of two other alkaloids. After crystallization of medicosmine from fractions 16–19, dictamine was isolated from the mother liquors by preparative t.l.c. on plates of Kieselgel G developed with ethyl acetate–benzene (1:3). From methylene chloride–light petroleum it formed colourless crystals (2·5 mg) which melted at 132·5–133° and showed no m.p. depression on mixing with authentic dictamine.

Pteleine (3·5 mg) was isolated by preparative t.l.c. from fractions 20–23. It was obtained as crystals, m.p. 136–138°, from chloroform–light petroleum, and gave a picrate, m.p. 197–198°. Heating with methyl iodide gave isopteleine, m.p. 212–213°, which was identified by a mixed melting point determination and comparison of its i.r. spectrum with that of authentic isopteleine. Thin-layer chromatography of fractions 29–33 yielded a third minor base which gave crystals, m.p. 136–137°, from chloroform–light petroleum, and showed a yellow fluorescence in ultraviolet light. Only methyl signals were clearly resolved in the n.m.r. spectrum of this base and insufficient material was available for further characterization.

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CORRIGENDUM

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Page 1906, Analytical Data, line 4: for N, 28·2 read N, 18·2.