

APPENDICITIS AND ITS SURGICAL TREATMENT,
WITH A REPORT OF ONE HUNDRED AND
EIGHTY-FIVE OPERATED CASES. By HERMAN
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delphia.

THIS is the third edition the author has brought out and it has been thoroughly revised and brought up to date. The histories of the cases have been omitted in this edition and in their place a classification according to their different forms has been substituted. The volume opens with a historical introduction, and the anatomy and histology of the appendix are minutely described. Under etiology, some of the predisposing causes mentioned are indigestion, constipation, previous attacks,

movable kidney, and constitutional disturbances, *e.g.*, tuberculosis, rheumatism, typhoid, dysentery, etc. Exciting causes are coproliths, foreign bodies, microbes, strictures, kinks and mechanical obstructions. Under pathology he makes use for descriptive purposes of three forms, simple catarrhal, ulcerated, and infectious appendicitis.

Clinically he distinguishes simple appendicitis, appendicitis with perforation and local circumscribed abscess, appendicitis with gangrene without perforation, appendicitis with gangrene, perforation and diffuse peritonitis, and chronic recurring appendicitis. The symptoms most frequently present are pain, tenderness to pressure, vomiting, constipation, rigidity of the abdominal muscles, tumor, chill, fever, costal respiration and leucocytosis. The treatment advised is surgical. The sooner these cases are operated on, the better, especially those beginning with acute pain, vomiting, rigidity, and fever which does not recede inside of twenty-four hours.

In this work the author has given us the conclusions arrived at by many of the surgeons, not only at home but abroad, and credits the Americans with first recognizing the fact that the disease is one for the surgeon to deal with exclusively. Its pages can be read with profit by both the surgeon and the general practitioner.