

raise the percentage of mortality amongst the vaccinated. While the mortality from the natural disease, never lower than 12 or 15 per cent, may be swelled to 50 per cent. and upwards, by an increase of malignity in the type of the epidemic; small-pox, after vaccination, is, on the contrary, an uniformly mild disease, and attended with an uniformly low rate of mortality, whatever the type of the epidemic may be. I have already shown you how the district vaccinations extinguished the disease among us in less than three months. I wish that these facts could be carefully considered by all who have any lingering doubt in their minds that there is but one method, and that, happily, an infallible method, of dealing with that formidable and loathsome disease; or, who think that any amount of squabbling about "isolation" and "the liberty of the subject" will enable us to avoid the necessity for a stringent Vaccination Act. I have seen people, protected by vaccination only, come out unharmed, after living for weeks together in atmospheres of which the inhalation by the unprotected was certain infection and probable death. I have known vaccination resist all these influences, and that of accidental inoculations as well. In the face of all that I could tell you upon this point, and all that you know yourselves, it does seem a most reprehensible thing that our Legislature should have buried the Vaccination Act that we sent them last year, because they could not decide whether the vaccinators ought to have five cents or fifty cents per head for their vaccinations, or whether they ought to be ordered to perform them for nothing. I hope that this matter will be kept before the public, and not suffered to fall into oblivion until another epidemic calls attention to it in the same melancholy manner as that of last year.

With regard to the *Ages of the Patients*, thirty-five, or rather more than one-sixth of those attacked, were under five years of age, and only three were less than a year old—a circumstance which could not fail to add to the mortality. In treating these little people we thought ourselves uncommonly fortunate to save three out of the nine and sixteen out of the thirty-five. The youngest patient was the child of an infected mother, at the full time, and was born jaundiced. It was vaccinated at once, but seven days after birth it showed the eruption of confluent small-pox, and died five days afterwards. Another female infant showed a copious eruption on the tenth day after birth, in spite of an ineffectual attempt that had been made to save it by vaccination. The vaccine vesicles, two in number, ran their course along with the eruption, and though they did not modify its maturation, I am inclined to think that they may have lessened its amount and