

sent to me at the Samaritan Hospital, by Dr. Sharpe, one of our staff.

Mrs. H., 56 years of age, a mother of four children, and two miscarriages; last pregnancy fourteen years ago. Menopause at fifty. Had good health and did all her own work until a few days before admission, when one day, while working at the wash-tub, she was suddenly taken with a severe pain in the right side and was barely able to crawl into bed. She began vomiting, and when Dr. Sharp saw her a few hours later she had a temperature of 103 and a pulse of 120. On examination there was a tense swelling larger than an orange, the centre of which was exactly situated at McBurney's point. The right side of the abdomen was tender and tense; it was dull on percussion and fluctuating, and all those who examined it had little hesitation in saying that it was a case of appendicitis which had reached the abscess stage and was walled off by adhesions, and all agreed that it should be opened and drained without delay. This was done, the incision being made exactly over McBurney's point and in going through the layers the tense pus sac was reached and a large trochar was driven into it, when at least a pint of thin pus escaped. The trochar was removed, the opening enlarged with the finger and the cavity thoroughly cleaned out, some debris of cellular tissue being removed by the fingers. My rule in these cases is not to break down the wall of defence, and as the appendix could not be readily found, the search of it was abandoned before any harm was done. At the bottom of the abscess a round dark solid body could be seen and felt, which was evidently the right kidney apparently prolapsed, and I remarked to Dr. Sharpe that prolapse of the right kidney was recognized as a factor in causing appendicitis. Two pieces of drainage tube were inserted and gauze was packed around them to keep away the intestines, for a healthy coil of the latter had come into the incision towards the end of the operation. The good results