

Fraudulent Substitutes for Phenacetin.—Phenacetin made by the Farbenfabriken of Elberfeld is protected by patent, and druggists selling an article what is said to be phenacetin, but which does not bear the private mark of the company, are liable to be prosecuted. Last autumn anxiety to make a dollar without earning it induced certain druggists in the Southern States to give orders to a travelling salesman, who represented that he was able to supply phenacetin at lower rates through a Detroit wholesale house. To protect their patent the Farbenfabriken of Elberfeld Company instituted suits against the offenders. Certainly if the efforts made by this company to enforce its patent rights contribute to the placing of purer drugs on the shelves of the druggists, the company is entitled to the thanks of the profession and the public, even if the suits which it is prosecuting are only for its own pecuniary benefit.

A Provision for Better Sanitary Conditions in the City of Toronto.—In the Legal Committee of the Legislature on June 4th, Dr. R. A. Pyne's bill to amend the Public Health Act was cut in half. The first clause was promptly rejected; the second clause passed. The first half of the bill provides that the Local Health Board may direct that the carcasses of all animals, and that meat, poultry, game, flesh, fish, fruit and vegetables shall be brought to fixed places for inspection by a health officer, and shall not be sold until so inspected. Mr. Stratton objected that such a provision would be impossible to carry out, and the Committee agreed with him. The second half of the bill aims at securing better sanitary conditions in the Chinese and Italian quarters of the city. It provides that a medical health officer may enter lodging-houses, etc., wherever crowded or filthy and compel better sanitary accommodation. At least 400 cubic feet of air must be provided for each occupant in a sleeping room, and the rooms must be kept "in a condition fit for proper human habitation."

DIET IN DISEASE.

"Good diet with wisdom best comforteth men."

—*Tusser*, 1520.

THE cardinal principles of feeding the sick involve, first, the avoidance of all articles that disagree with the condition present, and, second, the giving of food best adapted to relieve the digestive organs of unnecessary labor and to maintain nutrition. In addition, for certain special diseases there are classes of foods which have distinctly curative values—for example, the use of fresh fruits and vegetables in scurvy, fats and oils in scrofula and tuberculosis. Although