

remedies, such as poppyhead fomentation, canomile tea, manna, oak bark and its decoctions. &c.

Further it is not considered necessary to include among the official drugs many of those substances from which drugs are obtained, especially where such drugs have distinct characters and can be easily tested, as for example, star anise fruit, *sabadilla*, *santonica*, *creta*, &c. Many substances whose popularity has waned have also been omitted; among these are noticed bael fruit, *canella*, animal charcoal, *berberine*, *frangula* bark, *mastich*, tobacco, *savine*, *rue*, *kanala*, *matico* and *bromine*. Many chemical substances are also left out which formerly were used as tests.

A large number of preparations have disappeared or have been more or less altered. It has been felt that the last two Pharmacopœias have been unduly burdened, and a beginning has now been made in decreasing the number of preparations of individual drugs.

Among the more important of these omissions we note that the two citrates of bismuth and ammonia have disappeared. They were rarely used except in the official solution, which still remains. Of the preparations of iron, seven have been discarded, the granulated sulphate was regarded as merely a convenient form of the official salt; the pill of the iodide of iron was regarded as unstable, and with the introduction of the pill of iron the necessity for a carbonate of iron pill has ceased; the tincture of the acetate of iron will scarcely be missed, but many we think will regret the omission of the solution of dialysed iron. The reason for its omission is said to be its uncertain strength and the fact that it is readily decomposed.

Three preparations of opium and three of morphine have been discarded; the confection and the wine of opium were regarded as relics of the past, while the lozenge of morphia supplies our requirements better than the previously official lozenge of opium. It will surprise many to find that the sulphate of morphia and its preparations have been omitted, but the solution of bimeconate will scarcely be missed. In their place we have a new salt, morphine tartrate introduced on account of its stability and solubility.

Calamine, a favourite with many practitioners, and defined in the last Pharmacopœia as a native carbonate of zinc, turns out to be almost entirely an artificial preparation; it is in fact an oxide or carbonate of zinc coloured in various ways. One of two courses had to be taken; either to introduce an artificially coloured oxide or to omit calamine altogether; the latter course has been adopted.

Water and proof spirits both disappear from the new official list. Wherever water is employed, distilled water is specified. Only in