

## MEDICAL SOCIETY FOR MUTUAL IMPROVEMENT.

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ST. CATHRINES, ONT., Tuesday, April 9th, 1872.

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Dr. Goodman brought under the attention of the Society the unusual severity of the local and constitutional derangement following vaccination during the last few weeks, when, from the dread of a visitation from the epidemic, which has been so severely felt in the large cities, a sudden furore for this operation presented itself. In many instances a distressing gastric fever followed; eruptions of a vesicular and pustular form appeared on the extremities and body, and deep, sloughy, unhealthy ulcers, with fununcular spots, appeared upon the arm, at the site and the spot vaccinated.

Dr. Mack had remarked the same thing, and attributed it to bovine vaccination, more or less immediate; it was apparent in cases where constitutional debility was to be looked for, the local sores also occurred after the most careful mode of introducing the virus; he would like to know\* if the vaccine pustule was more benign when produced from lymph transferred from arm to arm.

Dr. Comfort was of the opinion that the moistened crust would be always found more irregular in its effect than the recent lymph, and he adduced an instance where the infection proved successful when conveyed from one arm to another, although he had failed with a reliable scab. In the low fever following vaccination he had witnessed symptoms of a desquamative process occurring throughout the mucous tissues.

Dr. Sullivan enquired if any definite opinion had been arrived at as to the validity of the virus, obtained from those who had been re-vaccinated.

Dr. Comfort preferred the infection from a child of good constitution and health, family history, he had found re-vaccination succeed a second and even a third time, and he thought, in the presence of an epidemic, the surest plan would be to re-vaccinate until the characteristic pustule failed to be produced.

Dr. Alexander condemned vaccination with virus taken from an adult who had been re-vaccinated, and related an instance of a fatal case of the confluent form of the disease in a Medical student, who had not been vaccinated in infancy, but had been vaccinated from an

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