

CANADIAN

# PHARMACEUTICAL JOURNAL

VOL. VIII, No. 3. TORONTO, OCTOBER, 1874. WHOLE No. LXXVII

## Original and Selected Papers.

### IMPROVED FORMULA FOR CHARTA SINAPIS.\*

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The formula, given in the "Additions to the Pharmacopœia," for the preparation of mustard paper is unsatisfactory and expensive. The proportion of solution of gutta-percha necessary to render the ounce of mustard ordered sufficiently fluid for coating is ten drachms. This would contain more than a drachm of gutta-percha, which, when it is applied to the paper and the chloroform has evaporated, gives the surface of the mustard a glossy, varnished appearance. In fact, the gutta-percha acts as a varnish, much retarding the absorption of moisture and the development of the essential oil upon which the activity of the paper depends. Another objection to gutta-percha is its insufficient adhesive power, for the coating cracks and peels from the paper after but slight handling.

With the object of remedying these objections, I made a trial of solution of india-rubber in benzol as a menstruum; for I judged from its physical properties much less of this than of gutta-percha would be required to keep the particles of mustard cohesive, and at the same time the action would be retarded only to a minimum degree. I found it well answered my intention. After several experiments to determine the most suitable proportions, I have adopted the following:—

Take of

Caoutchouc .....	1 part.
Benzol .....	49 parts.
Black mustard, in powder, a sufficiency.	

\*From the Pharmaceutical Journal and Transactions.