

found not only through Great Britain but her colonies. The chemist to the Liverpool house is Michael Conroy, F. C. S., who is not, however, a pharmaceutical chemist, but his long and practical experience in pharmacy, as met with in its varied forms in a large wholesale house, together with an immense analytical experience, has made him quite an authority among pharmacists.

I notice that Messrs. Blondeau et Cie have extended their field of operations with their "Vinolia" preparations to the United States, where at 73 and 75, Watts street, New York, their specialties may be obtained. The success of this energetic firm has been phenomenal. Hardly three years ago their first preparation, the "Vinolia" cream, was introduced as a remedy for itching, eczema, acne, &c., and was a pronounced success. Then, taking up a suggestion of Dr. Alder Wright's as to the manufacture of an ideal soap, one containing an excess of fatty matter instead alkali, they produced the "Vinolia" soap. This soap bids fair to become as well known as that of Messrs. Pears', if the firm continue their present course of enormous advertising in artistic style. They have also introduced a "Vinolia" powder for the nursery and toilet. A characteristic of their products is the beautiful *recherche* style in which they are got up. But perhaps the most satisfactory feature to druggists is the care which they take that their goods shall not be "cut," and the energetic efforts that are made to keep the "Vinolia" articles in the legitimate channels. To this as well as to their enterprise in advertising, most of their success with druggists is due. I shall expect soon to see that they have still further extended their productions to the Dominion.

ENGLISH MARKET REPORT.

London, Nov. 28, 1891.

There has not been much alteration in the state of both drug and chemical markets during the past month. The demand all round is fairly active and prices are maintained, but there are few special advances to record. Perhaps the principal feature in chemicals is the extraordinary state of mercurials, where during the last fortnight prices have been receding whilst quicksilver has advanced. This is due to the combination of English manufacturers having reduced their figures to cut out a French firm who were previously underselling them. How long this war of rates will continue is doubtful, but the general impression is that the step is unwise on the part of the home firms as their losses will be much greater than the few orders that might have been transferred to France. In drugs a decided improvement has taken place in ergot, of which there is a short supply, and it will probably go much higher. Ipecacuanha is steadily maintained at its high price and jalap is in a similar position. Quinine is quiet and cinchona dull. Opium in better odor, but at previous rates.

CHEMICALS.

Acid citric	per lb.	\$ 31
" oxalic	"	7
" tartaric	"	26
Cream tartar	"	20
Mercury	"	38
" perchloride	"	58
" subchloride	"	74
Potash bichromate	"	8
" chlorate	"	11
" cyanide	"	52
Sal ammoniac per cwt		\$ 45
Soda bicarbonate	"	1 88
" caustic	"	2 64
" crystals	"	76

DRUGS.

Aloes barb.	per lb.	\$ 16
Bals. tolu	"	32
Peru	"	1 20
Camphor	"	35
Cascara	"	6
Ergot Spanish	"	58
Ipecacuanha	"	1 98
Jalap	"	40
Oil aniseed	"	1 52
" cassia	"	80
peppermint H G	"	3 38
Opium	"	1 96
Quinine, German,	per oz.	19
Shellac	per lb.	20

Artificial Ivory.

The *Journal of Invention* describes the following patent, recently taken out for manufacturing artificial ivory. The process is based upon the employment of those materials, of which natural ivory is composed, consisting, as it does, of tribasic phosphate of lime, calcium carbonate, magnesia, alumina, gelatine and albumen. To prepare artificial ivory by this process, quicklime is first treated with sufficient water to convert it into the hydrate, but before it has become completely hydrated or "slaked," an aqueous solution of phosphoric acid is poured on to it; and while stirring the mixture the calcium carbonate, magnesia and alumina are incorporated in small quantities at a time; and, lastly, the gelatine and albumen dissolved in water are added. The point to aim at is to obtain a compost sufficiently plastic and as intimately mixed as possible. It is then set aside to allow the phosphoric acid to complete its action upon the chalk. The following day the mixture, while still plastic, is pressed into the desired form in moulds, and dried in a current of air at a temperature of about 150° C. To complete the preparation of the artificial product by this process, it is kept for three or four weeks, during which time it becomes perfectly hard. The following are the proportions for the mixture, which can be colored by the addition of aniline, lacquer, or any suitable substance:—

Quicklime	100 parts
Water	300 parts
Phosphoric acid solution (1.05 sp. gr.)	75 parts
Calcium carbonate	16 parts
Magnesia	1 to 2 parts
Alumina (precipitated)	5 parts
Gelatine	15 parts

—*L'Industriel du Nord.*

Celastrine has been discovered by Mosso in *Celastrus edulis*. It is a stimulant which Mosso thinks may prove superior to cocaine.

Opium in Canada.

The Minister of Customs' at Ottawa, figures show that 157,000 pounds of crude opium for refining purposes were imported into Canada during the year ending June 30.

An idea of the increased demand for the refined material may be formed from the fact that in 1880 only 5,000 pounds of crude opium were brought into the country, increasing in 1886 to 82,000 pounds, while the quantity imported this year shows an increase of 23% over 1890.

Canada imposes no restrictions upon the refining of opium, while the United States Government practically prohibits the manufacture of the refined article. The United States law strictly prohibits any one other than a citizen of the country engaging in its manufacture, and as it requires an expert to work up the crude material, Chinamen as a rule are the only ones who can successfully carry on the business. While the United States impose an excise duty of \$10 per pound on the refined opium, Canada permits the manufacture without any excise duty. The United States officers have pointed out that the opium habit in Canada is now keeping pace with its growth in the United States, which any druggist on that side of the line will admit. They have suggested that the Dominion Government has the remedy in its own hands, namely, curtailing the production and the imposition of an excise duty. It is pointed out that based upon the present production of the refined material a revenue of from \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 could be raised.

Two prominent officials of the Inland Revenue Department agree that some such step is in the interest of morality, if desirable for no other purpose.

The business of refining opium in Canada has so suddenly sprung into existence that the government until now, does not appear to have realized its magnitude, or the fact that it was by lack of more stringent laws, encouraging an industry that was not only flooding the United States against their own revenue laws with one of the most dangerous of drugs, but was assisting in the cultivation of one of the most vicious evils in Canada.

Several gentlemen, pretty high in Canadian circles say, there is little room for doubting that Parliament will take some decided action in the matter during the coming session.—*O., P. & D. Review.*

The Sequah Medicine Co.

44 FARRINGTON ST., LONDON, ENG.,

Has established an Agency for the sale of their goods at 12 Goyeau St., WINDSOR, ONT. Druggists having enquiries for these goods can obtain "SEQUIAH'S PRAIRIE FLOWER," "SEQUIAH'S OIL," and "SEQUIAH'S INSTANT RELIEF," by addressing the above agency.