

over-saturation with the alkali produced a slight blue colouration of the solution. This aroused my suspicion regarding the purity of the acetic acid employed. The presence of copper was confirmed by further testing, and on making a quantitative examination the copper was precipitated out of solution by sulphydric acid, which when calculated gave .397 of metallic or 1.534 per cent. acetate of copper.

SANTONATE OF SODA.*

BY M. LEPAGE.

The author having failed to get satisfactory results with either of two published processes for preparing santonate of soda, proposed the following mode of operating, which he finds to give a satisfactory result:—

Take—

Powdered Santonin	100 grams.
Alcohol (90°)	500 “
Distilled Water	500 “
Unslacked Lime	80 “
Carbonate of Soda	90 “

Dissolve the santonin in the alcohol and water at the temperature of a water-bath; then add the lime, previously slacked and suspended in a very small quantity of water, and stir frequently. The liquid immediately takes a magnificent rose colour, but after about ten or fifteen minutes it loses its colour and presents the appearance of a clear soup. This is due to the formation of santonate of lime, which is but slightly soluble in the alcohol and water. Allow the mixture to remain in the water bath some minutes longer, to ensure the complete combination of the calcium oxide and santonin; then pour in the carbonate of soda dissolved in double its weight of pure water, agitate briskly, allow the liquor to deposit, and filter. Distil the filtrate in a water-bath to recover the alcohol; concentrate the residue in a dish placed in hot water until of the consistence of a syrup, weighing 200 or 220 grams. After about twelve hours, when it has solidified, powder it and suspend it in 800 grams of 90° alcohol; agitate frequently to facilitate solution, and after some hours of contact decant the clear liquid. Wash the portion remaining undissolved (excess of carbonate of soda) with 200 grams of fresh alcohol and add this to the other alcohol, filter, distil to recover about three-fifths of the alcohol, and terminate the

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