

SCHOOL OF PRACTICAL SCIENCE.—Lectures on Chemistry will be given on Monday and Friday evenings at eight o'clock; and on Botany, on Wednesday evenings, at the same hour. Tickets for the course may be obtained, without charge, by applying to Dr. Ellis; between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily. Applications should be made at as early a period as possible.

Editorial Summary.

LIQUID EXTRACT OF PAREIRA.—A very interesting and practical paper on this subject was read by Mr. B. S. Proctor, at the last meeting of the British Pharmaceutical Conference. Three samples of the extract of pareira, as furnished by respectable firms, were examined, and the results compared with those shown by two extracts prepared by Mr. Proctor. In the manufacture of one of these—designated No. 4—the pharmacopœial process was followed; the other—No. 1—was prepared by mixing one pound of powdered pareira of a fineness of 120 to the inch, with one pint of boiling water, allowing the mixture to cool, and then introducing into a wide conical percolator, and pouring on successive pints of boiling water until the percolate amounted to sixty fluid ounces, when the exhaustion was considered complete. The first ten ounces of the percolate were collected apart and mixed with three ounces of rectified spirit; the remainder of the percolate was evaporated down to three ounces and mixed with the reserved portion, making the total product sixteen ounces. A comparison of the entire series was made by observing the number of minims of extract No. 1 required to be added to one fluid drachm of water in order to communicate the same intensity of taste. No. 2 required 45; No. 3, 25; No. 4 30; and No. 5, 12 minims. The commercial samples are indicated by the numbers 2, 3 and 5. A further comparison was made by weighing the dry residue of 100 grains of each of the five samples, and it was found that the results corresponded very nearly with those obtained by the first method:

No. 1	specific gravity	1.0504	yielded	15.5	grains residue.
2	"	"	1.0226	"	10.0 " "
3	"	"	1.0108	"	6.0 " "
4	"	"	0.9930	"	3.5 " "
5	"	"	0.9888	"	3.0 " "

This comparison suggests that in the commercial samples the process had only been carried so far as to extract those portions of matter most soluble, and to leave large portions of extractive matter