

milk, a little bread without crust, butter, then fish, and later fowl and meat.

In acute cases, with swelling and tenderness, leeches may be applied; but they are of no use when suppuration has occurred. Intestinal antiseptics may be given when the bowels are moving, such as salol, B. naphthol, sodi salicylate, etc., Absolute rest must be insisted upon.

Mr. C. B. Lockwood, of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, in his work on appendicitis, lays down the medical and expectant treatment in the following terms:—

"The treatment consists in absolute rest in bed, enough opium to relieve pain, a fluid and peptonized diet, and enemas to open the bowels. Absolute rest should include the avoidance, as far as possible, of abdominal or rectal examinations."

He states that opium is best given by the rectum in doses of 10 to 20 minims of the tincture in a small nutrient or starch enema.

For the purpose of moving the bowels a dose of calomel of three to five grains is recommended, and an ordinary soap enema containing half an ounce of turpentine and castor oil. He has never seen any harm come from the use of such an enema, beyond a little pain, vomiting or erythema.

The use of blisters and leeches are not favored, as they injure the skin and may give rise to suppuration should an operation be required. Warm applications to the abdomen seem to afford the best relief from pain, and to these the tincture of opium may be added.

In chronic appendicitis he has seen benefit from small doses of salol or B.-Naphthol; but, he says, it is doubtful whether such feeble intestinal antiseptics can do much good in many cases.

When an operation has been decided upon in an acute case, but it cannot be performed for a short time, a hypodermic injection of morphine is recommended, as a means of allaying pain, and lessening peristalsis.

Messrs. W. H. Battle and E. M. Corner, surgeons to St. Thomas' Hospital, outline the medical treatment of acute cases thus:—

"It has been, and is, the custom to treat cases of appendicitis with milk, beef tea, etc., as food; rest in bed, fomentations to the abdomen, doses of opium. With regard to the opium, the least possible amount should be given, as it masks the symptoms, and gives a feeling of false security to the patient, the friends, and the medical attendant."

With regard to a purgative, they state that this treatment has often been blamed, while, on the other hand, it has frequently been praised if the case did well. "If the case is seen shortly after the attack, and the vomiting permits of it, a purgative is a good thing." After the end of the first day, the purgatives must be given with caution.