

but not to the same extent as scarlatina. I have seen many cases where only one or two became affected out of a large family, and where no isolation was attempted. I have also observed that those who have had the disease in my practice this season are not so liable to take it again; in not a single instance has a patient taken it twice. I have a young lady aged 20, under my charge at present for diphtheria, and whom I attended fifteen years ago for the same disease, but the same thing occurs in scarlatina, measles, &c.

There is a fact about diphtheria which has often surprised me, and that is, the rapidity with which the disease shows itself in full force. I visited a boy aged six, who had been ill nearly five days before I saw him. Before leaving I took the precaution to examine all the other children, five in number. I could not discover the disease in any of them. I returned next day very early and found a girl, aged four, with a quick pulse, hot skin, and a large diphtheritic patch on each tonsil, in fact the disease fully developed. She recovered in three days. The boy died in five days, the disease having spread into the trachea. He was so unruly and so difficult to manage that I could do nothing for him. My earliest recollection of diphtheria occurs as far back as 1845, when I remember two children who died of diphtheritic croup. It went then by other names, as cynanche maligna, and putrid sore throat. In 1847, just before the advent of ship fever, it prevailed, and was known then by the name of diphtheritis.

Thirty years ago the treatment prescribed was swabbing with solution of nitrate of silver, emetics, warmbaths, blisters and hot applications to the throat. I can remember a boy aged 3, who had diphtheritic croup, who underwent that treatment, and it was continued for a fortnight, and he eventually recovered, and is at present a handsome and useful member of society. He raised from the trachea a false membrane, like the system of finger of a glove, tough and leathery. For the last year the treatment which I have adopted is the one recommended by Dr. Robert Bell, of Glasgow, to be found in the 73rd volume of Braithwaite's Retrospect, July, 1876. He recommends the throat