

plethora of education, and a poverty of labour, we have gone on fostering, forcing, and fighting over the pet industry, until we now have such a mass of unmarketable surplus products, as is squeezing the life blood out of our entire country. Talk about protection as our great national panacea,—we have here been protected to the brink of dissolution.

It is admitted by all that our land is our main solid capital, and that on its skilful and energetic cultivation every other industry must rest. When we see one half of our farmers' sons turning their backs on agriculture, and thronging in to fill our high schools, normal schools, model schools, commercial colleges, medical schools, and any sort of school in which they may promise to themselves the acquisition of so much knowledge as will qualify them to wear kid gloves, and to earn their living without that hard labour which raised their fathers from penury to opulence, dare we affirm that agriculture does not need protection, or that our universal cheap education is an unalloyed blessing? Yes, our farmers, and mechanics, too, do require protection, that is to say, from their own un-wisdom, and their sons' gentility.

It may be answered that this disease of plethora will cure itself. Doubtless it will, and must cure itself; but what of the poor patients? A forest fire cures itself, but what a saddening sight are the miles of naked, charred trunks it leaves behind its desolating march.

I do believe this association could not do any more befitting or benevolent act, than on the present occasion, to give expression to a friendly admonition to the young men of our Province and to their parents, against the delusion, that the profession of medicine, as at present conditioned, is a vocation which may be chosen with any fair hopes of its affording to fresh recruits, a compensating return for their mental and pecuniary investments, or even the means of a decent frugal sustenance.

And now, gentlemen, fondly trusting that I have not unduly trespassed on that valuable time which should be allotted to more instructive matters, permit me to tender to you my very grateful thanks, for the kind consideration to which I am indebted for my present honourable position; and may he whom you select as my successor, feel as warm an interest in your prosperity as I do!—A warmer he cannot feel.

EXTIRPATION OF A UTERINE FIBROID, TOGETHER WITH THE UTERUS, OVARIES, AND APPENDAGES—SEPTIC PERITONITIS. DEATH ON THE FOURTH DAY.

BY J. STEWART, M.D., L.R.C.S., & R. W. HURLBURT, M.D., L.R.C.S., BRUCEFIELD, ONT.

Mrs. B., aged 38, consulted us in November '77, complaining of a swelling of the abdomen and lower extremities. She had been married 14 years, and has one child, aged 7. Has had four miscarriages, but with the exception of the illnesses attending these, states she has always enjoyed good health. She first noticed that her abdomen was becoming enlarged in February '77, but for some months previous, she experienced a "burning uneasiness" in the left ovarian region. The abdominal swelling increased gradually in size until three months ago, but since this time, the rate of its growth has been very rapid. She considered herself to be pregnant, until two months ago. She has a careworn and anxious expression.

Examination of abdomen. The abdominal cavity is found to be the seat of a large, firm, globular tumor, which reaches from the pelvic cavity to three inches above the umbilicus. The percussion note over all this area is dull. In the flanks tympanic resonance can only be elicited to the extent of one inch on the right side, and an inch and a-half on the left. The following measurements were taken:

From right ant. sup. spine to umbilicus	11½ in.
“ left do.	13 “
“ umbilicus to pubes	11½ “
“ “ “ ensiform cartilage	7½ “
Circumference at umbilicus	44 “
two in. below umbilicus,	45 “

An exploratory puncture was made into the tumor in the middle line two inches below the umbilicus, but only a few drops of reddish serum escaped through the trocar. No localized or general fluctuation can be detected. The abdominal walls are oedematous. The tumor has a very distinct pulsation communicated to it by the abdominal aorta. The vagina is elongated; the os uteri can be reached but with great difficulty. The catamenia commenced when she was fifteen years of age. She menstruates regularly at present, and has done so since her last mis-carriage, three years ago.