

afterwards Earl of Somerset, was at once suspected. People even hinted that the king was privy to the plot. Rochester was under suspicion because it was well known that he and the Prince were rivals for the favors of Lady Essex.* Typhoid fever was then a disease either new or not described. Many other cases of it occurred at about this time. In a newsletter written shortly after the death of the Prince, the fever is spoken of as being either a "bastard tertian or the ordinary disease of the time, wherewith all parts of the country have been much visited." Another writer of the period states that it was new to the physicians, and was thought by them to have been brought from Hungary. A short time afterwards, the Countess of Oxford died of the "new disease."*

The prodromata of the prince's fever made their appearance early in October, 1612. "Continuall headache, lazinesse and indisposition increasing, which, notwithstanding because of the time, he strove mightily to conceal." By the seventh day the disease was fully declared, and by the ninth began to assume a dangerous type. At this period the prince's body physician summoned Mayerne. The great error of bleeding the prince was committed. Mayerne was led to this step by the fact that bleeding of the nose had set in on the 20th day. This is a symptom of typhoid fever which we recognize to-day as an indication of extreme debility. Butler of Cambridge was called in at this stage. This extraordinary individual, of whom many amusing stories are told, acknowledged that the diagnosis puzzled him, and gave little hopes of recovery. Cornwallis speaks of Butler as "the famous physitian of Cambridge, a marvellous great scholler, and of long practise and singular judgment, but withal very humorous." John Chamberlen writes of him "that though he was otherwise but a drunken sot, yet he had a very shrewd judgment"; and in connection with his attendance upon the Marquis of Salisbury, "Butler of Cambridge" he says, "gave hard censure, but, thanks be to God, he proves a false prophet, and what for that and his other rude behavior was quite discarded." On the 22nd day of the fever there was delirium.

* Birch, "The Court and Times of James I."