

while it gives at once a certain diagnosis and permits of any necessary further treatment.

In the case of acute obstruction, it is advised to clear stomach by emetic or by stomach tube; an enema should be given to empty bowel to clear away retained matters below point of obstruction, and thus relieve the tension and stop formation of gas due to intestinal decomposition; he believes there is at present too great an inclination for operative treatment in cases of appendicitis.

Whether an extensive resection of the bowel for a malignant neoplasm will do more for the relief of suffering and the prolongation of useful life than was formerly obtained by the formation of an artificial anus, time alone will tell.

Little sympathy is expressed with the most recent development of uterine surgery. To fix the uterus or broad ligaments to the anterior parietal peritoneum is a proceeding against nature. Alexander's operation was a scientific conception, but the objections to it and its frequent ultimate failure outweigh its possible benefits. The cases are very rare in which such a proceeding is necessary, nearly all cases being curable by careful attention to the general health of the patient and medicinal remedies to restore tone to the uterus and broad ligaments, aided, it may be, for a time by a simple vaginal support.

American surgeons are credited with having done more than either English or continental surgeons in making out improved methods for the removal of uterine tumors. The method of Baer is singled out as being the most surgical. It does not seem that there is a great future for the surgical treatment of malignant disease of the uterus, and he ventures to hope that the ovaries and tubes will not be removed as frequently in the future as they have been in the past.

Nephrorraphy is highly praised, and to-day a large number of people are relieved from suffering, and many returned from invalidism to useful and comfortable life.

A NEW AND ORIGINAL METHOD FOR OBTAINING MATERIAL FOR SKIN-GRAFTING.

Dr. Zera J. Lusk, of Warsaw, N.Y. (*Medical Record*, December 7, 1895), described a case in which he produced a blister, and used the epithelium as a grafting material. The patient was a woman, aged 52 years, who had a large varicose ulcer two and one-half inches in diameter, three inches above the ankle on the outer surface of the left leg. She had worn elastic hose and tried all kinds of ointments for eight years. The granulations were unhealthy and bathed with a four-smelling discharge. The treatment consisted first in thorough curettement, followed by stimulating applications, so that in ten days the granulations appeared healthy. A surface on the left thigh near the anterior superior spinous process was made aseptic, and on it was applied a piece of