

seem harsh, it is as well to face the truth squarely, if the physicians and Board of Health wished, in this city, in five years hence, scarlatina would be as rare and as much dreaded as small-pox now is. Other places have succeeded with isolation; why not Montreal? During a residence of six months, in the summer of 1893, in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, it was my good fortune to see one case of scarlatina, and it did one's heart good to see how thorough were the means employed to effectually isolate the case, and keep a popular summer resort, where annually some fifteen or twenty thousand people assembled, free of the disease. Isolation, properly carried out, resolves itself into two forms: (1) Isolation at home, and (2) isolation in a public institution especially prepared to deal with infectious cases. The former is necessarily the more difficult, and can only be effectually carried out by means of eternal vigilance on the part of the attendant, and an intelligent co-operation of those isolated, with a necessary submission to some of the discomforts which is the price those pay who wish to partake of the advantages and benefits of living in a large community in health. And first, of the medical attendant. There are in Montreal, as in all large cities, men who will deliberately hide a case of scarlatina, and so long as one of this class remains, just so long will he be a standing menace and danger to the public health. Many a pilot has had his ticket suspended for guiding the ship entrusted to him carelessly, and more than one lawyer has had his name crossed off the rolls for shady practice in a court of justice. An injury done to a ship may be mended, and an injustice done in a court may be rectified, but a life lost through criminal negligence may never be called back, and the punishment of an infringement of the law, requiring infectious cases to be reported within twenty-four hours, should be equally rigorous, if not more so. I would suspend his license to practice in the Province for six months for the first offence, and revoke it altogether for a second. Next as to the patient: this is more difficult. The patient may employ a medical man, and fail to carry out his instructions; here much may be done by the municipal or provincial board of health. I remember, about two or three years ago, some excellent little pamphlets being distributed by the Montreal Board of Health giving some common sense advice, and a rough sketch of the infectious diseases, and the means of disinfection, etc., recom-