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[Pearson G, Nihell L, Nelson T, Keate T, Forster T, Carpue JC, Doratt J, Rivers F, Brand EA, de Bruyn P, Heaviside J, Payne T, Sancho W \(1805\).](#) Original Vaccine Pock Institution. Edinburgh Medical and Surgical Journal 1:513-515.

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Original Vaccine Pock Institution, No. 44. Broad Street, Golden Square, 6th September, 1805.

MR BENJAMIN JESTY, farmer of Downshay in the Isle of Purbeck, having (agreeably to an invitation from the Medical Establishment of the Original Vaccine Pock Institution, Broad Street, Golden Square) visited London in August 1805 to communicate certain facts relating to the Cow Pock Institution, we think it a matter of justice to himself, and beneficial to the public, to attest that, among other facts, he has afforded decisive evidence of his having vaccinated his wife and two sons, Robert and Benjamin, in the year 1774; who were thereby rendered unsusceptible of the small-pox, as appears from the exposure of all the three parties to that disorder frequently during the course of 31 years, and from the inoculation of the two sons for the small-pox 15 years ago. That he was led to undertake this novel practice in 1774, to counteract the small-pox, at that time prevalent at Yetminster, where he then resided, from knowing the common opinion of the country, ever since he was a boy (now 60 years ago), that persons who had gone through the cow-pock naturally, *i. e.* by taking it from cows, were unsusceptible of the small-pox; by himself being incapable of taking the small-pox, having gone through the cow-pock many years before; from having known many individuals, who, after the cow-pock, could not have the small-pox excited; from believing that the cow-pock was an affection free from danger; and from his opinion that, by the cow-pock inoculation, he should avoid ingrafting various diseases of the human constitution, such as the "evil, madness, lues, and many bad humours," as he called them.

The remarkably vigorous health of Mr Jesty, his wife, and two sons, now 31 years subsequent to the cow-pock, and his own healthy appearance, at this time 70 years of age, afford a singularly strong proof of the harmlessness of that affection; but the public must, with particular interest, hear that, during the late visit to town, Mr Robert Jesty very willingly submitted publicly to inoculation for the small-pox in the most rigorous manner; and that Mr Jesty also was subjected to the trial of inoculation for the cow-pock after the most efficacious mode, without either of them being infected. The circumstances in which Mr Jesty purposely instituted the vaccine pock inoculation in his own family, *viz.* without any precedent, but merely from reasoning upon the nature of the affection among cows, and from knowing its effects in the casual way among men, his exemption from the prevailing popular prejudices, and his disregard of the clamorous reproaches of his neighbours, in our opinion, will entitle him to the respect of the public for his superior strength of mind: But, further, his conduct in again furnishing such decisive proofs of the permanent antivariolous efficacy of the cow-pock, in the present discontented state of mind in many families, by submitting to inoculation, justly claims at least the gratitude of the country. As a testimony of our personal regard, and to commemorate so extraordinary a fact, as that of preventing the small-pox by inoculating for the cow-pock 31 years ago, at our request, a three-quarter length picture of Mr Jesty is painted by that excellent artist Mr Sharp, to be preserved at the Original Vaccine Pock Institution.

GEO. PEARSON,	} <i>Physicians.</i>	FRAS. RIVERS,	} <i>Visiting Apoth.</i>
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JOSEPH CONSTAN-	} <i>Surgeons.</i>	WILLIAM SANCHO,	
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