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ON TINCTURE OF COLUMBO, WITH REMARKS UPON  
THE INJURIOUS INFLUENCE OF LIGHT ON SOME  
PREPARATIONS, ETC.\*

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All who have made tincture of columbo by the officinal process, are aware of the difficulties attending it, and the unsatisfactory results. In the first place, the menstruum is too weak, and in the second place, the powder directed is too fine.

Columbo, as is well known, contains among its constituents a large proportion of albuminous matter, which is very soluble in so aqueous a menstruum as diluted alcohol, and which, consequently, causes the tincture to become loaded with inert matter, rendering it very prone to change and deposit, and also to become cloudy, &c.

Sensible of the importance of keeping the alcoholic strength of all tonic tinctures down to the minimum consistent with their highest therapeutic qualities, and pharmaceutic integrity and perfection, I endeavored to overcome the objectionable features in the officinal formula, without increasing the alcoholic strength of the preparation; but in this was not successful. To obtain a preparation that would be stable, not deposit, but remain bright and clear (qualities so desirable), and to devise a process that would be practically unobjectionable, I found that it would be necessary to slightly increase the alcoholic strength, and change somewhat the character of the menstruum. I therefore turned my attention to that expedient, and after a number of experiments have adopted the following formula, which seems to afford an excellent preparation.

\*Druggist's Circular.