

able than the present, and we earnestly advise those who have completed their studies to enter the lists at once, ere they take upon themselves the more active duties of assistants.

UNIVERSAL PHARMACOPŒIA.

Through our English exchanges we learn that an Universal Pharmacopœia is in course of preparation, and will shortly be issued. This intelligence came rather suddenly, and was quite unexpected, as very few pharmacists, speaking the English tongue, appear to have had the slightest idea of any active efforts being made in this direction. From a paragraph which first appeared in the *Chemist and Druggist*, we learn that the following gentlemen are concerned in this important undertaking:—Dr. Phœbus, (Giessen), Signor Cantani, (Naples), Herr Flückiger, (Berne), M. Planchon, (Paris), Herr Schneider, (Vienna), M. Trapp, (St. Petersburg), M. Almén, (Upsala), M. Bruno Hirsch, (Grunberg), M. Theo. Husemann, (Göttingen), M. Oberdorffer, (Hamburg), M. Rieckher, (Marbach), and Dr. Thudichum, (London). The gentleman first named holds the presidency of this Council, or committee, and from the high standing enjoyed by each individual member, we may be assured that the forthcoming work will be of great scientific value.

At an evening meeting of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, held Nov. 6th, Dr. Attfield, after referring to the desirability of the undertaking, requested Dr. Thudichum to give some particulars of the nature and progress of the work. In reply, Dr. Thudichum said that the present effort originated with Dr. Phœbus, who, in 1867, had communicated the design to him. After alluding to the reasons which had actuated them to attempt the work, the speaker enumerated the efforts which, during the last two hundred years, had been made by various persons. None of these have been successful, and it may be presumed that their failure has arisen, principally, from a want of co-operation. The first attempt was made by Nic. Lemery, who wrote a *Pharmacopée Universelle*, and published it in the year 1697. There was further, Triller's *Dispensatorium Pharmaceut. Universale*, published in 1764; then Spielmann's, in 1783; then Reuss, in 1786; Mayr, in 1798; Swediaur, in 1803; Roebur, in 1803; Brugnatelli, an Italian pharmacist, in 1807;