

of his skin, especially of his back where the tops had been scraped off the pustules by lying on them. The rash was universal, very thick on the face and back, and could also be felt on the soles and palms. Probably five per cent. of the vesicles and pustules showed a slight umbilication, but on careful examination under a lens, I found a hair in the centre of each umbilication. The eruption was very superficial with but slightly inflamed base to each vesicle or pustule. There was no tendency to coalesce, nor was the intervening skin either swollen or reddened.



I diagnosed the case as a very severe attack of varicella, by the papules appearing so early, becoming vesicular at once, becoming pustules inside of 24 hours, by the absence of severe constitutional symptoms with so very extensive a rash, by the absence of the characteristic smallpox



backache, by there being no smallpox odour, by the absence of secondary fever and of true umbilication, by the presence in town of many cases of chickenpox, which the patient had never had, and by the fact that there was no case of smallpox in the province, and the patient had not been out of town for months. Still I was wrong, as subsequent events proved, there having been four cases which showed true umbilication, although in other respects the cases were atypical.