

Words used to describe medical conditions in the 18th and 19th centuries

Here is a list of medical terms collected from various sources including the Old Parish Registers. There are several blanks where the author, the late James T Mearns, was unable to find a satisfactory definition.

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Access	Ague, burning fever with shivering fits
Axies	Ague
Axes	Ague
Aizle tooth	Molar, aizle means grinder
Amshach	Accidental injury
Anward Trobell	Inward trouble
Apoplexy	Brain haemorrhage
Asmey	Asthma
Asoond	In a faint
Aturong of the blood	Possibly blood poisoning
Back draucht	The 'gasp' in whooping cough
Backgang	Relapse
Backjar	A setback, especially in health
Badly	Ill
Baiglet	A child's undervest
Bairnheid	Childhood
Barrie	A baby's long sleeveless flannel coat
Batter	A plaster
Beal	Chilblain, to fester
Bealen	Boil, pimple etc
Bedrall	Bedridden person, esp. in a hospital
Bellythraw	Colic
Bever	Feverish tremble
Bile	Boil
Black spit	A miner's lung disease
Blae	Bruised
Blain	A sore
Blast	Sudden illness
Bleb	A blister
Bloodrun	Bloodshot
Bloodshed	Bloodshot
Blin' lump	Blind boil
Blintrin	Short-sighted
Blocher	Catarrhal cough
Bloit	Diarrhoea
Bloodrun	Bloodshot
Bloody flux	Dysentery
Blype	Peeling skin
Boak	Vomit; retch
Boich	To cough with difficulty
Boo	A louse
Boochee	Uncontrolled coughing
Bore brief	Birth Certificate
Bowden	Distended
Bowel Hive	Enteritis in children

Brain fever
Branks
Brook
Brown Katies
Buffets, the
Buist
Bursten & rupture

Calamy
Camovine
Cannel
Canongate Breeks
Caprowsy
Care-bed
Carried
Cart
Carvy
Cast
Castback
Cauldit
Chanty
Chappit
Check
Child-ill
Chincough
Chinkcough
Chirurgion
Chirurgionarie
Chokis
Chokit
Clapper o' the hess
Clappit
Cloch
Clocher
Clocherin
Clorach
Close
Closing
Cochle
Cogwame
Colick
Come alist
Compleen
Consumption
Convulsions
Corrie dukit
Corry dander
Croup
Craichie
Craig
Crochle
Croichit
Croot
Cruels
Cruppen doon
Cryin', A
Cuff
Culun

Brain haemorrhage; delirium tremens
Mumps
Dirt; ulcer
Bronchitis
Mumps
Ointment box
Probably a burst blood vessel

Calomel
Camomile
Cinnamon
Venereal Disease
An undergarment
Sick bed
Delirious
Crab louse
Caraway
Vomit
Relapse
Having a cold
Chamber Pot
Skin split by the cold
A nipped bruise or cut
Birth pains
Whooping cough
Whooping cough
Surgeon
Surgery
Quinsy; suppurative tonsillitis
Having quinsy
The uvula
Shrunken (of persons)
A cough
Mucus; phlegm
Catarrhal coughing
To clear the throat
Having respiratory congestion
Croup; inflamed larynx etc as in diphtheria
A weak cough
Pot belly
Severe abdominal pain
Recover consciousness
To be unwell
Pulmonary tuberculosis
Seizures or fits
Left-handed
Coriander
Inflammation of trachea & larynx in children
Wheeze
Throat
To limp
Lame
Puny
Scrofula; tuberculosis of the lymph glands
Bent with age
Confinement
Nape of the neck
Buttocks

Curple
Cutpock

Daver
Deave
Decay
Decay
Deen, to be
Defeat
Defluxion
Dimple
Dindle
Dinnle
Dirl
Dirliebane
Disjaskit
Donsie
Doon Iyin'
Dozent
Draughts
Dree
Dridland
Droddum
Drone
Dropsy
Drumlie
Dry boak, the
Duff
Dunt
Dwaibly
Dwam
Dwine

Easle tooth
Eebrier
Eewinker
Electuar
Elic, Eleak etc
Ern
Eruption of bladder
Esscock
Etten and spued
Evil
Fa' wi' bairn
Faiple
Fair strae death
Fairrie
Fistula
Flux
French pox
Galloping consumption
Gled ee'd
Gravel
Gripes

Hankings

Heidmouldshoe

Buttocks
Stomach - gut + pock (a bag)

Stagger, stupefy
Deafen
Pulmonary tuberculosis
To decline in health - esp. with tuberculosis
Near to death (dying or done)
Exhausted
Running discharge
To dribble
To tingle; thrill
To tingle
To tingle
The funny bone, the humerus at the elbow
Depressed
Sickly
Confinement
Stupefied
-
Endure; suffer
Having diarrhoea
Buttocks
Buttocks
Accumulation of fluids in the body
Cloudy with sediment
Nausea
Numb
Throb; palpitation
Wobbly
Stupor
Go into decline

Molar
Eyebrow
Eyelash
Medicinal syrup; elixir
Iliac; intestinal
To pain; irritate
-
Inflamed pimple
Unhealthy complexion
Scrofula; tuberculosis of lymphatic glands
Become pregnant
A loose underlip
A natural death in bed
To collapse from exhaustion etc
An ulcer formed as a pipe
Diarrhoea
Syphilis
A rapid form of pulmonary tuberculosis
Cross eyed
Kidney or bladder stones
Severe intestinal pain

Having a constricted chest, with a cold. [Given as cause of
see the Society's journals, Nov 2002, p15 and Feb 2003, p

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Heidwark	Headache
Hoast	Cough
Horseshoeheid	-
Iliac passion	Severe colic; appendicitis
Imposthume	Boil; abscess
Inflammation	Inflammation of the bowels (in young children)
Kibes	Chilblains
Kinkhoast	Whooping Cough
Livergrown	Enlarged liver
Malignant fever	A fever likely to cause death
Misels	Measles
Moulie heels	Chilblains
Nervous exhaustion	General deterioration
Nervous fever	-
Nervous prostration	Complete exhaustion
Overgrowth	Enlargement (of the heart)
Overlaid	of an infant; accidental smothering while in bed with an ac
Palsy	Paralysis
Passion	Severe pain
Phlegmonous erysipelas	Possibly a weeping form of erysipelas
Phthisis	A wasting disease, esp. pulmonary tuberculosis
Plain soled	Flat feet
Plook	Pimple
Purples	Typhus fever
Quinsy	Suppurative tonsillitis
Rickets	Vitamin D deficiency, causing soft bones
St Anthony's fire	Erysipelas, skin disease causing a bright red face
Scald head	Various scalp diseases
Scrofula	Tuberculosis of the lymphatic glands
Semmit	Undervest
Shiver	Cold sore; herpes zoster
Shuille fittit	Flat footed
Smit, the	Infection
Smittle	Infectious
Spaining brash	Milk fever; weaning illness
Spotted fever	-
Strangury	Retention of urine
Surfeit	Overindulgence in eating, drinking etc
Swarf	Faint
Swiff awa'	Swoon
Tympany	Abdominal swelling
Water in the heid	Hydrocephalus
Water on the chest	Possibly pleurisy or pneumonia