

cheerless must have been the comfort around him. His feelings, no doubt, were expressed by the following couplet :

“ Truths would you teach to save a sinking land  
All shun, none aid you and few understand.”

Chagrin and disappointment appeared to hang frowning around him, and its very apparition seemed to haunt his every motion, but soothed and charmed by the fitful visits of the happy reflection of self-sacrificing deeds done for the good of suffering humanity, and crowned as in a vision, with the holy wreath, he seemed to warton in a fairy land, and view the Elysian fields of Paradise. The operation was successfully completed ; and the wild flowers of sunshine sprang as it were beneath his boyish tread ; opening in advancement, expanding in maturity, and enriching his pathway with all the richness of luxuriance. This household genius alarmed the threshold of a happy and an honorable home, whose master, as he had bravely answered to signals of duty here below, so when the greater summons came, he as truthfully answered that, and laid down the milk white flower of a stainless life.

“ His deeds will shine forever bright,  
When sun and stars are set in night.”

Should a student of medicine, in centuries hence, ask who first performed ovariotomy, the answer would be ready and unequivocal. The noble men of this class responded to the summons of Providence for a glorious work, and, like the chosen of old, many closed their work with the blood of martyrdom. Greater heroism was never displayed by man or woman.

#### BIOGRAPHY OF McDOWELL.

Dr. Ephraim McDowell, in his day, the greatest surgeon of Kentucky, and renowned in the history of medical science as the “ Father of Ovariotomy,” was born in Rockbridge County, Virginia, November 11, 1771, and died at Danville, Kentucky, June 20, 1830, aged fifty-eight years. He came with his father, Judge Samuel McDowell, to Danville, Kentucky, in 1784 ; was liberally educated at Georgetown, Kentucky, studied medicine in the office of Dr. Humphreys, of Staunton, Virginia ; went to Europe in 1793-4, and studied medicine in the University of Edinburgh, Scotland, and during part of that time was a private pupil of the famous Dr. John Bell ; returned to Danville in 1795. In a hallowed spot, a typical American home, November 11, 1771, Ephraim McDowell first saw the light, and doubtless on a night when nature was in her wildest mood. Outside of the immediate household it was an event of no moment, and about which none seemed especially to care. Little did they dream that the occasion was prophetic of a genius des-