

The cases of supposed inoculation of syphilis with the vaccine virus are not many, and an analysis reduces them to very few—and those few are still further reduced by the fact that the grossest ignorance and misconduct were, in some instances at least, imputed to the vaccinators. The few cases that have been published in the past seventy years, chiefly from Continental sources, are utterly insignificant in numbers and importance, and lead us to ask the same question as Mr. Simon: "if our ordinary current vaccination propagates syphilis, where is the syphilis that it propagates? Who sees it? The experience of the department is an entire blank on the subject. For the last ten years we have been in incessant intimate communication with the different parts of England on details of public vaccination, and during these years, every one of the about 350 vaccination districts into which England is divided has been visited three or four times by an inspector specially charged with the duty of minutely investigating the local practice of vaccination; yet from this systematic and extremely detailed search for all that has to be said on the subject of vaccination in England, no inspector has ever reported any local accusation or suspicion that a vaccinator had communicated syphilis. Again, our national vaccine establishment has been in existence for more than 60 years, vaccinating at its own stations every year several thousands of applicants, and transmitting to other stations supplies of lymph, with which every year very many (at present 50 or 60) other thousands are vaccinated, who in their turn, become sources of vaccination to others; but this vast experience does not, so far as I can ascertain, include knowledge of even one solitary case in which it has been alleged that the lymph has communicated