

## CANADIAN PHARMACEUTICAL SOCIETY.

PRESIDENT, - - - WM. ELLIOT, Esq.

The regular meetings of the Society take place on the first Wednesday evening of each month, at the Mechanics' Institute, when, after the transaction of business, there is a paper read, or discussion engaged in, upon subjects of interest and value to the members.

The Society admits as members, Chemists and Druggists of good standing, and their assistants and apprentices, if elected by a majority vote, and on payment of the following fees:

Principals . . . . . \$4 00 per Annum  
Assistants & Apprentices, 2 00 "

The JOURNAL is furnished FREE to all members.

Parties wishing to join the Society may send their names for proposal to any of the members of the Society. A copy of the Constitution and By-laws of the Society will be furnished on application.

HENRY J. ROSE, Secretary.

## CANADIAN MEDICINAL PLANTS.

## PRIZES.

PRIZES are offered for collections of indigenous medical substances of vegetable origin, as follows:—

1st PRIZE—FIFTEEN DOLLARS—a copy of Griffith's Medical Botany, and Certificate.

2d PRIZE—TEN DOLLARS—a copy of Wood's Class-Book of Botany.

3d PRIZE—FIVE DOLLARS—a copy of Wood's Class-Book of Botany, and Certificate.

Conditions of competition to be—

1st. Competitors to have been engaged in the drug trade, and for not more than three years, and to be members of the Pharmaceutical Society previous to 1869.

2. Specimens to be forwarded (carriage paid) to the Secretary of the Society, Toronto, by 1st September, 1869, with a sealed letter, enclosing the address of the competitor, a certificate from his employer that the collection has been made by the competitor solely within a year; that he has been engaged in the drug trade during that time, and that he has not been more than three years so engaged at the date of this notice.

3. Each specimen is to be carefully prepared ready for sale or use, and packed in a paper bag. On each shall be written legibly, the common and scientific names, the date and locality of collection, and a private mark, which shall also be put on the outside of the letter accompanying the collection.

4. Three judges shall determine the order of merit; they shall be at liberty to withhold any or all of the Prizes, if the collections do not warrant an award, and to select such specimens as they may deem meritorious for the Museum of the Society, which specimens will have the name of the collector put upon them.

5. The points of competition to be number of specimens, condition, correctness of naming, and general excellence; quantity a secondary consideration.

Collections to which Prizes are awarded will be sent to the Provincial Exhibition at the expense of the Society; and any Prizes secured there, shall be for the benefit of the collector.

Address—Collections,

Canadian Pharmaceutical Society,

H. J. ROSE, Secretary,

September 15th, 1868.

Toronto.

## THE CANADIAN

## Pharmaceutical Journal.

E. B. SHUTTLEWORTH, EDITOR.

TORONTO, ONT., AUGUST, 1869

**Correspondence** and general communications of a character suited to the objects of this JOURNAL, are invited, and will always be welcome. The writer's name should accompany his communication, but not necessarily for publication.

**Subscriptions** will not be acknowledged by letter, as our sending the paper may be taken as sufficient evidence of the receipt of the money.

All communications connected with the paper to be addressed, post-paid,

"EDITOR CANADIAN PHARMACEUTICAL JOURNAL,  
TORONTO."

## CLASSICAL LORE vs. PRACTICAL KNOWLEDGE.

Many of our readers have, doubtless, perused with pleasure the excellent paper on "The Commerce of Marseilles," read before the Society at its July meeting, and which appeared in our last issue. As embodying the impressions of a Canadian, and the views of a practical business man, exhibited in a clear and practical manner, we thought the article would meet with general acceptance by the commercial community, and not prove uninteresting to the casual reader. From the numerous commendatory opinions we have since received, in regard to the paper, we have reason to believe our conclusion correct. On picking up a Montreal journal, a few days ago, we were, however, somewhat surprised to find a leading article in which Mr. Elliot's paper was made the subject of the most ill-natured and unscrupulous criticism, actuated evidently by an animus which the writer betrayed no pains in concealing. Although occurring under the editorial guise, we can scarcely ascribe the authorship to the unaided malignity of even the Montreal Telegraph.

We do not intend to review the article in question, nor should we have alluded to it at all, had it not been that a point is involved in which we feel the deepest interest; we refer to the undue prominence given in educational training to a study of the classics.

We do not wish to be understood as underrating the value of such study as a means of mental culture, nor do we deny the advantages which accrue, to some classes, from a familiarity with the dead languages; but we do say that in the great majority of instances—and more especially in the case of those intended for commercial pursuits, the time spent in acquiring a knowledge of Greek and Latin might be much better employed, in gaining possession of information which would be of direct and practical benefit

in after life. This appears to be the view taken by the author of the paper in the paragraph which so aroused the ire of the Telegraph. Mr. Elliot says:—

"There is (in Marseilles) no English house of any standing or importance, a sad commentary on the fact, that while British youths have been translating the obscenities of pagan mythology, these Greeks and Germans have mastered the modern languages which give them the best positions in practical affairs."

We have already admitted that the acquirement of the ancient languages is beneficial in promoting a habit of concentration, in exercising the memory, and otherwise developing and cultivating the mind. But is not the study of the modern languages of equal value in all these respects? and to a non-professional man of how much more practical utility? How often have we heard business men exclaiming against that system, which, though familiarizing them with the language of pagan deities, left them speechless before mortals, save of their own tongue.

In these progressive times, everything that is learned should be learned with an object. There is no time to waste in fulfilling the requirements of a so called perfect education, unless the achievement of those requirements promises to be of real sterling benefit. If the mind is to be trained, let it earn that training by acquiring, at the same time, information which can be utilized. We might illustrate this by a case of which we read recently. A worthy divine, professor in an American college, being deeply impressed with the necessity of physical culture, was in the habit of taking daily exercise, which he accomplished by alternately filling and emptying bags of sand, carrying them from one end of his cellar to the other. Had we known this good man we should certainly have suggested a wood saw, or presented him with a few gardening implements. In like manner would we substitute the modern for the ancient languages—a knowledge of living mortals and fresh truths, culled in the bright sunshine of actual existence, for the mouldering records of fabulous monstrosities and extinct nations, dug from the musty cellars of a barbarous antiquity.

Our remarks are to be taken as referring to the education of business men; to such Mr. Elliot's remarks were directed, and to others, at present, we shall not allude.

## CHAMPAGNE FROM PETROLEUM.

An article from the Cincinnati Journal of Commerce, under the above title has, for the last year, been going the rounds of the press; we can safely vouch for having seen it, in various shapes, at least a score times. It does not astonish us that it should be extensively copied in the ordinary newspapers of the day, as the announcement of such a start-