

mical analysis of the contents of the stomach made by Drs. Craik and Howard, revealed the fact that Prussic Acid was the cause of death. Dr. F. W. Campbell, who was called to attend Miss Galbraith on the 27th February, testified to finding her very ill, and on examination signs were present sufficiently well marked to warrant him in believing she had been recently delivered. Other witnesses gave evidence which completed the chain around the unfortunate prisoner. Notwithstanding most pathetic appeals to the jury, by two of the ablest criminal lawyers which Montreal possesses he was found guilty, and sentenced to ten years confinement in the Provincial Penitentiary. The case excited the greatest public interest, from the social position of the accused and the sad end of the unfortunate principal in the crime. Being fully cognizant of the facts we can but endorse the verdict of the jury, yet for all that we must add that we consider Judge Drummond has erred on the side of severity in the terrible sentence which he pronounced against the unfortunate prisoner. We are no apologists for the seducer, or the aider and abettor in the abominable crime of abortion, yet we know it for a fact that more than one person in Montreal occupying a position equal to that of Notman's would have been to-day in a position similar to his had it not been for the warning given them of the crime they intended to commit, by the persons they sought to make the principal offenders. It is a fact we believe that there are few medical men, in Montreal at all events, who have not been at least once in their lives solicited to procure an abortion, the person so soliciting having no idea that he ran any risk worth speaking about it. A medical man does however, know not only the risk he runs, should he consent, but likewise is in a position to know the danger which he who "counsels and procures" is liable; not only is it his duty therefore to refuse to become a party to any such crime but likewise to warn those soliciting him to desist. While therefore a fearful responsibility rests upon the shoulders of the prisoner, Robert Notman, which we would by no means attempt to lighten, we yet think that the majesty of the law would have been satisfied with a sentence of from five to seven years. Dr. Patton whom we allude to above was a native of Ireland, and only began practice in Montreal early last fall. He had previously been for some time in the employ of the Montreal Ocean Steamship Company. We cannot close these remarks without one reflection. It is the regret we feel that the law of our country does not give us the power to prosecute mothers who in the crime of abortion, attempt to hide their shame. We trust that we shall not much longer have to complain of such a strange omission. May the publicity given to this trial have the effect of banishing from our country this moral cancer which was slowly eating its way into this and other cities of the Dominion.