

**REMARKS UPON THE
EPIDEMIC OF
MEASLES PREVALENT IN
SUNDERLAND**

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Remarks Upon the Epidemic of Measles Prevalent in Sunderland by Harry Drinkwater

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HARRY DRINKWATER

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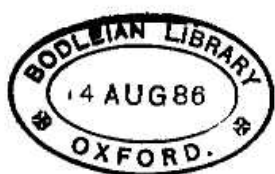
REMARKS
UPON THE
EPIDEMIC OF MEASLES
PREVALENT IN
SUNDERLAND,

WITH NOTES UPON 311 CASES FROM MIDDLE OF
JANUARY TO END OF MARCH 1885.

BY
HARRY DRINKWATER, M.D., C.M., M.R.C.S.L. &c.,
SUNDERLAND.

EDINBURGH:
JAMES THIN, 55 SOUTH BRIDGE
1885.

1885. J. 3.



DR DRINKWATER'S THESIS
FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF MEDICINE
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH,
FOR WHICH THE
GOLD MEDAL
OF THE UNIVERSITY WAS AWARDED
ON AUGUST 1ST, 1835.

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P R E F A C E.

THE following paper, which gives the results of my observations of 311 cases of measles, occurring in a single epidemic, has been written in the intervals of an exceedingly busy practice. The cases treated of have occurred from the middle of January of this year, up to the end of March, since which time I have not recorded any in the list, in order that each case might be complete. The recording of these cases has involved an immense amount of labour *crowded into a short time*. There is only one thing I have to regret in reference to them, viz., that it has been simply *impossible* to take systematic observations of temperature, so that I am unable, from what I have myself seen, to say much in relation to it, beyond the fact that in *normal* cases there is a great fall between the first and third days of the prodromal stage, and that the highest temperature usually occurs on the evening of the second day of the rash, after which it declines rapidly, becoming normal on the fourth, or perhaps not until the sixth day. Another fact is worth

recording, viz., that a fall to the normal (98·6) on the morning is not nearly so favourable an indication as the same temperature in the evening, for it seldom rises again after this evening fall, but often does after a normal morning temperature. At the end I append three of the most complete charts.

H. D.

SUNDERLAND, *April 27, 1885.*

*Remarks upon the Epidemic of Measles
prevalent in Sunderland.*

DURING the past four months Sunderland has been visited by an epidemic of measles, of so virulent a type and so great a magnitude as to numbers affected, that

ERRATA.

Page 46, line 6 from foot, for "p. 31," read "27."

Page 47, line 16 from top, for "p. 41," read "38."

epidemic of measles, beginning in the winter, usually reaches its maximum about the vernal equinox, and this epidemic has not been an exception to that rule, the number of deaths having increased each week until the 21st March, when the highest number was registered, viz., fifty, and after which there was a very rapid decrease, at about twice the rate of the previous increase (see table furnished by Medical Officer of Health, appended). The part of the town where the disease has been the most prevalent is Bishopwearmouth North (including the parishes of Pallion, Millfield, Deptford, and Ayres Quay, and part of Bridge Ward), and, as might be ex-