879. Mention the chief yellow coloring matters, and describe their chemical nature.
880. What is annatto?
881. Name the colorific constituent of madder. Can it be made artificially?
882. State the source of litmus.
883. Distinguish between Prussian blue and Turnbull's blue, and state how they are manufactured.
884. How is blue ultramarine obtained? How is it affected by acids?
885. Describe the chemical nature of the coloring principle of green leaves.
886. By what agents is glass colored green?
887. Whence is sepia obtained?
888. Describe the chemistry of black ink.
889. Write a few sentences on *aniline colors*.

QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS OF SUBSTANCES HAVING UNKNOWN PROPERTIES.

Substances are presented to the analyst in one of the three forms in which all matter exists—namely, solid, liquid, or gaseous—and they may contain animal or vegetable as well as mineral matter.

The method of analysis in the case of *solid mineral bodies* has been described on pp. 370 to 377.

Solid animal or vegetable substances (or mixtures of these with mineral bodies) may be indefinite and beyond the grasp of chemistry, or definite and quite within the range of proximate qualitative organic analysis. The presence of such substances is indicated in the preliminary examination of a solid (pp. 370 to 377.) by charring and other characters. If no charring occurs and no volatile liquid is expelled by heat, the absence of such matter is indicated. But if organic matter is present, an endeavor is made to ascertain its precise character. The analyst's knowledge of the history of the substance or the circumstances under which it comes into his hands will probably afford a clue to its nature, and enable him to search directly for its proximate constituents. If no such information is at hand, the action of solvents may be employed as likely to afford indication of the general, if not of the precise, nature of the substance. Water, alcohol, ether, chloroform, bisulphide of carbon, each both hot and cold, may in turn be agitated with the substance, the mixture filtered, a portion of the filtrate evaporated, at first partially, setting the product aside, and afterward to dryness, and any deposit or residue examined with and without the aid of a microscope. Other portions of the filtrate may be treated with acids, alkalies, and solutions of such metallic salts as are commonly used as group-tests for acidulous radicals (p. 367). The action of alkalies, as well as acids, weak and strong, hot and cold, may also be tried on the solid substance itself, and colors, odors—and, in short, any effect whatever—

duly noted. A portion of the substance should also be burnt in an open porcelain crucible until no carbon remains, and the ash, if any, examined; its amount and nature may afford information leading to the identification of the substance.

The foregoing experiments having been carefully performed, and all results entered in the note-book, a little reflection will possibly lead to the recognition, or may suggest further direct experiments or confirmatory tests, or will, at least, have pointed to the absence of 90 or 95 per cent. of all possible substances, and thus have restricted the area of inquiry to narrow limits. The success attainable in qualitative proximate organic analysis by the medical or pharmaceutical student will of course largely depend on the thoroughness with which the operator has prosecuted his study of practical chemistry generally; but it also will be considerably affected by the extent to which he has cultivated the art of observation, and the opportunities he has had of acquiring a knowledge of the appearance, uses, and common properties of definite chemical substances and of articles of food, drink, and medicine. The most successful of several good analysts will be the one who has most common sense and most experience.

The pharmaceutical student, who has probably already had some years of experience in pharmacy, occupies an unusually favorable position for prosecuting the proximate analysis of organic and inorganic substances, or, at all events, of that large proportion of such bodies met with in the domain of hygiene and pharmacy. Many substances he will identify at sight, or by aid of a lens, or after applying some simple physical or chemical test. Nor should he find much difficulty, after reaching the present point of practical study, in deciding whether the solid substance under examination belongs to the class of organic acids, organic salts of metallic radicals, alkaloids, salts of alkaloids, amylaceous matter, gums, saccharine substances, glucosides, albumenoid matters, fats, soaps, resins, coloring matters, etc. For instance, the pharmaceutical student will find less difficulty than the general student in successfully analyzing a substance occurring in "scales," because he has experience of the appearances of compounds commonly produced in that form, and because, even if the appearance is new to him, he knows what kind of substances most readily lend themselves to production in that form. While the general student is testing generally and proceeding cautiously or searching for general information in books of reference, the pharmaceutical or medical student has incinerated some of the material, noticed whether or not the ash is red (iron) and strongly alkaline (potassium), treated more of the material with an alkali (for ammonium), added excess of ammonia, and examined the precipitate (for cinchonine or quinine), or shaken up the alkaline liquid successively with ether and chloroform, and tested the residue of these decanted and evaporated solvents (quinine, beberine, strychnine), and examined the aqueous solution of the material or one of the filtered alkaline liquids in the usual way for acidulous radicals (citric, tartaric, sulphuric, hypophosphorous). Or he has modified his methods to include search for some "scale preparation" which his special knowledge tells him has been newly introduced to, or is rare in, pharmacy.

In the case of liquids the solvents as well as the dissolved matters claim attention. A few drops are evaporated to dryness on platinum-foil to ascertain if solid matter of any kind is present; the liquid is tested by red and blue litmus-paper to ascertain if free alkalies, free acids, or neither are present; a few drops are heated in the test-tube and the odor of any vapor noticed, a piece of glass tubing bent to a right angle being, if necessary, adapted to the test-tube by a cork, and some of the distilled liquid collected and examined; finally, the usual group-reagents for the several basylous and acidulous radicals are consecutively applied.

Proceeding in this way, the student who has already had some experience in pharmacy will not be likely to overlook such solvents as water, acids, alkalies, alcohol, glycerin, ether, chloroform, benzene, fixed oils, and essential oils, or to miss the substances which these menstrua may hold in solution. He will probably also recognize such liquids as carbolic acid, formic acid, lactic acid, methylic alcohol, aldehyde, aniline, nitrobenzol. He must not, however, suppose that he will always be able to qualitatively analyze, say, a bottle of medicine; for the various infusions, decoctions, tinctures, wines, syrups, liniments, confections, extracts, pill-masses, and powders contain vegetable matters most of which at present are quite beyond the reach of the analyst. Neither the highest skill in analysis nor the largest amount of experience concerning the odor, appearance, taste, and uses of drugs is sufficient for the detection of all these vegetable matters. Skill and experience combined, however, will do much, and in most cases even so difficult a task as the one just mentioned be accomplished with reasonable success. Obviously, qualitative analysis alone will not enable the experimenter to produce a mixture of substances similar to that analyzed; to this end recourse must be had to quantitative analysis, a subject reserved for subsequent consideration.

Natural fluids, as "Milk" and "Urine" (*vide* Index), admit of special analytical treatment.

Gas-analysis, or *Eudiometry* (from εὐδία, *eudia*, calm air, and μέτρον, *metron*, a measure, in allusion to the *eudiometer*, an instrument used in measuring the proportion and, as the early chemists thought, the salubrity of the gases of the air), is a branch of experimental investigation, chiefly of a quantitative character, concerning which information must be sought in other treatises. The analysis of atmospheric air from various localities, coal-gas, and gases obtained in chemical researches, involves operations which are scarcely within the sphere of Chemistry applied to Medicine. Beyond the recognition, therefore, of oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, carbonic, sulphurous, and hydrosulphuric acid gases, the experimental considerations of the chemistry of gaseous bodies may be omitted. Their study, however, should not be neglected, as existing conceptions of the constitution of chemical substances are largely dependent on the observed relations of the volumes of gaseous compounds to their elements. (See previous paragraphs, pp. 16 to 29, 42 to 45, 52 to 54, and 128.) The best single work on this latter part of the subject is a small book by Hofmann, *Introduction to Modern Chemistry*.

Spectrum Analysis.—It may be as well to state here that the preliminary and final examinations of minute quantities of solid matter may, in certain cases, profitably include their exposure to a temperature at which they emit light, the flame being physically analyzed by a spectroscope. A spectroscope consists essentially of a prism to decompose a ray of light into its constituent colors, with tubes and lenses to collect and transmit the ray or rays to the eye of an observer. The material to be examined is placed on the end of a platinum wire, which is then brought within the edge of a spirit-lamp or other smokeless flame; volatilization, attended usually in the case of a compound by decomposition, at once occurs, and the whole flame is tinged with a characteristic hue. A flat ribbon of rays is next cut off by bringing near to the flame a brass tube, the cap of which is pierced by a narrow slit. At the other end of the tube, at focal distance for parallel rays, is a lens through which the ribbon of light passes to a prism; the prism decomposes the ribbon, spreading out its constituent colors like a partially-opened fan, and the colored beam or *spectrum* thus produced is then examined by help of a telescope attached by a movable joint to a stand which carries the prism and the object-tube. It is this combination of tubes, lenses, and prism or prisms which constitutes the spectroscope. Sodium compounds under the circumstances give yellow light only, indicated by a double band of light in a position corresponding to a portion of the yellow part of an ordinary solar spectrum. The potassium spectrum is mainly composed of a red and violet band; lithium, a crimson, and, at very high temperatures, a blue, band. Most of the other elements give equally characteristic spectra.

By aid of a combined microscope and spectroscope (micro-spectroscope) the color of colored fluids can be analyzed.

CHEMICAL TOXICOLOGY.

In cases of criminal and accidental poisoning the substances presented to the chemical analyst for examination are usually articles of food, medicines, or vomited matters, or the liver, kidneys, intestines, stomach and contents, removed in course of post-mortem examination. In these cases some special operations are necessary before the poison can be isolated in a state of sufficient purity for the application of the usual tests; for in most instances the large quantity of animal and vegetable—or, in one word, organic—matter present prevents or masks the characteristic reactions on which the tests are founded. These operations will now be described;* they form the

* Materials for these experiments are readily obtained for educational purposes by dissolving the poison in infusions of tea or coffee, in porter or in water, to which some mucilage of starch or linseed meal, pieces of bread, potato, and fat have been added.