

increasing population, another element became prominent in the medical as well as the political affairs of the province. They were not of the military type, nor were they the favorites of the Family Compact; consequently they soon came into opposition alike with the Government and the dominant medical faction. Much dissatisfaction arose from the composition of the Medical Board, the control of the examinations for license, the administration of the General Hospital and other public medical institutions. This discontent culminated in the calling of a public meeting in 1836, at which these grievances were ventilated and resolutions adopted for transmission to the Government, embodying many suggestions for reform. Resolution No. 4 reads as follows: "That it is the opinion of this meeting that over the Hospital of this city a veil of obscurity impends which it is highly advantageous to have removed. No appointed days await the attendance of medical men in connection with the institution; no published reports inform the public of the number of those who have been restored to their friends, cured of their infirmities; the passing bier alone affords a melancholy proof that the institution still exists in active operation." The clouds of discontent were evidently deepening over the medical as well as the political institutions of the province. The struggle for responsible government was being bitterly prosecuted, and in the movement no class of the community took a more prominent part than a section of the medical profession, of whom Drs. John Rolph, William Warren Baldwin, Thomas David Morrison and Charles Duncombe were the leading spirits. It therefore appears how inevitably a breach in the medical profession occurred between the adherents and intimates of the administration and those who espoused the cause of reform. Of the latter Dr. Rolph was for many years such a conspicuous figure in the medical affairs of the province that to us his career is of unusual interest. He was a student of Guy's and St. Thomas' Hospitals, and a pupil of Sir Astley Cooper; at the same time he studied law and became a member of the Inner Temple. He first devoted himself to the practice of law, being called to the Bar of Upper Canada in 1821. By his great intellectual endowment and eloquence he soon acquired a large practice and became one of the leaders of the profession. Early at variance with the judiciary owing to his political views, in 1828, dissatisfied with a decision of Justice Sherwood, he with Dr. Wm. Warren Baldwin (who also practised dual professions), threw off his gown, and left the court. He thenceforward devoted himself to poli-