

ton, Jefferson, Madison and Monroe—not to interfere with European affairs. For these times differ from those, since we are now a world power in helping to shape international policies and relations, and in extending civilization—with a duty to take up the “white man’s burden,” to bear it manfully and cheerfully. We must transplant our many important pharmaceutical processes and galenicals, the result of our skill and ingenuity, to other countries; (3) congratulated our colleges of pharmacy for high-grade work. Those trained graduates are to extend an influence to benighted peoples that we are to enlighten and civilize, thereby giving an outlet for our excess of pharmacists, who, in a few years, will establish stores in the West Indies and Philippine Islands, only to spread the fame of our country and its colleges, (4) welcomed, in spite of the unfriendly attitude (its constitution excluding college professors and manufacturers) our competitive association, the National Association of Retail Druggists, in its hopeful ambition to make drug stores yield handsome incomes, and to remedy the cut-rate evil, neither of which our ASSOCIATION, in spite of desperate efforts, has been able to accomplish. We have ameliorated, even exterminated, some negative conditions, and will always try to be helpful, but I deny the press articles that claim—this ASSOCIATION not to be for the retail pharmacist, but simply for college professors and large manufacturers. For, as a fact, no one class of our members is benefited more than another—all profit by personal contact and interchange of scientific views. It is true, that all of each class have not gained equally, as some have moderate ability, unable to cope with competition, and all are subject to Darwin’s law. Our ASSOCIATION may foster and encourage the commercial branch, improve business, but it must not neglect the scientific side.

Compare our knowledge and the armamentarium of the physician and pharmacist of fifty years ago with the present—all due to science. We must continue to grow in efforts to open the crannies and let the light in to all sections (scientific, educational, legislative, commercial and practical pharmacy) each being looked after with increasing interest, and concluded by urging Congress to adopt the metric system of weights and measures, with comments upon the Pure Food and Drugs Congress, the Committee of National Legislation, date of Annual Meeting, death of prominent members and means of increasing our membership.

FLUECKIGERIANA.*

BY EDWARD KREMERS.

V. Flueckiger letters to Power, 1882-1890.

Strassburg, March 25, 1885.

MY DEAR FRIEND:

Your letter of the 27th arrived just at the beginning of our holidays (1), so I am pleased to devote an hour to a reply. I am glad, however, that only my letter has to proceed to Madison, for -10 or -20° F. would by no means suit me; I am quite satisfied with the winter in this country where we had no more cold than, say $+10^{\circ}$ F. for a few days only and no snow at all.

I am glad to learn that you are pretty well and, now, not too much busy (2). But as to the “Pharmaceutische Chemie” you must not suppose that I am so strong a worker as you (3). There is so much to improve and to reconsider and to add that my progress is but very slow. 260 papers (4) are ready and nearly 600 more are to be dealt with! I doubt whether I shall be

* Continued from the January JOUR. A. PH. A., page 8.

able to accomplish this task before the beginning of the next year. I shall be very much pleased to see the book translated by you and will certainly inform you as soon as I shall be able to fix the date of the end of my task. And then we can easily arrange so that you receive sheet by sheet (5) as soon as they are printed. Printing and publishing (6) take at least 6-8 months in Berlin, so that your translation can be ready at the same time when the book makes its appearance in the German market.

Yes, the new University buildings are very handsome and even some very slight improvements in the Pharmaceutisches Institut (7). I have a much better room (8) and laboratory than formerly. I am about to write a pamphlet against the way in which Pharmacy is treated in this country (9).

Dr. Meyer is about to leave me for the University of Goettingen (10), where he has been appointed an assistant to the "Pflanzenphysiologisches Institut." He gets there a little—less, than he got here! Besides he will be a Privatdocent, fuer "Pflanzenchemie," also a position which will not bring any appreciable amount of money. That is what they call a career in Germany. It is true that very likely, Dr. Meyer will in a few years more get an appointment as a professor; in the meantime he is *now* about 36 old!—I am not very sorry to see him leaving; I think it is not always a good plan to have an assistant for so many years.

I suppose the burnt parts of your University have been rebuilt long ago? (11)

Mr. Todd (12) has also sent to me very good specimens of his menthol although I objected very strongly to his fancy to term it "pipmenthol" and observed to him that he was entirely wrong in supposing his product to be anything else than—menthol.

I requested Mr. Todd to send me some herbarium specimens of the mint from which the oil is distilled; he promised to send them, but failed in doing so. I do not think it remunerative to make Menthol from the American oil and advised Mr. Todd to cultivate the Japanese Peppermint plant.

There will be at Strassburg, on the 17-22 of September, next, a meeting of the German Naturalists (13), a special pharmaceutical section will also be formed at that occasion. I do not expect you to attend that meeting, but perhaps you will be pleased to send some contribution of any kind, written, printed or a specimen of an interesting drug or preparation to be laid before the meeting. It would be nice to have such a communication from the far West.

My wife unites in kindest regards to you and Mm. (14) Power. Believe me to be

Yours very truly, F. A. FLUECKIGER.

(1) Whereas in American universities the second semester follows the first without any break other than that necessitated by examinations and registration, German professors enjoy a longer interval. This spring vacation is also known as Easter vacation. German university professors not infrequently made use of part of this vacation to go south. Hence, *e. g.*, Flueckiger's "Osterferien im Sueden" (1889), also "An Easter Holiday in Liguria" (1877). It must not be assumed, however, that vacations were given to pleasure primarily or even to rest. Vacations were long to enable both teacher and student to work: the former to attend to his literary activities, the latter to study, *i. e.*, to digest the lectures which he had been attending during the previous semester.

(2) In 1885 the University of Wisconsin had the three-term system of about three months each and the pharmacy students were in residence during the fall and winter terms only. Inasmuch as the winter term closed with the end of March, Professor Power had no instructional duties during the spring term which extended to commencement late in June. Since the course, *e. g.*, at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy was even shorter and demanded fewer hours by far while it lasted, Professor Power, in arranging the pharmacy course in 1883, apparently thought it wise not to demand more time of the pharmacy student. This, however, left him free during half of the calendar year to indulge in such work as he thought worth while. Apparently he had again written to Flueckiger about the translation of the "Pharmaceutische Chemie" which task he would have been free to attend to during the spring term and summer vacation. (3) At this time Flueckiger was 56 years of age. (4) Flueckiger evidently refers to monographs.

(5) Flueckiger here uses the literal translation for "Bogen." The printer's "Bogen," however, is the form. (6) Binding is no doubt intended.

(7) This reference is to the old institute. The new institute was erected during Prof. Schaefer's professorship. (8) At the time of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the reorganization of Strassburg as a German university in 1897, *i. e.*, almost three years after Flueckiger's death, Power returned to his alma mater in the Rhine valley. In his write-up of the festivities (*Ph. Rev.*, 15, No. 7) "The Kaiser Wilhelm's University of Strassburg," he refers to the new buildings dedicated in 1884 and then adds: "To those interested in the advancement of pharmaceutical science it is a matter of disappointment and regret that this department is the only one still unprovided with a new building, for it continues to occupy the very inadequate quarters of the old *Ecole de Pharmacie*, where Pasteur taught nearly fifty years ago. The hope is entertained, however, that these requirements may also soon be appropriately met" (page 9 of reprint). When the writer revisited Strassburg in 1907 Pharmacy occupied a new building. (9) See letter dated Feb. 7, 1886. (10) Meyer did not stay long at Goettingen. See footnote No. 7, page 1132. (11) "Old" Science Hall had been destroyed by fire in Dec. 1884. "New" Science Hall was not occupied until the spring of 1888. (12) Albert B. Todd of Kalamazoo, Michigan, the well-known distiller of peppermint oil.

(13) The "Verein Deutscher Naturforscher und Aerzte" was called into being by Oken in 1822. At an early date attempts were made to organize a pharmaceutical section. The ups and downs of this Section have been reviewed in his usual thorough fashion by Georg Urdang who read a paper on "Hundert Jahre Abteilung Pharmazie der deutschen Naturforscherversammlung" before the Section at the last annual meeting of the Society, Sept. 10, 1930, at Koenigsberg. This paper was published in the *Pharmazeutische Zeitung* No. 78, 1930. On pages 5 and 6 of the reprint, Urdang calls attention to the reorganization of the Section at Strassburg in 1885. It is to this meeting that Flueckiger refers and for which he makes propaganda by inviting Power to send a contribution. (14) Abbr. for Madame. Both Bern, Switzerland and Strassburg, the two places in which Flueckiger spent by far the greater part of his life were strongly under French influence. Hence the use of Mm. for Mrs.