

Sidney Ringer. Following this article were others of a similar nature in the *Lancet*, and one in the London *Pharmaceutical Journal and Transactions*, April, 1880, from the pen of Dr. Holmes, on the "Botanical Origin of Tonga." Believing that Drs. Murrell and Ringer would never have investigated and published the result of their investigations of any drug without it was free from any contamination of a proprietary nature, Parke, Davis & Co. assumed that Tonga was common property. Acting on this assumption they dispatched a special messenger to the Fiji Islands, 7000 miles south-west of San Francisco. After a sojourn of six months he returned to Detroit in December, 1880, bringing with him a large supply of the drug. They at once put on the market a fluid extract of it, and advertised it extensively in the Medical Journals. Soon, however, they were notified by Ailen & Hanburys, of London, to discontinue the use of the word "Tonga," as it was a registered trade mark. This Parke, Davis & Co. declined to do, upon the ground that the name was that of a geographical locality, and therefore not patentable in the United States, and that the *only* name of an article, being the only specification by which the article itself is known or described, is the common property of all, and cannot be appropriated by any one individual to his sole and exclusive use. They, moreover, claim that the word "Tonga" is the name of a medicinal compound used by the natives of Peru. Not satisfied with this reply, the London firm, through their agents, Messrs. W. H. Schieffelin & Co., of New York, took out an action against Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. to restrain using the word "Tonga." The case went to suit, but as soon as the defense proved by two reliable witnesses that the word "Tonga" had long been known and applied both to natural products and medicinal preparations, the complainants on their own motion obtained an order of court to dismiss bill of complaint, with costs to be defrayed by themselves. We congratulate Parke, Davis & Co. on their triumph; they deserve the thanks of the profession for the stand which they took upon behalf of legitimate pharmaceutical preparations, the manufacture of which should be open to all pharmacists.

W. R. WARNER & CO.'S PREPARATIONS.

We have more than once felt it to be our duty as well as our privilege to speak most favorably of the pharmaceutical preparations made by William

R. Warner & Co., of Philadelphia. Our acquaintance with this firm justify us in giving to them an extended notice. The value to the physician of the pharmaceutical products of a known standard and value cannot be over-estimated. We have so many tinctures, extracts, pills, granule, and preparations of every description that are either wanting in strength or care of preparation, that the results obtained are disappointing to the practitioner, that when we find a reliable house they deserve encouragement. Wm. R. Warner & Co. have expended large sums in procuring and testing the value of new remedial agents; they have one of the finest and best equipped laboratories in the country, and were the first to introduce many of the recent preparations which have become of so much value, not one of which has failed to be of use. We have been using their different pills with great success, and heartily recommend them to the profession. The manufacturer of chemicals and pharmaceuticals, in these days, must make the most strenuous efforts in order to be in the advance which is constantly being made in the discovery of new agents, new methods of preparation, and their introduction under special and careful instructions to practitioners.

PERSONAL.

Dr. Mewburn (M.D., McGill, 1881), late clinical assistant in the Montreal General Hospital, has accepted an appointment as House Surgeon to the Winnipeg, Man., General Hospital, and has left Montreal to assume his duties.

Dr. Wilkins, Professor of Physiology and Pathology in the Medical Faculty of Bishop's College, has been appointed Examiner in Physiology and Pathology at the University of Toronto for the ensuing term.

Dr. Davis (M.D., Bishop's College, 1875) is resident assistant Surgeon in the Colonial General Hospital, Georgetown, Demerara.

Dr. Eneas (M.D., Bishop's College, 1874), after spending his leave of absence in Montreal, has left to resume his duties at Wakenam British Guiana.

Dr. W. C. McGillis (M.D., Bishop's College, 1881) is now on en route to Bakna, Java, Netherlands, India, a Dutch possession, where he intends to locate and practice.