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**CASE OF INFLAMMATION OF THE APPENDIX  
 VERMIFORMIS,**

**FROM GALL STONES LODGING IN IT—ENDING IN  
 GANGRENE AND DEATH.**

By **WOLFRED NELSON, Esq.**

*The post mortem appearances (with lithograph), reported by  
 J. CRAWFORD M. D.*

On Friday, 1st inst., 3 P. M., was called to the *Rev Mr. Strong*: complained of "a fixed pain at the bottom and on the right side of the belly. The tip of your finger can cover the part—the pain is much increased when there is a peristaltic motion of the bowels—violent gripings come on about every 20 or 30 minutes—no thirst, but the mouth is dry." Such was the description he gave of his case. Mr. S. was 31 years of age, of a bilious temperament, habitually costive; would occasionally take blue pill followed by seidlitz powder: had had no move for the last 24 hours. The skin was moist and cool, pulse about 80 and soft, tongue white. Of calomel, jalap and rhubarb 10 grains each, were given; a drachm of soluble tartar in a pint of water for drink. Bags of heated oats or bran to be kept constantly over the pain. Saw him again at 7 P. M. Had passed a copious, soft stool, deep brown colour and very offensive odor, with much flatus. "Much better, the griping less severe and frequent, but the pain still in the same spot." Five grains cal. with one of ext. aconite and half a grain ext. belladonna in a pill were given. Continue hot applications, sol. tartar, &c. Enemas with castor oil to be administered during the night should the pain increase.

2nd, 9 A. M. "Passed an uneasy night; occasional slumber but no refreshing rest: griping less often but extremely severe: the pain always in the same place:" skin, pulse, and tongue as yesterday. "No pain on pressure but on that particular spot;" countenance dejected, eyes sunken, and tinged with yellow. Two enemas had been given in the night, some liquid fæces passed. Repeated the calomel, &c. 12 P. M., no amendment: two grains calomel every hour—fomentations. 3 P. M., "Fixed pain and griping more violent," yet was there *no reaction nor pain of the abdomen, save "in that one spot."* Bled to the extent of 22 ounces: became faint, had a copious liquid stool, and passed large volumes of flatus; felt much relieved; continued medicine. 7 P. M., "better than at any time yet, but that

little place is always very painful, and the griping though less often is very severe." To the calomel was added half a grain of morphine: a blister applied over the right iliac region; bags filled with hot oats to be continued; soluble tartar, as usual. 3rd, 2 A. M., was sent for, had become suddenly worse; "pain in the part intense: running down to the anus and to the end of the urethra: if you could only open that small place how it would relieve me; mouth dry; but not thirsty:" surface cool; pulse 90 and weak: bottles filled with hot water to the feet, &c. Notwithstanding the symptoms of collapse, twelve leeches were placed over the right groin, the pain being so intense there. The blood taken yesterday highly buffed.

The patient had been made aware of the nature of his case from the first: I requested that other medical aid might be had: in about two hours I had the pleasure of having Dr. Crawford's valuable assistance. The Doctor concurred in my view of the case and in all that had been done. A few drops of the arom. spt. amm. were given as a gentle diffusible stimulus. Bags of bran steeped in hot water were applied over the leech bites, which bled rather freely. Four grains calomel, two of ext. hyos. and two of opium were given every four hours. Once between each dose, the cal. and hyosalone were to be taken. 9 A. M., we returned, found a striking alteration in the symptoms. The surface was now warm: the pulse 120, small and hard: the abdomen becoming tense; pain more diffused: continued medicine, fomentations, &c.

Anticipating the necessity for the further application of leeches, a number were ordered to be provided against the next visit.

1 P. M.—We were joined by Drs. Campbell and McDonnell: were unanimous as to the nature of the case: external heat much increased: "pain had shot all over the abdomen:" pulse 140, small and hard: breathing hurried. Eighteen leeches were applied over the right hypogastrium and a large blister over the epigastrium: medicine as usual. 6 P. M., met Drs. Crawford and McDonnell: all the unfavourable symptoms much aggravated: at 9 met Dr. C. again: evidently sinking: died at 2 P. M.

It is worthy of remark, that so long as the pain was confined to the region over the appendix vermiformis