

in two cases the patients died within forty-eight hours.

2. In all the cases except one—a young woman of eighteen—the victims were young men between twenty-five and thirty. I think all the cases mentioned by my friend were young men.

3. Nearly all had very severe nose bleeding. In fact in one the epistaxis was the direct cause of death. The hemorrhage had lasted almost four hours before I could get to the patient. All the ordinary means for checking the bleeding being useless, I resorted to plugging the nares, anteriorly and posteriorly, but although the patient lived some three days afterwards she never seemed to rally. In this case the peritonitic symptoms abated very markedly after the severe hemorrhage. I thought this might probably be the effect of the bleeding, but if so the remedy was almost, if not quite as bad as the disease.

I have not been able to obtain any post mortems, but the medical friend above mentioned had found perforation of the cæcum in the one case in which he was able to obtain an examination of the patient after death.

The usual mode of treatment by opiates, warm fomentations, etc., seemed almost useless, excepting their effect in quieting pain. The tongue presented a red appearance, very dry and at the tip covered with small elevations resembling minute acne. I will not encroach further on your valuable space, but hoping to hear from some brother medico in regard to this matter,

I am, yours, etc.,

Essex Centre, Ont.

P. A. DEWAR.

## TO THE MEDICAL ELECTORS OF THE SAUGEEN AND BROCK DIVISION.

GENTLEMEN,—

The representation of this riding in the Medical Council having become vacant by the death of our late esteemed member, Dr. Douglas, I beg leave to offer myself as a candidate for the representation of the Division.

As our Medical Council is now one of the established institutions of the country, it is our duty to send those to represent us who desire its continuance and the increase of its powers. I am heartily in accord with the majority of the profession in obtaining those amendments to our Med-

ical Act, which are being applied for at the present Session of Parliament. I also desire the elevation of Professional Status, by all those means which the Act empowers us to attain. One of the most important is the entrance to the study of the profession, viz. :—Matriculation ; the degree of B. A. should be required of every student, or at least a course of three years in one of our Universities.

I shall use my best endeavours to obtain such a change in the law as will enable us to punish those practitioners who hire themselves to foreign companies for the purposes of quackery, and shall endeavour by every means in my power to further the interests of the profession at large.

I am, yours, &c., &c.,

GEORGE S. HEROD.

Guelph, Feb. 16th, 1886.

## Selected Articles.

### METHODS OF DIAGNOSIS.

Mr. Lawson Tait, of Birmingham, forwarded a paper to the New York State Medical Society on methods of diagnosis, from which we give the following, (*Med. News*). He maintained that the speculum and the sound, as means of diagnosis, have been productive of uniformly more harm than good. That a blennorrhagic discharge from the vagina of any patient requires the introduction of a speculum, is one of the stock beliefs of the great bulk of general practitioners, but it is certain that nothing of the kind is requisite, and a very large amount of mischief, there can be no doubt, has been produced by this belief. It is not at all an unusual thing for him, on taking part in a consultation with the family physician concerning some such case, to be told by him that he very much regretted that he had not made an examination with the speculum. Others have told him that they made the said examination, and when asked what they saw, or what they did, the answers usually given are that they did nothing, they merely made the examination ; that is to say, they passed the instrument and with that proceeding were perfectly satisfied, evidently under the belief that the passage of the speculum was quite as much a curative agent as a method of diagnosis. Similarly with the sound, he had heard many practitioners tell of their experience with the sound, or rather their want of it, and he judged that they looked upon it as a sort of magical charm, the introduction of which into the uterus was to achieve unmeasured good. As a matter of fact,