

THESIS

ON

"Affections of the Throat and Glands in  
Scarlet Fever: with statistics of 471 cases."

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There are admittedly few diseases which vary more in intensity in different individuals than does Scarlet Fever. In one case, a passing sorethroat, with a minimum of pyrexia and an evanescent rash scarcely attracts attention to the young patient, while it often fails to evoke any complaint from him. In another, the sickness, prostration, high fever and brilliant rash are soon followed by dysphagia that seems to debar the patient from swallowing altogether and may be followed by destructive ulceration in the pharynx and cellulitis in the neck! And in yet another and fortunately rare class of cases, the excessive septic intoxication is evidenced by hyper-pyrexia delirium and convulsions, with death before the rash has had time to develop.

It is mostly among the poor and ill-fed children of a large

2

City that the disease is wont to show itself in its most complicated forms; and it fell to the lot of the writer to have charge of a large number of scarlet fever cases during a period of fully twelve months while the epidemic that visited Glasgow in the latter half of the year 1890 and the spring of 1891 taxed to the utmost the accommodation at Belvidere Hospital.

Interest always attaches to a comparison of one's own experience with the accepted teaching of standard writers and it is from a synopsis of my journal reports in these 471 cases that the following statistics and information are derived.

Out of the total number, <sup>(471)</sup> deaths ensued in 20 instances. Two deaths resulted from causes not attributable, directly or indirectly, to the exanthem itself. One of these patients was a robust young workman, from whose bladder a calculus had

been removed in the Western Infirmary three months before his admission to Belvidere.

He had been subject to attacks of renal colic, great sickness and pain in the testicle at intervals of three weeks since the operation.

These attacks were paroxysmal and of short duration. About 6 weeks after his admission to Belvidere when he was convalescent and going about, he was seized with a similar attack which I ascribed to the passage and impaction of another calculus down the left ureter, a view which was subsequently confirmed at the autopsy. This attack was much more severe than any previously induced peritonitis from which death resulted.

The other case which apparently ought not to be included in the statistics as a death due to scarlatina was that of a young infant who though convalescent from the fever died of lung congestion and meningitis due to whooping cough.

which was present as a complication.

Even including this case however (as it is impossible to say how much or little the vital powers were deteriorated by the Scarlatina) and taking the number of deaths as 19, the mortality percentage is 4.62. Among the remaining 18 fatal cases the following complications were present:-

Rheumatism Chorea & Endocarditis (1)

Rheumatism, Pleurisy, Pericarditis and latterly Pneumonia (1 case)

Malignant Scarlatina (2 cases)

Rheumatism, "collar-neck" pneumonia (1)

Rheumatism, Pericarditis, Endocarditis (1).

Empyema and Bronchopneumonia (1).

Meningitis (2) (one due to Mastoiditis)

Puerperal Scarlet Fever (1 case).

Gangrene of throat (with haemorrhage),

Pneumonia & ulceration of cornea. (1)

Whooping-cough & Bronchopneumonia (1)

Venereal disease & headache symptoms. (1)

Ulceration of throat & nasal discharge (2)

Otorrhoea Collar-neck & septicaemia. (1)

Otorrhoea and ulceration of throat. (2)

With regard to the initial symptoms

83 %  
90 %

of Scarlet Fever, sickness & sorethroat were usually present together. Thus out of 471 cases sickness had been complained of in 393 and sorethroat in 424. Convulsions ushered in the disease in 2 cases only; and in 8 the rash was the first symptom noted. Diarrhoea was present in 9 cases but may in some of these have been induced by the indiscriminate use of purgatives which are almost invariably used by parents when a child sickens.

Regarding these initial symptoms allowance must be made for careless observation by parents and the inability of young patients to make their complaints known.

With respect to the date of appearance of the rash, the following statement (derived chiefly from parents) is nevertheless interesting.

Out of 471 cases, rash was seen on			
the 1 <sup>st</sup> day of illness in 63 cases	(13%)		
" 2 <sup>nd</sup> " " " "	232	"	(49%)
" 3 <sup>d</sup> " " " "	85	"	(18%)
" 4 <sup>th</sup> " " " "	27	"	
" 5 <sup>th</sup> " or later " 12 "			

In 52 cases no rash was seen at all as experience shews that the rash to be observed must in many cases be carefully looked for, it is probable that in most of the 85~~cases~~ cases in which it was observed on the 3<sup>d</sup> day, a more careful scrutiny on the previous day would have revealed its presence and so with cases in which it was not observed until later. In those instances in which by mistake cases of sorethroat from infected districts were sent into hospital as cases of scarlet fever but developed it only after admission and under close observation, the rash was found to appear usually little if anything beyond 24 hours from the first onset of sickness.

In endeavouring to decide upon the relative frequency of certain well-known appearances and symptoms in the tongue throat and neck glands one must clearly eliminate those cases in which the primary acute symptoms and notably the pyrexia had quite disappeared before admission into hospital.

Wunderlich in his work on Thermometry

(at page 349) when discussing temperature in scarlet fever writes thus:— "In an overwhelming majority of cases, defervescence is protracted and requires from 3 to 8 days for its completion" Henoch again in his work on Diseases of Children Vol I p 196 says "When the rash appears the temperature rises, and this persists without intermission as long as the eruption remains on the skin, i.e. 4-6 days on an average.

\* \* \* \* When the eruption is fading, i.e. after about 4-6 days the fever begins gradually to diminish."

This seemed to justify the fixing of the 6<sup>th</sup> day of illness as a limit in selecting cases for the recording of primary objective symptoms. However it was found that by this method 33 cases would have been omitted which were admitted on the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> days of illness (ostensibly at least), but in which the condition of the throat and the high level of pyrexia proved either that the parents had miscalculated the date of onset of the illness, or that they were cases shewing a persistence of the primary acute symptoms beyond the usual limit.

In either case it seemed to me but fair that these cases should be included with the majority of the total number as "early cases" and this raised the number of the latter to 414.

Out of that number, the typical "strawberry tongue" was found to be present in 133 cases only. (32%)

Aphthous stomatitis was present as a complication in 18 cases and though very troublesome to the patients at the time was not in my experience an accompaniment of the more dangerous cases. Nasal discharge on the other hand which was present in 19 cases was almost always associated with virulent forms of scarlatina and was a marked feature in 5 of the fatal cases. Those patients who suffered from nasal discharge but did not die, made almost without exception extremely tardy recoveries; and in not a few it raised strong suspicions of a concurrent attack of diphtheria, although only in one case was a membranous cast shed and only in two did paralysis of the soft palate occur.

As regards the condition of the pharynx and tonsils in these 414 early cases, the statistics shew that only in 9 cases was the throat practically unaffected and of these 9, three were not seen until the 4<sup>th</sup> day of illness, two not until the 5<sup>th</sup>, and two only on the 6<sup>th</sup> day. Allowing for errors in calculation on the part of parents this amply corroborates the dictum of Troussseau and others that sorethroat in some form is an essential feature in all cases of scarlet fever.

The severity of the throat lesion, as will be seen varied greatly in the remaining 405 cases.

An arched area of congestion which involved the fauces tonsils and soft palate (with the uvula) was noted in 31% of cases. To this was superadded in other 31% considerable swelling of the tonsils, without exudation; while in 18% all the above symptoms were present along with a plastic pseudo-membranous exudation, sometimes homogeneous, sometimes in patches over the apertures of the closed follicles on the tonsils and soft palate.

10 %

Ulceration of the tonsils occurred in 43 cases, and in two cases there was a slight necrosis observed in two non-fatal cases which caused perforation or tunnelling in the tonsil and veil of the soft palate on each side, while in one fatal case, as before mentioned, the destructive process eroded a pharyngeal blood vessel of some size causing copious haemorrhage.

7 %

Of the total 441 cases, chronic hypertrophy of the tonsils was present in 33 cases, - a small percentage which would probably have been larger but for the tender age of the majority of the patients, 75 per cent of whom were under 10 years of age and 28 per cent under the age of 5 years.

38 %

Returning to a consideration of the 414 "early cases" it was found that in the initial febrile stage there was in 158 of these, distinct enlargement of the glands in the neck, with pain and tenderness to pressure. The glands beneath the angle of the jaw were the most frequently affected.

32 %

In the case of 134 the enlargement was inconsiderable and pain only in a slight degree was felt on pressure. In 93 cases no enlargement could be made out on palpation and no tenderness existed. It is to be noted however that palpation often fails to distinguish moderate enlargement of the glands in well-nourished patients a fact which was repeatedly brought home to me in making post mortem examinations.

8 %

Of the total number of cases (471) forty suffered (if suffering it could be called) from chronic painless enlargement of the submaxillary glands; and this category embraced a large number of children of a strumous habit.

The gland- affection went on to abscess in 10 cases only out of 471; and in a considerable proportion of these, suppuration had probably begun before admission to hospital. The number mentioned above refers only to abscesses which were incised: in some cases it appeared as if pus had formed and been reabsorbed.

10 %

Horrhœa was a complication noted in 47 cases, and in one of these the discharge was haemorrhagic, and copious though followed by speedy recovery.

5 %

Scarlatinal rheumatism occurred in 24 cases, but it is to be observed that in 7 of these a previous history of rheumatism was admitted.

In one fatal case after very slight symptoms of synovitis passed off, chorea set in coincidently with marked endocardial mischief.

5 %

Of the total number of cases previous cardiac defect was noted on admission in 24 patients, while endocarditis followed scarlatinal rheumatism in 6 cases, and pericarditis in five, 3 of the latter ending fatally.

Pleurisy was a symptom in only 3 cases (becoming purulent in one) while 18 suffered from broncho-pneumonia, and though several of the latter were the victims of old bronchitis, still my short experience does not bear out the commonly accepted view that

scarlet fever seldom affects the lungs themselves, while it is very prone to attack their serous envelopes.

On the contrary I incline to the belief that where there is ulceration of the tonsils bronchopneumonia is very apt to follow, from inhalation of air polluted in its transit by the foul discharges, and that too despite the most careful antiseptic precautions.

Cerebral meningitis occurred in 3 cases and was invariably fatal. In 2 of these there was a strong suspicion of tubercular taint; while in the third there was pronounced mastoiditis following on neglected ear-disease, and this patient died about 14 hours after admission.

I much regret now not having made note of how many cases had failed to gain immunity by previous attacks of scarlatina. Such cases were frequent but mostly occurred in adults with a long interval separating the first and second attacks, and of the nurses in attendance on scarlet fever patients

who themselves contracted the disease the majority had had an attack in childhood. A second attack is perhaps little to be wondered at in persons exposed to such "concentrated" possibilities of infection; still it is noteworthy that one or two Belvidere nurses have had charge of Scarlet fever wards for years without at any time contracting the disease.

In one case I had occasion to record an unmistakable second attack of scarlatina during the period of desquamation from the first attack and followed by a second desquamation. The second attack came on 38 days after the onset of the first, and with a train of symptoms more acute than, but in most respects similar to those which characterized the first seizure. Second desquamation was observed 9 days later.

The cuticle shed from the palms and soles after the first attack was of the horny variety which befits a working-man, and in striking

contrast to the delicate skin thrown off during the second period of desquamation.

(I observed a report of a similar interesting case recorded in the Glasgow Medical Journal early this year by D. Blair of Shotts)

These cases would almost lead one to think that there must be more than one specific micro-organism giving rise to the disease which is known as Scarlet Fever and they are interesting in relation to the occurrence of second attacks in general.

In two cases, gonorrhoea was an accidental complication of scarlet fever; and in both the throat symptoms were very severe and the discharges from them very offensive. Even more striking was the fact that both these adult patients shewed pronounced head-symptoms during the acute stage and in the case of one of them, a woman who was removed to hospital on the eve of her proposed wedding these symptoms persisted after the pyrexia disappeared, and partly through

shame at the contraction of this venereal taint and partly through the fear of having been impregnated without the hope of consummating her marriage she fell into a state of mental and bodily prostration in which she died with almost imperceptible pulse and very low temperatures, and apparently no organic ailment adequate to explain the fatal issue.

As regards the disturbance of the renal function in Scarlet fever it was observed that of the 4414 early cases 128 suffered from primary albuminuria, a symptom of little gravity doubtless and due in most of the cases to pyrexia. Of the 471 cases however, 26 suffered from secondary or scarlatinal nephritis. This complication varied greatly in intensity, albuminuria in some instances disappearing under prompt purgative and diaphoretic treatment in a week, while in others it persisted for even months. Moreover out of these 26 cases blood was absent

30 %

5.5 %

from the urine, or apparently so, in 11 cases; and these naturally the mildest of the category.

Uraemic convulsions occurred in two patients, both of whom after the prompt administration of pilocarpine and hot mustard packs made good recoveries.

As regards pyrexial limit, the highest level reached in cases that recovered was  $106^{\circ}$  (twice noted) while in fatal cases the highest noted was  $107.2^{\circ}$ ; although I was privileged to see a fatal case under the care of one of my fellow-assistants in which just before death the thermometer registered a temperature of  $109^{\circ}$ .

The last set of statistics in regard to the total number of cases has reference to the subject of secondary glandular enlargements in the submaxillary region; and of these I intend to speak in more detail. Briefly and before entering on this subject it may be said that out of 471 cases, secondary sorethroat alone was

noted in 10 cases or less than 2 per cent; and in 4 of these otorrhoea was present and provided an adequate explanation of the onset of this symptom.

<sup>3.4 %</sup> Secondary sorethroat accompanied by glandular enlargement was present in 16 cases in 1 of which otorrhoea may have been the exciting cause.

Secondary glandular enlargement without accompanying sorethroat was present in 68 cases or 14.4 per cent of the total number, and although otorrhoea was present in 15 of these cases, and nasal discharge in 4, there still remain 49 cases in which the enlargement in the glands merits more careful enquiry as to its cause.

Respecting even the primary affections of the throat and glands in the early stages of the disease the relation between them is perplexing; for contrary to expectation the amount of primary glandular inflammation was not in direct proportion to the severity

of the throat lesion. Thus :-

There were found to be 158 cases (or 38 per cent) in which, in the acute stage, the glands in the neck were distinctly swollen and painful. The concomitant state of matters in the throat was as follows : -

In 41 cases - simple arch of congestion.

55 " - do. + swollen tonsils.

34 " - do. + do + exudation

20 " - ulceration of the tonsils

8 " - chronic hypertrophy of the tonsils with a little congestion.

Moreover in the 10 cases of gland-enlargement which went on to abscess the tonsils were the seat of :-

ulceration -- in 4 cases.

enlargement + follicular exudation in 2 cases,

enlargement without exudation in 4 cases.

It is also noticeable that while there were out of a total of 441 43 cases of ulceration of tonsils only 20 of these were accompanied by distinct and painful swelling of the glands and of these only 4 went on to suppuration.

Indeed it often seemed that

with careful treatment the products of inflammation gained easier exit from the abraded surface of an ulcerating tonsil, throwing less work on the absorbent lymphatic vessels and preventing the glands from becoming storehouses for these products and hence more liable to secondary enlargement.

As an instance of this compare the unexpectedly good result in the case of Alexander Livingstone (p. 58.)

Not quite in accordance with this view but suggesting among other things that the modern type of scarlatina must be more severe than that of a century ago, is the following note taken from Buchan's Domestic Medicine (1816).

"In the year 1774 during winter a very bad species of this fever prevailed in Edinburgh: it raged chiefly among young people. The eruption was generally accompanied with a quinsy and the inflammatory symptoms were so blended with others of a putrid nature as to

render the treatment of the disease very difficult. Many of the patients towards the decline of the fever were afflicted with large swellings of the submaxillary glands and not a few had a suppuration in one or both ears."

Before discussing the subject of secondary gland-enlargements in more detail it may be well to give brief clinical accounts of 14 cases, some of them typically describing a state of matters which presented itself in many similar cases.

There are to begin with reports on three patients, all robust types whose convalescence was interrupted by one transient secondary affection of the glands in the neck, which readily yielded to treatment. There were many such cases in the wards.

Then follow reports of a couple of cases in which two exacerbations occurred during convalescence; and, as a subdivision of this class, come two instances in which glands were secondarily affected, once while the

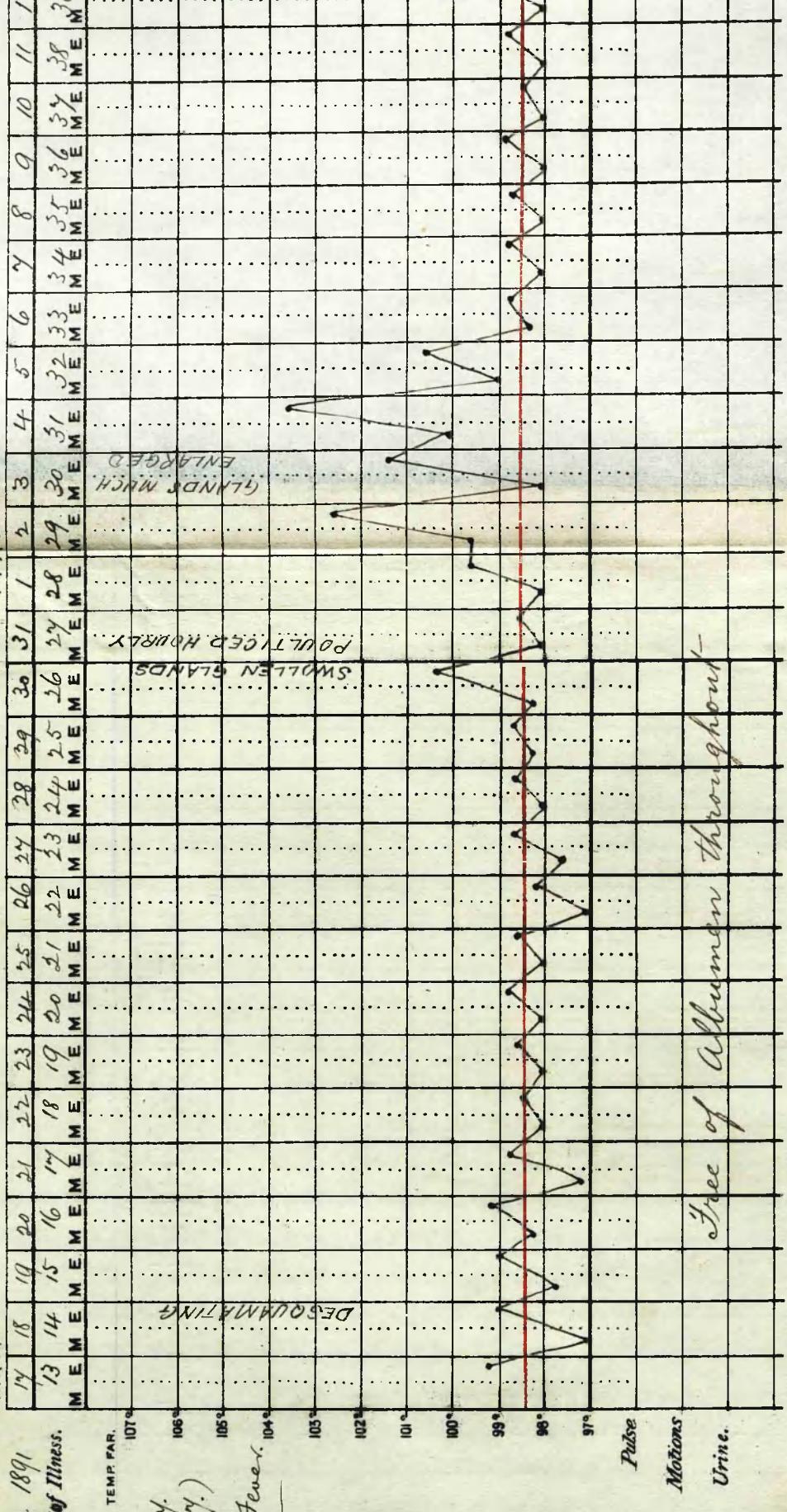
patient was confined to bed, and again immediately on getting up.

This was also a frequent occurrence and is elsewhere referred to.

Two or three cases are next described in which the secondary attack of gland-enlargement was synchronous with the onset of scar-latinal nephritis - a suggestive fact, as I take it, in regard to the aetiology of the former affection.

Finally there are short reports of cases in which the elimination of inflammatory products from the originally affected glands, is seen to be a tedious process and the liability to secondary and tertiary "explosions" of inflammation is embodied in the reports and more graphically depicted in the vagaries of the temperature-curves.

MARCH



Scarlet Fever.

(act. %.)

100+

Bertha Curry (act 6) was admitted to hospital on March 3, '91, illness having begun 12 days before with sickness and sorethroat. Rash was seen on 2<sup>nd</sup> day; but the acute symptoms had naturally enough passed off and the tongue was pale, and the throat only slightly congested on admission. The cervical glands at the angle of the jaw were very little enlarged, and they soon ceased to be able to be felt by the hands or to cause the slightest pain on palpation and pressure. Desquamation was observed on the day after admission, and the case was a mild and uncomplicated one through-out, save for the occurrence (on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of illness) of swelling and pain in the neck glands. Hourly poultices were applied, intermitted at times to prevent injury to the skin, and then cotton wool was substituted.

The chart indicates by the varying levels of pyrexia the onset and defervescence from this complication, and it is worthy of note that meanwhile the throat shewed no signs of catarrh, urine remained clear, and no external cause could be assigned to explain the complication. Uninterrupted recovery followed.

1891

Date Jan.

*Day of Illness.*

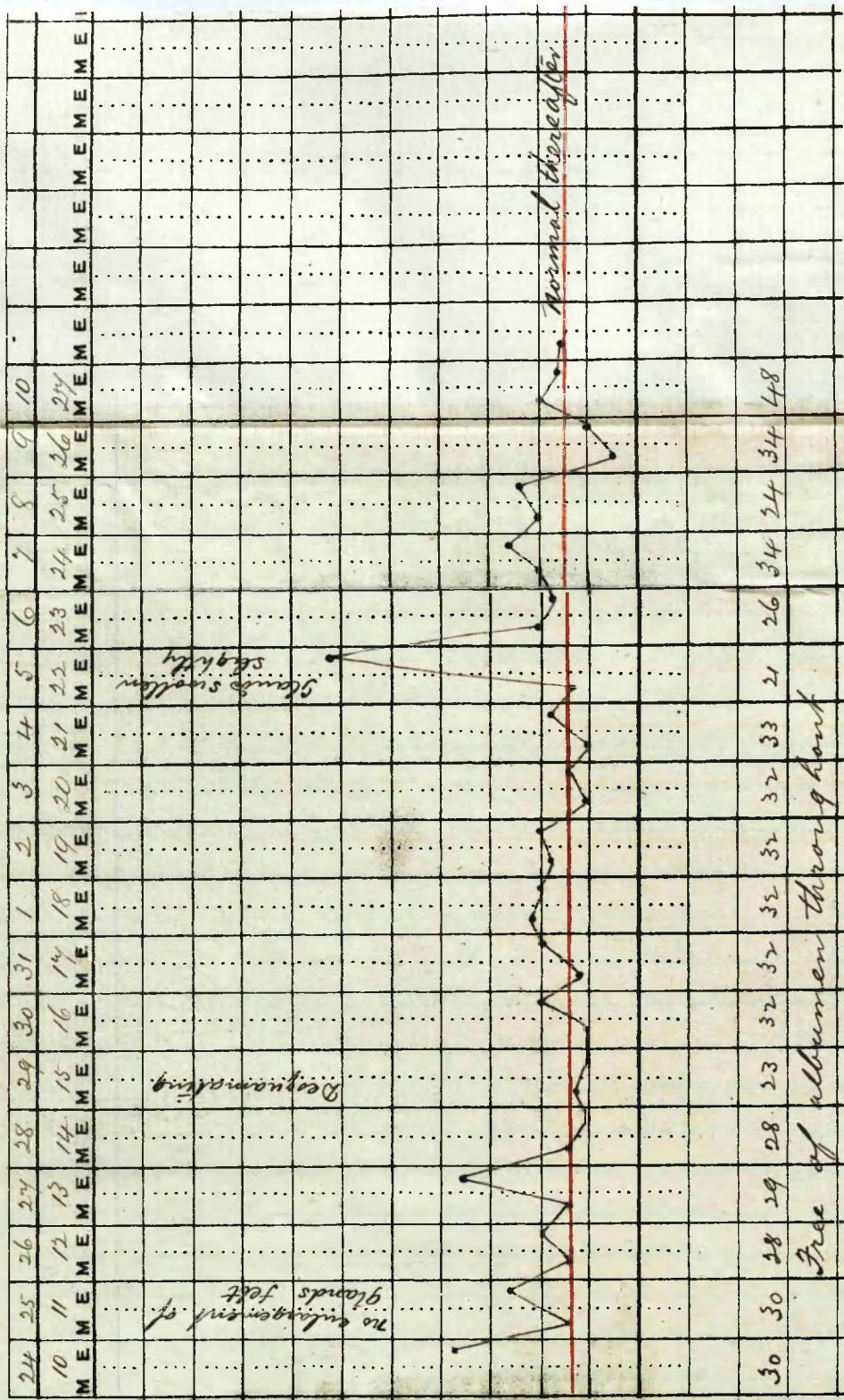
2

TEMP TAB

1

7 new.

9. cat fever.



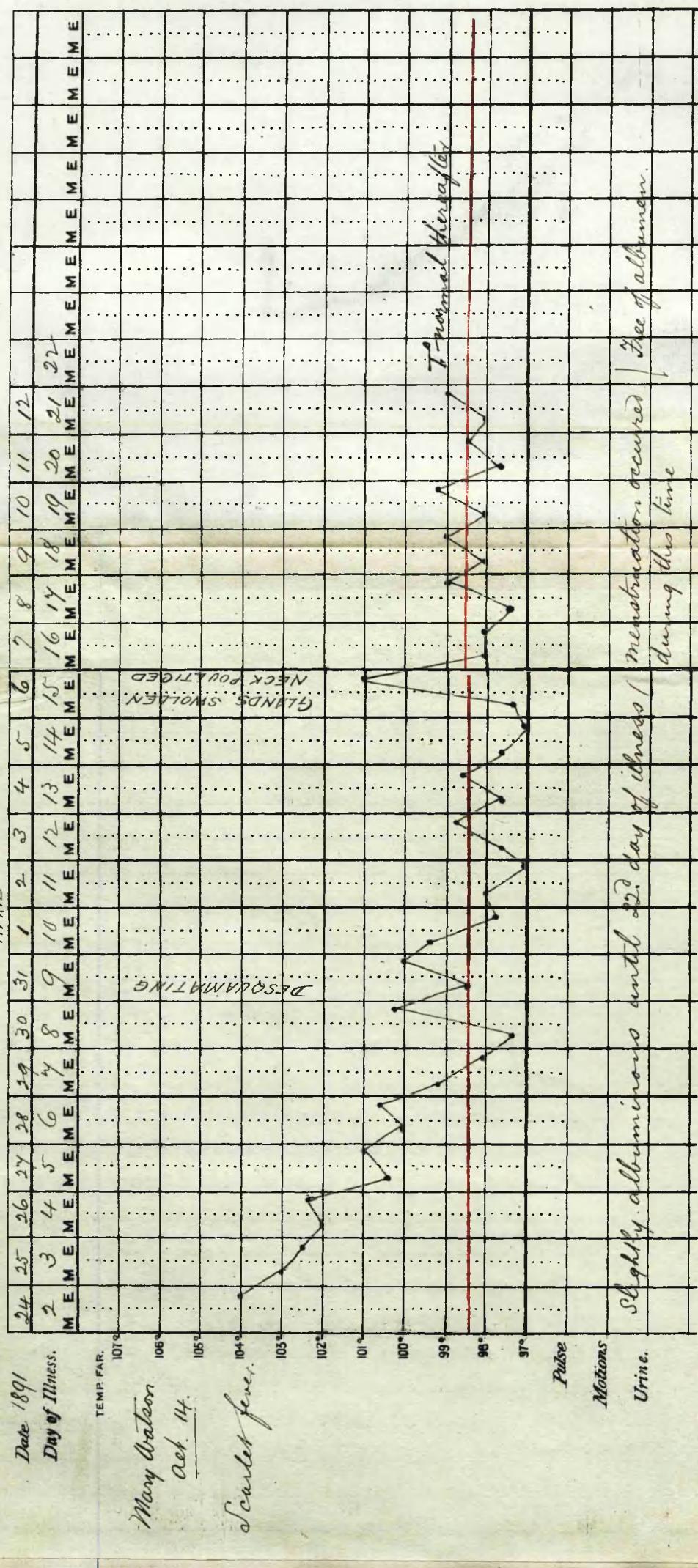
Maggie Agnew (act 8) admitted 24<sup>th</sup> Jan. 91  
illness having begun 9 days before  
with sickness, headache, & sorethroat &  
rash on 2<sup>nd</sup> day. On admission the  
tongue had a "strawberry" appearance  
and the tonsils and soft palate were  
congested and swollen with adherent  
"putaceous concretions" (TROUSSEAU.)

The neck glands were unaffected, and  
continued so until the 21<sup>st</sup> day of illness  
when they were observed to be slightly  
enlarged. Very pronounced, if transient,  
pyrexia accompanied this complication  
which quickly yielded to the effects of  
poulticing and the patient made a  
steady and otherwise uninterrupted  
recovery. The urine was free of  
all trace of albumen throughout.  
No catarrhal symptoms could be  
discovered to explain the swelling  
in the glands.

Patient was dismissed well 11. 3. 91.

## MARCH

## APRIL



Mary Watson (act 14). admitted 24. 3. 91  
illness having begun on the previous  
day with vomiting sorethroat & rash.  
Tongue was much furred, and straw  
berry-like at the tip and edges. T. 104°  
Throat was much congested and  
the tonsils were very large, & covered  
with yellow patches of exudation.  
This condition was followed by  
ulceration which left the tonsils quite  
ragged in appearance. Meanwhile  
the glands in the neck had been  
painful and the dysphagia most  
intense. Steam-spray inhalations  
and regularly applied poultices to the  
neck sufficed to get rid of these  
painful symptoms, and 5 days  
after admission the glands were quite  
painless and scarcely to be felt  
on palpation.

Defervescence as the chart indicates  
was unusually rapid for such a  
sharp case; and desquamation  
appeared on the 9th day.

On the 15th day of illness, without  
any pharyngeal symptoms to  
account for it, the glands again  
became swollen and painful,  
toes.

and the temperature rose to  $101^{\circ}$  Fahr., but this condition yielded rapidly to the use of poultices, and an uninterrupted recovery followed.

The urine at first was slightly albuminous; but with defervescence menstruation appeared, and thus altered the significance of this symptom.

Patient was dismissed well, 20. 5. 91.

December

Date 1890

Day of Illness.

TEMP. FAR. 10  
Robt. Henderson 10  
(act 13)

## DESQUAMATION

TEMP. FAR. 10

Anderson

10

10

2

5

10

101

10

101

88

3

96

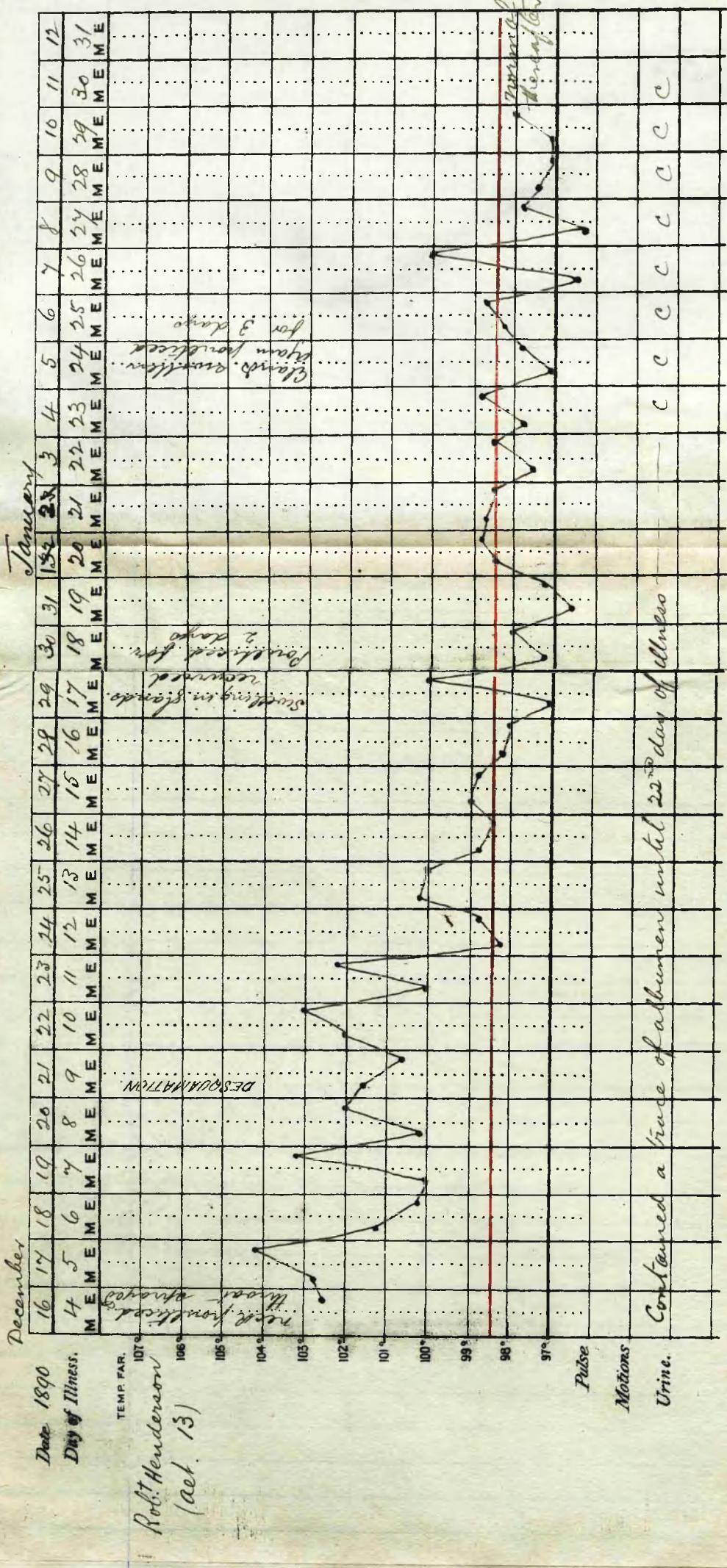
97

Pull

2 *Issue*

Motion.

*Urine.*



Robert Henderson (act 13), admitted 16.12.90.  
Illness having begun 3 days before with headache and sorethroat, rash on 2<sup>nd</sup> day.  
Tongue was much furred, and tonsils deeply congested, much enlarged and covered with yellow exudation. Glands on both sides of the neck were swollen and painful to touch. Defervescence was complete on 14<sup>th</sup> day, though the throat was slow to regain its normal colour. The glands were no longer painful, but became so without much pyrexia on the 18<sup>th</sup> day. This yielded to poulticing continued for 2 days. On 24<sup>th</sup> day of illness slight pain in the joints was noted and on the next day a very painful swelling arose in the right side of the neck, with surprisingly little pyrexia. This disappeared after 4 days poulticing and patient made a good recovery.

NOTE The low level of the temperature is quite in keeping with the fact that this boy was of a very phlegmatic temperament. The double occurrence of gland enlargement and of slight rheumatism seem to point to there having been a large amount of inflammatory products in the system, not surprising after such a sharp attack.

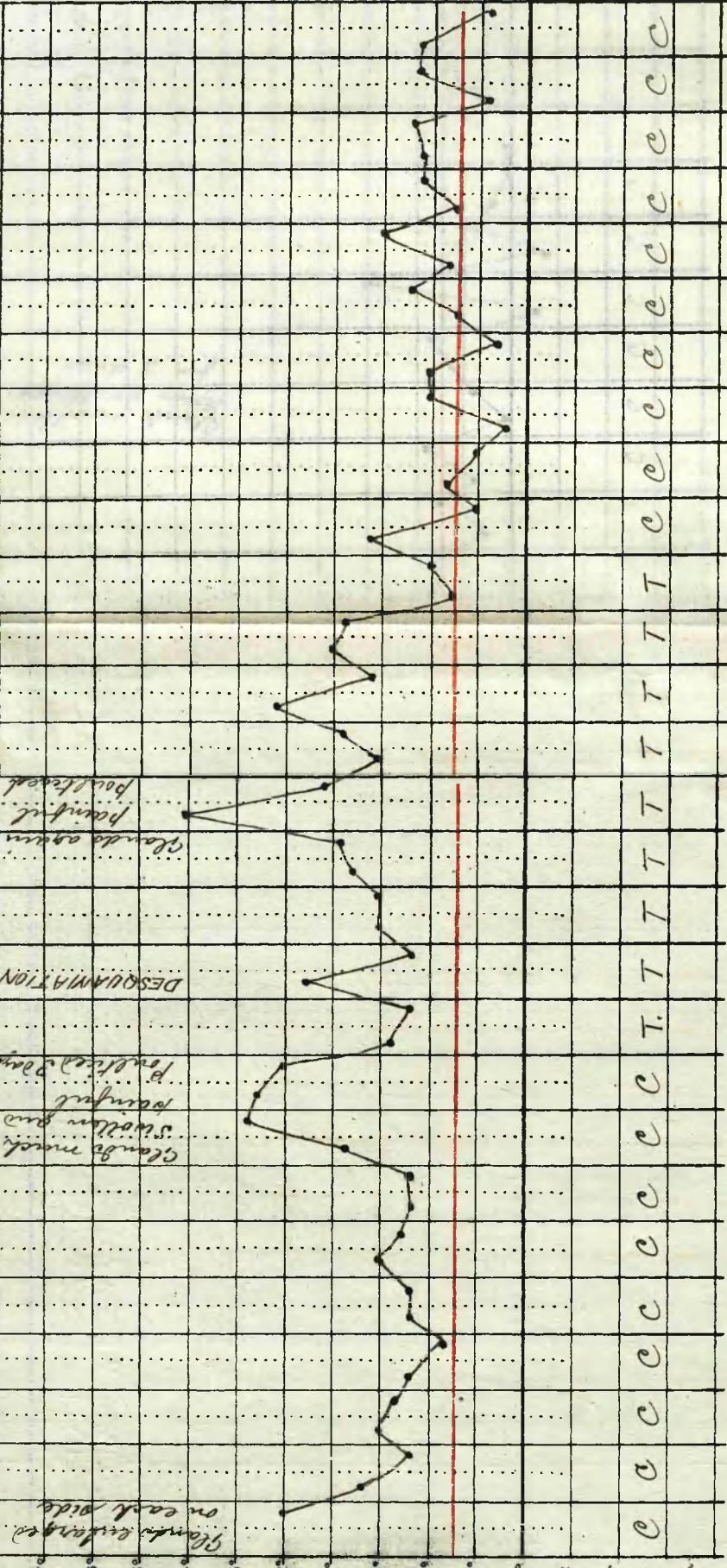
December

Date	1890	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Days of Illness.		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M

Johnston Melcar  
(act. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ )

TEMP FAR.

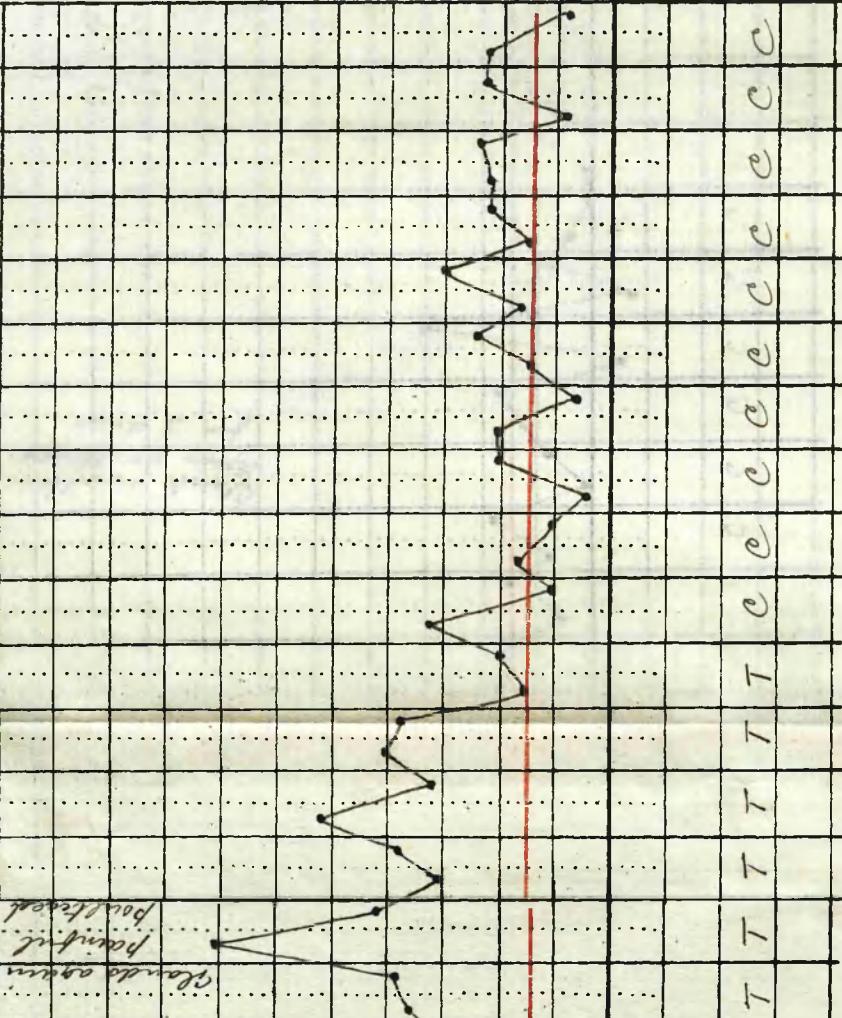
107°  
106°  
105°  
104°  
103°  
102°  
101°  
100°  
99°  
98°  
97°



Pulse

Motions

C = (clear) of Urine.  
T = (trace) of albumen



Johnston McLean (act 2) admitted 26.12.90 illness having begun 4 days before with vomiting and sorethroat, rash on 2<sup>nd</sup> day. On admission tongue was pale and throat shewed a simple arch of congestion, apparently of old standing. One gland enlarged & painful on each side of the neck. Child is weakly and anaemic, with hydrocephalic appearance and engorgement of the veins on the scalp. As the chart indicates, defervescence was imperfect; and on 12<sup>th</sup> day of illness glands on both sides of the neck became enlarged again, and were poulticed. Swelling in two days diminished greatly. On the 18<sup>th</sup> day much increased and painful swelling in the glands was observed. Poulticing was again resorted to, but with a piece of lint smeared with Unguentum Hydrargyri interposed over the affected gland.

In three days the swelling was almost gone the pharynx all through having remained very slightly congested. Salivation however was induced and lasted for nearly a week despite treatment.

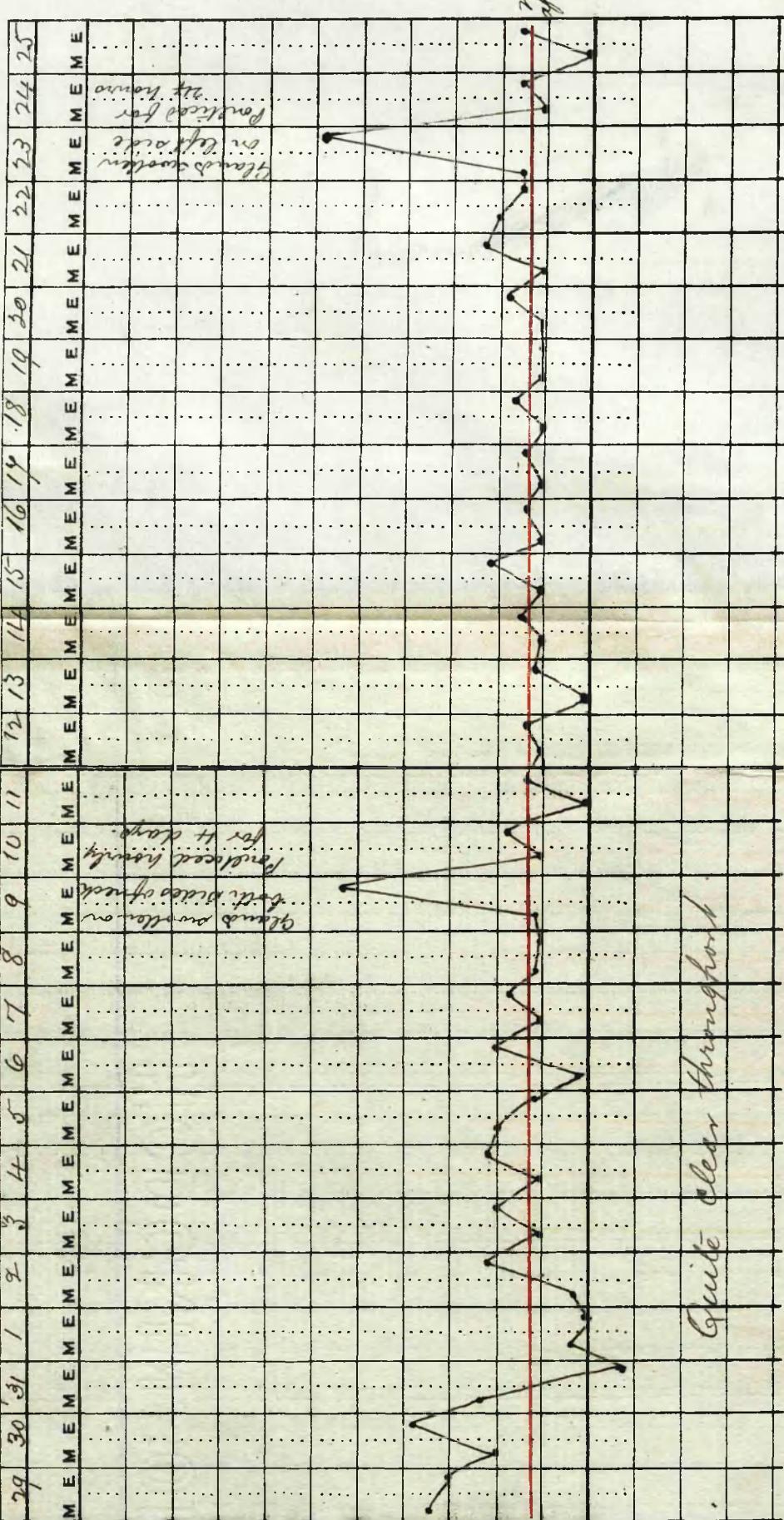
On the 27<sup>th</sup> day fluids were found to regurgitate through the nostrils; and snoring respiration, due to a

partial paralysis of the soft palate set in. This coupled with the occurrence of albuminuria (from 14<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>d</sup> day) the nasal discharge and waxy colour of the skin and also the swollen cervical glands strongly suggested there having been diphtheria as a complication, even though no membrane of any kind was ever seen in the pharynx, and no laryngeal symptoms were noted.  
(Scarlatinal desquamation commenced on the 15<sup>th</sup> day.)

Steady but gradual improvement followed, and patient was dismissed well on the 18<sup>th</sup> February 1891.

NOTE. The albuminuria, which was first present when the first attack of secondary gland-enlargement set in, disappeared entirely when the glands returned to their normal size.

January February



Date 1890  
Day of Illness.  
Rose Sheen  
(act 8)

(act 8)

78  
normal  
afternoons

Quite clear throughout

Motions  
Urine.

Rose Sheen (act 7) admitted 28.1.91, illness having begun 2 days before with sickness, headache, and sorethroat. Rash seen on 2<sup>nd</sup> day. On admission tongue was heavily furred, throat much congested, tonsils enlarged & covered with patches of exudation. Herpes present on lips. Neck glands slightly enlarged and painful. Steam spray inhalations medicated with Iod Ferr. Perchlor. and Potass Chlorat. were used for a week and defervescence was complete on the 12<sup>th</sup> day, and throat symptoms gone.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> day of illness, temperature rose to 102.2° and the glands on both sides of the neck became painful & swollen.

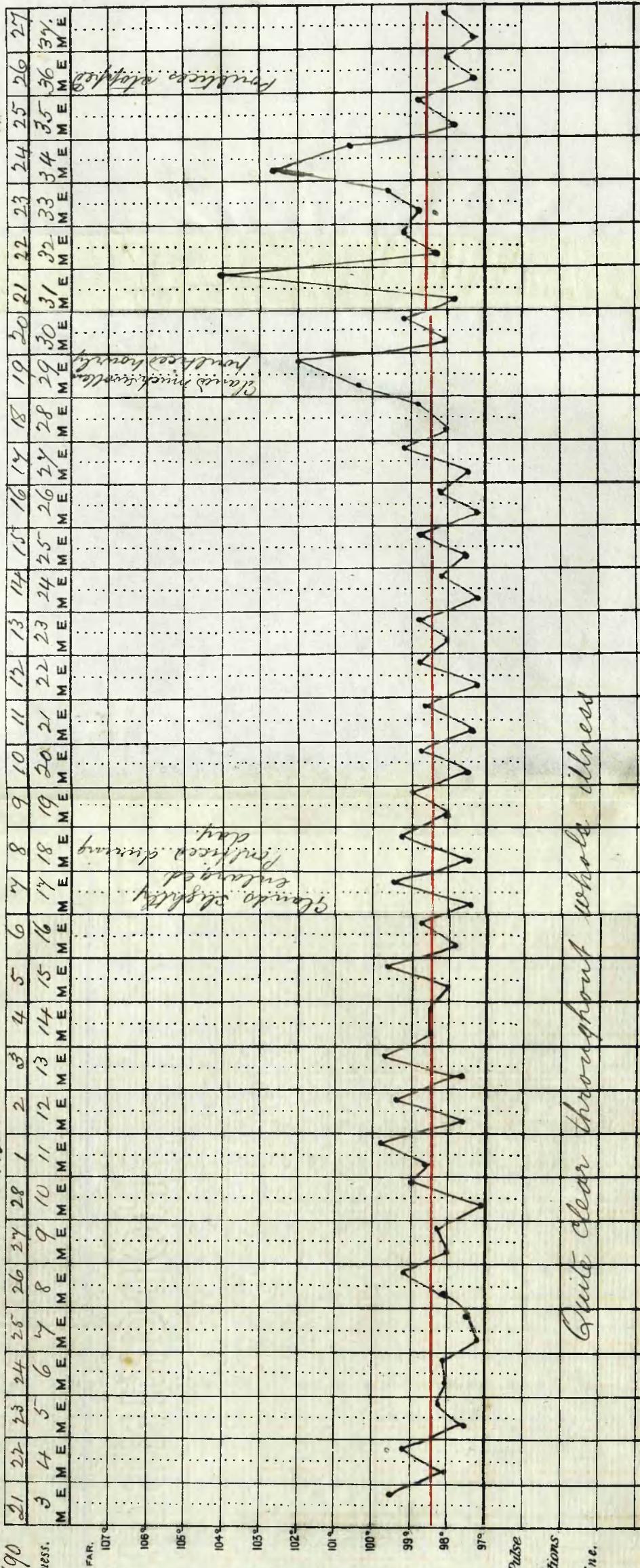
Poultices were applied hourly for 3 or 4 days when the glands returned to their normal condition.

The patient was allowed up in blankets on the 28<sup>th</sup> day, and on the following evening the glands on the left side of the neck were again enlarged and painful. Having been poulticed regularly for 24 hours they rapidly regained their normal size, and did not again give rise to any trouble.

The urine remained clear throughout. Patient was dismissed well on March 25<sup>th</sup> '91.

Feb.

March



Maggie McGoff (act 6) admitted 19.3.91, illness having begun on previous day with vomiting, sore throat and rash. Tongue was pale but tonsils congested and swollen, though without exudation. Glands were enlarged and painful, and temperature, though not high, shewed for some time a tendency to evening rise & morning remission. On the 17<sup>th</sup> day of illness a slight enlargement of glands without any unusual pyrexia occurred. Poultices applied for 24 hours restored the glands to their normal state. On the 28<sup>th</sup> day patient got up in blankets and on following evening the glands on both sides were enlarged and painful, and temperature rose to 102°, while two nights later it reached 104°. Poultices were resorted to and the glands remained in a somewhat irritable state till the 36<sup>th</sup> day of illness after which they gave no further trouble. Urine remained clear throughout. Patient dismissed well on 4<sup>th</sup> April 1891.

NOTE This resembles the previous case in that during the stay in bed one exacerbation indicated the state of the gland as to its debris-contents, and foreshadowed a second enlargement when the neck muscles were put into exertion on the patient getting up.

No catarrhal symptoms were present in either case during the attacks referred to.

March April

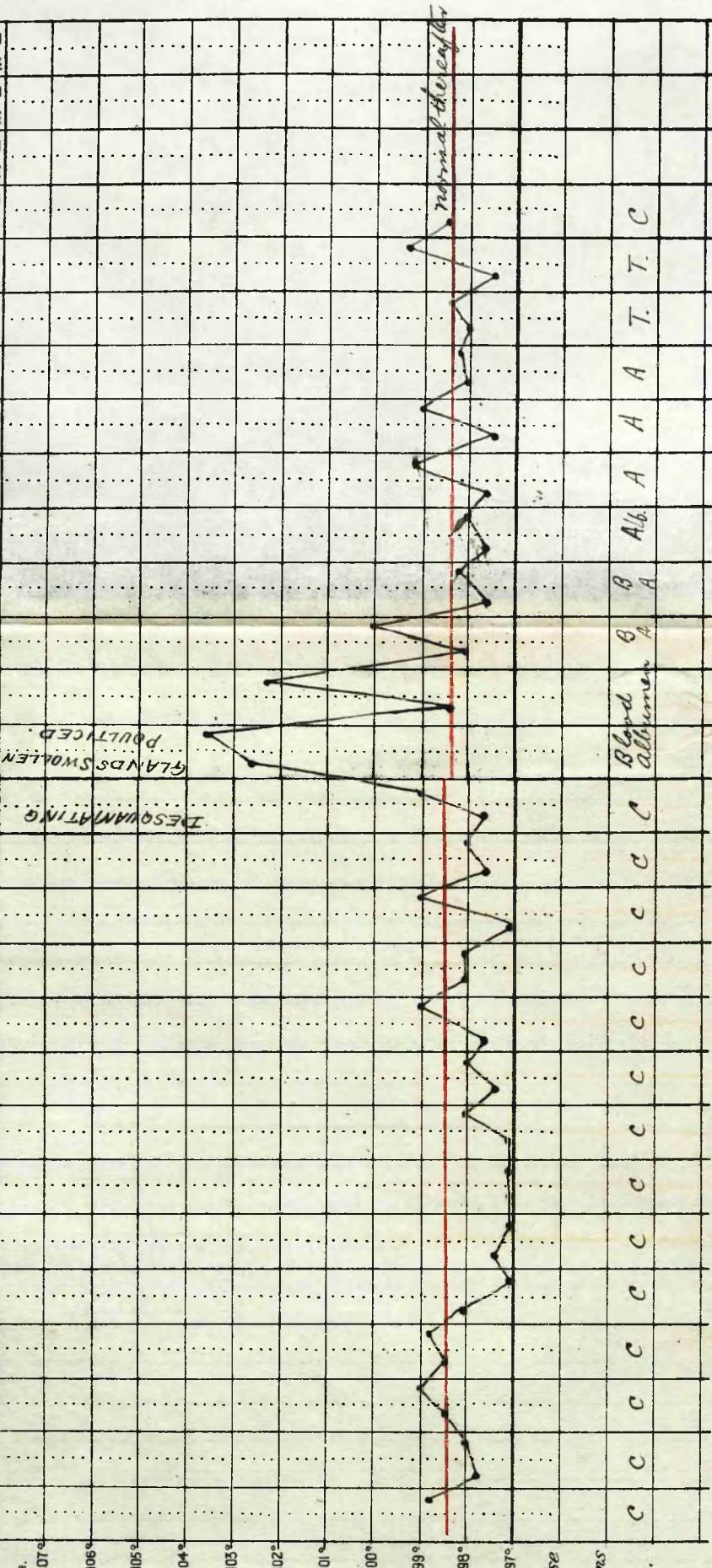
Admission Date 1891

Day of Illness

TEMP. FAR.  
Roberta Ross.  
act. 6.

TEMP. FAR

La Ross.



Puls.

Motion

۲۷۱

One

*Motion*  
*Albumen Urine*  
*Clear.*

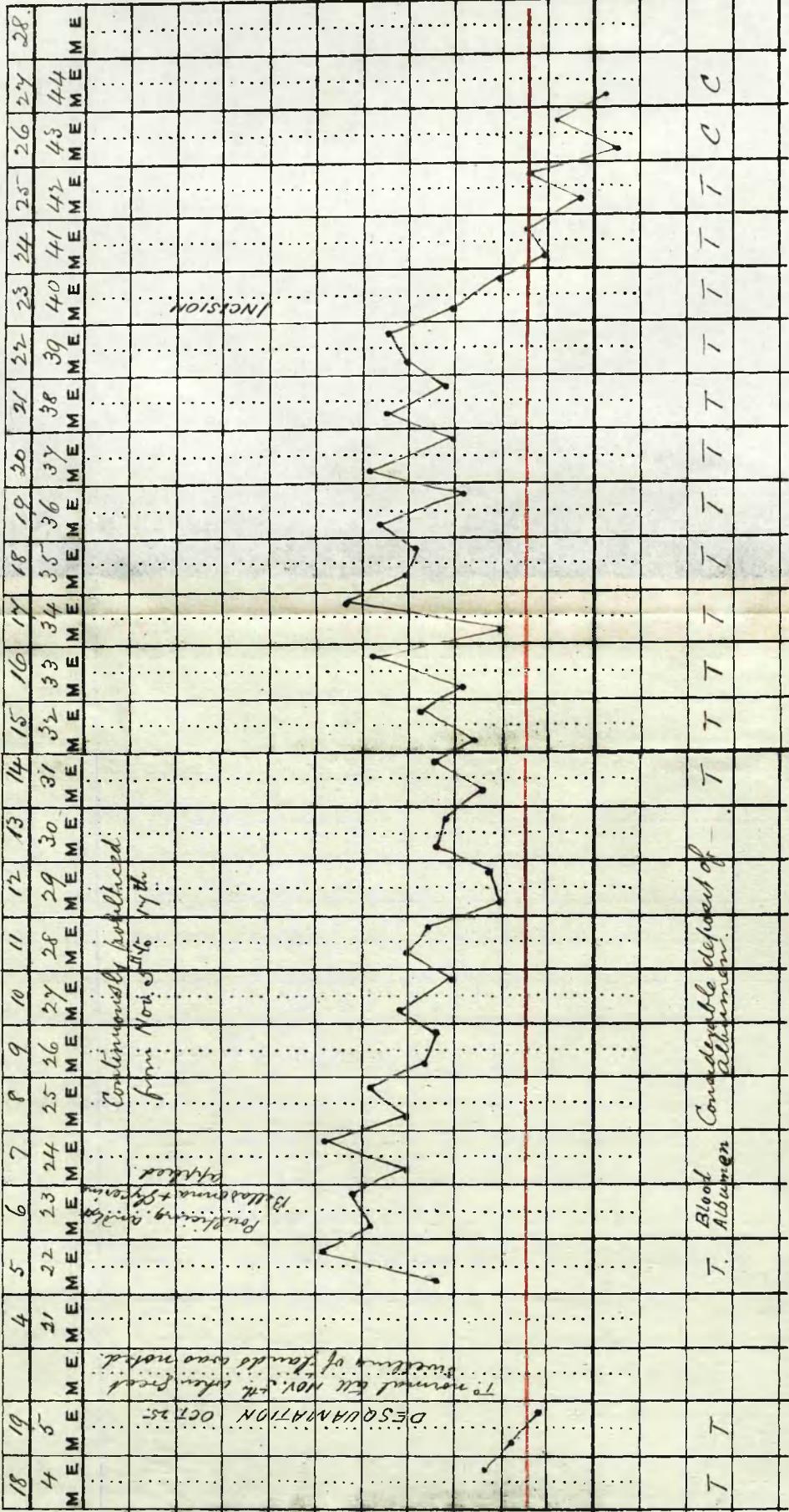
Roberta Ross (act 6) admitted 31. 3. 91, illness having begun 4 days before with vomiting and sorethroat. No rash had been observed and the case was sent in certified to be "mild diphtheria" (a mistake that might have led to serious consequences in the diphtheria ward.) There was scarcely any pyrexia on admission and the tongue was pale and the throat showed a simple arch of congestion without swelling of the tonsils or any exudation. The glands however were somewhat painful enlarged on each side; but this symptom disappeared with complete defervescence on 9<sup>th</sup> day of illness.

Desquamation was observed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day, and on the following day the glands on the right side of the neck became swollen, and simultaneously, blood and albumen were found to be present in the urine.

Poultices were applied over both the kidneys and the inflamed glands, and the latter returned to their normal state, the urine also losing all trace of albumen on the 27<sup>th</sup> day.

Complete and uninterrupted recovery followed and patient was dismissed well on May 23. 1891.

Oct Nov.



Date 1890  
Day of Illness.

J. Henderson.  
act. 14. (F.)

Jesse Henderson (act 14) admitted 18.10.90, illness having begun 2 days before with sore throat. Rash was seen on the 3<sup>d</sup> day. The tongue was strawberry-like in appearance and the throat deeply congested with enlarged tonsils but no exudation on them. The neck glands were very slightly enlarged and painful, but this with the other acute symptoms rapidly disappeared, defervescence being complete on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of illness.

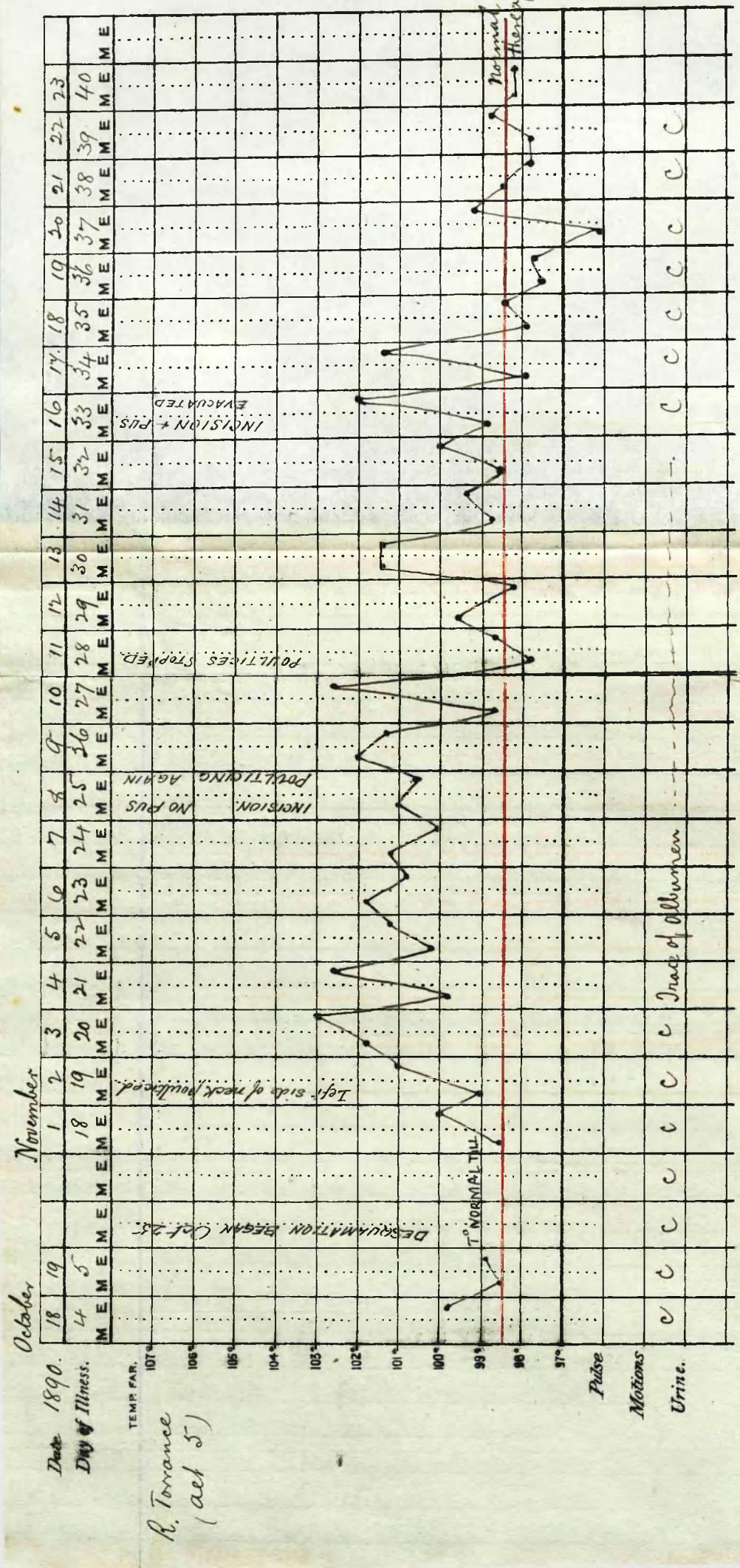
Desquamation was noted on the 11<sup>th</sup> day. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of illness, the neck glands became swollen and very painful. Over these a piece of lint smeared with equal parts of Extract of Belladonna and Glycerine was applied, and poultices on top of this. On the following day the urine contained blood and albumen in considerable amount. The tissues in the neck around the inflamed glands were considerably infiltrated and tense; and this state of things continued in spite of the poulticing. Deep fluctuation was made out; but, partly owing to the patient developing hysterical symptoms at the mention of incision, and partly with a hope that the pus might become reabsorbed, and so obviate the risk

of a disfiguring scar in the neck, the incision was delayed until the continuous though moderate pyrexia shewed it to be unavoidable.

On the 40<sup>th</sup> day a considerable amount of old, green, liquid pus was evacuated; and on passing a probe the cavity was found to take a sinuous direction downwards. On injecting carefully a weak carbolic solution into the cavity, (a step I shall hesitate to take again) the fluid mixed with more pus all certainly returned from the wound, but the patient screamed out that it had gone down her throat; thus indicating pretty clearly that the pus must have burrowed in dangerous proximity to the oesophagus.

With the evacuation of pus, patients' temperature became subnormal, and remained so thereafter. The wound healed in 6 days, all discharge by that time having ceased. The urine 3 days after the incision was quite free from albumen.

Patient was dismissed well on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 1890.

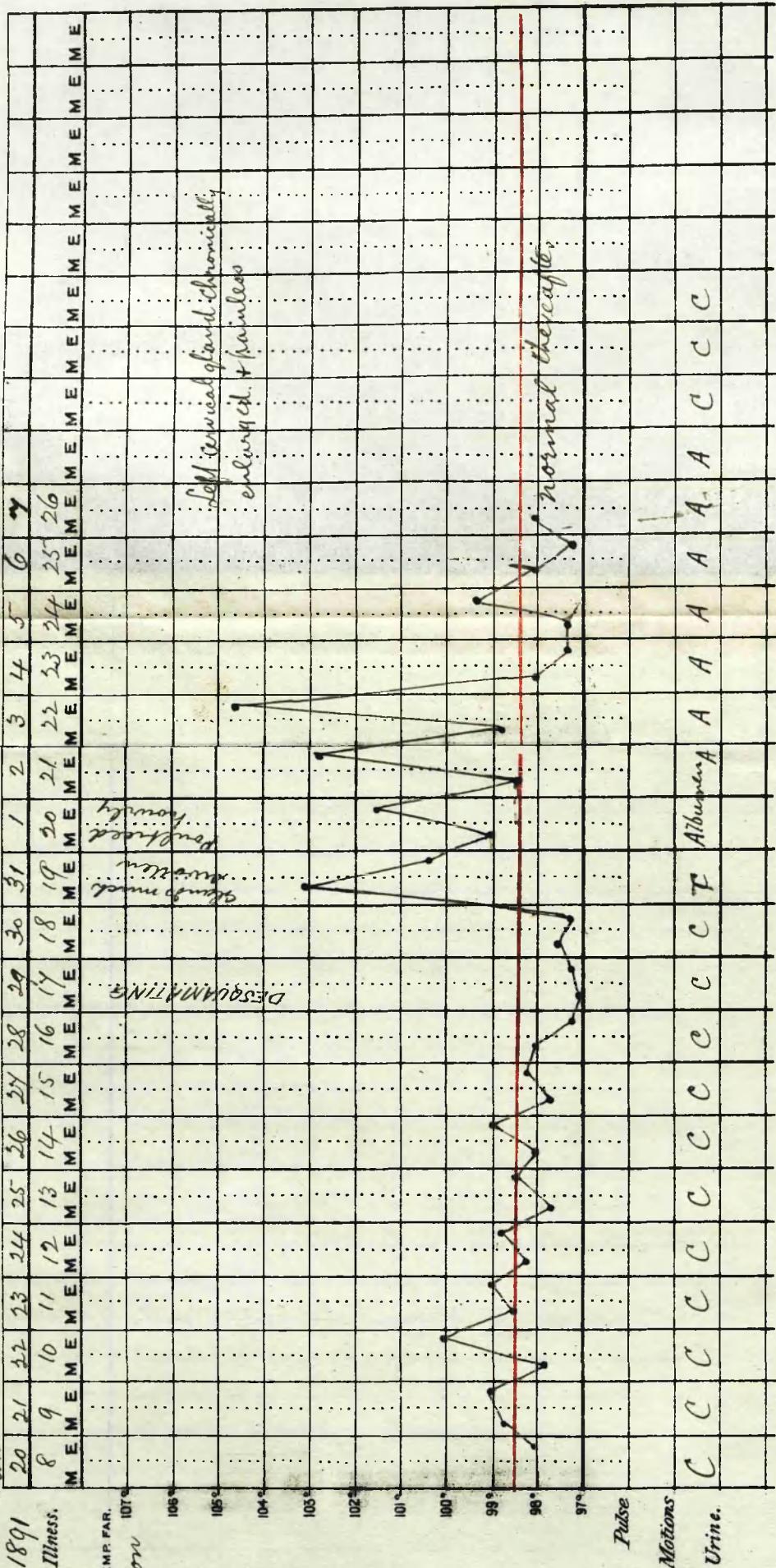


Richard Torrance (act 6) admitted 18.10.90  
illness having begun 3 days before with  
sorethroat. Rash was seen on the 3<sup>d</sup> day.  
The tongue was strawberry-like, the throat  
much congested, and tonsils swollen but  
without exudation; and the neck-glands were  
painful and enlarged. The temperature  
fell to normal in two days, with abatement  
of the other acute symptoms. On the 19<sup>th</sup>  
day the glands on the left side of the neck  
became much enlarged and painful  
with tension of the surrounding tissues.  
Poultices were applied hourly but much  
benefit could not have been derived  
from them as the boy who was very  
petulant invariably tore them off, if  
they were at all warm. Deep  
fluctuation seemed to be felt on the  
25<sup>th</sup> day and an incision to the depth  
of fully half an inch was made  
without any pus being reached.  
Thinking I might have been deceived  
in regard to fluctuation the wound was  
then dressed antiseptically and the  
swelling diminished considerably.  
However as the temperature curve  
shewed a very irregular tendency (as  
evidenced by the chart), and as there

was still considerable tension, a deeper incision was made in the original wound on the 33<sup>d</sup> day. Much creamy pus was evacuated, the temperature fell 2 days later to normal, and practically did not rise again. The patient was dismissed well, on the 13<sup>th</sup> of December 1890.

NOTES The urine was somewhat albuminous from the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 32<sup>nd</sup> day of illness, and this symptom I scarcely think was due to the pyrexia entirely, but, in part at least, to the blood being polluted by the inflammatory products of the exanthem, and probably to the irritating nature of the lymph reaching the blood from the cervical lymphatics. The urine became clear immediately after the incision however, & with the fall of temperature. I have a conviction that if poullicing had got a fair trial, resolution would have taken place without the use of the knife, but was impressed strongly with the dangers of delay (as ~~is~~ exemplified in Jessie Henderson's case) and perhaps incised too soon.  
Very little cicatrical deformity resulted.

Feb.



Date 1891  
Day of Illness.

106°  
105°  
104°  
103°  
102°  
101°  
100°  
99°  
98°  
97°

Pulse

A = albumen  
C = clear  
Urine.

A A A A A A C C C C T Athosia

Willie Mason (act 11) admitted 25<sup>th</sup> Jan 1891, illness having begun 7 days before, with headache, vomiting and diarrhoea, but no complaint of sorethroat. Rash was seen on the 3<sup>d</sup> day. On admission stomatitis was present, the tongue was foul and dry, and the cervical glands were enlarged, and painful; yet the throat only shewed a slight arch of congestion. Temperature was scarcely pyrexial and defervescence was complete on the 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> day.

Desquamation was observed on the 17<sup>th</sup> day and on the 19<sup>th</sup>, with a sudden rise of temperature to 103°, the glands which hitherto, though painless, had not regained their normal size became much swollen on the left side and less so on the right. Poultices were applied (with an interposed layer of lint smeared with Ungt. Hydraq.) and though for 3 or 4 days the swelling was very tense and the course of the temperature seemed to indicate the formation of pus, still on the 23<sup>d</sup> day the temperature became normal, swelling almost disappeared (but not quite for some time) and the patient progressed most favorably and was dismissed well  
(over)

## NOTES

on the 11<sup>th</sup> of march 1891.

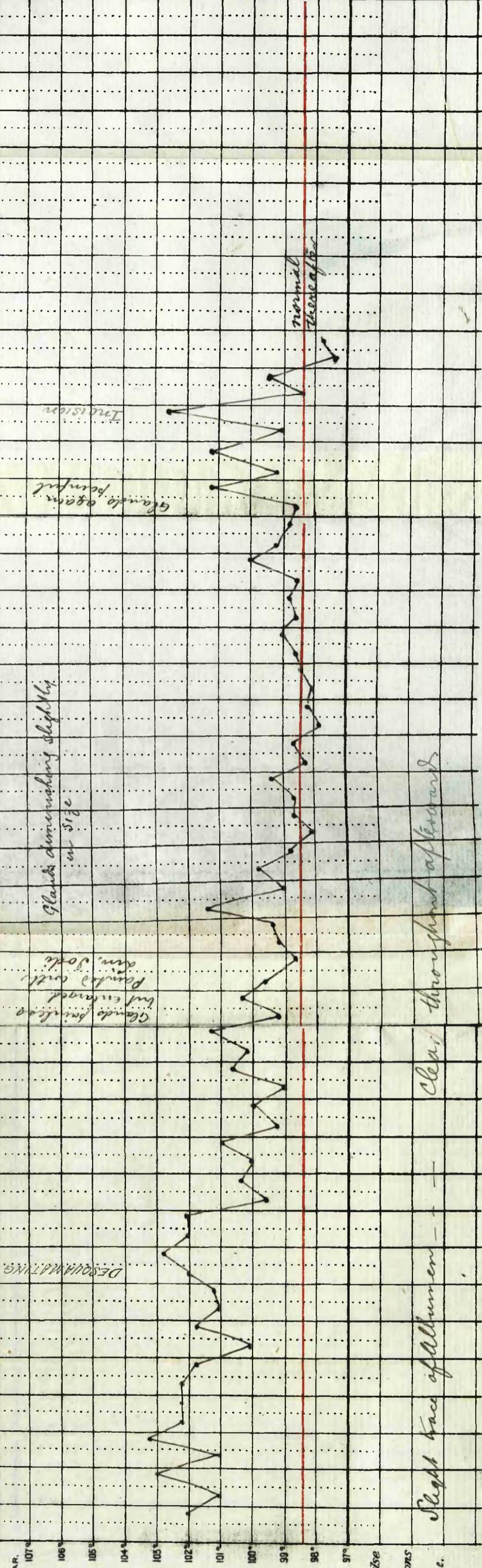
It is interesting to observe that the urine, clear at all other times was distinctly albuminous from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup> day, i.e. from the morning after swelling was noted until 4 days after the temperature became normal and the local symptoms in the neck subsided. In this instance the albuminuria can scarcely be said to have been purely pyrexial.

It seems not improbable that in this case pus may have formed in small amount and been reabsorbed. The course of the temperature at least suggests this.

AUGUST  
1890

Date	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
Day of Illness.	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	

Wm Ferguson  
(act. 8)



Willie Ferguson (act 8) admitted 25.8.90.  
 illness having begun on the previous day with sickness, headache and sore throat. Had been seen on 2<sup>nd</sup> day, and tongue was furred & strawberry <sup>like</sup> at the tip. On admission the throat was congested, and tonsils swollen but without exudation, while the glands were slightly enlarged and painful. The patient seemed very delicate, with a strong suspicion of strumous taint & the temperature maintained an unusually high level even after desquamation had set in. Both tonsils and neck glands remained enlarged though painless. The former were painted with Glycerine of Tannic acid while Lin Iodi was applied over the affected glands on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of illness. Temperature fell to normal on the 21<sup>st</sup> day and remained low but the glands had only slightly diminished in size. On the 30<sup>th</sup> day they again swelled and with characteristic intermittent pyrexia pus formed in them and was evacuated by incision on the 32<sup>nd</sup> day. Urine was clear throughout. He was dismissed well on 18<sup>th</sup> October 1891.

NOTE He was accidentally seen a fortnight or so later at the hospital gate where he fainted through having been hurried on the way to the enquiry-room. This seemed to confirm the poor opinion formed of his vital and recuperative powers.

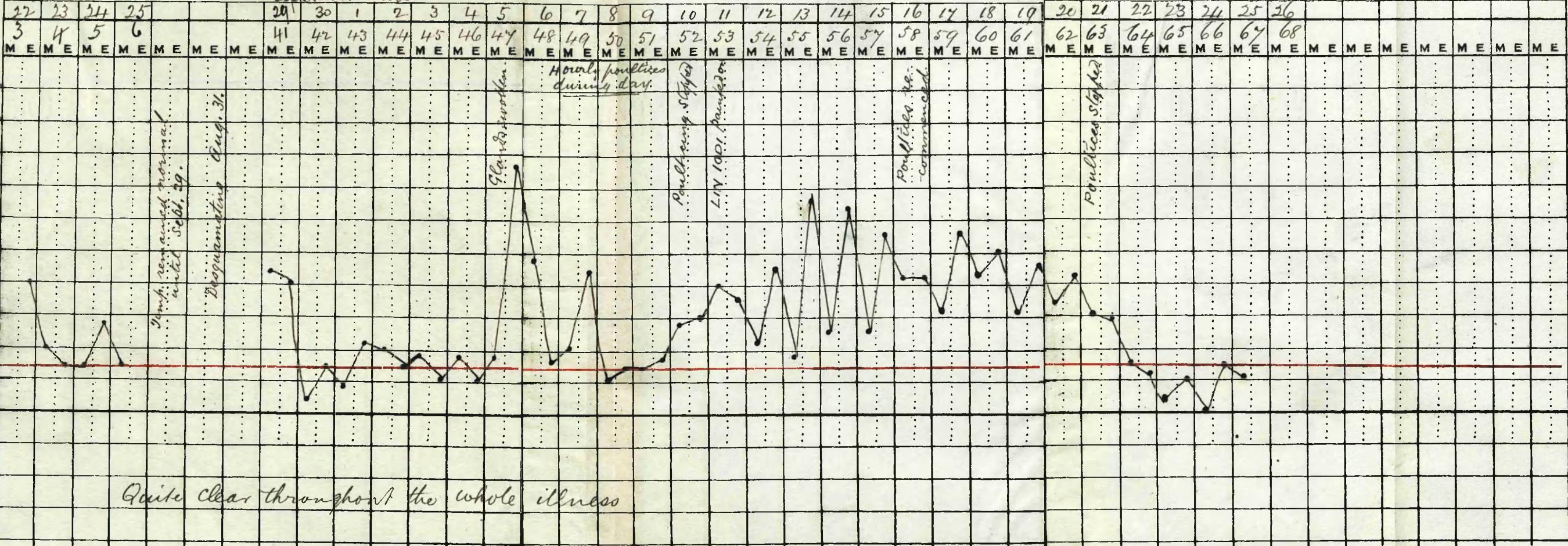
Aug.

Date 1890

Day of Illness.

James Messer  
act. 4

September October



James Messer (act 4) admitted 22. 8. 90  
illness having begun 2 days before with  
sickness and sorethroat. Rash was seen  
on 3<sup>d</sup> day. Tongue was pale on admission.  
The condition of matters in the throat  
and glands was extremely suggestive.  
The throat was congested, both tonsils  
enlarged and the left one undergoing  
ulceration. Yet there was no enlarge-  
ment of the submaxillary glands on  
the left or ulcerated side, but this was  
present on the right. The swelling  
however abated entirely in 3 days,  
under treatment. Desquamation was  
noted on the 12<sup>th</sup> day and for quite a  
month the patient had no complaint  
whatever. On the 141<sup>st</sup> day, without any  
ascertained exciting cause, swelling  
recurred in the right cervical region,  
temperature rising to 101° 4<sup>o</sup>, only to  
fall again at once on the application  
of poultices. The swelling at the same  
time disappeared and gave no further  
trouble on that side. On the 47<sup>th</sup> day  
however the glands on the left side became  
swollen and painful and temperature  
rose to 104° 6. Poultices were again  
resorted to; and though after two days

the temperature fell and remained normal for over 48 hours, still the swelling did not quite disappear, and on the 52<sup>nd</sup> day Lin. Iod. was applied over the affected gland. The immediate result seemed to be a return of fever though of an intermittent character, suggestive of pus-formation (a result which followed the use of Lin. Iod. in nearly all the cases in which it was tried)

However on the 58<sup>th</sup> day poulticing was again had recourse to, and in 5 days the swelling did disappear & temperature returned to normal, remaining so till the patients dismissal on Oct. 25<sup>th</sup> 1891.

The urine remained clear throughout.

**NOTE** It was ascertained that some days after going home patient was exposed to cold, and an abscess formed in the left side of the neck which was incised.

The case is interesting as shewing the tardy elimination of inflammatory products from the lymphatic glands even in a strong and otherwise healthy child.

I have charts of other cases somewhat similar to this one in the main points. The total absence of albuminuria in spite of sustained pyrexia is instructive also.

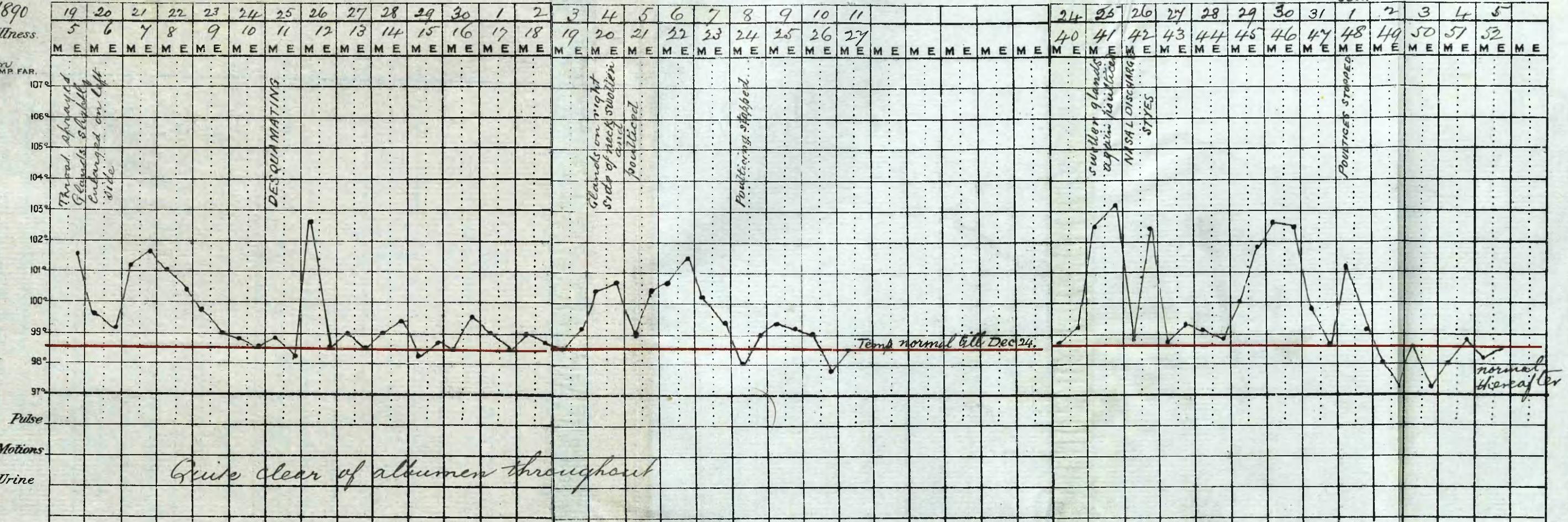
November

Date 1890

Day of Illness.

Jas Morrison  
Aet (5)  
TEMP. FAR.

November



Jan 1891

Quite clear of albumen throughout

normal  
hereafter

James Morrison (act 5) admitted q. n. 90, illness having begun 14 days before, with sickness and sore throat. Rash was seen on 2<sup>nd</sup> day. The tongue presented a strawberry-like appearance. The tonsils were the seat of chronic hypertrophy and in addition were slightly congested as also was the soft palate. The neck-glands were slightly enlarged and painful on the left side but this and the other acute symptoms disappeared on the 10<sup>th</sup> day when the temperature fell to normal. Desquamation was noted on the following day, and a day later, the temperature rose to 102.6 but fell at night to the normal level. There was no local condition which explained this outburst of "ephemeral fever"; and for a week temperature was practically normal although occasionally it touched 99.4° at night, this being ascribed to the weakness of the boy who was very anaemic.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> day of illness swelling arose in the right side of the neck which had hitherto remained quite unaffected. Temperature rose to 101.4°; but after poulticing had been kept up for five days, the swelling disappeared,

and the temperature remained normal for 10 days. The patient was up and walking about in the ward, when on the 41<sup>st</sup> day of illness the right side of the neck became swollen again; an abscess formed in the left upper eyelid (following a stye), and nasal discharge was observed for the first time. The swelling in the neck was poulticed for a week and then disappeared for good, pyrexia disappearing at the same time.

The urine had remained clear throughout. Patient gradually recovered strength and left the hospital quite well on 10<sup>th</sup> Jan '91.

NOTE A similarity to the previous case exists in so far that in both the glands on one side were primarily, and on the other only secondarily enlarged. The nasal discharge in the present case was probably due to adjacent catarrh of the lachrymal conjunctiva, near the tear-duct. It certainly was not a tedious symptom.

In regard to the physiology of the lymphatic system, the following quotation from Prof. McTendrick's Ward (Vol II pp 146-7), briefly sets forth the main facts as accepted in modern teaching:

"The tissues are nourished by fluid matter which exudes through the walls of the capillaries. A portion of this fluid matter is taken up by, and incorporated with the tissues, and the remainder, which may be regarded as being in excess, is removed" (by the lymphatic channels). \* \* \* \*

"There appears to be, more or less throughout every tissue, what may be termed a drainage system for the purpose of carrying off waste products and excess of pabulum.

The fluid thus drained off is the lymph, which is conveyed first to the lymphatic glands (and finally into the venous circulation).

We know that the anastomoses in the lymphatic system are extremely free, and experiment has proved that even ligation of a main trunk is of itself incapable of causing the surrounding tissues to become infiltrated and

oedematos. Consequently, the mere mechanical arrest of the lymph flow at an affected gland is not sufficient explanation of the tense and painful gland-enlargements which have been referred to in the preceding reports. Given a focus of inflammation in any of the mucous tracts, it is not uncommon to find engorgement and swelling in the lymphatic glands nearest to this focus in the direction of the lymph stream. Thus many people on 'catching a cold' or to put it more accurately contracting a naso-pharyngeal catarrh, have reason to complain of pain and swelling in the cervical glands, but this affection is usually slight and transient and rarely if ever goes on to abscess, unless the patient be of a strumous habit.

It is, I think commonly understood that the lymphatics which in health carry food to the tissues, and any excess of the same back into the blood for future use, do, in the event of a local inflammation, carry off inflammatory products and discharge them finally into the venous circulation.

(by the openings of the thoracic or of the right lymphatic duct), there to be transformed by oxidation or to be eliminated from the system by the kidneys and other organs of excretion.

Pathology teaches us (Coats 1<sup>st</sup> Ed. pp 380) that while dissolved substances for the most part pass through the complex sinuses and spaces of the lymphatic glands, (irritating them or not, according to the qualities of the solution) granular matter on the other hand is usually retained in the gland, which thus acts the part of a filter. We are also taught that in proportion as these granules are irritating or not, does the gland resent or tolerate their presence: and that hyperaemia of its vessels and general enlargement are more likely to occur when little particles of an infective nature are carried from the inflammatory focus, which in the case of Scarlet Fever is the tonsils, fauces, palate or pharynx.

Moreover while it is admitted that pigment granules may, and do often, remain quiescent in a gland for a life time, it will, I think, also be

admitted that the inflammatory products lodged in a scarlatinal bubo are gradually eliminated (as evidenced by its gradual diminution in size) and pass by degrees into the circulation there to be rendered innocuous by oxidation or excreted by the kidneys.

Taking into account the frequency and recurrence of gland enlargements late in the history of attacks of scarlatina, I was somewhat struck by the slight notice given to this symptom and its causes in medical works on Fevers. Rousseau in his "Clinical Medicine" (Vol II. p. 182) dismisses the subject in less than a page, from which the following long extract is made : -

"Engorgements of the glands, true scarlatinous buboes, occur sometimes towards the close of an attack of scarlatina about the decline of the eruption. They are met with in different situations but chiefly in the neck. All pestilential diseases are accompanied by buboes. \* \* \* \* Scarlatina, which is likewise a pestilential disease, has

also its buboes. The cervical region is their principal seat and their evolution is contingent upon the lesions of the throat. From the very beginning of the disease swelling of the glands is observable in both sides of the neck and at the angles of the jaw. Sometimes the cervical glands suddenly become the seat of inflammation about the 10<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> day independent of the effects of the severe form of sorethroat of which I have spoken. The skin becomes red and tense and in four five or six days, there is formed an abscess of greater or less size.

Scarlatina may cause not only glandular engorgement, acute buboes and diffuse phlegmonous inflammation of the cellular tissue during the active period of the disease, but likewise chronic enlargement of the glands. In children untainted with scrofula we meet with chronic glandular engorgements dating from the beginning of the attack of scarlatina and continuing, 2, 3 or 4 months after recovery."

These remarks do not appear to me to cover the instances of secondary and

often recurrent attacks of glandular enlargement mentioned in the preceding short clinical histories; as in many of the cases the affection ensued long after the decline of the eruption and in almost every instance much later than the 12<sup>th</sup>. day. Moreover it was in the majority of cases unaccompanied by any concomitant catarrhal symptoms in the throat, and in two cases the throat became painful two days after the secondary glandular engorgement was complained of, clearly indicating the source of the irritation.

These cases of secondary gland enlargement, occurring during the period of desquamation, were usually ascribed in Belvidere Hospital to the effects of draughts or exposure to cold. The frequency however of their occurrence in patients confined strictly to bed, in wards with double-paned windows, and ventilated by fanlights in a lofty roof, led me to ascribe them less to external influences than to the state of the glands themselves in regard to their probable contents; all the more that they usually occurred at a time when the chief eliminative organs (the kidneys)

were, owing to desquamative changes in their own epithelium, less potent to remove inflammatory debris from the system (viz. towards the end of the 3<sup>d</sup> and beginning of the 4<sup>th</sup> week of illness). The absence of catarrh in the pharynx strengthened this conviction.

I take it therefore that these buboes, hinted at in the third sentence of Troussseau's can be but remotely contingent on the lesion in the throat: and only so, if by this lesion we understand the primary lesion, from the neighbourhood of which, weeks before, the gland received and stored up its irritating, one might almost say inflammable, contents.

In Coats' Pathology, p. 384, the author in referring to suppurating buboes, writes:-

"If the inflammation be of an infective nature colonies of bacteria may be found in the pus." Without being able to say either from personal investigation or from the written records of bacteriologists, that the specific bacterium of scarlet fever does exist in the enlarged glands or in the pus from scarlatinal buboes, I see no reason why this specific poison, as well as its inflammatory products, should not be

carried in the lymph-stream from the original focus to the adjacent cervical gland and after an interval, perhaps devoted to self propagation, cause the sudden and more severe inflammatory enlargements mentioned in some of the previous clinical reports.

Leaving however this purely speculative explanation which is probably not applicable to those cases of transient outbursts of swelling with an attack of ephemeral fever, one may safely enough presume that in the gland filter the fine granular inflammatory products gradually accumulate until by virtue of their irritating qualities or their amount or of both their presence becomes unbearable and the gland is stimulated with a sudden and painful effort to eliminate them from its meshes.

One fails to find in the writings of Troussseau, Kenoch, Bristowe or Ernestace Smith, such an explanation hazarded, but there is in Wunderlich's "Treatise on Thermometry in Disease" (p. 360) a remark that gives weight to the theory. Speaking of ephemeral fever, he writes:-

"Attacks of ephemeral fever sometimes

occur during the very time that a morbid poison is extending itself through the body by means of the lymphatics, although it may be followed by nothing more serious."

This explains satisfactorily enough the sudden and transient attack of pyrexia in the case of James Morrison (see p. 42 and chart) when on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of illness, one day after desquamation was observed, the temperature rose from subnormal to 102.6° without any local affection to account for it, and returned in 6 or 7 hours to normal. The fact that eight days later a secondary inflammation of the right cervical glands set in, serves to strengthen the idea that the bubo then developed was due to attempts on the part of the gland to eliminate its noxious contents; and, from the rapid disappearance of the painful swelling and pyrexia, we may infer that for the time being, and in part at least, these efforts were successful.

Further, in the case of Jessie Henderson (p. 33), two days after painful swelling in the left cervical glands was noted, the urine was

found to contain blood and albumen; and in the case of Roberta Ross (p. 32.) the nephritis and gland enlargement seemed to come on simultaneously, along with sudden pyrexia. Taking the last case by itself one might feel in doubt (granting that there was more than a coincidence in the matter,) as to whether the pyrexia attendant so often on the onset of nephritis was the primary cause of inflammation in an already susceptible gland. But this solution does not seem so reasonable as the other, namely that the sudden dispersion from the glandular storehouse of an unusual amount of inflammatory débris into the circulation, proved too great a strain for the kidneys which even in uncomplicated cases are prone at this period of the illness to attacks of inflammation. Moreover the fact that in Jessie Henderson's case the gland affection preceded by 2 days the onset of nephritis seems further to confirm this view.

In the analogous case of W<sup>m</sup>. Mason (p. 37.) although the presence of blood in

the urine was not evidenced by the Gaaiac and Ether test (unfortunately it was not examined microscopically) still the amount of albumen deposited on heating was much larger than one might have expected to result from the intermittent pyrexial condition then existing, and it is also noticeable that it was found in the urine after the temperature had but once risen to  $103^{\circ}$  which level was probably only maintained for a few hours.

In all three cases the urine returned to its normal state as soon as, or very soon after the condition in the glands ceased to give trouble; contrasting strongly with the tedious course of scarlatinous nephritis in many other cases not complicated by any secondary gland-affection.

The fact that in the majority of the other cases of secondary enlargement the renal function was little, and often not at all disturbed, does not necessarily, to my mind, stultify the deductions just formed from these three striking cases; as in many of the former the kidneys were no

exposed to this possible source of danger at the period when they are most susceptible (18<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> days) and, for the rest, it is open to one to say that they were functionally strong enough to meet the demands made upon them.

Many patients suffered from secondary engorgement of the neck-glands on the occasion of being allowed to leave their beds, (on the 28<sup>th</sup> day as a rule.) All patients on being allowed up for the first time were invariably wrapped in blankets, and not allowed to sit up for more than 3 or 4 hours on the first day, and perhaps 6 on the second; so that one is less disposed to attribute the glandular swelling to exposure to cold. Probably the immediate exciting cause was muscular exertion attendant on the maintenance of the upright position and support of the head. Some might quite possibly have been exposed to a draught but even in this event the determining factor in the seizure

was probably the predisposition of the glands, in virtue of their partially eliminated inflammatory débris.

On referring to two almost typical instances of this occurrence in the cases of Maggie McGoff & Rose Sheen (pp 30 + 31) it will be noted that earlier in the illness and while patients were confined to bed, a slight attack of the same kind gave warning of the probable condition of the glands as to their retained contents.

That this predisposition to recurrent enlargement is retained for a long period in some instances by the glands, is evidenced by the case of James Messer<sup>(P. 40.)</sup> in whom after many attacks of engorgement which led to nothing serious, an exposure to cold after his dismissal from the hospital, induced the formation of an abscess in the neck probably as late as the 62<sup>nd</sup> day.

In addition to this, secondary enlargement of the glands was in a number of cases first noted as late as the 31<sup>st</sup>, 32<sup>nd</sup> or 33<sup>d</sup> days of illness, and that in cases not subject

to chronic enlargement, strumous or otherwise.

None of the cases of secondary enlargement proved fatal, so that it is not possible to say what microscopic changes might have taken place in the glands; but in one very severe case in which death resulted on the 14<sup>th</sup> day after very severe ulceration in the throat, sections of enlarged glands shewed that not only was the adenoid tissue proper almost unrecognizable from the multitude of inflammatory round cells which had developed, but these latter were present in considerable numbers in the fibrous trabeculae as well.

In the majority of the 10 cases in which a suppurating bulb required incision, the patients seemed to have the strumous diarrhoea, and in some this was undoubtedly. In the works of Eustace Smith reference is made respecting patients of this kind) to their proneness to develop scrofulous ulceration at the incision-wound. This occurred in none of the cases above referred to and only in two was the healing of the wound delayed beyond a week; one of these being intensely strumous and imbecile.

Rousseau at the conclusion of the quotation given some pages back writes regarding the engorgement of the cervical glands:-

"In persons of strumous diathesis these engorgements become King's Evil, (écrouelles) and in them the inflammation of the glands often terminates in scrofulous ulceration"

In connection with this statement, the following brief account of an undoubtedly strumous case may be interesting.

Alexander Livingstone (act 14) admitted 26<sup>th</sup> March 1891, who had been exposed to possible infection of scarlatina and had contracted a sorethroat, was certified to be suffering from scarlet fever and sent into Belvedere Hospital. His temperature was subnormal and when the sorethroat (which was unaccompanied by any perceptible rash) passed away, only slight desquamation was noted at the tips of the fingers. Even this may have been induced by the patient himself in emulation of his fellow patients.

Certain it is that after being 14 days in hospital he developed undoubted

April

Date 1891

7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20

Day of Illness.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

M E M E M E M E M E M E M E M E M E

TEMP FAR.

107°

Alex Livingstone

106°  
(act 14)

admitted March 24

105°

Scarlet Fever

acquired in  
hospital

103°

2nd attack

102°

Stomatous case

No sanguelae or  
compllications

100°

Discharged well.

99°

30 June 1891

98°

97°

Pulse

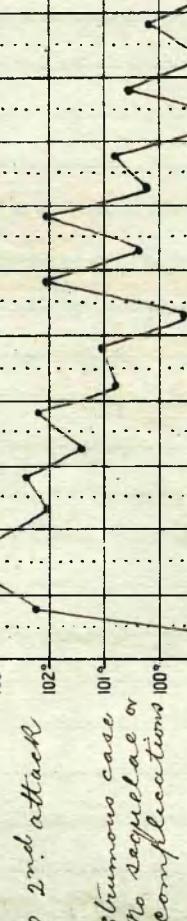
Motions

C=Clear

Urine

T=Trace of albumen

normal  
afterwards



scarlet fever, and as his neck was badly disfigured by strumous cicatrices and little ridges of cheloid tissue, a serious and protracted illness was anticipated. The initial symptoms seemed to confirm this expectation; for following upon intense sickness, came a flagrant rash, the tonsils were much swollen and covered with pultaceous concretions, and the pain on swallowing even saliva was, as he afterwards described "perfectly sickening." The boy was quite prostrated but the neck glands scarcely became enlarged at all, although they were somewhat tender to palpation. The proneness of follicular tonsillitis to go on to ulceration of the tonsils in strumous patients (described by Eustace Smith and often verified in my own experience) was also exemplified in this case; and the fauces and tonsils soon presented a very foul appearance. Steam inhalations to the throat, and painting of the ulcerated surfaces frequently with dilute Glycerine of Carbolic acid along with poultices to the neck formed the treatment that was employed.

Defervescence was practically complete on the 11<sup>th</sup> day and contrary to expectation the neck glands never gave the slightest trouble, and no complications followed. No doubt the patient had suffered from King's Evil to start with, nevertheless the dictum of Troussseau seems unduly decided.

Without bearing any distinct relation to the above case, but as shewing that a much complicated case does not always or necessarily make a tardy <sup>recovery</sup>, the following chart and brief report is inserted. The complications present with a very sharp attack of scarlet fever were ulceration of tonsils, scarlatinal bubo, Rheumatism, Nephritis and double otorrhoea and although each of these ran a very short course, they were perfectly distinct and even acute while they lasted. Nevertheless the patient was dismissed well and strong only twelve days after the expiry of the regulation period for detention of scarlet fever cases, viz 36 days from the onset of the fever,

May

Date 1891

Day of Illness.

Chrissie Hay.  
(act. 6)

ADM. 8 MAY 1891  
DISM. 22 JULY 1891.

Scarlet Fever  
with complications

June

July

Pulse

B = Blood

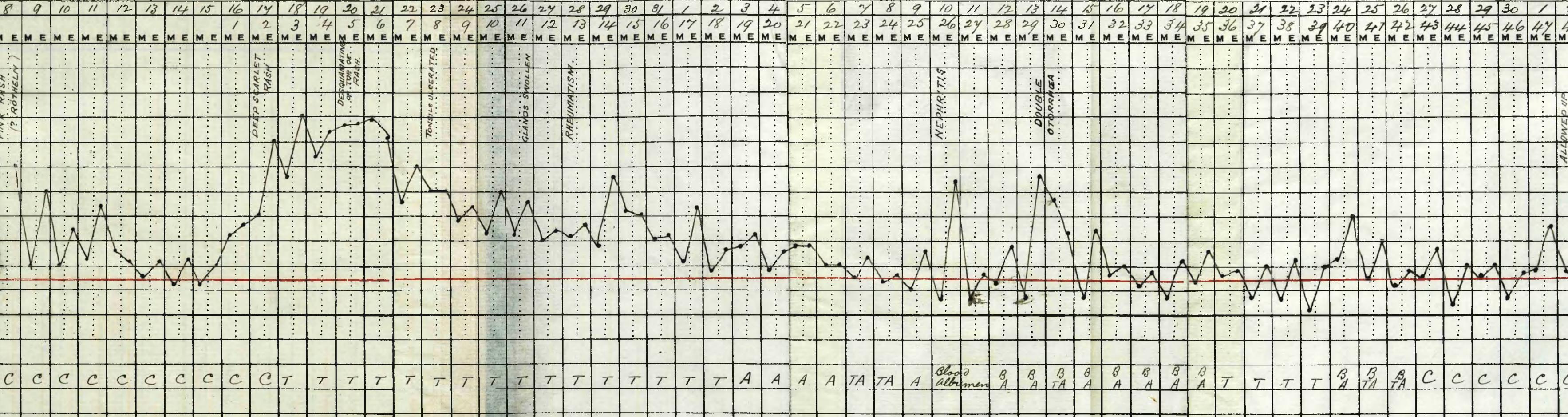
A = albumen

T } = trace of Urine.

TA } = albumen

C = clear

Motions



Chrysie May (act 6) who had all but completed her convalescence from an attack of measles was seized with slight sore-throat, feverishness ( $103^{\circ}$ ) and a distinct, uniformly distributed, light pink rash over the chest and arms. She had accidentally been exposed to scarlatinal infection a few days previously; and the evidence was deemed (after consultation) sufficient to justify her removal to a scarlet fever ward. The chart shews how defervescence came on the 6<sup>th</sup> day & throat symptoms had well disappeared, when, 9 days after admission, she sickened and went through all the stages of a severe attack of scarlet fever. Temp ranged between  $104^{\circ}$  and  $105^{\circ}$  for nearly 4 days and on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of this second illness, coarse desquamation was present on the top of a very deeply coloured rash. Tonsils were the seat of ulceration on the 8<sup>th</sup> day. Glands secondarily swollen on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Knees elbows and wrists painful and swollen on the 15<sup>th</sup>, albuminuria on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Complicated by haematuria & some puffiness of the face on the 26<sup>th</sup> and double stethosca on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of illness.

Whether the first rash & pyrexia were scarlatinal or not remains in doubt.

Date 1891  
Day of Illness.

January

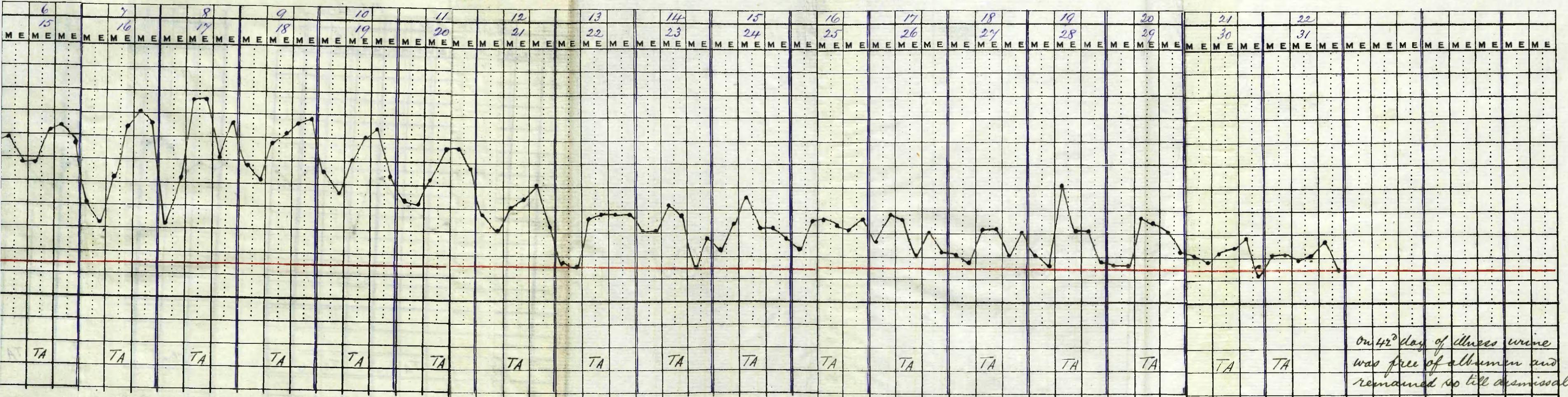
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M

TEMP. FAR.

(FOUR-HOURLY TEMPERATURES)

Jeanie Ferguson  
(act. 9.)





On 42<sup>nd</sup> day of illness urine  
was free of albumen and  
remained so till dismissal.

The following tedious and interesting case seems to me well worthy of being recorded more fully in regard to the severe throat lesion and dangerous complications, which almost suggest diphtheria to have occurred. (No paralytic symptoms followed.)

Jeanie Ferguson (act 9) was admitted to Belvidere Hospital on January 24<sup>th</sup> 1891 (along with 3 other members of the family who had each well marked scarlatina)

She became ill on Jan 23<sup>rd</sup> with vomiting and sorethroat; and a rash was said to have been observed on the morning after (before she was taken to hospital.)

She has had measles and whooping cough but is otherwise said to have enjoyed perfect health. The family history is not particularly good: the father asserting that his wife's relatives are subject to "decline" while she declares that all his brothers (like himself) have bad chests. The eldest son who is also in the ward with scarlatina has a discharging strumous sore of old standing in the neck. (NOTE He developed an ulcer of the cornea and died.)

The patient (Jeanie) has on admission a temperature of 103° 6°, a heavily-furred

- Tan. 24 tongue with prominent red papillae and the merest trace of erythema on the chest. The heart-sounds are pure. Throat is much congested, tonsils large and dotted over with yellow spots of exudation. The submaxillary glands are very slightly enlarged and not very painful. (Poultices ordered.) Urine contains a trace of albumen.
- Tan. 25 Temperature is again very high tonight ( $104^{\circ} 2^{\circ}$ ) and the exudation-patches on both tonsils have become confluent. Tonsils themselves are much swollen and a very deep red in colour. Patient uses the steam spray well
- 26 Temp. fell almost to  $102^{\circ}$ . Patient began to vomit a good deal at night.
- 27 A proper scarlatinal rash appeared this morning on the chest and arms. The adjacent tonsillar margins are now beginning to ulcerate. Painted with dilute Glycerine of Carbolic Acid. Temp.  $104^{\circ}$
- 31 Throat not so much congested and exudation all gone.<sup>no more</sup> Glands are no longer enlarged at all, poultices were discontinued yesterday. Ulceration on the tonsils still present.
- Feb. 1 Sloughs are adhering to the abraded surfa

of the tonsils. Gauces still very red.

Double otorrhoea and nasal discharge observed tonight. Temp 103°.

- Feb. 2 Temperature still keeping up. No change in symptoms except that there is a membranous patch on the uvula.
3. There are today for the first time, cooing bronchitic rales heard over both lungs posteriorly. On examining the throat the uvula and veils of the soft palate are seen to be covered with a white membranous exudation. Otherwise the throat is simply uniformly congested. There is intense tenderness over an enlarged gland in front of the tragus of the left ear. Both ears discharging pus.
4. Although last night's temperature was very high, and this morning is even 103°, still the reading at noon was 101.6° after which it rose again. Throat condition is improving there being no exudation save on the uvula. There is a good deal of nasal discharge. The tenderness in front of the left ear is less marked but there is a slight tenderness in the glands on the left side of the neck. The pulmonary state is much the same but the rales are a trifle moister and less musical.

Effect of spray

- Feb. 5. Uvula is still white with plastic exudation  
Copious discharge of pus from the left ear. (Both ears have been regularly syringed  
with Boric acid solution since otorrhoea set in)  
Temp. seems to fall slightly. Pulse fair.
- 6 Throat much the same. Pulse good. Much  
less discharge from ears and nose.  
Temp rose to  $104.2^{\circ}$  and antipyrrin gr 1  
was given to induce sleep (with success)
- 8 Temp rose to  $105.4^{\circ}$ . Increased pain in  
front of both ears and increase of discharge  
from the right. Râles are mucocrepitant  
over the upper lobe of left lung but are  
purely moist elsewhere. Uvula is now  
white and shrivelled and there is much  
tenacious mucus about the buccal cavity.
- 9 Temp. still high and oscillating. Neck  
-glands (left) somewhat swollen, and pain  
in front of both ears still complained of.  
Pupils equal and normally dilated.  
Small patches of slough on tonsils & uvula  
look as if they would separate easily.  
Throat painted with solution of Thymol in  
Olive Oil (15%) Respirations shallower  
and more jerky. Mucocrepitant râles  
here and there over the right lung: and  
tubularity with dull patches, and sonorous  
râles at different points over left lung.

Pulse (under the influence of my doses of 1/8 Digitalis every four hours) is strong and regular but somewhat rapid.

Feb. 10 There is today pronounced swelling and extreme tenderness over the left mastoid process, which seemed to indicate that pus was forming in the mastoid cells. T.  $104^{\circ} 5^{\circ}$ . After consultation with Dr. Allan, an incision was made through skin and periosteum into the mastoid process. There was some bleeding and perhaps a little pus, but this was not very clear. Immediate relief followed the incision and patient soon fell asleep.

- 11 Temp. considerably lower, child in better spirits, respiratory sounds improved and pain gone from the ear. Throat is still foul with sloughs adherent to the fauces.
- 12 Temp. fell to  $100^{\circ}$  at 11. a.m. Left tonsil has been perforated from behind forwards by the gangrenous process. There is still an adherent slough on the wall of the pharynx. Discharge from ears and wounds over mastoid process diminishing.
- 13. A glandular swelling below the left mastoid process has gone and neck glands are not swollen. Both ears discharging. The "tunnel" in the left tonsil seems to have

began to granulate at the edges

Mucula & soft palate have shed their lately adherent exudation <sup>or slough</sup> and throat seems improving. Temp. touched 98.4° at 9 a.m. On auscultation over the chest moist rales are the only abnormal symptom and percussion-note is practically clear.

- Feb. 15 Congestion in the throat is even less marked today but the perforation in the tonsil is *in statu quo*. Copious left otorrhoea. Child is not drinking well.
- 17 Temp. Keeping about 100°. Profuse discharge from left ear and also from wound in mastoid. (Gas flows when the ear is syringed.) Lung condition is again less satisfactory as there are some patches of consolidation over left lower lobe and loud muco-crepitant rales. Mustard & sinseeds poultice applied.
- Throat little congested but aperture in the tonsil does not seem to be healing; indeed it seems larger and bids fair to become two ragged appendages to the tonsil.
- 18 Soctid discharge from left ear. Iodoform and Boric acid is being insufflated. Less discharge from right ear and from the wound. Granulations are seen to be rising on the walls
- 20



perforation in tonsil

of the perforation in the tonsil. Respiratory sounds again nearly normal; only a few mucous rales being audible.

- Child bright and lively. Temp normal for most part of the day, reaching its maximum daily at 11 am (about  $100^{\circ}$ )
21. Temp remained about  $99^{\circ}$  for last 24 hours. Ear discharge still foetid.
22. Temp still low. Throat is clean and the aperture in the tonsil is granulating rapidly. Discharge from ears not now foetid, but patient still practically "stone deaf".
24. There was a large flow of pus from the mastoid wound today and, on probing, carious bone was found which was removed by a small scoop and the cavity plugged with Bichloride gauze and Iodoform. Temp quite normal.

It is scarcely worth while following the case in detail further. The discharge from the ears and mastoid wound alternately <sup>was</sup> disappearing & recurring suffice it to say that the temp. kept practically normal from the above date. Patient got up on March 26<sup>th</sup> and rapidly "put on flesh". The wound in the tonsil had quite healed long before

On April 27 the discharges were still present to a slight degree but patient's hearing was very much improved. It was determined that the atmosphere of a scarlet fever ward was not suited to the healing-up of the wound behind the ear and as patient was otherwise well and strong, acute in hearing (all things considered) and as the chances of the ear discharge being infectious after such a long illness were very slight she was sent home on May 14 1891, having been nearly 4 months in hospital. The wound in the mastoid healed up for good very soon after dismissal and patient improved steadily.

Oct. 16. I called on her father today and ascertained that with the exception of a slight dulness of hearing on the left side and a very occasional and extremely slight discharge from the left ear patient is now enjoying excellent health.

(This report is far from being an ideal one but gives the main points in the history. Needless to say the patient was very freely 'stimulated' throughout.)

In conclusion it appears to me that much may be done to prevent the occurrence of secondary glandular enlargements by suitable treatment in the acute stage of the fever.

The complete and rapid evolution of the throat lesion ought to be aided in every possible way, and any treatment that has a revulsive tendency e.g. the use of astringent gargles and inhalations in the acute stage of the throat affection, though relieving somewhat the dysphagia for the time being, seems to delay the return of the affected throat to its normal condition and also seems to prolong the engorgement in the adjacent glands. Even the sucking office, which is intensely agreeable to the patient, is theoretically open to this criticism.

Ordinary steam inhalations from a Siegle's or Adams' Spray (in cases where there is no ulceration) or medicated with a weak antiseptic when this happens to be present or pending, give in my experience the most rapid and satisfactory results. When

ulceration is present, the use, after the steam spray, of Glycerine or Carbolic Acid (B.P.) diluted in the proportion of 1 to 4 with ordinary Glycerine or Glycerine of Borax, as an application for painting on the abraded tonsillar surfaces, was found most effectual in checking decomposition of the discharges and so minimizing the risk of septic bronchitis or bronchopneumonia setting in as a complication.

This application gave quite as good results as (if not better) than that of a 15 per cent solution of Thymol in Olive Oil which after a fair trial was found to produce intense nausea in the majority of patients.

Attention to the excretory functions is of course of paramount importance. Occasional purgation by Castor Oil, free use of good milk and of mechanical diuretics e.g. Acid Phosph. (dil) and Syrup in weak solution (unless during or after haematuria) together with a warm uniform temperature, blankets and flannel garments to promote free action of the skin form the main indications for treatment.

Bron and other tonics are useful during convalescence.

Trousseau speaks with little favor of the use of caustics to acutely congested and ulcerating throats; esteeming them unsafe for application in the case of children and on the whole untrustworthy. Hydrochloric acid he describes as the least untrustworthy; and acting upon this I once applied it to the gangrenous perforation in the soft palate veil in the case of a little child. The cavity granulated satisfactorily but took longer to do so than the analogous one in the tonsil of Seanie Ferguson (whose case was last described) in which case Glycerine of Carbolic Acid (diluted) was for the most part employed.

With respect to acute or subacute glandular engorgements, nothing was found to be so beneficial as consistently applied poultices of linseed meal with steam inhalations when the throat was simultaneously inflamed. This seemed to hasten to a conclusion the inflammatory

process and facilitate natural repair.

But as poulticing, if long continued, is apt to lessen the vitality of the skin and, by keeping them persistently in dilatation, to lower the tone of the capillaries and lymphatic vessels it was found advisable at times to intermit their application and substitute thick layers of cotton wool and some emollient over the affected glands. Good results were obtained in many cases by poulticing hourly during the day and allowing sleep to be undisturbed by the application of poultices at night.

Belladonna applications (so useful in mammary engorgements) seemed to do little good when used alone but along with a superimposed poultice gave good results.

The greatest difficulty however arises in the treatment of glands which, after being acutely enlarged and painful, do not quite return to their normal size even though they become quite painless.

In such, secondary engorgement is very prone to occur, and this

goes to warn us that though for a long time<sup>the glands have been</sup> quite painless and the desquamation perhaps nearly completed it cannot be safely said that the morbid process has been entirely suspended.

Doubtless the majority of such late chronic enlargements give no trouble, and gradually, week by week, diminish in size. Still it is scarcely right to look upon them otherwise than as a possible source of danger; and one does well to endeavour by all possible means to effect a reduction in their size. Liniment of Sodine, in every instance in which it was used by me, failed to effect this; and in not a few it seemed rather to induce deep inflammation and certainly its use preceded the formation of abscesses in several cases.

But for the risk of irritating the kidneys Cantharides would have merited a trial.

The only external medicament that gave satisfactory results (and that not invariably by any means)

was Unguentum Hydrargyri, smeared on lint and applied over the affected gland with a poultice regularly applied overhead.

Only in one case did salivation result: and in one case its use was attended with most rapid and beneficial results. The patient Joseph Prentiss (aet 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ ) was admitted with much congestion of the throat and ulceration of the tonsils, together with pronounced enlargement of the right cervical glands, and brawny cellular thickening. Poultices were applied regularly for 3 days, when fluctuation was made out, and two drachms of fresh pus were evacuated by incision.

Pyrexia disappeared at once, and the thickening in great part also vanished, but the abscess (as in at least one other instance on record) seemed to have been located, not in the substance of the gland, but in its sheath: and for quite 14 days after the evacuation of pus, this gland remained enlarged & much indurated giving to the finger the impression

of almost stony hardness.

Mercurial ointment & poultices were tried; and to my agreeable astonishment the enlargement was practically gone in 2 days and quite absent in four. It did not recur.

Several cases defied all efforts of this kind and for such (and they were mostly of the strumous type) generous diet, fresh air Cod liver oil, Malt Extract and Syrup of the Iodide of Iron were relied upon to promote the reduction of the swelling. Many of these cases of gland-enlargement were probably due to the presence of connective tissue as a result of past inflammations, and would in all likelihood be permanent or nearly so.

Leaving out of account such conditions as the last named it seems to me that in addition to the primary engorgements of the cervical glands in the first days of scarlet fever, and distinct also

from these buboes which sometimes form about the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> day, after the eruption has ~~began~~ to decline (both of these being more or less contingent on the lesions in the throat) there is a much later category including subacute attacks of adenitis, unaccompanied by catarrh in the throat, and apparently eliminative in origin.