

as it is in the interest of public safety that members of that association should not take upon themselves to prescribe and dispense drugs of this character without a physician's prescription.

Recently a medical man was called to see a patient of his who was profoundly under the influence of a large dose of chloral, upon inquiry he ascertained that a druggist in this city, had taken upon himself to prescribe and dispense a large bottle of solution of chloral hydrate, the patient took a dose and feeling himself dizzy, took a second and this was followed shortly after by a third, fortunately the man had a profound sleep of several hours duration, and then recovered. We say fortunately, because no disaster followed, had the man died, a coroner's jury could hardly have brought in a verdict other, than one of manslaughter against the druggist for his reckless neglect of the spirit of the Pharmaceutical act. This is no isolated case of breach of the spirit of that act. Quite recently we were called upon to assist a confrere in removing from the stomach of a man by aid of the stomach pump the contents of an ounce bottle of Chlorodyne. It is difficult to determine the precise quantity of morphia contained in an ounce of Chlorodyne, but from its effects, and by general consent, it is believed to be at least of the same potency as laudanum, and therefore it is as dangerous a drug to use indiscriminately as is the tincture of opium. We are cognizant of several cases of opium eaters who have abandoned the use of the article itself and taken kindly to Chlorodyne. It seem to supply for a time at least that distressing craving for the accustomed stimulus which is experienced by those addicted to this wretched indulgence. Here is a strong argument against the sale of patent drugs which are known to contain poison, except in quantities which can not possibly take life. We believe that in the case above referred to, had the patient been left to himself, life would shortly have ceased, the first washings of the stomach not only filled the air of the room with the odour of Chlorodyne, but the water itself