

## MALANDRINUM vs. VACCINATION

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The first article in the *Homœopathic Recorder* for December, 1899, on *Malandrinum*, is very interesting and corroborates my own experience. The efficacy of vaccination at the best is very questionable, and the questionableness of it among its advocates is manifest in that they consciously realize the adequacy of its protection in demanding that every one be subjected to its possible injury, not as a protection to those who oppose it, but as a safeguard to those who profess to believe in it and have been protected by it. The one who really believes in its efficacy as a protection against small-pox will not care whether others are vaccinated or not, because he has its protection and therefore must be absolutely safe. In the demand that others be vaccinated as a protection to those who believe in the safety secured by its protective virtues, the lack of positive faith in its virtues is manifest. Such a demand is a virtual confession that there is an element of danger, a certain want of safety, a lack of confidence, even in spite of the most "taking" vaccination. If it does really make its subjects immune then there can be no danger to such an immune even though all the rest of mankind should be variolous.

Of the several homœopathic prophylactic remedies I have had experience with only one, *Malandrinum*. A brief statement may be of interest as confirming the experience of Dr. Marcy and others. My experience has been very limited, yet it will add to that of others, and all together will make sufficient data upon which to base a reasonable opinion of this prophylaxis. The claim is not made that it is an absolute preventive, for there must of necessity be a much severer test made of its preventive powers to claim that, but so far as I have been able to ascertain it has as yet never failed. The claim is that it is a surer and more pleasant preventive than vaccination can possibly be.

Two parties in Texas and one in Arizona wrote me that they had been exposed to small pox and desired to know whether I could send them medi-

cine or if they should be vaccinated at once. I sent them *Malandrinum*, with the result that neither one "took" variolo. They might not have had any trouble anyway, but who can tell? Had they been vaccinated it would have been given as a verification of the efficacy of Jenner's "discovery," and hence the credit must be given to the homœopathic prophylactic.

During the small pox scare in this city last winter, hundreds took *Malandrinum* as a prophylaxis and not one was affected with variola. I am creditably informed that all who had small pox, save one only, had been vaccinated previously. Two of the cases came to me for treatment after they were let "go" being quite unwell, and both were of the opinion that vaccination was the cause of much of the suffering, if not of the sickness. The daughter of one of these was vaccinated because she was exposed and, while the case was reported as one of small pox, she first became sick by having "black pimples come out around the place she was vaccinated, then all the breaking-out on the side of the vaccination was black and the other half was of the usual color," and she has not been well since. So reported the father who had nursed cases of small pox before. He himself was vaccinated, but only had a few pimples come out over the body which might have been the result of vaccination instead of varioloid. Many cases of varioloid are but vaccinia, the result of vaccination. The city "health officer" received ten dollars a day during the epidemic scare. In the aggregate he was paid by the city twelve hundred dollars. No comment is necessary.

During the epidemic of vaccination one young lady was thrown into convulsions in direct consequence of the vaccine poison, and had very strong and marked symptoms of trismus. Her arm was very sore. She was delirious, not knowing where she was and calling for help and for her parents who were at the bedside unknown. Strong spasms came every five minutes, and were increasing in severity, yet her fingers, the muscles of hands and neck, and about the jaw were twitching and jerking all the time, and she often put her hand to the jaw as if painful. She frequently raised the head