

Pvt.

94 AB Bn.

J.M.

Onset: Prior to 19 May 1943 - of abdominal pain.

Admitted: 20 May 1943 from 151 S.H., from 38 E.H.

Died: 27 May 1943 from extensive spread of infection from a ruptured appendix.

This 36 year old colored soldier became ill at an unrecorded time anterior to 19 May, at which date it is recorded that a kidney incision was made on the right side to drain a renal abscess demonstrated some time previously. He was admitted to the 12th Gen. Hosp. in very poor condition, temperature 101-102, pulse 140, distended and hiccoughing. He was incoherent and history could not be obtained. He was draining profusely from the right renal incision. The septic state persisted and on 22 May tenderness developed in the left costomuscular angle and in the left inguinal region. The inguinal swelling ruptured the following day with discharge of large amounts of fecal smelling pus. 24 May a large quantity of similar pus was drained operatively from the left scrotal sac. Needling of the left perinephric space revealed pus. The patient was in extremis and died before operation could be performed for drainage of this area. It is doubtful if this drainage would have helped.

The postmortem revealed the most remarkable spread of a peri-appendiccal abscess we had ever seen. From the gangrenous retrocecal appendix pus had passed upwards retro-peritoneally about the right kidney, across to the left perinephric space, thru the muscles of the abdominal wall to the left rectus sheath, down the left rectus sheath to the left inguinal region and scrotum, up thru the inguinal canal thru the oblique muscles to the lower chest wall.

Autopsy Diagnoses:

- (1) Gangrenous retrocecal appendix.
- (2) Extensive right perinephric suppuration.
- (3) Extensive left perinephric suppuration.
- (4) Extensive retroperitoneal and pelvic Phlegmon and abscess.
- (5) Large abscess dissecting down under left rectus sheath, through left inguinal canal into left inguinal region and scrotum and up under and between the oblique abdominal muscles on the left side to the level of the lower chest.