

of the report for the year 1864 of Drs. Leprohon, Ricard, and F. W. Campbell, public vaccinators. This was the third year of their appointment. From the report we learn that during the year 1864 the number of 1403 persons were vaccinated by them in their public capacity, being an increase of 861 over the previous year. This increase is attributed to the distribution of small handbills in every house in the city, giving a synopsis of the Vaccination Act, which distribution was done by the Police Force. "Vaccination is the best known preservative of human life against the contagion of small-pox, and although it has not prohibited children in all instances against a modified form of variola, it is generally successful, and humanity and sound experience alike, call for its continuance. At present the practice of compulsory vaccination is rigidly enforced in most cities in Europe and the United States. \* \* \* \*

It should also be remembered that whenever small-pox occurs in a family or neighbourhood it is important that all individuals in regard to whom there is any doubt or uncertainty as to the fact of their having been successfully vaccinated, should be immediately subjected to the operation, this being the most certain means of preventing the spread of variolous contagion. Another matter to which they would beg most respectfully to draw the attention of the members of the council is the great deficiency in the statistics of mortality for this city. Montreal, with its large population, should adopt a more scientific method of registration. As now obtained the returns of mortality are comparatively useless with regard to the various causes of death; and if a by-law to that effect were passed, it would have the most happy results, and the physicians of the city would cheerfully comply with its requirements. In Great Britain a most accurate system of registration has been carried out, which is of the greatest use to the public health and sanitary reform. Montreal shall not remain so far behind hand in a matter so important."

This subject of registration is a most important one, and we earnestly hope our City Council will, ere long, move in this matter.

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We regret to have to chronicle the death of Alexander Long, M.D., formerly of this city. The sad event occurred after a short but severe attack of pneumonia, at his residence, Bruce Mines, C. W., on the 23rd of February last. Dr. Long was well known as a most skillful, practical anatomist, having acted for several years as prosecutor to Dr. Hunter, of Glasgow. He received the license of the Faculty of Physicians and Surgeons, Glasgow, somewhere about the year 1841 or 1842, and subsequently came to this country. He graduated at McGill University in