

## HEALTH OF MONTREAL.

The following is an abstract of a report sent us by Dr. Larocque, one of the Health officers of the city.

In September there occurred 577 deaths; of these 464 were children under ten years, and 224 were from zymotic diseases. The mortality in August was 785, of these, 678 being children. Small-pox, scarlatina, and whooping cough had about the same number of victims in September as in August, but typhoid fever has considerably increased in fatality, there having been 23 deaths therefrom in the former month, against 13 in the latter.

Whooping-cough is the infantile disease that seems increasing most, 23 deaths from it having occurred in August and September.

The Health officers desire legislation for the purpose of instituting by-laws for the prevention of disease. The regulation it is desired to enforce comprise such as the following:

That medical men report to the Board of Health all cases of disease coming under their treatment within twenty-four hours thereafter.

That all boardinghouse, hotel or house keeper report cases of contagious disease on their premises to the Board.

The Health officers to visit localities where contagious maladies exist and adopt such precautions as may be required, such as sending patients to hospital when they cannot conveniently be isolated; disinfecting or even burning all that can possibly spread the contagion; and in cases of small-pox, vaccinating or re-vaccinating members of the family, neighbors or attendants on the sick most exposed to the infection.

The Corporation ambulance to be alone employed for transport of the sick, carters or other persons being strictly forbidden to do so.

Bodies of persons deceased of contagious diseases to be disinfected and interred within so many hours after death as may be decided on; simple hearses devoid of trappings or other ornaments that might absorb the contagion only to be used: and the bodies not allowed to enter any church or charnel-house, but be at once buried.

The officers of Health and Sanitary police to have authority to enter into any house or other building, and examine its sanitary condition

from top to bottom, and inquire into the vaccination or non-vaccination of the children.

To facilitate vaccination the city to be divided into four districts, with an office in each, for performance of the operation, and where a register of vaccination will be kept.

Forms to be distributed to the different religious denominations for record of births, and to be collected by the officers once a week; with aid of these it will be possible to have children vaccinated at the legal age and form a statistical compilation of some value.

Death certificates should only be signed by a doctor and brought to the Health Office; when no certificate is given the Board reserve right to hold an investigation to ascertain the cause of death.

The sale of milk must be regulated, as it is at present sold in such an adulterated and diluted form as to be insufficient to nourish children. Adulterated liquors, being the cause of frequent sickness, should be analyzed, and their sale also regulated.

## DEATH FROM CHLOROFORM.

One of these deplorable accidents occurred lately in Kingston, the victim being a lady who was having a tooth extracted. The occurrence of like fatal issues is from time to time recorded in the news of the day and most generally from chloroform having been taken during the performance of some minor operation, especially in dental surgery. We have been struck with the fact, and can only account for it by the nature of the operation which generally permits or requires patients to assume a sitting posture. This position favors cerebral anemia—which is the cause of death, so that the first remedy to be tried is change of posture as advised by Nelaton. The patient to be inverted with the feet upwards and head downwards. In a case reported by Dr. Sims, of New York, life was restored by this method after respiration had ceased for fifteen minutes, and other cases are recorded where this plan had succeeded after other plans had failed.

We are informed that the Medical Faculty of the University of Bishop's College have been placed on the list of Medical Schools recognised by the Royal College of Surgeons of England.