

DR. DAVID (*Journal de Pharmacie et de Chimie*) gives the following as the composition of modeling or impression compound :

Stearin, - - - - -	25	grams.
Copal, semi soft, - - - - -	25	grams.
Talcum, powdered, - - - - -	50	grams.
Carmine, coloring, - - - - -	0.5	grams.
Oil, rose geranium, - - - - -	6	drops.

—*Cosmes.*

THE LITERARY SIDE.—Under the title, "The Literary Side of our Profession," Dr. Wm. H. Steele, in the *Dental Register* deals with the advantages that would accrue to the dentist if he early formed the habit of systematic professional reading and writing. The young dentist starts out frequently with good resolutions in this respect, but as his practice grows and other interests crowd in, the reading is dropped, and he becomes a "back number." Dr. Steele uses as his text Bacon's famous words, "Reading makes the full man ; speaking makes the ready man, and writing makes the exact man." When the "back number" is asked to read a paper at a society meeting, he says, "I can't write ; I have enough ideas, but I can't put them on paper." Neither can a good crop be produced from an uncultivated field. Reading is the great cultivator of the human mind which prepares it for literary production, and it is impossible for one to be a good writer without being a reader. The truth of the third part of Lord Bacon's saying, "Writing makes the exact man," becomes apparent at once to the man who prepares a paper for any purpose. He arranges his thoughts, consults his authorities, and mindful that he will have to bear criticism, lops off the unnecessary word and retreats from the untenable position. Our dental journals offer good training ground for the young writer, and every young practitioner should avail himself of the advantages offered (for unless we begin writing when young, unfortunately we will not take to it when old) and contribute one or two articles a year upon some favorite subject which he is willing to take the time to investigate. As before said, he will be well compensated for his time and labor. When a man makes up his mind to write, his professional life assumes a new phase, the dogged treadmill of everyday sameness is gone, he has something to think of while pursuing his daily routine, he takes a new interest in looking for new features, his powers of observation and classification are receiving cultivation and his mind will grow and expand like a well-watered plant in the summer sunshine. The dentist located in a small country place thinks often that because he is not in the city, his opportunities are not so great for observing and keeping pace with the latest as his city brother ; but Dr. Steele points out