

VACCINATION.—An Act has quite recently been passed in New York to secure effective vaccination in the City of New York, and the collection of pure vaccine lymph or virus. By virtue of it the Board of Health is empowered to organize a corps of vaccinators within and subject to the control of the Bureau of Sanitary Inspection, to appoint the necessary officers, keep suitable records, and collect and preserve pure vaccine lymph. "This Act," says the editor of the *Sanitarian* "affords the Board of Health an excellent opportunity of applying the most effective means of preventive medicine hitherto known to the medical profession, and thereby opens an avenue by which all may escape the fearful ravages of a loathsome disease, a disease which although alike dreaded by the rich and the poor, is at the same time the most easily controlled of all affections which depend upon contagious elements for their propagation." House to house vaccination is to be inaugurated.

We trust soon to see more stringent measures adopted and promptly and efficiently carried out in our Canadian cities and towns, for the "stamping out" of this most loathsome disease.

PREPARATORY MEDICINES.—An almost bewildering amount of compound preparatory medicine, designed to be used by physicians, are flooding the medicinal market, and, we firmly believe, to the disadvantage of the public and the profession. Manufacturers would not prepare and offer them, however, if physicians did not use or prescribe them. Says Dr. Hay, editor *Chicago Medical Journal*, "the prescription of proprietary medicines by physicians involves not only a breach of professional confidence toward the patient, who has a legal and moral right to expect from his physician the use of his own best skill and judgment, both in the diagnosis of his malady and in the application of remedies for their relief; but it involves also a total abandonment of the whole field of therapeutics to the manufacturing druggist, who is, in all probability, totally ignorant of its first principles." The manufacturers and vendors are hardly blameable Who is?