

**THE ACUTE
CONTAGIOUS DISEASES
OF CHILDHOOD**

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The Acute Contagious Diseases of Childhood by Marcus P. Hatfield

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MARCUS P. HATFIELD

**THE ACUTE
CONTAGIOUS DISEASES
OF CHILDHOOD**

***The
Acute Contagious
Diseases of Childhood***

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PREFACE.

This little book lays no claim to original work by its writer. It is, as is very apparent, a "composite" of the various writers on the subjects discussed, especial pains having been taken to embody the views of later French and German pediatricians. If it has succeeded in doing this succinctly, clearly and to the help of those who read it, it has accomplished whereunto it was sent; if it has failed, the compiler has honestly endeavored to make it worth the reading.

M. P. H.



CHAPTER I. SCARLATINA.

SYNONYMS.—Scarlet fever, Scharlach, Scarlatine, Febris Scarlatina, Fire Measles (Morbilli ignei), "Rubeolas."

VARIETIES.—*S. simplex*, *S. miliaris*, *S. papulosa*, *S. pemphigoides*, *S. petechialis*, *S. maligna*, *S. sine angina*, *S. foudroyant*, *S. levigata*.

DEFINITION.—A self-limited, contagious microbial disease, characterized by fever, angina and a typical eruption, followed by desquamation.

OCCURRENCE.

At present epidemic in all the larger American cities, but varying greatly from year to year in percentage and mortality. According to Busey it is the most widely disseminated of the exanthemata of childhood and, next to diphtheria, most uncertain in its prognosis. It is emphatically a child's disease, since 64 per cent of all cases are found in children under six years of age (Murchison). As a rule children under six months escape, though one of two days is reported as having contracted the disease (Archives of Pediatrics, 1899). No age is immune from the disease unless protected by a previous attack, but because one has safely passed through a half a dozen epidemics is no proof that he will escape