

told her that after the cold was relieved that he must undergo a course of treatment, which would prevent his catching these colds. She looked skeptical, but agreed that if such could be accomplished that it was certainly "a consummation devoutly to be wished." He recovered from his cold in due time, and I then gave some medicine to fortify him against similar attacks. He usually had such an attack, on an average, once every three weeks. At about the end of the three weeks I was called again to a similar attack, but it was so much lighter than his former ones that his mother was somewhat encouraged. His next cold did not appear for three months, and it was very slight. His mother told me that he no longer sat beside her all day, but ran out and played with the other children. I kept up his treatment for about a year. It proved a very poor financial investment, for during the following six or seven years that I remained in Massachusetts I did not see him more than once a year. He had no more of his colds, and became a strong, healthy, robust boy.

(To be Continued.)

APPENDICITIS.

A physician of Springfield, Mass., Dr. A. O. Squier, takes a view of appendicitis that differs radically from the one that is believed to be held by the majority of practitioners. In a paper which he read before the Eastern Hampden Medical Society a few days ago, he made the assertion that from experience and observation extending over twenty years he had deduced the opinion that of all persons attacked by appendicitis, eighty per cent. will recover without an operation, while the other twenty per cent. will die, whether an operation is performed or not. In short, his belief is that the performance of an operation makes no material difference in the result of a case of appendicitis, unless it be that a patient may die from the operation who would not have died from the disease.

As Dr. Squier is a specialist in diseases of the stomach and bowels, and has reached his conclusion only after long experience and observation his opinion is of importance. There are some practitioners who have not looked with favor upon operations for the removal of the vermiform appendix at any time, but who have advised an operation when there seemed to be a certainty that the patient would die from the disease, as in such cases the operation would have no worse result than the disease, while possibly it might have a favorable outcome. In some such cases recovery followed the operation. Other doctors insist that an op-

eration be performed even when the attack is mild in order to prevent recurrence. Some of the patients in whose cases this course was pursued died.

It would seem, therefore, that the physician who consistently advises against operation in all cases is likely to make as good a record in the treatment of the disease as either the one who would always operate, or the one who would sometimes operate and sometimes not. He has at least the advantage that he does not run the risk of killing a patient with an operation.

Dr. Squier's opinion will doubtless evoke a great deal of discussion as soon as it becomes generally known to members of the profession, and there will be the customary disagreement among them over it.—Albany Journal.

CARBO VEGETABILIS AS A COUGH REMEDY.

(By Dr. Goullon.)

Mrs. Von M. was always troubled with acid, but also complains of a bitter taste in the mouth; she had with some success used *natrum sulphuricum*. This had cleared off the tongue, which had been coated brown even to its tip. But the patient continues to be fearfully depressed and despondent. She has also passed through a severe bronchial catarrh, which has not entirely passed off. This has, therefore, to be now combatted.

A characteristic feature is the following: After a slight cough the patient ejects a very compact greenish gray mass "like the slime that comes from the nose in some kinds of catarrh"; this puts her out very much, owing to the horrid taste of this expectoration, which is putrid and very salty, at times also bitter. She absolutely shudders from loathing.

She eats but little meat, at most, venison or chicken, preferring vegetables, dishes made of flour, puddings, etc.

I took it that *Carbo veget* was indicated. This was on the fifth of February.

On February 17th she wrote: "According to your request I write concerning my state. The *Carbo veg.* has been used up. The effect after the first and second dose proved so curative that the patient overflowed with thanks toward the prescriber, and the catarrh was immediately cured, together with its disagreeable symptoms. The help was sudden, and we are very thankful."—Hom. Record.