

of the stomach, and is, therefore, more easily taken up by the absorbents. It is liable to be adulterated with the black or magnetic oxide. From this, its greatest impurity, Morson's preparation has been proved, by some of the most eminent chemists in Great Britain, to be entirely free. It always contains a variable quantity of sulphuretted hydrogen, which, however, does not detract in the least from its efficiency. 2. IRON ALUM.—This is a new preparation of iron which has recently been introduced to the notice of the profession by the physicians of St. Mary's Hospital, London. It is a very soluble salt of a pale violet color. It forms a solution of a reddish color. It is isomorphous with common alum, its crystals being of the octohedral form, and its composition being represented by the formula  $\text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3, 3\text{SO}_3 + \text{NH}_4\text{O}, \text{SO}_3 + 24\text{HO}$ . As in the double sulphate of alumina and potash, the potash may be replaced by some other base, so in this salt, soda or potassa may be substituted for the oxide of ammonium. There being no alumina present in Iron Alum, Mr. Davenport suggests "that this salt when ordered in medicine should be called *ammonia-sulphate of peroxide of iron*, when the ammonia salt is intended, or *potassio-sulphate of peroxide of iron*, if it were intended to indicate the potash salt." Dr. Tyler Smith has found it to be "a more powerful astringent than common alum, and not liable to produce the stimulating effects of other salts of iron." 3. CHURRUS.—The concreted resinous exudation from the leaves and stems of the *Cannabis Indica*. Its effects, as described by Dr. O'Shaughnessy, are mental exhilaration, followed by alleviation of pain and tendency to sleep; insensibility, which terminates suddenly, and is succeeded by an inordinate desire for food. It has, likewise, an aphrodisiac effect, and induces a genuine cataleptic condition. 4. VALERIANATE OF ZINC.—A very excellent preparation of a valuable drug, much used at present in various nervous diseases. 5. ALCOHOLIC EXTRACT OF COLCHICUM. 6. PURE ELATERIUM. 7. KREASOTE.—A German preparation of remarkable purity and strength.

---

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*Dr. P. Proulx*.—His friend has not complied with his request. We again send Nos. 2, 8, 9 and 10. The former ones are probably in the Boucherville Post Office. We will be happy to send any other that may be missing. *Dr. O'Leary*.—Request attended to. *Drs. Larocque and Rousseau*.—Hope we shall continue to merit their approbation. *Drs. Easton and Degel*.—We regret the non-arrival of the Nos., and have forwarded duplicates. *Dr. Bergin*.—It must have gone astray. *Dr. Gilbert*.—His letter quite satisfactory—hope the contribution is the first of a series: very thankful for information.