

his endeavors to abate the epidemic of smallpox in this province. And he must not imagine that we are criticizing him personally, for the profession is cognizant of his energetic endeavors in all that pertains to public health. We simply wish to learn what the Provincial Board of Health, as a body, has done in the matter referred to? Is it not true that there has been no meeting of the board since the outbreak of smallpox took place? There should no doubt be some way to compel the local boards to report all cases of smallpox to the provincial board, but surely the very fact of their not doing so shows that the Provincial Board is not as active as it should be. If the Board would show some life in the matter, the profession might aid them. More than an occasional splurge is necessary; a sustained effort is required.

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### SMALLPOX IN ST. JOHN.

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In the present smallpox epidemic, the first case was that of a young sailor who came into port on a schooner. He was removed to the Epidemic Hospital, 30th September. The type of disease was confluent; he had never been vaccinated and the case proved fatal.

The Epidemic Hospital is situated near and on the same grounds as the General Public Hospital; this has given rise to considerable discussion as to the advisability of a contagious disease hospital being placed near the Public Hospital and other buildings in the vicinity. Towards the end of October two or three cases of smallpox developed in the neighborhood of the hospital, and two of the hospital nurses contracted the disease. Other cases have since developed in houses scattered over the city. Up to the 14th of November there have been forty-five cases reported, nearly all of which have been removed to the Epidemic Hospital. The number of deaths has been four, the last two being in subjects already ill of some other disease. Still, the type is of a somewhat severe character, a number of cases being severely ill at the present time. The Epidemic Hospital is fully occupied and the Board of Health is arranging for further accommodation. Dr. W. L. Ellis resides in the Epidemic Hospital and has charge of the patients, while Dr. Morris is physician for the Board of Health and attends to outside cases and quarantine.

Vaccination has been very freely employed and as compulsory vaccination has been ordered to be carried out, the disease will doubtless be soon stamped out.

One case has been reported from Kings County of hemorrhagic smallpox, with a fatal result.