

STUDIES

IN

PATHOLOGICAL ANATOMY

BY

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PREFACE.



IN presenting to the profession the first volume of my "Studies in Pathological Anatomy," it seems proper to say a word concerning the scope and object of the work.

It has not been my intention to write a treatise on Pathological Anatomy, nor to give an account of the labors of others in the same field. My object has been a much more restricted one:—to describe and figure the minute lesions of disease from the material which has fallen under my own observation.

In doing this I have attempted to follow the purely objective method—to see and to describe whatever could be made out in the different post-mortem lesions of disease. Such a plan of study involves following Nature wherever she may lead, and gives rise to apparent contradictions, which cannot always be reconciled.

In such a descriptive work the drawings are of importance. I would, of course, be preferable to reproduce all the specimens by photography, but this plan seems to be only available for low magnifying powers. In this way I have employed the process for topographical purposes. The photographs have been made by Mr. Mason, and by the Artotype Company.

For high magnifying powers it is necessary to make drawings with the camera lucida, and these drawings should be of the actual

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size of the specimens. They must also be reproduced without the intervention of an artist, even at the sacrifice of much beauty. The plates must, therefore, be of large size, and must be drawn directly on wood, stone, or copper, or reproduced by one of the photographic processes; all these plans have been tried with varying success. No one can feel more than I, how imperfect many of the plates are.

It is my intention to continue the work until I have described all the lesions with which I am acquainted; but the original plan of publishing in monthly parts will be abandoned. The fasciculi will be issued of varying size and at different intervals, according to the subjects treated of.

In the second volume the description of the lesions of chronic pulmonary phthisis will be completed.

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CONNECTIVE TISSUE.



THERE is a certain convenience in considering the human body as composed of connective tissue, mucous membranes, epithelial membranes, and viscera. Of these the viscera and the mucous membranes are not merely living tissues, but are capable of performing certain functions. The epithelial membranes and connective tissue simply act as a living framework, by which the viscera and mucous membranes are supported and held together.

To the connective-tissue group belong bone, cartilage, mucous tissue, neuroglia, and connective tissue proper; it is of the last of these that we have to speak.

Connective tissue proper covers the bones and holds their articular ends together, lines all the cavities of the body, forms a layer beneath the skin, separates the muscles from each other, joins them to the bones, covers the nerves, forms the walls of the blood-vessels, and makes part of the viscera. In these different situations it is called by different names, such as periosteum, ligaments, synovial membranes, serous membranes, subcutaneous connective tissue, fasciæ, tendons, neurilemma, interstitial tissue.

Wherever it is situated, connective tissue is composed of a basement substance and of cells, and imbedded in it are blood-vessels, lymphatic vessels, and nerves.

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