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IS BOTANY ESSENTIAL TO A PHARMACEUTICAL  
EDUCATION ?

BY "MONAD."

This question may claim kinship with such as "The Percentage System," "Early Closing" and "Physicians' Prescriptions," although it has not been abused to the same extent as some of the latter, probably because it is not thought to appeal so *directly* to the pharmacist's pocket. However, the question is one that is frequently put to, and asked by, those interested in pharmaceutical education, and is well worthy of our most careful consideration, not only because of the intrinsic value of the original question, but because its very existence is evidence of a state of opinion which is calculated to hinder our improvement in pharmacy.

In following his profession, the pharmacist has to deal with an almost unlimited number of bodies from every department of nature, indeed there are few substances which may not directly or indirectly come within his province. The very number of these substances bespeaks an amount of careful observation which is far from trifling. If to this we add the influence many of these drugs have on the human system, and the important uses to which others are put in the arts; and if we also consider the position of the pharmacist—standing between the physician and the public—and take into account the fact, that the reputation and success of the physician depends very materially on the qualifications of the former, as the health and life