

APPENDICEAL ABSCESS.

DR. OLDRIGHT also exhibited this specimen removed after eleven successive attacks of pain and colic.

SYMPOSIUM ON HYSTERIA.

DR. J. T. FOTHERINGHAM read notes of a case of hysteria occurring in a young woman of eighteen years. The family history is insignificant. The eldest child of the family is living—an imbecile—aged 23 or 24 years. Two others died young of tuberculous meningitis. Two months before the attack of hysteria, the patient had suffered from rheumatism with swelling in front of the ankle, then in the other ankle, and then in other parts of the body and also in the shoulder joints. Her present condition appears to have developed gradually. As regards the respiratory system, the breathing was occasionally stertorous on inspiration. Dr. Fotheringham asked the Fellows in regard to the type of respiration in these cases. Circulatory system, normal; as was also the genito-urinary system. As regards the nervous system, ankle clonus was especially marked in the right leg, an unusual symptom, because it is not usually seen in hysterical cases. Peculiar postures were adopted while in bed, and all speech was conducted in whispers, jerky in character, as if sometimes at a loss for a word. As regards the special senses, she apparently suffered from severe photophobia. When the windows were darkened, she would be noticed watching from under the bed-covering. Hearing was abnormally acute. The treatment consisted in removal from home to a private hospital. Hyoscine, and valerianates of iron, quinine and zinc. Plenty of good food. She has been well for some months, and now works in a shop. Points noticed in this case: The absence of the hysterical fit; no serious moral perversion; and, thirdly, no delusions.

DR. W. H. PEPLER read notes of a case of what he considered to be hystero-catalepsy in a child five years old. There was nothing especially interesting in the family history, except that the father appeared to be decidedly neurotic. The child was a full-term child; walked at ten months; talked at nine months. An attack of measles noticed at two years of age; no complications; no sequelæ. Never suffered from indigestion or constipation to any extent. About a year ago the child was taken suddenly with an attack of stiffening of the limbs, both arms and legs, and blueness of the face. She is far advanced for her age, intellectually; more like a child of fifteen years. Present attack came on about 6.30 p.m. one day immediately