

AN OPINION ON THE VACCINATION LAW.

London Times Believes it Should be Compulsory.

DANGERS OF SMALL POX.

Result of Investigation in Different English Communities—What Might Have Been Avoided—Total Indifference to Sanitary Requirements—Advice That Should be Taken.

(From the London Times.)

The length of time consumed by the Royal Commission on Vaccination in dealing with questions as to which all the materials necessary for arriving at sound conclusions had for many years been available to all who wished to use them has been little short of a public scandal, and has been indirectly the cause of a smallpox mortality which both could have been, and ought to have been avoided.

Weak-kneed or ignorant boards of guardians have been terrified by anti-vaccinators, and in many places have permitted the law which they were charged to administer to fall almost completely into abeyance. In one locality in which this state of things has existed, the resulting epidemic has come just in time to furnish the commissioners while engaged in considering their report with a frightful example of what would happen elsewhere if neglect of vaccination were ever to become general.

In the city of Gloucester, in the early part of this year, it was a fact that scarcely any children who had been born there, and who were under the age of ten, had been vaccinated, and, as a consequence, in the three months covered by the last quarterly report of the Registrar-General, the deaths from smallpox in the city were 277 in number and amounted to an annual rate of 27 for every thousand persons living.

A hospital physician of conspicuous ability has been employed by the commission to visit Gloucester from time to time during the continuance of the epidemic, and it is probable that his description of its incidence and its decline will form not only a salient feature of the general report, but also a basis for opinions of the highest value in the interests of public safety.

We are at present necessarily unable to give the actual decisions of the commissioners on any of the important questions submitted to them, but the rumor that the report will be signed by all of them except Mr. Pleton and Dr. Collins may, we think, be taken to be conclusive with regard to its general tendency, and to show that the contentions of the anti-vaccinators will derive no support from it.

We hear also that the two medical members, Sir Guyer Hunter and Mr. Hutchinson, have appended a memorandum advising that not only vaccination, but also re-vaccination, should be rendered compulsory, while Mr. Bright and Mr. Whitebread object to any form of compulsion, and think that greater facilities should be given for free vaccination, including visits by the vaccinating officer to the homes of the poor, and free medical attendance in case of any injurious effects being attributed to the operation.

It would of course be impossible to criticize any such memoranda as those above mentioned until they are before us in detail, with any practical suggestions or qualifications which these authors may have appended to them; but it would appear certain, at first sight, that re-vaccination, if strictly enforced, could not fail to extinguish smallpox entirely, and to leave it with nothing but a place in history by the side of the jail fever and the black death.

The argument for re-vaccination is that it is the only means of rendering protection permanent; and that for compulsion is that the "liberty" claimed for the anti-vaccinator is productive of far-reaching disease and death, falling upon persons who have no share in his superstitions, and who yet cannot be preserved from the consequences of them.

Wherever vaccination is not universal, there, either from folly or carelessness, a residuum of susceptible persons will be found, and in such conditions it is hopeless to expect the entire disappearance of the disease. The facilities for free vaccination are already very considerable, and the facilities for obtaining free medical attendance not only by the poor, but by persons who could not properly be so described, are already sufficient to exert, especially in large towns, a decidedly pauperizing influence upon the community. It would probably be a matter for much regret if this influence were further extended by act of parliament, more especially as the only ill effects observable after the endeavors of parents to prevent the operation from being successful, or by inoculation of the scratches with some form of septic dirt.

Law is, or, at least, may be, a great educator, and the present law, if enforced, would serve to impress upon the minds of careless people that it was their duty to take a certain small amount of trouble for the sake of protecting not only their children, but also their neighbors, from a scourge which is no respecter of persons.

KONA'S SANITARIUM.

Honolulu Physician Pays a Visit and is Favorably Impressed.

Dr. R. P. Myers returned from Hawaii on the steamer W. G. Hall on Tuesday, after a very pleasant fortnight's visit at Dr. Lindley's Central Kona Sanitarium. He was very much taken with the health-giving properties of the place and in a conversation with a reporter of this paper yesterday furnished the following information for the benefit of the public:

following information for the benefit of the public:

"The Central Kona Sanitarium is about five miles from Naapoopoo landing in Kealahou Bay, and stands on a knoll sloping away evenly on all sides, and at an elevation of 1,300 feet above the level of the sea.

"This place, covered with a velvety carpet of grass and scattered about here and there with beautiful trees, is reached by a fairly good country road, which it is hoped will soon be bettered in condition.

"The building is a three-storied stone structure with a pitch roof and airy rooms throughout.

"The back looks out upon the smooth and placid waters of Kealahou Bay, while the front faces the mountain, abounding in its beautiful foliage.

"For scenery this place cannot be surpassed anywhere on the Islands. Poetry abounds, and the spirits are lifted above the level of dull depression as soon as the sanitarium is reached.

"This health-giving place is immediately in the coffee belt, and from the front veranda the eye is greeted at all times by the long stretches of plants in a most flourishing condition.

"In front and a little to the north, at an elevation of 1,700 feet, is Dr. Rowat's place. Coffee is planted for miles around, and this seems to be in a flourishing condition.

"The sanitarium is not alone what the name implies. Here the weary traveler can get a night's rest and a fine meal at any time he may happen to pass that way."

While Dr. Myers was at the sanitarium he met Messrs. Bruce Cartwright, J. M. Monsarrat, Wilber Grant, W. A. Wall, T. P. Cummins and Mrs. J. A. Cummins.

WAS IT A ROBBER.

Masked Man Pays a Visit to Bishop Willis' Home.

Enters the Room Occupied by Mrs. Willis, Pulled off His Wheel and Then Runs Away.

Shortly before midnight last night a telephone message from the home of A. T. Atkinson called for police officers to go up into that locality as soon as possible. Lieutenant Edwards and a mounted patrolman were despatched at once.

Arriving there Messrs. E. L. Marshall, McInerney and another man were found awaiting them, but the cause of all the excitement had flown.

It seems that just a little while previous calls for help had been heard issuing from the home of Bishop Willis in Nuuanu and shortly afterwards a man on a bicycle without a light came at a great rate down the narrow street leading to Iolani College. The gentlemen mentioned were just returning home after a game of whist at Mr. Atkinson's and called out to the wheelman to stop, but this he refused to do. He was accordingly toppled off his wheel, but jumped on again. After being pulled off a second time he left his wheel in a hurry and climbing the bridge over Nuuanu stream started on a run as fast as his legs could carry him. Pursuit was out of the question and the would-be captors took possession of the wheel which when examined at the police station was found to be a model "D" Tribune, No. 8584.

The police officers proceeded immediately to the home of Bishop Willis and there learned the following story from Mrs. Willis:

"I was lying asleep in bed and a lantern was burning dimly near by. I was awakened by a light touch on my knee and awakening with a start, observed a man standing by my bed masked as a robber. I shrieked and he made a dash out the door, jumped on his wheel that was standing against the fence outside and was off down the lane like a flash."

ROWELL-ADLER.

Marriage of Well Known People at Home of Bride's Father.

Miss Lizzie Adler and Ward Adams Rowell were married last night at 8 o'clock at the residence of the bride's father.

Miss Adler is the eldest daughter of Louis and Fredricka Adler and is well and favorably known in Honolulu on account of her quiet, womanly qualities.

Mr. Ward Adams Rowell is chief engineer at Kahuku plantation, where he has won the friendship and confidence of all who know him. He is also well known in Honolulu.

Hilo Notes.

Harry S. Overend has been appointed and commissioned Deputy Sheriff for the district of Hamakua, succeeding J. W. Moanani, who himself was promoted to be district magistrate.

During the past sugar season the Onomea Sugar Co. manufactured 16,000 tons of sugar, the largest output in the history of the Company. Honokaa Sugar Co. made 6000 tons.

A large and fine organ arrived per Santiago for St. Joseph's Church. It comes from Cincinnati, O.

Dr. Williams' new home has been completed and he expects to move in next week. The house is one of the handsomest in the city.

Hospital Trustees.

A special meeting of the trustees of the Queen's Hospital was held yesterday morning, when the proposed amendments to the charter and by-laws, making them conform to the existing system of government, were adopted. The name of Dr. H. C. Sloggett was placed on the list of visiting physicians of the hospital.

The Daily Advertiser, 75 cents a month. Delivered by carrier.

EDUCATION BOARD RUSHED WITH WORK

Knotty Problems Discussed and Disposed of Forthwith.

PETITION TO FREE FREITAS.

Appointments of Various Teachers—Report of Deputy Inspector J. F. Scott on Chinese Schools—Uniformly Dirty and Closely Packed—An Attempt to Bribe Useless.

At a meeting of the Board of Education yesterday afternoon there were present President Cooper, Mrs. B. P. Dillingham, Mrs. E. W. Jordan, Prof. Alexander, H. E. Townsend and J. F. Scott.

President Cooper read a petition from a number of residents of Kona, asking for the liberation of Manuel Freitas, a little boy who was convicted in that district for stealing a few paltry coffee plants recently. He had been given two years in the reform school, and it was their impression that the penalty was altogether too severe. The boy was very good, had always done well in his classes at school, both in point of his studies and his behavior.

The petitioners represented that coffee in Kona was common property, that Manuel Freitas had tried to raise a little coffee on land of his own working, and that the plants taken were worth at the most but a very few cents.

President Cooper next read what he called "another side," from Geo. Clark, the magistrate who had given the decision which sent Manuel Freitas to the reform school.

This communication, addressed to Attorney General Smith, stated that the boy, Manuel Freitas, had pleaded guilty to stealing the coffee plants. These were very valuable to the owner and were found in possession of the father. Mr. Clark stated further that he was inclined to believe the father more guilty than the boy, but if the latter was by nature inclined to steal, the sooner he was safely put into such a place as the reform school the better. Again, if the boy had been made a tool of by his father, the sooner he was removed from that influence the better.

A letter from William S. Weight, the manager of the coffee plantation from which the plants were stolen, asked urgently that Manuel Freitas be not liberated from the reform school.

President Cooper favored giving Mr. Needham instructions to watch the boy, and if he be found to be a good boy, to liberate him.

The opinion of the ladies of the Board was that two years was altogether too severe a penalty, taking into consideration the degree of the offense. Two years in the reform school was enough time for any boy to become bad.

The matter was laid aside for future reference. Inspector General Townsend stated that he had received information to the effect that there were 120 children enrolled in Holoalua school.

The question came up as to the disposition of Messrs. King and Scribner. Mr. King was allowed to remain at Waihalo and Mr. Scribner was appointed principal of Hanapepe school.

A petition from twelve natives at Hanapepe asked for the reinstatement of C. D. Pringle. Nothing was done with this petition.

Deputy Inspector Scott made a report on his examination into the schools in the city in which the Chinese language is taught. He found five, and all were uniformly dirty and closely packed. Mr. Scott described in a graphic manner the schoolmaster in the last of the five schools visited. He had a pipe in one hand and a bowl of tea in the other, and to cap the climax tried to bribe him with rather rough looking cigars. He stated that he had instructed the trustee officer to remove to the schools of Mr. Wells and Miss Snow the children who had reached the school age.

The Board accepted the report of the Deputy Inspector.

Mrs. Dumas was appointed assistant in the Training School.

Mrs. Wood recently arrived from Nova Scotia, was appointed principal of the Practice School in the Royal School premises. Mrs. Derby was appointed assistant.

Inspector General Townsend brought up the matter of a school building at Hoono, and gave it as his opinion that this should be erected on the upper road.

IT SAVES THE CROUPY CHILDREN.

SEAVIEW, Va.—We have a splendid sale on Chamberlain's Cough Remedy, and our customers coming from far and near, speak of it in the highest terms. Many have said that their children would have died of croup if Chamberlain's Cough Remedy had not been given.—Kellam & Ourren. The 25 and 50 cent sizes for sale by all druggists and dealers. Benson, Smith & Co., agents for the Hawaiian Islands.

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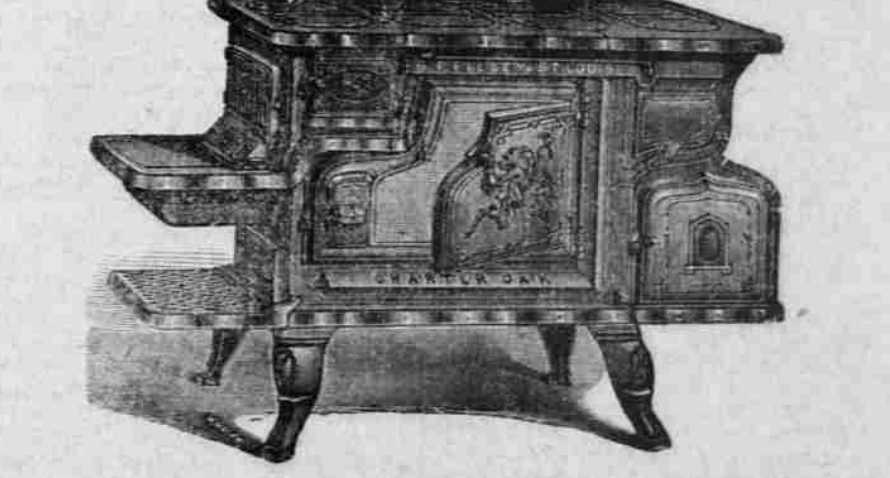
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