

Canker

OED: A chronic, non-healing sore or ulcer, esp. one that extends into surrounding tissue; (in early use) *spec.* a cancer, or the disease cancer. Perh. also: gangrene.

1736 October 19 (Tuesday). We hope Ebenezer is a little better.... Dr. Gott came up to Mr. Seth Rice's Son, by which I had advantage for a Visit from him to *Ebenezer*. The Canker rose very visibly upon the inside of his Throat but not Swelled a great Deal nor very troublesome to him -- <but?> his Fever not so high. Mrs. Whipple kindly visited us. *Sarah Ward* and *Deborah* watched.

1740 April 1 (Tuesday). Dr. Gott was at my House in the mean Time to see my wife, who he judg'd had the Canker in her throat.

1744 September 3 (Monday). I visited Ensign Josiah Rice's Child, ill of the Cankers....

1745 November 4 (Monday). In the Morning (which was very Cold) I rode over to Mr. Balls (in my way went into Lieutenant Holloways, where was Mr. Rand). Suse Ball very low and distress'd. Fever, Flux and Canker. The Flux abates but the Canker eats.

1745 November 27 (Wednesday). My Throat bad, but the Weather so moderate that I accepted Brother Samuels Invitation to go to his House and reside there. Was out no further than to Mr. Stoddards and Mr. Thayers, lodg'd at Brother Samuels my sore Throat increasing -- but no Canker that I perceive.

1749 November 12 (Sunday). P.M. Molly Woodwell's thanks were offer'd in our Congregation - - also prayers for no less than Six Children that are sick -- 3 of Neighbour Beriah Rice's -- who have a malignant Fever. The rest have the Canker or Throat Distemper.

1750 October 16 (Tuesday). Call'd to see Mr. Daniel Forbush's Children Sick of Canker.

1752 February 20 (Thursday). N.B. Molly brought Breck here, who has canker in his mouth, yet plays about in the house and abroad.

1756 February 5 (Thursday). We hear the Doctors *Willson* and *Brigham* are Sick. Dr. *Chase* also complains much of Fever and Canker.

1756 June 22 (Tuesday). Was called Suddenly to Deacon Bonds to see his daughter *Eliz.* (a Child in her 5th Year) very ill of Canker, Quinzy and Fever. I dined there. Prayed twice. She Expired about 2 p.m.

1759 February 28 (Wednesday). Neighbour Morses Child buried. 'Tis their only Child, a son of 8 months old -- dyed of the Canker.

1759 June 17 (Sunday). After Exercises we attended the Funeral of Mr. *Benjamin Tainters* youngest son, *Josiah-Wood Tainter*, who dyed by the *Canker*, and very soon.

1759 July 6 (Friday). Divers of the Children have purgings. *Samme* has also signs of Canker. He sleeps very much.

1759 October 11 (Thursday). At Night I grew a great deal worse. Go to bed ill with a sore Mouth. Fear there is much Canker. I have considerable Fever.

1767 November 6 (Friday). At Eve, came Mr. Jonathan How to call me to Mr. *Hannaniah Parkers*, one of their little sons being nigh to Death. I went; the Man was gone to Southborough. The Woman was much distressed. All five of the Children were ill with *Fever and Canker*. Little *Winslow* was exceeding low, but was reviv'd from the dying Symptoms it had been under. I prayed. Mr. Parker came home.

1767 November 7 (Saturday). Mr. Ebenezer Maynard came to desire me to go to Mr. *Parkers*. P.M. notwithstanding it was so great an interruption to my Studys, I went. Little *Winslow* dyed in the morning, and Harvey grew worse. I prayed -- and hearing that *Patty Beeton* was ill, I went to see her, and found her very bad. Her Throat much swelled and much Canker, So that She was greatly distressed. I gave her Instruction and solemn Charge. But they did not ask me to pray -- The Man was hurried in the shop, being near night and persons there who belonged to Upton with Team etc. Did what I could to prepare my Self for the Sabbath -- a very distressing Time to my Neighbours! The Lord extend His Pity and Mercy towards us, and prepare us for His Sovereign Will!

1768 August 21 (Sunday). Preached at *Marlborough* a. and p.m. on *Heb. 4.2*. After the Exercises Mr. *Cyprian How* carried me in his Family Carriage, to Mr. Ebenezer *Hagars* to attend the Funeral of a Second Child which has dyed by Fever and Canker. Prayed and took leave.

1769 December 1 (Friday). Mr. Ebenezer Forbes comes to request me to Visit his Daughter *Hannah* who is Sick of a Fever and Canker. Was obliged to leave my Study to my great Interruption; for she wanted to see me. I went and found her very ill. Conversed and prayed with her. Her sister *Betty* begins to be ill also, and Seems greatly affrighted.

1770 February 21 (Wednesday). I visit poor Garfields Child that has the Canker.

1770 April 29 (Sunday). N.B. Another of Mr. Thomas Temples Children is taken sick of Canker.

1770 September 5 (Wednesday). At Eve a Letter from Mr. Sumner that the Canker is prevailing among them, that they have agreed to have a Fast next Tuesday, and ask my Help.

1770 September 11 (Tuesday). I rode to the Exercises at *Shrewsbury*, it being a Day of Humiliation and Supplication there, on account of the Terrible Distemper, the Canker, among them. Mr. *Sumner* began with prayer. Mr. *Maccarty* preached a seasonable sermon on *Job* 2.10, "What! shall we receive Good at the Hands of God, and Shall we not receive Evil?" P.M. Mr. Hutchinson prayed. (Mr. Morse was there, but could not be perswaded to perform any thing in publick.) I preach'd on *Rev.* 6.8. "And I looked, and behold a *Pale Horse!*" etc. O that God would pardon Me, accept and Succeed my poor Attempts! And that our Devotions this Day might be to His Glory, and the End answered through Jesus Christ!

1770 November 7 (Wednesday). But *Sophy* was confined by her illness. Dr. *Hawes* came in to see her. Says she has some Canker.

1770 December 25 (Tuesday). In returning I called to see Mr. William *Brighams* new Wife, and Mr. *Andrews* Children, ill of the Canker.

1772 November 4 (Wednesday). Mr. *Fitch's* son *Elijah* is very bad with the Canker. Went there and prayed with them.

1773 December 26 (Sunday). Mr. *Joseph Belknap* has a Child very ill of the Canker and Fever.

1775 February 20 (Monday). Visit Mrs. *Joanna Fay*, who has a Fever and Canker. Prayed there.

1775 December 28 (Thursday). At Eve I was called to visit Mr. *Artemas Bruce's* little Daughter, *Polly*, of about 6 years, who is very bad of Canker, Fever etc. Prayed with them and returned before Nine.

1776 February 14 (Wednesday). Mr. *Daniel Warrin* (Neighbour to Mr. *Thomas Twitchel*) came requesting me to Visit *Molly Twitchell*, who was very ill of *Canker*. I went -- but she expired before I got to the House -- in her 24th year. I prayed with them.

1776 February 15 (Thursday). Dr. *Hawes* acquaints me with the very distressed Condition of Mr. *Edmund Antwistles* Family. I went to See 'em, and found his Wife and two Children and a Girl (whose name was *Grover*) Sick -- but especially their sister *Submitt Harrington*, was exceeding bad. All of them of the *Canker*. Prayed and discoursed with them as they could bear.

1777 January 8 (Wednesday). P.M. I attended the funeral of Mr. *Nehemiah Maynards* Child which dyed of Canker Quinzy, in its 3d year. The name *Elizabeth*.

1777 March 11 (Tuesday). P.M. hear that Mr. *Edwards Whipple* is very ill with a sore Throat and Canker. I went immediately to see him -- but he was dead before I got to him. A sorrowful Sudden Death! The Lord grant I may be ready for my own! Prayed with the afflicted Mourners.

1777 May 27 (Tuesday). Having lodged and dined at my Sons, rode into the town, found my Son Samuel, his Wife, Children and Family in Health. To God be praise and Glory for So multiplyed Favours! Visited Dr. *Minot* -- his little son *John* very ill of Canker.

1777 July 19 (Saturday). Mr. *Hannaniah Parker* has two Children ill of the Canker. Sends for me. I went. Prayed and discoursed with them.

1777 August 1 (Friday). Attended early in the forenoon the Burying of Mr. *Hannaniah Parkers* little *Sophy*, who dyed of the Canker and sore Throat, in her 4th Year.

1778 September 24 (Thursday). P.M. I rode up to Mr. *Daniel Nurse's*. A very Sick House -- the Man, the woman, and 4 or 5 Children sick, chiefly with Fever. Their infant very bad, with Canker.