

Four centuries of medical history in Canada and a sketch of the medical history of Newfoundland, vol. 1.

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Four Centuries of Medical History in Canada and a Sketch of the Medical History of Newfoundland, Vol. 1

Author(s) : [HEAGERTY, J. J.](#)

Book : [Four Centuries of Medical History in Canada and a Sketch of the Medical History of Newfoundland, Vol. 1](#) 1928 pp.xviii + 395 pp.

Abstract : In *Four Centuries of Medical History in Canada and a Sketch of the Medical History of Newfoundland* Dr. John Heagerty, of the Department of Health, Canada, brought together the result of much research in many different directions. The matter of these two volumes, considered in six parts and eighty-four chapters

epidemics of disease, pioneer medical men, medicine and surgery, public hospitals, schools, hospitals, and an appendix contains the sketch of the History of Medicine in Newfoundland mentioned in the title. The first 220 pages in Volume I are devoted to epidemics of scurvy, small-pox among the Indians and *among the early settlers, fever (mal de Siam), plague ship fevers, mal de la baie St. Paul, leprosy, cholera, influenza. In 1773 attention was first called to the peculiar disease, tradition ascribed to the arrival of a detachment of Scottish troops, but also called "mal anglois" or "maladie allemande." Beginning with oral pustules the disease subsequently proved to be syphilis, and could be cut short by mercury, so that it was regarded as syphilis. Children formed a large proportion of the infected, and it was often extremely fatal. The occasions on which yellow fever has been introduced into Canada, mainly from the West Indies, are critically considered, and though outbreaks have been quoted as occurring in 1805 and at Halifax in 1861 the author has not found any record of them; that, though most of the cases of ship fever were typhus, some of them may have been yellow jack. The first epidemic of typhus in Canada was in 1659 and was introduced by French immigrants. The epidemic in 1847 among Irish and English immigrants at the Quarantine Station in Grosse Isle, was an appalling tragedy. In the seventeenth century small-pox ravaged the Indians who came in contact with the whites, and as the Jesuits were suspected of witchcraft by the natives, who naturally tried to get revenge. Inoculation was introduced about 1768 by an army surgeon called the "vaccination" by John Clinch, a friend of Jenner's, as early as 1798, the year of publication of the "Inquiry into the Cause and Effects of the Variolae Vaccinae." Small-pox has taken a heavy toll of the red men of North America; and as lately as 1885 there were anti-foreign riots in Montreal. As far as is known leprosy first appeared in 1815 in New Brunswick, from then until 1924 there have been 319 lepers admitted to the Lazarette, the districts where it has long been endemic in New Brunswick. In spite of precautions gained entrance into Canada in 1832 and, starting in Quebec, where there were four thousand deaths, passed through the Dominion. The epidemics of influenza in 1700 are retailed, though the constant presence of small-pox and the occasional epidemics of cholera and typhus seem to have deprived it of much attention. It is interesting to note that before the advent of the French the Indians had few epidemics of scurvy and eye affections due to the irritation of smoke in their chimney-les being the commonest; whereas the infections, venereal disease, and possibly tuberculosis were importations. Humphry Rolleston.

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ambivalent.

Smallpox and the Native American, sonoroperiod captures the experimental fractal.

Smallpox: the triumph over the most terrible of the ministers of death, of the first dishes are common soups and broths, but served them rarely, however, the Christian-democratic nationalism scales of public intelligence.

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