

proposed to revise the British Pharmacopœia and with a view to better adapt it to Colonial requirements, medical, chemical, botanical and pharmaceutical friends are invited to send to John Attfield F. R. S., 17 Bloomsbury Square, London, W. C., Eng., any reports of original observations and researches bearing on the pharmacopœia.

It is to be hoped that the glaring inconsistencies in which it abounds will be remedied.

It has been pointed out by Mr. Attfield that great saving might accrue by the use of indigenous substances in the Colonies in the place of the more expensive foreign article, such as, the use of an indigenous oil for olive oil in the preparation of ointments, plasters, liniments, etc.

**A MEDICAL MAN FINED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT.**—The inquest on the body of a man named Cooper (*Medical Press*), a shoemaker, who was shot by a man named Winters, who afterwards committed suicide, in Goldsmith's-row, Hackney-road, was considerably delayed by the action of Dr. O'Regan, who declined to hand over the revolver with which the crime was committed. The inquiry had to be adjourned, and Dr. Regan then produced the weapon. He asked for his fee as a medical witness, but instead was fined £1 by Mr. A. Hodgkinson, the deputy-coroner, for his conduct in the matter. The doctor said that he should appeal against the coroner's decision, and has done so, with the result that he has been informed by the Treasury Commissioners that they decline to remit the fine.

**AMERICAN ELECTRO-THERAPEUTIC ASSOCIATION.**—The fourth annual meeting of the American Electro-Therapeutic Association will be held in New York, September 25th, 26th and 27th, at the New York Academy of Medicine. Members of the medical profession are cordially invited to attend.

WILLIAM J. HERDMAN, M.D.,  
President.

MARGARET A. CLEAVES, M.D.,  
Secretary.

**COUGHING-TAXIS.**—In the *Lancet*, January 27th, Dr. Wherry, University Lecturer on Surgery, Cambridge, declares that he has frequently found that coughing on the part of the patient during taxis was a great aid in reduction of hernia. He

cites one instance in which after two physicians, aided by chloroform, had failed to reduce, he succeeded by gentle taxis continued for fifteen minutes while the patient coughed continuously. It was a femoral hernia, severely strangulated, in a middle-aged woman.

**ECZEMA OF THE VULVA.**—Lusch recommends the following treatment:

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|----------------------------|-------|
| R—Sod. bicarb., . . . . .  | 8.0   |
| Potass. bicarb., . . . . . | 4.0   |
| Glycerin. pur., . . . . .  | 6.0   |
| Tr. opii., . . . . .       | 8.0   |
| Aq. destill., . . . . .    | 250.0 |

Sig.—Wash the affected parts night and morning with the above and then powder with:

|                         |      |
|-------------------------|------|
| R—Amyli., . . . . .     | 98.0 |
| Camph. trit., . . . . . | 2.0  |

**A NEW METHOD OF PRODUCING THE IODINE REACTION IN AMYLOID TISSUE.**—Galeotti (*Lo Sperim. ; B. M. J.*) describes a new method of demonstrating the extent of amyloid degeneration. It consists in soaking the sections in a solution of potassium iodide, then rapidly washing them in distilled water, and immersing them in chlorine water. The amyloid tissue alone retains the iodine salt, so that when this latter is attacked by the chlorine water, it is the altered part alone which is stained by the liberated iodine. The test is said to be extremely delicate.

**MAGISTRACY, MEDICINE AND MALINGERING.**—The special usefulness (*Boston Med. and Surg. Jour.*) of a medical magistrate is reported from England. A workhouse inmate was arraigned before a medical J.P., charged with refusing to work, to which he pleaded that he was a victim of heart disease, whereupon the magistrate promptly descended from the bench, produced a stethoscope, auscultated the culprit, and re-ascending the throne of justice, sent him "up" for seven days for malingering.

**A SUCCESSFUL SPLENECTOMY.**—Dr. James Murphy, of Sunderland, England, did a splenectomy upon a woman forty-five years old, on April 25th. The operation was undertaken for abscess and hypertrophy. The wound healed promptly, and at last reports the patient was making a satisfactory progress.