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Jurin J (1724). A letter to the learned Dr. Caleb Cotesworth, F. R. S. of the College of Physicians, London, and physician to St. Thomas's Hospital; containing a comparison between the danger of the natural small pox, and that given by inoculation. Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London (1722 - 1723), 32:213-227.

Title pages

VI. *A Letter to the Learned Dr. Caleb Cotesworth, F. R. S. of the College of Physicians, London, and Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital; containing a Comparison between the Danger of the Natural Small Pox, and of that given by Inoculation. By James Jurin, M. D. R. S. Secret.*

S I R,

THE sincere and disinterested Regard for the Good of Mankind, which you have always manifested, as well in your extensive private Practice, as in that publick Post, which you have so long and so usefully fill'd, must affect you, I am sure, with a great and sensible Concern for the Destruction made among us by that terrible Calamity the Small Pox. We have seen, for some considerable Time past, above 100 Persons *per* Week in this City and Suburbs, taking one Week with another, to be carry'd off by this Disease; a Consideration certainly that ought to dispose us to enter into any Measures, by which we may reasonably hope to put some Stop to the Progress of so cruel a Distemper.

To this Purpose, Sir, the Method of Inoculation, which has lately been introduced among us, is strongly recommended on the one hand, and has been oppos'd with a great deal of Warmth and Zeal on the other.

A *J. Hutchinton.*

LETTER

To the LEARNED

Caleb Cotesworth, M.D.

Fellow of the Royal Society, of the College of Physicians, and Physician to St. Thomas's Hospital.

Containing, A

COMPARISON

Between the Mortality of the

Natural Small Pox,

And that Given by

INOCULATION.

By *JAMES JURIN*, M. D. R. S. Secr. Fellow of the College of Physicians, and Lecturer of Anatomy at *Surgeons Hall*.

To which is Subjoined,

An Account of the Success of INOCULATION in *New England*; as likewise an Extract from several Letters concerning a like Method of communicating the SMALL POX, that has been used time out of mind in *South Wales*.

LONDON: Printed for W. and J. INNYS, at the *Prince's Arms* the West End of *St. Paul's Church-Yard*. 1723.

The Number of Persons, who have had the Small Pox by Inoculation here in *England*, is, by the best Information I have been able to collect, as follows.

Inoculated by

Dr. <i>Nettleton</i>	- - - - -	61
<i>Claudius Amyand</i> , Esq; Serjeant Surgeon	-	17
Mr. <i>Maitland</i> , Surgeon	- - - - -	57
Dr. <i>Dover</i>	- - - - -	4
Mr. <i>Weymish</i> , Surgeon	- - - - -	3
The Reverend Mr. <i>Johnson</i>	- - - - -	3
Dr. <i>Brady</i> , at <i>Portsmouth</i>	- - - - -	4
Mr. <i>Smith</i> , Surgeon, and Mr. <i>Dymer</i> , Apothecary, at <i>Chichester</i>	- - - } - - - }	13
Mr. <i>Waller</i> , Apothecary at <i>Gosport</i>	- - -	3
A Woman at <i>Leicester</i>	- - - - -	8
Dr. <i>Williams</i> at <i>Haverford West</i>	- - - - -	6
Two other Persons near the same Place	- - -	2
Dr. <i>French</i> , at <i>Bristol</i>	- - - - -	1
	In all —	182

Out of this Number the Opposers of Inoculation affirm, that two Persons died of the Inoculated Small Pox; the Favourers of this Practice maintain, that their Death was occasioned by other Causes. If, to avoid dispute, these two be allow'd to have died of Inoculation, we must estimate the hazard of dying of the Inoculated Small Pox, as far as can be collected from our own Experience, to be that of 2 out of 182, or one out of 91.

There is another Method, which, if it were put in practice in several large Towns, or Parishes, and for a sufficient Number of Years, would enable us to come at a nearer and still more certain Computation of the Proportion between those that recover, and those that die of the Small Pox: which is, to send a careful Person once a Year, from house to house, to enquire what Persons have had the Small Pox, and how many have died of it, in the preceding Year. This has been done by Dr. *Nettleton* the last Year, at several Towns in *Yorkshire*, &c. and the same was done at *Chichester* for the same Year, to the 15th of *October* last, by a Person of Credit, whose Account was communicated to me by my learned and ingenious Friend, Dr. *Whitaker*.

Such another Account has been transmitted to me from *Haverford West*, in *South Wales*, by the Learned Dr. *Perrot Williams*, Physician in that Place. The Sum of these Accounts is as follows.

	Sick of the Small Pox.	Died.
Several Towns in <i>Yorkshire</i> — — — —	3405	636
<i>Chichester</i> — — — —	994	168
<i>Haverford West</i> — — — —	227	52
Total	4626	856

From which it appears, that, upon a *Medium* between these Accounts, there *died of the Small Pox almost 19 per Cent. or nearly one in five*, of Persons of all Ages, that underwent that Distemper. Which is the more to be remarked, for that *out of 82 Persons*, that had the Small Pox by Inoculation, the same Year, and in the Neighbourhood of the same Places, *not one miscarry'd*.