

ed isthmus, there may be developed a hæmorrhagic cyst in one portion exercising special pressure upon the trachea. Doubtless the median position of the enlargement and the absence of lateral swelling led to failure to recognize the condition during life.

The main moral to be gained from this case, is that in districts where goitre is prevalent, as it is along the St. Lawrence valley, periodical attacks of so-called asthma should be regarded with suspicion, so that cyanosis accompanied by a certain amount of stridor should lead in the absence of other explanations, to the careful examination of the lower portion of the neck.

### FOREIGN BODIES IN THE VERMIFORM APPENDIX—NEW SURGICAL POINTS.

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IT is considered that in about 7 per cent. of all cases of appendicitis, there were true foreign bodies found. The objects that have been found in the appendix are shots, bullets, pins, worms, gall-stones, teeth, pieces of bone, grape seeds, cherry-stones, tongue-grass, wisk broom, pieces of fish fin, oat-husks, date-seeds, apple pips and beans. At a post-mortem examination, Holmes found 122 bird shot in an appendix, and the patient, a man, had had no symptoms during life which pointed to the appendix. Sharp pointed bodies, as pins and spiculæ of bones, are common and quite dangerous. Coleman recorded a case in which a piece of bone was found in a dilated appendix, and had evidently been present for a long time, but externally there were no signs of inflammation. Thus, while foreign bodies generally cause rapidly progressive inflammation, yet even large and rough bodies may give rise to no symptoms at all, or may lead to chronic or recurrent appendicitis. Mitchell collected 33 cases in which a pin was found in the appendix at operation or autopsy, two instances in which a pin had perforated the cæcum; and in no single case had there been any knowledge of swallowing a pin. Pins lodge more often in the appendix of males than females. Many are seen in children under ten years of age; others in adults in various occupations and conditions of life. Generally foreign bodies, such as pins and other sharp, slender bodies lead to rapid perforation and abscess formation, etc., but not always, and any type of appendicitis may result with symptoms lasting for months or years. A pin usually enters the appendix straight by its head or point, lying with its long axis parallel to that of the appendix, and perforation usually occurs with its point; but exceptionally it lays