

Gore, F.R.S. Boilers and vats have been erected on the land. The crude borate of soda is first put into cow-hide baskets, then put in a dump cart, taken to the boilers and boiled for a certain time. The solution is then run into vats, it crystallises and makes the best borax I ever saw. This, on the market, is called 'concentrated' borax. In that district it never rains; the climate is fearfully hot; the last time I was there it was never under 106° , and sometimes up to 115° , in the shade. Therefore, when the crystal borax is exposed to the sun it becomes almost anhydrous, and much stronger than English refined borax.

"After collecting a lot of specimens, I returned to San Francisco, abandoned the idea of going to Chili, got the deeds for land all in order, and made my way to New York. On getting to England I made several ineffectual attempts to induce makers to work this discovery. At length a company was formed, called 'The Slate Range Borax Company, Limited.' I got Riddell, in San Francisco, to commence borax making in real good earnest, and the bulk of his borax has come from this lake, and now upwards of 120 tons per month are being turned out of this district alone. This is principally from the crude borate of soda after being once crystallised. It is no use working at the native borax or the under surface till the borate of soda is cleared away.

"Now, as regards the supply of borax, I can plainly see that the deposit at Slate Range is tremendous, and when it can be sent to San Francisco or Los Angeles by rail the price must and will come much lower. The next important thing is to find a market for it, for a more useful product is not known. For the last three months I have been trying to find out new uses for it, and the result is marvellous. The next difficulty is to get the shopkeepers to sell it. The chemists and druggists say we give too much for the money, and the grocers say it is an article sold by druggists and not by grocers. If we give a small quantity and allow the druggist to sell dear the demand is limited. At present we sell a dozen penny packets for 8d."

THE DIVISION OF POISONS.*

BY WALTER E. BIBBY, PH. C.

As a large number of the medicines prescribed by the physicians of the present day are very poisonous, it devolves upon the pharmacist to exercise the greatest care and caution in compounding prescriptions containing such poisonous substances as strychnia, hydrarg. chlor. cor., arsenious acid, narcotic extracts, etc. It often

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