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QUARANTINE.

From the report of the Minister of Agriculture of the Federal Government for 1888 we learn that a more efficient medical inspection of incoming vessels is now maintained at the different Canadian ports. At Grosse Isle no less than seventeen vessels were reported as having infectious disease on board, and of these nine belonged to leading passenger lines. The diseases so reported or discovered were smallpox, yellow fever, enteric fever, scarlet fever, diphtheria, measles and variola. The quarantine superintendent reports that the necessary precaution for the vaccinal protection of steerage passengers had not been thoroughly carried out by the ship surgeons for various reasons mentioned, such as absence of instructions from owners or agents, neglect of the ship surgeon, and inadequate supply of vaccine. In such cases the steerage passengers were examined at quarantine, and where necessary, vaccinated in accordance with the regulations which direct that no steerage passenger shall be allowed to pass the inspecting stations without furnishing evidence to the satisfaction of the quarantine medical officer of having been vaccinated within the seven previous years or having had the smallpox within that period. Five persons objected to being vaccinated. They were accordingly put ashore and kept at Grosse Isle under medical supervision until the period of incubation from the date of their last possible exposure to the infection of smallpox had expired. All told, there were 4,000 persons vaccinated at Grosse Isle last season, and smallpox was reported on one steamer. Vessels with smallpox on board were also detained at Halifax, St. John, N.B., and Victoria, B.C.