

He wanted to know if I could explain this. I told him that as sulphonal was very insoluble, the more finely it was powdered the better. In fine powder there was so much more surface exposed to the action of the liquid in the stomach, and solution would be facilitated. It was only reasonable to suppose that in proportion to the rapidity of solution, so would be the advent of the physiological action. My customer was satisfied with my explanation.

The incident which I have described emphasizes the importance of dispensing insoluble substances in as fine a state of division as possible. I should scarcely think it necessary to refer to it were it not apparent that attention is not always given to the point.

In connection with insoluble substances there is at times a difficulty in getting them conveniently mixed for the patient to take. It may be worth noting that a little spirit and water seems the best vehicle for sulphonal. Any convenient spirit may be used, such as whiskey, brandy, or tincture of cardamoms. From a teaspoonful to a tablespoonful, according to the size of the dose of sulphonal, should be put into a wineglass and the dose of sulphonal added. The sulphonal sinks, and when water is added and the mixture stirred it diffuses beautifully. With water only it persistently floats.

CLEANING MORTARS AND GRADUATES.

Mr. Hans M. Wilder says: "When I have cleaned my graduates, mortars, etc., thoroughly—at least judging from appearances—I am in the habit of catching the last drop of the final rinsing water on my tongue, and also taking a strong sniff. In this way the last trace of any acrid, bitter, or odorous substance is easily detected, in which case, of course, the rinsing is continued. If substances with marked chemical reactions have been in the graduates or mortars (for instance, salicylic acid, tannin, iron compounds, etc.), I use a few drops of an appropriate re-agent in order to make sure of the absence of even traces. When cleaning the scale pan used in weighing out aniline colours I always apply at the very last a few drops of alcohol to the apparently thoroughly clean pan, when the merest speck of aniline colour will reveal itself instantly.

The idea of keeping separate mortars and utensils for poisons, strongly odorous and bitter substances, is a good one, provided the utensils be marked unmistakably and kept in a separate place. In my store I was in the habit of keeping separate graduates for tinctures of valerian, assafoetida, and spirit of peppermint, which graduates were put behind the respective shelf-bottles on a small tray or a piece of hatter's felt"—*Amer. Jour. of Pharm.*, May, 1889.

When writing to Advertisers please mention the CANADIAN DRUGGIST.

IODIZED GLYCERINE.

Dr. G. Hammond (London Med. Recorder) points out that a mixture of tincture of iodine and glycerine produces a greater effect on the skin than the pure tincture, possibly because the glycerine tends to prevent the evaporation of the iodine, and thus enables the whole of its power to be utilized.

TREATMENT OF HÆMORRHOIDS BY GLYCERINE.

Mr. Harle, M.R.C.S., of Hackney, reports (*Brit. Med. Journ.*) that he has recently employed enemata of glycerine in one case with such success that in a few weeks a congested internal pile was reduced from the size of a large filbert to that of a pea. The patient injected two drachms of glycerine into the rectum every morning a short time before going to stool.

HE GOT WHAT HE WANTED.—About 3 a.m., the other morning, a mild faced man pulled violently at the night-bell of the chemist's in 9th avenue, N.Y. He exercised himself in this exciting way for about ten minutes, when he heard the shuffling of feet along the hall, and a few seconds later the door opened, and the half-waked assistant inquired in a somewhat acrid voice:

"Well! what is it?"

"Oh!" returned the disturber of his rest, "I only want one or two pennyworth of Goulard's water to make a compare with. We've just had an accident at home, and—"

"And a good thing too," broke in the enraged pill maker, "a man who will ring up the chemist for a pennyworth of Goulard water at 3 a.m., when pump water would do as well, ought to have accidents; here, give me the bottle."

"Go slow," meekly replied the customer. "I won't trouble you any further—pump water will do as well—that's all I wanted to know; thanks. Good-night.—*Tableau. — Pharm. Journ. and Transact.*

Sunday morning dialogue at Edinburgh, a propos of the east wind. Youngswell (steady outwardly, tongue not recovered from Saturday night): "A shimulatin' drasht, pleaseh." Chemist: "I beg your pardon." "Gimme a shimulatin' drasht, pleaseh." "Some acidulated drops?" "No! I want—a—stim—ulatin' drahtah—if—you—please." "Certainly. Sorry I misunderstood you." Hands over sp. chlorof., mxx.; tr. capsici, m.v.; tinct. aromat., ziv.; aq. ad. ziss. After draught has gone down: "Thatah rather good. Can you gimme a bottle of it?" "Sorry I can't oblige you. It is only given as a draught in cases of emergency." "Well, gimme another emergency dose. I'm a medical." Draught repeated. "Thanksh very much. Shorry to give you so much trouble on Shunday. I come from Burnah. Beashly climate here—very bad effect on me. Good day."

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