

ucts, such as thyroid—with useful suggestions for the improvement of pharmaceutical preparations. Barclay has detailed standards for all official tinctures. As we write, the proposed Indian and Colonial Addendum to the B.P. has been issued in draft form and sent to the various authorities for criticisms and suggestions. This is, perhaps, a happy precedent for future revision of the B.P. itself.

THERAPEUTICS AND NEW REMEDIES.

In the purely physician's department of therapeutics, nothing has agitated the minds of the profession more than the claim on behalf of Behring's patent for diphtheria antitoxin serum. This procedure, although it may be strictly correct, is so repugnant to the best feeling and interests of the medical profession that condemnation has been universal. The general opinion is that such a step is lowering to the reputation and dignity of a distinguished *savant*, but Behring retorts that this is a matter that only concerns himself. The successful use of glycerophosphate of lime has caused Adrian and Trillat to prepare organic glycerophosphates including those of quinine, cocaine, etc. The value of bromide of potassium in the treatment of whooping cough has been noted by some observers; and Tilho claimed excellent results with 10 per cent. solution of citric acid in simple syrup for the same complaint. It is specially mentioned as most useful also as a prophylaxis. Judd tried large doses of calomel in cases of diphtheria with success; he administered 10 grains to a child of 18 months, with 5 grains every hour after for 8 hours. With adults the dose was 20 grains for a start and 10 grains after until 360 grains had been given. No ill effects from the treatment are stated to have occurred. Testevin used a decoction of scopolia as a local application for erysipelas. Renzi employed iodoform and tannin in phthisis. Temieres recommended an emulsion of euphorbium resin containing a quarter of a milligram in each cc. as a dose as injection for the same disease. Spermatic neuralgia was relieved by Domingo by internal doses of 10 centigrams of methylene blue every other hour. Tunncliffe found guaiacolate of piperidine of considerable service in phthisis. It is fairly soluble and has none of the irritating properties of guaiacol, whilst it is an efficient vascular and nervine tonic. Iodoform and calomel have been recommended

in the treatment of wounds. Glycerol of terebene has been suggested as an antiseptic dressing, it is a viscous combination of terebene with glycerin. Chelidonium, suddenly vaunted as a remedy for cancer, has been tried and found wanting.

Monsonia is a Cape plant that has a local reputation as a remedy for dysentery. Pelargonium reniforme, also belonging to the same natural order, is highly spoken of for the same complaint. Blepharis capensis enjoys great reputation among the Kaffirs in the treatment of anthrax, and Blaine successfully treated a case with a tincture made from the herb. Fluid extract of glaucium lateum is stated by Marpmann to be useful in diabetes in $\frac{1}{2}$ -drachm doses three times a day before meals. Luff has published some important researches, and also a work, upon the treatment of gout. He favored certain mineral waters and a vegetable and fish diet, although not exclusively vegetarian. Hydrastis has been recommended in the treatment of bronchitis. An interesting research by Chittenden and Gies indicated that borax and boric acid, largely used as food preservatives, have no effect up to 45 grains daily. They also show that alcoholic drinks have little effect on the digestion, as the retarding effect of alcoholic upon the activity of digestive fluids is counterbalanced by increased secretion and rapid absorption of the alcohol. The action noted some years ago that potassium permanganate was an efficient antidote for morphine has been confirmed by Sayre, who reported upon several poisoning cases. The latest suggestion for sterilization of instruments is that of Wright, who dips instruments and glass syringes into olive oil at a temperature of 160° to 180° C. Some practical experiments by Belcher indicated that common salt hastens the hardening of plaster of paris, whilst a small quantity of glycerin is sufficient to retard the setting. He found that two drachms of plaster, mixed with one drachm of a 5 per cent. solution of salt, set in two minutes.

The steady flow of new remedies continues, and the diary of an English journal of pharmacy has compiled a list of nearly 100 as having seen the light during 1898. Fortunately Darwin's generalization as to the survival of the fittest applies more clearly to these new remedies than even to human beings. The tendency to adapt trivial names to true chemical compounds is on the increase

Amongst the more important compounds are:

Anilipyrin, a combination of acetanilide and antipyrin, recommended in rheumatism, influenza, etc., in doses of 5 to 15 grains.

Argentamine, a substitute for silver nitrate for injections and as an eye drop in 5 per cent. solution in water.

Bromatin (bromethyl form), recommended for epilepsy in doses of 30 to 60 grains daily.

Bromipin, produced from oil of sesame and bromine, and given in epilepsy in doses of 1 to 3 teaspoonfuls per diem.

Captol, from tannin and chloral, suggested as an application to the scalp in seborrhoea capitis, in a 1 or 2 per cent. alcoholic solution or ointment.

Diiodoform (ethylene tetraiodide), prepared from iodine by means of calcium carbide, and used as a substitute for iodoform.

Euphthalmine Hydrochloride, a powerful mydriatic, and stated to be superior to bromatropine.

Geosote (guaiacol valerianate), a non-irritating substitute for guaiacol, and vaunted for its properties in relieving pulmonary catarrh, etc.

Hamatogen, a liquid containing hemoglobin, and recommended for anæmia, scrofula, etc.

Heroin, a new organic derivative of morphine, claimed to have specific action in coughs, and superior to codeine.

Iodoformogen, a compound of iodoform with albumin.

Largin, the name given by Pezzoli to a new compound of silver and albumin. Stated to have prompt action upon gonococci, and used as injection and eye-drop.

Ossalin, an ointment base, prepared from bone marrow.

Phénosal (phenacetine salicyl acetate), introduced as a remedy in neuralgia and as an antipyretic in doses of from 5 to 10 grains.

Protargol, another silver compound suggested to replace nitrate of silver as much less irritating.

Salubrol (dimethylene antipyrin bromide), used in dentistry as an antiseptic and hæmostatic.

Tannigen, tasteless astringent for chronic and acute diarrhoea in doses of 5 to 8 grains.

Thyroglandin, a patented preparation of thyroid gland.

Validol, a combination of menthol and valerianic acid, stated to be a specific for