

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES
OF THE
LONDON PHARMACOPEIA.

As there are two kinds of Weights used in England, by one of which gold and silver, and by the other nearly all other kinds of merchandise are estimated, we use the former, which is named *Troy weight*, and we divide the pound in the following way, viz.

The Pound	℔	contains	{	twelve ounces.
The Ounce	℥			eight drachms.
The Drachm	ʒ			three scruples.
The Scruple	ʒ			twenty grains.

We have added the signs by which it is customary to designate each weight. The measure of liquids is also different—one being employed for beer, and the other for wine; we employ the latter, and use for liquids the divisions of the wine gallon.

The wine gallon is limited by the laws of the realm, which we divide, for medical uses, in the following manner:

The Gallon . . .	cong.	contains	{	eight pints.
The Pint	O.			sixteen fluid ounces.
The fluid ounce . .	f ℥			eight fluid drachms.
The fluid drachm .	f ʒ			sixty minims—℥.

We have added the signs by which we designate each measure.

That no error may arise from the indiscriminate employment of the names of weights and measures, which apply indiscriminately to either, we have not inconsiderately devised certain new ones, which short practice will render easy. We even measure the smallest quantities of liquids by a glass measure, marked with equal divisions, for the number of drops is a fallacious and uncertain mode, since almost twice the number of drops of a tincture are required to fill the same measure when compared with those of water.

Great care should be taken that neither copper nor lead form a part of the materials of mortars, measures, funnels, or any other vessel in

which medicines are either prepared or kept; so that earthenware, glazed with lead, is not proper.

Preparations of an acid, an alkali, an earth, a metal, as well as salts of every kind, ought to be kept in bottles with glass stoppers.

We measure the degrees of heat by Fahrenheit's thermometer, and when we order a boiling heat, a temperature of 212° is meant; a gentle heat signifies a temperature of between 90° and 100° .

When *Specific Gravity* is mentioned we suppose the article to be of the temperature of 55° .

A Water Bath signifies when any thing contained in a vessel is exposed either to boiling water or its vapour, that it may be heated.

A Sand Bath is made of sand gradually heated, in which any vessel, with its contents, is placed.

FOREIGN WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

NEW FRENCH WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

(Computed by Dr. Ure.)

1.—Measures of Length: the Metre being at 32° , and the foot at 62° .

	English Inches.	
Millimetre . . .	0.03937	
Centimetre . . .	0.39371	
Decimetre . . .	3.93708	
Metre	39.37079	Mil. Fur. Yds. Feet In.
Decametre . . .	393.70790	= 0 0 10 2 9.7
Hecatometre . .	3937.07900	= 0 0 109 1 1.078
Kilometre . . .	39370.90000	= 6 1 156 0 9.17

2.—Measures of Capacity: Cubic Inch contains 252.5 Imperial Grains of Water, at 62° .

	Cubic Inches.	
Millilitre . . .	0.06112	
Centilitre . . .	0.61120	
Decilitre . . .	6.11208	Imperial Gallons. Pints.
Litre	61.12079	= 0 1.76377
Decalitre . . .	611.20792	= 2 1.4464
Hecatolitre . .	6112.07920	= 22 0.2640
Kilolitre . . .	61120.79208	= 220.47
Myriolitre . . .	611207.92080	= 2204.71

3.—Measures of Weight.

	English Grains.	
Milligramme	·0154	
Centigramme	·1543	
Decigramme	1·5433	Avoirdupois
Gramme	15·4330	Pound.
Decagramme	154·3300	= 0·022
Hecatogramme	1543·3300	= 0·220
Kilogramme	15433·0000	= 2·204
Myriogramme	154330·0000	= 22·047

GERMAN.

4.—Cologne Weight.

Marc.	Oz.	Loth.	Drs.	Pwts.	Hellers.	As.	Eschen.	Grs.	St.	Parts.
1	=	8	=	16	=	64	=	256	=	512
										1792
										4352
										6144
										65536
1	=	2	=	8	=	32	=	64	=	224
										544
										768
										8192
1	=	4	=	16	=	32	=	112	=	272
										384
										4096
1	=	4	=	8	=	28	=	68	=	96
										1024
1	=	2	=	7	=	17	=	24	=	256

5.—Nuremberg, or Apothecaries' Weight.

Pound.	Oz.	Drs.	Scruples.	Grs.	Troy grs.	
1	=	12	=	96	=	288
						5760
						5388
1	=	8	=	24	=	480
						460·5
1	=	3	=	60	=	57·5
1	=	20	=	19·2		
				1	=	09·6

The French line . . . 0·0888 Eng. Inch.

The English line . . . 0·7823 French Inch.