

From the above it will be observed that codliver oil differs materially from the other oils in its composition. Olive oil has the closest correspondence in elementary composition with codliver oil, but is medically inert, while cocoanut oil is said to be comparable in efficacy in phthisis with the oil obtained from the cod. But as some credit has been given to codliver oil, its genuineness may be tested as follows,—viz. In sulphuric acid we have a reagent by which oils may be tested. A few drops of this acid produce in olive oil a grey colour; while poured drop by drop into codliver oil, sulphuric acid produces a centrifugal movement, particularly where the drops fall; and at the same time a beautiful violet colour, which changes the moment the mixture is agitated, and ultimately to a rich Sienna brown. These colours are due to the action of sulphuric acid on the constituents of the bile contained in the oil, and perhaps to a trace of iodine. To take a half teaspoonful of the oil, spread on a white porcelain plate, and adding one or two drops of concentrated sulphuric acid, will readily complete the test and decide the question of genuineness.—*Oil Trade Review.*

#### The Burmese Oil Distillery.

A great improvement has recently taken place in the management of the factory at Rangoon. The canal which was commenced some time ago was completed in February, and the boats can now come to within ten yards of the works, so that the saving in the cost of coolie labour must be an important item in the Company's accounts. The burning oil produced by the Company is said to be of good quality. The mineral turpentine is very clear in colour, and the Company have produced an article under the title of "Tarozine" which is of great utility in washing ships' decks and beat bottoms. The *Rangoon Times* of February 24 states that the manager of the Company is manufacturing an article which will be of great use in greasing machinery, cleaning and preserving guns, and our contemporary hopes to hear soon of soap and candles being made at Naikbhan, and if the agents of the Company would but go to the necessary expense for machinery for soaps and candles a profit would be made upon these articles. The *Rangoon Times* also recommends that the oil as made at Kemendine should be used for lighting the town, and we hope the Company will consider the suggestion.—*lb.*

#### A Romantic Oil Story.

Our contemporary, the *Philadelphia Commercial List and Price Current*, of March 10, tells a romantic story, which results in a most unmistakable petroleum moral, of how a steady, well-to-do farmer, of Laporte, Indiana, had a "ne'er-to-do-well" brother, for whom, some ten years ago he became bondsman. In due time he had to answer for his temerity, being compelled to sell his farm and commence life anew. He never heard of his brother until December last, when to his great astonishment that person presented himself and invited the ruined one and his family to a sumptuous repast. When the cloth was removed, the long-absent brother placed in the hands of the farmer the title-deeds which made him once more the possessor and owner of the farm and all it contained. The secret of all

this was that the brother who had caused so much sorrow to his relative had struck "ile" in Western Virginia, and had become a very wealthy man, if not a millionaire; and our contemporary concludes its narrative with a moral aphorism to the effect that we ought never to endorse the bills of a friend unless confident that he will one day "strike ile."—*lb.*

#### The Wool Business.

The *Economist and Dry Goods Reporter*, on the effect of the repeal of the Reciprocity Treaty on the Worsted Manufactures of the U. S., thus speaks:—

"The worsted manufacturers would earnestly appeal to Congress for the continued admission of the long, bright wools of Canada free of duty, were there any prospect of their appeals being heeded. They have, during the last few years, invested a vast amount of capital in their manufactures, and are dependant upon the supply of raw material from Canada. If the proposed new duties upon wool go into operation, they will have to pay fully 50 per cent. more for their wool than heretofore; and the result will be that they will find themselves unable to compete with foreign manufactures. This is another of the interests martyred to the exclusive policy of Congress. The same may be said of the lumber trade which, for certain descriptions of wood, is absolutely dependant upon Canada. Indeed there is no one branch of business which has had important connexions with the Provinces, under the late treaty, which is not injured by the cessation of reciprocal relations. The usually well-informed correspondent of the *Commercial Advertiser* stated a few days ago that proceedings were being initiated for the negotiation of a new treaty of reciprocity. We sincerely trust that such may prove to be the fact, though we fear that the Congress has not yet sufficiently realized the depth of its folly in abrogating the treaty, to admit of steps being taking for the formation of a new arrangement broad and beneficial in its provisions."

#### The Diving Bell.

The diving bell has been abandoned on the Thames in favor of the diving dress, principally because the men employed were found, while the Westminster Bridge was being built, to spend their time at the bottom in playing cards, and there was of course no effectual means of keeping a check on them. It is not easy to play cards in a diving dress alone, however, and the remedy has proved very satisfactory in its operation.—*London Engineer.*

#### Ancient Conduits.

The ancient conduits about Jerusalem are of wonderful structure. One, the lower level conduit, formed of stone, follows the contour of the country for twenty-five miles, passing along the bend of a depression in one case of 55 feet depth, and entering the city at an altitude of 2,450 feet. The other, the upper level conduit, is tunnelled through a hill at one part, and the blocks are so keyed together as to form a complete siphon.

The highest inhabited place on the globe is the Post-house of Ancomarco, in Peru, which is nearly 16,000 feet above the sea.