

pox from her brother, who had taken it from a passenger on board of one of the Quebec boats. So mild was it, that he did not know what the disease was till I accidentally saw him and told him. He had not been out of the house for some days but was up and dressed. In fact his was without exception the mildest case I have ever seen. Some days after he got well and was out, I was called to see Mrs. K. on the 13th October, 1857. She then complained of having taken cold as she thought, and as she was then eight months pregnant I merely prescribed a simple diaphoretic. The next day when I saw her, she was in bed, and a slight eruption appeared to be coming out: the following day the 15th, I pronounced the disease to be small pox: she became delirious and very ill, so much so that I informed her husband, that I would not be surprised if she should miscarry, and that probably the child would be dead born, although her term of gestation was nearly ended. Dr. Campbell of Great St. James street saw her with me on the morning of the 17th, and corroborated what I had said. However, she went on through the disease favourably enough, although the attack was a severe one, until the night of the 26th, the 12th day of the eruption, when labor came on, and I delivered her of a fine healthy girl, without a spot or a mark of any sort on its body, much I must say to my surprise, as well as to the surprise of the nurse and friends. The lady made a rapid and excellent recovery, and as she had to accompany her husband to England in the February following, she requested me to vaccinate her baby. I told her I did not think it was requisite to do so, but she insisted upon it, and I vaccinated it in January when it was three months old, but the operation failed. I then vaccinated it again about ten days later, but with no better success, and I have since learned that she has had it tried again in England with a like result. I can answer for the genuineness of the vaccine matter I used, as it took well with other children, and I have no reason to doubt that the same may be said of that used by the medical gentleman in England who tried to vaccinate it the third time.

I may here state that Mrs. K. had been vaccinated when a child and the two marks on her arm were very distinct.

I will now explain the reason why I was surprised at the infant's being born alive and without a spot or mark of any kind, but with as fine white or roseate skin as any child could have, and it is this, that in all the cases of small pox in pregnant women that I have met with during the course of a large midwifery practice, both in the country and in this city, they all miscarried; and the children, with this single exception, were still born, and all were covered with the eruption. The cases you have published, now amounting to three—yours, Dr. Stranaghan's, and this one of mine, may become of importance on the question of vaccination and re-vaccination, of which we have still a great deal to learn.

Montreal, February 20th, 1860.