A plea for the children : with an exact reproduction of two pages of an old register kept in the parish chapel at Pudsey in Yorkshire, in 1787 and 1792, shewing (1) the prevalence of small-pox in the last century, and (2) the special ravages it made amongst children.

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Jenner Sociez FOR THE CHILDREN

WITH AN

EXACT REPRODUCTION

OF TWO PAGES OF AN

OLD REGISTER

KEPT IN THE PARISH CHAPEL AT PUDSEY In Yorkshire, in 1787 and 1792:

SHEWING (1) THE PREVALENCE OF SMALL-POX

IN THE LAST CENTURY; AND

(2) THE SPECIAL RAVAGES IT MADE AMONGST CHILDREN.

PUBLISHED BY

THE JENNER SOCIETY, GLOUCESTER.

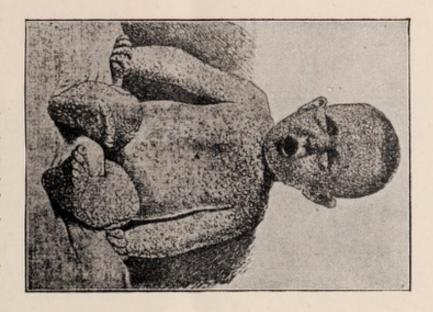
Price 1d., or 5. per 100.



A TRIBUTE TO JENNER.

The above is a reproduction of an illustration in the British Medical Journal of June 3rd, 1893, taken from a photograph by Dr. N. S. Manning, Medical Superintendent of the City Hospital, Birmingham. It represents a sister and a brother who were admitted into the hospital with small-pox, which they had contracted from the same source. The sister, 11 years of age, had been vaccinated in infancy, and had 4 good scars. In her the eruption consisted only of a few pimples, which caused her no discomfort. The brother, 3½ years old, and unvaccinated, had a confluent attack, from which he died. The photograph was taken on the 13th day of the disease in the older child and the 10th in that of the younger. As Dr. Manning observes, these cases are typical of what one constantly sees in the treatment of small-pox, and afford a striking illustration of the difference between the disease in vaccinated and unvaccinated children, when the former take it at all.





An unvaccinated infant undergoing Small-pox, not of the most severe type.

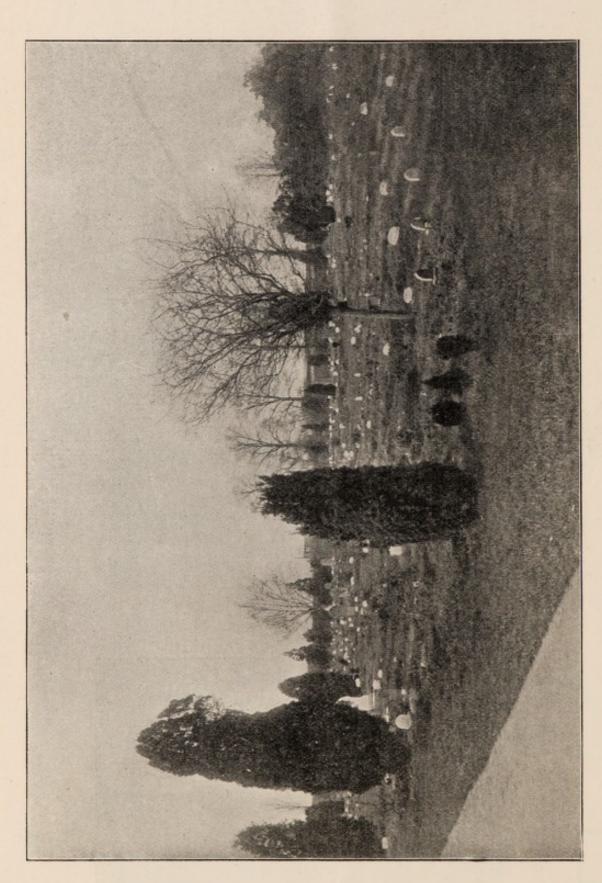


Epidemic: one of the poor children who was blinded by Small-pox.



A healthy infant undergoing Vaccination.

LCOME RARY Collections P



10 years of age, lie buried, who fell victims to the epidemic of Small Pox in Gloucester in 1895-6, together with only one child out of more than 8000 who were vaccinated before or A portion of the Gloucester Cemetery : where 279 poor unvaccinated children, under during the epidemic.

A PLEA FOR THE CHILDREN.

SMALL-POX AS IT WAS.

UP to 100 years ago small-pox had always been, from the earliest times, a dreadful disease for all who were exposed to it, unless, as was the case with most grown-up people, they were protected by having had the disease in childhood. Even this did not give certain safety, for it was well known that the protection of such an attack was apt in time to wear off. Hence middle-aged and older people occasionally caught the disease and died from it.

But it was the children who mostly suffered. For instance: in Geneva in the 180 years from 1580 to 1760, there were 25,349 deaths from small-pox. More than 9 out of 10 of these (961 in every 1000) were under 10 years of age. Similar evidence might be given from other countries. It has been calculated on good authority that small-pox killed more people in Europe than the plague did. Only about 4 or 5 in every 100 grown-up persons had not had it.

THE PUDSEY REGISTER.

We have a striking proof how terrible a scourge this disease was to the children of our own country in the record of burials kept in the parish chapel of Pudsey, in Yorkshire, during the latter years of the last century. An exact copy of two pages of this record is here given (pp. 8-11). From these it is easy to make out (on the first page) from Sept. 15th to Oct. 18th, in 1787, that out of 26 deaths, no less than 19 were from small-pox, all of them under 10 years, and the larger number under 5 years of age. On the second page, out of 33 deaths, from June 16th to Sept. 29th, in 1792, 15 were caused by the same disease, all also under 10 and the majority under 5 years of age.

To what was this terrible slaughter of the innocents due? It was due, chiefly, to the fact that children are much more liable than grown-up people to catch small-pox when brought in the way of it, as they are also to take other infectious diseases, such as measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever, &c. But, it is to be explained also by the fact that the children *seem* to have been so much more liable to the disease than grown-up persons, because most of the latter having already had the disease in childhood, and thus being protected against it, were not attacked. The apparent proportion of children was thus increased.

In those days small-pox was hardly ever absent from London and other large towns, whilst every few years it swept like a flood over other parts of the country; whenever there was a fresh growth of children for it to attack; just as is the case with measles and whooping cough still.

SMALL-POX AS IT IS.

Let us compare the state of things, which thus existed n this country up to the end of the last century, with that which now prevails. Small-pox, instead of being as it was then, a frequent visitor to most places, is now a rare complaint. It is only when it finds its way into towns and becomes a true plague, as it was at Gloucester in 1896, when it killed 434 persons, and at Middlesbrough in 1898, when 202 persons died of it, that we can in some degree picture to ourselves what it used to be.

So rare is it now in some places that many of the younger doctors have never seen a case of it.

Why is this?

CAUSE OF DECREASE OF SMALL-POX.

Some people say that it is because we are so much more sanitary now than our forefathers were.

This cannot be the reason; for, if it were, other diseases like measles and whooping cough, which resemble small-pox so much in the way they attack children, would have decreased as small-pox has done. But they have not. No, the real reason why small-pox has been so nearly stamped out amongst children is because vaccination was introduced by Dr. Edward Jenner at the close of the last century. From that time small-pox began to diminish. Only slowly at first, because vaccination, especially amongst children, was not general. Hence, every now and then a great outbreak would take place, and the unvaccinated children and adults would be attacked as they were before Jenner's time.

CHANGE OF AGES OF ATTACK.

But when, about 50 years ago, vaccination of infants began to be generally enforced, a remarkable change in the *ages* of those attacked began also to be seen. Many examples of this might be given. One of the best is the experience of Sheffield. During 30 years (1857-87) Sheffield had five serious epidemics of smallpox. The change of age which, during this period took place, is illustrated by the following table, showing the

PROPORTION OF DEATHS UNDER 10 YEARS OF AGE IN EACH 100 DEATHS FROM SMALL-POX IN SHEFFIELD.

			Un	der 10 Years of Age.
 				85
				86
 				84
 				64
 				27
 	· ··· ··· ···	· ··· ···	· ··· ··· ···	··· ·· ·· ·· ·· ·· · ·· ·· ·· ·· ··

From this table we see that whilst in the first three of these five epidemics, out of every 100 deaths, 85, on an average, were children under 10 years of age; in that of 1871-2, this proportion had fallen to 64; and in 1887 to only 27, or two-thirds less than it was 30 years before.

The explanation of this decrease is simple. During these thirty years the children in Sheffield were being gradually vaccinated and were thus protected. Of all the children born there from 1878 to 1887 less than 5 in every 100 were not vaccinated. But, during these thirty years, *measles and whooping cough decreased very little*. If any other cause than the increase of infant vaccination had led to this decrease of small-pox in children, it should have caused a similar decrease in those two other diseases, which so closely resemble small-pox in the way in which they attack children and in which they are spread.

An even stronger proof of the effect of vaccination in protecting our child population from small-pox is given by comparing the experience of Gloucester and Middlesbrough.

SMALL-POX AT GLOUCESTER AND MIDDLESBROUGH.

The epidemics of small-pox in these two towns in 1896 and 1898 were, if we take into consideration the population of each, the most severe that have occurred in England for many years. Hence, the lessons which they teach are all the more valuable. Let us see how the children were affected in them. Here are the numbers both of cases and of deaths of children under 10 years of age in each town.*

	Attacks.	Deaths.			
Middlesbrough	105	29	or about	28 in 100	
Gloucester	539	215	just	40 ,,	

We here see that whilst there were five times as many children attacked in Gloucester as in Middlesbrough, about 4 in every 10 of those attacked in Gloucester died, whilst only 4 in 15 died in Middlesbrough.

But this is not nearly the whole of the truth. Let us now see how many of the children attacked in each town had been vaccinated, and how many had not, and what was the consequence, Here again are the numbers :

	Vaccinat	ed only in	infancy.	Unvaccinated.			
			Fatality.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Fatality.	
Middlesbrough	43	0	0	62	29	46.7	
Gloucester	26	0	0	513	215	41.9	
	69	0	0	. 575	244	42.4	

*The total number of cases at Middlesbrough was 1411. In order to compare the two epidemics as nearly as possible, the first 1411 of the Gloucester cases have been taken for the comparison. The result would not be materially different if the last 1411 cases were taken instead. The total number of cases at Gloucester was 1979. These figures plainly show how far vaccination protects children against death from small-pox. For, whilst in the two towns taken together, out of 2822 persons attacked, 575 were unvaccinated children, of whom 244 died, or, nearly half, only 69 vaccinated children were attacked, and not one died. This is of itself a convincing proof that even if vaccination does not with absolute certainty protect children from an attack of small-pox, it almost certainly protects them against dying from it. As the mortality amongst the vaccinated children was so small it may reasonably be supposed that their attacks were mostly very mild; this was so. Moreover, the greater number of the vaccinated children who were attacked (56 out of 69) were over 5 years of age, when the protection of vaccination was beginning to wear off; whilst in the unvaccinated children the numbers above and below 5 years were almost exactly equal.

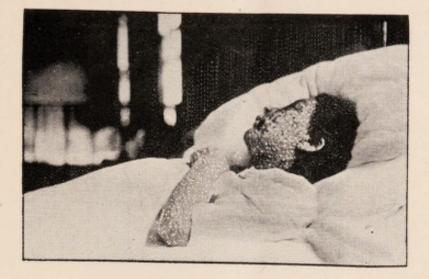
THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GLOUCESTER AND

MIDDLESBROUGH.

But we have not yet learned all that these figures can teach us. Why is it that in Middlesbrough, for every 4 vaccinated children only 6 unvaccinated were attacked; whilst in Gloucester for every 4 vaccinated children about 80 unvaccinated were attacked?

The explanation is very simple. In Middlesbrough the children had generally been for years before the outbreak well There were comparatively very few unvaccinated vaccinated. children in the town. It is for this reason, as we have before seen, that out of the whole 1411 cases at Middlesbrough only 105 were children, and those of them who had been vaccinated were mostly children who had arrived at an age when they were imperfectly protected, and should have been already re-vaccinated. In Gloucester, for 10 years before the outbreak, vaccination had been greatly neglected. When the outbreak commenced the city swarmed with unvaccinated children. There were probably 10,000 of them. The parents of a good many got frightened and rushed to the doctors to have them vaccinated, and those who were vaccinated before they were exposed to the infection escaped. It has been stated by anti-vaccinators that 9000 unvaccinated children "passed unscathed" through the epidemic. This is untrue. The records of the Board of Guardians show that before the epidemic was half over nearly 8000 had been vaccinated, and at the end of it not more than 250 were unaccounted for. But a good many were too late and they suffered in common with those whose parents were so foolish as not to take the trouble to protect them at all. Nearly half of these unfortunate children died, and many of them who escaped with their lives were disfigured and in some cases blinded. The disease spread rapidly amongst the children because it got into two of the largest schools, as it may easily do anywhere if unvaccinated children attend them.

The risks of imperfectly protected Small Pox Nurses.



A workhouse nurse. Had been vaccinated in infancy but never revaccinated. This case shows that nurses are as liable to take Small Pox as other people are, unless protected by recent vaccination or revaccination, as nurses in Small Pox hospitals generally are. Only 2 indifferent marks were left by infant vaccination in this case.

C. KILLICK MILLARD, M.D., D.Sc. Photo.



Wisdom justified of her children.

A Small Pox hospital nurse and an unvaccinated child of 10, with confluent Small Pox. This nurse had a married sister, whose husband was an anti-vaccinator, and objected to his wife being revaccinated. But she caught Small Pox, was removed to the hospital and died, though devotedly nursed by her sister, who had protested strongly against the husband's folly.

C. K. MILLARD, M.D., D. Sc. Photo.

Effect of good Vaccination in infancy, even without Revaccination, in protecting against a serious attack of Small Pox.



A boy aged 11, who had a very mild (abortive) attack of Small Pox (merely a few pimples on his face). Vaccinated only in infancy, but with 4 good marks, 3 of which are clearly visible.

Photo taken on 6th day of illness by C. KILLICK MILLARD, M.D., D.Sc.

One of the penalties of neglecting Vaccination.



"Pitting" left by an attack of Small Pox, 6 months afterwards. C. KILLICK MILLARD, M.D., D.Sc. Photo,

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN VACCINATED AND UNVACCINATED AT GLOUCESTER.

The degree in which the unvaccinated suffered in the Gloucester epidemic, when compared with the vaccinated, of the same age, in the 1411 cases referred to above, is well shown by the following table in which the influence of age in weakening the protection of infant vaccination against *attack* and the need of *re-vaccination*, can be easily recognised :—

	1	Vaccinated	fancy only	Unvaccinated.				
Years of Age.		Attacks.		Deaths.		Attacks.		Deaths.
0-5		3		0		263		132
5-10		23		0		250		83
Over 10		813		87		59		22

Could there be a stronger proof than these figures offer that vaccination in infancy does protect children almost with certainty up to 5 years of age, and with somewhat less certainty up to 10 years; and that even after 10 years, though the proportion of attacks increases as the age advances (493 out of the 839 were over 25 years of age) only about 10 in 100 died from the attack, whilst 37 in 100 unvaccinated adults died.

CONCLUSION.

We can now see, from facts which cannot be truthfully denied and the force of which cannot be mistaken, except by those who wilfully shut their eyes to conviction, the reason why small-pox has diminished so much during the past 100 years, and, especially, why, during the past 50 years, when infant vaccination has been so general, small-pox has been so rare amongst children. It has nothing to do with "sanitation." Gloucester was as healthy as Middlesbrough before the epidemic, and as well drained and supplied with water as most towns. It was the neglect of infant vaccination alone that caused the large number of attacks of children in the epidemic there and the high fatality amongst them.

LESSON.

It seems hardly needful to press home the lessons which these facts teach us.

They are: First, that small-pox, when it occurs amongst unvaccinated children, is just as dreadful a disease now as it was 100 years ago, before JENNER introduced vaccination.

Second, that if we are wise and feel that we are responsible for the lives and well-being of our children, we shall do as the Middlesbrough people did and have them vaccinated.

We never know when they may be attacked by small-pox. If they should be attacked and die or be injured for life, we shall have for ever with us the terrible memory that they have suffered through our folly. What parent, who realises what this responsibility means, will lightly accept it? The third lesson is, to have our children re-vaccinated, about 10 years of age, when they are about to leave school. They will thus be fairly protected for the rest of their lives. If this were generally done we should have less and less epidemics of small-pox, made up mainly of so-called 'vaccinated" adults, as at Middlesbrough, and has been the case in all modern epidemics, even including that of Gloucester.

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NOTE.

The above and the next page but one are reproduced from "Small-Pox in Pudsey, a hundred years ago," by the kind permission of the author, Dr. W. Lovell Hunter, Medical Officer of Health for that town. They were photographed by Dr. Hunter from two pages of a register of burials kept from 1775 to 1814, by the Rev. William Howarth, curate in charge of the chapel there. They illustrate in a striking way, (1) the leading position taken by small-pox in the causes of death in the times before Jenner, and (2) the overwhelming proportion of deaths in childhood from the disease then recorded. The following facts in further illustration of these points are taken from Dr. Hunter's pamphlet.

The register in question only records the burials in this one place, but there were at the time at least three other burial places in Pudsey, and some of the inhabitants were buried at the parish church of Calberly. The burials in the chapel yard probably do not represent more than half of those which took place in Pudsey. This must be borne in mind in appreciating the large proportion of cases of smallpox recorded in these pages. The population of Pudsey at the time referred to was probably a little over 4000. During the 37 years for which the register was

8

BURIALS AT PUDSEY CHAPEL, 1787

Sept.	5	Polly Daur of Cleophas Myres		puella*	I	S. pox
,,	7	Rose Daur of Thomas Hustler		a pauper	4	S. pox
,,	8	Hannah Dr of Joseph Hainsworth S. of Geo	o.		2	S. pox
,,	-	Stillborn Child of Thos. Marshall				
,,		, Dr of Thos. Ayton		puella	I	S. pox
,,	13	Hannah the Widw of John Simpson			57	Dropsy
,,	15	Hannah Dau ^r of John Crampton S. of Jnº		puella	I	Sm. pox
,,	20	Sarah Wife of Thos. Gibson S. of W ^m		pauper	34	Consum.
,,	21	Mary Daur of George Lawson		· ···· ·······························	3	S. pox
,,	23	Isaac S. of Isaac Sykes			5	S. pox
,,	14	Mary Dau ^r of Joseph Bevan			5	S. pox
• *	26	James Pearson			61	
,	-	Lydia infant Daur of Saml Ward, of Bramle	ey		puella	Consum
,,	28	Sarah the Widow of Benj ⁿ Gaunt		a pauper	58	Dropsy
,,	-	Elizabeth Daur of Aaron Calvert			9	S. pox
,,	-	Elizabeth Dau ^r of Christian Scurfield Shoem	ŋr.		3	S. pox
		Michaelmass, 1787.				
Octo	har	George S. of Josh Hutchinson S. of Josh				C
					4	S. pox
,,	I	Paid the duty thus far.		puert		S. pox
	-					1.6
,,	2	Mary Dau [*] of Joseph Robinson S. of Eli			5	S. pox
,,	9	Susanna Dau ^r of W ^m Jefferson Taylor		puella	I AM	S. pox
"	13	William S. of Jn ^o Grant S. of Rich ^d			4	S. pox
"	-	Mary Dau ^r of Josh Cooper, S. of Jno			2	S. pox
,,	-	Alice Dau ^r of W ^m Daniel			5	S. pox
,,	14	Mary infant Dau ^r of Jn ^o Swithinbank	***	puella	224 11 12	S. pox
,,	18	Sarah Dau ^r of Abraham Skelton			2	S. pox
-						

* Girl (Latin). † Boy (Latin).

kept 239 cases of small-pox were recorded in it, the total number of deaths from all causes being 1743. Assuming that these are only about half of those which actually occurred, they would represent 13 deaths from small-pox for each of these years, on an average, or about 100 attacks. As the population of Pudsey is now (13,500) more than 3 times what it was then it follows that if small-pox were as prevalent there at the present time as it was a hundred years ago there would be more than 300 cases *yearly*, on an average, with at least 40 deaths : with a possible increase in special epidemic outbreaks, if we take that of 1787 as a basis for our estimate, to 2400 attacks and 400 deaths. Of the whole number of 37 years recorded small-pox prevailed in 19, and in 8 of them severely, 1787 being the worst epidemic and 1791-92 being amongst the more severe. The following table shows how largely children under 10 years were affected :—

Ageunder IIto 2to 3to 4to 5to 10Over 10Age not statedDeaths386844251727416

Dr. Hunter states, by way of contrast to this state of things, that only 2 deaths from small-pox have occurred in Pudsey during the last 25 years, and he significantly adds, in explanation of this fact, that "vaccination (infant) in the town is efficiently carried out."

9

10 Burials at pursey the fel 179 well illetty mfs Dawr. toucht Jal Mahna in 120 utchendon: 11 son of An lly Sa Frothe S. of same 2 26 yamin Grunt. John alon sen, decea 920 ON D 0 Otel fratis 40 matha + 10 S. el John 12 Jonatha 3 J. of Mett Mancy Day 3 Ż huer cocke d. flinens 1 1outiam 22 Jareph J intan Son + 29 Geage Anyres Willio 2 funt 2/8 sefloeby Fann of Jonethan Hames hug . 8 helle Jarah Jak Da 14 pleton Still 19 willia GA Auce Sac hand) 32 1 21 Thelton 20 + 24 han Fue Down of When Restine Gran Sager isti Jano 26 Shatt the 200 Town ofthe 66 John 28 Jonathin Jugit 9 alus Jurnes 30 The larn lowa N Joseph Rinchdiffe Tra 9 2 un Jenca

BURIALS AT PUDSEY CHAPEL, 1792

June 12Betty inft Dau ^r of Joseph Wilson <i>puella</i> *,, 18Sally inft Dau ^r of Cleophas Myres <i>puella</i> S. pox,, 21Hannah inft Dau ^r of Joseph Hutchinson <i>puella</i> S. pox,, 24David inft Son of John Hemsley <i>puer</i> †,, 26Sally Dau ^r of Joseph Brooke S. of Isaac2,, 27John inft Son of Benjamin Gaunt <i>puer</i> IJuly4Betty Dau ^r of John Crampton Senr. DeceasedI6,, 6Stillborn child of Thos. RiderI3,, 10Martha Widow of W ^m Gaunt13,, 12Jonathan S. of John Webster3S. pox	
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,, 6 Stillborn child of Thos. Rider <td>n.</td>	n.
,, 10 Martha Widow of W ^m Gaunt Gratis 79 Aged ,, 12 Jonathan S. of John Webster 13 Evil&Co	
,, 12 Jonathan S. of John Webster 13 Evil&Co	
	n.‡
, 22 Joseph S. of William Bococke S. of Eman ¹ puer I S. pox	
,, 23 George infant S. of William Myres puer	
, 27 William S. of Robert Glover 2 S. pox	
, 28 Fanny Daur of George Webster 3 S. pox	
Aug. 8 Sarah infant Dau ^r of Jonathan Holmes puella S. pox	
, 14 Sally Daur of Jnº Dufton S. of Thos puella I S. pox	
" - Stillborn Child of Sam. Threapleton	
,, 19 William S. of Jnº Sharpe, S. of W ^m 2 S. pox	
,, - David Newborn Son of Abraham Skelton puer Convuls	5.
,, 21 Mary the Wife of Abraham Skelton of Brinkhouse 32 Childbe	d
, 24 Jonathan Newborn Son of Abraham Skelton puer Convul	s.
,, 26 Sarah Dau ^r of W ^m Rastrick Grave Digger Gratis I S. pox	
,, 28 John Shutt the Elder, of the Low-town 66	
,, - Susan Dau ^r of Elizabeth Wid ^w of Jonathan Sugden 9 S. pox	
,, 30 Rose Dau ^r of John Rastrick, alias Turner	
Sept. 7 Joseph infant Son of James Galloway Fartown puer S. pox	
,, 9 Elizabeth alias Betty Widw of Joseph Hinchcliffe, L town bot. Consum	1
,, - Hannah Dau ^r of John Crampton Junr 2 S. pox	
,, 19 Joseph S. of Sam ¹ Driver, Carpenter puer 1 S. pox	
,, 26 Edmund S. of James Harper puer Decline	
,, 29 Joseph infant S. of Denis Rider puer S. pox	
" - Emanuel inft S. of Samuel Boococke puer S. pox	

* Girl (Latin). † Boy (Latin). ‡ King's Evil and Consumption.

II

SOME PUBLICATIONS

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