

as the magnesium citrate. The present high price of citric acid seems to offer peculiar temptations to cheaper sophistications, such as sulphate of magnesium, as pointed out by Mr. Wm. R. Warner in his essay on page 397, vol. 39 (1867), of this journal. The retail price of 25 cents per bottle, which has been adopted in many pharmacies, of this city, in reality yields an entirely inadequate profit to the vender, while competition in many localities makes it difficult to obtain a higher rate. It would therefore seem to be in the interest of both druggists and physicians to make a trial of the new aperient under consideration, which promises to eclipse the now renowned citrate of magnesium.

Mr. Landschutz's formula for filling 14 of the ordinary 12-ounce citrate bottles is as follows:—

Dissolve 9 oz. crystallized tartaric acid, and 17 oz. crystallized carbonate of sodium, in about one quart of cold water.

Provided the acid is not moist, and the carbonate not effloresced, the above solution will be nearly neutral. In general, it is best to test it, and to neutralize it if necessary. Then dissolve it in 28 scruples bicarbonate of sodium. Filter, and add sufficient water to make the entire quantity measure 147 fluid ounces.

Make a syrup from

21 oz. best crushed sugar,

14 drachms crystallized tartaric acid,

10 oz. water. After cooling, add

1 drachm spirits of lemon, and mix thoroughly.

Measure $1\frac{1}{2}$ fluid ounces of this syrup into each of the 14 bottles. Then pour in slowly the first solution, carefully avoiding an admixture with the syrup; cork and tie each bottle as soon as filled. When this is carefully managed, but very little carbonic acid will escape.

Each bottle so prepared will contain about seven drachms of dry tartrate of sodium, which is a fair adult dose.

At present market rates the above ingredients will cost about five cents for the contents of each bottle, yielding a handsome and remunerative profit. The price, in fact is so low that it leaves no incentive towards substitutions or alteration of the formula.
