

purpose of causing the fermentation of "Sur" or beer. The roots of "Mathosan" are made into cakes with barley which are sold as "Dheli," and these are probably identical with the "Paps" of the Tibetans. This subject is of the greatest interest, for in these prepared barley and Mathosan cakes we possess a substance that is said to keep good for a long time, and a small fragment of which may be relied upon to produce fermentation or may be employed in raising bread. To the numerous officers in India who spend many months together in camp these small fermenting-cakes should prove of the greatest service; and it seems just possible that this obscure fermentation agent might even be of value to the brewing industry.—Chem. and Drug., 1895, 76; Brit. and Col. Drug., 1895, 71.

*Some Medicinal Products from the Straits Settlements.*—E. M. Holmes says that Biah, which was believed to belong to the genus *Nauclea*, is now considered by him to be *Mitragyna speciosa*. Prual does not belong to either of the Rubaceous genera, *Lasianthus* or *Urophyllum*. Stapf will shortly publish an account of his identification of the species. Ipoh Aker is supposed by Holmes to more nearly approach *Strychnos wallichiana*. Poison root, No. 4281, is the root of *Dianella nemorosa* Lass (Libiaceæ). Poko Lulay is nearly allied to *Garcinia merguensis*, Wight. Buah Kumbong sa Mamgkok, the fruit possesses large boat-shaped follicles (which open long before the seed is ripe) attached to the seed. The seed differs from "Bungtalai," in being covered with dense velvety pubescence, and in the inner surface of the follicle being abundantly furnished, and the external sparingly so, with stellate hairs.—Pharm. Jour. Trans., 1895, 1095.

*Export Trade of Yezd, Persia.*—Of the exports of Yezd the most important is that of opium. It was more largely grown in this province than anything else in comparison with their respective values. Various causes have lately conduced to a decided falling off in the cultivation of the poppy. In a good year the total output of Yezd was some 1200 cases, each case weighing about 130 lbs. An average output would be about 1000 to 1200 cases. In speaking of the opium of Yezd is included not alone that only grown in the province, but also that produced in Khorassan, Tabbas, and even in the Herat district. The crude stuff is sent to Yezd, where it is manufactured. During the past year, viz., 1891-2, the crop has been but a small one. The prices ruling in China and London were low and not remunerative, consequently only about half the usual amount was sown in the Yezd district, and this more for speculative purposes than for anything else. To still further reduce the output, the crop, for want of proper spring rains, was a practical failure. Hence, the maximum quantity of opium manufactured in Yezd was somewhat under 500 cases. One hundred and eighty-two pounds of the crude material in Yezd makes one case of 130 lbs. manufactured article. Of Khorassan's