

the microscope. Externally it is brown and wrinkled; internally, of a grayish color, diversified by darker concentric circles, in which the matter is denser and harder than in the intervening spaces. The odour of the root, when cut or broken, is heavy, sweetish, and rather nauseous. The taste is sweetish, somewhat acrid, and disagreeable.

Tampico Jalap is distinguished by the name of the port from which it comes, differing from the true jalap, which is brought exclusively from Vera Cruz. The botanical source is unknown, but, from its resemblance to the true jalap, it is evidently the product of a plant belonging to the same family of *Convolvulaceae*. The odour of Tampico jalap is said to resemble that of peat, and is very persistent, being perceptible even in the extract and resin. It is much inferior to the true jalap.

Mechoacan is a native of Mexico and the Southern States, and is sometimes found as an adulteration in true jalap. The plant producing it has been conjectured to be the *Ipomea Macrorrhiza* of Michaux, but the origin is quite uncertain, and Guibourt states that what is sold in Europe under the name of Mechoacan, is certainly the product of *Asclepias Contrayerva* of the Mexican flora. It is in circular slices or fragments of various shapes, white and farinaceous within, and as found in the European markets, generally destitute of bark, of which, however, portions of a yellowish color sometimes continue to adhere. The larger slices are sometimes marked with faint concentric striae, and upon the exterior surface are brown spots, and ligneous points, left by the radicles after removal. Though tasteless when first taken into the mouth, it becomes after a time slightly acrid. It is feebly purgative.

Male Jalap. Fusiform Jalap. Jalap Stalks.—A drug formerly known as spurious jalap, in our markets, sometimes comes mingled with the genuine, and has been imported unmixed, in mistake for that root. It has been named *Convolvulus origabensis*, from the city of Origaba, in the vicinity of which it grows. It is described as being in circular pieces, two or three inches in diameter, or longer or more slender sections. The shape of the pieces is often such as to indicate that the root was sliced transversely, and each circular piece divided vertically into quarters. The horizontal cut surface is dark brown, from exposure, unequal from the greater shrinking in dessication of some parts than others, and presents extremities of numerous fibres, which are often concentrically arranged, and run in the longitudinal direction of the root. Internally the color is grayish, and the texture, though much less compact than that of the genuine, is sometimes, almost ligneous. The taste is at first slight, but after a time becomes somewhat acrid and nauseous. It has cathartic powers somewhat similar to the true jalap, but much feebler.

Rose-scented Jalap; Overgrown Jalap.—A false jalap was some years since imported from Mexico into New York, and offered for sale under the name of overgrown jalap. It was in light, entire, or vertically sliced tubers, of different form and magnitude, spindle-shaped, ovate and kidney-form; some as much as six inches long and three thick, others much smaller, externally

somewhat wrinkled, with broad, flattish, light-brown ridges, and shallow, darker furrows; internally greyish-white, with distant dark concentric circles, sometimes uniformly amylaceous, of a dull rough fracture, a loose texture, a slight, peculiar and sweetish odor, and a feeble jalap-like taste. The root differs from Mechoacan by the absence of rootlets, and from male jalap by the want of fibrous structure. A similar root was described by Guibourt, by the name of rose-scented jalap. It was brought from Mexico to France mixed with the genuine jalap. It proved equally inefficacious as a purgative, and probably had the same origin.

Another variety of false jalap, is described as being a tuberous root, resembling in shape, color, and size, the butternut, or fruit of *Juglans cinerea*, being black or nearly so, externally, dull over most of the surface, but glossy in spots, with deep longitudinal incisions. Internally yellowish or yellowish white, with a horny fracture, and upon the transversely cut surface marked with sparse dots, as if from delicate fibers. It contains no resin, and appears to be inert.

Three other tubers are described by Guibourt, which have been offered in the market for jalap; one named *false jalap of New Orleans*, because imported into France from that city; the second, *digitate jalap*, from the arrangement of its component tubers, and the *radiated false jalap*, from the stellate appearance of its cut surface.

X.—*Tinct. ferri perchloridi* is incompatible with the alkalies and alkaline earths and their carbonates; solutions containing weak acids, as sulphurous or hypophosphorous; tannic and gallic acids, and astringent vegetable infusions or tinctures; acetate of lead; nitrate of silver, and mucilage of gum arabic.

ORDER OF MERIT.

Number of Marks awarded for Answers.

QUESTIONS—	I.	II.	III.	IV.	V.	VI.	VII.	VIII.	IX.	X.	Total.
1. W. A. C., Orono.....	10	9	5	10	10	10	10	10	10	7	91
2. P. Jackes, Toronto.....	8	1	10	10	10	10	10	10	6	10	85
3. H. MacLagan, Lindsay.....	10	1	5	10	9	5	10	8	10	10	78
4. G. McIntyre, London.....	8	5	5	10	10	1	10	8	7	7	71
6. W. M. Rose, Toronto.....	10	5	5	10	9	1	10	7	6	8	71
5. C. E. Scarff, Woodstock.....	10	0	10	10	9	2	5	2	4	8	60
7. E. B. Borland, Fenelon Falls	1	1	2	10	1	1	10	10	7	8	51

Notes and Queries.

J. J. Hall, Woodstock.—You will find the Constitution and By-laws in the July number of the JOURNAL for the present year. They have not been issued in a separate form, or we should have sent you a copy.

STUDENT wants to know what is, in our opinion, the best way to make MAGENTA DYE and TINCT. FERRI MURIAS. The latter compound he has seen prepared with ferri subcarb. and acid. hydrochloric, and asks if this is the proper formula for the tincture used in Canada.

MAGENTA DYE.

Magenta crystals..... $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. (avoir.)
 Alcohol..... 1 pint (wine.)
 Dissolve the magenta by agitation with the spirit, and add
 Water..... 1 pint (wine.)

TINCT. FERRI MUR.

This tincture is no longer known, in Canada, by the name by which you have designated it. Since the publication of the British Pharmacopoeia of 1864, its name, as well as the mode of its preparation, have been changed, although the composition of *Tinct. Ferri Perchloridi*, as it is now called, is identical with that of the older preparation. The method of preparation is described in the British Pharmacopoeia, which work you do not seem to have, but should, by all means, procure. In the meantime we transcribe the process for your benefit:—A preparatory step is the preparation of *Liquor ferri perchloridi fort.*, which is made by mixing 8 fluid ounces of hydrochloric acid, sp. gr. 1.16, with an equal bulk of water, and dissolving therein, by means of a gentle heat, two ounces of iron wire. Filter the solution, and add to it four fluid ounces of hydrochloric acid, and nine fluid drachms of nitric acid, heat the mixture briskly until on the sudden evolution of red fumes, the liquid becomes of an orange brown color; finally evaporate by the heat of a water bath until the bulk is reduced to ten fluid ounces. This is the official process, but we should advise you to bring the filtered liquid to which the additional hydrochloric acid is added, to a boiling temperature before adding the nitric acid, and to add the latter carefully, and by small portions at a time, until it no longer produces effervescence. This will have occurred when the liquid assumes a clear reddish color. A porcelain, or wedgewood vessel will be required, and it should be of at least double the capacity occupied by the liquid. This solution should not throw down a precipitate on being tested with red prussiate of potash.

For making the tincture, this solution should be diluted with three times its bulk of rectified spirit; this will form the tincture of muriate of iron in use in Canada, or at least that which should be used.

ONTARIO COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

MONTHLY MEETING.

The regular monthly meeting assembled at the usual place, on Friday evening, 2nd inst., when the minutes of last meeting were read and adopted, and the following new members were elected:

- S. T. Chamberlain.....Strathroy.
- W. P. Conklin.....Tilsonburg.