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SCARLATINA MALIGNA.

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Master S—, ætat. 3 years, light complexion and strumous habit, was attacked with fever, on the evening of 3d July, which continued during the greater part of the night; towards morning it subsided, the skin becoming moist, and the child lively. I saw him in the forenoon of the 4th July, he was free from fever, pulse natural; appetite not so good as usual, and tongue moist, but furred, and of a brownish white colour.

He was ordered a purgative of calomel and compound jalap powder every four hours, until the bowels were freely acted upon, and, should the fever return in the evening, an emetic of ipecac. pulv., to be given as soon as it made its appearance.

July 5th, 10 a.m.—The fever returned last evening, and continued throughout the night, terminating this morning in perspiration. The child is now lively, free from fever, pulse quicker than natural, does not complain of any pain, bowels freely acted upon by the powders, tongue still furred, but less so than yesterday, and moist. The emetic given yesterday at the commencement of the fever acted mildly, producing for a short time a little moisture. Supposing the case to be one of intermittent fever, which was then prevalent, I ordered hydr. c. creta, grs. iij disulph., quinaæ ½ gr. ter. in die., during the absence of fever.

July 6th, 10½ a.m.—On visiting the child this morning, I found his body covered with a rash, which had made its appearance the previous evening. He had been restless all night, with hot skin, the fever not leaving him at the usual time in the morning. On examining the fauces, the uvula, palate, and tonsils, were swollen and red, some difficulty in swallowing, pulse quick, tongue grey, with the papillæ red and elongated, skin hot and dry, and bowels open; ordered a mixture composed of antim. tart., liq. ammon. acet., and camph. mixt., every four hours; and the throat to be rubbed with liniment, ammon. et saponis.

July 7th.—He has passed a restless night, skin hot, pulse quick, throat more inflamed, with small sloughs on the tonsils, breath fetid, and tongue characteristic of

scarlatina. The parotid gland was somewhat painful and swollen. Medicine to be continued, throat to be sponged with acid gargle, and hot brine to be applied to the parotid gland.

July 8th.—Much the same in every respect as yesterday. Continuent. medicament.

July 9th, 11 a.m.—Constitutional symptoms much the same; the bowels not having been acted upon since the previous morning, he was given an aperient. The parotid gland was much increased in size, and more painful to the touch, breath very fetid; but in consequence of the irritability of his temper, his friends have great difficulty in using the acid gargle. Ordered hirudines vi. to the parotid, to be followed by a poultice. 8 p.m.—The redness and pain of the parotid much relieved by the leeches, and the swelling also appears less; bowels relieved by the aperient. Continue as before.

July 10th.—On visiting him this morning, I found a remarkable change had taken place, so much so, as to induce me to request that another medical man should be called in. Drs. King, Hamilton, and Paget were named, they were immediately sent for, and at noon we found our little patient in the following state:—The rash which had been up to this morning of a florid red, had now assumed a dusky colour, the tonsils were covered with dark sloughs, the fauces clogged with thick tenacious viscid secretion, materially increasing the difficulty of breathing and swallowing, fætor from the throat almost intolerable, great prostration, approach to coma, eyes suffused, pupils scarcely acting, pulse 150, small and weak, face pale, tongue dry and brown, teeth and lips covered with dark sordes, and the parotid gland very much increased in size, hard and unyielding. He was ordered ʒiij wine every two hours—a mixture composed of chlorate of potass and acid hydrochloric—capsicum gargle, and mustard plaster to parotid.

July 12th, 9 a.m.—Since the last report the child has gradually become worse and worse, sloughs extending, fætor much as before, pupils dilated and fixed, strabismus, pulse more frequent and feeble, tongue much swollen, dry, and glazed, feet, legs, and hands cold, rash disappeared, the wine has lost its effect; ordered a teaspoonful of brandy every hour, with beef tea. The mixture and gargle to be continued.