

My mental misery reached a climax, from despair I passed to indifference, and as soon as I became careless about myself, I became happier. During the summer and autumn these feelings gradually passed away. I became stronger and took an interest in out-door sports, particularly duck shooting. By the end of the year I was in fairly good health and spirits.

"I now formed the determination to study medicine as soon as I had sufficient funds saved. I continued teaching till July, 1873, and entered Trinity Medical School in October of that year. At this time I was deeply in love with F. B., a young lady somewhat above me, socially, and who did not reciprocate my passion. Hoping to win her regard, I applied myself with zeal to the pursuit of medical knowledge, and no more hardworking, conscientious student ever sat within the walls of old Trinity. I got through the session in good health, and, returning home, was employed at farm labor during the vacation, working for a dollar a day and board. The change from student to hired man was too great, and I began the second session in a nervous condition, although appetite was good and muscles firm, I was *anemic* and *anxious*, and my old enemy neurasthenia began to reappear. I lived a life of the strictest continence, and avoided female society, but I felt that the sexual organs were getting weaker, and nocturnal erotic dreams became frequent. As the session went on I felt that I was giving way physically, morally and mentally, but knew I must hold out till after the examinations. I had set my heart on getting honors, and intended to compete for the gold medal at the following session. My ablest opponent was Mr. W., now a Professor in Trinity Medical College. The pace was hot, but I managed to hold out till after the primary examinations, when it was found that, although the learned professor had obtained the highest aggregate, viz., 95 per cent. against my 93.2 per cent., I had defeated him in his own subject, in which I obtained full marks, or 100 per cent. So weak had my nervous system become that, while the questions were being read out in the examination room, the excitement caused an orgasm, the only diurnal orgasm I ever had of an involuntary kind.

"As a result of the competition I was awarded the position of Resident Assistant Surgeon in Toronto General Hospital, which I accepted and entered on the duties in July, 187—. At this time my nervous system was in a most pitiable condition. So intense had the neurasthenia and vertigo become, that I was unable to fix my attention upon a book for more than a few minutes at a time. I feared insanity, and dreaded epilepsy. I was in a state of constant pathophobia. Dr. D., the other assistant, and I, rowed across the bay every morning, bathed in the cold water of the lake and rowed back in time for breakfast. I derived some