

and was educated in the *Ecole Polytechnique*. His early life was distinguished by brilliant feats of arms and in 1844 he was made a Chevalier of the Legion of Honour. He soon abandoned the profession of arms and devoted himself to the study of Physics, pure and applied. In 1838 he was appointed Professor of Physics at the Museum. His contributions to the *Annales de Physique et de Chimie* and to the *Memoires de l'Académie* were very numerous and important; and his chief work was a treatise on electricity and magnetism. He died at the advanced age of ninety, having preserved the laborious habits of his youth up to the last, and his loss will not be easily supplied to Physico-Chemical Science, to which he had devoted sixty years of his life.

Regnault (Henri Victor) was born at Aix-la-Chapelle in 1810. He was elected a member of the *Académie des Sciences* in 1840, at the early age of thirty years. He had been a Professor at the *Collège de France*, at the *Ecole Polytechnique* and Director of the manufactures of Sèvres. His son, the celebrated painter, was killed at the battle of Buzenval in 1871. During the siege all his scientific apparatus was broken up, and his manuscripts destroyed. The loss of his eminent son and this unjustifiable act of modern vandalism he could not long survive, but became afflicted with paralysis and died at the age of sixty-seven.

Raspail (F. V.) was a savant of another type, and a politician of much eminence. He first propounded the cellular theory which Schwann subsequently perfected. Raspail's political associations at the time preventing him from following it up. The versatility of his genius was remarkable and at the same time that he was engaged in physical and chemical researches he published his first work "On the Classification of the Grasses." He also made investigations in Microscopical Anatomy and Palæontology, and his views were always remarkable for their originality. His chief works were written while in imprisonment for political offences. These were "An Essay on Microscopical Chemistry" (1831), "Elementary Course of Agriculture" (1832), "New System of Organic Chemistry" (1833), "New System of Vegetable and Botanical Physio-

gy" (1837). As a physician he would not perhaps be regarded as *compos mentis*. He regarded all diseases as being of parasitic nature, and vaunted camphor as a panacea; his peculiar views he did not hesitate to carry out in practice, and his therapeutics consisted in the administration of camphor internally, externally, and eternally.

WARNER AND CO.'S PHOSPHORUS PILLS.—

We have, through the courtesy of Messrs. Warner and Co., received a sample lot of their pills, containing phosphorus in various combinations. The mass is soft, has the odour of phosphorus, is luminous in the dark, has no lumps of phosphorus, as it is combined when in solution, and, finally, it is perfectly protected from oxidation or the conversion into phosphoric acid. Mr. A. E. McLean, analytical chemist of New York, after examining the pills chemically and microscopically, reports the mass as being perfectly homogeneous, not exhibiting particles of undivided phosphorus, and thoroughly protected from the oxidizing influence of the air by means of the sugar coating. He says each pill is an example of what skill, care, and elegant pharmacy can do. He found them to contain $\frac{1}{25}$ grain phosphorus, as expressed on the label, and regards them as a model of perfection. The pills may be had containing phosphorus alone $\frac{1}{10}$ or $\frac{1}{100}$ grain in each, or in combination with suitable doses of cannabis indica, cantharides, nux vomica, ferri-carb., ferr-redact., strychnia, digitalis and hyoscyam, aloes and nux vomica, quinine, &c., &c. We commend these elegant preparations to the notice of our readers.

The Journal of Physiology. We have received the prospectus of this Journal, which is to be published in parts, not at rigidly fixed times but according to supply of material. It is to appear as nearly simultaneously as is possible in America and England.

Dr. Michael Foster is the Editor and has as associates, Gamgee, Rutherford, and Burdon Sanderson in Great Britain; Bowditch of Boston and H. N. Martin of Baltimore, in America. From the prospectus and from the standing of the Editorial Staff, a Journal of very high literary and scientific excellence may be looked for.