and they all exhibited the presence of the poison, and a portion of the contents were administered to a couple of frogs and a mouse, which all died in convulsions and with symptoms of strychnine.

This being the history of the administration of the medicine and the death, the state of things at the shop, and among the medicines which the prisoner had to dispense was that a great number of bottles, all blue, and apparently exactly similar, containing different drugs, were arranged on a single shelf, and that which held James's powder was fourth from the end, the one containing strychnine being second, so that they were separated by a single bottle only. The strychnine bottle, however, was distinguished by the word "poison" in tolerably large letters. The learned counsel for the crown said that the jury would have to decide whether the taking of the wrong drug under these circumstances—whether the bottles were in their right places or transposed—was such an act of culpable negligence as to render the prisoner liable upon this charge, and if they came to a negative conclusion, none would be more pleased than those who were concerned for the prosecution.

The cross-examination was directed towards the similarity of powdered strychnine to James's powder, the propriety of keeping the poison crystallized, and the selection of the bottles, nine out of the fourteen upon the shelf in question containing poison not being made in a "corrugated" form. The fourteen in question, however, were the only bottles of blue-coloured glass. There were further questions as to the deceased man's use of strychnine as a medicine, and a rather minute cross-examination with reference to the possibility of death from the antimony contained in James's powders. The bottles were shown to be in their right places on the first intimation of an accident having happened reaching the shop the next morning, but since then the poisons had been put into a locked cupboard by themselves.

The topic of the deceased having met with his death from something else than strychnine was at once given up by the learned counsel in his address to the jury, for he said that a part of his duty in the case had been to watch that the prosecution proved that which they undertook to prove, but there remained behind two questions—namely, whether the strychnine which had been fatal was contained in the medicine dispensed by the prisoner, and whether he had been guilty of gross negligence in so dispensing it. Upon the first point it was a very extraordinary thing that no attempt had been made to search for or produce the paper and the remainder of the powder, which would have exhibited sufficient to preclude all doubt, instead of an infinitesimal part of colouring matter after absorption by the stomach; but on the main point, of gross and culpable negligence, it would be wrong to visit upon a subordinate the faults and omissions, if there were any, of his superiors (a matter laid down in strong terms by a learned judge in a recent case), and the place, and selection, and arrangement of the drugs, and the character of the bottles in which they were contained, matters all within the control of the masters, left the bare act of the prisoner in laying his hand on a wrong bottle, here marked with nothing but a label, and without any distinguishing mark to the touch, the sole constituent of this culpable negligence. In a charge of want of care character was of great importance, and the learned counsel called a gentleman, who said the prisoner was one of the most careful and intelligent dispensers he had ever known.

His Lordship, in summing up, pointed out the obligation for extreme care upon the prisoner in dealing with drugs which he knew to be of a dangerous class.

The jury almost immediately acquitted the prisoner.

EXTRAORDINARY POISONING CASE.

At the Worship-street police court, on the 2nd inst., Mary Anne King, 23, and Jemima Driscoll, 20, both respectable-looking married women, of Camden-street, Bethnal-green, were charged before Mr. Cooke with attempted suicide by poison.

Mrs. Mary Anne Cecil, of Cranbrook-street, in the same neighbourhood, said,—I know both the prisoners, who are married women, but separated from their husbands, and living together in Camden-street. King is a dressmaker, and the other assists her. Driscoll has 6s. per week of maintenance from her husband, but King's husband has abandoned her, and allows her nothing. She has suffered a great deal of trouble through her husband, and he is living with another woman, who constantly abuses her and uses the most dreadful language whenever she meets her, which makes her very dull and miserable. On Monday week last I went to their house to assist them at needlework, but although busy all day we only earned 1s. 6d., to be divided among us. King had been very low spirited, and when the work was done, about half-past 7 in the evening, she sent a little girl out for a penny boxful of phosphor paste. The girl did not know what it was for, but got it and gave it to her unknown to me, and King put it into her pocket. I went into the yard, and when I came back I thought I saw her put something into her mouth. She said nothing, but stood with her back to me; I suspected she had taken something, and, as she seemed to be sick and sleepy, I fetched down the other prisoner. Driscoll took the box away from King, put into her pocket, and went into the yard. When she came in I asked her what the paste was for, and if she had taken any. She said she had, and as she opened her mouth I saw a piece on her tongue, which I pulled off and found to smell very strong. At the same time I saw a bottle in her hand, and, suspecting that also to be poison, I got it away from her, and found it to

be a bottle of embrocation, half full. She acknowledged that she had swallowed the rest. King got some water, washed herself, and lay down on the bed, where she remained till 9 o'clock. Then they became so sick, and were in such pain, that I went for the police.

Ward, 353 K.—I was called into the house to the prisoner King, about a quarter past 10, and found Driscoll very sick behind the door, while King lay on the bed as if asleep. As I was told their state was occasioned by poison, and the bottle produced was handed to me, I sent for a doctor. He gave them antidotes, and they were sick for some time, when I took them to the station, where they did not seem to recover, and the doctor was sent for again. He gave them more medicine, and directed them to be taken to the London Hospital. King said she was sorry for what she had done, and would never do so again; Driscoll said they were both in trouble, and had agreed to take the poison together; she was very sorry she had only half done it this time, and would take care to do it effectually the next.

Mr. Cooke remanded both women for a week, in order that inquiries might be made about them.

ACCIDENTS.

BURNING OF A DRUG WAREHOUSE IN DUBLIN.

During the past month a destructive fire occurred on the premises of Mr. W. F. Wells, druggist, 52, Upper Sackville-street, Dublin. It was discovered by a policeman on duty in Henry-street early in the morning. He observed smoke issuing from the rear of the premises, and on going to the spot, he found that the stores which contained drugs, oils, colours, and other combustible materials, were in flames. The gates were so securely fastened, that it was discovered to be impossible to force an entrance. He then went round to the front of the premises in Sackville-street, and after some time succeeded in arousing the inmates, who were connected with the Standard Insurance Office, and occupied the upper part of the house. There were no persons in the employment of Mr. Wells in the house at the time. Intelligence was at once forwarded to the several fire brigade stations, and several engines were soon on the spot. About thirty minutes elapsed before a sufficient supply of water could be obtained. In the meantime, persons were engaged in removing the property contained in the stores, and putting it in a place of safety. When water was obtained, the several engines played vigorously upon the flames, and succeeded in extinguishing them in the course of four hours. The stores in which the fire originated were completely gutted, and property to a considerable amount was destroyed. The premises were insured.

DEATH FROM LAUDANUM.

We extract the following from the *Times* of last Wednesday:—"An inquest was held on Monday night, before Mr. Coroner Swann, at Sneinton, near Nottingham, on the body of a child named Joseph Henry Ellicock, aged six months. It appeared from the evidence, that the mother of the deceased sent a child for some Godfrey's cordial, but she asked for laudanum by mistake. The druggist's assistant put a label of 'poison' on the bottle; but the mother not being able to read, gave the child a portion of it, and it died soon afterwards. The verdict was 'Death from laudanum, administered in mistake for Godfrey's cordial.' The coroner and the jury expressed an opinion that there had been great carelessness in the matter by all the parties concerned."

If this short report can be depended on, the druggist's assistant, who was one of "the parties concerned," has been most unjustly censured.

PARLIAMENTARY.

POISONED FLESH PROHIBITION BILL.

On the 23rd ult. this Bill was read a third time in the House of Lords, and passed. Its provisions are similar to those of the Poisoned Grain Bill of last year.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES BILL.

This Bill passed through committee in the House of Lords on the 26th inst., and has since been printed as an Act of Parliament to render permissive the metric system of weights and measures. It recites that for the promotion and extension of our internal as well as our foreign trade, and for the advancement of science, it is expedient to legalize the use of the metric system of weights and measures. It enacts that, notwithstanding everything contained in any Act of Parliament to the contrary, no contract or dealing shall be deemed to be invalid or open to objection on the ground that the weights or measures expressed or referred to in such contract or dealing are weights and measures of the metric system, or on the ground that decimal subdivisions of legal weights and measures, whether metric or otherwise, are used in such contract or dealing. In a schedule annexed to the Act the equivalents of metric weights and measures are set forth.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES BILL.

This Bill has passed both Houses of Parliament. Its object is to check the spread of venereal diseases amongst our soldiers and sailors. It is an authoritative provision for segregating the sick, and is analogous to an ordinary measure of quarantine, or to such special enactments as have been put in force in times of epidemic sickness. The Act is only to continue in force for three years. At the end of that time sufficient experience will have been gained as to its defects and successes to make it the groundwork for future legislation.

BANKRUPTCIES.

A Parliamentary return, extending from October, 1861, to April, 1864, states that there has been in that time no instance in which a bankrupt's estate has sustained loss by the failure or defalcation of the creditors' assignees, but there has been one instance in which loss was sustained by the failure of the solicitor to the creditors' assignees. In the same time there have been 1,540 pauper cases and prison adjudications, in which no creditors' assignee was chosen, and in 1,394 of them no assets have been received; there have been also 2,419 other bankruptcies, in which no creditors' assignee was chosen, and in 1,531 of them no assets have been received. The official solicitor appointed by the Lord Chancellor to act in the London court in petitions presented *in formâ pauperis*, and in cases where no creditors' assignee has been appointed, received in fees in the same time a net income of about £1,330 a year, after deducting his expenses for clerks' salaries, office expenses, and disbursements in the transaction of the business.

GOSSIP.

A prospectus has been issued of the London and General Water Purifying Company, with a capital of £100,000, half to be first subscribed in shares of £10. The object is to purchase Danchell's filter patent, and to manufacture and sell the apparatus or let it out on hire at an annual rental.

A prospectus has been issued of the Industrial Company of Central Italy, with a capital of £250,000, in shares of £10. The first object is to purchase and work some extensive deposits of native sulphur in the Romagna, which are now yielding considerable profits, and which are to be bought for £89,000, the vendors taking nearly one-half in shares that are to take no dividend till 10 per cent. is paid on the others.

It appears that in a suit with regard to the imitation of trade labels, the Court of Pleas of the District of Boulogne-sur-Mer has condemned a Mr. Knight to a fine of 600f. for imitating the labels of Messrs. Crosse and Blackwell, to give up the goods seized, and to pay all expenses and the charges for advertising the judgment.

The drinkers of tea, coffee, cocoa, chocolate, and chicory contributed £5,073,938 to the public revenue in the last financial year ending with March, 1864. In the same year the drinkers of spirits, wine, and malt liquors paid their £20,020,550 of taxation. This is without reckoning the tax on licences for making and for selling these articles, or on sugar to sweeten them.

REVIEWS.

A Treatise on Pharmacy. Designed as a Text-book for the Student, and as a Guide for the Physician and Pharmaceutist. By EDWARD PARRISH, Graduate in Pharmacy, &c. Third Edition, thoroughly revised and improved, with important additions. Philadelphia: Blanchard and Lea. 1864. Pp. xxiii.—850. Price 5 dollars.

FOUR years ago we called the attention of our readers to Parrish's comprehensive work on Practical Pharmacy, and gave a general description of its contents. The volume we then referred to has been out of print since the commencement of last year, but its place is now supplied by a third edition, which presents so many novel features that we may fairly speak of it as a new work. We learn from the preface that this edition was kept back in order that working formulæ for the official preparations of the revised United States Pharmacopœia might be introduced. The latter work did not make its appearance until last Autumn, yet all its preparations are noticed in Parrish's volume.

A work designed as a guide for the American pharmaceutist must necessarily be imperfectly adapted to the requirements of his British representative. The latter must not follow the United States Pharmacopœia, though he may regard it as a much more satisfactory manual than the book which has lately been issued by the Medical Council. He must not dispense liquids by the old wine measure, which has a larger ounce and a smaller pint than the imperial measure of this country. He is not likely to be troubled with inquiries for "eclectic concentrated remedies," and is not required to supply iced drinks variously flavoured to thirsty customers. In fine, he may discover something foreign and unintelligible in almost every page of this work.

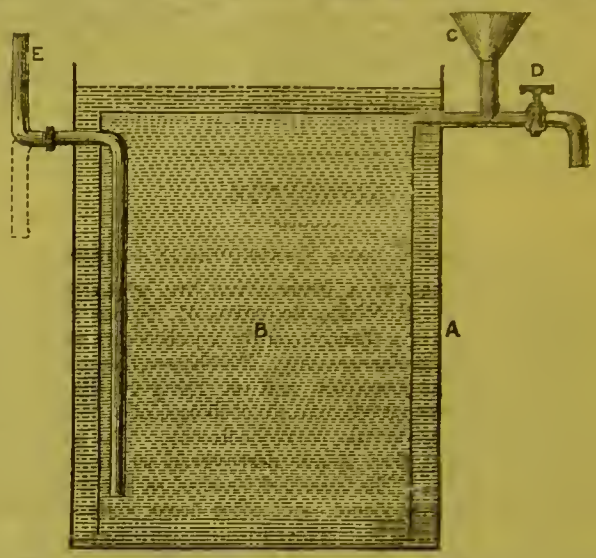
But although Parrish's treatise contains so much that specially concerns the American reader, every student of pharmacy who can read English may use it as a guide in all practical operations, and as a text-book of pharmaceutical chemistry. To say that it is the best systematic treatise on pharmacy in our language is not saying much, for it has really no rival. The only works that can be compared with it are those of Mohr and Redwood and Wittstein, but these merely treat of pharmaceutical apparatus and manipulations, and are of little use to the student of pharmacy proper. In Parrish's volume the whole art and science of pharmacy is expounded. The work is divided into five parts. In Part I. the furniture and implements necessary to the dispensing office or shop are minutely described; the United States Pharmacopœia is reviewed; and a chapter is devoted to weights and measures and specific gravity. Part II. treats of Galenical pharmacy, and comprises seventeen long chapters. Part III. is devoted to inorganic pharmaceutical chemistry, and contains ten chapters. Part IV. treats of pharmacy in its relation to organic chemistry, and contains nine chapters; and Part V. is devoted to extemporaneous pharmacy, and is made up of eight chapters. The work is illustrated by no fewer than 238 woodcuts.

The British and London Pharmacopœias compared. With an Abbreviated Materia Medica, etc. By GEORGE BARBER, Pharmaceutical Chemist. Second edition, revised and enlarged. Simpkin, Marshall and Co. Pp. 112. Price 2s. 6d.

Little books on the Pharmacopœia have sprung up like mushrooms during the last few months. Most of them have been compiled by physicians for physicians, and are consequently of more use to prescribers than to dispensers. The admirable little work now before us has been prepared by a chemist for the use of chemists, and has therefore a special claim to notice in these columns. Mr. Barber, in the first part of his work, places the formulæ of the British and London Pharmacopœias side by side, so that they may be instantly compared. In the second part, which has been prepared more especially for the use of apprentices and students, he gives in small compass a list of the articles in the Pharmacopœia, with their botanical names and natural orders, or their symbols and equivalents, together with their properties and doses. This part will be invaluable to students preparing for examination by the Pharmaceutical Society. Following this Abbreviated Materia Medica there is a table of the natural orders of plants with their essential characters; then a glossary of botanical terms; then a list of poisons and their antidotes; and, finally, a table of elementary substances, with their symbols and equivalents. The work is strongly bound in cloth, and is "got up" in a most tasteful manner.

INGALL'S HYDRAULIC TANK.

THIS is an ingenious arrangement by which petroleum, naphtha, benzine, spirits of turpentine, or other volatile liquids, not miscible with water, may be stored with safety



without any risk of loss from evaporation or danger from fire. It consists in its most simple form of an outer cylindrical tank A. This encloses an inner tank B, which is open below, but closed above and at the sides. These tanks can be filled with water through the pipe E, which has a moveable jointed nozzle, capable of being turned downwards so as to afford a ready means of discharging water when required. The pipe B opens nearly, but not quite at the bottom of the inner tank B. When the tanks have been filled with water through E, the nozzle is turned downwards. The tap D is closed, and oil or other liquid lighter than water is poured in through the funnel C, displacing or forcing down the water in the inner tank B. The oil so stored is precluded from all loss by evaporation, and is readily run into casks by the tap D, without the necessity for the employment of pumps, for it is obvious that the oil in the inner tank will always flow through D, whilst there is a greater pressure of water in the outer reservoir.

The patentee claims the storing of tanks in a reservoir of water; the arrangement of the pipe E for introducing water into the tank and allowing for its escape; and also the arrangement of the jointed nozzle.

NEW PETROLEUM REGIONS.—The men who speculate in opinions upon the late reduction and ultimate exhaustion of supplies of petroleum can have paid but little attention to the new sources almost daily being opened out. The fact cannot be denied, that during the past twelve months there has been a serious falling off in the quantity shipped from America, the original and principal source; but at the same time the collecting of natural oil in other countries, and the distilling of oil from coal and kindred substances, has been and is still greatly on the increase. In fact, it is becoming apparent that large quantities of oil, equal to any that has ever yet been produced, exist in numerous districts which, until now, have been neglected. In Greene and Fayette counties the oil excitement is intense—as great as it used to be about Titusville and Oil City. Several companies have already been formed, and before may weeks pass round all the available territory will be bought up. There remains but little doubt that there is as great an abundance of oil in these two counties as in Vanango.—*Oil Trade Review.*

NOTES AND QUERIES.

RENDERING BITTER SUBSTANCES TASTELESS.

The addition of a small quantity of chloroform to bitter draughts has been recommended as a means of facilitating their administration. The anæsthetic power of the chloroform being exerted upon the organs of taste deadens their perceptions. A drop of chloroform spread upon the tongue before tasting such medicines is suggested as equally satisfactory.

PRESCRIBING.

A great amount of confusion must for a considerable time prevail regarding prescriptions. Old practitioners cannot in a day throw away their old tried prescriptions and acquire a new set. A simple and easy way to prevent confusion would be for all prescribers, in all cases, to intimate by the letters L, E, D, B, or L P, E P, D P, B P, to which of the pharmacopœias they refer.—G. W.

CANTHARIDES.

The following note appears in the *Medical Times and Gazette* as a reply to a query:—In 1693 Dr. Grœenevelt was apprehended on a warrant from the president and censors of the College of Physicians, and committed to Newgate, for prescribing cantharides in substance to a woman in Southwark, and although the doctor was ruined, the reputation of cantharides was established.

EFFERVESCING POWDERS.

C. Bedall proposes preparing a mixture of tartaric acid and bicarbonate of soda, in granular form, and permanent in the air, by mixing well-dried tartaric acid and bicarbonate of soda, in the proportion of five to six, with sufficient strong alcohol to reduce it to a moist condition, passing it then through a somewhat coarse sieve, and thoroughly drying. If desired it may be flavoured with a little oil of lemon dissolved in the alcohol. A mixture thus prepared effervesces upon the addition of water to the last crumb.

LIQUOR AMMONIÆ ACETATIS, B. P.

The formulæ of pharmacopœias are all very well, but who would think of *making* liquor ammoniæ? Unfortunately the article in the market is made most commonly from the liquor of gas works. It appears to be quite pure, but when you attempt to make the liq. ammon. acet. with it, the result is an article more or less offensive, and unpresentable to an invalid. Would it not be as well to make the liquor am. acet. as before, from the carbonate of ammonia, with strong acid, so as to get the required strength? The carbonic acid gas could be got rid of, if this be an object, by shaking well, until the liquor would yield no more bubbles.—G. W.

BLEACHING OF SPONGES.

A French savant, M. Artus, has been experimenting on the bleaching of sponges. Some good sponges were well washed by M. Artus in river water, and whilst still wet were placed in a bath of six parts water and one part commercial hydrochloric acid, and were allowed to remain until all the carbonic acid gas was discharged. They were then washed again, and afterwards strung together and immersed in hydrochloric acid, diluted with six per cent. of hyposulphite of soda dissolved in water. The vessel was then closed, and left for forty-eight hours, when the sponges were taken out, washed and dried. M. Artus tried another experiment, in which the quantity of hyposulphite of soda was doubled. In a third experiment the sponges were, on removal from the bath, treated with hydrochloric acid, subsequently well washed, and then exposed to sulphurous acid gas. The sponges, however, by each of these processes were not thoroughly bleached, and a fourth method was tried. The sponges were well washed in hot diluted soda lye, then placed in a bath of weak hydrochloric acid and hyposulphite of soda, using only half the quantity of hyposulphite that was used in the first experiment, and a very satisfactory result was thus obtained.

MINOR NOTES AND QUERIES.

Nil Desperandum (Lancaster).—Refer to the *Lancet* of June 11th, pages 671 and 688; also last Saturday's number (August 13th), page 201.

X. Y. (Ramsbottom).—Get Barber's little book, reviewed in the present number. Fownes' *Manual of Chemistry*, published by Churchill, will be useful to you.

Forceps.—In Watts's *Dictionary of Chemistry*, Part XIII., price 2*s.* 6*d.*, there is an admirable treatise on the Gold-assay, which will give you all the information you require.

R. S. (Dublin).—Our notice of Draper's work on the *Preparations of Iron* will appear next month.

GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.

William Lorborg, late of Wyld's-rents, Bermondsey, manufacturing chemist.

George Henry Hanson, Portsea, chemist.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

F. C. Calvert and Co., Droylsden, near Manchester, manufacturing chemists; as far as regards C. Lowe.

Sanderson and Co., King's Mills, King-street, Camden-town, dry-salters.

Kershaw and Norris, Chemical Works, near Littleborough, Lancashire, manufacturing chemists.

T. P. Hickley and J. W. Crussell, Edgware-road, Marylebone, chemists.

P. and S. Wildsmith and Co., Wolverhampton, chemical manure manufacturers.

Royal Society.—At a late meeting of the Royal Society the following foreign members were elected:—MM. C. Bernard (physiologist), L. Foucault (physicist), and A. Wurtz (chemist). The choice made does great honour to the discrimination of the Royal Society, which has not always been so just as it appears to be in the present instance.

Statue of John Hunter.—The first statue to the memory of John Hunter, the greatest physiologist England has produced, and to whom the medical profession and the public generally are indebted for the finest anatomical collection in Europe, and upon which the Council of the College of Surgeons has expended nearly £1,000,000 sterling, has just been placed in the Hunterian Museum. It is executed in marble, and is from the studio of Henry Weekes, R.A., who well maintains in this statue his reputation as one of the first sculptors of the day. Hunter is represented in deep thought, seated in the chair which has been modelled after the one made by his own hands, and which the curious may see in the office of the conservator of the museum. The sculptor in producing this fine work has availed himself of the large picture of Hunter by Reynolds, which is now rapidly fading, notwithstanding the great care taken of this *chef d'œuvre* by the authorities. Mr. Weekes has produced in marble the picture itself, the history of which is not a little singular, and at the present moment will no doubt be read with some interest. Hunter's friends had long been desirous to engage him to sit to Sir Joshua Reynolds for his picture, but he had always hitherto declined to do so, not choosing that it should be done at the expense of others, and thinking the price too high for himself to pay. He was, however, at length induced to comply, chiefly to oblige Sharpe the eminent engraver, who had received much notice from Hunter, and was very anxious to be permitted to make an engraving from Sir Joshua's picture. Reynolds found Hunter a bad sitter, and had not been able to satisfy himself with the likeness, when one day after the picture was far advanced, Hunter fell into a train of thought in the attitude in which he is represented in the present portrait. Reynolds, without saying a word, turned the canvas upside down, made a fresh sketch, with the head between the legs of the former figure, and so proceeded to lay on over the former painting the colours of that which now graces the walls of the Council Chamber of the Royal College of Surgeons. From this portrait Sharpe executed his engraving, which is admitted by the best judges to be one of the finest, if not the very finest specimen of the art ever executed in this or any other country; he always considered it one of his happiest efforts, and was found poring over it with admiration forty years after he had executed it.

THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST

LONDON, AUGUST 15, 1864.

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.

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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.

OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

"THE least said the soonest mended." This homely proverb might profitably be printed at the head of our Correspondence, as a warning to those ready writers who insist upon supplying argument by the foot and invective by the yard. A broad-nibbed pen, filled with easy-flowing ink, is apt to run away with a writer, and get him into trouble. It may carry him over the boundary of calm discussion into the region of personal abuse; it may take him off the straight road of logical argument, and career with him round and round the endless path of false reasoning; or it may translate him from the heights of the Sublime to the depths of the Ridiculous. Many of the letters which have recently appeared in our columns have been unnecessarily long, and their publication has sadly interfered with our editorial arrangements. We admit that the subjects discussed by our correspondents have been of the greatest importance, but we cannot help thinking that there has been a sad waste of words, especially in the controversy started by W. W. in our May number. The three letters now published have been called forth by some discourteous remaks in W. W.'s second letter, and we have resolved that they shall end this controversy.

There is no waste of words in the long letter from Mr. B. S. Proctor. Every word has been weighed, and every sentence nicely trimmed; still, as a whole, the letter does not appear to us to be worthy of the writer. We thought that Mr. Proctor knew enough about the United Society to prevent him expressing doubts respecting its power and its numbers. He does not hold the United Society responsible for the doings of the outsiders, as he does not consider that it represents or controls them. He is sceptical as to the 3,000 members, and appears to have doubted the existence of the Executive, until he wrote to the secretary regarding them, and got a satisfactory reply. This he confesses, but adds—"I could not have had the same satisfaction if I had desired a list of the members." Mr. Proctor will not have long to wait for this satisfaction, as we understand that the complete list has been for some time in the hands of the printer.

Mr. Proctor's remarks respecting the proposed bill of the United Society ought not to be disregarded by the Executive. We are somewhat surprised that the bill has not been drafted before this, and think that no more time ought to be lost. Next month we shall probably return to the consideration of Mr. Proctor's letter.

BRITISH PHARMACEUTICAL CONFERENCE.

THE meeting for the present year will be held at Bath, at 41, Milsom-street. It will commence on Wednesday, the 14th September, at 10 A.M., and be continued on a subsequent day or days, according to the amount of business to be transacted.

Many interesting papers on Pharmaceutical subjects are promised, and a large gathering of members is expected. The presence also in the town of the members of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, from the 13th to the 23rd of September, will be sure to render a visit to Bath even more pleasant than usual. It is hoped, therefore, that a large proportion of the members will promote the objects of the Conference by being present at the meeting. The Honorary Local Secretary, Mr. J. C. Pooley, 8, George-street, Bath, has kindly offered to assist members in obtaining private or hotel apartments, and to forward any information that may be desired concerning the general and special matters of interest offered to visitors.

THE BRITISH PHARMACOPŒIA.

THE following remarks upon the Pharmacopœia are extracted from the columns of the *Medical Circular*:—

"As many statements, more or less erroneous, are current on the subject of the British Pharmacopœia, we think it right to repeat what we have on a former occasion observed, that there is no probability whatever that the present work will be withdrawn from circulation, and that those who expect the speedy appearance of a new book will inevitably be disappointed. The edition just sent forth is rapidly being disposed of, but fresh copies will be supplied as occasion requires; and the only step now being taken in reference to a new edition is the appointment of a committee, consisting of representatives in London, Edinburgh, and Dublin, to examine into the defects of the present work, with a view to a new edition at some future period. There is not the slightest chance that this new edition will appear under at least eighteen months from the present time, and it will then come just like any other second edition of a scientific work, corrected up to the time of its publication. We are no apologists for the British Pharmacopœia, and we have repeatedly exposed its defects and shortcomings in our pages; but, nevertheless, we are aware of the enormous difficulties of the task involved in the fusion of three pharmacopœias into one, and we are disposed to be lenient to those who have had the management of so laborious a duty, which has required great tact and discretion, as well as the higher qualities of learning and experience. We could, if we chose, point out some of the individuals by whom the leading mistakes in the British Pharmacopœia have been perpetrated, and the obstinacy of a few, and the too ready acquiescence of others, by which objectionable features have been introduced. We shall, however, only remark in general, that national prejudices and prepossessions are hard to overcome, and to this cause many anomalies and incongruities are to be attributed; added to which, the book has been compiled by three committees, all sitting at once in different parts of the kingdom, and consequently unable to work in perfect harmony with each other. It may also be stated, that however eminent may be some of the members of the Medical Council, they are not all good chemists, and none of them are pharmaceutists; and some of the subordinates to whom they delegated their functions might not be, perhaps, the most competent assistants, or the least biassed by preconceived views. But all these difficulties were inseparable from the very idea of forming a National Pharmacopœia; and the present volume, imperfect as it undoubtedly is, is quite as good as could be reasonably expected when the enormous labour of smoothing existing inequalities and overcoming objections is taken into account."

A PLEA FOR THE HANDMAIDEN.

By Edward Parrish.*

We often hear Pharmacy represented as the *handmaid of medicine*, and, acting on this idea, some of our titled colleagues of the medical profession, *par excellence*, would exclude the pharmaceutist from the great temple of medicine, or if they would vouchsafe him an entrance at all, would shut him out in the servant's hall or the scullery. On what grounds this assumed superiority of the doctors is founded, we may, perhaps, profitably inquire; if we go to the past we shall find that the pharmaceutists of to-day, equally with the physicians, represent the ancient votaries of Æsculapius. If it be true, as we are told, that Hippocrates and Galen, with not a few of their eminent disciples and followers, dispensed their own compounds, many of them keeping open shops, while all were perhaps more concerned with Materia Medica and Pharmacy than with either Anatomy, Physiology, Pathology, or Surgery, albeit this latter pertained chiefly to the *barber*, who still represents by his trade insignia the ancient bloodletting propensities of the craft,—may we not claim at least as ancient and honourable an origin as any branch of the healing art? Measured by the standard of the *present*, we must, indeed, own to being occupied with the ignoble pursuits of business; we soil our hands with labour, and even demean ourselves with the insignia of self-seeking trade; yet we do produce something wherewith to benefit mankind, and is not the producer, at last, the true hero of this nineteenth century? What would medical art be now, but for the scientific pharmacy which evolved Morphia and Quinia, Ferrum redactum, and the Valerianates, and which has added to our new pharmacopœia (that of the United States), despite the conservatism which controlled its authors, 111 new preparations, for the amelioration of suffering and cure of disease?

These reflections have passed through my mind in conning over some of the flagrant abuses which distinguish the conduct of physicians in our large cities towards their co-labourers, the pharmaceutists. It is a common observation, that those practitioners who move in what are called "aristocratic circles," and who pander to the follies of fashionable life, are most addicted to disregarding the recognised amenities of professional intercourse, especially where their humble compeers, the pharmaceutists, are concerned. Inflated with ideas of their influence and power, and fortified by the greatness of their fees, these professional nabobs delight in patronising some one renegade pharmaceutist, who, by the well-plied arts of the courtier, ministers to their vanity, while a delicately-administered *douceur* occasionally testifies a grateful appreciation of the patronage bestowed. Some, more honest than the rest, perhaps, habitually resort to a single dispensing establishment, because they really are persuaded that their prescriptions are better dispensed than at the numerous shops of respectable graduates in pharmacy, who stand unimpeached, either in the matter of honesty or skill. One of the greatest defects in the education of professional men is, that for want of that contact with men which a business education in early life affords, they so often do not know how to estimate the pretensions of those who lay claim to superior knowledge or skill—to use a common phrase, they are *gullible*. This trait is conspicuous in certain clergymen, who are ready, on the strength of a single apparent cure, to give their influence in favour of the pretensions of some unprincipled quack, whose groundless assumptions would at once vanish into thin air before the steady light of common sense. In these physicians it is observable in the willing credence they give to the extraordinary assertions of the pharmaceutical cicerone, to whose guidance they have willingly lent themselves in their dubious course through the labyrinths of Materia Medica; meanwhile, the knowing ones indulge a feeling between indignation and contempt for the practitioner who is so easily led by the nose, and pity for the patients who are the innocent victims of his infatuations. When we are "hectored" by our medical friends because some sufferer has been relieved of a cold or a colic by a timely dose administered "over the counter," without having paid a fee to some one entitled to exact it, we may point him to the numerous graduates of medicine, who have an office adjoining some corner shop belonging to them, where their prescriptions are compounded by a so-called apprentice or clerk, who is paid, perhaps, less than a stevedore on the wharf, and whose instructions are, to add the doctor's fee to the cost of the medicine whenever practicable. Or we may direct the attention of our medical complainers to more prominent physicians, who send their prescriptions to a certain store in the neighbourhood, the depository of their private receipes, and recommended by no single merit over nearer and more respectable dispensing stores.

If a poor sufferer comes into my shop asking relief from the pangs of toothache, I feel no hesitation in relieving him if I can, and indeed few acts of my daily routine give me more satisfaction. For this I was never assailed by the nearest dentist with the charge of having interfered with his prerogative. Neither, on the same grounds, do I hold myself accountable to the medical faculty for exercising so much humanity and common sense as will help out a suffering fellow mortal, without resort to the complexities of his diagnosis, prognosis and other technicalities.

Let me not be charged with hostility to the medical profession. My earliest recollections and life-long associations have taught me to love and honour the high-minded physician who, with zeal for both science and humanity, devotes his life to the most laborious and responsible of pursuits; but this very respect for the physician as he *should* be, induces me to place a proper estimate upon the physician as he too often *is*, and to protest, in the name of common honesty and fair dealing, against the unprofessional favouritism to which I have alluded as being notorious, especially in our large cities. And now, on entering the second decade in the history of this association, let us assert for American pharmacy the claim, founded on a common origin and kindred objects, to an equal and independent place,—no longer as a handmaiden, but as a modest and docile sister,—beside the more numerous and distinguished branch of the medical family.

May we all strive to *deserve* such a position.

* Extracted from *Proceedings of the American Pharmaceutical Association.*

THE NEW ZEALAND EXHIBITION.

Papers are now being distributed by the London Agency for the New Zealand Exhibition, detailing the various regulations under which articles will be received and exhibited.

The Commissioners have fixed upon the first Tuesday in January, 1865, for opening the Exhibition Building, which, with its annexes, will be erected in the city of Dunedin, Province of Otago, in the Government Reserve, Block 23, Great King-street.

"The principal building will be of brick and cement. The annexes for Machinery, &c., will be erected adjoining the main building. The decision whether goods proposed to be exhibited are admissible or not, must in each case eventually rest with the Commissioners. Subject to the necessary limitation of space, all persons, whether designers, inventors, manufacturers, producers, or possessors of articles of New Zealand origin, or of such others the produce of other countries as may in the estimation of the Commissioners be eminently calculated to aid in the development of the Colony, will be allowed to exhibit; but they must state in what character they exhibit. The Commissioners will communicate with New Zealand Exhibitors only through the Local Committees of their respective Provinces, and with those of neighbouring Colonies, of Great Britain and Ireland, and of Foreign Countries, either through the Agent in London or directly through the Secretary in Dunedin. No rent will be charged to Exhibitors."

The Customs' authorities have laid down the following regulations upon the importation of goods intended for the Exhibition:—

"All packages containing goods for the New Zealand Exhibition of 1865 shall be specially reported as such, and shall be addressed to the Commissioners of the New Zealand Exhibition, or to one of their Officers, and be consigned to a duly accredited Agent, and shall be accompanied with a specification of their contents and value. They shall be separately entered as intended for the New Zealand Exhi-

bition, and the agents in passing their entries shall specify the full contents of the packages, together with their value.

"Such packages as may be landed in Dunedin shall be forwarded unopened to the Exhibition in charge of an approved licensed drayman, accompanied by a dray note from the landing officer giving a description of the packages and the numbers and marks theron; and in cases where they may be supposed to contain other goods than those for the Exhibition they shall also be accompanied by a revenue officer.

"Packages landed at other ports shall be forwarded with a similar note by public conveyance under seals of office direct to the Exhibition, the officers at the respective ports taking care that the packages bear no private address, and that the documents relating thereto be immediately forwarded to the proper officers of the Customs stationed at the Exhibition.

"On the arrival of the goods at the Exhibition no package shall be opened without the knowledge and consent of the officer of Customs, and if the goods be found to agree with the entry or specification they will, if free, be at once considered as out of charge of the Customs, the entry or declaration being sufficient for all statistical purposes.

"In the case of all dutiable goods an account will be taken by the officers of the Customs at the time of first opening the packages, but such deficiences as may occur within the building from any legitimate or unavoidable cause, the officer being fully satisfied thereof, shall not be charged with duty.

"That the building be considered for all practical purposes a 'Bonded Warehouse,' and that in all cases where goods shall not be exported but retained for use in this country, the duty shall be assessed by the officer in charge at the building (and received in the Exhibition by a clerk duly appointed for the purpose) in accordance with the practice now existing in regard to articles found in passengers' baggage.

"In the case of dutiable goods for exportation an entry will be passed in the long room and bond given for their due exportation: and on the receipt of this entry by the officer in charge of the building, the goods shall be packed in his presence, and if for shipment at any other port placed under seal and forwarded in charge of a steamboat or other public carrier; but if for shipment at Dunedin they shall then be sent under charge of Customs' officers at the expense of the exporter to be delivered into the charge of the searcher of the station from which they are to be shipped without further examination, under the regulations applicable to goods shipped direct from the warehouse."

The articles exhibited will be divided into classes or sections, consisting of raw materials, machinery, manufactures, and fine arts. The Commissioners will receive articles on or after the first day of October, and will continue to receive goods until the 12th of December, in the present year. Application for space and other information is directed to be made to Mr. John Morrison, New Zealand Government Ageney, 3, Adelaide-place, King William-street, London, E.C.

THE SCIENCE AND ART DEPARTMENT.—The results of these examinations have just been published, and show the usual steady rate of increase in the number of artisans and others under instruction in the various branches of science which this department encourages. In 1863 the total number examined was 2,671, while in 1864 it was 3,264, being an increase of 593, or more than 22 per cent. Inorganic chemistry remains the most popular subject, there being 851 candidates against 679 last year. Animal physiology is second, 479 having presented themselves this year against 343 last. In nearly all the other subjects there is a steady advance. The actual numbers are as follows:—In geometrical drawing, 312 candidates; in mechanical drawing, 185; in building construction, 55; in theoretical mechanics, 43; in applied mechanics, 26; in acoustics, light and heat, 253; in magnetism and electricity, 269; in inorganic chemistry, 851; in organic chemistry, 142; in geology, 164; in mineralogy, 26; in animal physiology, 479; in zoology, 174; in vegetable physiology, 121; in systematic botany, 70; in mining, 22; and in metallurgy, 70. In the following five subjects taught in navigation schools which have this year been added—viz., Mathematics, navigation, nautical astronomy, steam and physical geography, there were 380 candidates.

CORRESPONDENCE

MR. B. S. PROCTOR ON PHARMACEUTICAL POLITICS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

11, Grey-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne,
August 3, 1864.

SIR,—Your last number contains three letters in reply to my former communication, all of which I think are entitled to some comments.

The writers of the two first both fall into the mistake that when I spoke of want of moderation on the part of the "outsiders," I meant, "of the United Society." The only case in which my remarks applied to the United Society itself, was when I replied to the "objections" which the Executive Committee made to the Pharmaceutical Society's Bill.

I do not hold the United Society responsible for the doings of the outsiders, as I do not consider that they represent or control them. Consequently I am not to blame if my remarks were not applicable *to them*. Mr. D'Aubney goes a step further, and thinks it is want of moderation in the advocacy of the objects of the United Society to which I object. I have failed to speak so guardedly that no mistake should be possible, but I may now explain, that the idea I had while writing the remark was, that some outsiders have shown a desire to claim advantages without having expended either the labour or money which would entitle them to such; and have shewn a disposition to raise captious or frivolous objections to propositions which were calculated to promote the general good. If I had thought of saying this of the United Society, I should have hesitated, for I knew not who were its members, or for what statements it was responsible.

In replying to letters which have become so lengthy, I must needs economise space, by avoiding the quotation of remarks before replying to them; I will simply indicate the paragraphs where they occur.

In the fifth paragragh of Mr. Wade's letter there are four questions: the first is somewhat equivocal. I can only make a general answer, that the way in which the interests of outsiders is cared for, has not been altered since the first constitution of the Pharmaceutical Society. I do not think the existence of the United Society has materially changed either the amount or kind of consideration which outsiders have had from our Council. I believe the feeling was, that the United Society was got up for trade purposes, and those who originated it were not mainly influenced by a desire for public good; and in consequence, their overtures were not respected as they would have been if they had been known to seek the general advantage, or to proceed from any considerable portion of those dispensing chemists not at present connected with the Pharmaceutical Society. While I make these statements, it must be understood that I was not a member of the Council at that time, and I now only express what I *believe* was the feeling, and what I believe is in great measure the feeling still. Your correspondent, Mr. Hayland, concludes his postscript with the remark that "If the United Society is ignored * * * let us do our best to help ourselves." This is just where they should have begun; they are sure to be ignored till they have done the best thing they could for themselves. Self help is the first principle of moral philosophy applied to practical life. To do our best to help ourselves without injustice to our neighbours, is a practice all must pursue who would earn success for themselves and respect from others. It is from want of attention to this principle, that those outsiders who are now complaining are not in the position they desire. It is from having neglected to act upon this fundamental truth that the United Society has not obtained that respect which it would otherwise have enjoyed. It is this rule of conduct which binds the Pharmaceutical Society, as it must bind every other corporation, to give its first attention to the good of its own members. And it is this principle which obliges the national government to legislate for the good of the nation, and not for the benefit of a class only.

The United Society began their work upon economical principles. I cannot blame them for it. They did not publish in their organ a statement of their constitution and rules, their executive and their members. They are said to have an executive; but who are they? The country members of the United Society seemed to be in total ignorance upon this point, even up to two or three months ago. They are said to have 3,000 members; but who are they? We have no means of knowing, beyond the short lists which appeared in the CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST soon after the United Society came into existence. I wrote to the Secretary of the United Society regarding the executive, and got a satisfactory reply; but I could not have had the same satisfaction if I had desired a list of the members. What is the natural consequence of this? The United Society have not yet done a great work, and should not be disappointed if they do not meet with the respect to which a great work would entitle them. How could the Pharmaceutical Society know what they were entitled to? How could the Pharmaceutical Council look upon the executive of the United Society as the representatives of the outsiders? The outsiders had not chosen them. The United Society is only a very small part of the outsiders, and only a very small portion of the United Society had voted in the election of its executive. I do not suppose the Pharmaceutical Council knew this; but they ought to *know* the *contrary* before they admit the United Society's claims to meet them as equals. I do not blame the United Society that they exercised all possible economy; they could not afford to publish annually a classified list of members, and to issue voting papers to all; they had better do without these than get into debt, but seeing that they do not sacrifice this time and money, they cannot escape the natural consequences of such economy.

Next with regard to the Juries Bill. In reply to Mr. Wade's eighth paragraph, and Mr. D'Aubney's eleventh. It is said that the Pharmaceutical Society got the hint from the United Society. I believe this statement is without the shadow of a foundation. Our secretary keeps vigilant watch upon all parliamentary proceedings; he noted the first mention of the bill, and immediately communicated with some of the leading men of the Pharmaceutical Council. He had applied for a copy of the bill, and was working upon the subject before the bill was printed. On the very day the bill was printed he had an interview with one of the promoters; and the whole matter was under consideration of the Council as fully as it was possible at that early stage of the proceedings, before

the publication of the CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST had drawn the attention of the trade to the matter. With regard to the idea that the Pharmaceutical Society did anything to prevent the outsiders having exemption, I believe that is equally without foundation. Though I was not on the Council at that time, I was not idle in the matter, and I know that it was not without great efforts that the Pharmaceutical Society succeeded in gaining the privilege for its own members, and its struggle would have been quite hopeless had it not been for the legal standing of the Society, and the registration of its members. If the outsiders have any one to blame but themselves for their want of recognition, it is the House of Commons, who rejected both parties. I will not suppose any one could say that the granting of this privilege to pharmaceutical chemists was an evil, but if it were so, the House of Lords is responsible; for it was only their persistent determination which decided the point at last. I am of opinion that the success of the Pharmaceutical Society on that occasion ought to have been a source of satisfaction to all the trade, as it was the insertion of the thin end of a wedge which will, sooner or later, make room for the exemption of all dispensing chemists. The want of moderation shown by some outsiders, and I think in this instance I may say by the United Society itself, has added to the difficulty which there will be in extending the benefit of the Juries Bill. They proposed the exemption of 40,000 chemists and druggists, while the census returns show that there are only 16,000 above the age of ten years engaged in the trade. How was the other 24,000 to be made up? The 16,000 includes assistants and apprentices; probably also porters, warehousemen, and errand boys *above the age of ten*. How, then, is this 40,000 to be made up? Your number of Feb. 1861, page 40, says all are entitled to become members of the United Society who buy and sell drugs and chemicals, or anything connected with the chemist and druggist business. This is probably the only way in which the numbers 40,000 or 50,000 can be produced. For the purposes of jury legislation, it would be as futile for these to claim exemption in virtue of their services to the public as it would be unjust on the part of Government to grant it. Parliament only grants such exemptions to those who show reason why their being taken from their business to attend a jury would be a public inconvenience, greater than is balanced by the value of their services in the jury box. When the United Society can show this of its members, I, for one, will gladly sign a petition in favour of their exemption.

In reply to the question in Mr. Wade's ninth paragraph I may say, I think the outsiders should only pay their guineas to the Pharmaceutical Society when it provides something for them of the value of a guinea. This, I think, it will do in providing legal recognition and registration, and I do not see any reason whatever why they should not also pay their guineas to the United Society so long as it gives them value for their money.

All three of your correspondents touch upon the question of rights, privileges, and their claims to commercial equality. I do not see that the Pharmaceutical Society's Bill does them any injustice in this respect; but if such can be shown to unprejudiced judges, the Committee of the House of Commons would prove a safeguard against it.

In reply to the query in Mr. D'Aubuey's eighth paragraph I may say, I believe the only reason why we have not had local examinations put in operation is because there has not yet been any evident demand for them.

In Mr. D'Aubney's ninth paragraph he asks why I have not noticed all the "eight objections" of the United Society to the Pharmaceutical Society's Bill. I did not feel it necessary to do so, nor yet to reply to all with which I disagree. I did not comment upon the fourth, because, while I thought it unreasonable, I did not think I could readily convince others that I was right in this opinion. I did not notice the eighth, because I had already published my views upon the matter, as Mr. D'Aubney quotes, and thought it unnecessary to repeat them. If it is a satisfaction to Mr. D'Aubney to hear me say so, I will repeat for his benefit, I fear the eighth objection is well founded. Some alteration was made in one of the clauses at my suggestion, which, I admit, made the bill more satisfactory in this respect than was its original draft. I cannot yet feel satisfied that the bill as it stands would prove efficient, though that opinion has been expressed by those who are more competent to form a judgment than myself.

Though I have not yet said all that I might in reply to your correspondents, I must be satisfied with noticing one more point.

Mr. D'Aubney, in concluding his letter, says, "Let Mr. Proctor, and others like him, who wish to do their duty fearlessly and honestly, adopt the bill of the United Society." Having repeatedly heard the merits of this bill praised by contributors to your pages, I wrote to Mr. D'Aubney requesting a copy, that I might give it a fair consideration; and if an examination of its clauses convinced me that it was really a better bill than that of the Pharmaceutical Society, it should have what little advantage could be derived from my countenance and support. Mr. D'Aubney, however, informs me that the bill has not yet come into existence. Not so much as a draft of it has been prepared. I do not blame the United Society for not having prepared a bill: bills of Parliament are costly things, and the United Society could not be expected to go to that expense upon the small income which their 5s. subscriptions produce; nor is it worth their while to print a draft, if they have not the prospect of bringing it into actual operation: consequently, I cannot blame any one that there is no bill for me to consider; but I must say, I think it shows a want of moderation on the part of those who have objected to the Pharmaceutical Society's Bill, that they have called upon us fearlessly and honestly to support that of the United Society, when they have not so much as a draft to present to us for consideration.

Every one who has had any experience in Acts of Parliament must know how easy it is to draw up a code of suggestions which shall have a plausible appearance, but how difficult it is upon such a framework to construct a bill which will bear criticism; and when, by careful criticism and repeated revision a bill has been framed and passed into law how often experience proves that it is yet wanting in some essential particular, and Parliament is called upon for another Act to give effect to that which was formerly thought satisfactory. Mr. D'Aubney has forwarded to me a copy of the "Suggestions for a proposed Act of Incorporation." They are substantially the same as have been repeatedly brought before the trade by the United Society and the CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. I think they show a want of practical understanding of the matter, except in those "suggestions" which have already been acted upon by the Pharmaceutical Society in framing their bills; but I will refrain from particular criticism of them at present, as Mr. D'Aubney informs me that the suggestions they have received in reply to this circular are bringing the matter into such a form as will secure the approbation of the trade.

I have made little *direct* allusion to Mr. Hayland's letter; not that it has been neglected, but its want of division into paragraphs has prevented my so readily pointing out the passages to which my remarks will apply.

I thank you, Mr. Editor, for the space which you formerly placed at my disposal, and trust that the importance of the subject will justify my occupying a similar place this month.

Yours faithfully,
BARNARD S. PROCTOR.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL PEGASUS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

July 20, 1864.

SIR,—Your readers are this month favoured with an exhibition of intellectual culture, by one who is a member of a society capable of appreciating it. Being one of those indicated as possessing only business qualities, I shall be pardoned if I confess that I much prefer business matters being discussed in a practical and business-like manner, to parading poetical remembrances in a trade journal. When "W. W." wrote his first letter to you there was a certain excuse for his quotations, "By the pricking of their thumbs," &c., and "What's done is done," &c., because just at that period the Tercentenary Festival of our great poet was at its height, and it was only natural for pharmaceutists to become affected with the fever, the same as others; and we had only to read a newspaper to be able to quote yards of splendid lines. Making this allowance for "W. W.," I endeavoured in my reply to his letter to be "consistent and fair," without aiming at either logic, wisdom, or verse, so that I have little cause to complain of "W. W.'s" remarks on the character of my reply. I am disappointed, nevertheless, as I had imagined that "Philalethes" was, if possible, as intellectual as "W. W." himself; but after this later effusion, containing so much wisdom and logic, as well as classical quotations, I am only surprised that "Philalethes," "A Lover of Fair Play," and myself, were not put down as the subjects of that elegant couplet,

"We three,
Loggerheads be;"

or that some such gem as "a man convinced against his will" did not follow that, ascribing obstinacy to the fair sex. But, at any rate, all will admit that "W. W." must be a well-read man, poetically by nature, and that, like "Pegasus in harness," he can never, with his lofty aspirations and stately capers, be fitted for the drudgery of life as a tradesman. I hope he is not a specimen of what the future members by examination are likely to become, or that such qualifications as he possesses will ever appear amongst the prominent members of the United Society. It is too bad for such to be yoked with the oxen of the trade, or to expect them to perform the rough duties of business. They are sure to be useless, and far above the ordinary work of the shop. But why did such a celestial venture into discussion with unrefined business men, unless he intended to follow up his argument with courtesy? Out of many assertions in his first letter, which your correspondents have discussed, "W. W." only mentions one being left without a satisfactory reply,—"That the one great evil in the drug trade is its over-crowded condition." And to prove his argument, as well I suppose as to show the superiority in intellectual culture of a member of the elder society over those of the younger, he ascribes to those who differ with him the following characters—one, an ass in a lion's skin; another, a milk-and-water cynic, without argument or wit; and the other, wanting in wisdom and logic; then, as though he had arrived at a logical conclusion, he says it is no wonder that paragraphs should find their way into the public press, attributing the possession of useful business qualities rather than of intellectual culture, or appreciation of its value. Is it, then, because one "enacts the part of the ass in the lion's skin remarkably well," and another is a skyblue satirist, and the other exhibits a want of both wisdom and logic, that they appear to possess useful business qualities? If not, then, why "no wonder," &c. If this is a specimen of wit and argument, I agree with "W. W." that he is not entitled to be considered "champion" of the Pharmaceutical Society. I am sorry that the position assumed by "W. W." in his previous letter does remain unaffected by the replies thereto; and, moreover, that it is likely to remain so, for it is not a discovery of "W. W.'s," neither, in this respect, is Mr. Humpage a prophet. The one great evil, that the trade is overcrowded, is admitted by every one, and therefore "W. W." will continue to hold the position of having declared a fact, patent to every one, and nobody will be able to refute it; but the remedy is another question. No one will dispute the keen observation, that in every town, almost, there are more chemists than necessary. Is it not also observable that in every town there are also twice as many surgeons, solicitors, and clergymen as there are any need of? And, I venture to suppose, these have passed an examination as severe as that of the Pharmaceutical Society; so that, if the examination of the Pharmaceutical Society was adopted, it would not lessen the number, but only add to their intellectuality, which, in my opinion, would not remove the evil.

The latter portion of "W. W.'s" letter inclines one to think he has not watched events; probably he has been too deep in his Latin Grammar searching for another quotation, but having failed, returns to the public with a new performance under his first "great header," "Audi Alteram Partem," unaware that, by the policy the United Society has adopted, it cannot be "wedded to its own measures;" and that it does not need any cover or excuse for its conduct towards the Pharmaceutical Society. What "W. W." means by "We hope for better things: we hope that the United Society is not so deeply in love with its own Act of Incorporation as to preclude the possibility of any intermediate arrangement which may hereafter be deemed expedient," I cannot tell, unless he has been out with the "owl of Minerva," or the other *Owl* which is just now exhibiting extraordinary intellect, and which has a correspondent at "Thomunachouru," who is, consequently, ignorant of the doings in London. The offer of the United Society to meet the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society is sufficient proof that it desired to come to an arrangement, and to work with the Pharmaceutical Society towards one common object; and the suggestion approved of by "W. W.," by a pharmaceutist, is only supplementary to an offer of several of the United Society members to meet their brethren of the Pharmaceutical Society, for the purpose of coming to an understanding; and then, without any high-flown notions of being under the "outstretched wings of Minerva's

owl," they only trusted that *common sense* would enable them to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. There is no earthly reason why a few men should assume such airs as individual pharmaceutists are doing to prevent a most desirable end being attained. The chemist and druggist is a tradesman, and it is idle to imagine him anything more exalted. Our duty is, then, to study the requirements of the majority, and in so doing, we need not prevent the few taking a higher position in pharmacy if they are so disposed.

Probably, after this, Pegasus may take flight, and, in future, display his intellectual talents in that element so much more congenial to his disposition, the pages of the *Pharmaceutical Journal;* and I hope he will consider that, if I, again, have exhibited neither "logic nor wisdom," that, at any rate, I am "consistent and fair."

I am, Sir, yours, &c.,
J. W.,
Member of the United Society.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

SIR,—It is quite fair to presume that as my letter stood first of the three on the same subject in the columns of your June number, your correspondent, "W. W., a member of the Pharmaceutical Society by examination," would give it priority of attention, and I am led to conclude that either the "milk-and-water," or those other constituents which he, in his very expressive nomenclature, has designated "little else," must have seriously disagreed with his delicate organization, not only causing him to lose the control of his temper, but rendering him incapable of reading the other two letters with anything but a jaundiced eye.

He now occupies the position of a refractory boy, who, writhing under the smart of a recent castigation, has taken his stand at a safe distance, and resorted to abusive language and offensive epithets, and is utterly unworthy of further notice. Deeply regretting that an "erudite pharmaceutist, and a gentleman withal," cannot afford a little of that chivalry in controversy which a recent writer in *Good Words* informs us is indicative of mental superiority. I remain, yours truly, "PHILALETHES."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Bristol, August 3, 1864.

SIR,—Your pharmaceutical correspondent "W. W." has sent what he calls a reply to the three letters (my own included) which appeared in your May number commenting upon his previous epistle, and it is amusing to see how he has been driven from all his specious defences of his Society, and to what a strait he is now reduced. Not an attempt has been made by him to answer a single argument or fact advanced against the proceedings of the Pharmaceutical Council of which he has constituted himself the champion. His statement that the number of the unexamined members of the Pharmaceutical Society was few compared to the great body of the examined was shown by myself from the statistics of that Society to be so grossly contrary to truth, that the number of *unexamined* members is at least five times that of the *examined*. For this mis-statement he has thought no apology necessary to your readers, as being a matter of no consequence. Having a bad case he adopts the usual course of abusing his antagonists, whose arguments he is unable to reply to. One has performed the part of an ass remarkably well, another makes a milk-and-water attempt at sarcasm without either argument or wit, while a third is little better than a fool, being neither logical nor wise. He reiterates his maudlin complaint of the overcrowded state of the trade of chemists and druggists, from which trade he would gladly drive all who do not belong to his favoured association. Now what this overcrowding has to do with the question at issue, viz. the proposed bill of the Pharmaceutical Society, which your correspondent has so disinterestedly recommended the trade to accept, I am at a loss to conceive. I endeavoured to show this gentleman, in my previous letter, that the mere fact of a trade being overcrowded was no ground for legislative interference, unless the interests of the public were affected thereby, (else why not apply it to that of the butcher, baker, grocer, and every other, as most trades in this overpopulated country are suffering from the same cause) much less could it be a reason why the vested interests of a whole trade should be sacrificed to a small grasping portion of it who desired by legislation to exalt themselves at the cost of their fellows, and to make the very existence as tradesmen of each of the latter depend upon their own arbitrary and interested decision. The Apothecaries' Act has been quoted by the Pharmaceutical Council itself as the proper precedent to follow in framing a similar one for the drug trade, requiring proof of qualification in its future members. By that act the rights of those in practice before it passed were sacredly preserved, and in no respect were such practitioners placed in an inferior position to subsequent members by examination of the Apothecaries' Company. Where do pharmaceutists find that on the passing of the Apothecaries' Act, any number of apothecaries, themselves unqualified, endeavoured or were allowed to obtain the despotic control of their fellows similarly circumstanced? The authority of the precedent of the Apothecaries' Act in the present case is not disputed by pharmaceutists themselves, let it then be followed to its legitimate conclusion. Nothing but the pusillanimity of existing chemists will prevent this being the case.

More than enough has been said in reply to your correspondent whom I shall not trouble with any future letter. I am quite willing to allow him the superiority he claims in point of intellectual culture and fine writing, and hope that the communications of the United Society may ever bear the businesslike and honourable character of truth, exactness, and close reasoning, rather than of a pseudo-literary style, attempting indeed lofty flights with some little quotation as a climax, but totally destitute of any consecutive reasoning, and serving only as a flimsy veil for arrant nonsense.

With regard to the proposition with which your correspondent concludes, that a general meeting of the whole trade (pharmaceutists and outsiders) should take place, at which some measure of future action as to legislation should be agreed upon in common—this would appear *prima facie* to be a very fair proposal, but we have received so many proofs of the unfair disposition of the Pharmaceutical Council, especially as shown in their proposed bill, that I should be loth to allow the assertion of our rights and their confirmation by act of Parliament to depend even in part upon a body who have shown a desire to act so unfairly by us. I must leave with our Executive the responsibility of accepting or rejecting such a proposition, if it should ever be formally submitted to them, but hope that under no circumstances, if our executive possess any self-respect, will they after their late repulse make any fresh overtures to the Pharmaceutical Council, as they would thereby strengthen the hands of our would-be-enslavers and expose us to their well-merited contempt. In requiring the confirmation of our rights by Parliament, I see no reason why we should ask the previous consent of pharmaceutists, though at the same time we should be warmly grateful for, and treasure in our remembrance their friendly co-operation. In our parliamentary efforts let us inscribe upon our banners the words "*Equal Justice*," or in other words insist that every *unexamined outsider* shall be placed in the same legal position as every *unexamined pharmaceutist*. The justice of this proposition is so self-evident that it could not be denied, and must confound any hostile attempts of the Pharmaceutical Council, which must ever drag after it its heavy incumbrance of unexamined members. Has the Pharmaceutical Society never heard that the lady who holds the scales is represented with covered eyes, unable to distinguish between pharmaceutist or outsider, but weighing the merits of all in an equal balance.

In conclusion, I beg to suggest to our Executive that no unnecessary delay should be made in applying to Parliament for our act. In all probability additional funds will be required for this object, and I would therefore respectfully suggest to the executive, that in each town where a branch of the United Society exists, it be recommended that a deputation of some of the members wait upon each of the chemists at their residences for the purpose of soliciting subscriptions for this object. Thousands, I am persuaded, who have not yet subscribed would do so readily and liberally if personally solicited, and though with a small business I have already given a guinea to the Defence Fund I would willingly contribute again to encourage such a movement.

May I finally suggest to our Executive that, possessing as they do in your friendly journal such an admirable medium of communicating with their members, it is much to be regretted that the communications are not more frequent and unreserved. We write letters and mean what we write, we subscribe and if requested in a manner to show the necessity, would do so to a far greater extent, and energetically exert ourselves in any direction that might be indicated to us for action, but our energies are paralyzed by the impenetrable silence and quietude of our leaders, who, if they would only give us their confidence, and take the initiative, would instantly have the cordial support and co-operation of those who look to them for direction.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
A LOVER OF FAIR PLAY.

P.S.—In my strictures upon the conduct of the Pharmaceutical Council I particularly desire to be by no means understood as identifying with them the whole of the pharmaceutical body. I fully appreciate the honourable feelings of a large number of pharmaceutists, who reprobate the conduct of their leaders in their endeavour to oppress the trade, and of whom their council are unworthy to be representatives.

THE SEPARATE EXAMINATION SCHEME.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

August 10, 1864.

SIR,—Two months have passed away since I offered, on behalf of several outsiders, to meet the liberal members of the Pharmaceutical Institution to discuss the position of the two societies, and consider what might be done for the good of the trade, but although you, sir, were pleased to commend my proposition, I regret to add that my communication has received no response. Another instance has thus been given of the willingness of outsiders to meet in friendly co-operation the members of the Pharmaceutical Society. The liberal members of that society, I have little doubt, approved the suggestion, but refrained from obstructing the movements of their Council by independent action. Mr. Vizer shunted the proposition on the pharmaceutical lines, and there it remains with the Amended Pharmacy Act.

What is the result of that important meeting held in Bloomsbury-square, when it was resolved that the Amended Pharmacy Act should be taken up to the legislature without delay? And what has become of the bill? The last two numbers of the *Pharmaceutical Journal* do not indicate that such a document exists. Is the Council at last persuaded that its fate is certain, and is it again following the steps of the United Society and waiting to take the sense of the trade before going into action? The Council has certainly become wonderfully considerate for the druggists now in business, and exhibits an amount of energy similar to that attributed to a drowning man, who to save himself will catch at a straw. The Pharmaceutical Society was so confident in its own superiority and strength, so indifferent to the aid or association of others, that it ventured beyond its depth, and in its obstinacy exclaimed "I *will* be drowned, and nobody *shall* save me." But at last it begs for help, and the druggists in business are entreated to come to its aid. "The doors of this Society once closed," it has often been said, "cannot be opened," but they are to be opened nevertheless. Walk in gentlemen, and be examined practically. Never mind technicalities, come in, prove your business qualifications, and you shall be declared member of a scientific institution. All who have forgotten the cramming of youthful days, and who for any time up to the past five years, by success in business, have given the best evidence of their undoubted qualifications are to have the additional declaration of the pharmaceutical examiners, to substantiate that which requires no proof. Is not this an elevation, a boon not likely to be rejected?

Who would not look upon the pharmaceutical title as a proud distinction after this severe ordeal. The time has arrived when the grey-headed veterans of our trade are to be rewarded, and can rest in peace under the shadow of the pharmaceutical walls. After a life's success they are to appear before a board of examiners, the ages of its members being similar to that of their own sons and grandsons, to receive their testimony, that they are qualified to carry on their business. But remember, attractive as this may at first appear, the examination is "no farce." It is one of the greatest responsibilities of the Council, and with wonderful foresight, they have warned us not to be misled by the supposition that "the board has any idea of smuggling unqualified men into membership." Had it not been for this intimation, the majority who read the leading article in the *Pharmaceutical Journal* would consider the examination and certificate a most complete and ludicrous farce, and calculated only to renew the life of a society, which has hitherto in no way acted for the good of the trade. There are two other considerations for us. What will be the cost of this distinction, and what benefit will it be when obtained? Are we not having honours thrust upon us?

Yours, &c.,
AN OUTSIDER.

THE PROSPECTS OF CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

July 30, 1864.

SIR,—In reading your interesting correspondence on pharmaceutical politics, I notice frequent allusions to the fact that many chemists and druggists are also dealers in a variety of articles having no connexion with their legitimate business, and from this circumstance it is inferred that the business must be considered unremunerative. Without denying the truth of this inference, allow me to make one observation. To succeed in any business, two conditions are absolutely necessary,—*knowledge* and *capital*. Now, presuming that all engaged in the business of chemist and druggist possess the first of these requirements, it is certain that very many do not possess the latter. The requisite capital is not large, but it is much larger than numbers of young men starting in business can command. An aspiring young man, with no pecuniary means, having served his apprenticeship, and spent two or three years as an ill-paid assistant, is anxious to "make a start" on his own account; perhaps, with the assistance of his friends, he gets together a little more than £100. With this small sum he cannot think of purchasing an established business, and he wisely abstains from incurring the risk of heavy expenses in a promising locality. Accordingly, he cautiously makes his venture in a small village, or some obscure locality, where there is little or no competition, and where, if necessary, he can easily introduce some profitable adjunct to his business, and, generally, by "hook or by crook,"—by well-assorted drugs and "fishing tackle" of various kinds, he manages to "take" enough to procure him a decent living. Now, let me ask, in what trade or profession would he be likely, with such limited means, to do anything more? I believe there are numbers of small druggists in business who, if they had been brought up to any other trade, would have been compelled to spend their days behind the counter, for want of sufficient capital to give them even a chance. But, as druggists, they obtain at least bread and cheese, and enjoy the pleasure of being their own masters. Such being the case, surely it is unwise to encourage the notion (too common in all trades) that they have been brought up to an unremunerative business, and must abide by the unfortunate results. Such impressions tend to paralyze a man's energies, and to produce an amount of discontent which is alike injurious to his prospects and inimical to his happiness.

I have spoken of a man starting in the business amid very cramped circumstances; of course, to do well in this business (like all others), to keep the connexion select, and to hold a good social position, requires a capital much nearer £1,000 than £100; and I suppose there are few starting with this amount who find it necessary to engage in the sale of books and fancy articles. If they enter on these branches at all, it is because the field is open, and, as men of business, they are glad to avail themselves of the opportunity of thus honestly adding to their incomes.

Allow me to suggest that a review of the trade for the past thirty years, and an estimate of the inducements it offers to young men of varied means now entering it, might be made the subject of one or more articles from your able pen, which I have no doubt would be perused by the majority of your subscribers with great and practical interest, indeed, with the same sort of zest by *young* chemists as that with which aspirants for holy orders have studied the recent article on "The Church as a profession" in the June number of the *Cornhill Magazine*.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A VILLAGE CHEMIST.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

Bristol, August 1, 1864.

SIR,—On reading your report of the Third Annual Meeting of the United Society of Chemists and Druggists, I was much pleased to find that it has proved so "great" a "success." It has certainly grown vigorous and strong, and done much good to the trade, in so short a period, and with so small an income. I was also pleased to see that so many of our Northern and Midland District Associations were represented at the meetings. Now, I think this is as it should be. I do not know how our northern friends manage it, but I certainly am sorry, if not surprised, that no member was there to represent the interests of our West of England Associations. Surely such important places as Bristol and Bath, and some other cities and towns might have had a voice there. But, perhaps, the answer is to be found in the fact that the Society has taken "firmer root" in the Midland and Northern Counties than here. If so, I would respectfully suggest that the members of tardy Bristol at least do stir themselves up a little, as I am sure they can if they will, and not let another public meeting take place without sending a representative up to it. And this I conceive might readily be done by this, or any other Association, without being a burden to any of its members, by simply acting upon the principle "Unity is Strength," remembering that many may help the few, &c. If each one, and I understand there are some twenty-four members here, would contribute an equal share towards any special object, as for instance, the small sum of 1s. 6d. from each member here, it would then have paid 2nd class railway fare there and back, and with this stimulus guaranteed I have no doubt our local secretary or some other member would have been prompted to afford the time to go up, for it cannot reasonably be expected that any one person in business should spend both his time and money in advocating and advancing the interests of others without their co-operation. As a member I should be happy to contribute my share towards local expenses.

I submit these few remarks to the consideration of members at large, and remain, Sir, your obedient servant,

OBSERVER.

HOW THE PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY MAY BEAT THE UNITED SOCIETY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

SIR,—If during the last four months I have made no contribution to your columns, it has not been for want of zeal, but because I thought the time had arrived when, as a pioneer of our good cause, I might leave it in the hands of others, whose manner might be more diplomatic and conciliatory than my own; and I am glad to observe that the line of argument adopted by "Philalethes," "J. W.," "An Outsider," Mr. D'Aubney, Mr Wade, and others, has resulted precisely as I anticipated. One or two liberal members of the Pharmaceutical Council have determined to remove themselves from the false position into which they had been drawn by the affectation of ignorance or pride of their brethren, to descend from the dais of official dignity into the arena of discussion, and thereby to save their Society from impending amputation, as a limb useless or dangerous to the body of the trade.

I delight in expressing my admiration of the act. These gentlemen seem to have been inspired with the noble sentiment of Sir Robert Peel, who, when conviction separated him from his party, consoled himself with the reflection that posterity would appreciate the honesty, the self-sacrifice, and the courage of the deed. Such generosity will obliterate volumes of naughty words, cast naughty deeds into oblivion, and lead, I trust, to the consummation of our hopes—a united trade.

I hail this as a new and hopeful phase in the progress of events. As pharmaceutical prejudices and assumption recede, the advocates of the trade will have less inducement to use vigorous language in denouncing the wrong and in defending the right, and the meekest of writers from a pharmaceutical point of view will, under happier circumstances, regret to find that even he has done "injustice to those from whom he differs." It is difficult to understand how one with such a quick perception of the impolicy of injustice should himself have fallen into the palpable injustice of sentencing an anonymous writer to exclusion from the amenities of discussion whilst admitting a knowledge of the necessity of his position, and to have committed the still greater injustice of attributing a predetermination to arrive at the "one conclusion" of establishing one society to the injury of another to an opponent whose "one conclusion"—the very "idea" for which he had battled—was "to work out Mr. Bell's ideas" for a united trade. Upon a ground like this, an anonymous writer, whilst disdaining to ask any favour, and expecting no courtesy, may logically and justly claim the approbation of a member of the Pharmaceutical Council, with that of "many members of the Pharmaceutical Society," by virtue of his own recorded promise.

In reference to the unmerited charge of "want of moderation," permit me to remark, that if in fulfilling the part allotted to me of rousing the chemists and druggists of the country from the apathy which constituted at once their disgrace and their weakness, I have been loud in my expostulations; if I have pictured what they were losing by inaction and what they might gain by united effort somewhat energetically; if, as a vigilant watchman, I have forewarned the trade of coming danger; if I have offended men whose errors I have exposed, whose designs I have defeated, or whose rudeness I have rebuked; if, in removing obstacles in the way of the United Society and in doing its rough work, I have used the sledge-hammer, the axe, and the sword, these rough instruments have been necessary to the kind of work to be done; and they who know how difficult it is to move great bodies of men, and how much more difficult still it is to keep them in motion,—what a necessity enthusiasm is even to a good cause, and how essential it is to keep the flame of enthusiasm alive,—will readily understand and admit that language less emphatic might have fallen lifeless, and my share in the great work of consolidating the trade have proved a failure.

Words can scarcely express the delight I feel in the prospect of a peaceful advocacy of our cause—of calm argument—of an interchange of ideas—of mutual concession and mutual effort, for the cause of the two societies, when properly understood, is *one*—the cause of the trade. I fervently hope such letters as that of Mr. Proctor in this journal, and those of Mr. Vizer and Mr. Tuck in the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, will prove to be seed sown on good ground. Another step—one little step—an official indorsement of their sentiments, and all may be well.

That we may ascertain the present question, and arrive at a happy solution of it, let us just review the situation. The Medical Council made a great mistake. They mistook the men they had to deal with for the chemists and druggists of 1860. They shut their eyes to the altered condition of the trade. The chemists and druggists of 1860 were an inanimate class of tradesmen, without a single principle or object of cohesion, whilst those of 1863 were an organized and united body, animated with the laudable ambition to reform, to elevate, and to govern themselves. The Medical Council were right in their opinion that the practice of pharmacy needed reform; but their attempt to place the chemists and druggists under their own control was as unwise in its conception as it was lame and impotent in its conclusion. The insertion of the 56th and 57th sections in their projected bill, without the knowledge of the chemists and druggists, whose interests as tradesmen were so seriously affected, was a practical declaration of an aggressive war, and the publication of such a measure six weeks after the "suggestions" of the United Society for a reform of the trade had been circulated, excited their indignation, and determined them to vindicate their rights as citizens.

It is curious to mark how coincidentally the Pharmaceutical Council have challenged the trade to a combat for the same object, and subjected themselves to a similar defeat. Did the Medical Council mistake the men they attacked? The Pharmaceutical Council insisted upon it that there was no such a body as a United Society. Did the Medical Council affront the trade by denying them the possession of ordinary intelligence? The Pharmaceutical Society told them in effect that they were incapable of knowing their own wants, or managing their own affairs. Did the Medical Council ignore the "suggestions" of the United Society of the trade for an incorporation? So did the Pharmaceutical Council. There is only one possible solution for what might otherwise be looked upon as an act of absurdity. They must have had imposed upon, or they must have imposed upon themselves, the belief that the trade was so impatient for connexion, however humble, with the Pharmaceutical Society, that they would gladly accept it on any terms. Under that delusion they framed a bill, discussed it with closed doors, and, after mature deliberation, announced to the thousands of—as they seemed to suppose—anxiously expectant chemists and druggists, with their equally anxious and expectant assistants, that no admission could be had to the Pharmaceutical Society, but that they might be registered as outside chemists and druggists at a guinea a head! Will Messrs. Vizer and Tuck pardon me if I venture, by the light of a little practical philosophy, to suggest that the bill to which they so fondly cling, *as a measure for the trade, is a moral impossibility;* and the sooner it is consigned to the limbo of forgotten things the more likely the trade and the Pharmaceutical Society are to come to a friendly understanding.

If, then, the Pharmaceutical Council have fallen into the same mistake as the Medical Council, what is their best and most dignified course to pursue? What said the Scotchman, who, when detected with his head suspiciously protruding over his neighbour's garden wall, was accosted

with "where art a ganging, Sandy?" "Back agin" was the shrewd reply. Will these gentlemen condescend to move slightly back again? It won't hurt them; and if they go back in a proper spirit, much good may come of it. Unlike Sandy in principle, they mean well, but, like him in appearance, they are a little too obtrusive. I must confess I don't like their present movement. If they mean to be retrogressive, they are awkward as recruits at this kind of drill. They propose to reduce the standard of qualification to the level of the capacity and attainments of applicants for registration. Where I lived as a boy there was a common diversion amongst the humbler classes, called bobbing for eels. I was sometimes invited to join in the sport, but I considered it a dirty, vulgar, idle amusement, and I declined to go a-bobbing. Now, I call this new scheme bobbing for Pharmaceutical eels. Why degrade a diploma or symbol of honour in any degree by making it a halt?

If the ingenious gentlemen who have devised this last abortion would only turn their wits to a solution of our difficulties, how soon, with the aid of such talent, should we get out of them! Ye Pharmaceutical piscators, why fish in dirty water? Why bait your hook with a worthless certificate? and why catch slippery eels? Be true Waltonians who fish in clean water for a nobler sport.

There are some hundreds of druggists—good practical dispensers too—men who can spell out a physician's prescription, done in caligraphy, which would sorely puzzle the learned physician himself to decipher, and make it up with perfect accuracy—who have no thirst for learning—pronounce botany a bore, and consider all chemistry, except that which helps the farmer to a good wash for his sheep, or dressing for his grain, or manure for his turnips, or brings a neighbouring bleacher or dyer or manufacturer to his shop, as a peculiar profession for Doctors Taylor and Lethehy, or an amusement for visionary enthusiasts. Indeed, without pronouncing an opinion as to the philosophy of "drinking deep at the Pierian Spring," they consider even "a little learning a dangerous thing;" they eschew it themselves, they want no pharmaceutical assistants, and would decline a youth as an apprentice who had a weakness for botany and hooks. "It is all nonsense" one of these hard-headed practical men of the old school will say, "there's plenty for them to learn at the counter." Fish for these men—hook them—catch them—like eels they will slip through their pharmaceutical skins, and find a covering more congenial with their habits amidst pitch and putty, black-lead and paint.

Then there are hundreds more, aye, thousands, who have their aspirations for progress; men who are equal, and many of them superior, to the average representative of the 1,500 non-examined pharmaceutists, whose diplomas they look upon as a fraud upon the public, and a false assumption upon which is based pharmaceutical exemption from jury service; men who would scorn to receive that exemption as a privilege to the exclusion of their equally deserving brethren, but demand it as a citizen right by virtue of the better service they can render to the public in their shops than in the jury-box. Are these the men you 1,500 non-examined chemists and druggists of the Pharmaceutical Society so modestly invite to submit to your examination—to stand on the outside in meek muteness—to have no access where you are admitted, not even by means of back door or stairs, no privilege, no honour, no power, whilst you enter and claim every privilege, and all honour and power for yourselves? One is troubled which to condemn the most—the arrogance or the folly of such a proposal. The chemist and druggist who may accept your invitation will deserve the contempt of his brethren. But no, there is not one so recreant, not a man amongst them who will bow his neck to such a yoke, or turn his back for such a label, or write himself such an ass!

"What then do they want?" Why do you ask that question? Have they asked you for anything? They have established a society of their own, and all they want of you is non-interference. They are willing to co-operate with you for the good of all, to honour your men of mark, to cause your institution to be what it never has been yet, *the educational institution of the trade;* but they will tolerate no assumption of superiority, much less will they submit themselves to your control.

What do they want? They want as tradesmen, political equality, as is the case with the apothecaries. The public demand from them competent pharmacy, and they demand protection from the competition of unqualified men; and they further want freedom from the control of others, that is self-government. How reasonable? The wisest thing the Pharmaceutical Society can do is to help the trade to secure an act of incorporation for these objects.

In such a case there would be two corporations. That, says the oracle of the *Pharmaceutical Journal*, the legislature will never grant. Why not two corporations? why not a dozen if such an arrangement were for the benefit of the community? How could the Pharmaceutical Society be injured by incorporating, the trade? If the trade had the power to manage their own affairs, the natural consequence would be that they would look to and support the Pharmaceutical Society as their own college. Indeed I believe upon the sole condition of being left alone to manage their own affairs, the trade would cheerfully help to maintain and extend its efficiency. Away then with this senseless strife for supremacy!

Let there be two corporations working out their separate missions—the one commercial, the other educational—in harmony for a common good. Even now a project occurs to me which would be a great blessing to the trade, but which could only be effected by union and goodwill. I mean the establishment of proprietory schools side by side with boards of examination at London, Manchester, Liverpool, Glasgow, &c., which being affiliated to the Metropolitan Institution in Bloomsbury-square might transfer certificated youths to that institution for higher studies. Indeed I see no reason, if the trade wish it, why a collegiate status, collegiate objects, and collegiate honours might not be obtained for their Pharmaceutical Institution.

Some such arrangement as this would secure to the Pharmaceutical Society every privilege they now enjoy; it would give reality and distinction to their diplomas, and bring a Doctor of Pharmacy in company with a Doctor of Medicine to Her Majesty's Drawing-room; it would greatly increase the influence, the usefulness, the wealth, and the dignity of their institution; it would set many hands and heads at liberty from party strife for the nobler works of peace and concord, and it would secure the confidence and respect of the country.

Thus might the United Society become useless, the chemists and druggists of every degree satisfied and united, and the Bloomsbury Institution flourish as the pride and hope of the trade. VIGIL.

MORTALITY OF WATERING PLACES.—The Registrar-General has thrown an apple of discord amongst the watering places, by publishing a table of the mortality of the districts in which some of the chief of them are situate. He shows, for example, that during the three months ending June 30, 1864,—the three months during which, as is well known, sea-side places are not thronged with visitors as they are in July, August, and September—the mortality of Thanet, including Ramsgate and Margate, was at the rate of 20 per 1,000 per annum; Hastings, 24; Eastbourne, 17; Brighton, 20; Worthing, 18; Yarmouth, 25; Weymouth, 21; Scarborough, 22; and Whitby, 23. Now these places are health resorts; people go there to live, and not to die; and it seems absurd that the inhabitants of London, where the average mortality was at the rate of 23·53 per 1,000 per annum, and in some of the best parishes not more than 20, during those three months, should go for health to a place where the mortality is higher. Of course the "authorities" of the watering-places do not like this rigorous statistical test to be applied to themselves, and they besiege the *Times* newspaper with explanations, tending to show that any apparent excess of mortality is due to the deaths of strangers, who have been brought to these "health resorts," in the hope of getting relief for the very maladies which have proved fatal. This is very fair so far as it goes, but it does not go far enough. We fully grant that no inferences are fairly to be drawn from statistics in the *gross;* but then let authorities who demur to the Registrar-General's gross statistics give us their own in detail. Suppose we begin at Margate and Hastings. Will the authorities tell us how many strangers have died in those towns of illnesses brought and not contracted there? Will they tell us the number of births for the last few years, and the number and causes of deaths under one year and under five? Will they tell us the number and causes of deaths of the adult population in their own homes? exclusive of all deaths in workhouses and hospitals? Will they tell us the diseases for which the indigenous poor seek relief at local dispensaries, or from the parochial surgeons? Will they tell us to what extent visitors are protected from breathing or otherwise imbibing the contents of sewers and cesspools? Lastly, will they add an account of the sources of their drinking water, and an analysis of that of some of the favourite pumps? There is nothing unreasonable in all this;—for it is done at least once a quarter in every London parish by the Medical Officers of Health; and, when these items are supplied, the public will be able to judge whether the *primâ facie* inferences from the Registrar-General's Report are right or wrong.—*Medical Times and Gazette.*

TRADE REPORT.

THE public sales of Drugs have been small throughout the month; the high price of money, together with the expectation of a further rise to 9 per cent., has made buyers extremely cautious, and the business done (although small during the month) has been of a most limited character. Jamaica Sarsaparilla has sold at 1s. 4d. to 1s. 10d.; Honduras 1s. to 1s. 1d. per lb., being rather easier. Camphor is rather lower: last sales of China were made at 90s. to 92s. 6d. Castor Oil is rather dearer; mid yellow to fine pale 5d. to 6¾d. Cassia is done at 8s. 9d. Aniseed is 3d. lower; so is selling at 6s. 4d. Jalap is steady; at the late sales fine quality sold at 5s. 1d. to 5s. 4d., and inferior 2s. 5d. to 2s. 7d. Ipecacuanha is 1s. lower, and only a small part out of 60 seroons sold at 7s. to 7s. 1d. Rhubarb is quiet; some new imports; China sold at 3s. 6d. for flat, and 3s. 6d. to 3s. 7d. for round. Balsam Capivi is steady at 1s. 9d. to 1s. 11d. Tolu at 3s. 9d., and Peru 4s. 10d. Turkey Blue Galls were taken in at £8 10s. to £10, and French £8 to £8 10s. Some fine Cantharides sold at 3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d. All descriptions of Gums scarcely sustain last month's advance; in fact, Olibanum and Arabic are both 1s. to 2s. lower. Bark is without change. Seneka Root is 3s. to 3s. 3d., which is lower. Rhatania Root was bought in at 1s. 8d. Cod Liver Oil is dull,

and sales were all bought in at 9s. to 12s. 6d. Turkey Opium was rather cheaper, good quality 17s. 6d. to 18s. 3d. Some Flaky Manna sold at 2s. 6d., and Tolpha 1s. 4d. Cape Aloes are rather lower, good and fine sold at 46s. to 49s. Barbadoes realized £8 to £20, according to quality. Shellac is rather easier. Gambier is steady. Cutch is 1s. cheaper. Tamarind is dull, and rather cheap. All other goods are slow, and to press sales easier prices must be taken.

In Chemicals business has been extensively dull, prices are generally lower, and exporters, as well as the home trade, take only small lots for present wants. Tartaric Acid has declined to 1s. 6½d. to 1s. 6¾d., and at this reduction sales continue limited. Citric is rather firmer at 1s. 7d. to 1s. 7¼d. Oxalic remains dull at 10d. Small sales have been made in Sal Acetos at 12½d. Chlorate of Potass in moderate demand, at 13d. Quinine is dull: only small sales have been made throughout the month, at 5s. 11d. for French; English is quiet at 6s. 3d. to 6s. 6d. Iodine is dull, and sellers of Hughes' seconds at 6½d. Cream Tartar is dull and lower, at 109s. to 110s. Soda Crystals are easier: sales made at 95s. to 97s. 6d. ex ship. Soda Ash slow at 2d. to 2¼d. Sulphate of Copper is dull, at 29s. to 30s. Small sales made in Sal Ammoniac at 36s. to 37s. 6d., according to quality. Sulphate of Ammonia quiet, at 13s. to 14s. Bleaching Powder, small sales, at 12s. to 13s. Flour of Brimstone quiet, at 12s.; Rough, £6 10s. to £7. Saltpetre is lower, and refined is now 35s. 3d. to 35s. 9d. Linseed Oil is rather cheaper: spot 36s. 6d.; Hull, 36s. 3d.; and last four months', 36s. 6d. to 36s. 9d. Rape Oil is also rather easier; foreign brown, 43s., and refined, 46s. 6d. to 47s. Turpentine is dull at 68s. to 69s. Refined Petroleum is dull at 2s. 1d. spot, and 2s. 2d. last four months'.

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.*

	1864.	1864.	1863.	1863.
	s. d. ..	s. d.	s. d. ..	s. d.
ARGOL, Cape, per cwt.....	87 6 ..	100 0	85 0 ..	98 0
French	60 0 ..	85 0	40 0 ..	60 0
Oporto, red	46 0 ..	48 0	45 0 ..	47 0
Sicily	74 0 ..	77 0	70 0 ..	75 0
Naples, white	65 0 ..	80 0	65 0 ..	80 0
Florence, white.....	85 0 ..	90 0	90 0 ..	95 0
red.....	80 0 ..	85 0	80 0 ..	85 0
Bologna, white	92 6 ..	97 6	110 0 ..	115 0
ARROWROOT..(duty 4½ per cwt.)				
Bermuda..per lb.....	1 4 ..	1 8	1 10 ..	2 2
St. Vincent.....	0 4½ ..	0 7¼	0 6½ ..	0 8½
Jamaica	0 3½ ..	0 7	0 5½ ..	0 6½
Other West India	0 3½ ..	0 4½	0 5½ ..	0 6½
Brazil	0 2½ ..	0 3	0 3½ ..	0 4½
East India	0 3½ ..	0 6	0 3½ ..	0 4½
Natal	0 5½ ..	0 8½	0 6 ..	0 10
Sierra Leone	0 4½ ..	0 5¼	0 4¼ ..	0 5¾
ASHES.....per cwt.				
Pot, Canada, 1st sort	32 0 ..	33 0	32 0 ..	0 0
Pearl, ditto, 1st sort	34 0 ..	35 0	32 6 ..	0 0
BRIMSTONE,				
rough.....per ton.....	145 0 ..	150 0	125 0 ..	0 0
roll	185 0 ..	190 0	175 0 ..	185 0
flour.....	240 0 ..	250 0	220 0 ..	240 0
CHEMICALS,				
Acid—Acetic, per lb.	0 4 ..	0 0	0 3½ ..	0 0
Citric	1 7 ..	1 7½	1 5½ ..	0 0
Nitric	0 5 ..	0 5½	0 5 ..	0 5½
Oxalic	0 10 ..	0 0	0 8 ..	0 8¼
Sulphuric	0 0½ ..	0 0	0 0½ ..	0 0
Tartaric crystal.....	1 6½ ..	1 6½	1 5½ ..	0 0
powdered	1 7 ..	0 0	1 6½ ..	1 7
Alum .....per ton	120 0 ..	122 6	135 0 ..	140 0
powder.....	140 0 ..	145 0	155 0 ..	0 0
Ammonia, Carbonate, per lb.	0 5¾ ..	0 6	0 5 ..	0 0
Sulphate .....per ton	260 0 ..	290 0	280 0 ..	300 0
Antimony, ore	160 0 ..	180 0	200 0 ..	230 0
crude .....per cwt	26 0 ..	0 0	22 0 ..	23 0
regulus.....	36 0 ..	36 6	40 0 ..	0 0
French star	36 0 ..	36 6	39 0 ..	0 0
Arsenic, lump	15 0 ..	15 6	16 0 ..	17 0
powder	7 0 ..	7 3	6 6 ..	7 0
Bleaching powder.....	13 0 ..	13 6	9 6 ..	10 0
Borax, East India refined..	0 0 ..	0 0	0 0 ..	0 0
British	56 0 ..	0 0	56 0 ..	0 0
Calomel .....per lb.	2 10 ..	0 0	0 0 ..	2 9
Camphor, refined	1 3 ..	1 4	1 7 ..	1 10
Copperas, green ....per ton	50 0 ..	52 6	57 6 ..	60 0
Corrosive Sublimate, per lb.	2 4 ..	0 0	1 11 ..	0 0
Green Emerald	0 0 ..	0 0	0 0 ..	0 0
Brunswick.... per cwt.	0 0 ..	0 0	0 0 ..	0 0
CHEMICALS.	1864.	1864.	1863.	1863.
	s. d. ..	s. d.	s. d. ..	s. d.
Iodine, dry ..... per oz.	0 6½ ..	0 0	0 4½ ..	0 4¾
Magnesia, Carbon per cwt...	42 6 ..	45 0	42 6 ..	45 0
Calcined . per lb.	1 6 ..	1 8	1 6 ..	1 8
Minium, red ..... per cwt.	21 0 ..	24 0	21 3 ..	21 6
orange	32 6 ..	33 0	32 0 ..	33 0
Potash, Bichromate per lb.	0 7 ..	0 0	0 8¾ ..	0 9
Chlorate	1 1 ..	0 0	0 11½ ..	0 0
Hydriodate..per oz.	0 6 ..	0 6½	0 4½ ..	0 5
Prussiate....per lb.	0 11½ ..	0 11¾	0 11½ ..	0 0
red	1 10 ..	1 11	1 11 ..	0 0
Precipitate, red .... per lb.	2 11 ..	0 0	2 9 ..	0 0
white	2 11 ..	0 0	2 9 ..	2 10
Prussian Blue	1 0 ..	1 10	1 0 ..	1 10
Rose Pink .....per cwt.	29 0 ..	0 0	29 0 ..	0 0
Sal-Acetos .....per lb.	1 0 ..	0 0	0 10¼ ..	0 10½
Sal-Ammoniac ....per cwt.				
British	35 0 ..	37 6	35 0 ..	37 0
Salts, Epsom	8 0 ..	8 6	8 0 ..	0 0
Glauber.....	5 0 ..	5 6	4 6 ..	5 6
Soda, Ash.....per deg.	0 2 ..	0 2¼	0 2 ..	0 0
Bicarbonate..per cwt.	11 9 ..	12 0	12 0 ..	13 0
Crystals .....per ton	95 0 ..	97 6	95 0 ..	0 0
Sugar Lead, white per cwt.	38 0 ..	39 0	37 0 ..	0 0
brown	28 0 ..	29 0	25 0 ..	0 0
Sulphate Quinine....per oz.				
British, in bottle ..	6 3 ..	6 6	6 6 ..	0 0
Foreign	5 10 ..	5 11	6 3 ..	0 0
Sulphate Zinc.....per cwt.	14 6 ..	15 0	14 6 ..	15 0
Verdigris.....per lb.	0 11 ..	1 0	0 10½ ..	1 0
Vermilion, English	2 8 ..	3 4	2 8 ..	3 0
China	3 0 ..	3 2	2 0 ..	2 1
Vitriol, blue or Rom. per ct.	31 0 ..	32 0	30 0 ..	31 0
COCHINEAL, per lb.				
Honduras, black	3 3 ..	4 8	2 9 ..	4 3
silver	2 6 ..	3 6	1 8 ..	3 6
Mexican, black	3 2 ..	3 4	2 10 ..	3 2
silver	3 0 ..	3 2	2 8 ..	2 10
Lima.....	0 0 ..	0 0	2 8 ..	3 1
Teneriffe, black.....	3 4 ..	3 10	2 11 ..	3 4
silver	3 1 ..	3 3	2 9 ..	2 11
DRUGS,				
Aloes, Hepatic ....per cwt.	100 0 ..	170 0	100 0 ..	180 0
Socotrine	170 0 ..	300 0	120 0 ..	280 0
Cape, good	45 0 ..	49 0	43 0 ..	45 0
inferior.....	30 0 ..	44 0	26 0 ..	40 0
Barbadoes	50 0 ..	380 0	50 0 ..	360 0
Ambergris, grey ....per oz.	15 0 ..	18 0	15 0 ..	20 0
Angelica Root ....per cwt.	20 0 ..	35 0	20 0 ..	35 0
Aniseed, China star.....	120 0 ..	130 0	110 0 ..	115 0
German, &c.	24 0 ..	39 0	19 0 ..	38 0
Balsam, Canada ....per lb.	0 10 ..	0 11	1 0 ..	1 1
Capivi	1 9 ..	1 10	1 3½ ..	1 5
Peru.....	4 9 ..	4 11	4 9 ..	4 10
Tolu.....	3 10 ..	3 11	4 0 ..	4 3
Bark, Cascarilla....per cwt.	25 0 ..	36 0	20 0 ..	40 0
Peru, crown & grey per lb.	0 10 ..	2 3	0 10 ..	2 2
Calisaya, flat	3 0 ..	3 6	3 6 ..	3 8
quill.....	2 9 ..	3 3	3 0 ..	3 4
Carthagena.....	1 2 ..	2 0	1 2 ..	1 8
Pitayo	1 7 ..	2 4	1 7 ..	2 6
Red	2 6 ..	9 0	2 6 ..	8 0
Bay Berries.....per cwt.	0 0 ..	0 0	22 0 ..	40 0
Bucca Leaves.....per lb.	0 3 ..	0 11	0 2½ ..	1 6
Camomile Flowers	25 0 ..	105 0	25 0 ..	65 0
Camphor, China	90 0 ..	92 6	117 6 ..	130 0
Canella alba	23 0 ..	35 0	19 0 ..	38 0
Cantharides .....per lb.	2 4 ..	2 6	2 2 ..	2 4
Cardamoms, Malabar, good	5 6 ..	6 6	5 9 ..	6 4
inferior	4 0 ..	5 6	5 0 ..	5 4
Madras	2 9 ..	4 6	3 5 ..	5 0
Ceylon.....	5 0 ..	5 5	4 3 ..	4 7
Cassia Fistula.....per cwt.	14 0 ..	22 0	20 0 ..	45 0
Castor Oil, 1st pale ..per lb.	0 5½ ..	0 7	0 5½ ..	0 6
2nd	0 4½ ..	0 5½	0 4½ ..	0 5
inferior and dark	0 4½ ..	0 4½	0 4½ ..	0 4½
Bombay, in casks	0 4½ ..	0 4¾	0 4 ..	0 4¾
Castorum.....	1 0 ..	20 0	1 0 ..	20 0
China Root .....per cwt.	17 0 ..	24 0	12 0 ..	15 0
Cocculus Indicus	20 0 ..	24 0	11 0 ..	13 0
Cod Liver Oil .....per gal.	6 0 ..	12 0	5 0 ..	7 3
Colocynth, apple ....per lb.	0 6½ ..	0 11	0 7 ..	1 0
Colombo Root ....per cwt.	90 0 ..	120 0	50 0 ..	75 0
Cream Tartar				
French.....	109 0 ..	110 0	112 6 ..	0 0
Venetian	110 0 ..	112 6	115 0 ..	0 0
grey	95 0 ..	100 0	100 0 ..	105 0
brown	85 0 ..	92 6	97 6 ..	102 6
Croton Seed	70 0 ..	85 0	50 0 ..	55 0
Cubebs.....	97 6 ..	105 0	105 0 ..	110 0
Cummin Seed.....	27 0 ..	34 0	26 0 ..	35 0
Dragon's blood reed.....	200 0 ..	300 0	200 0 ..	300 0
lump	90 0 ..	260 0	95 0 ..	260 0
Galangal Root	18 0 ..	19 0	18 0 ..	20 0
Gentian Root.....	0 0 ..	0 0	18 0 ..	19 0
Guinea Grains .... per cwt.	49 0 ..	53 0	60 0 ..	70 0
Honey, Narbonne	40 0 ..	80 0	50 0 ..	80 0
Cuba.....	26 0 ..	38 0	24 0 ..	36 0
Jamaica	27 0 ..	63 0	20 0 ..	65 0
Ipecacuanha .....per lb.	7 0 ..	7 3	6 4 ..	6 6
Isinglass, Brazil	1 10 ..	4 6	0 10 ..	3 8
East India	0 6 ..	4 3	0 9 ..	3 0
West India	3 2 ..	3 4	3 0 ..	3 3
Russian	9 6 ..	11 0	9 6 ..	13 0
Jalap.....	0 9 ..	5 4	0 9 ..	4 4

DRUGS—*continued.*	1864.		1864.		1863.		1863.	
Juniper Berries .....per cwt.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
German and French ..	6	0 ..	9	0	8	0 ..	9	0
Italian	8	0 ..	10	0	8	0 ..	10	0
Lemon Juice .....per dcg.	0	0½ ..	0	0¾	0	0½ ..	0	0
Liquorice .....per cwt.		..						
Spanish	80	0 ..	83	0	80	0 ..	88	0
Italian	55	0 ..	70	0	80	0 ..	85	0
Manna, flaky	2	7 ..	2	0	3	0 ..	3	6
small	1	4 ..	0	0	1	6 ..	0	0
Musk .....per oz.	18	0 ..	34	0	19	0 ..	27	0
Nux Vomica	10	0 ..	12	6	10	6 ..	12	0
Opium, Turkey	17	0 ..	18	6	17	6 ..	19	0
Egyptian	10	0 ..	16	0	8	0 ..	11	6
Orris Root .....per cwt.	26	0 ..	30	0	26	0 ..	30	0
Pink Root ..... per lb.	3	0 ..	3	6	2	0 ..	3	0
Quassia (bitter wood) per ton	35	0 ..	105	0	180	0 ..	0	0
Rhatany Root .....per lb.	1	0 ..	1	3	0	8 ..	2	1
Rhubarb, China, round	2	9 ..	6	0	1	6 ..	4	0
flat	3	6 ..	6	3	1	8 ..	4	8
Dutch, trimmed ..	0	0 ..	0	0	5	6 ..	6	0
Russian	12	6 ..	13	0	12	6 ..	13	0
Saffron, Spanish	28	0 ..	33	0	36	0 ..	40	0
Salep..... per cwt.	140	0 ..	145	0	180	0 ..	140	0
Sarsaparilla, Lima	1	0 ..	1	5	0	10 ..	1	4
Para	0	11 ..	1	2	0	9 ..	1	1
Honduras	0	11 ..	1	6	0	8 ..	1	3
Jamaica	1	6 ..	2	3	1	2 ..	2	2
Sassafras .....per cwt.	14	0 ..	15	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Scammony, virgin ..per lb.	32	0 ..	38	0	27	0 ..	36	0
second	12	0 ..	23	0	12	0 ..	23	0
Seneka Root	3	0 ..	3	3	3	3 ..	3	6
Senna, Calcutta	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Bombay	0	3½ ..	0	5	0	2 ..	0	3½
Tinnevelly	0	4 ..	1	6	0	3 ..	1	4
Alexandria	0	8½ ..	0	8	0	3½ ..	0	8
Snake Root	4	6 ..	0	0	2	9 ..	3	0
Spermaceti, refined	1	0 ..	1	1	1	0 ..	1	1
Squills	0	0¾ ..	0	2½	0	1½ ..	0	2½
Tamarinds, E. India, per cwt.	20	0 ..	22	0	12	0 ..	13	6
West India	17	0 ..	30	0	17	0 ..	27	0
Terra Japonica—								
Gambier ....per cwt.	26	0 ..	30	0	19	6 ..	24	0
Cutch	24	0 ..	25	0	24	0 ..	25	6
Valerian Root, English	20	0 ..	30	0	20	0 ..	40	0
Vanilla, Mexican.....per lb.	26	0 ..	38	0	23	0 ..	33	0
Wormseed.....per cwt.	11	0 ..	12	0	2	0 ..	0	0
GUM .....per cwt.								
Ammoniac, drop.....	100	0 ..	120	0	100	0 ..	120	0
lump	30	0 ..	85	0	15	0 ..	65	0
Animi, fine pale	200	0 ..	210	0	220	0 ..	250	0
bold amber.....	190	0 ..	220	0	190	0 ..	210	0
medium	160	0 ..	180	0	160	0 ..	180	0
small and dark	100	0 ..	150	0	100	0 ..	150	0
ordinary dark	40	0 ..	05	0	50	0 ..	95	0
Arabic, E. I., fine pale picked	80	0 ..	90	0	56	0 ..	63	0
unsorted, good to fine	64	0 ..	76	0	38	0 ..	54	0
red and mixed	50	0 ..	60	0	26	0 ..	30	0
siftings	25	0 ..	40	0	15	0 ..	25	0
Turkey, picked, good to fine	120	0 ..	160	0	115	0 ..	180	0
second and inferior.	65	0 ..	110	0	48	0 ..	110	0
in sorts	32	0 ..	50	0	32	0 ..	50	0
Gedda.....	33	0 ..	37	0	25	0 ..	28	0
Barbary, white	57	0 ..	64	0	50	0 ..	54	0
brown	45	0 ..	50	0	36	0 ..	38	0
Australian.....	30	0 ..	35	0	20	0 ..	28	0
Assafœtida, fair to good	38	0 ..	75	0	30	0 ..	112	6
Benjamin, 1st quality	350	0 ..	850	0	850	0 ..	630	0
2nd ,, ...	280	0 ..	300	0	260	0 ..	300	0
3rd ,, ...	50	0 ..	240	0	50	0 ..	240	0
Copal, Angola, red	85	0 ..	90	0	90	0 ..	95	0
pale	85	0 ..	90	0	80	0 ..	100	0
Benguela	70	0 ..	00	0	75	0 ..	90	0
Sierra Leone .. per '.	0	4 ..	1	0	0	4 ..	1	6
Manilla.....per cwt.	25	0 ..	50	0	22	0 ..	44	6
Dammar, pale .....per cwt.	35	0 ..	45	0	36	0 ..	42	0
Galbanum	100	0 ..	120	0	100	0 ..	120	0
Gamboge, picked, pipe	150	0 ..	190	0	160	0 ..	190	0
in sorts	80	0 ..	140	0	90	0 ..	140	0
Guaiacum.....per lb,	0	6 ..	1	6	0	6 ..	1	6
Kino ..... per cwt.	320	0 ..	500	0	220	0 ..	280	0
Kowrie	20	0 ..	40	0	34	0 ..	40	0
Mastic, picked ..... per lb.	4	6 ..	5	0	5	0 ..	6	0
Myrrh, gd. and fine, per cwt.	140	0 ..	180	0	150	0 ..	170	0
sorts.....	70	0 ..	130	0	70	0 ..	130	0
Ollbanum, pale drop	73	0 ..	80	0	70	0 ..	80	0
amber and yellow	58	0 ..	70	0	48	0 ..	65	0
mixed and dark..	18	0 ..	40	0	16	0 ..	35	0
Senegal	75	0 ..	80	0	43	0 ..	50	0
Sandrac	80	0 ..	97	0	82	0 ..	107	0
Tragacanth, leaf	180	0 ..	260	0	180	0 ..	300	0
in sorts	100	0 ..	130	0	100	0 ..	130	0
OILS.....per tun	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.
Seal	42	0 ..	49	0	42	0 ..	46	10
Sperm, body.....	66	0 ..	68	0	80	0 ..	82	0
Cod	51	0 ..	52	0	53	10 ..	54	0
Whale, Greenland	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
South Sea, pale.....	42	0 ..	48	0	43	10 ..	44	0
East India Fish.....	37	0 ..	40	0	38	10 ..	0	0
Olive, Galipoll ..... per ton	61	0 ..	62	0	58	10 ..	60	0
Florence, half-chest ..	20	0 ..	21	0	1	0 ..	1	1
Coccanut, Cochin ..per cwt.	40	0 ..	40	6	47	6 ..	48	0
Ceylon	37	6 ..	38	6	46	0 ..	46	6
Sydney	34	0 ..	38	0	40	0 ..	46	6
Ground Nut and Gin.								
Bombay	38	6 ..	39	0	42	0 ..	0	0

OILS—*continued.*	1864.		1864.		1863.		1863.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Madras .....per cwt.	35	0 ..	39	0	44	0 ..	0	0
Palm, fine	35	0 ..	36	0	36	6 ..	37	0
Linseed	36	6 ..	37	0	44	9 ..	0	0
Rapeseed, English, pale	40	0 ..	45	6	45	0 ..	0	0
brown	42	6 ..	43	0	43	0 ..	0	0
Foreign ditto	46	6 ..	47	0	45	6 ..	0	0
brown	42	6 ..	43	0	43	0 ..	0	0
Lard	46	6 ..	47	0	44	0 ..	0	0
Tallow	41	0 ..	41	6	29	0 ..	40	0
Rock Crude ..... per ton	18	10 ..	10	0	19	0 ..	19	10
OILS, Essential—								
Almond, essential ....per lb.	10	0 ..	0	0	19	0 ..	0	0
expressed	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Anlseed	6	4 ..	16	5	5	8 ..	0	0
Bay .....per cwt.	110	0 ..	120	0	110	0 ..	120	0
Bergamot .....per lb.	7	0 ..	10	0	7	0 ..	10	6
Cajeputa, (in bond) ..per oz.	0	2½ ..	0	2¾	0	2½ ..	0	2¾
Caraway .....per lb.	4	3 ..	5	6	4	3 ..	5	6
Cassia	9	0 ..	9	3	7	9 ..	7	10
Cinnamon (in bond) ..per oz.	0	9 ..	3	0	1	6 ..	3	6
Cinnamon Leaf	0	2 ..	0	4½	0	2 ..	0	4½
Citronel	0	5½ ..	0	6¾	0	4¾ ..	0	5½
Clove	0	2 ..	0	4	0	2 ..	0	4
Croton	0	9 ..	1	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Juniper.....per lb.	1	10 ..	3	0	1	10 ..	3	0
Lavender	2	6 ..	4	6	2	6 ..	4	6
Lemon	5	6 ..	7	0	4	0 ..	9	0
Lemongrass.....per oz.	0	10½ ..	0	11	0	7½ ..	0	9
Mace, ex.	0	2 ..	0	3½	0	1½ ..	0	2
Neroli	5	0 ..	6	6	5	0 ..	7	0
Nutmeg	0	1 ..	0	2½	0	1 ..	0	2
Orange .....per lb.	5	6 ..	6	9	5	0 ..	6	6
Otto of Roses .....per oz.	16	0 ..	24	0	14	0 ..	22	0
Peppermint, per lb.								
American	9	0 ..	12	9	3	6 ..	15	6
English	34	0 ..	36	0	33	0 ..	36	0
Rhodium .....per oz.	0	0 ..	0	0	3	6 ..	5	6
Rosemary .....per lb.	0	0 ..	0	0	1	8 ..	3	0
Sassafras	3	9 ..	4	0	3	0 ..	4	0
Spearmint	5	0 ..	8	0	5	0 ..	8	6
Spike	0	0 ..	0	0	1	3 ..	1	6
Thyme	0	0 ..	0	0	1	0 ..	2	3
PITCH, British .....per cwt.	12	0 ..	0	0	12	0 ..	0	0
Swedish	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
SALTPETRE, per cwt.								
English, 6 per cent. or under	31	0 ..	32	6	38	0 ..	39	0
over 6 per cent.	30	0 ..	30	6	36	6 ..	37	6
Madras	29	6 ..	30	6	35	0 ..	37	0
Bombay.....	29	0 ..	30	0	34	0 ..	36	6
British-refined	35	0 ..	36	0	40	0 ..	41	0
Nitrate of soda.....	15	6 ..	16	6	15	6 ..	16	0
SEED, Canary .....per qr.	52	0 ..	58	0	38	0 ..	50	0
Caraway, English .. per cwt.	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
German, &c.	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Coriander	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
East India.....	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Hemp.....	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Linseed, Black Sea.....	60	0 ..	0	0	65	0 ..	66	0
Calcutta	60	0 ..	66	0	66	0 ..	68	0
Bombay	64	0 ..	67	0	70	0 ..	72	6
Egyptian	62	0 ..	0	0	62	0 ..	64	0
Mustard, brown....per bshl.	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
white	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Poppy, East India....per qr.	54	0 ..	55	0	57	0 ..	0	0
Rape, English	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Danube	0	0 ..	0	0	64	0 ..	0	0
Calcutta fine.....	60	0 ..	61	0	58	0 ..	60	0
Bombay	66	0 ..	67	0	60	0 ..	66	0
Teel, Sesmy or Gngy.....	60	0 ..	65	0	60	0 ..	68	0
Cotton .....per ton	150	0 ..	155	0	155	0 ..	160	0
Ground Nut Kernels per ton	300	0 ..	0	0	340	0 ..	0	0
SOAP, London yel. .. per cwt.	20	0 ..	34	0	22	0 ..	36	0
mottled	34	0 ..	36	0	36	0 ..	38	0
curd	46	0 ..	50	0	50	0 ..	0	0
Castile	40	0 ..	41	0	40	0 ..	41	0
Marseilles	40	0 ..	42	0	40	0 ..	42	0
Soy, China .....per gal.	2	9 ..	3	0	2	1 ..	2	3
Japan	1	5 ..	0	0	0	10 ..	1	0
Sponge, Turkey, fine picked	19	0 ..	23	0	20	0 ..	24	0
fair to good	7	0 ..	17	0	8	0 ..	18	0
ordinary ..	2	6 ..	6	0	3	0 ..	6	0
Bahama ..	0	4 ..	1	3	0	3 ..	1	3
TURPENTINE. Rough, per ct.	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Spirits, French	68	0 ..	69	0	65	0 ..	66	0
American, in casks	0	0 ..	0	0	100	0 ..	0	0
WAX, Bees, English	170	0 ..	175	0	170	0 ..	175	0
German	162	6 ..	185	0	162	6 ..	180	0
American	175	0 ..	0	0	165	0 ..	175	0
white fine	0	0 ..	0	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Jamaica	185	0 ..	107	6	165	0 ..	175	0
Gambia	175	0 ..	195	0	170	0 ..	175	0
Mogadore	130	0 ..	167	6	130	0 ..	155	0
East India.....	150	0 ..	180	0	140	0 ..	180	0
ditto, bleached	200	0 ..	240	0	170	0 ..	230	0
vegetable, Japan	56	0 ..	66	0	64	0 ..	75	0
WOOD, Dye, per ton								
Fustic, Cuba.....	160	0 ..	165	0	145	0 ..	155	0
Jamaica	125	0 ..	130	0	120	0 ..	140	0
Savanilla	125	0 ..	0	0	115	0 ..	0	0
Zante	140	0 ..	150	0	0	0 ..	0	0
Logwood, Campeachy	190	0 ..	200	0	195	0 ..	195	0
Honduras ..	105	0 ..	110	0	125	0 ..	130	0
St. Domingo	90	0 ..	0	0	95	0 ..	100	0
Jamaica	40	0 ..	82	6	85	0 ..	90	0