

grains; of tincture of belladonna, m_{30} equals gr. j. of leaf, whereas gr. j. of the extract corresponds to 3j. of the tincture; whilst nux vomica supplies a still more glaring example, seeing that m_{20} of the tincture corresponds to 2 grains of the powdered seeds, whereas of the extract 2 grains equals 3ss. It is difficult to see that these curious discrepancies have been made with any deliberate intention, and the inference is therefore fair that they have merely crept in from some carelessness or want of method on the part of the constructors of our national Pharmacopœia. Whilst fully acknowledging the great benefits which have resulted from the pharmaceutical fusion of Scotland and Ireland, and the establishment of one national standard in the United Kingdom, it appears to me to be the duty of every one to make such suggestions for the improvement of future editions as may seem founded on reason; and it has been a great gratification to me to bring a subject before you which specially engaged Anstie's attention, and to the due furtherance of which he was about to summon all the resources of his energetic intellect when his career was unhappily brought to a close.

[NOTE BY THE EDITOR.—We are obliged to curtail this paper by omitting the concluding portion referring to the looseness of homœopathic pharmacy, more particularly in the uncertain strength of the preparations. A brief summary of the leading points will be found in our editorial columns.]

NEW RESEARCHES ON GALLIUM.*

BY M. LECOCQ DE BOISBAUDRAN.

TRANSLATED BY "MONAD."

I have just reduced to the metallic state about ten centigrammes (1) of gallium, which I believe to be very pure. As I had explained it, the first sample of gallium owed its hardness to the presence of a small quantity of foreign metals. Pure gallium melts about $29^{\circ}.5$; also, it liquifies as soon as taken in the hand: it maintains itself very easily in a state of *surfusion*, which explains how a globule can remain liquid during weeks with the temperature occasionally falling to zero. The gallium obtained by electrolysis from an ammoniacal solution is identical with that from a potassic solution. Once solidified the metal is hard and resisting, even to a few degrees below its

* Comptes Rendus, May.

(1) The pure product extracted from 431 kilogrammes of various minerals. I possess besides impure products which I estimate to contain yet 2 or 3 decigrammes of gallium.