

through the Southwestern States. But what is known seems to positively establish the fact that the disease comes to the human race through the medium of the cow and all her products, and that its original source is somewhere in the herbage or atmosphere of the wooded lands of wild or uncultivated districts. But in my own experience I took every precaution to satisfy myself that the two diseases were entirely distinct. One of the most severe of my cases was that of a man about thirty-five, living quite alone, and who used neither milk, butter or beef in any form, and drank only from his own well, the best in a circuit of several miles. His father, a half-mile away, and in whose home the disease broke out, insisted that the poison was in the well, and for months had gone to the softwater cistern for a drink; but he too, an old man of sixty-five, passed through an attack of the peculiar illness.

I should add in passing that six years later, in the same district, a father and one of his sons were attacked so strangely and died so suddenly that a coroner's inquest was demanded. The very skilful physician, who knew most of these cases, writes me that the symptoms were apparently those that I had experienced years before, that four members of the family were attacked, two of the four recovering, and that the mystery of their illness is still unsolved.

And so I leave it. What it was and whence it came, and whether by a bacterium or by a spore or parasite of any kind, and how it entered the system, I leave unanswered, along with the simple statement that to me the disease itself is still unnamed.

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No one subject has received such consideration from the profession during the few years just past as that of the relation existing between appendicitis and peritonitis. The thousands and tens of thousands of the laity who have been taught the nonsense that the appendix itself is the bungling, wide-open remnant of some other stage in our development, and are living a life of constant terror regarding grape-stones and apple-pips, show how universal the interest in this question has become. Having in my earlier years seen so much of peritonitis treated and cured without the assistance of the surgeon, and in my later years so often listened to the statement that peritonitis was appendicitis and operative treatment the only proper remedy, I ventured two years since to address the little local society of which I happened to be president in part as follows:

When Dr. Roswell Park, a few nights ago, had concluded the reading of his remarkable paper on peritonitis to a large gathering of physicians and surgeons at the Wayne County Medical Society, and