

Beyond the constriction there was a dilated portion filled with pus. A foreign body composed of hard faecal matter was found. The patient made a good recovery.

In the next case, a week before I saw the patient, he had an attack of sudden pain in the right iliac region, which continued. The temperature became elevated, but the pulse was not much affected. There was no vomiting, and on examination tenderness was elicited by pressure midway between the anterior superior spine of the ilium and the ensiform cartilage. No definite mass could be felt under the hand and there was no marked rigidity of the right abdominal muscles. I felt satisfied that there was some serious change that had taken place in connection with the appendix, and that the patient would be safer after an operation than if left alone: I told him he would be safer with his appendix in a bottle, but that he might choose for himself.

Operation was done in the usual way. The appendix was found with a large pinkish-tinted, fat-filled mesentery, freely movable in the abdominal cavity, just under the point of greatest tenderness on pressure. It was difficult to find, owing to the fact that it was very high up and was curled forward in front of the cæcum, on a level with, or a little above, the navel. Patient made a good recovery.

The appendix contained a foreign body—a hardened faecal mass. After hardening in formaline, I found an area commencing to break down. On examination from the appendiceal side, a small perforation was found leading into the fat.

Owing to the fact that perforation had not taken place into the abdominal cavity the symptoms were not so severe as usual. Had no operation been performed, I am satisfied that in a short time pus would have formed in the mesentery of the appendix, and that it would all probably have perforated into the abdominal cavity and have given rise to the so-called secondary rupture.

Case VI., Mr. V. Patient suffered from several attacks of appendicitis, one of them very severe, in which he nearly lost his life. Did not recover his health; remained pale and anæmic. A thickening could be felt. Opened the abdomen to the right of the right rectus muscle by the vertical incision. After a great deal of searching, found the appendix imbedded in a mass of adhesions upward and outward on a level with the navel. Stripped off the adhesions and finally isolated the appendix. No pus was found. There was evidence of an old perforation, three-eighths of an inch from the tip. The tip remained like a knob almost broken off. The remainder of the appendix did not show any very great change, except that it was very patulous up into the intestine.