

**APPENDICITIS AND ITS
SURGICAL TREATMENT; WITH A
REPORT OF ONE HUNDRED AND
EIGHTY-FIVE OPERATED CASES**

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Appendicitis and Its Surgical Treatment; With a Report of One Hundred and Eighty-Five Operated Cases by Herman Mynter

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HERMAN MYNTER

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APPENDICITIS
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SURGICAL TREATMENT

WITH
*A REPORT OF ONE HUNDRED AND
EIGHTY-FIVE OPERATED CASES*

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THIRD REVISED EDITION

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PREFACE TO THE THIRD EDITION.

The kindness with which this work was received by the profession, and its rapid sale, have led me to review it and to attempt to bring it up to date. The second edition was partly burned in the fire which destroyed the Lippincott Publishing House in Philadelphia in 1899. The scope of the work is much the same as in the other editions, although a considerable amount of new material is added and many other authors have been consulted. The histories have been omitted, and in their place the cases have been classified according to their different clinical forms. The author hopes that the work may meet with continued favor and be of service to the profession at large.

H. MYNTER.

566 DELAWARE AVENUE,
BUFFALO, N. Y., May 10, 1900.

PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THE author has attempted in this work to sift the evidence and weigh the testimony for and against the operative treatment of appendicitis. While in the United States this disease is considered an almost exclusively surgical lesion, the same is by no means the case in other countries. We find there men of undoubted authority, and whose opinions are entitled to respectful attention, in the ranks of the conservative physicians, who operate only in exceptional cases and advise against surgical interference as a standard treatment. The author has, however, after careful study of a large number of foreign and American authors and of numerous statistics, come to the same conclusions as most other surgeons, that appendicitis is a surgical lesion and ought to be treated by surgical means, and that medicine is unable to prophesy as to the result in a given case or to prevent gangrene and perforation with resulting fatal peritonitis.

The surgical treatment, therefore, must be considered the conservative treatment, the quickly healing and least dangerous method, and it is radical in so far as a relapse is impossible. The medical treatment is a makeshift, uncertain in its results, unable to prevent the often fatal complications, and therefore dangerous.

For most of the older literature I am indebted to the Surgeon-General's library in Washington. It has been my purpose not to overlook any paper of importance, but, nevertheless, only a small number of English, French, German, and Scandinavian authors have been consulted. The American

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literature, I hope, will be found more complete. It is scattered through numerous periodicals, the files of most of which are kept in the library of the University of Buffalo.

The degree of Doctor of Medicine is not conferred in Denmark at graduation as in America. It requires the writing of a monograph showing special studies and individual experience, and is equivalent to *Habilitations Schrift* in Germany, conferring the right to give lectures in the halls of the University as *privat-docent*. Desiring to obtain the degree of Doctor of Medicine from his *alma mater*, the University of Copenhagen, twenty-six years after graduation, the author submitted this monograph to the University, and it was accepted in July, 1897.

H. MYNTER.

506 DELAWARE AVENUE,
BUFFALO, N. Y., February, 1898.

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