

of \$7.00 in hand after paying all indebtedness." I am happy to state that the Treasury is in a much better condition than the above would indicate, The amount of funds now in hand to the credit of the Society is \$79.06.

J. BOWES, Treas.

O. D. S.

Hamilton, July 26th, 1870.

CHLORAL HYDRATE NOSTRUMS.

The great success and the growing popularity of that valuable remedy, hydrate of chloral, have led to the putting up for sale of nostrums called "Syrup of Hydrate of Chloral," "True Chloral Anodine," "Elixir of Chloral," "Solution of Chloral Hydrate," etc. Now it is important that physicians, and all others interested, should understand that the new agent cannot be mixed with syrup or other aqueous or spirituous bodies, without soon undergoing spontaneous change which renders it comparatively worthless as a hypnotic. What the nature of this change is, we do not well understand at present. We have specimens of the aqueous solution and syrup prepared two months ago, which have undergone important modifications. In crystalline form, in well stopped vials, the substance keeps perfectly well, and in this form it is probably permanent. If the nostrums just mentioned contain any of the agent, they are worthless, and may be dangerous.

Physicians should prescribe only the crystals, and should be very certain that they are pure. The taste of hydrate of chloral is quite unpleasant, but orange juice completely covers it, and so does peppermint water or essence of peppermint. If taken in aqueous solution, let the patient be directed to suck the juice of an orange immediately after swallowing the dose, or mix with the solution a little peppermint water, with syrup of tolu. The following is a good formula:

Take Chloral hydrate,	I drachm.
Aq. menth. pip.,	$\frac{1}{2}$ ounce.
Syrup tolu,	$\frac{1}{2}$ ounce.
Aqua,	2 ounces.

Dose, from one half ounce to two ounce, as may be required.

The mixture should not be prepared in large quantities, nor be kept for any length of time, for the reasons intimated above.

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