

ONTARIO COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

PRESIDENT, - - - WM. ELLIOT, Esq.

The regular meetings of the College take place on the FIRST FRIDAY evening of each month, at the Mechanics' Institute, when, after the transaction of business, there is a paper read, or discussion engaged in, upon subjects of interest and value to the members.

The College admits as members, Chemists and Druggists of good standing, and their assistants and apprentices, as associates, on payment of the following fees:

Principals, - - - - \$4 00 per Annum
Assistants & Apprentices, 2 00 "

The JOURNAL is furnished FREE to all members.

Parties wishing to join the College may send their names for proposal to any of the members of the College. A copy of the Constitution and By-laws of the College will be furnished on application.

HENRY J. ROSE, Secretary.

THE CANADIAN
Pharmaceutical Journal.

E. B. SHUTTLEWORTH, EDITOR.

TORONTO, ONT., SEPTEMBER, 1870.

Correspondence and general communications, of a character suited to the objects of this JOURNAL, are invited, and will always be welcome. The writer's name should accompany his communication, but not necessarily for publication.

Subscriptions will not be acknowledged by letter, as our sending the paper may be taken as sufficient evidence of the receipt of the money.

All communications connected with the paper to be addressed, post-paid,

"EDITOR CANADIAN PHARMACEUTICAL JOURNAL
TORONTO."

We should like to call the attention of our friends to a much neglected feature in the JOURNAL, the development of which would be a source of gratification to ourselves, as well as our patrons. One of the primary objects in the establishment of the JOURNAL was the providing of a medium through which an interchange of information, and ideas, might be made. It was thought that, by this means, much might be done to the building up of a truly scientific practice of pharmacy in the country. Every druggist, in the pursuit of his calling, meets with facts which are of value, and which may not have been observed by others. It is to the interest of all that these observations be recorded and verified; or perhaps improved upon, to the benefit of all concerned. To let slip these facts is bad enough, but to keep the light under a bushel, hiding away any little stock of knowledge arising from original research, or experiment, is altogether unworthy of these enlightened days. Even when viewed

in the light of personal gain, there is little policy shown by the adoption of such a course, and but little advantage is gained. In nine cases out of ten, the observation is stowed away in the note book, or the memory, and becomes so mildewed, by age, as to become altogether obscured, and lost sight of.

We do not think, however, that many of our readers belong to the narrow-minded and miserly class to which we have alluded, but incline to the opinion that our communications are limited in number from the fact that our friends do not rightly appreciate the value of the information which they might impart. We have, sometimes, spoken to those of our acquaintances who, in the exercise of their daily avocation must meet occasionally, with new facts. On alluding to the propriety of committing these experiences to print, we almost invariably receive the same answer—such and such a thing is not worth writing about. This is a mistake; the most trifling item, if it be not generally known, is worth recording—the slightest improvement is another step nearer perfection. If the camphor pills won't roll, and a drop of castor oil removes the difficulty, give the fact publicity, and it may be the means of saving hundreds of hours of valuable time, and no end of annoyance.

We occasionally meet with the excuse—at all times a bad one—that time cannot be spared for writing. Of course, our friends know their own business best, and we would only remind them of the old adage, "Where there's a will there's a way," and hope that the inclination will not be wanting.

Again we say, give us a helping hand. The JOURNAL was not instituted, nor is it carried on, for selfish purposes, but for the mutual benefit of all. We solicit, then, the co-operation of our friends, especially those connected with the College, and trust that our request will meet with a ready response.

Cultivation of Ipecac in India.

The cultivation of ipecacuanha has been attempted in India, but so far with but limited success. Mr. Anderson, the superintendent of the Botanical Gardens, Calcutta, obtained, in 1866, a plant from the Royal Gardens at Kew. This plant has died, but seven other plants, propagated artificially from the original one, are still in existence, though growing very slowly. Mr. Clarke, in the *Indian Medical Gazette*, says: "It is very possible that, when the plant once gets up, it may not prove slow growing, and that when we once have plants that seed, it may not prove slow of propagation; but I fear many days will elapse before any produce is likely to be obtained." We trust the attempt will ultimately prove successful, and this is not unlikely, when we remember the difficulty

with which the cultivation of cinchona was at first attended, and the progress that is now being made. According to a late report, the number of cinchona plants at Darjeeling, alone, exceeds 3,000,000; some of the plants being nineteen feet high.

Preparation of Liquor Plumbi Subacet. by the Cold Process.

M. Nerning (*Jour. de Pharmacie*) proposes to obviate the formation of a precipitate of insoluble basic acetate, by shaking together the litharge, acetate of lead and water, without the employment of heat. After the expiration of twenty-four hours the liquor is filtered, and, if kept in well stoppered bottles, is said to remain clear for a length of time. If we remember rightly, most of the foreign Pharmacopœias recommend a prolonged digestion, at a gentle heat; and Wittstein, long ago pointed out the disadvantages of boiling the solution, at the same time calling attention to the fact that the solution could be made with an equal certainty of dissolving the oxide, without the employment of heat beyond the ordinary temperature of the air.

New Agent for the Removal of Iron Stains from Fabrics.

A writer in the *Chemical News* says that the following method is not attended with the usual bad results, in regard to the destruction of the fibre, which, on account of prolonged contact, ensue when oxalic acid, or salt of sorrel are used. The stain must be touched with yellow sulphide of ammonium, by which it will be immediately blackened; after the lapse of a minute or so, wash out the excess of sulphide, and treat the black spot with dilute muriatic acid, by which it is entirely removed; finally, wash well with water.

New Stain for Woods.

A correspondent of the *Scientific American* says, that butternut may be stained in imitation of black walnut by washing it over with liquor calcis. Cherry, treated in a similar manner, is said to resemble mahogany. Other woods had not been tried.

ATTEMPTS are being made in various parts of Canada to push a business with the unsuspecting or ignorant, by the sale of so-called patent rights, for the manufacture and vending of certain forms of sulphurous acid, or its salts, to be used for antiseptic purposes. It is needless to say that, as the preservative action of these agents has been known and recognized throughout the civilized world for many years, it would be impossible for any person to patent their use in this country.