

In reply to Dr. Forrest, he said acids would not make alkaline-urine acid as a rule. There were two exceptions; benzoic and oxalic acid would.

Dr. H. Walker presented four calculi he had removed from a pocket in the base of the bladder of an old man aged seventy-five. The patient complained of symptoms in the heat of summer. The stones, although large, could not be reached by sounds. The lateral operation was done with good recovery following. Dr. Walker then referred to a case of pylorectomy, the specimen of which he presented to the Society some weeks ago. He reported the patient as doing well. The button had passed. It showed signs of corrosion of its plating. After eight days the patient had become suddenly blind. The blindness was more marked in one eye than in the other, but the sight was gradually returning. He asked for an explanation of the cause.

Dr. R. A. Reeve said it was difficult to say what the cause of the blindness was without an ophthalmological examination. He adverted to the various causes of sudden blindness, and referred to some cases he had seen. The symptoms in the case reported were somewhat anomalous.

Dr. Peters said that the operation of pylorectomy was usually unsuccessful. He had assisted at two cases which had proved fatal. Such cases were liable to succumb to secondary growths. The operation, however, gave the patient comfort while he lived.

Dr. Webster asked Dr. Walker's opinion of the operation of stitching the bowel to the stomach in these cases, instead of using the button.

Dr. Walker said he preferred the button, as it required much less time. He inclined to think the blindness was due to some specific poison. In all cases of abdominal difficulty of this sort where there was any doubt as to the diagnosis, he was strongly in favor of an exploratory laparotomy. He had never had an accident nor heard of one.

Dr. W. J. Wilson, in referring to the last point, said that he knew of a case in which death had occurred within three days after an exploratory incision.

Dr. Walker said that death in this case was perhaps due to sepsis.

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A STEP LOWER.—St. Louis is the proud possessor of two hospitals, each owned by a stock company and run for the profits in the business. People are solicited to become members by paying fifty cents a week, for which, in case of sickness, they receive hospital care. This is the lowest stage yet reached by the hospital abuse.—*Cleveland Journal*.