

used as stimulants rather than as simple tonics. I am not prepared, however, to state that these samples are adulterated, inasmuch as they are sold to the public as "nostrums" and not as "official" medicines."

BEWARE OF DENTISTS.

We have often heard of cooks who have been induced either by bribery or jealousy to put some "nasty doctored stuff" into the food of those whose presence in the world had become decidedly objectionable; and when we take medicine "neat," we are, or ought to be, always prepared for the worst. These, however, may be numbered among the ordinary ills that flesh is heir to, and count among the things we hope will never come to us, such as breaking our hearts, or our necks, or railway accidents. But now we must be on our guard against another danger. It is stated that a dentist in Paris has, while examining the teeth of his patients, been in the habit of administering slow poison to those among them who have been in anybody's way, and that he has accommodated some hundreds of people in this manner. Rich old people will be very cautious, we fancy, in future when their attentive heirs recommend a very nice dentist to them, who will make them quite comfortable about their teeth.

CARIOUS TEETH.

Locally, the prophylaxis of caries in part consists in combating diseased conditions of the mucous membrane of the mouth which are attended with vitiation of the secretions; but as these conditions are discussed in works on medicine, there need be considered here only the means which are available locally in preventing the formation of acid, the active agent in caries, in neutralizing it, and in preventing its hurtful effects upon the teeth. Foremost among these means must be placed the maintenance of the mouth in perfect cleanliness. The teeth should