

All the samples were then examined volumetrically, for the purpose of determining their relative acidity. Two drachms of No. 1, diluted with six drachms of distilled water, required fifty-three minims of the volumetric solution of soda, B. P., to neutralize it. No. 2 and No. 4 were equally strong in acid, whilst the same quantity of No. 3 diluted with a like quantity of water, required sixty-eight minims of soda sol. to neutralize it. I cannot be quite certain as to the exactness of my acidimetry, since my burette and measuring flasks are of my own construction, from glass tubing and common vials; but as the same solution and apparatus were used throughout, the comparative results will be correct. The volumetric estimates were duplicated to ensure accuracy, and gave very nearly the same results each time.

I would draw the conclusion, from these experiments, that the Proof Spirit ordered to be added to Acet. Scillæ, by the British Pharmacopœia, is worse than useless, since it impairs the beauty of the sample, and renders it less able to resist the inroads of decomposition; and also, that the preparation is best kept in situations having an equable temperature, and not exposed to very strong light. Those samples have suffered most in my hands that have been exposed to the greatest extremes of temperature.

PHARMACY IN RUSSIA.*

BY DR. C. MEHU, OF PARIS.

The larger proportion of Russian pharmacists are of German origin; all their names are either German or Polish. It has been only during the last few years that the Emperor Alexander has permitted a true Russian to become a pharmacist. The Emperor Peter the Great reserved to Germans the pharmacies in his dominions.

The pharmacist who conducts an ordinary pharmacy takes the name of "free pharmacist" (*freier Apotheker*); others bear the name of "crown pharmacist," (*Krone Apotheker*.) The so-called "crown pharmacies" are those of the civil and military hospitals and benevolent institutions. Of these, there exist twenty-five in St. Petersburg, two or three among them supplying the public with medicaments.

There are also in Russia some pharmacies called "*Filial*."

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