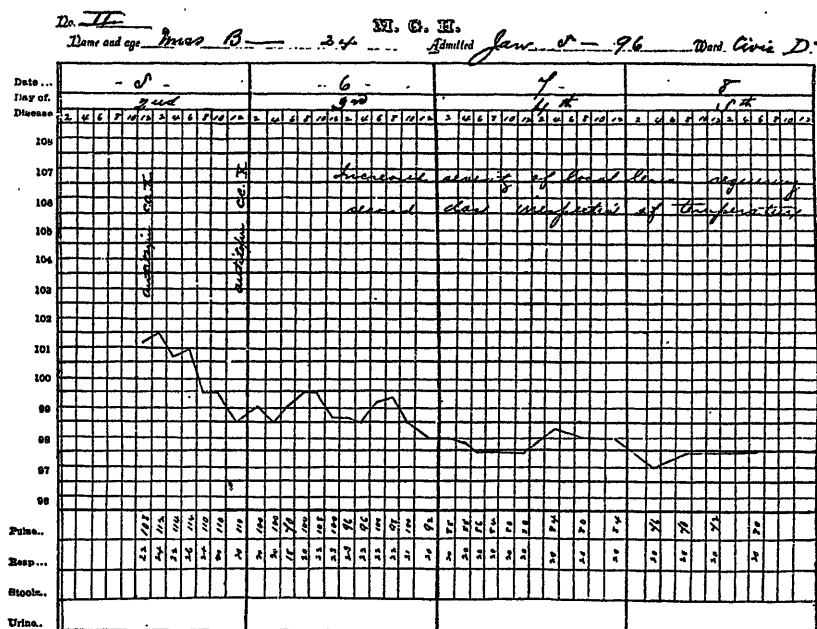


Indeed, with the majority of cases treated with antitoxin the patients tire of the bed long before it is prudent to let them up. As a rule we allow patients up when the temperature has been normal from four to seven days, according to the severity of the attack, and in very few instances have they seemed to be weakened by the disease.

The marked influence of the antitoxin upon the local lesion is easily seen when a case is compared with one treated by the old method. Instead of the membrane spreading for two or three days and persisting for a week or ten days, it is usual to have the throat perfectly clean in four days. In eighteen hours or less there will be seen a narrow, bright red line, the line of demarcation, situated around the



membrane, or more commonly just beneath its edge, and if suitable local measures are adopted, the old necrosed tissue will separate, and there will be no further advance of the process. It is here that much delay may be occasioned by employing methods of local treatment which are too rigorous and therefore irritating. The cells are already weakened by bacillary irritation and will be damaged all the more by chemical or mechanical irritation. Often and often cases will present themselves in which thin membrane will persist and even extend while being sprayed with hyd. perox. Stopping the peroxide and substituting a spray of some bland solution, such as Dobell's, will rapidly