

An account of the success of inoculating the small-pox in Great-Britain, for the year 1726. With a comparison between the miscarriages in that practice, and the mortality of the natural small-pox ... / [James Jurin].

Contributors

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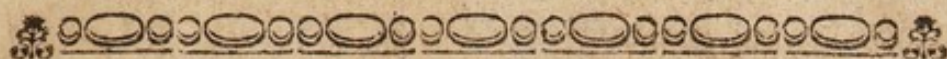
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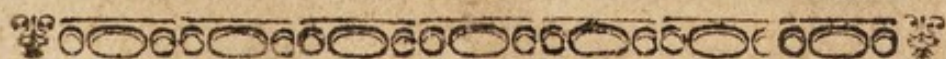
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J. Godd: 8s:



Dr. *FURIN*'s
ACCOUNT
OF THE
SUCCESS
OF

Inoculating the SMALL-POX,
For the Year 1726.



(Price Six-pence.)

Vol. 36

Dr J. V. R. N. S.
A C C O U N T
O F T H E
S U C C E S S
O F

Inoculating the SMALL-POX,
For the Year 1776.

(Price Six-pence.)

A N
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S U C C E S S
O F

Inoculating the SMALL-POX
in *Great-Britain*, for the Year 1726.

W I T H
A C O M P A R I S O N between the
Miscarriages in that Practice, and the
Mortality of the *Natural Small-Pox*.

By JAMES JURIN, M. D. R. S. Secr.
Physician to Mr. *Guy's Hospital*, and
Reader of Anatomy at *Surgeons-Hall*.

—*Placet experientia veri.*

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. PEELE, at *Locke's-Head*
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AN
ACCOUNT
OF THE
SUCCESS
OF

Inoculating the Small-Pox, &c.



THE favourable Reception given by the Publick to my former Papers upon this Subject, encourages me to proceed in laying before them the necessary Information for making a right Judgment, whe-

whether the Practice of Inoculation ought to be pursued, or rejected. Such a Judgment, I am perswaded, can no otherwise be made, than from Matter of Fact and Experience truly represented. This I have hitherto done to the best of my Power, and have the Satisfaction to see, that even those, who have been the most warmly engaged in this Controversy, have neither disputed the Truth of the Facts I have deliver'd, nor offer'd to invalidate the Consequences drawn from them. I have indeed studiously avoided giving any Occasion for such Disputes, both by the Pains I have taken to be rightly inform'd, and by the Caution I have used in laying down but few Consequences, and those

no

no other than such as necessarily and clearly follow from the Facts themselves. This I have done, partly to save my own Time, which may be better spent than in endless wrangling, and partly because I think it necessary, that a Person who pretends to enable the Publick to decide between two contending Parties, should not only be really impartial, but, as much as possible, preserve the Reputation of being so, which can only be done by keeping clear of Controversy. I am sensible that, in spite of all my Endeavours to maintain this Character, yet I have not been so happy as to preserve it in the Opinion of a great many Persons engaged on both sides of the Question. The Favourers
of

of Inoculation object, that I have inserted several Persons into the List of those suspected to have died of Inoculation, whose Death was evidently owing to other Causes, as appears from the state of their Cases published by myself; and consequently that I have represented the odds in favour of that Practice, as much less than they really are. I must own, they have Justice on their side in this Objection, and would have unquestionable reason to complain of me, if I had asserted, that those Persons had in reality died of Inoculation: But as I have only put them down as suspected to have died of it, and have at the same Time publish'd the Account of each of their Cases, whereby it is put in
the

the Power of the Reader to disallow such of them as he thinks proper, and to alter the Odds accordingly, I hope this may plead my Excuse; especially if it be consider'd, that by inserting in this List every Patient, that has been by any Persons, how unreasonably soever, suspected to have died by Inoculation, I have thereby been able to state the *Ultimatum* of all that is pretended to by the Opposers of this Practice; and that, after all their Pretensions are allow'd, there still remains a great and unquestionable Advantage on the side of Inoculation, above the taking the Hazard of the Distemper in the Natural Way. With this Answer I hope the Gentlemen on that side of the

Question will be satisfied; at least it is all that I have to offer: But I am afraid there will be more difficulty to content their Antagonists, who, I find, are so far from thinking me impartial, that they look upon me as a declar'd Favourer and Advocate for the Practice of Inoculation; though their chief Reason for doing so, is only that my Account of Matter of Fact comes out in Favour of that Method. If it had proved otherwise, those Gentlemen would have been my very good Friends, and the Inoculators might perhaps have complain'd, that I was endeavouring to run down their Practice. So apt are we to be displeas'd with every Relation, how just soever, that disagrees

agrees with the Sentiments we have once espous'd ; and so difficult is it, for the strictest Impartiality, to content Two opposite Parties. But perhaps the Gentlemen, who oppose this Practice, may hereafter have reason to think more favourably of me, as they will undoubtedly do, if my Account in succeeding Years, should prove more to their Advantage than it has hitherto done. And that in a little Time this may be the Case, is not improbable, if we observe, how apt the Generality of Mankind is to run from one extreme to the other. For as formidable a Practice as this was reckon'd, at its Introduction among us, no sooner are we got over our first Appre-

hensions, and begin to think it safe and useful, but we lay aside that Care and Caution, which alone could render it successful, and venture at once upon the Operation, without regard to the Condition our Bodies are in to undergo it, to the most favourable Time of doing it, or the Assistance and Advice that is necessary to conduct us through the Distemper. However unnecessary this last Article may appear to those, who think any body, that can wound the Skin and lay on a Plaister, is fit to take care of a Patient in the Small-Pox ; yet surely, if Physicians had been generally advised with, we should never have had so many Persons inoculated at the very time, when they already

ready

ready laboured under dangerous Diseases; nor so many others in the Flower and Vigour of their Age, from violent Exercise, luxurious Living, and Drinking to Excess, come at once to the Operation, as if it were no more than a Frolick, without any Preparation for it, whether by Evacuations, or a temperate Regimen; nor should we perhaps have seen this Practice so much neglected in the most favourable Seasons, and almost only made use of, when the natural Small-Pox is the most malignant and fatal. I must own, I think nothing shews so much the Safety of this Operation, as that, with all these Disadvantages, so few have yet died of it.

But

But to proceed to my intended Account, I must remind the Reader of the two Questions I have proposed to be determin'd by Experience, upon the Decision of which the Fate of Inoculation seems principally to depend.

1. Whether the Distemper given by Inoculation be an effectual Security to the Patient, against his having the Small-Pox afterwards in the Natural Way?

2. Whether the Hazard of Inoculation be considerably less than that of the Natural Small-Pox?

In

In relation to the first of these, there have been several Stories spread abroad of Persons, who had the Small-Pox first by Inoculation, and afterwards in the Natural Way, which may be seen in my former Accounts, with the Answers to them ; from which I think it plainly appears, that none of those Reports had any just Foundation. The full decision therefore of this Question must be left to longer Experience ; though as far as we have seen hitherto, the affirmative side of it appears highly probable, even in those Cases where only the imperfect Small-Pox have appeared : For of the others, I suppose, little doubt will be made, all Persons who have had the real Small-Pox, seeming to

to be equally safe from the return of them, in whatsoever way the Distemper was contracted.

I shall proceed therefore to what I have to offer, from the last Year's Experience, towards the Determination of the second Question, *viz.* Whether the Hazard of Inoculation be considerably less than that of the Natural Small-Pox?

By

Sick of the
Small Pox.

Died.

By my last Ac-
count } 17151 2848

At *Dover*, from
Sept. 29. 1725,
to Dec. 25. 1726,
 communicated
 by *Dr. Lynch* of
Canterbury, } 503 61

At *Deal*, from
Christmas 1725,
to Nov. 29. 1726,
 by the same, } 362 33

At *Kemsey* near
Worcester, com-
 municated by
Dr. Beard. } 73 15

Total 18089 2957
 C From

From this Account it appears, that of about Eighteen Thousand Persons of all Ages, that have had the Natural Small-Pox, in different Years and all Seasons, there have died nearly One in Six, which therefore we may lay down for the Hazard of the Natural Small-Pox, till by enlarging our Numbers we come nearer to the Truth.

The Account of Inoculation for the Year 1726 is as follows.

Inoculated in and about *London*.

By *Claudius Amyand*, Esq; }
 Serjeant Surgeon to his } 35
 Majesty

By

By Mr. *Chefelden*, Surgeon,
under the Direction of Dr. } 4
Plumptre,

Mr. *Pemberton*, Surgeon, 2

Mr. *Wemyss*, Surgeon, 2

Mr. *Pawlett*, Surgeon, 1

Mr. *Maitland*, Surgeon, 2

By the same in *Scotland*, 10

By the same near *Durham*, 6

Hallifax, &c.

By Dr. *Nettleton*, 15

Liverpoole.

By Dr. *Angier*, 2

York.

By Mr. *Naisb*, Surgeon, 1

Nantwich.

By Mr. *Ryley*, Surgeon, 4

Worcester,

By Dr. *Beard*, 4

C 2

Hagley

Hagley in Worcestershire,
By Sir Thomas Lyttelton, Bar. 4

Wrotham in Kent.
By Mr. Dane, Surgeon, un-
der the Direction of the } 2
Rev. Dr. Curteis,

Ringwood in Hampshire.
By Mr. Bright, Surgeon, 3

Salisbury.
By Mr. Elderton, M. L. 1

Shepton Mallet in Somersetshire.
By the same, 4
By Mr. Towgood, Surgeon, 3

Total 105

The following Table contains the several Ages of the Patients, with the Success of the Operation, in the same Manner with those publish'd before.

Age.	Persons inoculated.	Had the Small-Pox by Inoculation.	Had an Imperfect Sm. P. by Inoculation.	No Effect.	Suspected to have died of Inoculation.
Under 1 Year.	3	3	0	0	0
1 Y. to 2	7	7	0	0	1
2 to 3	8	8	0	0	0
3 — 4	16	16	0	0	0
4 — 5	8	8	0	0	0
5 — 10	28	27	1	0	0
10 — 15	12	12	0	0	0
15 — 20	14	12	2	0	0
20, &c.	9	7	1	1	0
Total	105	100	4	1	1

The

The Case of this one Person suspected to have died of Inoculation, is as follows.

‘ Mr. *Adam Urquart*, Son
 ‘ of *William Urquart*, Esq; of
 ‘ *Meldrum*, aged One Year and
 ‘ and a half, was inoculated at
 ‘ *Meldrum* in *Aberdeenshire*,
 ‘ *August* 29. 1726, sicken’d the
 ‘ Seventh Day, and died the
 ‘ Eighth Day, before any Ap-
 ‘ pearance of an Eruption, of
 ‘ Fits (from a *Hydrocephalus*)
 ‘ which he had formerly been
 ‘ subject to, tho’ concealed both
 ‘ from the Parents and the O-
 ‘ perator; from the first, be-
 ‘ cause the Surgeon, that attend-
 ‘ ed him, dared not to afflict the
 ‘ tender and then sickly Parents
 ‘ with such bad News; from
 ‘ the

‘ the second, by the Absence of
 ‘ that Surgeon, and Ignorance
 ‘ of the Nurse, unacquainted
 ‘ with such Disorders, tho’ he
 ‘ (the Operator) carefully and
 ‘ particularly enquired into it
 ‘ before the Operation. All
 ‘ which he learned of the Sur-
 ‘ geon after the Child’s Death.

N. B. His Brother and Sister,
 ‘ inoculated at the same time,
 ‘ had a fair and favourable Dis-
 ‘ ease.

Mr. MAITLAND.

By my Account publish’d the
 last Year, the whole Number of
 Persons, who had then had the
 true Small-Pox by Inoculation,
 was 624, Thirteen of which had
 been suspected to have died of
 Inocu-

Inoculation; and this Year we have one dead out of an Hundred; that is, in all 14 out of 724, or nearly One out of 52. If therefore we lay this down as the Hazard of dying of Inoculation, we allow all that is pretended to by the Opposers of that Practice, and there still remains a great Advantage on the Side of Inoculation, above the Hazard of taking the Disease in the Natural Way, in which we find there dies one in Six. But those, who upon perusal of the Cases of these Fourteen Persons, find reason to think that several of them did not really die of Inoculation, but of other Accidents, or Diseases, may, by striking off such of them as they think

think

think proper, considerably reduce the Odds of Dying of Inoculation below what I have represented them. This therefore I leave to the Judgment of every impartial Reader ; but before I conclude, I must beg leave to mention one Particular, in which I think it incumbent upon me to do Justice to this Practice. It is allow'd on all Hands, that some of these Fourteen were diseased Persons ; and therefore the Hazard of Dying of Inoculation, to Persons who have this Operation perform'd upon them in perfect Health, is unquestionably less than that of One in Fifty Two, as we had stated it.

POSTSCRIPT.

WHile these Papers were in the Press, I was favour'd with a Letter from the Learned Dr. *Thorold*, Physician at *Uxbridge*, containing an Account of above Forty Persons inoculated by his Direction, who have all recover'd. But the Doctor's Letter coming so very late, by reason of an Indisposition he has labour'd under for some Time, and not containing the Names and Ages of the Patients, I could not insert them in this Year's Account, but must defer them till my next.

F I N I S.

A D.

ADVERTISEMENT.

ALL Persons concern'd in the Practice of inoculating the Small-Pox, are desired to keep a Register of the Name, Age and Habitation of every Person inoculated, the Manner of the Operation, the Days of Sickening and of the Eruption, the Sort of Small-Pox that is produc'd, and the Event,

Where the true Small-Pox is not produc'd by Inoculation, it will be of Use to take particular Notice, whether the Patient had any other Kind of Eruption, what Symptoms preceded or attended it, whether the Incisions inflam'd and run, and for what Time their Running continu'd.

In Case any Person shall happen to die after Inoculation, either in the Course of the Small-Pox, or after they are gone off, it is desired that a particular Relation of the Case may be made, and attested, if it be judg'd necessary, by the nearest Relations of the Party deceas'd, or by other credible Persons, that were Witnesses to the Fact.

They

They are intreated to send these Accounts, or an Extract from them, - comprehending all Persons inoculated from the Beginning to the End of the present Year, to Dr. Jurin, Secretary to the Royal Society, some Time in *January*, or at farthest in *February* next, that so the Result of them may be published early in the Spring,

Garlick-Hill, *Few Lane,*

May 10, 1727.

