

a little on the superiority of these *distilled* oils over those made by mere admixture with turpentine.

When it is borne in mind that by far the major portion of the more expensive oils are consumed by bakers, confectioners, soap-makers, and bottlers of mineral or soda water, who have no means for testing them, and who thus become easy victims to these vile swindlers, we are more forcibly than ever before impressed with the desirability of perfecting some plan for the better protection of honest merchants and for the punishment of the guilty. The writer has on two occasions purchased four cans of oil of lemon, one lot of which contained but 75 per cent. of oil, and the other scarcely 33 per cent. Had these been accepted, the loss in the one case would have been about \$75, in the other over \$175. We may well compare this species of fraud to that of passing counterfeit money, and it seems but just that similar punishments should be inflicted for both crimes. Nor are substitutions of this kind by any means confined to our illustrious New Jersey friends. It would almost seem as though European distillers were trying to rival, if not to surpass them. The writer recently had in his employ a gentleman who claimed to have formerly held responsible positions in two of the largest German houses dealing almost exclusively in essential oils. He exhibited to us a full line of receipts for mixing and cheapening all the more prominent oils, on which he placed great value, and which he was very anxious to compound in this country. Still more recently, the writer was informed by the official representative of an extensive French firm, of Grasse, that all the chief grades of lavender, rosemary, and origanum or red thyme, sent to this country, both by themselves and other manufacturers, contained at least 75 per cent. of turpentine. And yet some druggists can rarely find essential oils quite cheap enough to suit their views!

OIL OF ALMONDS.—We are informed on most excellent authority that the so-called *French* oils of almond, both fixed and essential are obtained exclusively from peach kernels.

OIL OF BERGAMOT.—We were shown a highly complex formula said to be used by the manipulators in Germany for skilfully reducing this oil. Almost three-fourths of the compound consisted of the oils of orange, copaiba, lemon, a little neroli, and several others. We were informed that large quantities of this sophisticated oil are disposed of in Europe.

OIL OF CEYLON CINNAMON.—Albert P. Brown found this oil to be adulterated with sassafras and cloves. The oil of the leaves of the Ceylon cinnamon is also frequently sold in place of the true oil of the bark. The former is a brown, viscid, essential oil of clove-like odour; it is sometimes called Heavy Oil of Ceylon Cinnamon.

OIL OF ERIGERON.—A specimen of this oil was sent to the writer by Mr. Joseph L. Lemberger, which was so largely adulterated that the true odour was entirely overpowered by that of turpentine.