

duty of the medical officer is to ascertain and report to the company in accordance with the instructions furnished him, the health or the sanitary condition of the applicant, or whether he is laboring under, or is subject to, any disease or defect which may have a tendency to shorten life.

The responsibility of medical examiners is controlled by the principles of common law in all countries. For instance, in the State of Michigan, U.S.A., the law is as follows: "Any person who, as a medical examiner for any such company, or as a referee, or any person seeking insurance therein, shall knowingly make any false statement to the company, or any officer thereof, concerning the bodily health or condition of the applicant for insurance, or concerning any other matter or thing which might affect the propriety or prudence of granting such insurance, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be liable to a fine not exceeding \$1,000, or to imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding three months, at the discretion of the court, and he shall also be liable to the company for an action on the case for the full amount of any insurance obtained from such company by means, or through the assistance, of such false statement or report."

In conclusion, gentlemen, I hope that I have honestly endeavored to show the high moral responsibilities of medical men connected with life insurance. Although on many occasions I have noted the shortcomings of some of them, it affords me much pleasure to state that as a general rule they have made their examinations in an honest and thorough manner. I have already stated that life insurance involves interests of the greatest importance to individuals and to society, and the medical man is one of the chief guardians of social morality and civilization, and the more he is convinced of this fact the more he completes the great objects which he takes upon himself in joining the noblest and most unselfish of all professions.

106 Wellington Street West.

A law has been passed in Switzerland permitting a limited number of English physicians to practise in that country.

## RUPTURED TUBAL FŒTATION—A CASE SUCCESSFULLY TREATED BY ABDOMINAL SECTION—WITH REMARKS.

BY WILLIAM GARDNER, M.D.,

Professor of Gynecology in McGill University; Gynecologist to the Montreal General Hospital; one of the Vice-Presidents of the British Gynecological Society.

(Read before the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Ontario Medical Association at Toronto, June, 1888.)

The remarkable advances of obstetric medicine in the last decade have been evidenced as much, perhaps, if not more, in everything connected with the subject of extra-uterine gestation than in any other direction. The transactions of every important meeting of obstetricians and gynecologists is enriched by one or more papers on the subject, generally with reports of cases; followed usually by a vigorous discussion, which shows usually some divergence of opinion by able men as to the best course to pursue in the treatment.

The last annual meeting of the American Gynecological Association, held in September, 1887, and the February (1888) meetings of the British Gynecological Society, as well as the Section on Obstetrics of the American Medical Association at its meeting last month, each discussed the subject. Dr. Herman, of London, has recently published in the *Lancet* for May 26th and June 2nd, 1888, an exceedingly able and thoughtful paper on the early treatment of extra-uterine pregnancy.

The fearfully tragic nature of the illness and too frequently of the death of women so affected when left to nature, and the brilliant success of the modern surgical treatment of this condition amply account for such wide-spread interest. Under these circumstances I venture to believe that the recital of a recent case in my own experience may be of some interest and value as a contribution to the literature of the subject. The, to me, unexpected presence of my friend, Dr. Johnstone, of Danville, Kentucky, who has recently written very ably on the subject, will, I am sure, enrich the discussion of my paper.

Mrs. —, aged 29, was married in July, 1887, and had a miscarriage at between two and three months the following October. In