softened in a flame until the aperture is so small that one can scarcely blow through it. These tubes are of great value in maintaining the pressure of gas in the generator at something like constancy.

It is desirable to use hydrochloric acid (sp. gr. 1.2) diluted with two parts of water. Of course, sulphuric acid can be used equally well if it is sufficiently dilute to avoid crystallization of the ferrous sulphate.

AMHERST COLLEGE, October, 1908.

NOTE.

A Convenient Funnel Support.—It frequently happens when a chemist has to make a large number of slow filtrations, that he finds himself embarrassed by the lack of a sufficient number of funnel supports. The writer recently overcame an experience of this kind by improvising a simple and inexpensive holder which has since proven so convenient, especially for holding small funnels, that he desires to bring it to the notice of his fellow chemists and others who may perhaps sometimes find use for it.

Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

For supporting funnels up to 10 cm. in diameter, take a piece of No. 18 copper wire about 10 cm. long and bend it around the stem of the funnel until it assumes the form of a key, Fig. 1. Then open out the arms of this key and bend the ends downwards and inward so that they will hook over the top of the beaker or other receiving vessel, Fig. 2. The holder rests on the top of the beaker at the points *a a*. The funnel is supported by the loop *c*, which partially encircles the stem and holds it against the inner side of the beaker as shown in Fig. 3.

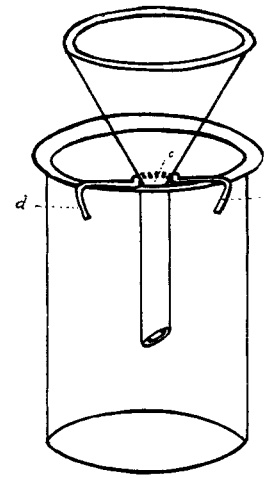

Fig. 3.

A sufficient length of wire should be used in forming the hooks *d d*, so that the support cannot fall into the receiving vessel when the funnel is withdrawn from it. The length and size of the wire as well as the size of the loop formed around the stem of the funnel can be varied to suit the size of the funnel as well as the kind of receiving vessel used.

L. D. HAVENHILL.

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, Nov. 7, 1908.