

# The Indian and Colonial Addendum.

We herewith give the report of the Pharmacopœia Committee, who were authorized by the General Medical Council to invite suggestions, etc., for an Addendum to the British Pharmacopœia, 1898, which would be applicable to the requirements of India and the Colonies.

"The respective Indian and Colonial authorities are now invited :

(1) To criticize and amend the descriptions here given of the various drugs, in order that such descriptions may apply to satisfactory commercial specimens.

(2) To supply a few complete descriptions asked for, in the following pages, in certain cases in which the Pharmacopœia Committee of the Medical Council have been unable to obtain such descriptions.

(3) To express an opinion as to the suitability of the preparations proposed, and to state the doses of the preparations.

(4) To make suggestions respecting such additional drugs and preparations as may be deemed desirable by the Indian and Colonial authorities, in order that the Pharmacopœia with the completed Addendum may meet the requirements of the various Colonies and Dependencies.

It is requested that all suggestions and criticisms should be sent in as soon as possible, and in any case within three months of the receipt of this report. In case of doubt reference may be made to the editor of the Indian and Colonial Addendum, Dr. Atfield, letters being addressed to him at the office of the Medical Council, 299 Oxford street, London, England.

The aim of the Medical Council is to produce, sooner or later, a Pharmacopœia which shall be equally useful in every part of the British Empire."

## HONG KONG.

**Agropyrum**. — **COUCH GRASS**. — The rhizome of *agropyrum repens*, *Beauv.* (*triticum repens*, *Linn.*) [*Berg und Schmidt, Off. Pflanz.* plate 139.] Recommended by the Hong Kong authorities. *Preparation*.

**Decoctum Agropyri** — **DECOCTION OF COUCH GRASS**. —

| IMPERIAL.                            | METRIC.                |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Couch grass, cut small. . . 1 ounce. | 50 grammes.            |
| Distilled water. . . . .             | A sufficient quantity. |

Boil the Couch grass with twenty-four

fluid ounces (or twelve hundred cubic centimetres) of distilled water in a suitable vessel for ten minutes, strain. Pour enough distilled water over the contents of the strainer to make one pint (or one thousand cubic centimetres) of the strained decoction. Recommended by the Hong Kong authorities.

**BELE FRUCTUS AND EXTRACTUM BELE LIQUIDUM.**

**DATURE FOLIA**. — *Datura* leaves.

**Extractum Glycyrrhizæ Spirituosum** — **SPIRITUOUS EXTRACT OF LIQUORICE**. — Mix ten ounces (or 500 grammes) of extract of liquorice with sufficient distilled water to form a liquid; add five fluid ounces (or two hundred and fifty cubic centimetres) of alcohol (90 per cent.); then add sufficient distilled water to produce a well-mixed bulk of twenty fluid ounces (or one thousand cubic centimetres); filter if necessary. [This mode of preparing a "Liquid Extract of Liquorice" is desired for local convenience in Hong Kong.]

## INDIA.

**Acaciæ Arabicæ Cortex**. — [This bark is suggested as a substitute for *quercus cortex*. As the oak bark is no longer official, does the Indian Government Committee still desire official recognition for the bark of *acacia arabica* ?]

**Acacie Gummi**. — The exudation from *acacia catechu*, Willd., *acacia leucophloea*, Willd., and *Feronia elephantum*, Corr., suggested by the Indian Government Committee to take the place of official gum *acacia*, vary greatly in color, and differ somewhat in their reactions. Hence it seems desirable to limit the official recognition to one common Indian gum; for preparations made with different gums would differ from one another, and from those made with gum *acacia*. Might official recognition be confined to the gum derived from *anogeissus latifolia*, which can be obtained of a pale color? It gives a good mucilage, and affords reactions similar to those of the official *acaciæ gummi*. The gum might be made official under the name of *gummi indicum* (q.v.).

**Acalypha** — **ACALYPHA**. — [The juice of *acalypha indica* is recommended by the Indian Government Committee as an equivalent of *senega*. Information is

desired as to whether the fresh juice or a preserved juice should be supplied. A description of the herb from which the juice is obtained is also desired.]

**Acidum Aceticum** — **ACETIC ACID**. — [Reference to the British Pharmacopœia of 1898 will show that nothing prevents this acid being prepared by mixing one part by weight of glacial acetic acid and two parts by weight of distilled water; the mode of preparation desired by the Indian Government Committee.]

**Andrographis** — **ANDROGRAPHIS**. — The dried plant, *Andrographis paniculata*, *Nees* [*Benth. and Trim. Med. Pl.* plate 197] [*Andrographis* has been proposed by the Indian Government Committee for use in India as a cheap equivalent of *Himalayan Chiretta*.]

*Preparations*. — *Infusum andrographidis*. (Formula as *infusum chiritæ*, 1898.) *Liquor andrographidis concentratus*. (Formula as *liquor chiritæ concentratus*, 1898.) *Tincture andrographidis*. (Formula as *tinctura chiritæ*, 1898.)

**Aristolochia** — **ARISTOLOCHIA**. — The stem and root of *aristolochia indica*, Linn. [*Wight, Icones*, plate 1858.] [*Aristolochia indica* is proposed by the Indian Government Committee for use in India instead of *aristolochia serpentaria*.]

*Preparations*. — *Infusum aristolochiæ*. (Formula as *infusum serpentariæ*, 1898.) *Liquor aristolochiæ concentratus*. (Formula as *liquor serpentariæ concentratus*, 1898.) *Tinctura aristolochiæ*. (Formula as *tinctura serpentariæ*, 1898.)

**Aurantii Cortex Indicus** — **INDIAN ORANGE PEEL**.

**Belæ Fructus** — **BAEL FRUIT**. — The dried half ripe fruit of *ægle marmelos*, *Correa* [*Benth. and Trim. Med. Pl.*, vol. 1., plate 55] *Preparation*.

**Extractum Belæ Liquidum** — **LIQUID EXTRACT OF BAELE**. —

|                                 | IMPERIAL.              | METRIC.       |
|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Bael fruit . . . . .            | 20 ounces              | 1,000 grammes |
| Distilled water. . . . .        | 15 pints               | 15 litres     |
| Alcohol (90 per cent) . . . . . | A sufficient quantity. |               |

Macerate the bael for twelve hours in one-third of the distilled water, pour off the clear liquor, repeat the maceration a second and third time for one hour in the remaining two thirds of the distilled water, press the marc, and filter the mixed liquors through flannel. Evaporate to fifteen fluid ounces (or seven hundred and fifty cubic centimetres), and, when cold, add sufficient of the alcohol to produce twenty fluid ounces (or one thousand cubic centimetres) of the liquid extract. Dose — 1 to 2 fluid drachms