

For Dr. Wilder

THE ANTI-VACCINATOR,

And Advocate of Cleanliness.

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"If an offence come out of the Truth, better it is that the offence come than the Truth be concealed."—JEROME.

EDITOR,

MONTREAL, OCTOBER, 1885.

ALEX. M. ROSS, M.D.

SMALL-POX.

Small-pox is a member of the group of diseases described as zymotic, which originate in unwholesome conditions of life, and in common are diminished or prevented by the reduction and removal of these conditions. It is a disease more ancient than our historical records. Long before the date of inoculation and vaccination we find the disease identical in every respect with that of to-day. Small-pox appeared at sundry distant periods, sometimes not returning during an entire century; and was at times virulent, and at other times mild. Into whatever country it penetrated, amongst whatever people it found a home, and wherever its ravages decimated the population, the conditions which formed its development and its diffusion were one and the same; it fed upon filth, and claimed its victims where uncleanness and untidiness dwelt under one roof; a selection indeed, which is a common characteristic in connection with the rise and spread of all zymotic diseases. Man is his own worst enemy. Ignorance and superstition have made him view this pestilence as a thing of supernatural origin, and a punishment for national sins; whereas, it is too true, that the small-pox and cholera—the plagues of our time like those of centuries past—owe their existence to the unhealthy conditions by which we are surrounded, and to the irregular and unsanitary lives which characterize a great majority of the people. Disease is the fruit of disobedience; and we must learn henceforth that to obey is better than sacrifice—that cleanliness is next to godliness.

The small-pox now raging in this city is strictly confined to certain unhealthy districts in the East End, proverbially filthy and unclean. Wherever the streets are narrow, the lanes and courts filthy, where the weak, intemperate and unclean congregate together, and where children are ill-fed and badly clothed, there the small-pox makes its home and riots in filth and death.

The causes, then, which give rise to and propagate small-pox are within our control, and are preventable.

They may be summed up briefly as follows:—

Overcrowding in unhealthy dwellings or workshops, where there is insufficient ventilation, and where animal and vegetable matter in a state of decomposition, is allowed to accumulate; improper and insufficient diet, habits of intemperance, excess in eating, idleness, immorality and unsanitary habits of life, such as the neglect of ablution and the free use of pure water, want of proper exercise, and other irregularities of a like nature.

To the removal, therefore, of the causes which are disease produces, the efforts and skill of sanitarians and philanthropists must

be directed. The Legislature can do much—the people can do more; but the people must be taught the importance of the subject in all its relations to their daily life. Our children must be educated in the science of life, how to preserve it and how to promote it. Knowledge which in its results can save or destroy, must not be left to get anyhow, or not to get at all.

Social and sanitary science, by producing a healthy mind, in a healthy body, will teach a man how to regulate and economize his life; and reason will teach him how to utilize it. Man is a sanitary animal. The structure and the uses of the skin prove this beyond doubt. Pure air, pure water (inside and outside), plain, wholesome food, plenty of exercise in the pure air—these are natural health-producing agents.

INOCULATION FALLACY.

Before the present system of vaccinating with cow-pox virus was introduced, the practice of inoculating with the virus of small-pox was followed. The effects of this inoculation were greeted with the warmest praise; it was considered certain that small-pox would be completely stamped out by this means.

Inoculation and vaccination are twin-sisters—the children of Ignorance and Superstition. For 80 years inoculation claimed its annual sacrifice of millions of devotees. Roused from this sleep of death, the fact forced itself upon all classes that they were sacrificing their offspring at the shrine of a deity more vengeful than any of which heathen nations ever boasted. History furnishes us with no parallel to the useless and mighty havoc which was wrought by the promoters of inoculation. It is said that the medical men of the time were slow to acknowledge the pretended virtues of the practice; but when they did accept them they asked no more questions, but, with the remorseless instincts of a class of men but half removed from a state of semi-barbarism, they continued the loathsome practice, until an Act of Parliament put an end to a rite which, whilst it was an enormous source of revenue to the medical profession, threatened the extinction of the race.

When inoculation, like other abandoned medical delusions, was relegated to the same tomb with bleeding, calomel, and other modern delusions, then this monstrous fallacy of Vaccination (which now holds high carnival in Montreal) was introduced, substituting the foul pus of diseased cattle for the filthy pus of diseased men.

HOW VACCINATION ORIGINATED.

In times when the laws of health were imperfectly understood, the fanciful discovery was made, that by poisoning the human blood with the virus of small-pox or cow-pox, a future attack of small-pox would be prevented. The founder of this monstrous fallacy was Edward Jenner, a native of Gloucestershire, England. The cows in his neighborhood were milked by men as well as women, and men would sometimes milk the cows with hands foul from dressing the heels of horses afflicted with what is called grease. With this grease the dirty fellows poisoned the cows' teats, and soon became covered

with running sores, or horse-grease cow-pox. That is what Jenner pronounced a sovereign antidote against small-pox. (See Baron's Life of Jenner, vol. I, p. 135.)

I give the above details to show the origin of this filthy practice. Domestic animals are subject to many diseases, and these can be, and often are, transferred to the bodies of human beings by vaccination. As vaccination is falling into disrepute as a preventive of small-pox, as originally asserted by Jenner and his followers, a cry has arisen for re-vaccination. To be effective—it is now said—vaccination must be repeated every seven years, while others say annually and semi-annually. It is said by the advocates of vaccination that, owing to transmission from arm to arm, "Jenner's horse-grease cow-pox" virus has lost its power as a preventive; hence, to retrieve the credit of vaccination, the calf-pox project has been started, with the unscientific nonsense about resorting to pure lymph from the calf!

The process of obtaining this filthy pus is thus described by a public vaccinator:—"A healthy and well-nourished calf, about three months old, is hired from a butcher, and vaccinated in the usual way on its shaved abdomen in about 60 places. Upon the punctures thus made vesicles form, as from ordinary vaccination on the human body. These vesicles run their due course, and the vaccine virus which they contain is ripe and fit for use about the fifth or sixth day of that course—for use, namely, from the living animal in direct vaccination, and for collection in a fluid state into tubes, or in a dry state on ivory points, for the purpose of vaccination which is indirect. After seven days the calf is returned to the butcher.

The virus thus obtained from the calf is called calf lymph, but it is not calf lymph. It is the serum of a particular disease of the calf thrown out upon the skin. Calf lymph is the natural fluid that circulates in the lymphatic vessels of the calf; a healthy thing as remote from scabs and pox as day is from night. It is this virus from the calf that our children are now being poisoned with; thousands of points and tubes filled with this filthy pus are now being used by vaccinators all over Canada. Nobody has the right to transplant such a mischievous poison into the life of a child!

So completely has vaccination become a hobby of this period, that ribaldry and abuse are the chief arguments employed to sustain it against criticism or question. The vaccinators show that it is at best only an expedient, and has no known foundation in truth or philosophy. It has no real merit or principle. It is defenceless against attack from scientific enquiry.

It is claimed that the majority of the profession support vaccination; but majorities have no monopoly of truth. The majority of the medical profession for forty years opposed Harvey's discovery of the circulation of the blood. The majority bled the people for a century. The majority denied a cup of cold water to the patient burning with fever. The majority mercularised the people till they became walking barometers. The majority have bitterly opposed every real and scientific reform in the healing art. In short, the majority has usually been in error.

Anti-Vaccinator

086

Silence is crime, when muzzled Press refuse relief to our distress.

The Anti-Vaccinator.

EDITOR, — ALEXANDER M. ROSS, M.D.

MONTREAL, OCTOBER, 1855.

OUR PLATFORM.

That just as small-pox was increased and propagated by inoculation (now abandoned), so that disease is multiplied and intensified in the present day by vaccination: forasmuch as in both rites the actual germs of small-pox (the base of the virus) are communicated directly to the blood, "which is the life."

That vaccination is useless and dangerous; that it is not a prophylactic against small-pox, but on the contrary produces its like (*i.e.* small-pox); and in addition to this, it is a fearful engine of destruction and death to children, by communicating, along with the vaccine virus, other diseases, all equally lethal, and which are yearly on the increase. The small-pox of to-day is the plague of vaccination.

That exemption from epidemics of small-pox, cholera, and other diseases of the zymotic class, is not to be found in vaccination, or any practice so filthy or absurd: but in the enforcement and extension of wise sanitary regulations, such as better habitations for the people, pure water, good food, defecation of sewage, perfect drainage, and in inculcating amongst all classes of the community habits of personal and domestic cleanliness.

We will be heard! This is a struggle of health against disease. We are seeking to disseminate views which we are convinced are beneficial to mankind. We believe in what we utter, and believing, mean to live up to it. Although alone in this fight against vaccination, we believe the cause we advocate will finally triumph. Personal abuse and persecution are the weapons our opponents rely upon to defeat our purpose—which is to expose to the light of reason, this vaccination delusion. We may be defeated at present, but the cause will live, and in less than twenty years from now, the people of this city will look back with feelings of horror at the outrages upon health and life perpetrated by the **vaccinators** of this day.

Sanitation and Isolation will stamp out small-pox; vaccination will **stamp it in.**

Seventy-three were Vaccinated. The official report of August 17th, stated:—That up to that date 133 patients suffering from small-pox had been admitted to the Civic Hospital; of these 73 were vaccinated, 56 had one mark on the arm, 13 two marks, and 4 three marks. In all 44 died; of these **eighteen were vaccinated.**

Silence is Ominous! Since August 17 we have had no statistics from the Health Office showing the number of vaccinated who have died of small-pox—**this is ominous.**

Why not? If vaccination is the only safeguard (which we deny) against small-pox, why not let the people know how many of those who have died of small-pox up to date were vaccinated? **Three hundred children** have died of small-pox; how many of them were vaccinated?

There are many Physicians who disapprove of vaccination, but dare not give expression to their honest judgment for fear of being ostracised by their conferees and the public. The medical Robespieres have established a reign of terror within the ranks of the profession, and woe unto the physician who dares to think and act for himself independently—who dares to look the petty despots in the face and defy them. His ruin is certain—if lies, slanders, and professional ostracism can accomplish it.

Compulsory Vaccination.—Certain **meddling** newspapers of this city, having done all they could by their frantic cry of Vaccinate! Vaccinate! to excite fear and dread in the minds of the unthinking portion of our citizens, and thus drive them to the shambles of the vaccinators, are now advocating the enforcement of the Compulsory Vaccination Law, and house to house Vaccination, hoping in this way to hunt down those who refuse to have their children poisoned by Vaccination. This is out-Heroding Herod!!

In a land of boasted freedom, have its citizens no rights which stupid legislators and medical despots are bound to respect? Certain revolutions have taught, and are teaching the would-be tyrants of the world, that human beings have certain essential, inalienable, undying rights, which inhere in and grow out of their constitutions as human beings. These natural rights are sacred from the touch of all persons, and ought especially to be kept unpolluted from the greedy grasp of priests, doctors and legislators. Whoever would encroach on these rights, the same are thieves and robbers, and whoever deprives an individual of these natural rights, the same are tyrants, and should be treated as such.

Fathers and Mothers, your helpless little ones look to you for protection. Do not allow **meddling** newspapers to influence you. **Bear in mind** that these newspapers refuse to publish one word against vaccination—while they shout vaccinate! vaccinate! and open their columns freely to the vaccinators now reaping an unrighteous harvest from seed sown by these newspapers. It should not be forgotten how **inoculation**, now abandoned and made a penal offence, was, a few years ago, as loudly lauded by the newspapers and medical profession as a panacea for small-pox, as vaccination is to-day, showing how much reliance is to be placed on the shifting quicksands of passing medical dogmas.

Enforced Sanitation.—We are in favor of thorough, incessant and enforced sanitation. If our city authorities will give one-half of the time and energy they now devote to calf lymph (?) politics and contracts, to thoroughly cleaning every lane, alley, street, and premises in the city, we may defy small-pox and other filth diseases. But there must be no half-way spasmodic effort; it must be thorough. We are in favor of instructing the uninstructed in simple hygiene by the circulation of printed information of a simple practical nature. Get the people interested, and self-preservation, if nothing else, will incline them to help the authorities in sanitary efforts. Wholesome food, pure air, plenty of water (free to the poor), personal cleanliness, are the scientific, because natural safeguards, against small-pox and all other filth epidemics.

"Stamp out the Small-pox!"

Yes, our forefathers tried to stamp it out in 1722, when "inoculation" came upon the stage of life, introduced with all the sanctions which wealth, royalty and distinction could bestow upon it, and it was not till about the year 1798 that the people fully awoke to the bitter irony of the taunt, that instead of stamping it out they were **stamping it in** with a vengeance!

Inoculation spread the very disease it was intended to check; and history confirms the fact, that when the disease was given to healthy subjects, it did not modify the attack, for the mortality from small-pox was greater under inoculation than in its absence; and so it is with vaccination. With all our vaccination, the mortality of the people is increasing, and there is no wonder that it should—the "sweltered venom" of vaccine poisons the young blood of the nation, and in its pretensions to save us from one disease, creates a score of others as direful as small-pox itself.

One hundred years ago no one in England dare say a word publicly against inoculation; it was worshipped as a safeguard against small-pox by all, from the king to the peasant, just as vaccination is to-day; *now* it is a criminal offence to inoculate.

The proper and only safeguard required against small-pox is **pure air, cleanliness and temperance.** Observing these three conditions, no one need have the slightest fear of the contagion. Vaccination only increases the risk by weakening the vital forces of the system.

The hatred of Vaccination is engrained upon the very hearts and consciences of the poor, and we shall fan it to a blaze, until a fire is kindled that shall purge the land from a rite so brutal, and a practice so unnatural and unclean.

Children going to school are vaccinated perforce; and now, as if there must be no protection for the dissenting and skeptical, their attendance, and in sequence, their vaccination are made compulsory. Such is the outcome of our science; and legislation is but the aggregating of brute force.

Our one sole defence against the invasion of epidemics is in sanitation—in cleanliness; and beyond this there is no prophylactic. Vaccination is an imposture, and the people know it. "Its end draweth nigh."

Compulsory Vaccination is not law, excepting in the sense in which murderous tyranny is law. It is not medicine, save in so far as consummate blood-poisoning is medicine.

If once Vaccination goes wrong, nothing can save the life. For other poisons there are antidotes; for vaccine virus *no antidote is known.* If a child takes an overdose of arsenic, you can, provided you are in time, undo the mischief; but an overdose of vaccine lymph means a slow and often agonizing death, which no man's hand can stay.

Hundreds of cases are recorded in which the deaths of children who were healthy up to the hour of vaccination, followed, after greater or lesser periods of suffering; the suffering generally dating from the operation, and disease steadily advancing therefrom. **The Vaccinators deny all connection between the Vaccination and the death,** and pronounce death from some other cause. The difficulty is that the witnesses of the deaths are *only mothers and fathers,* and their testimony is of no weight in scientific (?) scales. In fact, we are now living in a Jennerian epoch for the **slaughter of innocents.**

We claim that **Vaccination** is **useless** as a prophylactic, and exceedingly **dangerous** as an experiment. We possess abundant and reliable proof that arm-to-arm Vaccination has been the direct means of poisoning the life-blood of our race with manifold foul and dangerous diseases of the blood, the skin, the eyes, and the ears; but arm-to-arm Vaccination is now abandoned—as cow-pox Vaccination soon will be. We possess abundant and reliable proof that **cow-pox** Vaccination has imported into the bodies of thousands of the rising generation, many skin and other diseases peculiar to cattle—thus adding to the “sins of the fathers” the physical taints of the beast.

Our claim that Vaccination is both **useless** and **dangerous** is substantiated by official records from England, France, Sweden and the Sandwich Islands. For proof we refer to Dr. Pierce’s “Vital Statistics” of Great Britain, to the Returns of the Registrar-General of England, to the Official Report of the British Consul at Honolulu, to the Official Report of Dr. Kalb, of Munich, and to the “Vital Statistics” of Sweden, by Dr. Siljeström.

Baron Lohrut, statistician of the Saxon Government, says: “**Vaccination never protects against small-pox!! It is nothing but a blood poisoner!!!**”

For further proof that our claims against Vaccination are supported by the most eminent physicians in Europe, we refer to the writings of Drs. Lancreau, Cerroli, Lebec, and Ricord, of France; to Drs. Garth, Wilkinson, Hutchinson, Pierce, Hitchman, Sir James Paget, Sir Henry Holland, Sir Thomas Watson, W. J. Collins (over twenty years Public Vaccinator of London); Emer. Prof. F. W. Newman, of Oxford University; Sir G. W. Pease, M.D., M.P.; Brudenell Carter, F.R.C.S., and many more we could mention if space and time permitted, who support our claims and bear testimony against the **useless** and **dangerous rite** of Vaccination.

TESTIMONY OF VACCINATORS.

The evidence of the most observing among the vaccinating officers employed in England, is conclusive.

Doctor George Gregory, for fifty years director of the Small-pox Hospital in London, published the following declaration in the *Medical Times* of London:—“Small-pox does invade the vaccinated, and the extirpation of that dire disorder is as distant as when it was first heedlessly, and in my humble judgment, most presumptuously anticipated by Jenner.” He also declares further: “The idea of extinguishing the small-pox by vaccination, is as absurd as it is chimerical; it is as irrational as presumptuous.” *He refused to permit his children to be vaccinated.*

Dr. Stowell, for twelve years Vaccine Physician in London, England, says:—“The nearly general declaration of my patients enables me to proclaim that **vaccination is not only an illusion, but a curse to humanity.**”

Dr. John Epps, director for twenty-five years of the Jenner Institute, says:—“The vaccine virus is a poison. As such, it penetrates all organic systems, and infects them in such a way as to act repressively on the pox. It is neither antidote nor corrigent; nor does it neutralise the small-pox, but only paralyses the expansive power of a good constitution, so that the disease falls back upon the mucous membranes. *Nobody has the right to transplant such a mischievous poison into the life of a child.*”

Doctor Letheby of London, made special observation on ninety-three cases of small-pox. Out of thirty-four that died, twenty-one had been vaccinated. Those results were published in the *London Medical Times*.

Dr. W. J. Collins, for twenty years Vaccine Physician in London and Edinburgh, writes:—“There really exists no change in the virulent character of the small-pox, notwithstanding the vaccination laws; and of those attacked by the disease, at least two-thirds were satisfactorily vaccinated. I have not the least confidence in vaccination; it nauseates me, for it often transfers filthy and dangerous diseases without offering any protection whatever.”

Sir Thomas Chambers, Q.C., M.P., Recorder of the City of London, says:—“I find that of 155 persons admitted at the Smallpox Hospital, in the parish of St. James’s, Piccadilly, 145 were vaccinated. At the Hampstead Hospital up to May 13 last, out of 2,965 admissions, 2,347 were vaccinated. In Marylebone 92 per cent. of those attacked by small-pox were vaccinated. Can anyone after this be found to contend that Vaccination is a protection against small-pox?”

The “Standard,” February 24th, 1883, says:—“It is well known that the small-pox patients in the hospitals of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, are three-fourths of those persons who had been successfully vaccinated in infancy; and amongst such vaccinated persons there occur some of the worst cases of small-pox, in which the eruption is confluent.”

The *Birmingham Daily Gazette*, March 26th, 1883, says:—“It is totally unnecessary to go outside of England, in order to find proofs of death and disease arising from the practice (of Vaccination).”

Dr. B. F. Cornell, M.D., President of the Homœopathic Medical Society of New York, says:—“It is my firm conviction that Vaccination has been a curse instead of a blessing to the race. Every physician knows that cutaneous diseases have increased in frequency, severity, and variety, to an alarming extent. To what is this increase owing? Contagion may account for some of the varieties; in a large majority, however, to no medium of transmission is the widespread dissemination of this class of diseases so largely indebted as to Vaccination.”

In England vaccination was made compulsory by Act of Parliament in 1853; and again in 1867, and still more stringent in 1871. Since 1853 there have been three epidemics of small-pox, each being more severe than the one preceding.

The Registrar-General of England, in his **ANNUAL SUMMARY** for 1880, tabulates the small-pox mortality of London for the last 30 years as follows:

Decades.	Estimated mean Population.	Small-pox Deaths
1851-60,.....	2,570,489,.....	7,150
1861-70,.....	3,018,193,.....	8,347
1871-80,.....	3,466,486,.....	15,543

Now, when it is borne in mind that this enormous small-pox mortality occurred where **85 per cent. of the population were thoroughly vaccinated**, the fact, coupled with the additional one that during the 26 weeks ending July 2nd, 1880, 1,635 persons died in London of small-pox, **422 of whom were under five years of age, three hundred and sixty-four of whom had been vaccinated.**

Can anyone after this be found to contend that vaccination is a protection against small-pox?

Mr. John McLaren, M.P., Lord Advocate for Scotland, says:—“I should not have thought it advisable to enforce Vaccination by compulsory legislation, because it is a principle of common law that no man should be compelled to submit himself or family to a medical or surgical operation without his own consent.”—January, 24th, 1881.

Herbert Spencer says:—“The measures enjoined by the Vaccination Act of 1840 were to have exterminated small-pox; yet the Registrar-General’s Reports shew that the deaths from small-pox have been increasing.” *Social Statics*, p. 367.

Sir Wilfred Lawson, BART., M.P., says:—“I am opposed to the present system of what is called Compulsory Vaccination. The existing system is *not* compulsory, since a rich man, by giving or paying fines, can avoid it; and so can the poor man, although *he* is sent to prison.”

The Right Hon. John Bright, M.P. says:—“The law which inflicts penalty after penalty on a parent who is unwilling to have his child vaccinated is monstrous, and ought to be repealed.”

The Right Hon. Earl Percy, M.P. says:—“Each (small-pox) epidemic, since JENNER’S system, has been more severe than the preceding one.”—*House of Commons*, 1877.

The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, says:—“I regard compulsory and penal provisions, such as those of the Vaccination Act, with mistrust and misgiving.”

“**Infamous Cranks.**”—Our courteous contemporary, the *Star*, calls anti-vaccinationists “infamous cranks.” The first argument against the dissenter is always browbeating; the second, ribaldry; the third, proscription. The man or the cause that can outlive these three, is perennial, and is certain ultimately to win. They who bow obsequiously to opinion, however dogmatically or arbitrarily enforced, are the enemies of mankind. They almost justify oppression by their willingness to accept its yoke.

Vaccination is now being weighed in the balance; in less than twenty years it will be abandoned like inoculation and a score of other medical quackeries.

COMPULSORY VACCINATION RESISTED.

The attempt of our Civic Authorities to enforce the hated Compulsory Vaccination Law led to a violent demonstration of resistance (Sept. 29) last night. Two thousand anti-vaccinationists marched through the public streets, threatening violent resistance to the law. They attacked the City Hall, breaking the windows of the Health Department; then they attacked the houses of the Vaccinating Physicians, committing many acts of violence. While we sincerely deprecate such conduct, we cannot help thinking that the spirit of petty tyranny and despotism manifested by the medical authorities, incited by certain newspapers, is the direct cause of last night’s demonstration.

No State can be called free when a man has not perfect control over his own health, bodily, mental and spiritual.

HISTORY OF A CRIME.

"A Deed without a Name."

MONTREAL, 1885.

In the land of the Canucks,
In the valley of St. Lawrence,
In the city of Mount Royal,
Lives a people, French and English,
Lives a people fond of pleasure,
Lives a people so neglectful
Of the dirt and filth abounding
In their streets, and lanes, and alleys,
In their houses, yards and bodies,
That the dread disease zymotic—
Which delights in dirt and filth—
Found a dwelling in Mount Royal,
Found a home in filth abounding,
In the east end of Mount Royal.
There in filth it luxuriated,
Grew in strength and virulence,
Whilst the City Fathers busied,
Busied o'er the spoils and contracts,
Cared not, thought not, of the monster,
That was knawing at our vitals,
Slaughtering children by the score;
Till their cries for help and pity
Reached the papers, *Star* and *Witness*—
Star and *Witness*, of Mount Royal.
Then these papers, moved by pity,
Cried in tones of fear and frenzy,
We must find a powerful magic,
Magic that will save our people
From the horrid plague small-pox,
That is killing off our children,—
Children of both French and English,
In their homes of dirt and filth.
(Still the filth and dirt abounded,
And was left to accumulate.)
What the papers looked for, sought for,
Wished for, longed for, was a *fetish*;
Not clean homes, and lives and bodies,
Something wonderful and magic,—
To hoodwink and fool the people,
People of both French and English.
So the papers, *Star* and *Witness*,
Called on doctors learned and wise,
Asking and beseeching of them
Something wonderful, mysterious,
To "stamp out" the plague, small-pox.
All the doctors met in council,
French and English came together,
Looking owlish and mysterious,
To prepare a powerful *fetish*;
Fetish that would save the people
From the dread disease zymotic,
Now grown strong, in filth abounding.
They selected for their chairman
Dr. Peacock, noted for his egotism,
Who appeared upon the platform
Holding in his hand a paper,
On which was written words of magic;
Words describing a rare *fetish*.
That would save, would save the people
From the dread disease, small-pox.
Dr. Peacock read the paper
Which described this powerful *fetish*,
And in tone of voice commanding
He directed all the doctors,
All the doctors, French and English,
To accept it as their *fetish*—
As the true and only *fetish*
That could "stamp out" the small-pox.
All the doctors bowed their heads,

Bowed their heads in humble worship
All save ONE, who said he couldn't—
Said he wouldn't—bow his head to any *fetish*,
Bow his head to naught but TRUTH.
Then the doctors made a rumpus;
Such a roaring, rousing rumpus,
In which the dainty Peacock joined;
Strutting up and down the platform,
Scolding like a market huckster,
Crying out in fretful anger,
It is Dr. A. M. Ross
Who dares to doubt this mighty *fetish*—
Dares to question and defy us
In our council hall this day?
Cries and shouts of "Put him out!"
Rose from doctors French and English.
Put him out they didn't dare to,
Thought the job too heavy for them;
But they passed a vote of censure,
Hoping that would crush and ruin him,—
Crush and ruin the only doctor
Who had dared to doubt the *fetish*.
Then the papers, *Star* and *Witness*,
Took the *fetish* from the doctors:
Took the *fetish* to their sanctums:
Welcomed they the powerful *fetish*,—
Fetish that was sure to save them,
Save them from the plague zymotic.
Then the papers, *Star* and *Witness*,
Joined in daily song and chorus
O'er the virtues of their *fetish*;
But the people, French and English,
Were both slow and apathetic
To believe the *Star* and *Witness*—
Though these papers cried Alarm!
Naught can save you but our *fetish*!
Fetish that you must believe in,
Fetish that you must bow down to
And receive into your bodies,
In the innermost recesses
Of your very souls and bodies,
And the bodies of your children.
Still the people would not listen,—
Listen to the threats and urgings
Daily made by *Star* and *Witness*;
But these papers were relentless,
And determined that the people
Should *en masse* be made to worship,
And shell out their hard-earned dollars
To the Golden Calf erected
By the doctors as their *fetish*.
Meetings of the rich and powerful
Must at once be called to aid them,—
Aid the papers, *Star* and *Witness*,
In their crusade 'gainst the people
Who despised and loathed the *fetish*.
Came the rich men of Mount Royal,
Came the Smithers, Gaults and Allans,
Came the Torrances, Drummonds, Stephens,
Joined the doctors and the papers
In their fetishness and cries;
Brokers, bankers, merchant tailors,
Manufacturers, grocers, nailers,
Priests and doctors met together
And denounced the anti-vaccinator
Who alone in all Mount Royal
Would not bow down to the *fetish*,
Or acknowledge that the doctors
Had the right to force the people:
Force the people, French and English,
To receive into their bodies,
And the bodies of their children,
The foul *virus* of a beast.

Then the papers, *Star* and *Witness*,
Bolder grew and more defiant;
They demanded that the workmen—
The poor workmen of the city—
Should receive into their bodies
The filthy *virus* of their *fetish*.
Not a murmur must be uttered,
Nothing but to bare their strong arms,
And admit the filthy *fetish*
In the innermost recesses
Of their very souls and bodies.
If the workingmen refuse
Thus to sacrifice and worship,
And shell out their hard-earned dollars
To the Golden Calf erected
By the papers and the doctors:
Turn them out of their employment,
Let their wives and children starve;
Workmen have no right to *think*!
Their's it is to toil and labor,
Yield obedience to the doctors,
Who grow rich at their expense.
Day by day the *Star* and *Witness*
Lashed the people into fear;
Lashed them into dread and panic,
Till the clerks, both men and women,
Rushed in hundreds to the shambles,
Shambles of the greedy doctors
Who are gathering in the dollars—
Dollars from the poor and needy,
And the school-boys brisk and hearty,
They must yield their little arms
And admit into their bodies
Vaccine virus from the *fetish*—
Fetish that now rules supreme.
And the little girls so pretty,
Pretty, innocent and pure,
They, too, must receive the *fetish*,
Fetish that may mar their beauty,
Health and beauty for their lives.
Still the dread disease, zymotic,
Nourished by the filth abounding
In the lanes, and streets and dwellings,
Where the Board of Health had left it,
(While they worshipped the sham *fetish*
Set up by the greedy doctors,)
Grew more destructive day by day,
Slaughtering children by the score,
Till three hundred empty cradles
Spoke in tones of solemn warning
'Gainst the worship of a *fetish*;
Fetish powerless to save them
From the dread disease small-pox.

MONTREAL, 1885.

In the city of Mount Royal
Lives a people, clean and healthy,
Who have read in books of story
Of the follies of their fathers—
Just one hundred years before—
How they trusted in a *fetish*;
Fetish they were told could save them
From a dread disease zymotic,
Long since banished from our planet
By the use of soap and water.
Now the streets are clean and tidy,
Nowhere now can filth be seen;
All the yards and lanes and alleys
Free from smells and sights unclean.
Now the doctors are kept busy—
Not in forcing vaccination
'Gainst the wishes of the people,
But in teaching little children
How to grow up strong and healthy,
Strong and healthy, good and wise;
And the papers, *Star* and *Witness*,
Star and *Witness* of the time,
Are employed in teaching people
All the virtues of hygiene.
And the people they are happy
In their homes of health and beauty;
Homes, where CLEANLINESS presides.