name of Maragogipe coffee, was introduced to the notice of planters by Mr. Thos. Christy, of 25 Lime Street, who obtained it from Brazil just ten years ago. The Kew plant, which is growing in the great palm-house, is some 10 or 15 feet high, and has this year produced a good crop of fruit. It is a vigorous grower, producing leaves fully twice the size of those of Arabian coffee, and the fruits or cherries are quite an inch long, or double the size of those of the old Arabian sort. They are soft when ripe, red in colour, with a silky smooth surface and a very small proportion of pulp. From the fact of the plant being a very vigorous grower, attaining a height of 8 or 10 feet in three or four years, and producing large crops of fruit at that age, it has been estimated that the weight of coffee per acre must be very much more than from the ordinary coffee-tree. Although Maragogipe coffee has been grown experimentally in Ceylon, Java, Jamaica, and Trinidad, no reports seem to have reached Kew as to the results. It would appear, however, to have taken some hold in Ceylon for a large quantity of seed was shipped direct to Ceylon* from Brazil in 1884. It has also been cultivated since 1887 in the botanic gardens, Trinidad, while in Jamaica about a dozen plants were raised from seeds received in 1883, and these were distributed for trial amongst the leading planters in the Blue Mountain district during 1884 and 1885. In the gardens of the Queensland Acclimatisation Society a plant originally introduced from Kew bore heavy crops of seeds last year, from which a large stock of plants were to be raised for distribution this year, so that we may expect, before long, to hear of a general demand among coffee planters for this new kind of coffee, and ultimately to see it in our grocers' shops as a competitor with the far-famed Mocha.—*Chemist and Druggist.*

DRUG REPORT.

(From *Chemist and Druggist.*)

London, June 14th.

Cinchona.—Tuesday's bark-auctions were of moderate extent, the six catalogues comprising the whole of the bark offered. The circumstance that the entire contribution of Ceylon to the cinchona-auctions consisted of 7 packages, or about one-third of 1 per cent of the total offered, is an indication of the position of insignificance to which island has been reduced as a factor in the cinchona-market. The bark at auction represented an equivalent of about 12,000 lb. of sulphate of quinine. The total quantity of bark included in the auctions was as follows:—

	Pkgs.		Pkgs.	
Ceylon cinchona ...	7	of which	7	were sold
East Indian cinchona ...	1978	do	1928	do
Java cinchona ...	69	do	46	do
Cuprea bark ...	327	do	173	do
	2381	do	2154	do

The tone throughout the auctions was firm, and good barks were well competed for, the unit being from ¼d to 1d per lb. The following prices were paid for sound bark:—

Ceylon Cinchona.—Fair original Hybrid shavings 3d; small bright renewed Succirubra shavings 3¼d per lb.

East Indian Cinchona.—The East Indian bark included a considerable quantity of Officinalis quill bark from Southern India (Nilgiri Hills.) There was also a fair proportion of grey and yellow chips among the Indian cinchona.

Java Cinchona.—Ledger chips ¼d; dull dusty root 3¾d good rich root 5¾d per lb.

Cuprea Bark.—Of 327 bales cuprea, imported in 1882-84, 173 sold at prices ranging from ¼d to 1¼d per lb.

Healthy Coffee Seed and Where to Get it.—We hear that Mr. T. H. Stephens, son of Mr. John Stephens, of Gampola, is importing Burmah coffee seed, which he tells us is supposed to be the true Mocha, is very prolific, and is entirely free from leaf disease and other diseases. Hybrids of the Arabian and Liberian variety have been raised, we believe, and ought also to be very hardy and suitable for experiment in Ceylon.

* We know of no special clearing or field of this coffee—who has got any of it in Ceylon?—Ed. *T. A.*

TEA AND SCANDAL.

Camomile Tea (After E. A. Poe's 'Annabel Lee.')

1

It was many and many a year ago,
In a cot by the Irish sea,
A decoction I knew of, which you may know,
By the name of Camomile Tea;
A stuff which was brewed with no other end
Than to plague and be drunk by me.

2

I was a child—a mere bit of a child—
When I lived in that cot by the sea,
But I hated with hate which was more than hate,
That horrible Camomile Tea!
A hate which was visible, I have no doubt,
To the eyes of my Aunt Magee.

3

And this is the reason, I happen to know
Why she always was down on me,
Whenever I had the least malady filling
A tumbler with Camomile Tea
And drenching me three times a day with the same—
The horriblest bore that could be—
And shutting me up in my bedroom for hours
With a tract and more Camomile Tea!

4

Even now, strange, it seems I have hideous dreams,
Of that horrible Camomile Tea!
Of its taste when I think, I still shudder and shrink
At the nauseous Camomile Tea!
And I muse in amaze at that old woman's craze;
Oh! the loathing, the loathing I felt in those days
When I lived in that cot by the sea,
In that cot with my Aunt Magee!

[*Punch's* Almanac, 1883.]

"There is no nation and there are very few individuals who do not make daily use of some substance to which the term Stimulant or Narcotic may be applied in strictest accordance with what we know of the action of drugs. Von Bibra (*Narkotischen Genussmittel und der Meusch*) puts the matter roughly, but strikingly:—

Coffee Leaves are taken in the form of infusion by 2,000,000 of the world's inhabitants.
Paraguay Tea is taken by 10,000,000.
Coca by as many.
Chicory either pure or mixed with coffee by 40,000,000.
Coca either as Chocolate or in some other form by 50,000,000.
Haschisch is eaten and smoked by 300,000,000.
Opium by 400,000,000.
Chinese Tea is drunk by 500,000,000.
Finally all the known nations of the world are addicted to the use of tobacco chiefly in the form of smoke, otherwise by snuffing and chewing.

Professor Johnstone (*Chemistry of Common Life*) completes the picture thus drawn by an ingenious map in which it is sufficiently shown that no considerable tract of the earth's surface is without some special indigenous narcotic plant, of which the natives freely avail themselves, not merely for medicinal purposes but for every day use." [*Stimulants and Narcotics.* Francis E. Anstie, M.D. 1864 p. 14.]

A Prophecy.

When Mother Goose a Fly is
Roast Pig an Ounce of Tea.
When daub'd with Paint the Sky is
Then London, woe to thee!

[*The Argus*, 6th Oct. 1832.]

"In the article of Tea a great saving may be made if the process of making it was altered. Make a tincture of tea by pouring boiling water on it in a metal pot. Let it stand twenty minutes and put no more water in it than is necessary for the company to fill their cups a third or a half-full without the necessity of adding more water. Then when tea is to be served, fill each cup a third or half full according to the strength of the tincture, and fill the cups from an urn or kettle. By this mode the tea will always be hot and equally strong to the end, and one tea-spoonful will be found sufficient for three cups for each person; whereas according to the present mode of making it, three times the quantity is often used. There are fourteen tea-spoonfuls in

an ounce; of course two ounces a week is sufficient for each person morning and evening. Those who drink tea use on an average ¼ lb. weekly."
[*The way to be rich and respectable.* Rev. Dr. Trusler, 1796. p. 27. *note.*]

A Country Dialogue.

Good b'uye to the Change
Where Rantepoles range,
Farewell cold Tea,
And Rattafee,
Hide-park, too, where pride
In coaches do ride,
Altho' they be choak'd with Dust. [p. 6.

Vol. I. *Wit and Mirth:* or *Pills to purge Melancholy.* Thos. Durfey. London 1719.]

THE LINNÆAN SOCIETY.

At a meeting of the Linnæan Society in their rooms in Burlington-house, on Thursday, the president, Mr. Charles Baron Clarke, F.R.S., taking the chair, Sir John Lubbock, M.P., F.R.S., read a paper on "Stipules and the Protection of Buds." He said that the paper on that occasion was a continuation of one he had previously read there. Stipules were the small leaflets at the base of the petiole of many plants. Vaucher, in his History of Plants, many years ago called attention to the fact that some species of rockrose had stipules, while others had none, and suggested that it would be very interesting to attempt to ascertain the cause of the difference. To this, Sir John Lubbock went on to say, he would give the answer. Stipules served for several purposes in the economy of plants, one of the most general being the protection of the young leaves in the bud. The various plans adopted by nature for the protection of buds were a very interesting part of botany. The young leaves were very delicate; they suffered much, as gardeners knew too well, from frost, afforded a tempting food to insects and other animals. Moreover, their development was a slow process, the buds of the following spring being formed in many cases during the preceding summer, even as early as June or July. These delicate structures were in some cases protected by leaves, in others by scales, by hairs, by glands, gum, by mucus; in many cases they nestled between the stalk and the petiole of the leaf, and lastly, in very many cases, they were protected by the stipules. This was not, however, the only function of stipules, which in some species were developed into spines, in others into glands, while in some they assisted in performing the function of true leaves. Sir John Lubbock described the form and arrangement of the stipules in a great many species and the purposes they served in the economy of the plants. He pointed out that when stipules were absent there was some other arrangement for the protection of the bud, and in regard to the special problem suggested by Vaucher in the case of the species of rockrose, he showed that in those which had broad petioles the petioles served for the protection of the bud and there were no stipules; while when the petioles were narrow stipules were developed and served the same purpose. This, then, seemed a complete and satisfactory answer to Vaucher's problem. A vote of thanks to Sir John Lubbock for the paper was cordially passed. There were two exhibitions in the lecture-room—one by Dr. John Lowe, of flowers punctured by insectivorous birds for the purpose of attracting insects, and the second, by Mr. Raymund Dowling, of dwarf glaucous pine and remarkable nuts from Japan.—London *Times.*

WASTE TEA SEED.

Very many attempts have been made, from time to time, to find some use for the tea seed from those gardens planted at the commencement, but so far without avail. So great is the quantity of seed annually produced, especially in those abandoned plantings, that attention should be directed to its utilisation. As a general rule it is unfitted for use in the planting line, being chiefly of the least desirable *jat*, a hybrid but little removed from pure China; the oil, which at one time was thought to afford a tolerably good lubricant has been found quite unsuitable either for that or any other purpose, being far too acrid for any domestic purpose and clogging too much to permit of being used in machinery; as an illuminant, also, it is useless, giving but a feeble light and emitting more than the usual quantum of smoke. The cake is unfitted for cattle feeding, and though it might possibly be used as manure, it would, if prepared for this purpose, merely rank with that of other cake the fertilising qualities of all of which are of a very low order. It might probably be utilised as fuel in lieu of *goba* but even this is doubtful, hence we arrive at no other conclusion than that, apart from its characteristics as a propagating seed, pure and simple it is an unutilisable product. We have then, until chemistry discovers some economic value in it, to think over what can be done with it. In 1863 64 a couple of planters seeing that the large speculative clearances undertaken could not attain the requisite amount of seed to fill them, made early arrangements and purchased as much seed as their means permitted, establishing nurseries upon the banks of the Barak at Luckipore and Katigora with a view of raising seedlings for sale. The scheme, so far as they were concerned, proved tolerably successful, and a large number of plants were disposed of at remunerative rates, but at the former place a considerable area was left on their hands; Luckipore at that time being too remote from the speculative gardens; seeing this they set to work manufacturing, from tipping the nurseries, and though the plants had been packed too closely, as was the custom in those days, enough tea was made to give a remunerative return. These proceedings gave rise to an idea of close planting of six inches making nothing but fine teas from tipping and rather extensive operations in this line were contemplated but the price of seed rose too high and in 1865 people elected to raise their own plants instead of bringing them from a distance, thus the idea was shelved but it might be revived, for both land and seed are abundant; the method of raising the plants would be very inexpensive, the operations contracted within a ring fence and for two years the quantity of leaf obtainable should come up at least to between 2½ to 3 maunds per acre. Interlacing of roots after the period mentioned would induce choking, and as it is improbable that the plants could be sold, they could be pulled up and thrown away and the land resown. Of course we are aware that exhaustion of the soil has to be reckoned with, and it is well-known that old nurseries, when incorporated with the rest of the plantings make but a poor show, but heavy manuring would rectify this drawback, and such could be carried out for more effectually over a restricted area than over a plantation laid out in the orthodox manner. We do not advocate any departure from the present method of planting, but merely throw out the suggestion so as to utilise the vast amount of tea seed that now rots on the abandoned bushes. There is no reason to go to any great expense, the seed need not even be shelled but shown in the capsule, and we have an impression that, a very large area of wheel plantings that have turned out too low for permanency might be profitably utilised in this manner. It is certainly a pity that hundreds of maunds of seed should run to waste on the bushes, as at present, when something, however small might be made out of it.—*Indian Planters' Gazette.*

CHEAP GOVERNMENT QUININE IN ALGERIA.

M. Bogelot, counsel to the Association of French Pharmacists, writes to the *Union Pharmaceutique* of Paris, calling attention to a couple of circulars issued by the Prefect of Constantine, in the colony