

Obituary.

Dr. J. Harlan Reid.

DR. J. HARLAN REID, of Horning's Mills, died January 15th, from pleurisy. He was a well-known and much-liked physician.

Dr. Wm. Grant.

DR. WM. GRANT, one of Perth's prominent physicians, died suddenly of heart trouble. January 7th. Dr. Grant was a native of Glengarry, and started practice in Perth twenty-five years ago. He had always taken an active part in municipal matters, and represented the East Ward as councillor for many years.

WHY DO DOCTORS SO OFTEN MAKE MISTAKES?—Because they are not sufficiently individual in their diagnosis or their treatment. They class a sick man under some given department of their nosology, whereas every invalid is really a special case, a unique example. How is it possible that so coarse a method of sifting should produce judicious therapeutics? Every illness is a factor simple or complex, which is multiplied by a second factor, invariably complex—the individual, that is to say, who is suffering from it, so that the result is a special problem, demanding a special solution, the more so the greater the remoteness of the patient from childhood or from country life. The principal grievance I have against the doctors is that they neglect the real problem, which is to seize the unity of the individual who claims their care. Their methods of investigation are far too elementary; a doctor who does not read you to the bottom is ignorant of essentials. To me the ideal doctor would be a man endowed with profound knowledge of life and of the soul, intuitively divining any suffering or disorder of whatever kind, and restoring peace by his mere presence. Such a doctor is possible, but the greater number of them lack the higher and inner life; they know nothing of the transcendent laboratories of nature; they seem to me superficial, profane, strangers to divine things, destitute of intuition and sympathy. The model doctor should be at once a genius, a saint, a man of God.—*Amiel's Journal*.