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PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AND CHLORODYNE.

Up to a late period the profession in England was remarkable for the frank and generous manner in which every discovery which could have proved beneficial, even in the smallest degree to the public, was openly promulgated, in which a medicine capable of relieving, even in part the sufferings of our common nature was not only cheerfully announced, but its nature, its composition, and every thing about it which could have been deemed useful to know, was at the same time voluntarily disclosed. So high strung was the tone of professional morality on this point, that an opposite course of conduct was considered a treason against duty, and the guilty party received at once his doom from public opinion, that of ostracism. Indeed, if we mistake not, Percival, in his work on the ethics of the profession, severely denounces the practice as one incompatible with that philanthropy, which it is the boast of the profession to have emblazoned on its standard. In those happy days when he lived, there was no rarer spectacle than to find men, members of the profession, occupying it may be distinguished positions in it, calmly proposing remedies, of the nature and composition of which they were themselves only cognizant, or if perchance their efficacy under certain circumstances was undoubted, either preparing them themselves, or getting an apothecary to prepare them, afterwards selling them at an enormous profit to their own advantage. We say there was no rarer spectacle than this! No! such proceedings were reserved for the Solomons, the St. John Longs, *et id genus omnes*, the host of *nostrum* manufacturers and vendors, who lived and fattened on the credulity of their neighbours, or as Falstaff aptly expressed it, "turned diseases into a commodity." So sternly did the profession reprobate such proceedings, that they were scarcely countenanced even in the apothecaries, and the paper-war between Dr. Paris and Mr. Battley, a respectable manufacturing apothecary of London, can scarcely be forgotten, when the latter was introducing his *Liquor Opii Sedativus*, a really valuable preparation, which has stood the test of time, but the nature of whose composition is about as much known now, beyond mere conjecture, as it was on the day on which it first saw the light.

These reflections have been painfully forced upon our mind in witnessing the transparent quackery,—we can use no milder word,—with which Chlorodyne, the product of the pharmaceutical genius of Dr. J. Collis Browne, M.R.C.S.L., Ex Army Medical Staff, is being invested. It had been gradually creeping its way