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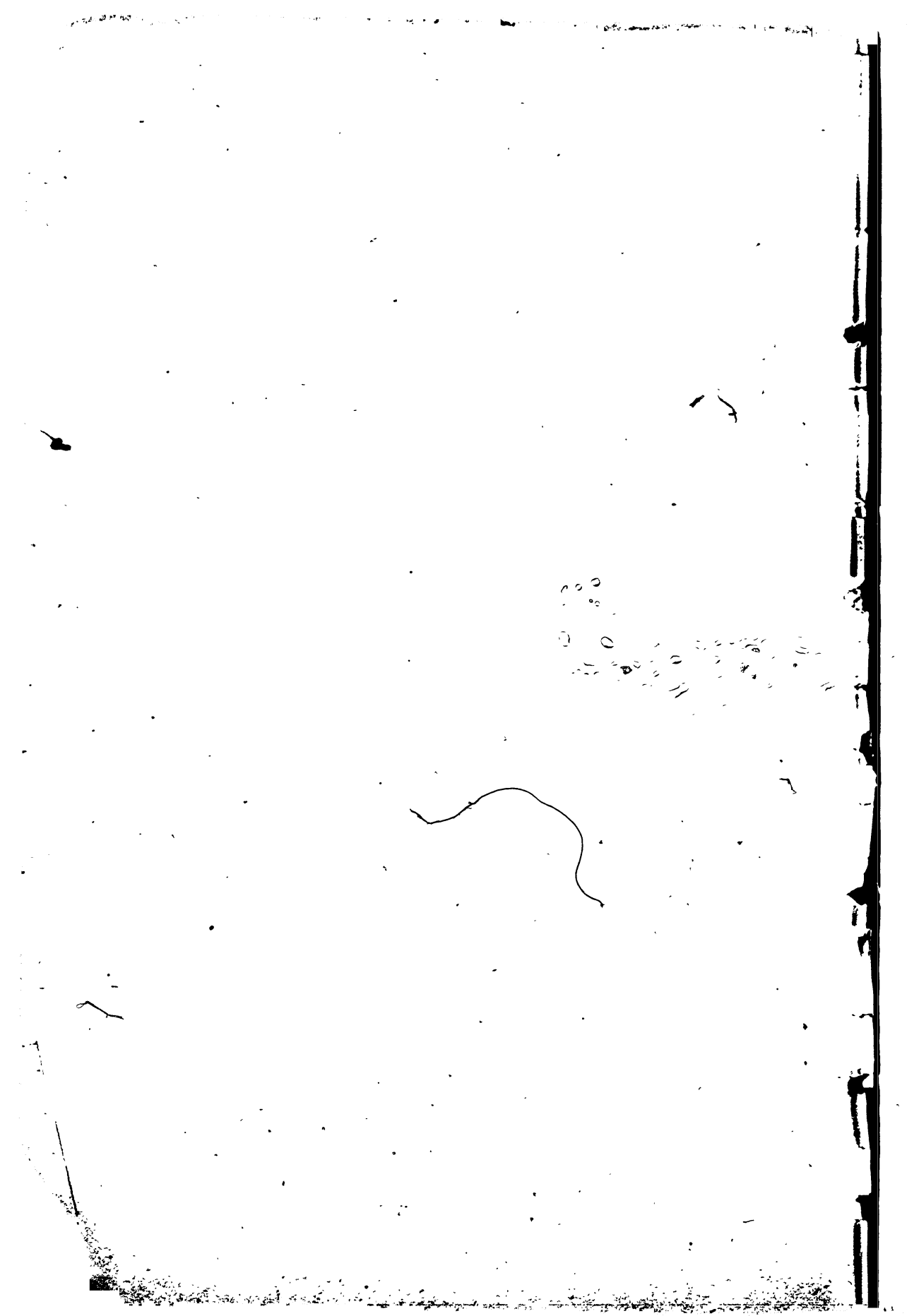
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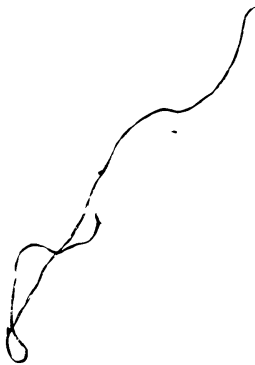
A BRIEF HISTORY
OF THE
SMALL POX EPIDEMIC
IN MONTREAL

FROM 1871 TO 1880 AND THE LATE OUTBREAK
OF 1885

BY

Mrs. M. GUYOT.





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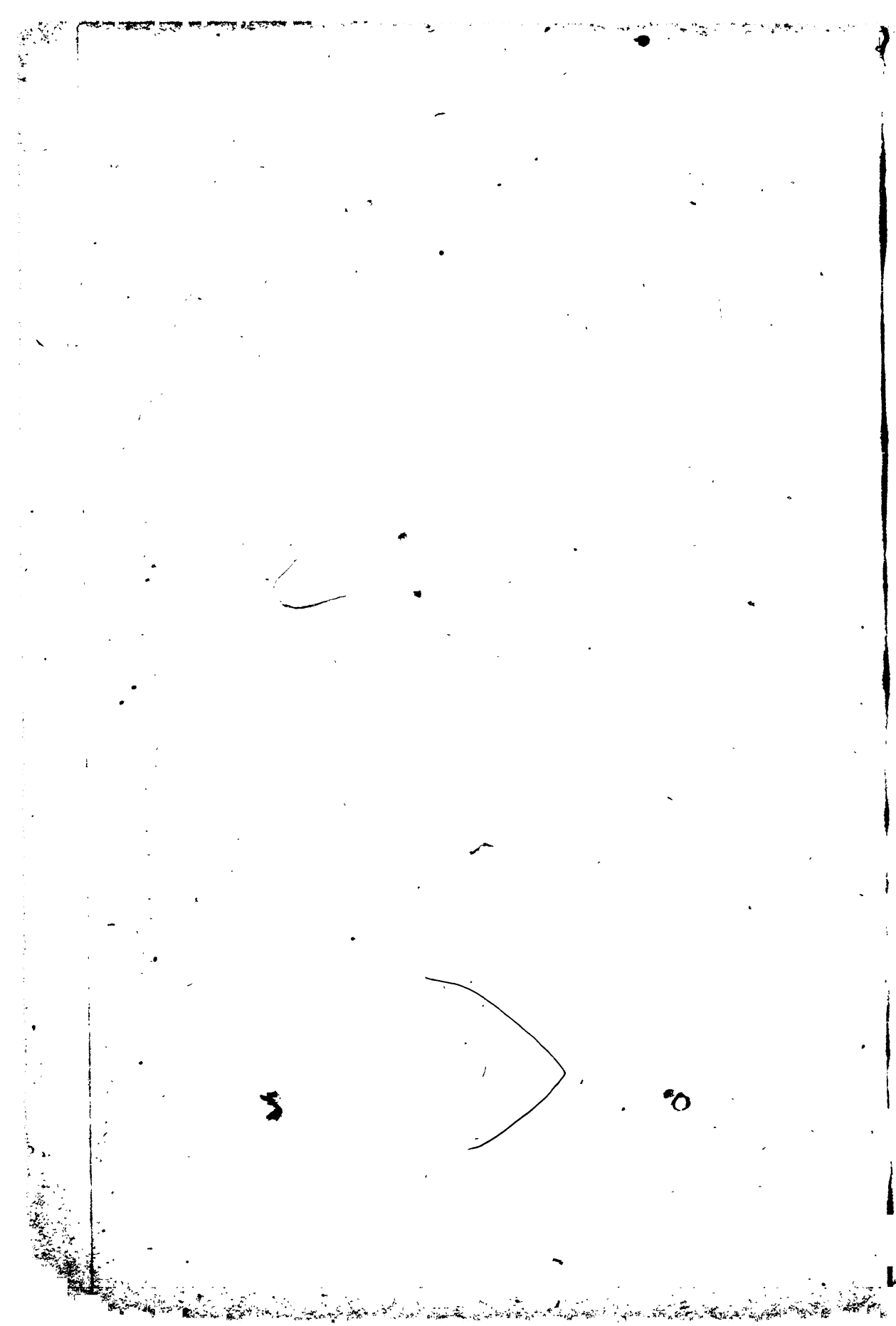
Mrs. M. GUYOT,

AUTHOR OF "THE BANISHMENT OF THE ACADIANS," ETC.

CONTAINING

A CONCISE ACCOUNT OF THE INOCULATION OF ANCIENT TIME, THE
DISCOVERY AND ADVANTAGE OF VACCINATION; MORTALITY FROM
SMALL POX FROM 1871 TO 1880, TOGETHER WITH A SUMMARY
OF THE RECORD OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS, WITH
STATISTICS OF MORTALITY OF THE LATE OUTBREAK
IN 1885.





HISTORY
OF THE
MONTREAL EPIDEMIC.

INOCULATION AND VACCINATION.

So much has the foul disease of smallpox been dreaded, that different nations have, in times past, endeavored to mitigate the severity of the malady, by communicating it artificially.

The Brahmins, engrafted the virus, so also did the Turks, and the Chinese who were in the habit of putting some of the crusts into the nostrils. The practice of inoculation became more or less general in Europe, and its efficacy in mitigating the severity and the danger of the disease, was considered to be very great. Lady Mary Worthy, wife of the British Ambassador, while residing in the East, in Belgrade, in 1718, caused her infant son to be inoculated, being the first English person to make the experiment. It proved to be perfectly successful, and with the hope of alleviating much suffering and even saving many lives, Lady Mary resolved to introduce the practice of inoculation into her own country. It was an arduous, and for some years a thankless task, she had to en-

counter opposition on every side, who predicted the most disastrous results; but supported firmly by the Princess of Wales she gained many supporters among the nobility and the middle classes. In 1784 four condemned criminals were inoculated; this test having proved successful, the Princess of Wales had two of her own daughters subjected to the operation, with perfect safety. Some of the nobility followed the example of the Princess and the practice gradually extended to the middle classes, but the fees at first were so expensive as to preclude many from the benefit of the new discovery; but the time for smallpox inoculation is now over, as we have a wiser and safer substitute.

About eighty years ago, a chance observation was matured into a rational and scientific form, by a mind deeply imbued with best principles of sound philosophy, and a disease mild in form, and safe in character, was substituted for the inoculation of the Turks and Chinese. In 1799, the first public institution for vaccination was established in London, and the following year it was introduced into Germany and France, and the practice of vaccination has now become general over the whole educated world. Here and there, as might be expected, it has met with opposition, but every objection that was raised by the anti-vaccinator, has been answered again and again by the leading minds of the profession. Dr. Robert Thomas, author of the "Practice of Physic" which serves as a text

book for students and physicians, after a long and careful analysis, and giving to every objection the most patient consideration, thus sums up, "the introduction of vaccination, notwithstanding all the abatements which must be made in the estimate of its powers, is still one of the greatest boons that science ever conferred upon mankind."



Compare the ravages committed by smallpox before and after this important epoch ; and we may in the first place appeal to general experience, in the words of the National Vaccine Establishment, "where the rarity of an example of disfigurement by smallpox now to be found in theatres, churches, or any large assembly of the people is adduced in proof of the continued protective property of the lymph employed."

It will be interesting to my readers to know how, and what brought about this great triumph of medical skill. This was discovered by Edward Jenner, M.D., F.R., it was the result, like most important disco-

veries of the world, of accident. Jenner, when a young man, was studying medicine in the house of a Mr. Ludlow, a surgeon in Sodbury, near Bristol, Jenner was accustomed to be present when his master was treating patients, in order that he might become practically familiar with the treatment of diseases. On a certain day, a young woman in the office of Mr. Ludlow, for treatment, the question of smallpox being discussed, thoughtlessly made the remark; "I cannot take smallpox, I have had the cowpox." This was the foundation for a discovery which was later on to electrify the world. Jenner was struck by the remark and never missed the opportunity of verifying the truth of this carelessly uttered statement. He reasoned thus by "if cowpox naturally produced does give immunity from smallpox, why will not the same disease artificially developed confer the same protection." Although laughed at and ridiculed, he was firm in the belief of this idea. On the 14th of May 1796 he vaccinated one James Phipps. To his unspeakable joy, as day by day he watched the result, he witnessed all the different stages of cowpox occur regularly and perfectly, and after being sneered at for a quarter of a century he turned to his confreres with a shout of joy, "behold the consummation of my dream." He had yet however many trials to endure before his theory was accepted, but in 1799 about seventy of the most distinguished physicians and surgeons of London, signed a declaration of their entire confidence and the benefits and advantages of his discovery; all the honors that could be heaped

upon man were bestowed upon him, and he was enrolled among the great men of the world.

Vaccination affords protection from smallpox by producing in the body a constitutional disease which runs a regular course that is similar to smallpox, and possibly identical with smallpox itself, but of a character so mild as to be utterly and entirely harmless, but which so alters the condition of the blood as to render the development of the disease itself, in its most violent form, almost an impossibility and certainly a very great rarity. It is not my object to discuss the scientific points of vaccination as has been done in many hundreds of volumes, but the decision of the majority based upon the results are : that vaccination is the only available means of protection against smallpox and, with due care in the performance of the operation, no risk need be run of the injurious effect ; that before its discovery, the mortality by smallpox was forty times greater than it is now, that the death rate is less than one per cent of well vaccinated persons against a rate of the unvaccinated at thirty five per cent.

MONTREAL'S EPIDEMIC, FROM 1871 to 1880.

Should any of my readers desire a good illustration of the way in which a large wealthy and comparatively enlightened community, in a position as regards social and material interests other than sanitary, second to

none in this country, can mismanage an epidemic of smallpox, we invite their attention to the history of the epidemic of Montreal in 1871 and prevailed until 1880 and broke out with double force in 1885. Not a month has passed during those nine years without furnishing its quota of cases with a large aggregate of deaths. The following is the mortality: in 1872 the number of deaths were 897; in 1873, 228 deaths; in 1874, 647 deaths; in 1875, 590 deaths.

During these nine years the press contented itself in giving the people the occasional statistics of the disease and the city contented itself in receiving these statistics in silence. Year after year passed by and hundreds died, and hundreds more lived pitted and unsightly. The disease had its will. But with the late epidemic the public and the press both realized that a great amount of labor was necessary, to stamp out at once and forever this most foul disease and they struck while the iron was hot.

The smallpox outbreak is regarded as a calamity to all Canada; it is curious that in a city which has been not unfrequently visited by the disease, there should be so few precautions taken against the return of the scourge and such little faith in the preventive vaccination, as will be seen in the following pages. Many people neglect precaution while others regard it with supreme contempt while even the merchants were at the beginning of this last outbreak, like they were all through the former scourge, quite indignant, and severely resented publicity given it by the local papers; they seem to regard it more as a drawback to com-

DEATHS BY SMALLPOX IN THE CITY FROM 1876 TO 1881
(INCLUSIVE.)

	Under 1 year.	5	10	15	20	30	40	50	60	70	Total.
1876											
French Canadians	134	319	62	15	15	15	-5	2	...	1	568
Other origin.....	25	46	16	10	9	21	6	2	...	...	135
Total.....	159	365	78	25	24	36	11	4	...	1	703
1877											
French Canadians	78	247	44	13	17	29	.....	...	...	3	431
Other origin.....	18	25	6	.....	4	17	.....	...	...	4	75
Total.....	96	272	50	13	21	46	.....	...	...	7	506
1878											
French Canadians	134	371	90	9	14	18	2	...	...	1	639
Other origin.....	16	32	10	2	7	17	5	.....	.....	.....	89
Total.....	150	403	100	11	21	35	7	...	...	1	728
1879											
French Canadians	84	240	62	11	13	5	2	...	.....	.....	417
Other origin.....	7	13	4	3	8	13	3	3	1	...	55
Total.....	91	253	66	14	21	18	5	3	1	...	472
1880											
French Canadians	21	58	22	3	4	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	111
Other origin.....	3	9	.....	1	4	8	4	.....	.....	.....	29
Total.....	24	67	22	4	8	11	4	.....	.....	.....	140
1881											
French Canadians	1	2	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Other origin.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Total.....	1	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Total French Canadians. }	451	1235	280	51	63	70	9	2	4	1	2166
Total other origin.	520	1360	316	67	95	146	27	7	9	2	383
Grand Total.....	521	1362	316	69	95	146	27	7	9	2	2554

mercial interest than a warning of danger to their neighbors. They seem to count the cost of an epidemic in hard cash not to human lives, they forget that a great epidemic stops thousands from working thereby earning wages for themselves and creating capital for business men. The last time it was our visitor, for nine years it was treated gingerly, the Health office was not anxious for publicity and the press differed to the feelings which existed among the public against alleged "unnecessary" ventilation of the facts. But at this last outbreak, although in a few cases the old timed feeling remained, still the majority of the business public knew better and the press responded to the public feeling.

DURING THE YEAR 1885.

From almost the beginning of the year 1885 the disease struggled for a foothold and let alone by the people it soon became master, and at times it was thought that it would hold that position for some time, as the health officials had not the time or means to conduct a systematic campaign against the pest; it was nothing more than a hand to hand fight, but aided by many of the citizens they at last conquered.

A glance at the gradual and rapid increase will be of interest, beginning with the month of April, at which time its appearance began to cause a whisper.

The contagion was taken to Boston by the same Pulman car which afterwards brought it to Montreal. The Board of Health of the former city however ac-

ted so promptly and the people generally were so well protected by vaccination that the disease only spread to six persons, four of whom recovered.

The result of the Boston authorities investigation found that, in February a newly married couple, natives of Chicago, returning from their honeymoon which they had spent in Europe, landed in New-York, and travelled in a certain Pullman car to Chicago. On the way the lady fell sick and arriving at their destination was found to be ill with smallpox. The car came back to Boston twelve days later ; the colored man who had cleaned the car fell ill with the same disease, his wife also took the contagion, and the disease spread to four other persons.

Meanwhile the car came to Montreal, and both the conductor and porter developed the disease and were taken to the Hotel-Dieu Hospital, as no hospital for contagious disease was open at the time, a from the conductor it spread to the patients of the Hospital and from the patients to the visitors and hence to the whole city. The car then returned to Boston, there all the upholstery was taken out and burned, the car was refitted, repainted, revarnished, and rechristened, since which time no new cases have developed in it. But in Montreal it left a ghastly record as a memento of its visit. In that month (April) six deaths were reported, all of whom were French. During the month of May ten more occurred, seven being French, while for the month of June, thirteen deaths occurred, ten being French. July it rose to 46 deaths, 37 of which were French.

City mortality, from smallpox for month of August, 1885.

	Under 6 months	6 months to 1 year.	5	10	15	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100 and over	100 and Not Known.	TOTAL.
Catholics { French Canadians Other Catholics.	15	20	96	52	11	4	10	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	209
	1	1	8	2	1	2	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
	3	1	2	2	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	10
Protestants .....						.....				
TOTAL.....	19	22	106	56	12	6	16	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	239

The mortality was becoming too alarming for the people to remain disinterested, and they began to take action in several important matters. The question of obtaining lymph now began to agitate the Board of Health ; that is regarding points that could be guaranteed by responsible authority so that no evil results would arise to strengthen the now great prejudice entertained by the majority of the people ; but they decided to accept that furnished by the New England Vaccine Co., of Chelsea, Mass. The 14th showed a great increase of the disease and complaints were constantly brought to Dr. Laberge, the City Health officer, of placards being torn down and cases not reported, while he lamented his want of power.

The Health committee in their special meeting discussed the question of vaccination, and the spread of the disease ; free vaccination was proposed, and free disinfectants. Philanthropists were appealed to the necessity of organizing a committee, to relieve the wants of families who were prevented from attending their work through having smallpox among their members. Ald. Roy's proposition, that four medical vaccinators be appointed for three months at a salary of \$25 per month to attend to vaccination three hours per day under the supervision of the board of Health, was accepted; their names and districts to be as follows; Dr. G. E. Roy, eastern portion of the city from limits to Papineau road ; Dr. E. Laporte, that section between Papineau road and St. Lawrent street; Dr. Reed, St. Lawrence ward; and Dr. Kannon St. Ann's ward. On the 18th vaccine points

began to be widely distributed, fifty medical men having applied for them at the Health office.

The boot and shoe factories employ a larger number of help than any other industry in Montreal. The majority of the employees are French Canadians, which race are the most subject to smallpox and I may had the most indifferent to its dangers.—It is this very contempt for smallpox which makes the disease so fatal in Montreal.—These were immediately notified to get vaccinated, and those who could not produce a doctor's certificate of vaccination within two days, or of course a certificate that they were not fit subjects for vaccination, were dismissed from their employment. The measure was an extreme one, but so also was the danger. This act was followed by all the other manufacture with the most gratifying results. It is a question if a man has a right to imperil his own life by his own ignorant prejudices, but certainly he has no right to imperil the lives of other people. About the 20th, the number of persons applying at the Health office began to increase every day, and doctors continue demand of Dr. Laberge the procuring of more vaccine. The 21st the City Passengers Railway Co., undertook to prevent their servants introducing contagion into their cars ; this is practically an impossibility, no matter what amount of watchfulness is exercised ; people walked out of infected houses straight into the cars ; sanitary policemen who had been disinfected rode on them ; probably there were hundreds every day who had been in infected houses

used these vehicles ; the cushions and trimmings of which being excellent mediums for conveying the disease from one person to another, the health department therefore were justified in seeing that the cars were fumigated daily. The managers of this Railway issued orders that the sanitary police was not to be permitted to ride on these cars. On the 22nd the wholesale clothing trade being fully alive to the prevalence of the disease ; in addition to having all those employed on their premises vaccinated, they at once engaged a doctor to devote the whole of his time in visiting the operatives in their houses. On the same date the mayor received replies to his two hundred post cards asking the permission of subscribers to the volunteers, to apply their subscriptions to the relief of persons distressed by smallpox. No one refused, and many asked his Worship to apply to them for additional subscriptions, if necessary. About this date, people began to overdo the reporting business, and were sending the medical Health Officers on all sorts of useless and foolish errands. It was during this month that the distinguished statesman and scholar Sir Francis Hincks fell a victim to this scourge and several misapprehensions respecting his illness and death were made public ; two statements in particular were erroneous ; one was that only a domestic was in attendance during his illness and death ; the other that no religious services were held over his grave. Sir Francis had no one with him but his housekeeper when he was taken ill, but on the Saturday previous to his death, she,

without his consent or knowledge, notified his son-in-law Lt. Col. Ready, and his wife immediately came to the city and were with him until the close.

It was not known at first what Sir Francis was suffering from, it was believed to be a bilious attack, but as he grew worse Dr. McDonnell was summoned, and he in his turn called in Dr. Howard and the disease was pronounced smallpox. An excellent English nurse who had been trained in smallpox Hospitals, was secured, but the disease made rapid progress and Sir Francis succumbed. In obedience to the law governing such cases, no funeral service was held. As soon as the body was prepared it was removed to the vault in the cemetery until the grave was prepared. Col. Ready and the Rev. Mr. Dixon were at the burial and the latter read the funeral service of the church of England over his remains.

The month of August closed with the people having a full determination to stamp out the pest, but the disease was making terrible headway as the mortality of September shows.

On the 5th of this month the mayor called a meeting of the citizens in Nordheimers hall, which was largely attended. In opening the meeting, he said that in view of the fact that all over the continent it was thought the people of Montreal were dying like sheep in the streets, the calling of a meeting of citizens had become necessary. As an instance of the way in which the affliction of Montreal was being spoken of, he read a telegram from Mr. Shorey, stating that the Manitoba "Free Press" in its

City mortality from smallpox for month of September, 1885.

	Under 6 months.	6 months to 1 year.	5	10	15	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100	100 and over	Known	Not Known	TOTAL.
Catholics	French Canadians	32	70	329	127	23	14	22	7	.....	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	627
	Other Catholics...	6	1	13	2	1	1	6	1	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
	Protestants.....	1	6	9	4	.....	1	8	3	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	35
TOTAL.....	39	77	351	133	24	16	36	11	4	3	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	697

last issue advised the merchants of Manitoba to boycott Montreal on account of the prevalence there. The same paper placed the number of patients suffering from smallpox at 2000. With regard to the health department he would say that it was doing its work well and to the full extent of its powers.

At the meeting of the Board of Health, it was decided to put the Civic Hospital under the charge of the Grey nuns. A grant of \$100.00 per year to be paid to each nun acting as nurse. Four of the ladies of this institute were chosen for this special purpose and their number was to be increased if necessary. Their adieux to the mother house were most touch-



ing, as they were of course to be entirely secluded from all intercourse with the other members of the community as long as they were attached to the hospital. Although fully realizing the dangers they would encounter, the four generous nuns left their cherished home with a cheerful heart after receiving the blessing of their mother superioress; for, say they, our motto is "sacrifice." No better day would have been chosen for the departure of the nuns on this painful mission, the 14 of september, the feast of the order, of the exaltation of the Holy cross,

which was adopted by the founder of the institution as meaning total abnegation and self sacrifice for the love of God and suffering mankind. A new wing of the hospital was built, and a portion set apart for protestant patients who were cared for by protestant nurses.

There were to be seen some very touching scenes at the Healt Office; on the morning of the 15th, there came in a poor but neatly clad woman who meekly asked for her daughter who had been sent to the civic Hospital. Going to the telephone an officer rang up the hospital and learned that the little girl was recovering. When the poor woman heard this, her self control gave way all at once and she cried. Composing herself somewhat, she explained that the little girl was her only child. Then she produced a small parcel containing a few blue plums, an apple, several tomatoes and a course lump of maple sugar. These things she wished to have sent to her daughter. She was told that there was no lack of delicacies at the hospital, but she insisted on having her present sent; she was afraid her daughter might think she had forgotten her if she did not send her something. Dr. LaBerge had frequently trouble in obtaining care for little children temporarily orphaned by the disease. A Mr. ——— who lived on St. Lawrence street, was taken to the St. Rock's hospital, a few days later his wife also was taken there. She left behind her an infant five weeks old who, having been vaccinated, did not contract the disease from the parents. There was no one to take charge of

the child, Dr. Laberge applied for admittance for it at the protestants infants Home, but was informed that the house was too crowded to accommodate another child. He then applied to the relief committee composed of protestant clergy and the Rev. Mr. Nichols had it cared for. It is a sad but undeniable fact that a large number of the French population, encouraged by causes we will not mention, were hostile to vaccination; therefor on the 23rd, vaccination was made compulsory; this had to be done in order to have any control over the disease; every house was visited and summoning every house-keeper to declare whether or not each and every member was vaccinated. To the unvaccinated, the operation was offered free. Refusal to be vaccinated or misrepresentation made the offender guilty under the law and punishable by a heavy penalty, which can be repeated until compliance is secured. When that portion of the city learned that compulsory vaccination was to be enforced, on Monday the 28th, following the advice of a few hot headed demagogues, they resolved to make a boisterous demonstration. They therefore organized themselves into a mob which at same points must have numbered several thousands; for several hours these people had complete possession of the streets. The rioters went where they liked, and did what they liked. Warnings were given of the intention of the mob to return in force and express in a more decided way, their disapproval of the energetic measures taken by the board of Health authorities. The threat was even

made to the secretary of the office, Mr. Berthelot, that by six o'clock there would be nothing left of the office. The chief, as in previous cases, did not deem the warning of sufficient importance to take any immediate precautions and no arrangements were made for extra police protection. Two hours later the threats had been carried into execution and the mob after having wrecked the office, started out on a tour of devastation. The rioters were of such proportions as to indicate preconcerted arrangements. The wide street of St. Catherine for a distance of a hundred yards, was black with men and boys. Chief Police Paradis was consequently communicated with, and arriving soon after, telephoned for all men on duty at the East end stations. When these arrived, they were not much of an acquisition, and their services were not brought into play until long after they arrived. Sub-Chief Lancey, single handed, cleared the sidewalk in front of the health office and in company of two others cleared the whole street in front of the building. This showed at once the crowd was not a very desperate one. Although the street was cleared, the stones continued to rattle through the glass of the office windows. After half an hour of this desultory stone throwing, a large portion of the mob broke off from the remainder to demonstrate in other parts of the city. In the disorderly procession, were many respectably dressed young men and these in fact appeared to be the most unruly of the lot. Now and again the uproar would take a new turn by the shouting out

of some such expressions as : BRAVO RIEL, VIVE LA FRANCE, or *hurrah canadiens français*, such cries invariably changed singing to cheering, and in this exuberant mood the crowd proceeded through the city. Panes of glass were brooken at Dr. F. X. Archambault's house, and arriving in front of the dwelling of Dr. Laberge, the medical Health officer, the rioters shouted for him swearing they would kill him. Getting no response to their cries, the crowd stoned the house doing considerable damage. On St. Denis street, the mob broke several panes of glass and smashed the blinds of Ald. Grenier's residence. When Mr. Baridon, who keeps a drug store on St. Denis street, saw the crowd descending, he, immediately tore down a notice to the effect that he sold vaccine points, extinguished the lights and closed the doors. Meanwhile the crowd advanced hooting and yelling in front of his store ; they then halted and stoned the place. Two large plate glasses and two valuable showcases were destroyed. The anti-vaccinationists then started for the city Health office arriving at a quarter to eight. Here were gathered some ten or dozen constables. These went outside, they attempted to persuade the rioters to move on ; but were soon lost in the growing multitude. There was a lull for a time but soon the sounds of crashing glass were heard all over the building. At this time, detective Richardson came in and without losing much time in deliberation drew a revolver and commenced firing over the heads of the crowd through the windows. This

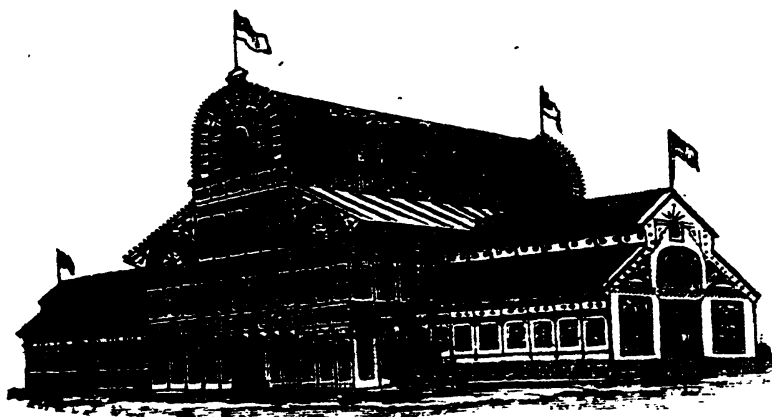
produced a cessation in the stone throwing, and also served as a signal of recall for the police dispersed through the crowd. Thinking the roughs were in the station, these returned not however unnoticed for as the door was opened to allow them to enter, a volley of stones made painful bruises on a number of them. When within the door they formed up in line about twelve men all told. The contrast of their numbers with those they were about to attack seemed to strike every one, and a suggestion was made and adopted that they should use their rifles and bayonets. Armed with these, they were about to march out when the detachment which had gone to the East end office returned with Chief Paradis at their head. Ten minutes of organized effort ended the whole trouble as far as the city Hall was concerned, the crowd melted away. Detachments of police were sent to guard the houses of Ald. Grenier and Dr. Laberge. A call issued by the mayor about mid-day of the 30th, brought close on twelve hundred volunteers under arms in three or four hours to preserve the city's peace and to guard the exhibition buildings which had to be used as hospitals.

The Canadian militia is a force, which the more is seen the more there is to be proud of. In time of quiet it costs little, gives no anxiety and loses no industry to the country. In time of trouble it does all that regular troops could do and even more. The

City mortality from smallpox for month of October, 1885.

	Under 6 months	6 months to 1 year	5	10	15	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	400	100 and over	Not Known.	TOTAL.
Catholics	French Canadians	82	131	673	261	40	35	47	10	2	1	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1286
	Other Catholics.	10	12	17	11	3	2	6	1	2	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	65
	Protestants.....	2	3	9	3	2	10	6	3	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
TOTAL.....	94	146	699	275	45	37	63	17	7	4	2	1	1	.....	.....	.....	1391

same night, as if invigorated by the spirit of the civic chief, the police did their duty and did it well. The Royal Scots received orders to remain on duty all night, which was passed very quiet and returned to break-fast at six in the morning. There was no reason to predict further trouble than had occurred to relieve the monotony of the vigils kept by the guards during the week of October the 7th, but the strictest vigilance was maintained. Until ten o'clock on the night of this day nothing had occurred beyond the relief of sentries, the visits of rounds men and the lusty chorus appreciated by only those who have slept in a military camp, as the watchful sentries passed the assuring "alls well" round the lines, but a quarter of an hour later the alarm was given and the necessity of maintaining guard at the Fair buildings was being demonstrated.



Trumpter Browning, and Corp. Drysdale were the cavalry videttes on patrol duty outside the grounds ; and observed a crowd of eighty or a hundred men approaching noisily across the fields towards Wisemans corner. Here they formed a juncture with another crowd and the whole, numbering probably some four hundred, proceeded along Mount Royal towards the Exhibition grounds. The troopers advanced to the end of their beat, nearest the crowd, and challenged them, receiving in reply the information that the crowd was on its way to the Côte-des-neiges road. The troopers replied that their orders were to prevent any crowd from passing in front of the Exhibition grounds, and added that they could not pass. At this, the crowd with a yell made a rush at the two cavalry men, and stones at the same time were sent whizzing through the air. The patrol was driven back to the gate by sheer weight and both men were wounded by the stones. The sentries at the gates called out the guard at the first appearance of the crowd and as they advanced the detachment off duty fell in. Strict orders were given to the men on no account to load. The support of the cavalry detachment was also got under arms and mounted and galloped down to the gate in support of their patrol. The detachment was in charge of Sergt. W. Thompson, and as the men were leaving the gate, Major Atkinson threw in his lot with them and formed the eleven troopers up in line across the road. A charge was then ordered, and the

mob dispersed with amazing agility before the earnest soldier.

Throughout the night of the 8th, perfect quiet reigned on and about the Exhibition grounds. At eight o'clock sixty men of the Prince of Wales Battallion under command of Major Butler, relieved the Garrison Artillery. On their way home the latter marched by St. Lawrence street through the very heart of St. Jean-Baptiste village and not a sign of hostility on the part of the residents was anywhere noticeable. Objections were hereafter unheard of from the uneducated portion of the City, they realized that they must submit to a wiser and stronger power.

And so the weary days dragged themselves along; another month passes and we find ourselves in the month of November ; congratulations are the order of the day. So much has smallpox relaxed its grasp on the city of Montreal that now less than half the victims slain every day in October are entered on the bills of mortality. But Montreal will never be free from danger while contagion lingers in its suburbs, nor can we expect Montreal to revive until they can show a clean bill of health. Among that partion of the city which has accepted the protection of vaccination well-nigh perfect immunity from the epidemic has been enjoyed. Here and there still lingers a reluctant minority who will not vaccinate, and who therefore will, if neglected, keep the pestilence smouldering away indiffinitely. The practitioners whose careless operations in the past years have prejudiced people against vaccination have much to answer for.

City mortality from smallpox, month of November 1885.

	Under 6 months	6 months to 1 year	5	10	15	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100 and over	100 Not known	TOTAL
Catholics	French Canadians	49	286	131	26	12	18	3	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	590
	Other Catholics...	4	9	5	5	4	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	31
	Protestants .....	.....	4	3	.....	4	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12
TOTAL.....	53	65	299	139	26	17	26	6	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	633

We have been laboriously bailing the water out of our boat instead of stopping the leak, with all the loss ever attending cure as against prevention. All the costly and enormously troublesome means of isolation, the hospitals with their ambulances, the

guards around infected houses, all these but measure the extent to which safe and certain prevention has been neglected or opposed. Although the disease is checked, there are so many centres of contagion and so many people remaining unvaccinated, that the disease may begin again with renewed violence. A curious fact about the scourge is its absolute restriction to unvaccinated portions of the city. This and the facts that from the first its ravages have been largely confined to young children, must impress my readers in addition to the restrictedness of the small-pox area and its easy avoidance. While these facts are encouraging they have not led to any relaxation of effort. Vigilance and energy are being practised now as ever.

December finds the city under control, and the mortality greatly diminished, in fact the epidemic stopped. Now that it is over, we can look over the situation with the same glasses that other cities see us through. The large employers of labor in Montreal have struggled manfully with the smallpox difficulty. A few even now talk feebly about the damage which publicity has done to trade, but the majority realize that the only way to minimize the bad effects of that intelligence upon the trade of the city, is by giving equal publicity to the fact that the people of Montreal, rich and poor, employers and employees have worked actively to stamp out the disease. Perhaps the cost of this epidemic direct and indirect to the business men of Montreal will wake them up to the necessity of sanitary reform in that city, and perhaps

City mortality from smallpox, for month of December 1885.

	Under 6 months	6 months to 1 year	5	10	15	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100 and over	Not Known	TOTAL.
Catholics	French Canadians	13	15	68	29	6	5	4	4						2	148
	Other Catholics...	1	5	1	1	5										13
	Protestants..		1	4			2									4
TOTAL.....	14	16	74	29	7	7	12								2	165

a large measure of success in fighting the smallpox will encourage them to fight other contagious diseases which are harder to control than that disease. The death rate of Montreal in ordinary seasons proves that there are serious shortcomings somewhere, and at this time it is opportune to find out where they

are. A committee composed of the best available men in the city council is needed, which can resolve itself into sub-committees, and take every civic sanitary shortcoming in hand and remedy it intelligently.

The present staff of the Health department is inadequate for the demands of city like this, with two hundred thousand people and the city in such poor sanitary conditions. The health officer, his two assistants, the sanitary inspector, two or three clerks and half a dozen sanitary policemen, do these even with the assistance of the chairman of the board of health constitute a sufficient staff? No; and we should not be content with it, they are doing all in their power but that is not sufficient; a reform must and will be had. A case of smallpox in Montreal seems to create almost as much alarm in the city of New-York as a case in that city itself. Dr. J. B. Taylor of the New-York board of Health in speaking to the Tribune reporter said "Montreal is the hot bed of smallpox in this country," and he went on to attribute this to the violent opposition to vaccination met with in that city. We cannot deny the fact that one case of smallpox in Montreal is an infinitely more alarming thing than one case in New-York or London, notwithstanding that in each of those cities there is a larger and more heterogenous population than Montreal. Although London has cases of smallpox continually, no one is alarmed, and recently there were as many as ten deaths from smallpox in one week; but in London vaccination is a rule rather than an exception, and they do not wait for an epide-

mic, to commence vaccinating ; there the disease is largely under control ; were this most contagious of diseases to meet with the same conditions in the over crowded slums of London that it now meets in Montreal, the appearance of a single case in London might well alarm the whole civilized world, might well be regarded as the harbinger of a truly appalling disaster.

The grandest and most enterprising cities in the world are not exempt from smallpox. Yet other cities point the finger of scorn at Montreal for the reason that this disease is universally recognized as the most preventable of contagious diseases, and outsiders cannot understand why that city should be willing to expose itself to repeated attacks of a deadly foe whom they might control if they would, to expose their trade to crushing disaster, to allow their fair city to be pointed out as the "hotbed of smallpox." All over the continent people has regarded Montreal as a place to be avoided and even to be communicated with as little as possible ; the effect of this boycotting is felt upon the trade; had it continued much longer we shudder to think of the result.

The city is paying a heavy penalty, as we know of ships refusing to come to Montreal for fear of being subjected to quarantine regulations on reaching the other side. Of excursions to Montreal abandoned, of Montreal commercial travellers having their samples returned to them unopened. We are aware of the city being discussed all over the continent as a horrible example of sanitary neglect ; we can unders-

tand the feelings of the good people who nervously deprecate the "scare" that has been created by the epidemic, and stimulated by the unusual publicity given to the progress of the disease. It is true that Montreal has never been so badly scared by an epidemic as this. Some say the scare was worse than the disease. My opinion is that this epidemic is one of the best things that could occur to Montreal, who has for years been living in defiance of all natural laws, and now that the inevitable result has come, it would be more than useless to attempt to belittle the penalty Montreal is now paying. Fortunately the sanitary matters had been placed in better hands or the city would indeed have been in a bad plight. Even when free from epidemics, the city has an extraordinary high death rate, but business men agree that it does not scare business, providing it is steady away from the city like an epidemic. It is useless for Montreal to cry over spilt milk, it ought to know by this time that it cannot defy nature's laws with impunity, and knowing this, the sooner the people commence to live in obedience to those laws the better for both commerce and society. This last experience is, we think, sufficient for the commercial men of Montreal. They will labor not only to make epidemics and "scares" impossible for the future, but to make the city healthy generally. They needed awakening upon this subject and if the awakening has been rough it has been thorough. When the small-pox was silently and surely progressing, the city council did nothing; it was aware of its progress but

paid no heed to its growing danger ; it adjourned for the summer at the time that the danger was such that it could be fairly understood, it remained adjourned while the deaths amounted into scores, and until the press was forced to take up the matter. Montreal will come out of this crisis a better and more respected city, with the stain of 1872-1880 and of its late dilatoriness entirely removed.

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