

In comparing the two systems of compulsion and non-compulsion, he would present two extreme cases :—

“ In Ireland, where the greatest ignorance and prejudice might be supposed to prevail on the subject, no less than 58,000 persons had died from small pox in the ten years ending 1841, and in subsequent years the state of matters was not much improved. That was one extreme. The other occurred in a part of Europe where the material condition of the population was extremely good—he referred to Lombardy. In Connaught, which might be considered the part of Ireland where vaccination was most likely to be neglected, the number of deaths during the ten years ending 1841 were 60 in 1000; in Lombardy they were $1\frac{1}{2}$ in 1000 or 3 deaths in 2000. These were the two extremes. The average mortality of late years in England and Wales only, excluding Ireland, which would make the statement worse, and excluding Scotland also, regarding which country the same might be said, although there were no returns on the subject,—the average number of death in England and Wales during 8 years, was nearly 22 in 1000; whereas in a long list of countries in which vaccination was compulsory, it ranged from 8 in 1000 in Saxony to the $1\frac{1}{2}$ in Lombardy, and the average was not quite five. These facts show that in this country the mortality from small pox was four times as much as it was upon the Continent.”

The Earl of Shaftesbury said :—“ The growing increase of small pox had been attributed to diminution in the protective power of vaccination. However, all cases, when examined, confirmed its protective power.—The principal vaccinator of the metropolis, the resident Surgeon of the small pox hospital, had vaccinated during the last 18 years upwards of 40,000 persons, and, up to the present time, he had met with no instance of any one of those persons having been attacked by the small pox.—Let them look now to the effect of compulsory enactments. They would find that where vaccination was compulsory, small pox was least fatal. In Prussia it was compulsory, in Copenhagen it was nearly so, and in London and Glasgow it was permissive. There were, in every 1000 deaths in Prussia, 7.5 of small pox; in Berlin, 5.5; in Copenhagen, 6.75; in London, 16; in Glasgow, 36; in Greenock, 34.6; in Bohemia, 2; in Lombardy, 1.5; in Venice, 2.2; in Sweden, 2.7. In Copenhagen, during 13 years—from 1811 to 1823—there had not been one fatal case of small pox in a population, at that time of 100,000. Vaccination was not compulsory in France; but the vaccine committee in their last report, advised that France should at length follow the example of many other nations. The deaths were about, in every 1000, 10.5 per cent; and the number had been only repressed by the exertions of government.”

These very important statistics satisfactorily establish the undoubted protection which vaccination affords against an attack of small pox: and