

case I saw of the disease in an adult, there were 20 among children. However here is evidence, if evidence were needed, to prove the necessity of effectually carrying out the Vaccination Act recently passed by the legislature. It is much to be regretted that this act is confined in its operation to the larger cities in Canada. I am at a loss to conceive why the country parishes and smaller towns should be overlooked. Small Pox is well known to prevail occasionally to an alarming extent in whole districts, more especially among French Canadians, as may be evidenced by the fact that in some parishes almost the entire population present the deep pits and scars which remain after a severe attack of this malady. Referring again to these returns it will be found that the great proportion of these deaths are among the children of the poor, and from the locality of the Roman Catholics we may infer the largest proportion to have been French Canadians, as nearly three-fourths of the population of those wards are of French extraction. The necessity of early vaccination cannot be too urgently enforced, and for the poorer class there are two hospitals and the Montreal Dispensary, public institutions, with constant supplies of fresh vaccine lymph, where their children will be vaccinated gratis, if they will be at the trouble of taking them there.

Abundant evidence can be brought in proof of the beneficial effects of vaccination, the most striking facts are given by Dr. Casper, of Berlin.

During the ten years from 1782 to 1791, 4453 deaths are recorded as having occurred from small pox in the city of Berlin. In the year 1800 vaccination was introduced and practised extensively. In the ten years from 1802 to 1811 there were 2955 deaths from small pox, and in the 11 succeeding years the cases of deaths from that disease had diminished to 555. It had been observed that an epidemic of small pox occurred about every third year. In 1803 its recurrence was first checked by the prevalence of vaccination. A popular notion that other maladies peculiar to infant life became more fatal after the introduction of vaccination was combatted by Casper. He found on comparing the two periods from 1786 to 1789, and 1819 to 1822, that in the former period 39 out of 100 children died of other maladies, whereas during the latter the death rate was reduced to 34 out of every 100. On the same point we may notice the official return of deaths in Sweden :

In 1779 small pox destroyed 15,000 persons.

1784	"	"	12,000	"
1800	"	"	12,800	"
1801	"	"	6,000	"
1822	"	"	11	"
1823	"	"	37	"

Here, also, as in other continental countries, vaccination was introduced about the year 1800.

It may not be deemed irrelevant to mention re-vaccination. Much difference of opinion obtains on this subject. The great Jenner was of opinion that re-vaccination was necessary, that the protective influence of vaccine gradually diminished as the patient advanced in age. Without entering on this subject at all, which is engaging the attention of eminent observers at the present day, I will merely