

the extent to which the present Pharmacopœia should receive modifications. The committee was intended for supervision, not for work. It would be their endeavor to find one or two editors, to whom the task of revising the work would be assigned, under the supervision of the committee." It is much to be regretted that this was not done at first. The British Pharmacopœia as at present issued is a dead letter, and has become a tax on all who have paid out their money for a copy.

It is needless here to add how premature we in Canada should be, were we to adopt this as the national Pharmacopœia, which, in the course of a month or two, must receive such modifications and alterations as to constitute in reality a new work.

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#### RE-VACCINATION.

The question of vaccination is one which the recent prevalence of that very loathsome disease small-pox in our midst has brought home with great force to every one. There can be no doubt now that the discovery which has made the name of Jenner imperishable, has not conferred all those benefits upon the human family, that its sanguine discoverer hoped and wished for. Small-pox has not been blotted out from the category of diseases. On the contrary, it now and then breaks out, carrying dismay into the community where it appears. Why is this? And why is it that we find those who have been vaccinated in youth, and who bear upon their arm good evidence of the fact,—becoming its victims, not alone with the discrete variety, but the malignant confluent? Are all the charms of vaccination,—all the benefits it is said to confer,—a myth? Are the labors of Jenner to be thrown aside, and this disease—the one perhaps most dreaded of all others—be allowed once more to spread itself from city to country, until it is epidemic from one end of Canada to the other? This is no idle dream,—no alarmist's words,—but those, we fear, of sad reality. In February the number of deaths recorded from small-pox in Montreal was 17. In May we find the number has increased to 48; and from what we know of the prevalence of the disease during the month of June, we fear the number will not be behind the last. Is there nothing then which can be done to stay the progress, to arrest the prevalence of this fearful disease? We think there is. And it is for the purpose of drawing the attention of the profession to the matter, that we pen these lines. We think that the object for which vaccination was introduced can be very nearly accomplished by a rigid system of re-vaccination. There can be no denying the fact—for fact it is,—that the protective power which the vaccine lymph gives, is