

or personal and municipal losses of a financial character happen, through failure to follow out the wise provisions of the Act, the blame and loss rests with those failing to comply therewith.

If municipal authorities fail to comply with the provisions just referred to, the people of this province will have cause to regret their stupid indifference, for assuredly smallpox will visit us again in all its old time severity, and finding us in a similar position to that in which the inhabitants of Montreal were in; we will have to pay the penalty in like manner to that city, both in family bereavement and in financial loss, in which case the residents of this province will curse their own stupidity in listening to the seductive words of false teachers—and many parents will pronounce their anathemas when all too late to save the lives of their loved ones, against the present agitators who launch from time to time their squibs and skyrocketes amidst an oratorical display as fanciful and lasting as the grandest display of fireworks one could wish to see.

The Anti-Vaccination Movement.

The discovery of vaccination, like other epoch-making events of a scientific character, has met with opposition, abuse and ridicule, chiefly from English-speaking people, and described by writers of authority as metaphysicians, religious fanatics and faddists, persons who from time to time imbibe distorted, pernicious and intoxicating ideas of a few misguided scientists, who, seized with their own infallibility, often glibly discuss and dogmatize upon questions about which they possess little, if any, practical knowledge, scientists who often advance false statements and distort truths, facts and figures, all of which are eagerly swallowed by the faithful, notwithstanding the fact that their statements have been discarded by the highest sanitary authorities of the most cultured nations of the world as unworthy of consideration. The majority of the faithful, if they possess any scientific knowledge at all, would be of better service to the state if they applied it along their own particular calling in life, where possibly they may be considered authorities, and expected to dogmatize or pose as critics, but who, certainly, are a pernicious element in the community and ill-fitted to be the guide of public opinion in matters that appertain to preventative medicine. As the result of the action of these misguided opponents of the doctrine of the efficiency of vaccination in successfully preventing the spread of smallpox, many of the present generation, like their ancestors of biblical history, have been pleased with the prophesying unto them of smooth things, and knowing themselves still less than their false prophets, have unwittingly accepted their teachings. To such we commend the facts presented in this pamphlet.

The same or similar arguments were used against vaccination as were advanced against Franklin's discovery regarding electricity, by over-pious religious fanatics, who regarded both lightning and smallpox as God's punishment for sin. It is to be noted, however, that but few clergymen have brought forward the religious objection, the objectors have been those in the narrowest circles of the excessively pious laymen.

Perhaps the most persistent objectors have been those of a politico-legal character, raised in connection with compulsory vaccination, the line of argument being directed particularly at the principle of "compulsion," as being contrary to the free-will and liberty of the individual,