

The doctrine of the divine right of a nation to misgovern itself which is such a fetish to many minds, is only a monster begotten of this latter day democracy. Law and order is only possible when there is judicious control of people's actions. "The greatest good to the greatest number" is the maxim to be observed in matters of public health as well as in other directions, and if people will not think and are deliberately careless, other people must think for them. And who better than the doctors who are the best qualified to judge on matters of health and disease? When disease breaks out we isolate people and disinfect houses and exercise other restrictions. Is this not interference with the liberty of the subject? If we have the right to do this after disease breaks out, we certainly have the right to prevent people from deliberately running into infection, or neglecting ordinary measures of precaution. Disease and death is too serious a matter to be left in the charge of ignorance or carelessness.

The only hope is that the government will carry a Revaccination Bill next session on its promises.

In the meantime England has taken a retrograde step, and must go on record as subjecting knowledge to ignorance and presumption. It is a pity that such matters should be the sport of political parties.

GESTA MEDICORUM.

"QUICQUID AGUNT MEDICI NOSTRI FARRAGO LIBELLI."

Prof. v. Leyden is the new Dean of the University of Berlin.

The next meeting of the British Medical Association is to be held in Portsmouth.

The American Public Health Association meets this year in Ottawa, on the 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th of September.

Dr. Victor Vaughan, Professor in the University of Michigan, has been unfortunate enough to contract yellow fever while at the seat of war in Cuba.

Dr. Fleischer, Professor of Internal Medicine at Erlanger, is appointed to the Chair of Medical Propædeutics and History of Medicine in the same university.

Edinburgh University is to have an Institution of Public Health. This building is presented by Mr. John Usher, who had previously evinced his generosity by completing the endowment of the Chair of Public Health which was initiated by the late Mr. A. L. Bruce.

Dr. Alexander Mitchell Stalker, Physician to the Dundee Royal Infirmary, has been appointed Professor of Medicine in the Dundee