

MAGNETIC CITRATE OF IRON.

MR. BULLOCK, in redemption of his pledge, to offer to the Profession many new Preparations for Medicinal use, begs first to recommend to their attention the above Preparation of Iron. The favorable reception given to the Citrate of Iron has been interrupted but by one circumstance; some distinguished Practitioners have suggested that they should have more confidence in a Salt of Iron wherein the metal was in a lower state of oxidation. Most Medical Gentlemen are probably aware, that the native Magnetic Oxide of Iron is a crystallizable compound of the peroxide and the protoxide, the two oxides uniting in the relation of acid and base. The combination of the Magnetic Oxide of Iron with Citric Acid forms a perfectly soluble salt, although both the Citrate of the Protoxide and Peroxide become, when dried, insoluble. From these peculiarities, it is presumed it will be readily acted upon by the stomach, and will present the Iron to the system in a condition likely to be highly efficacious.

CITRATE OF THE MAGNETIC OXIDE OF IRON—or, for brevity, **MAGNETIC CITRATE OF IRON**—is a salt in greenish yellow scales, forming, by solution in water, a brilliant orange-colored liquid, which has a ferruginous but not disagreeable flavor. It is sold in sealed bottles only.

CITRATE OF IRON.

The demand for and the employment of this beautiful preparation of Iron goes on steadily increasing; and Mr. Bullock trusts it has already taken a permanent place amongst the most useful therapeutic agents. The price is now so low as to permit its employment to be universal.

Under these circumstances Mr. Bullock hopes that no apology is necessary for again calling the attention of the Profession to the weak attempts of the "Pharmaceutical Journal" to bring the Citrate of Iron into disrepute. He again repeats, that this title was given to the Salt by **M. Beral**, who has the credit of first preparing it; that, under this name, it *has been and is* prepared and sold by the French pharmaceutical chemists; and it was only after Mr. Bullock introduced it to general notice in this country that these absurd objections about its title were made; it had previously been in use in France for no less than ten years, without being noticed by English pharmaceutical chemists.

The Editor of the "Pharmaceutical Journal" has evidently allowed himself to be made a tool of by interested persons, who have urged him to this attack, which is little to his or their credit. His papers on the subject display a very slight acquaintance with it; and what a reflection does he himself cast on the state of pharmacy in England, and of his own competency to edit a journal devoted to pharmacy, when he says he was obliged to write to a friend in Paris to know what the salt should be called?

It appears that many incompetent persons have attempted to prepare the Citrate (probably from the recipe of the "Pharmaceutical Journal"), as Mr. Bullock is daily receiving letters with samples of salts, called Citrate of Iron and Ammonio Citrate of Iron, of all sorts of color, strength, &c.; in short, anything but what they ought to be. He, therefore, begs to caution the profession against employing an inefficient preparation, made from impure materials, or by an uncertain process.

The Profession are aware that, like the Ferri Potassio Tart. of the London Pharmacopœia, the Ferri Citras contains a small quantity of Ammonia. Without this addition it would be an Acid Salt, difficult of solution. In pursuing the inquiry into the properties of the Citrate of Iron, Mr. Bullock finds that this Acid Salt combines with and is neutralised by alkalis, earths, and metallic oxides, forming a most interesting class of Salts, amongst which, there can be no doubt, will be found some of great efficacy. He has, therefore, prepared many of these compounds, which he begs to offer to the notice of the Profession:—

Citrate of the Peroxide of Iron with Potash.

"	"	"	Soda.
"	"	"	Magnesia.
"	"	"	Oxide of Zinc.
"	"	"	Protoxide of Iron.
"	"	"	Quinine:

The physiological action of each will probably be found peculiar; their application Mr. Bullock of course leaves to the investigation of the profession; but there can be no doubt that gentlemen, who will take the trouble to study their effects as remedies, must be rewarded by valuable results.

The price of these (which are sold only in sealed bottles), is necessarily a little higher than the Citrate; but it will be found in all cases, with preparations introduced by Mr. Bullock, to be as moderate as is consistent with the purity of materials and care in preparation.

LLOYD BULLOCK, Operative Chemist, 22, Conduit-street, Hanover-square.

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W. D. HUSBAND,
Secretary to the Local Council.

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