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FOR THE MONTREAL MEDICAL GAZETTE.

HOOPING COUGH.

To the most extraordinary vicissitudes of weather, which these three months have witnessed, we may chiefly attribute the early presence of the Hooping-cough throughout the whole atmospheric media of four Parishes, viz. Yamaska, St. Aimé, St. David and St. Francis, and, no epidemic, for several years past, has shewn itself so distressing and intractable to the resisting powers of medicine, diet, and the sometimes beneficial effects of that change of air produced by removal to uninfected localities.

In the absence of all professional prejudices and bigotry, I am well aware that a multitude of the most important acquisitions in the history of mankind, and the progress of knowledge, have been derived from accidental circumstances, or the occurrence of extraordinary ideas to certain minds; and a lucky thought, and trial event have led to the most important consequences in almost every branch of human enquiry, and in no branch, perhaps, could we, *a priori*, look for such occurrences more frequently than in medicine. Having myself been sorrowfully afflicted by the visitation of this epidemic, among my young family of children, it is but natural to suppose that the anxieties and cares of a fond parent deeply involved, not only the resources of his own practical science, but those also, which although unscientific in their gratuitous hearings, are not always to