

THE
VACCINATION INQUIRER
AND HEALTH REVIEW.

HE WHO KNOWS ONLY HIS OWN SIDE OF THE CASE, KNOWS LITTLE OF THAT.—*J. Stuart Mill.*

VOLUME THE FIRST.

APRIL 1879 to MARCH 1880.



LONDON:
EDWARD W. ALLEN, 11 AVE MARIA LANE.
1880.

brook, Treasurer; J. E. Briggs, M.D., Thos. A. Granger, M.D., and R. A. Gunn, M.D., as Executive Committee. The object of the society is to awaken the attention of the public to the evils of vaccination and to its inutility, to put an end to its practice, and to prevent legislation for its enforcement.

WHAT IS SUCCESSFUL VACCINATION?

THIS question is one which every medical man who signs a vaccination certificate has to decide, and the failure of vaccination is leading to a refinement of terms in order to ward off the confession of total defeat.

Mr. Makuna has been praised by the *Lancet* for his services in the line of definition, and as he has favoured me with a copy of his Report,* I am enabled to make a few remarks upon his method.

First, he tells us roundly that no standard is common to the profession. "What one will call an indifferent mark, another will call fair, a third moderate, a fourth bad, and so on, till confusion is worse confounded," but Mr. Makuna has no hesitation. He says, "A good mark is that which is well foveated (that is depressed towards the centre) well fitted, with its area well defined, commonly by a serrated margin." Further, "good marks always remain good."

For vaccinated, Mr. Makuna substitutes "vaccinized"; and no one is vaccinized who has not "four or more good vaccine cicatrices"; for, he adds, "I believe it to be an *undisputed fact*, that only those enjoy complete immunity from the infection of variola before puberty, who are vaccinized."

Now were Mr. Makuna in earnest instead of trifling, he would be able to show that no one with four good marks appeared in his Hospital. But Table V. gives 161 patients with "good marks," and of these 22 had "four good marks," or more. The Hampstead Hospital Report shows 940 patients to have had "good marks," and of these 222 had "four marks and over," and were therefore vaccinized. The Homerton Hospital Report gives 1197 cases of "good marks," and 222 with "four marks or more."

Leaving this method, Mr. Makuna reverts to the only scientific method of classification, namely, by the degree of eruption.

Now, *as ever*, if the eruption be extensive, the tax paid to death is heavy. Now, *as ever*, if the eruption be slight, the deaths are few. Mr.

Makuna's return of mortality, 16.6 per cent., is almost identical with that of Dr. Jurin in 1728; and it is therefore perfectly clear that nothing has been effected by vaccination in modifying the disease.

Thus the term "vaccinized" represents nothing new; and until Mr. Makuna shows that no one "successfully vaccinated with four good marks" has died of small-pox at Fulham or elsewhere, he leaves matters as he found them.

ALEX. WHEELER.

INCONSISTENCIES OF VACCINATORS.

DR. LYON PLAYFAIR, whose name I mention with respect, has ventured the assertion in Parliament that vaccination saves 80,000 lives which would otherwise be sacrificed by small-pox. I learn again and again that in small-pox years the total mortality is not greater, but rather less, than in others. How, then, can 80,000 lives be saved by vaccination when there is no saving? It is to me a shocking thing to find Members of Parliament saying vaccination is a medical question which they do not understand, but vote as medical experts tell them. For instance, Dr. Seaton for a long time past, has taken matter from small-pox patients and given it to a cow, then taken matter from the cow and called it cow-pox: someone in Dublin did the same thing, but the Irish Local Government Board said "this is sowing small-pox broadcast." Thus, what the London authorities commend the Dublin authorities forbid! Again, Mr. Simon, some few years back, after Mr. Hutchinson had proved the transmission of odious diseases by vaccination, being compelled to admit it, says the operator must have dipped his lancet too deep. In that case there is no blood disease which may not be propagated; yet Parliament cannot guarantee that doctors won't "dip too deep." Doctors, acting as coroners, have refused to receive the verdict of a jury that, according to the clearest testimony, children have been killed by vaccination. They reason thus: "Vaccination caused erysipelas; erysipelas caused death, therefore vaccination had nothing to do with the death."—PROFESSOR F. W. NEWMAN at Derby Conference of National Anti-Compulsory Vaccination League.

THE CALF AGAIN.—Dr. T. Wilson, Yoxall, Burton-on-Trent, formerly of Alton, Hants, has recommenced his calf vaccination, and is prepared to supply the profession with pure Animal Vaccine Lymph. Points, 6d. each; tubes, 2s.—*Lancet*, Oct. 11, 1879.—N.B. Tubes were condemned by Dr. Wyld.

* *Second Annual Report: Fulham Hospital to 31st Dec., 1878.* M. D. Makuna, Medical Superintendent.