

case. "I thought at first," said he, "of indigestion, but, yesterday, I noticed quite a tumefaction in the right iliac region and I concluded that it must be a perityphlitis."

Outside of large centres, the fashionable appendicitis is still comparatively unknown; the people have remained faithful to the *inflammation of the bowels* of yore, which the rural physician, more learned, willingly calls typhlitis, peri-typhlitis and really, can we say that they are always wrong?

At any rate, the assertion of my confrere brought in a new support to the conviction already fixed in my mind. In fact, perfect health previously, sudden and persistent pain in the right iliac fossa, accompanied with vomiting and sluggishness of the bowels; finally, tumefaction and tenderness at McBurney's point we know what this means.

Had there been any fever? Here, I beg leave to make a short digression. There exist between practitioners two sorts of consultation. The first one, which most frequently occurs, is requested by the patient or those in his immediate surroundings. The physician is sure of his diagnosis and perfectly knows what to think of the whole matter, but, they have lost confidence; that cannot be helped. They get discouraged and, gossips helping, they insist in getting another doctor's opinion.

Beware—and here, I address myself to the younger men,—beware, and never commit the imprudence of refusing to acquiesce in the wishes of the family. Gracefully submit to the annoyance imposed upon you; after all, it may be nothing but a pardonable caprice. Consent with pleasant smiles to all they want; you have everything to gain by it. You shall be declared conciliating and charming, and the consulting physician, if he be neither jealous nor imbecile, will share your opinion in everything and this will add to your reputation. The patient will pay double fees and regain the confidence he had lost. Who knows? Perhaps this moral quietness might have a favourable therapeutic influence upon the subsequent evolution of the disease.

The other kind of consultation? This is another affair. An obscure point in the diagnosis; an abnormal and inexplicable feature in the cause of the symptoms; you belong to the privileged class of physicians who have studied enough to be convinced that there are in pathology a few things which one may ignore; you feel that it is your duty to seek the help of a friendly confrere whom you then choose *yourself* whose special knowledge in certain matters you are personally aware of; call him in consultation. But, pray! do facilitate his task which is often very difficult. If especially the question is to establish or confirm a