

revealed nothing pathological, nor could any induration be felt through the vagina or rectum. She had a daily rise of temperature to 100° or 101°F . The thighs were kept flexed much of the time, and pain in the psoas region occurred on flexing the right thigh against resistance; a daily enema was required; the appetite was poor, and the sleep much disturbed by pain. She soon began to improve, and in a month or six weeks could turn in bed with only slight discomfort; her appetite was better, the pain less, and the temperature much of the time normal. The tenderness in the abdomen, however, persisted and became more marked over the cæcal region; and one or two tentative efforts at sitting up were followed by rise of temperature and return of pain lasting two days or more. It now seemed that the history and course of the case had excluded every other pathological condition but some chronic inflammation at the location of the cæcum and appendix, and that the time for surgical exploration had arrived, and my colleagues, Drs. Parkes and Merriman, examined her at my request and agreed that an operation was justifiable. Laparotomy was made by Dr. Parkes, and the appendix was found enlarged in its diameter, hard and tense, projecting forward in an erect position, and deeply congested. No other pathological condition was discovered in the abdomen. The appendix was extirpated and found to contain three small enteroliths, and a quantity of thick, tenacious mucus; its walls were thickened. On laying it open longitudinally it assumed instantly a rolled form in the reverse direction—apparently the peritoneum contracted and the thickened mucous membrane and muscular tissue became extended. The patient made a good recovery from the operation and her symptoms have disappeared.”

There was in this case no evidence of beginning ulceration of the appendix, and so no immediate danger of a perforation, but the tension of the organ was so great as to prove the existence of an almost complete closure of its opening, and must have led to ulceration sooner or later. Moreover, the patient apparently would have been a permanent invalid without the operation.