

sometimes compelled to take mercury or potassium iodide for months, under the supposition that they suffered from syphilis, when the only trouble was that just described, which, when properly treated, yielded to local remedies alone in the brief space of two weeks.

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PERSONAL.

Dr. Fenwick of London, Ont., brother of Dr. Fenwick of Montreal, has been appointed to represent the Medical Faculty of Western University, in the Ontario Medical Council.

Dr. Stephen, (M.D., McGill, 1880) has been elected on the Montreal Dispensary staff in place of Dr. Macdonell, resigned.

Dr. O. H. E. Clarke (M.D., McGill, 1870) has removed from Cohoes, N.Y., and located in St. Louis, Mo.

Dr. Edmund Christie (M.D., McGill, 1882) son of Dr. Christie of Lachute, has settled in Chicago.

Drs. McLean and Duncan (M.D., McGill, 1881) and lately resident medical officers at the Montreal General Hospital, have entered into partnership and commenced practice at Fergus Falls, Minn.

Dr. Chandler (C.M., M.D., Bishops, 1881, and Wood Gold Medalist) was in Montreal early this month on a visit. Dr. Chandler has been elected (after examination) surgeon to the Charity Eye Hospital of Boston. He intends devoting his attention entirely to ophthalmology.

Dr. Robert J. B. Howard, son of Dr. R. P. Howard of Montreal, has passed the primary examination for the fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons, England.

Dr. McLean, formerly of Kingston, Ont., and lately of Ann Arbor, Mich., has removed to Detroit, having been appointed surgeon to the Michigan Central Railroad. He has resigned his Chair of Surgery in the University of Michigan.

Dr. T. A. Rodger, Point St. Charles (M.D., McGill, 1866) has been appointed Medical officer to the Grand Trunk Railroad in place of Dr. W. E. Scott, deceased. We congratulate Dr. Rodger, and assure him that his numerous friends have heard of his appointment with great pleasure.

Dr. Houston (M.D., McGill, 1881) has become a Benedict, and was in Montreal on his marriage trip early in June. He is practicing at Cohoes, N.Y.

Dr. McNiece (M.D., McGill, 1867) has located in Montreal.

Dr. Thompson (M.D., McGill, 1881) now stationed at Matawa, as one of the Medical officers of the Canadian Pacific Railroad, was in

Montreal for a few days this month. He reports a considerable surgical practice in his division.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor MEDICAL RECORD.

SIR,—May I draw the attention of your readers to the very large sale in the Dominion of what is technically termed Commercial Citrate of Iron and Quinine. It appears to me very absurd for physicians to purchase a drug only because it is cheap, and even some hospitals are guilty of buying the cheapest drugs on the market. If there is one place more than another where the very purest qualities of everything pertaining to drugs should be found, most assuredly it ought to be the hospital, so much depended upon by the profession for accurate and exhaustive therapeutic experiment.

This cheap citrate of iron and quinine, containing only some 5 per cent. of quinine and in some cases no quinine at all, is evidently sold to somebody; can it be possible that physicians who give their own drugs to their patients, buy it? I scarcely think it possible that any druggist in Montreal would be so dishonest as to dispense prescriptions with it.

Citrate of iron and quinine is an article of the British Pharmacopœia and it is this preparation which is intended when prescribed. Even the product of the very best makers, such as Howard and Huskisson, appears, according to the best analysts, such as Gerard, to be usually below the standard—not intentionally so, but perhaps owing, as Mr. Wood says, to a change of composition when exposed to the sun's rays, or it may be that chemical analysis is a little at fault in determining the precise quantity of the alkaloid present. Be that as it may, there are articles on the market containing not more than 1 or 2 per cent. of quinine. Such preparations should never be purchased, and only those should be allowed in any drug store which bear the maker's name and guarantee label.

Let us hope that spurious citrates are not allowed through the Custom House at a lower rate of duty than the correct article. It seems to me every ounce of citrate of iron and quinine passing through the Customs should be understood to be the true official article and charged accordingly.

Now that we have an experienced chemist and druggist as appraiser let us hope he will look out this matter.

Truly yours,

HENRY R. GRAY.