

is the comparatively rare exception. It required but twenty deaths to make 1,000 in one year in this city from small-pox alone (more than twice as many as there were deaths from consumption), yet only 53 of that number died in the hospital specially set apart for their reception. It will be for you, gentlemen, to say whether persons labouring under this loathsome malady will be permitted to become centres of disease and death; or whether they shall be removed to places suitably prepared for them, where danger of infecting others will be lessened.

I have not time to more than touch upon the vexed question of vaccination. If science has settled any one question in medicine, it has certainly pronounced in a definite manner in favor of the practice. But "doctors differ" is an old aphorism, and a portion of the citizens of Montreal is becoming educated in a disbelief in the power of vaccination for good, and a belief in its powers for evil. I should wish to direct attention to a fact pregnant with interest. There were 981 deaths during last year from small pox. Of these, 827 were among the French Canadian portion of the population. Why this increase? this frightful mortality among that section of our fellow-citizens so remarkable for their frugality, temperance and cleanliness? The answer may be found in the circumstance that it is they who have been chiefly, I may say, solely influenced by the writings of those who are opposed to vaccination, and who in consequence, refuse to permit their children to be vaccinated, while the others as a rule, are vaccinated, and frequently revaccinated, especially in view of an epidemic. What is the practical inference to be drawn from what I state?

Ready Method of Estimating the Fat (Cream) Present in Milk.

JOHN HORSLEY, F. C. S., *Chemical News*, describes a simple method of determining the amount of cream in any sample of milk, as follows: The milk is agitated in a graduated glass tube, with its bulk of ether, for four or five minutes. Alcohol is then added, equal in volume to the milk employed, and the whole well shaken together for five minutes. The tube is then placed in a vertical position, and allowed to remain at rest, when the oily matter will quickly rise to the surface, and its amount can be read off at once on the scale, and the percentage thence readily computed.—*Detroit Review of Medicine.*