

(Angina?), which he attributed to indigestion, and for which he prescribed his usual remedy, a ride on horseback.

He was about 72 years of age, and had always enjoyed excellent health. His physician assured me that he was free from specific taint.

How long this hæmorrhage had been going on before causing death can only be conjectured from the semi-clotted condition of the blood, the quantity of which, unfortunately, could not be measured on account of its sudden escape.

I find very little said about this peculiar cause of death. Considering the previous condition of health and absence of any symptoms of disease of the heart until a few days before death, I am inclined to ascribe the rupture to the condition described by Osler as *Anæmic necrosis*, due to thrombus of the branches of the coronary artery. The muscles, to the naked eye, presented at that point a pale appearance, microscopic examination of the muscles has not yet been made. Fatty degeneration of the heart muscles, and atheromatous degeneration of the arteries were the only other possible causes of the rupture, and these were shown to be absent.

I am, yours truly,

W. O. RICHARDSON, M.B. TOR.

January 4th, 1894.

Prince Edward Island.

DR. R. MACNEILL, Associate Editor for Prince Edward Island.

MEDICAL COUNCIL.

The Medical Council of Prince Edward Island held a meeting in Charlottetown on the 11th inst. They adopted the *Maritime Medical News* published monthly at Halifax as their organ. A movement is under consideration for Maritime reciprocity. A basis was agreed upon and steps are being put forth to invite the profession in the other provinces and the colleges to send representatives to the next meeting of the Canadian Medical Association to be held at St. John, for the purpose of removing all obstacles. There can be no legislation by the Dominion Parliament on the subject unless the B. N. A. Act is amended, and the profession can only work up the provinces to a uniform standard

with examination for a professional license to legalize practice.

The colleges and their professors must not obstruct. New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island will likely agree to reciprocity of registration. We would like, also, in connection with reciprocal registration that stricter ethics would be recognized by all applicants for registration as an evidence of the good intentions and willingness of all parties to avoid overcrowding and underbidding in the routine of daily practice. If a profession does not respect itself, how can they expect the public to respect them?

MEDICAL MEN—THEIR FEES AND REMEDIES AT LAW.

The profession are often accused of being poor financiers and poor book-keepers. Often a suit for professional services, visits, advice and medicine is turned against the doctor by the court, owing to his mode of original entry. It is a common idea, existing in the minds of many people, that a medical man is bound to obey a call to see a patient at any hour, night or day, and it is just as common that such people should doubt his account for services thus rendered when he asks for his pay. The profession should remember that they are not slaves, and that in this country there is no law to compel one man to serve another. It should also be understood that every man is the valuator of his own services, be the fee great or small, and courts will not interfere, excepting where the defendant pleads that at the time of employment he was unaware of the charge made, and disputes it as an overcharge. The onus of proof then is thrown upon the physician to prove *quantum meruit* by his confrères. A little care in making charges and entering the original charge will carry much weight with the court. A physician should charge full and regular prices for his services, even if at settlement he allowed a discount. The services of lawyers and physicians were formerly considered to be in their nature gratuitous, a doctrine derived from the civil law, where the relation subsisting between the parties being founded upon the principle of a mandate, no compensation as such was in contemplation to the mandatory.