

none in this country, can mismanage an epidemic of smallpox, we invite their attention to the history of the epidemic of Montreal in 1871 and prevailed until 1880 and broke out with double force in 1885. Not a month has passed during those nine years without furnishing its quota of cases with a large aggregate of deaths. The following is the mortality: in 1872 the number of deaths were 897; in 1873, 228 deaths; in 1874, 647 deaths; in 1875, 590 deaths.

During these nine years the press contented itself in giving the people the occasional statistics of the disease and the city contented itself in receiving these statistics in silence. Year after year passed by and hundreds died, and hundreds more lived pitted and unsightly. The disease had its will. But with the late epidemic the public and the press both realized that a great amount of labor was necessary, to stamp out at once and forever this most foul disease and they struck while the iron was hot.

The smallpox outbreak is regarded as a calamity to all Canada; it is curious that in a city which has been not unfrequently visited by the disease, there should be so few precautions taken against the return of the scourge and such little faith in the preventive vaccination, as will be seen in the following pages. Many people neglect precaution while others regard it with supreme contempt while even the merchants were at the beginning of this last outbreak, like they were all through the former scourge, quite indignant, and severely resented publicity given it by the local papers; they seem to regard it more as a drawback to com-