

An honest respect for the natural rights of personal liberty, bodily health and the morality of the people, require that these despotic compulsory vaccination statutes, which the people never asked for, should be repealed, as were the cruel, inhuman statutes (enacted in former times at the mitigation of a tyrannical priesthood to preserve the spiritual health of the people). Leaving the people at liberty to be vaccinated is not vaccinated according as each individual may be assured in his mind. "Let every yoke be broken and the oppressed go free."

Further, the compulsory vaccination statutes now in force in Ontario and New Brunswick are unconstitutional, because they close the doors of our educational institutions to the unvaccinated. Why should the presence of healthy children innocent of vaccine pus infused into their bodies contaminate vaccinated children?

If vaccinated children are protected from small-pox surely contact with healthy, unvaccinated children cannot contaminate them. A man clad in bullet-proof armor does not make himself secure by compelling his neighbors also to use an armor. Evidently the vaccinators distrust the efficacy of vaccination; and if they distrust it, it is a monstrous tyranny to enforce it upon unwilling people. The so-called health boards of the several provinces of Canada are pressing for legislation to deprive the people of their natural right to choose their own medicine for themselves and for their children. It's not the people who ask for, or require protection, but the needy, political doctors who are personally incapable of earning their bread and butter by honest medical practice.

Dr. A. M. Ross.

MEDICAL DELUSIONS PAST AND PRESENT.

(Written for THE BUDGET.)

LESS than one hundred years ago, the delusion of inoculation with small-pox to prevent small-pox, was practised and recommended by the medical profession as vaccination is to-day. Now it is a penal offence to inoculate, as it was proved before a Royal Commission that tens of thousands of people had died from small-pox as a direct result of inoculation. This delusion swept into untimely graves more than forty thousand people in England before it was abolished!

Less than fifty years ago, the delusion of arm-to-arm vaccination was in fashion. This delusion was upheld by the profession until within the last fifteen years, when it was discarded, because it was proved beyond a doubt, before a Parliamentary Committee of the British House of Commons, that syphilis, scrofula, and other vile diseases of vile men, were transmitted by arm-to-arm vaccination from victim to victim; and there is no doubt that the bodies of hundreds of thousands of the present generation are saturated to a greater or less degree with the *scattered venom* of syphilis and scrofula, as a direct result of arm-to-arm vaccination. When arm-to-arm vaccination, like inoculation, was abandoned and relegated to the same tomb with previous medical delusions—such as the "*Dried blood of a Black Cat*," "*Infallible Powders*," made from the tails of lizards, snakes, and white puppy dogs; "*King's Powders*," made from dried toads and the *spittle of a reigning king*; calomel, bleeding, and other modern delusions—then the monstrous fallacy of vaccination was introduced, substituting the *putrid pus of diseased cattle* for the syphilitic and scrofulous *pus* of diseased men. *O tempora! O mores!!*

Less than thirty-five years ago, millions of human beings up to that time had gone to untimely graves, begging piteously for a cup of water to cool their parched lips, while the burning fire of fever was consuming their lives. Fathers and mothers, each in turn, had refused the agonizing appeal of their dear ones for this natural antidote, all because the doctor had forbidden it. Doctors in those days said: "Cold water is death; do not give a drop. Give the patient a dose of calomel and a spoonful of warm water." Thus parents were made actual (though ignorant) instruments in the murder of their children. Not only were fever patients denied cold water—nature's remedy—but light and pure air were also denied them; and they were drugged with calomel, physicked with jalap, depleted of their life-blood by the lancet, and starved until they gave up the ghost—a tribute to this medical delusion.

Less than twenty-five years ago, thousands upon thousands of human beings had up to that time been hurried into untimely graves by the lancet. The doctor of that period had termed the lancet his "*Samson*," and very properly, for with it he slew his thousands. Old and young alike were subjected to blood-letting for the most trivial ailments; thus whole generations were swept away by this bloody delusion, which, happily for the present generation, has been discarded.

Less than fifteen years ago, calomel was in continual use, and resorted to as an antidote for nearly all the ills that flesh is heir to. This horrid delusion was not discarded until it had filled the world with human wrecks, and produced untold misery and woe.

The "germ theory" is the latest fashion in medicine, and bids fair to revolutionize, if it has not done so already, the generally received opinions, in etiology and pathology. Already surgery has wheeled into line with its "antiseptic" treatment; and Therapeutics promise to follow suit with the administration of "germicides" for the extermination of the *microbes* which are affirmed to be the cause of disease.

"Preventive medicine," acting on the Jennerian hypothesis, proposes the cultivation of germs with which to inoculate the healthy; that is to say, it proposes to prevent and arrest the progress of corruption by inoculating with corruption those who are healthy and clean. Small-pox is no longer to monopolize vaccination; but must share it with scarletina, diphtheria, typhoid, tuberculosis, erysipelas, cholera,

measles, malaria, and probably the whole catalogue of diseases; for if the "germ theory" be correct, its universal application in the causation of disease is only a question of time. There can be no doubt of it being shown to produce gout and ophthalmia, epilepsy and osteomalacia, rheumatism and hydrocele, pneumonia, St. Vitus dance and urticaria, psora abscess and tic-doloureux, hysteria and varicose veins, nymphomania and the "jim-jams," molities cerebrum and microphobia. The latest "scientific" therapeutics are "germicides" and "cultured virus." All that need your watchful care are your vermifuges, germifuges, subterfuges, and—*fees*. The *sine qua non* for a fashionable "scientific" physician is microbiology, the *ultima thule* in physic.

Verily the medical practice of to-day has no more foundation in science, philosophy, or common sense, than it had one hundred years ago. It is based on conjecture and improved by sad blunders, often hidden by death. A drug which forms the favorite remedy for many forms of disease at one period, will, in a short time, be discarded as inert and useless, and speedily replaced by some other, and that in its turn will soon fall into oblivion as some new medicine comes into fashion. Yes, there is fashion in medicines, and the theories on which they are adopted and administered are largely hypothetical. If the deplorable consequences which frequently result from medical blunders, delusions and conjectures were visited upon the doctors themselves it would be a righteous punishment, but unfortunately it is the people who suffer by medical fallacies; the people, who, by custom and early education, have been taught to believe "*that the doctor knows best*."

Let my readers think me unduly severe in my strictures on the medical profession, I beg them to carefully read the publicly expressed opinions of some of the most independent professors of the medical schools of England and America.

Dr. James Johnson, a distinguished English physician, says in the preface of one of his books: "I declare my conscientious opinion, on long observation and reflection, that if there was not a single physician, surgeon, apothecary, man midwife, chemist, druggist, or drug on the face of the earth, there would be less sickness and less mortality."

Dr. Mason Good, also a very successful London practitioner, says: "The effects of medicine on the human system are in the highest degree uncertain. Except, indeed, that they have already destroyed more lives than war, pestilence, and famine combined."

Prof. B. F. Barker, M.D., New York, says: "Instead of investigating for themselves, medical men copy the errors of their predecessors, and have thus retarded the progress of medical science and perpetuated error."

Prof. Jameison, of Edinburgh, says: "The present practice of medicine is a reproach to the name of science, while its professors give evidence of an almost total ignorance of the nature and proper treatment of disease. Nine times out of ten, our mis-called remedies are absolutely injurious to our patients, suffering under diseases of whose real character and cause we are most culpably ignorant."

Sir John Forbes, M.D., F.R.S., physician to Queen Victoria, says: "Some patients get well with the aid of medicines; more without it; and still more in spite of it."

Dr. Wakely, in the *London Lancet*, says: "How little do we know of disease, compared with what we have yet to learn! Every day develops new views, teaching us that many of what we before thought immutable truths, deserve only to be classed with baseless theories; yet, dazzled with the splendor of great names. On these theories, which have usurped the place of truth, a system of routine or empirical practice, has grown up, vacillating, uncertain and often pilotless, in the treatment of disease."

Sir Astley Cooper says: "The science of medicine is founded on conjecture and improved by murder."

Benjamin Rush, M.D., formerly professor in the Pennsylvania University, says: "What mischiefs have we not done under the belief of false facts and false theories! We have assisted in multiplying diseases; we have done more—we have increased their fatality."

Dr. Marshall Hall, the distinguished English physiologist, says: "Let us no longer wonder at the lamentable want of success which marks our practice, when there is scarcely a sound physiological principle amongst us."

Prof. W. Parker, M.D., N.Y., says: "Of all sciences medicine is the most uncertain."

Prof. Valentine Mott, M.D., N.Y., says: "In their zeal to do good, physicians have done much harm. They have hurried many to the grave, who would have recovered if left to nature."

Prof. Oliver Wendell Holmes, M.D., of Harvard University, says: "The disgrace of medicine is to-day what it has always been, a colossal system of self-deception. If all the medicines in the world were thrown into the sea it would be the better for mankind."

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SOLELY to please our friend of the *Insurance Journal* we will admit that perhaps we ought to have incorporated the word "knowingly" into our remark about the man who insures a building for more than it is worth, and said that "a man who knowingly writes a policy on a building for more than its value is quite as bad as the man who sets it on fire to get the insurance." There can be no question as to the criminality of a man who prompts or suggests to another to do a criminal act. And the man who insures a building for more than it is worth that he may make a little extra commission, and trusts to the sharp practices of the adjuster to cut down the amount when the loss occurs, is just as much of a rascal, except in the amount to be gained by the rascality, as the fellow who burns the building to get the insurance.—*Price Current.*