

APPENDICITIS TREATMENT.

Is Resort Too Often Had to Heroic Measures?

Drs. Dixon and Bailey Comment on the Method Pursued by Some Physicians.

The "Record-Union" gives space to the following communications from Drs. G. M. Dixon and A. G. Bailey on what they term "The Appendicitis Fad." As to the merits of the question, readers must form their own opinions.

It has been said that medicine and surgery are not sciences but are merely arts, and while the statement is too general and sweeping, it is in a measure true, particularly with reference to a portion of the profession.

The true scientist is not influenced in any degree by popular fads or fashions, while the devotee of art usually works in harmony with, and derives his inspiration even, from the impulses and prevailing fads of the people.

A portion of the profession has, particularly within the present decade, given itself over to a wild and unreasoning race after medical and surgical fads, without apparent regard for the rights of a confiding public, or for their own honor and dignity, and no instance is more striking than the present indiscriminate search for and removal of the appendix vermiformis.

In what I have said and shall say upon this at present all-important subject, I shall avoid so far as possible, technical terms, and I wish it distinctly understood, that I do not intend any personal reflections upon local members of the profession.

Sacramento is fortunate in having an unusually large number of talented and skillful medical men, but here also—paradoxical as it may seem—there has been an unusual, and believe unwarranted, indulgence in this surgical disease, resulting in the death of a number of individuals, some of them of such prominence as to arouse the thoughtful public to a vigorous protest against the practice.

The time seems ripe for public protests from the profession itself, not only with reference to the present subject, but also regarding other dangerous and absurd fads now agitating the profession.

What is the appendix vermiformis? Where is it located in the human organism? and why is it made the point of attack by so many of our surgeons? It is a long, narrow, worm-shaped tube varying from three to six inches in length, the average diameter being about equal to that of a quill, its canal terminating in a blunt point or cul-de-sac, the other end attached to movement of the large intestine immediately below the point of union between the small and the large intestine, around which latter it snugly curls.

Its location is in the right side of the abdominal cavity, at a point about midway on and slightly below a line drawn from the navel to the point of the right hip-bone. Its location may vary one or more inches from the above point—a fact which often greatly adds to the difficulties of an operation for its removal.

The disease is amenable to medical or to surgical treatment, or to combined medical and surgical treatment, and it is to be distinctly understood as saying that there are occasional cases which require surgical interference, even to the extent of the entire removal of the appendix, but such extreme measures are only justifiable as a last resort, for a very large proportion of all cases can be cured or made fairly comfortable by medicinal measures alone.

My own experience, and that of members of my school of practice, proves conclusively that cases thus treated rarely recur, but no reason exists why an appendix should not be as inflammable as a second or third attempt is rightly directed. There is comfort in the knowledge, that so many forms of sickness are not due to any actual disease, but simply to a constipated condition of the system, and the pleasant family laxative, Syrup of Figs, promptly removes. That is why it is the only remedy with millions of families, and is everywhere esteemed so highly by all who value good health.

Its beneficial effects are due to the fact, that it is a remedy which promotes internal cleanliness without debilitating the organs on which it acts. It is therefore all important, in order to get its beneficial effects, to note when you purchase, that you have the genuine article, which is manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only and sold by all reputable druggists.

If in the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, laxatives or other remedies are then not needed. If afflicted with any actual disease, one may be commended to the most skillful physicians, but if in need of a laxative, one should have the genuine and well-informed Syrup of Figs stand highest and is most largely used and gives most general satisfaction.

There seems to be a popular but wholly unwarranted impression that inflammation of the appendix means certain death unless removed by the surgeon. The appendix is a vital organ, but not necessary to life.

There are certain distinct, well-defined symptoms, the manifestation of which justify surgical measures, and these are such as clearly indicate to the skilled surgeon that suppuration has occurred in the appendix, and that they are treated medically, and as a general rule the disease is moved. Why not treat the inflammation of the less vital organ in a similar manner, and avoid the dangers of surgical measures? For inflammation of the appendix is no more serious, and usually less serious, than inflammation of other organs.

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of the conservative class would only operate in extreme cases and then only as a last resort, while still others are ranged in front of the way between these two extremes.

That many operations are ill-advised or unskillfully performed is evidenced by the fact that often two, three or more operations are made upon one patient during a single attack in some instances with less than twenty-four to forty-eight hours intervening.

The medical and surgical journals are now teeming with articles discussing this subject, and it is probable that time, study and continued discussion will eventually bring a settled determination of the questions involved which will harmonize the diverse opinions; but meantime, as in the past, must valuable human lives be sacrificed upon the altar of a blind, unreasoning surgical fad and no effort be made to stay its hands of its reckless, ambitious, and unscrupulous followers?

I am well aware that an article such as this rarely comes from a member of the medical profession and, fortunately, is rarely called for, but it is the result of thoughtful, mature deliberation, and I wish here to say that I have no personal motive, and no desire to bring discredit upon the profession, but only to bring about a better understanding by the general public of this important subject my purpose will have been accomplished. G. M. DIXON, M. D.

ANOTHER DOCTOR'S VIEWS. Fads are at all times vicious; they may become dangerous or even positively harmful. And this is especially true of the tendency exhibited by the medical profession to resort to purely surgical methods in the treatment of appendicitis, a disease which has recently become fashionable and which, according to popular ideas, may be considered well-nigh epidemic.

Appendicitis is a modern term employed to designate a pathological condition, not well defined, but newly designated, and while this obscure disease doubtless existed and possibly claimed many victims in the past, the question can not fall to present itself to the thoughtful mind why it should have attained such undue prominence of late?

Do Not Miss the Chance. Six most new upright pianos, also a few squares, for sale cheap or for rent. Pommer's Music Store, No. 817 J street.

You Must Sow Before Harvesting. The only reliable and complete seed store in Sacramento is the Pacific Strong Seed and Plant Co., where everything in the seed line can be had at the lowest prices, 723 J street. Catalogues free.

Barker Collar. The latest just arrived from New York; very high and comfortable. Call and see it. W. M. Petrie, 622 J.

The Best is the Cheapest. For high grade, fresh and smoked sausages of all kinds try Mohr & York Packing Company.

Anheuser-Busch Brewing Association. Recommends the use of the greatest of all tonics, "Malt-Nutrine," and guarantees the merits claimed for it. For sale by all druggists.

SPECIAL—A real Japanese cream pitcher given free with every two packages of Java blend coffee. Price, 25c package. C. C. C.

The cows are coming in, and milk pans are in great demand; 6-quart size, 70c doz; 8-quart 80c; 10-quart \$1.00; 12-quart \$1.25. American Cash Store, Eighth and K.

A large can of pineapple for 10 cents. A large can of baked beans in tomato sauce, 10 cents. Deane Bros., 20th & J.

The only genuine domestic bread sold at the Pacific Grove Bakery, 823 J.

Wire your house. Get prices electric fixtures. Tom Scott, plumber, 303 J.

Dr. Weldon, 806 J street, extracts teeth without pain; local anesthetic.

First-class tinning and plumbing done by Miller Bros., 1116 J.

We fill any doctor's prescription. Will save you money. Green's Pharmacy, 7th and K streets.

Some people are "never influenced by advertisement."

That's right! that's right! Don't you believe in anything! and when we offer to give your money back if you don't like something—for instance, Schilling's Best tea—look out, or we'll give you a nicked quarter, or a punched fifty-cents.

MARRIED. WADE-BROWN—In this city, February 23d, at the residence of son-in-law, Will E. Brown, by Rev. Father of St. John, John Wade of Washington, Yolo county, to Mrs. Emily S. Brown of Sacramento.

DIED. WOODS—In Washington, Yolo county, February 25th, John L. Woods, husband of Julia Ann Woods (father of John L. Woods, Jr., of this city, Mr. Mary Short of San Francisco, Mrs. Samuel Kingsbury and Mrs. Albert Kern of this city), a native of Baltimore, Md., aged 52 years and 6 months.

Judge of Santa Clara. Governor Eudd yesterday appointed and commissioned A. S. Kittredge of Santa Clara county Judge of the Superior Court of Santa Clara County. This is the new position created by an Act of the present Legislature and gives that county three Superior Judges in all.

And Now for Clients. Superior Judge Johnson yesterday admitted Bissell Thomas to practice in the courts of this county. This was done on the motion of A. A. De Ligne and the presentation of a license from the Illinois Supreme Court.

Larsener Convicted. A number of witnesses were present yesterday morning in the Police Court when the case of George J. Larsener, charged with cruelty to animals, was called. The defendant was convicted and will be sentenced to-day.

NEW FAIR GROUNDS.

The Sale of Old Agricultural Park is Now in Order.

President C. M. Chase and Secretary Smith of the State Agricultural Society were all smiles yesterday, and when asked the secret of their happiness, Mr. Chase replied: "Well, the Governor has signed the bill permitting the sale of the old Agricultural Park, and now the State Society will have the means with which to purchase new grounds outside the city, where it will have more room."

"Yes," added Secretary Smith, "and we'll have one of the finest fair grounds in the country. The old buildings at Agricultural Park are all out of date and not fit for the purposes for which they have to be used. When the new grounds are selected there will be plenty of room and the improvements will be in keeping with the age."

Asked whether or not they thought the new fair grounds could be secured and improved in time for the holding of the next State Fair, they could not say. Both gentlemen, however, said it might be possible, if no unlooked-for delays occurred, to do so.

The Pay-Car To-Day. It is announced that the railroad pay-car will be here to-day with its usual monthly supply of coin for the company's employees.

To Cure a Cold in One Day. Take Laxative Bromo Quinine Tablets. All druggists refund the money if it fails to cure. 25c.

A Bicycle Snap. This is a chance of a lifetime to get your mount for '97. We are closing out the '96 stock of machines at a very low figure in order to make room for the '97 stock. You can buy the '96 Rambler for \$80. Only a few '96 famous Waverley's for \$50. Second-hand machines almost given away. The '97 Rambler will be sold for \$80. If you desire to be made happy call and get a '97 Rambler catalogue of F. M. Jones, 724 J street.

New Line. In connection with our jewelry establishment, we carry a complete line of optical goods. Are prepared to diagnose and correct errors of refraction. Eyes tested free by our Mr. R. B. Klune, graduate of the Chicago Ophthalmic College. Klune & Floberg, 428 J street.

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Beware of Fake Editorials. PATENT MEDICINE MANUFACTURERS are losing their grip and are squealing like pigs. Druggists all over the United States are manufacturing their own remedies. No patent medicine in this country has ever worked like 3-Day Malaria Cure and Ott's Liver Pills, both guaranteed. We sell 3,000 bottles of each remedy last year.

FRANCIS S. OTT, Druggist, 200 K street, south side, Second and K.

WEINSTOCK, LUBIN & CO. TO-DAY, 9:30. SATURDAY, SPECIAL SALE. Separate Skirts. Men's Working Trousers. Men's Shoes, \$1 50. Children's Pebble Goat Shoes. Tissue Suitings. Weinstock, Lubin & Co., 400-412 K STREET.

303 HAVE ARRIVED At Eckhardt's Gun Store. THE "SAVAGE" RIFLE, 6-shot 303 Caliber, Smokeless. Call and see it. 609-611 K STREET.

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"WELL BRED, SOON WED." ARE QUICKLY MARRIED. Try it in Your Next House Cleaning.

NEW FLORIST. PLANTS! PLANTS! SPECIAL SALE. LARGE ROSE PLANTS. Large plants of Carnations, choicest varieties, 15c each. Cut Calla Lilies, only 25c per dozen. CHAS. C. NAVLET & BRO., Telephone 781 black, Stock, 906 Capital, 811 J Street.

PALMS, MAGNOLIAS, Umbrella Trees and Roses. H. McWILLIAMS, Florist, REDUCED RATES. ELM NURSERY, Twelfth and U streets. TELEPHONE 80.

A Man Without previous knowledge of the geography of the country cannot get LOST. If he has one of Rand, McNally & Co's Indexed Pocket Maps. Latest surveys—all the railroads and stage lines, population and location of all towns, information as to railroad, telegraph, express and mail facilities. Always in stock: California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Arizona. 25c each.

W. F. PURNELL, Bookseller and Stationer, 609 J Street.

What is More Attractive Than a pretty face with a fresh, bright complexion? For it, use Pozzoni's Powder.

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MORE BUSINESS. If you want to get into the Public Eye use an Edison Mimeograph. Advertise. Do your own printing. One thousand circulars at a cost of fifty cents. As a duplicating machine it has no equal. Get our new prices. H. S. CROCKER COMPANY, 208-210 J Street.

ELEGANT NEW PATTERNS IN Brussels Carpets 65 cents a Yard. CASH OR INSTALLMENTS. CHARLES T. CAMPBELL, 409 K STREET, Carpets and Furniture.

Pasteur Germ-Proof Water Filter. The only absolutely Germ-Proof Filter in the world. Ask your physician. His knowledge. Fitted up in your house free of charge and rented for \$1 a month or sold outright. EGGAN BROS., sole agents, 212 K Street, next door to Hale Bros. Phones, Sunset block 902, Capital 102.

FOUND AT LAST. WALTERS' CHAUL-MOO-GRA, The Great Blood Purifier. 409 K Street, Sixth and K.

IF YOU WANT A FASHIONABLE AND PERFECT-FITTING SUIT OF CLOTHES AT CUT-RATE PRICES YOU MUST GO TO JOE POHEIM, The Tailor. A full line of Spring and Summer Suits made to order from \$15 to \$25. Dress, Worked and Figue Suits made to order from \$17 to \$30. Pants to order from \$4 to \$10. Remember all goods are thoroughly shrunk before being cut. Rules for self-measurement and samples of cloth sent free on any address. Joe Poheim has the largest stock of clothing establishments on the Pacific Coast. 201 and 203 Montgomery St., corner Bush. 724, 84 and 86 Market St., San Francisco. 110 and 112 Market St., San Francisco, Cal. 455 Fourteenth St., Oakland, Cal. 623 and 625 K St., Sacramento, Cal. 1022, 1024, 1026 South Spring St., Los Angeles, Cal.

FURNITURE. A COMPLETE LINE OF FURNITURE and Bedding at the old stand, W. D. COMSTOCK'S, corner Fifth and K streets.

PRINTERS AND STATIONERS; THE BEST and cheapest in either branch, at DAY & JOY'S, 808 K street.

JEWELER. GREAT BARGAINS NOW AT J. HYMAN'S, JR., 506 J street. If you are buying nice in the jewelry line, novelties or fine watches. Also, repairing done by skillful workmen.

FUEL. WELL SEASONED, EXTRA QUALITY Lumber and White Oak Wood under shed. COALS of all kinds. W. K. COLE, Pioneer Wood and Coal Company, W. K. COLE, 1208 Second Street. Telephone 68.

RAILROAD TIME TABLE. SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY (PACIFIC SYSTEM). FEBRUARY 15, 1897. Trains Leave and are Due to Arrive at Sacramento:

Table with columns: LEAVE TRAINS RUN DAILY, ARRIVE (From), 11:30 P Ashland and Portland, 6:50 A 10:25 A Demig, El Paso & East, 2:50 P 11:45 A Atlantic Express from Ogden and East, 4:50 P 10:00 P European Mail for Ogden and East, 8:10 A 7:15 A Callista and Napa, 5:10 P 3:30 P Callista and Napa, 11:20 A 5:15 P Los Angeles, 10:50 A 10:30 P Colfax, 10:05 A 10:30 A Knights Landing & Oroville, 4:00 P 7:20 P Knights Landing & Oroville, 8:15 A 6:45 A Red Bluff via Knights Landing, 6:30 P 5:40 A Red Bluff via Woodlawn, 6:05 P 3:25 P Red Bluff via Marysville, 10:15 A 10:25 A Redding via Willows, 3:50 P 6:50 A Marysville via Roseville, 7:40 P 5:10 P San Fran via Benicia, 11:20 A 6:10 A San Fran via Benicia, 7:40 P 7:15 A San Fran via Benicia, 10:25 P 3:50 P San Fran via Benicia, 8:10 P 10:20 A San Fran via Benicia, 2:50 P 10:20 A San Fran via Livermore, 2:50 P 6:20 A San Jose, 2:50 P 10:20 A Santa Rosa, 2:50 P 7:15 A Vallejo and Santa Rosa, 8:10 P 2:30 P Vallejo and Santa Rosa, 11:20 A 5:15 P Stockton and Galt, 10:50 A 11:45 A Truckee and Reno, 4:50 P 10:30 P Truckee and Reno, 4:45 P 7:00 A Folsom and Placerville, 4:45 P 3:15 P Folsom and Placerville, 9:30 A

Fine Pocket Cutlery, ROGERS' KNIVES AND FORKS, CARVER SETS. SCHLAW, INGRAM, BATCHER & CO., 211 to 219 J Street.

Sparkling Steam Beer FROM KNAUER'S. PLEASES THE TASTE, IS A HEALTHFUL tonic, stimulating and invigorating. BREWERY NINTH AND P. IMPORTANT

FARMERS AND FRUIT GROWERS. WAKELEP'S SQUIRREL AND GOPHER exterminating poison—the most effective and economical squirrel poison known. Price reduced to 25c per lb. by mail. C. C. Agents, Grangers' Building, Tenth and K Streets.