

AN

INAUGURAL DISSERTATION

ON

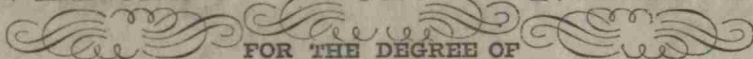
*Syphilis, Scru*

SUBMITTED TO THE

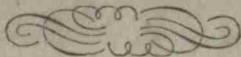
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, AND MEDICAL FACULTY

OF THE

UNIVERSITY OF NASHVILLE,



FOR THE DEGREE OF



DOCTOR OF MEDICINE.

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## Syphoid Fever

Syphoid fever a common endemic disease both of the United States & Europe, has many appellations & nomenclatures such as *Distomatitis* Continued fever Common continued Nervous fever Abdominal Typhus Enteric, Entero mesenteric, Follicular Typhus Uteric Typhus - Gravis. Which nomenclatures are uncertain & perplexing Syphoid is not a suitable name or nomenclature for the word Syphoid is derived from Syphous Stupor or like typhus but who ever has seen either of the diseases will immediately recognize a material difference that is near a description of the other typhoid being a disease of the bowels & Typhus being a disease of the blood supposed to

originate in dark deep & closed hole  
 more frequent than any other place or in  
 crowded Hospitals in the holes of Ships  
 And all such places and especially where  
 impure atmosphere existed to a great  
 extent And on the other hand Typhoid  
 fever has been known to exist & prevail  
 to an alarming extent where it would  
 it would hardly look reasonable to sup-  
 pose any impurity of atmosphere or any  
 known cause could be conceived to exist - But  
 we know that filth will aggravate the disease  
 & transmit it from rectum, pustule & Enteron  
 intestine In fact we have no but a appropriate  
 names And as many have expatiated largely  
 upon the one best suited I shall leave  
 it for others to call by whatever ever  
 they think best with the privilege of doing the

same myself, Symptoms & course. It is  
 generally ushered in with a slight  
 headache or dull heavy headness But  
 before the disease has fairly set in the  
 patient will complain of debility Shortness  
 of breath a partial loss of appetite  
 Bowels disposed to run off giving a good  
 deal of trouble Experiences a good deal of  
 uneasiness soreness of his limbs or rather an  
 aching indifferent to things about his  
 person as dress at other times fretful  
 peevish his bowels frequently moved to  
 an excess By the use of some slight  
 laxative the disease now having fairly  
 set in all the Symptoms of fever ordina-  
 rily, are present Such as heat dryness of  
 the skin frequency of pulse thirst flushed  
 cheeks the Symptoms are somewhat pre-

- has pulse from twenty to one hundred,  
 in a minute and of considerable strength  
 and fulness often amounting from  
 one hundred & ten to a hundred & twenty  
 the flushing of the face is more of a  
 dingy tint or hue than any other fever  
 and when absent the countenance presents  
 a sadness or dullness peculiar nervous  
 Not infrequently bleeding at the nose  
 is a good diagnostic the headache is  
 seldom absent if but a short time the  
 tongue has a short white fur with  
 the papillae projecting, frequently there  
 there is an intermission or remission  
 the exacerbation subsiding with perspiration  
 But this is much less frequent than is the  
 cases of nervous intermittents. These symptoms  
 continue for several days increasing in

-Violence, the pulse becomes more frequent & less strong the tongue is covered with a thicker coat having a tendency to dryness, the skin acquires a heat and aridity which is often described as being a kind of frequent transient pains are felt & especially upon pressure over the right iliac region a cough frequently set in with a dry & sometimes mucous expectoration the urine is slightly changed, sometimes scanty high colored frequently having to use Catheter and when asked says just Urinated and when he did came away in dribbles other symptoms now superadded, the tongue before rather moist now becomes of a dark red and shining appearance, the bowels being disturbed

When percussa Sordae Symplicite, then  
 up to this time if the Symplicite have not  
 ameliorated the tongue will become dry and  
 dark the teeth having dark sordid just  
 When the teeth enter the gums the tongue  
 assumes a shining red appearance not un-  
 frequently observed then up to this time the  
 pulse become exceedingly quick and  
 feeble the surface universally hot & dry  
 Sudamina appear upon the lower portion  
 of the Chest and abdomen also the rose  
 coloured spots a good diagnostic, Hence  
 Classed among the exanthematous by some  
 authors, the patient frequently laying upon  
 his back slides down in the bed, unable  
 to retain his position picking at the bed  
 cloth's imagining himself able to walk &  
 will often make an attempt at walking

falling that the bee has completely exhausted & willing to stay wherever he is placed. When the disease is about to terminate unfavourably the pulse will become quick feeble involuntary discharges from the bowels the extremities become cold & clammy. When a favourable termination is about to take place the tongue becomes moist - and begins to clean from the edges & tips, the pulse become less frequent - the appetite returning or not - so much disgust for food and exhibits solicitude for himself. Generally the disease is uncertain sometimes terminating fatally within six days again lasting for weeks and months Dr Bowring mentions a case he heard of lasting two years. Not unfrequently you will come across a case having all the appearance of Conoulescence and be-



taken suddenly with pain in the bowels  
 Especially the last proctuse, great torments  
 Caused by perforation of the intestines setting  
 up inflammation of the peritonum and  
 death ensues immediately But such Cases  
 do not always prove fatal for I have seen  
 several Cases, that recovered but taking  
 many months

### Anatomical Characters

As I have but little Observation & experience,  
 in this particular but little can be expected  
 I have seen several Cases I think to have  
 died of fever and the whole intestinal Canal  
 seemed to be involved not only the glands  
 of Peyer & Brunner but the muscularis,  
 the brain having the appearance of  
 Phlegmasia according to Lous, the  
 ulcers are of two kinds the soft & hard

the former being soft to the touch the  
 latter hard & having a shining appear-  
 ance, having the same appearance,  
 as fibrin, or resembling it - very much  
 the hard may undergo resolution the soft  
 always the mucum not so much affected  
 as some other parts the colour is always  
 ulcerated to a considerable extent The liver  
 spleen kidneys aorta heart affected very  
 much the blood when drawn has no floculi  
 or mass or sign except coagulating at  
 sometimes at other not at all

### Cause

Nothing for certain has been brought  
 forward to prove the presencing  
 cause it has been found in healthy Co-  
 enities as well as in unhealthy upon  
 the mountain top as well as in the

Valley Among the rich as well as among  
 the poor Among the well fed as the bad  
 And under all Circumstances but  
 still having a greater partiality for one,  
 than another Some saying one thing a  
 predisposing Cause whilst others say  
 another But I think all these things  
 Such as habit, badly Clothed Exposure to heat  
 & cold Badly ~~of~~ Temperament Crowded  
 Hospitals Emigration all having a tendency  
 to ~~produce~~ produce the disease Some Constitutions  
 naturally more Susceptible to disease, than  
 others And occurring most frequent in  
 young persons there are few cases on  
 record of persons over fifty years of  
 age But I remember a case of an old,  
 gentleman who was said to have Syphilitic  
 fever (at least I have wrought to dispute

The diagnosis of his physicians, Dr Wood,  
 says he has never seen a case, in both his private  
 & public practices to have originated by Con-  
 tagion in my mind there is a good deal  
 of dissatisfaction concerning the meaning  
 of Contagion many say that so many feet  
 is come under the meaning while others  
 say that touch is necessary to communicate  
 the word contagion does mean of itself comes  
 together tanged to touch I am firmly of  
 the belief that it is contagious under certain  
 circumstances I have had the pleasure of  
 being it- tested in myself that is myself  
 and another were confined in a room, for  
 six weeks while one of us had an attack  
 the other did not. then I can point out cases  
 where persons were confined in the room,  
 but a week & all the symptoms of fever —

present themselves But I would not be able  
to convince some of its Contagion or non-  
contagion Should I write for months they  
would take it as no evidence at all  
as I have said I am at a loss to say what  
is the predominating Cause,

### Diagnosis

It is frequently complicated with Billious  
fever than any other fever any young  
Practitioner being sensible to take forward  
and pronounce this or that Syphoid fever  
upon first sight It might answer for  
an old practitioner but beware young  
men sometimes but not in this Country  
it is mistaken for Syphilis But there is  
no use of such a mistake in this State  
at least such is my opinion at any rates  
I will leave this dispute point <sup>for</sup> ~~clear~~ clear

to decide. But still you may decide tolerably  
 correctly concerning Syphilis from the  
 mode of attack being generally slow &  
 certain while that of Intermittents &  
 remittent make rapid strides having com-  
 plete intermission or remission while there  
 is no complete remission and if any  
 not perceptible it has been mistaken for  
 some of the Exanthematic diseases when  
 there is any of them prevailing But my  
 plan would be to take into Consideration<sup>escape</sup> which  
 was prevailing most numerous & when I made  
 a diagnosis it could not be anything else  
 under no Circumstances.

### Prognosis

Generally not very fatal considering  
 the number of cases complicated with  
 Pneumonia Bronchitis Rubiola Scarlatina

Statistics goes prove that the disease  
 prevails with more violence one year than  
 another proving to fatal to a greater extent  
 those remaining fatal most usually Comp<sup>d</sup>  
 located with the above named diseases  
 and where the brain was implicated,  
 proving fatal to great extent

### Treatment.

In the first stage or commencement  
 of the symptoms abstaining from solid  
 food. Rest - Confining himself or herself  
 to his room being well clothed some  
 recommend little or no treatment  
 But I think if the disease be taken  
 in to hand at this time you will frequent-  
 ly have the pleasure of seeing it -  
 checked in its course, if not completely  
 check the symptoms will be ameliorated

The treatment should not <sup>be</sup> commenced with a purgative as is customary in all other fevers the bowels should be evacuated Bleeding has been recommended by some when there seems to be a sanguinous determination to the brain But I am of the opinion that young practitioners should withhold the lancet in Syphoid disease not saying they would not be justifiable but be cautious let them rest satisfied with local blood letting for instance Leeching Cupping Whether leeching does any more good than the mere abstraction of blood, I would without hesitation say they do good in some other way But I am ignorant as to what it is. We should commence the treatment with a laxative or mild Cathartic as Niguesia Castor



-oil When there is not too much Irritation  
 I would use a few drops of Turpentine  
 Say from five to ten drops we should  
 husband the Strength of the patient -  
 for it seems to have a great Tendency  
 to weaken more than any thing else showing  
 the impropriety of too great Blood letting  
 After the bowels have been evacuated so as  
 to free them of any irritating the refrigerant  
 anaphrotes to obviate the febrile Symptoms  
 given in the form of Neutral mixtures, or  
 the effervescent mixture being the same  
 thing except one is giving Must in  
 a State of effervescence, I scarce will  
 sometimes making a good addition Our next  
 Object is to try the Muscular plan of  
 Treatment given in Small doses the  
 Agaragoneum Cam. Entu being among our

-Mildest & best - Musculars or let Calomel  
 be given in combination with some astringent  
 or astringent to prevent <sup>the</sup> free action upon  
 the bowels astringent being given to prevent  
 Torina. tumours &c. The state of the bowels  
 should always be attended to with regularity if  
 the operations be scanty means should be taken  
 to get at least one good operation daily by  
 injection or some mild laxative taking care  
 they are not operated on too freely  
 Blister should not be applied except in  
 the early stages being inclined to strength  
 in the latter the local treatment should consist  
 of cold applications to the head Ice -  
 powdered in bladder, a cloth mung out  
 of cold water laid upon the forehead & -  
 Turples also leeches applied to the temples  
 Sinapisms over the abdomen - Or Muscu -

formulations of Wheat-brand place in  
 warm water or Masur Wheat brand may  
 be substituted the Met often becoming  
 troublesome & the patient will com-  
 plain of its weight - But the Met is the  
 Best - But if there is obstinate distension  
 or Tympanitis Blisters will be found  
 serviceable. If the symptoms do not yield  
 By this time Met by Complete Spasme  
 Wood recommends turpentine when the tongue  
 is dry & commences peeling off, inflated  
 from the middle. But I have seen it  
 used throughout the disease, that  
 is there is other periods of the disease  
 it may be used to an advantage, &  
 With the most decided benefit - Generally given  
 in an emulsion of Acacia & Sugar five to ten  
 drops to the teaspoonful,

When the extraneous Cold & Collaqualive  
 Sweats Camphor Water Nitric acid (Sops,  
 Moxen) I have also had the pleasure  
 of seeing Prof Bowling prescription used,  
 Nitrate argenti Sub Nitrate Bismuth with  
 Opium substituted instead of the Opium  
 which would prove highly Serviceable  
 as I learned afterwards that nothing else  
 was given and a recovery took place,  
 Cleanliness should be observed Diet Light  
 Boiled thickened Milk or Boiled milk  
 arrow root when the patient is in the last  
 stages of the disease has become weak  
 & nothing seems to be the matter more than  
 weakness we should make an attempt to  
 give him strength by using Stimulant & Arouse  
 Hence why Brandy with eggs also gumme  
 has been used with decided advantage, not only

at this particular period but under many  
 other Circumstances that is useful for men  
 to detail. Sponging with Nitro Muriatic acid  
 Cold water to the face & hands Bottoms  
 of the feet may be wet & wiped dry or they  
 may be bathed in warm water & salt - after  
 the feet are disposed to become Cold, warm  
 Rocks or bottles of warm water should  
 be kept constantly to them Mustard Caps  
 - Since you might resort to any of the Stomach  
 to get & keep them warm, I have seen the  
 Treatment of the disease used & successful  
 that is Act<sup>n</sup> Plumbi according to his  
 direction