

DRINKING IN LONDON.

Col, Henry Watterson writing recently on "Modern London," in the Louisville *Courier-Journal*, said, "In nothing have the habits of gentlemen more changed than in the use of wine. Time was when each plate and table was enfiladed, almost surrounded, by an escort of wine glasses, ranging from sherry to champagne, and tapering thence to Madeira and brandy-port, claret, Burgundy, the red alternating with the white—and he was no good man and true who did not go through the list and survive it. To-day at the great houses you may have what you want but rarely more than three glasses are visible, for white wine, for red wine and for champagne. Apollinaris is largely in evidence. The fine old English gentleman who made it a merit to get drunk on port and to sober up on claret has disappeared."

MODERN THERAPEUTICS AND PHARMACY.*

By FREDERICK HADRA, M.D., of San Antonio, Texas.

In speaking of ethical proprietaries, he says: "I should be sorry, indeed, if the prejudices of any member of this society should so far overcome his better judgment as to banish all or most of these drugs from his practice without investigating their merits. So, if we desire a local antiphlogistic effect, and have to choose between the ancient, unsightly, unhygienic and troublesome flax-seed poultice and the newer proprietary article called Antiphlogistine, a physician must needs be prejudiced, indeed, who will prefer the former. . . . It may be a matter of theoretical indifference what preparation we prescribe, but it may be quite a different matter with the patient who has to use it for long periods." . . .

"Does it not strike you as somewhat incongruous that we alone of all professions and trades should rise up in arms against a co-ordinate branch which is continually striving to assist us in improving our therapeutic weapons? If we would take advantage of the opportunity offered to make intelligent selection of such preparations of drugs of reliable concerns as appeal to reason and common sense, those of us who do so will certainly have an advantage over those who do not."

As regards the refilling by the druggists of prescriptions of proprietary remedies, he says: "If I am called to treat a sprain of the ankle, and find it necessary to order an antiphlogistic application, it would be just as easy for the patient to send to his druggist daily for more flax-seed meal or iodine, as it would be for him to order more cans of the

* Extracts from an article in the *Texas Medical Journal* for March, 1905.