

colonies began to spring up in the rural parts of this province, and these colonies were perhaps most numerous in the districts situate on the southern shore of the St. Lawrence and known as the Eastern Townships. The earlier settlers were largely of New England origin, coming for the most part from New Hampshire and Vermont, and among the granite hills and green mountains of their native states, these hardy pioneers had had a training which enabled them successfully to cope with the rugged forces of nature in their new homes. The life of the country practitioner to-day in the Province of Quebec, as many of you know, is a trying and arduous one, but it is an elysium compared to that experienced by our brethern of a century or even fifty years ago, when often the man of medicine, mounted on horseback, had to find his way to a distant patient, without even a blazed tree to mark his path through the forest. Such was the state of the old township of Shipton, when in 1803 Dr. Abraham Perkins Silver settled within its borders. Born in the city of Boston in 1770, Dr. Silver graduated at Harvard in 1795, and eight years later established himself in Shipton, where he practised for over half a century. During most of this period he was the only physician between Sherbrooke and Drummondville, and to-day you will still hear in these localities many a tale of the blunt, but large hearted, Dr. Silver.

The first medical man who made Richmond his home, was William Hollingworth Fowler, an Englishman born in 1808. He graduated at Glasgow, was for some time in the Royal Navy, in which capacity he visited nearly every portion of the globe, and finally settled down at Richmond in 1842. A man of great natural capacity and varied gifts, he contributed in prose and verse to the journals of the time and his active habits only terminated with his death in 1860.

Another land-mark of medicine in the Richmond district was Richard Norris Webber. Dr. Webber while at Harvard, witnessed the first operation performed under ether, and a thesis on "Ether as an Anæsthetic" written during 1847, his graduating year at Harvard, gained for Dr. Webber considerable reputation. Shortly afterward he established himself at Richmond, where for the fifty remaining years of his life, he was a constant and busy worker. St. Francis College numbers him among its list of founders, and an honored name remained behind when Dr. Webber passed away in 1897.

The township of Durham welcomed in 1849, the advent of a man who for nearly fifty years ministered faithfully to its medical wants—Dr. White, born in England in 1811, graduated in Edinburgh 21 years later, and then took a subsequent course at Trinity College, Dublin, after which he went to Australia, remaining in that colony for five years, returning to London, he spent two years in the metro-