

to all their resentment the hardy wight that should undertake to put an end to it." Thus you see that whether the doctor favours a preventive measure or not, he must still be under the suspicion that his motives are mercenary.

Perhaps our best object lesson on the efficiency of vaccination comes from Germany. During the war of 1870-71, smallpox was prevalent in France, and French prisoners-of-war carried it into Germany, where it became epidemic in places. All the German soldiers who were under arms at the outbreak of the war had been vaccinated two years before, and these suffered much less than the general populace, who were indifferently protected, and very much less than the French soldiers. The mortality amongst those who were unvaccinated was 45 per cent, amongst those who had been vaccinated once (usually in childhood) 14 per cent, and amongst those who had been revaccinated, 5 per cent. Germany took the lesson to heart, and in 1874 passed a law making it compulsory that every child should be vaccinated before the end of the second, and that all school children should be re-vaccinated in the twelfth year. This law has been adhered to rigidly, and the result is that Germany has had less smallpox to contend with than any other nation. In 1899, but twenty-eight cases of smallpox were reported in the whole German Empire. These were reported from twenty-one different localities, and many of the patients were recently arrived foreigners.

German statistics are also worth consideration in connection with the claim that vaccination is dangerous. Between 1885 and 1897, 32,166,619 children were vaccinated in Germany. Of this large number, 115 died, presumably on account of the vaccination. This would indicate a mortality of about 3.5 per million, but a considerable part of those whose death was attributed to vaccination really died from other causes, and the mortality resulting from vaccination was actually less than two per million. To-day there should be no mortality whatever from this operation.

It is therefore perfectly obvious that we need have no smallpox unless we desire it. Its presence is due to certain factors, of which one is lax administration of our health laws, another is the opposition of some of the ignorant who cannot see the