

# AN APOLOGY.

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In the *New York Medical Journal*, January 28th, 1893, appeared an article by William A. Hammond, entitled: "On Certain Organic Extracts, their Preparation, and Physiological and Therapeutical Effects."

While the record of this author is not one calculated to inspire respect for any opinions that might be advanced by him, yet we were led to accept fully his statements and deductions because of quasi-indorsement by the editor of the above named *Journal*.

Being actuated by a desire to keep abreast of the times, and without any thought or intent of injustice to anyone, we began experimentation regarding the production of so-called "Cerebrine," and other animal extracts, referred to in the foregoing paper. As a result, we were speedily convinced that their manufacture could be completed, without any detriment to the substances themselves, in a much less period of time than that claimed by Dr. Hammond; and, consequently, later we announced our ability to supply "Cerebrin."

Soon after, we were surprised to receive a letter from Dr. Hammond claiming sole proprietorship of the word "Cerebrine" which, too, had been duly trademarked, and announcing that "The Columbia Chemical Co. are alone authorized by me to handle the extracts made by my processes, and that all are made in my own laboratory, under my own supervision."

Other papers laudatory of "Animal Extracts," and presenting the same general claims, appeared in many other medical journals besides numerous lay publications—thereby demonstrating the fact that the first named article was written and published (as evidenced by Dr. Hammond's own statements) for the sole benefit of the Columbia Chemical Co., of which he (Dr. Hammond) is President and a large share holder.

Subsequently Dr. Hammond widely disseminated through the mails and by publication in the *New England Medical Monthly* (Dr. Wile) a circular over his own signature, not only attacking us unjustly, but in a manner most scurrilous and unbecoming to an officer, a professional man or a gentleman. He also threatened us, through his attorneys in New York, with dire penalties if we did not cease the sale of the articles.

The development of the fact that the paper in the *New York Medical Journal* was written and published for mercenary purposes led us to doubt the statements of the author of the article, and incidentally we were induced to have the value of "Cerebrine" as manufactured by Hammond, and "Cerebrin" as made by ourselves, therapeutically and physiologically tested. As a result, we are now convinced that both "Cerebrine" (Hammond) and "Cerebrin" (P. D. & Co.) will not respond to Dr. Hammond's claims.

We, therefore, announce, that while we are prepared and willing to supply "Cerebrin" as manufactured by us after our formula, in response to all demands, that we have grave doubts as to the merits of the article, and, therefore, present our apology to the medical profession for the error into which we were unwittingly led by the *New York Medical Journal*.

We invite correspondence upon this subject, and are prepared to supply interesting information in printed form to all who will apply for the same.

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## PARKE, DAVIS & CO.

DETROIT, July 12, 1893.