and quinine compounds for the ordinary tests for those alkaloids. Bromine water, which can be prepared in a minute, is more handy than chlorine water, and answers just as well, or better, in conjunction with ammonia in the test for quinine; also in the ferrocyanide test. Fluckiger has found that it will detect one part of genuine in 20,000 of water. The ferrocyanide test (Vogel's) is not so delicate, detecting the alkaloid in 2500 parts of water.

ON INFUSION OF WILD CHERRY BARK.*

BY J. B. MOORE.

The formula of the U.S. Pharmacopœia for the infusion of wild cherry bark affords an unsatisfactory preparation.

The infusion, to be an efficient remedy, should be carefully made, and should represent the tonic as well as the sedative properties of the bark; and, since water extracts but a meagre portion of the bitter tonic principle of the drug, the infusion as made by the officinal process can be said to faithfully represent only the sedative properties. Moreover, when made with water alone as the menstruum, the infusion is a very unstable preparation, liable to spoil, in warm weather especially, in a very short time.

Glycerin is one of the best solvents for the bitter principle of wild cherry bark that we have, and when associated with water forms a menstruum perfectly adapted for extracting the entire medicinal virtues of the bark; and it is with such a menstruum that I propose making the infusion, and would offer the following formula and process, which after repeated trials has proved perfectly satisfactory:

 Powd. Wild Cherry Bark, No. 60, 3ss, troy. Glycerin, f 3ij.
Water, temperature 86°.
Water, each a sufficient quantity.

Moisten the bark with six fluid drachms of water, at the temperature of 86°. Allow the mixture to stand for two hours in an air-tight vessel, at about the same temperature. Then pack it firmly in a glass percolator. Mix the glycerin with ten fluid ounces of water at the temperature of 86°, and gradually pour the mixture upon the bark, and when it has all passed from the surface continue the percolation with water until one pint of infusion is obtained.

• From the American Journal of Pharmacy.