

THE HOUSE WITH A POLICY.

I.—RESEARCH.

THE house of Parke, Davis & Co. came into existence 52 years ago, and it is proper to ask what motives have actuated it during this long period of service. Both Mr. Parke and Mr. Davis with prophetic vision realised from the first that if the Company was ever to become great it must represent some definite fundamental ideas. It must give the world something that the world did not possess before.

Research was one of the first, as it has always been one of the most important, departments of work to which we have devoted our energies and resources. From the commencement of our firm's history we have continuously engaged in original investigation. In the early days, when the vegetable *materia medica* played a larger rôle than it does now, we were instrumental in placing many new plant drugs at the disposal of the medical profession. Very many of these drugs subsequently became official in the various National Pharmacopœias.

Later on, in the natural evolution of *materia medica*, original work was undertaken in chemical and biochemical investigation, and this resulted in the discovery of a considerable number of medicinal agents that have proved of distinct value. Of many such products we need only mention Adrenalin, Pituitrin, and Apothésine—one of the latest introductions—to show the importance of the work done by us.

During the last 25 years our researches have been specially devoted to subjects in the field of biological and glandular therapy. As early as 1894 we established a laboratory for the production of antitoxic serums, and more recently we have devoted ourselves to the investigation and elaboration of the comparatively modern subject of vaccine therapy.

It is not our purpose to enumerate the new vegetable, chemical, biological and glandular products that we have introduced from time to time. Our object is merely to indicate the part we have played in the development of *materia medica* during the last half century.

Our research work has not always been devoted to the purpose of turning out marketable products. We have frequently spent large sums in exhaustive investigations, which, in all probability, would never lead to any commercial advantage, but which have been undertaken with the primary desire to be of service to the medical profession and to humanity.

In order to illustrate the direction and character of our research work during the past few years, the following selection of articles emanating from our Research Laboratory and published in various scientific and medical journals will be of interest:—

- Production of Immunity with over-neutralised Diphtheria Toxin.
- An Investigation of the Depressor Action of Pituitary Extracts.
- The Physiology of the Pituitary Gland and the Action of its Extracts.
- The Relations of Pyogenic Micro-organisms to the Etiology and Treatment of Skin Diseases.
- Serum Treatment of Hæmorrhage and Blood Dyscrasias.
- The Heart Tonic Unit.
- Physiological Testing.
- The Iodine Content of Thyroid Glands.
- On the Cultivation of the *Treponema Pallidum*.
- Drug Influence on Extrasystoles of the Mammalian Heart.
- The Rationale of the Use of Adrenalin in the Treatment of Asthma.
- The Germicidal Action of the Ultra-violet Rays.
- A Sero-enzyme Test for Syphilis.
- The Phenomenon of Anaphylaxis: Its Clinical Significance and Practical Utilisation.

In addition to those mentioned above, members of our scientific staff have communicated to professional journals numerous articles recording researches carried out in bacteriology, immunisation therapy, and *materia medica* employed by the medical, dental, and veterinary professions.

PARKE, DAVIS & COMPANY,

DETROIT, NEW YORK, MONTREAL, LONDON, BOMBAY, SYDNEY, BUENOS AIRES, &c.

Laboratories at Detroit (U.S.A.); Walkerville (Canada); Hounslow (Eng.); and Sydney (N.S.W.).