

SOCIETIES AND ACADEMIES.

LONDON.

Chemical Society, June 18.—Mr. A. G. Vernon Harcourt, President, in the chair.—The following papers were read:—The action of bromine on pinene with reference to the question of its constitution, by W. A. Tilden. The author experimentally confirms his view that one molecule of pinene can combine with four atoms of bromine, and proposes a new formula for the hydrocarbon.—Preliminary note on some products from pinene tetrabromide, by W. A. Tilden and A. Nicholls.—An apparatus for showing experiments with ozone, by G. S. Newth. The author describes an apparatus for showing the action of reagents on ozonised oxygen, the reagent being introduced in such a way that the volume of the gas is not disturbed.—Note on santalal and some of its derivatives, by A. C. Chapman and H. E. Burgess. It is shown that cedrene and the hydrocarbon obtained by the action of phosphorus pentoxide on santalal are very similar but not identical.—Second note on the liberation of chlorine during the heating of a mixture of potassic chlorate and manganic peroxide, by H. McLeod. The author confirms his previous observation that the gas obtained by heating potassium chlorate with manganese dioxide contains small quantities of chlorine, but no ozone.—Polymorphism as an explanation of the thermochemical peculiarities of chloral and bromal hydrates, by W. J. Pope. The fact that the heat of dissolution of chloral hydrate is partly dependent on the length of time elapsing since solidification, is shown to be due to a change in crystalline form of the solid substance.—Explosion and detection of acetylene in air, by F. Clowes. Mixtures of air with 3–81 per cent. of acetylene are explosive; the best method of estimating acetylene in air is based on the examination of the change occurring in a hydrogen flame when such air is passed over it.—On the occurrence of quercetin in the outer skins of the bulb of the onion (*Allium Cepa*), by A. G. Perkin and J. J. Hummel. The colouring matter present in the skin of the onion bulb is shown to be quercetin.—On the colouring matter contained in the bark of *Myrica nagi*, by A. G. Perkin and J. J. Hummel. The bark of *Myrica nagi* contains a colouring matter $C_{15}H_{10}O_8$, which the authors term myricetin; it is probably a hydroxyquercetin.—Preliminary note on a new base derived from camphoroxime, by M. O. Forster. By treatment with methylic iodide, camphoroxime yields camphenonitrile together with the hydriodide of a new tertiary base, $C_{15}H_{19}N$; a number of compounds of the latter have been prepared.—The rotation of aspartic acid, by B. M. C. Marshall.—Synthesis of pentacarbon rings. Part iii. Condensation of benzil with lævulic acid, by F. R. Japp and T. S. Murray. Benzil and lævulic acid condense yielding two isomeric anhydrobenzilævulic or diphenylhydroxycyclopentenonylacetic acids; the derivatives and decomposition products of these acids are described.—Absorption of dilute acids by silk, by J. Walker and J. R. Appleyard.—Position-isomerism and optical activity; the methylic and ethylic salts of ortho-, meta-, and para-ditoluyltartaric acid, by P. Frankland and F. M. Wharton.—Double sulphides of gold and other metals, or the action at a red heat of sulphur upon gold when alloyed with other metals, by J. S. Maclaurin.—The relative weights of gold and silver dissolved by potassium cyanide solutions from alloys of these metals, by J. S. Maclaurin.—The three chlorobenzeneazosalicylic acids, by J. T. Hewitt and H. E. Stevenson. Ortho- and para-chlorobenzeneazosalicylic acids have been prepared by the action of diazotised chloraniline solution on salicylic acid; derivatives and salts of the three isomerides are described.—Condensation of chloral with resorcinol, by J. T. Hewitt and F. G. Pope. The condensation of chloral and resorcinol yields a tetrahydroxydiphenylacetic acid and its lactone.—The atomic weight of Japanese tellurium, by Masumi Chikashigé. The tellurium of which the atomic weight has previously been determined has been obtained from metallic tellurides; if tellurium be a compound, as has been suggested, that obtained from Japanese tellurosulphur should have a different atomic weight. The author finds, however, that tellurium from the latter source has the same atomic weight as that prepared from tellurides, and consequently concludes that this element really has a greater atomic weight than iodine.—Derivatives of camphene sulphonic acids, by A. Lapworth and F. S. Kipping. The α - and β -chlorocamphenesulphonic chlorides obtained during the sulphonation of camphor, and their derivatives, are described.—Iodoso- and iodoxybenzaldehydes, by V. Meyer and T. S. Patterson.— α -Isopropylglutaric acid, by W. H. Perkin, jun.—The action of ethylic

β -iodopropionate on the sodium derivative of ethylic isopropylmalonate, by T. Z. Heinke and W. H. Perkin, jun.—The condensation of halogen derivatives of fatty ethereal salts with ketones and ketonic acids, by W. H. Perkin, jun., and T. F. Thorpe.—The electrolysis of the salts of monhydroxy-acids, by J. W. Walker.—The action of formic aldehyde on phenylhydrazine, and on some hydrazones, by J. W. Walker.—The colouring matter of Sicilian sumach, *Rhus coriaria*, by A. G. Perkin and G. Y. Allen. The colouring matter of Sicilian sumach is not quercetin or quercitrin, but myricetin.—The colouring matter of *Querbracho Colorado*, by A. G. Perkin and O. Gunnell. The colouring matter of querbracho is fisetin.—On asitine, the alkaloid of *Aconitum heterophyllum*, by H. A. D. Jowett. Asitine is amorphous and non-toxic, and probably has the composition $C_{25}H_{31}NO_2$; many of its salts are described.—The action of methyl alcohol on aconitine. Formation of methyl benzaconine, by W. R. Dunstan, T. Tickle, and D. H. Jackson.—The chemical inactivity of Röntgen rays, by H. B. Dixon and H. B. Baker. The authors have investigated, with negative results, the question whether Röntgen rays are able to influence chemical change, either by starting it or by accelerating or diminishing it after it has been started by ordinary light.—Colloidal chromsulphuric acid, by H. T. Calvert and T. Ewan.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

Books.—The Theory of National and International Bibliography: F. Campbell (Library Bureau).—Forty-third Report of the Department of Science and Art (Eyre).—Durham College of Science. Calendar for Session 1896-7 (Reid).—Sixteenth Annual Report of the U.S. Geological Survey, Parts 2, 3, 4 (Washington).—The Boston Machinist: W. S. Fitzgerald, 4th edition (Chapman).—Steel: W. Metcalf (Chapman).—A Guide to Chamonix, &c.: E. Whympere (Murray).—Accounts of Trade carried by Rail and River in India, 1894-5, &c. (Calcutta).—City and Guilds of London Institute, Programme of Technological Examinations, Session 1896-7 (Whittaker).—Signaletic Instructions, including the Theory and Practice of Anthropometrical Identification: A. Bertillon, translated (Paul).—The Indigenous Drugs of India: K. L. Dey, 2nd edition (Thacker).—Lehrbuch der Experimental Physik: Prof. E. Riecke, Zweiter Band (Leipzig, Veit).

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