

Notes.

A SINUS TO THE KIDNEY.

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Edward C——, age 36; American; admitted March 21st, 1900. Diagnosis: A sinus in back on right side leading down to the pelvis of right kidney. This condition was the result of an operation performed three years before at Bellevue hospital for the removal of the suprarenal capsule. After the patient had been discharged from Bellevue, he started in about his work, but had to give it up at the end of six months, complaining of great pain over the affected side. He being a resident of Boston at that time, entered the wards of the Massachusetts General Hospital, and was there operated upon for closure of the sinus. The operation was without result. He underwent a second operation, which was also a failure. A third operation was performed, and this also resulted unfavorably. He says he was discharged, the surgeon there telling him that unless he had the kidney removed, nothing more could be done for him.

On March 22nd, I made a careful examination, and found the sinus leading directly down in almost a straight line to the pelvis of the kidney, and that it was kept in a highly irritated condition by the constant escape of urine. I advised operation, but this he stubbornly refused; therefore without any definite promise, I started in to accomplish the best result possible by other means. I first began by sterilizing the kidney by the internal administration of a half gram of urotropin dissolved in water and given three times daily. Coincident with the beginning of this, I irritated the walls of the sinus with a small dermal curette, and packed it with sterilized gauze soaked in bovine pure. This packing was changed every three hours.

On April 1st, the sinus had begun to heal from the bottom. Packing still continued.

On April 6th, the bottom of the sinus had healed, so that now no urine escaped. Bovine packing was continued, great care being taken not to break down the new forming tissue at the bottom of the sinus. The patient was also, from the beginning of the treatment, put on a wineglassful of bovine internally every three hours in lime water.