

an epidemic of smallpox propagates the disease, and for proof it is said that as soon as the demand for increased vaccination began in Montreal so did the death-rate increase. This is a *post-hoc* argument with a vengeance. But why say more of a prospectus which is full of such assertions? The fact that the *League* boasts for its president a person who has made himself notorious by the publication of circulars of the most unprofessional kind—dealing wholly with sexual matters, and carefully calculated to take in the young, the foolish and the unsophisticated—a person who was reported to have dealt with the diplomonger Buchanan for a degree—is sufficient. This man is now posing as the friend of the oppressed and the champion of anti-vaccination.

We are surprised to see some respectable names in such company, and associated in a crusade against reason and common sense. Of course in every community there are a certain number of cranks, irrationals and fanatics who will join any society which has *anti* emblazoned on its flag, and so the League will not want for members. The advisory council is composed of no less than four medical men (three French). The advice of such men who are unable to draw proper deductions from the overwhelming evidences in favor of vaccination will, we opine, be of no great value. If it is not too presumptuous, we should like to offer this young society a motto which to us seems very suitable, "*Suppressio veri, suggestio falsi.*"

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ORIGIN OF THE SMALLPOX EPIDEMIC.—The sub-committee of the Board of Health appointed to enquire into this matter have made a report, which they have caused to be published. They addressed enquiries in writing to those persons whom they believed capable of aiding in their investigations. Most of these sent replies, and upon them the report is based. The conclusions arrived at bear out in every way the account already given in this JOURNAL (issues for April and July, 1885). This city up to February last was free from smallpox. On the 28th February, a Pullman car conductor was admitted with that disease into the Hotel-Dieu Hospital (the former