

in these cases differs very much. He has cut down on twenty or thirty kidneys, in some of which the stone was not diagnosed. He opens the abscess and irrigates the cavity thoroughly, mopping it out with a sponge held in a pair of forceps. The cavity heals in time. Has never had occasion to remove a kidney. Sometimes the recovery is so slow that we may regret not having removed the diseased organ, but with a little more care and attention to cleanliness and treatment it gets well. Open freely and drain thoroughly, irrigate daily, and trust to nature for recovery. All must feel that frequently kidneys are removed unnecessarily.

DR. HINGSTON thinks that one should not be unduly timid about the condition in which we find the case. He has operated with good results when the patient was apparently in a hopelessly bad condition. If satisfied that the patient was dying from the effects of a stone in the kidney and nothing else, he would not hesitate to operate.

DR. SHEPHERD remarked, in connection with the operation of removal of the kidney, that sometimes owing to adhesions to surrounding parts such a procedure was extremely difficult. He would prefer to remove the stone and wash out the cavity, for as long as any of the secreting tissue remained the organ could perform a certain amount of work and relieve the other. In a case in which he had removed the kidney, the patient died five years after of calculous pyelitis in the other kidney, obstinately refusing any further operation. Sometimes operation relieves all the symptoms although no stone is found and the kidney not removed, although previously the symptoms have been most marked. He instanced the case of a street car driver who had been fully relieved by such an operation.

DR. ARMSTRONG merely called attention to two points. The first, that frequently a stone gave rise to no symptoms, and, secondly, the intermittent nature of the symptoms, illustrating his remarks by the history of a case. He called attention to the amount of recovery that could take place in an apparently hopelessly damaged kidney.