

of the acid, has long been in high repute in India, in skin affections.

CROTON CHLORAL HYDRATE is now very seldom prescribed in Montreal. When it was first introduced to the medical profession by Leibreich, a fair trial was given to it. The small quantity now used in our dispensing houses would seem to indicate that it has not come up to the therapeutic value at first attached to it.

MONOBROMATED CAMPHOR, made into pills with extract of gentian, has proved a very valuable remedy in the hands of some prescribers here, while others seem to place no value upon it, and have already allowed it to fall into disuse. It has a well-deserved reputation in the United States, in certain forms of hysteria, nervous headache, St. Vitus dance, etc. It is usually prescribed in doses of one grain every three hours, increased if necessary to two grains. It is a most beautiful chemical when well prepared. Its long needle-like crystals attracted great attention at a late pharmaceutical conference in England.

JABORANDI. *Pilocarpus Pinnatus* is a drug which invites further study. After the researches of Dr. Ringer and Mr. Martindale, an English pharmacist, there can be no doubt of the powerful diaphoretic and sialogogue properties possessed by it. The secret of its mighty diaphoretic and sialogogue strength undoubtedly exists in its alkaloid recently discovered by Mr. Gerard, and the most efficient salt of this alkaloid is generally believed to be the nitrate; its price, however, effectually excludes it at present from general use. The price asked for it in New York is about \$25 per drachm, but as better and easier methods of eliminating it are discovered, the price will correspondingly decline. Half a grain of the nitrate is said to produce the effect of a full dose of jaborandi. One drop of the solution of the nitrate (1 grain to 1 ounce) put into the eye will contract the pupil to the size of a pin's head. From a report of some interesting physiological experiments performed on a dog and a rabbit at University College, London, $\frac{1}{2}$ of a grain of the alkaloid produced profuse salivation, which was readily checked by administering $\frac{1}{10}$ of a grain of sulphate of atropine. Mr. Gerard thinks that the best pharmaceutical preparation is the fluid extract. In this city jaborandi has been used with success in one drachm doses, infused in a cup of boiling water, and the whole drank (without being strained.) In a short while it produced an excessive flow of saliva followed by profuse diaphoresis. No nausea followed in the two cases reported by the physician for whom the writer prepared the remedy.

Jaborandi is found in pharmacies, in the form of leaf, fluid extract, and in gelatine coated pills of the solid extract. For subcutaneous injection, the muriate or nitrate of the alkaloid will doubtless be eventually employed. It is needless to say that the hypodermic syringe must be scrupulously cleansed after using it for the purpose. The dose hypodermically is stated by Reichardt to be $\frac{1}{2}$ of a grain. The contradictory accounts at first published in

Paris and London of the effects produced by this drug were undoubtedly owing to the different varieties of jaborandi (and in one case a totally distinct plant) shipped from different points of South America. It is believed that the drug at present shipped to the United States and Europe is the kind originally taken to Paris by its originator, Dr. Continho. The genuine grows in the North of Brazil, near Pernambuco, and is a beautiful shrub, 8 or 10 feet high. The essential oil of the leaves, which is very abundant, has not yet been experimented upon.

CHLORAL HYDRATE.—The writer of these notes saw a large bottle of chloral hydrate in flat cakes being wrapped for shipment to a western pharmacist a few days since. One would scarcely suppose it necessary to inform a licentiate of pharmacy that chloral hydrate should never be dispensed in this form. No man for the sake of a little extra profit should be guilty of such a gross act of injustice to the prescriber, as to use a chemical so little to be relied upon. In cakes chloral hydrate is of unknown and very variable strength, and almost always of very doubtful purity. The British Pharmacopœia orders it to be crystallized, and no dispenser in the British Empire should use it otherwise. There can be no doubt that the great want of confidence shewn by some physicians, even now, in this valuable remedy, is owing in a great measure to very inferior qualities hitherto in the market.

At the same time unlooked for results may be expected if such absurd combinations, as chloral hydrate, bromide of potassium, tincture of belladonna and tincture of nux vomica, are ordered in the same prescription, as the writer has seen more than once. Such reckless prescribing is scarcely the correct way of developing the known valuable therapeutic effects of chloral hydrate. Chloral hydrate when mixed with powdered camphor changes into a transparent fluid of a syrupy consistence resembling glycerine, very much used as an application for toothache and for applying along the course of the nerve in facial neuralgia.

THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE at Newcastle-on-Tyne, England, some time since, at the solicitation of Messrs. Proctor, Brady and other members of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain, opened its doors to pharmaceutical students, and the lectures on *Materia Medica*, Chemistry and Botany were arranged to be given at such hours that the students could attend them, without interfering with their customary duties in the pharmacies of the town.

THE MONTREAL COLLEGE OF PHARMACY closed its Lecture Session at the end of March, and the examinations took place on Thursday and Friday, the 25th and 26th of April. The students of Pharmacy in Quebec attend the lectures at Laval University. The date of the examinations there has not yet been decided upon. A peculiar feature about the working of the Pharmaceutical Association of the Province of Quebec, which is the only body authorized by Act of Parliament to examine and license candidates