

which had not been returned. We should like to know who these defaulters are, but in the absence of further information on this head, we may remark that this is a commentary on how our returns are kept, and furnishes a powerful argument in favour of a general registration act. We doubt if there are many Aldermen McCords through the country who with inquisitive ardour will nudge the memories of the defaulting shepherds scattered over this Dominion, and their name is legion.

Both reports give some interesting facts with regard to variola and vaccination. This appears to be more full in the report of Dr. Larocque than in that of Dr. Dugdale, who, on the other hand, compares vaccination as practised in this city with the laws bearing on this subject in various European countries.

Both gentlemen go rather fully into the subject of Foundlings, but while giving us much matter which we have had dinned into our ears in a somewhat different form, there is no new proposal or new method suggested to overcome the difficulty. It is the same thrice told tale of shame, seduction, misery and death—and the same mortality in spite of all that can be done to lessen it. The same experience the world over, and the sooner we learn the lesson that had Dame Nature intended our children to be brought up with a bottle, or to be artificially fed, the human female would have been produced minus her breasts, for nature appears not to make anything which is superfluous or for show only.

We must close these remarks as we have already extended beyond our limit. Both reports are well and carefully got up, but we should advise our friends to unite, and give us this next year one single report, one which may be regarded truthful so far as truth is attainable, one which may be looked upon as not dealing in imagery. The health officers owe it to themselves not to make themselves appear ridiculous. They owe it to the citizens to give reliable and truthful information on sanitary subjects, as for that purpose and with that end in view they were appointed to fill the very onerous and responsible positions of health officers of the city.