

Black Writing Ink.—3rd. I manufacture a very superior black ink, by adding to gall ink of a good quality soluble Prussian blue, described under the first head of this specification. The addition of this Prussian blue makes the ink, which was already proof against alkalis, equally proof against acids, and forms a writing fluid which cannot be erased from paper by any common method of fraudulent obliteration without the destruction of the paper.

Red Writing Ink.—4th. I manufacture, in manner following, a red writing ink, which is greatly superior to the common solutions from peach-wood and Brazil-wood, not only in permanent brilliancy of colour, but also in its freedom from acid, and consequent fitness for use with steel pens. I first boil cochineal repeatedly in successive quantities of pure water, till it ceases, or nearly so, to give out any colouring matter. I then boil in water containing liquor ammoniac, which combines after the manner of an alkali with an acid, with the residue of colouring matter, and leaves the insect matter nearly white. The liquid products of these successive boilings are then thrown together into an earthenware vessel, and in order to get rid of a peculiar element or principle still combined with the colouring matter, and which has a great affinity for iron, I precipitate the colouring matter with ammonio-bichloride of tin. The precipitate is afterwards dissolved in ammonia, and protiodide of tin added, till a sufficient degree of brilliancy of colour is obtained, which completes the process, water being added *ad libitum*, according to the degree of body desired to be given to the ink.

Marking Ink, No. 1.—5th. I manufacture by the improved process following a marking ink, which may be used with steel pens, and is not only of great intensity of colour, but comes out most readily on the application of heat. I rub together in a mortar nitrate of silver, and the proper equivalent of tartaric acid in a dry state. I then add water, on which crystals of tartrate of silver are formed and the nitric acid set free. I next neutralize this acid by adding liquor ammoniac, which also dissolves the tartrate of silver. I finally add gum, colouring matter, and water, in the usual way, and in quantities which may be varied at pleasure. By this process the nitric acid, which is essential to a good marking ink, is retained, and the tartrate of silver formed is soluble in less than half the quantity of liquor ammoniac ordinarily required when tartrate of silver is the basis of the ink. The tedious operation of filtering and washing the carbonate of silver, in order to form the tartrate, is also thereby entirely dispensed with.

Marking Ink, No. 2.—6th. I manufacture, in manner following, a marking ink, differing from the preceding, and all other marking inks, containing salts of silver only, in this respect, that it cannot be acted upon by the common solvents of salts of silver, as cyanide of potassium or chloride of lime, and so far, therefore, more indelible. I take the ink, as it has been formed by the process last described, and add to it an ammoniacal solution of oxide, or salt of gold. I have used for this purpose, the purple of Cassius, the hydrosulphate of gold, the ammonio iodide of gold, and the ammonio-periodide of gold. The two last salts, which I believe to be new salts, I obtain by dissolving iodine in liquor ammoniac, under the application of heat; an operation, however, which requires to be conducted with great caution, in order to prevent the formation of the explosive compound, the teriodide of nitrogen. This iodine is a very speedy solvent of gold. If gold leaf be placed upon it without the addition of water, a black oxide of gold is formed, which immediately dissolves, but if it be diluted with water, the process of oxidation is less rapid, and the gold assumes a fine purple colour (not black) before solution. This salt of gold crystallizes in four-sided prisms, which are soluble in water. A few drops of this solution placed on a slip of glass, generally form microscopic arborescent crystals, from which, under the application of heat, both the iodine and ammoniac may be volatilized, and arborescent metallic gold alone remains. If a moderate heat only is employed, one equivalent only is dispelled, and white crystals of ammonio-iodide of gold remain.—*Pharm. Jour.*

December, 506 cases occurred, 229 of which had terminated fatally. The average number of cases was consequently 30 per day, and of deaths 16. The epidemic had likewise manifested itself, but without much violence, in the governments of Minsk and of Podolia. At Mohileff, in White Russia, the number of patients was, at the latter end of November, 236, and of deaths 35. The malady was fast subsiding in all the other provinces.

The *Journal des Débats* publishes the following letter, dated Mossul (a large town in Asiatic Turkey), the 31st of October:—"The cholera has appeared here at the very moment when it was least expected. The persons attacked died almost suddenly. The Pasha immediately issued an order forbidding that any fruit should be sold to the troops, whom he has removed to a camp at some distance from the town. The appearance of the scourge is the more alarming as there are but two physicians in the city."—*London Medical Gazette*, December 31.

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THE DOINGS OF THE "REPEAL ASSOCIATION."

Editors of Journals have occasionally disagreeable duties to perform; and of these, since the period of the existence of this Journal, we have had sufficient. It has been our painful duty to criticise, from time to time, as occasion demanded, the proceedings of a party arrayed against us medico-politically, among whom were ranked many of our personal, and most intimate friends. We considered their proceedings as hostile to the best interests of the profession, and stated our reasons for considering them so. Our duty, with a single eye to the advancement of the interests of the Profession, was discharged; and although our private feelings were in many instances sacrificed to the stern dictate of an imperious duty, we hesitated not; and have found, that we have added to our friends, while the unswerving advocacy of our principles has created no enemies. We have had occasion to rejoice in the issue of our labours. Mutual concessions have secured to the Profession valued privileges, in the Act of Incorporation which passed the Legislature at its last session.

It is but a few short months since the boon has been conferred upon us. Its practical operation has not been tested; its by-laws not yet sanctioned by the members; and yet before its value has been ascertained, before its influence has been brought to bear, while its provisions are still a crudity, because unacted upon—a party has sprung up to denounce it, and to seek its repeal; and this party, composed chiefly of those who eagerly sought for its enactment. Yet such is the fact. We have been frequently amused at the avidity with which a child seeks for a toy; no sooner is it obtained, than a fitful freak

MISCELLANEOUS.

Progress of Cholera.—According to the most recent accounts from St. Petersburg, the cholera continued to decrease at Moscow. Between the 22d November and the 6th