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PHARMACEUTICAL ETHICS.

BY J. T. SHAPTER.

Read before the Canadian Pharmaceutical Society,
Dec. 2, 1868.

MR. PRESIDENT AND GENTLEMEN: It is customary for individuals seeking the attainment of science, to avail themselves of the experience of those whose research has given them a relative perfection in that particular branch to which attention is being directed.

In the formation and progress of the British Pharmaceutical Society we have repeated evidence of the up-hill work attending its existence, and but for the indomitable perseverance of its founders it might have been to-day a thing only in name. The results they have achieved are strong incentives to us in our incipient stage, and as pharmacutists we shall take advantage of their education and experience, not confining ourselves to originality because it might be thought more gratifying or independent. Our lamp burns none the less for lighting our neighbors. The benefit inculcated in this axiom is indorsed by every true philanthropist, and it is our privilege to cull from the literature of the day, the results of the labor of our greatest men, and to make such capital out of their expressed ideas as we are capable of deducing. I have been often gratified and instructed by perusing articles from the pen of Mr. Joseph Ince, an associate of King's College, London, and I was forcibly struck while reading recently a paper of his on Pharmaceutical Ethics, composed by request for presentation at the Conference which met at Nottingham, in August, 1866. It might be read here and transferred to our journal to the advantage of all its members, but its theory is somewhat too exalted to be reduced to practice by ourselves who cater for the million. Mr. Ince's trade associations being exclusively in the upper circle, those outside of that circle would be apt to consider him highflown in theory, while his citations are only adapted practically to the sphere of his own experience. I have therefore taken the liberty of selecting the leading points, and adapting the ideas therein conveyed to our own condition. We will preface the subject by

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Toronto, May, 1868. 1 ly.