

THE MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH OF MONTREAL AND THEIR CIRCULAR.

Montreal,.....187

To Drs. DUGDALE AND LaROcQUE,
Medical Officers of Health,
City Hall.

I report the following cases of Small-pox :

No.	Street,	Ward.
(Signature,)		

M.D.

We received the above printed document, purporting to emanate from the Medical Officers of Health for the City of Montreal, and we were inclined to regard it at first with favour, until we read an effusion which appeared in the *Montreal Gazette* of the 5th February instant, headed "The Medical Society's Opinion."

We copy the article *in extenso*, as it is too rich to bear any cutting down:—

"Drs Larocque and Ricard having been named by the Medical Society of this city to examine an article in the *Medical Record* of New York, which treats of certain measures adopted by the New York Board of Health, for the prevention of the spread of contagious diseases, such as scarlatina, small-pox, etc., and to report, and also having received instructions to confer with the Board of Health, and recommend the adoption of similar precautions by this city, prepared their Report, submitted it to the Medical Society on Wednesday last, and on Thursday to the Board of Health. The following recommendations were made:—

First, that every Doctor in the city shall be bound to report to the Board of Health every case of contagious disease under his care; second, that every person keeping a lodging house or hotel, or the relations and parents of persons thus affected, shall be bound in like manner. On receipt of such information the Health Officers shall go to the place, and decide whether the sick persons (of their own free will) shall be taken to the hospital. If the patient goes to the hospital, a sanitary policeman shall be charged with seeing that the house, and the effects that were used about the sick room, are disinfected. If he stay at the house the sanitary policeman shall ascertain two or three times a week whether the sanitary measures ordered at his visits are carried out. So soon, too, as the patient leaves his room, they must proceed to disinfect it. If the infectious disease be small-pox the vaccinator of that district should be notified in order that he may proceed to re-vaccinate the whole family, as well as the residents in each of the neighbouring houses, and if necessary those who live across the way.