

old man of St. John's Ward (I forget his name) as his tutor. After this short preparation he went to the examination with considerable fear and trembling ; but, to his surprise, passed with good standing. His career, as a student, was somewhat uneventful. He was studious and well liked by his fellow-students. After graduating he had a few hundred dollars left, and decided to settle in Toronto. There was nothing startling about his success in his early career as a physician. In his first six months he made in cash exactly five dollars. In the summer of 1869 practice was quiet with him and his friend George Wright ; and the two decided to take a course in the military school which then existed in Toronto. The principal inducement was the bonus of fifty dollars given to each successful graduate. Their uniform—a scarlet serge tunic (I think that was the name of the unsightly smock or jacket), blue serge trousers, and a little cap—was not specially becoming ; but showed their figures, which were somewhat similar, fairly well. Their success was not at all brilliant, but they managed to submit to the bullying of the sergeant-major as they passed through the “goose step” and other stages of their course with perspirations and groans, and finally graduated in eleven weeks. Their martial ardor was somewhat limited at the time of graduating, and I never heard of them indulging in any military pursuits afterwards.

In 1871 I had a conversation with Dr. McFarlane in his office. He had just gone over his books, and found that his practice was worth something like nine hundred dollars a year. That was to him a large sum at that time. He bought a horse and carriage, and was a proud man when he commenced to drive his not very fiery steed in his daily rounds. That horse, however—and he was not very much of a horse either—appeared to bring him luck. His fierce struggle was over—practice increased rapidly—and he soon had all the work he could possibly attend to. He became, almost suddenly, one of the most busy practitioners in Toronto. A fair idea of the enormous practice which he did may be obtained from the fact that he sometimes attended more than three hundred obstetrical cases in a year. In the year 1869 he was appointed one of the demonstrators of anatomy in the Toronto School of Medicine. He was appointed a member of the visiting staff of the Toronto General Hospital in 1881, and very soon came into prominence as a clinical teacher of surgery. When the Medical Faculty of the University of Toronto was re-established in 1887, he was appointed professor of clinical surgery in that institution, and held that position until the time of his death. He was a member of the Senate of the University of Toronto for about twenty-three years. He was honored in many other ways by his brethren in the profession. He at various times occupied the position of president of local medical societies, and, in 1894, was president of the Ontario Medical Association. His conduct in the chair at that meeting was able, judicious, and impartial.

The career of Dr. McFarlane furnishes a striking example of the possibilities for success which are open to any poor but worthy boy. He fought the world, single-handed, for many years with heroic courage, and swept aside all obstacles that were thrown in his way. A friendless youth from rugged and hilly Caledon came to Toronto, acquired his profession, attained signal success, and received the highest honors which are open to medical practitioners.