

treatment the papules give place to pustules, which likewise are pierced by hairs. The pustules show no tendency to run together and form patches as do those of eczema. After a time the pustules dry up and small crusts form about the hairs. If the disease is very intense infiltrated patches will form, and, instead of pustules, there may be abscesses. New papules continue to form and undergo their evolution into pustules, so that we find both forms of lesions present at the same time. The hairs in the pustules early lose their lustre. While at first firmly seated in their follicles so that attempts at depilation are painful, when the pustules are fully formed the hairs come out easily and without much if any pain. When the hairs are extracted early their root sheaths appear as glassy cylinders. After the pustules form the root sheaths will be yellowish and swollen with pus. While usually the hair is not permanently damaged, in chronic cases the hair papillae are destroyed, the beard is thinned, and small cicatrices are seen.

The course of the disease is chronic, marked by relapses, the disease being at one time apparently cured, and then breaking out again with renewed violence.

Any part of the bearded portion of the face may be attacked. The disease is specially common on the upper lip. Usually there will be found at the same time a catarrhal or purulent discharge from the nose. The cheeks are the parts next most frequently affected, either one or both. The disease may occur symmetrically. It may be limited to a single area. As a rule it does not occur below the angle of the jaw. If it does occur there it is usually by extension from the cheeks. With it there is no eruption upon the non-hairy parts of the face. Not uncommonly the eyebrows and the eye-lashes are affected at the same time as the cheeks.

There is little if any itching, the patient complaining rather of a feeling of soreness, distention, or burning.

Secondly, as it occurs on other parts. On the eyebrows and pubes and in the axillae the appearances are similar to what obtains on the face, and the course of the disease is the same. On the scalp we meet with the characteristic papules and pustules pierced by hairs. When the disease occurs on the limbs (and it is mostly on the legs that it occurs), we find the same lesions; but, as the hair is more sparse, there is not the same tendency to form diffuse patches, the lesions remaining discrete throughout.

ETIOLOGY.—There is no doubt that the disease is parasitic. The majority of investigators ascribe its origin to the invasion of the hair follicles by the staphylococcus aureus et albus. Sabouraud states that it is due to the staphylococcus aureus alone. Unna teaches that there are two varieties of the disease, one of which he names the coccogenic, being due to the staphylococcus aureus et albus; and the other bacilligenic, being due to an organism which he calls *bacillus sycosiferus foetidus*.

The disease is contagious, and barber shops are, without doubt, a frequent source of contagion. Like many other diseases due to micro-organisms, there are two factors at work—one the predisposing cause, the character of the soil; and the other the exciting cause, the micro-organism. Eczema is sometimes the forerunner of sycosis. Other predisposing agencies are irritant applications to the skin, such as mustard or other poultices, intense heat, cosmetics, and the like. A nasal discharge is the predisposing cause of sycosis of the upper lip. Shaving with a dull razor is supposed to be the cause in some cases, but those who do not shave are by no means exempt from the disease. Most patients with sycosis are in poor general condition. Men naturally are the most frequent sufferers from the disease.

PATHOLOGY.—Sycosis is primarily a perifolliculitis, the hair follicle and the sebaceous glands being affected secondarily.

DIAGNOSIS.—The two diseases from which sycosis must especially be differentiated are eczema and ringworm of the beard.

Eczema may be limited to the bearded portion of the face, but it is prone to pass over to the non-hairy parts; sycosis is confined to the hairy parts. Eczema is very

pruritic and the skin is scratched; sycosis is not pruritic and the skin is not scratched. The lesions of eczema bear no special relation to the hairs; it is a catarrhal disease of the skin, and the hairs are affected as it were accidentally and superficially. No matter how bad an eczema may be, it never destroys the hair. Sycosis is primarily a disease of the hair, the skin between the individual hairs is unaffected except in very bad cases, and the hair may be destroyed. In eczema crusting is a feature of the disease, and when the crusts are removed a raw and oozing surface is exposed. In sycosis the crusts are usually confined to the hair follicles. If diffused crusts are formed, when they are removed it will be found that the hairs stand in little inflammatory areas while the intervening skin does not present a moist surface as is the case in eczema. In some cases it is impossible to make a diagnosis at first, but it is arrived at by studying the effect of treatment, sycosis being more intractable than eczema, and the follicular character becoming more pronounced as the disease approaches recovery.

Ringworm of the beard usually occurs on the chin and neck below the angle of the jaw; sycosis occurs most often on the upper lip and cheeks. Ringworm occurs either as a superficial scaly ring or as large-sized nodules arranged in circles and segments of circles; sycosis occurs as an eruption of papules and pustules pierced by hairs and without any grouping. In ringworm the hairs are broken and split and can be pulled out readily though the root is often left behind; in sycosis the hairs lose their lustre, but otherwise are unaffected, and in the early stages attempts at removing them are very painful. Ringworm once cured does not tend to relapse; sycosis does. Under the microscope the hairs from a case of ringworm will be found loaded with spores and mycelia; in sycosis micro-organisms are found not in the hair but in cultivations from the follicle contents.

A case should offer no difficulty in diagnosis, as it occurs all over the face and comedones are always present.

PROGNOSIS.—While the disease is essentially chronic, it is curable. Permanent loss of hair is exceptional.

TREATMENT.—When the upper lip is affected it is necessary first to seek out and cure any disease of the mucous membrane of the nose that may be present. In all cases attention to the general health should be given, so as to improve the character of the soil and enable it to resist the invasion of the fungus. The skin must be protected from irritation. The congestion of the skin that is often present in acute cases should be relieved by the administration of laxatives. There is no specific for the disease. Locally, the treatment will vary with the stage of the disease. At the beginning the inflammation may be treated by bathing the affected parts with hot water and following this with an alkaline lotion, such as black wash, lead and opium wash, or a zinc lotion containing two per cent. of salicylic acid. In some cases the application of six drachms of the ointment of the ammoniate of mercury and two drachms of cold cream will abort the disease. When pustules have formed the hairs should be plucked from the diseased follicles,—a conservative process, as it tends to prevent the destruction of the hair papillae. If there are a large number of pustules a rapidly favorable effect may be produced by going over the face with a dermal curette, after which the parts should be bathed with a 1 to 1,000 solution of bichloride of mercury. If crusts are present they should be removed by soaking them at night with a two-per-cent. solution of salicylic acid in sweet oil, and washing them off on the next day with soap and water. The applications advised above may be used. Diachylon ointment, made according to Hebra's formula and spread on cloths and bound down on the face, is an excellent remedy.

In more chronic conditions sulphur ointment is often a sovereign remedy. The employment of tumenol is at times followed by brilliant results. Tar ointment may be used. In very obstinate cases we may have to resort to stimulation by means of scrubbing with green soap and then binding on zinc-oxide ointment. It is best to keep the beard clipped short during treatment. Epilation is

advised by many authorities. Many cases have been cured by both radio- and phototherapy. As the disease is a most obstinate one, we shall have to make many changes in our treatment before we succeed in curing it. It is well to continue some protective applications for several weeks after the disease seems to have been cured. George Thomas Jackson.

SYMPATHETIC NERVOUS SYSTEM.—An orderly presentation of the facts and theories relating to the sympathetic nervous system calls for the adoption of the following three heads: Anatomy, Histology, and Physiology.

GENERAL SURVEY OF ANATOMY.

The sympathetic nervous system is composed of the following anatomical elements:

1. The great gangliated cords.
 2. The intermediate or central nerve plexuses.
 3. The peripheral plexuses.
 4. The terminal or monocellular ganglia.
- The general structure and topographical relations of each of these will first be considered, and afterward the general relations of these divisions to each other and to the central nervous system.

I. The Great Gangliated Cords.—The great gangliated cords (sympathetic cords, sympathetic nerves; trunci sympathici; Grenzstrang des Sympathicus; nerf grand sympathique) consist of a series of ganglia (sympathetic ganglia, ganglia trunci sympathici) united to each other by longitudinal cords, the so-called *rami internodiules*. These two gangliated cords are placed symmetrically, partly in front and partly to the side of the vertebral column, and extend from the base of the skull to the coccyx. The internal carotid nerve which emanates from the uppermost cervical sympathetic ganglion must be considered the upward continuation of the sympathetic cord into the region of the head. Some of the cephalic ganglia, viz., the ciliary, the sphenopalatine, the otic, the submaxillary, likewise the cervical ganglion of the pneumogastric, and probably also the ganglion petrosus glossopharyngei, must be regarded as homologues of the ganglia of the great sympathetic cords.

The two great gangliated cords and their homologues in the cranial division of the sympathetic have the following connections:

1. *The Interfunicular Cords or Rami (Rami Interfuniculares).* These serve to unite the two great gangliated cords and are developed to the greatest extent in the lumbar and sacral portions of the sympathetic nerves.
2. *The Communicating Rami (Rami Communicantes)* establish a connection between the sympathetic ganglia and the cerebro-spinal nerves. By these rami communicantes the ganglia of the sympathetic chain are united with the anterior primary divisions of the spinal nerves of their immediate vicinity. There are white and gray rami communicantes, the former consisting mainly of medullated fibres, the latter of pale fibres (Gaskell). The two kinds form either separate branches or are in other instances blended into one cord, composed of a white and a gray part. Having arrived in the spinal nerves, the fibres of the rami communicantes, according to Gaskell, take opposite directions; part of the fibres, contained mainly if not all in the white rami, pass into the spinal cord; the other part, contained chiefly, perhaps exclusively, in the gray rami, assume a centrifugal course, passing with the other fibres of the spinal nerve to the periphery. (See Fig. 4576 and page 581.)

The rami communicantes are represented in the cranial division of the sympathetic system by the so-called roots of the cranial sympathetic ganglia (the sphenopalatine, ciliary, etc.).

3. *The Peripheral Rami (Hoffman and Rauber) or Rami*

Efferentes seu Afferentes. These are branches proceeding from the gangliated cord to the prevertebral plexuses or vice versa.

We now pass to

II. *The Intermediate or Central Nerve Plexuses of the Sympathetic.*—Here it will be convenient to distinguish, as Thane (Quain's "Anatomy") proposes:

1. *The Large Prevertebral Plexuses.* These are three

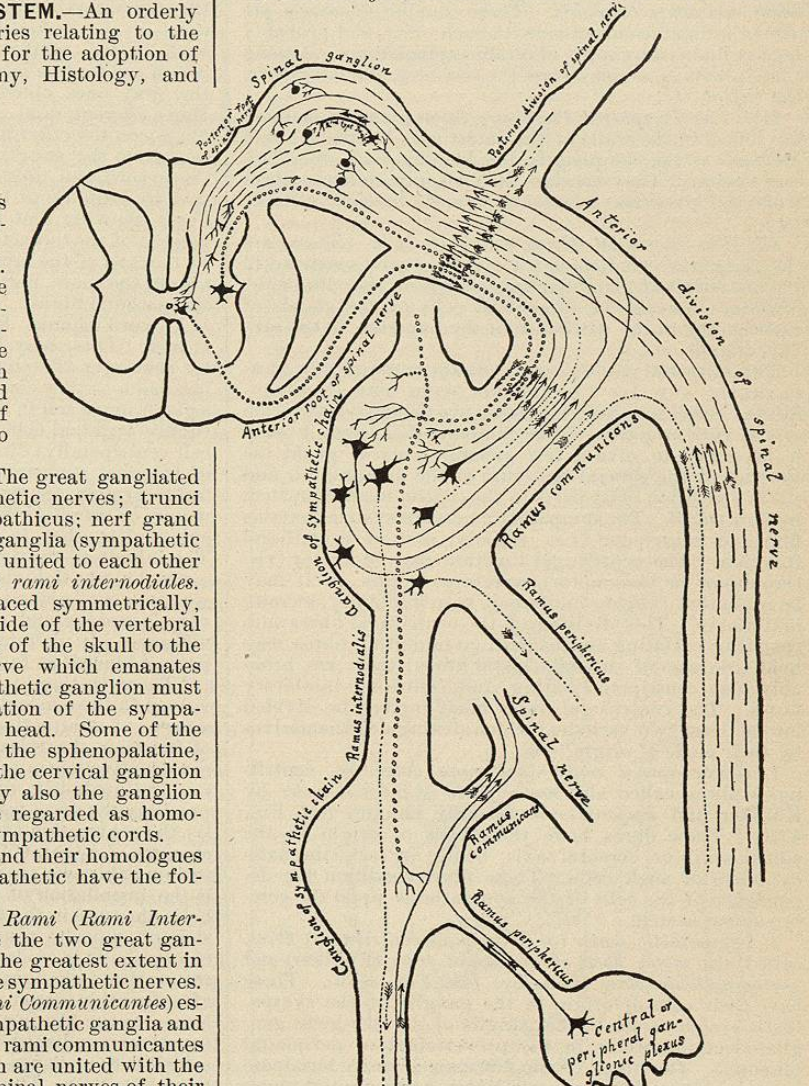


Fig. 4576. — Diagram of the Structural Interrelation between the Cerebro-spinal and Sympathetic Systems.

- — Cerebro-spinal neurones of centrifugal functions.
- — Cerebro-spinal neurones of centripetal functions.
- ★ — Sympathetic neurones of centrifugal functions.
- — Sympathetic neurones of centripetal functions.
- ★ — Marked "2nd type Dogiel" in the figure = spinal ganglion cell of the second type of Dogiel.

in number, the *cardiac*, the *solar*, and the *hypogastric*. They are not bilateral but single, and lie all in front of the vertebral column, occupying the thorax, abdomen, and pelvis respectively. They are connected on the one

hand with its cerebrospinal nerves and with the sympathetic cord, and on the other hand they form centres for the innervation of the viscera.

2. *The Smaller Plexuses of the Sympathetic.* Most of these are in intimate connection with the great prevertebral plexuses, and are in part directly continuous with them, forming, so to say, subdivisions of these. The remainder are united to the prevertebral plexuses by the nerve filaments or cords. These smaller plexuses are also in intimate connection with each other, and probably receive likewise a supply of cerebro-spinal fibres. Among these plexuses we may class the *coronary*, the *mesenteric*, the *vesical*, etc.

III. *The Peripheral Plexuses.*—Such plexuses as these are found in the walls of the intestines (Auerbach's and Meissner's), the œsophagus, the bladder, and other hollow viscera. They receive their supply of nerve fibres from the plexuses mentioned under division number two.

IV. *The Terminal Monocellular Ganglia.*—These are the ganglia which Ramon y Cajal has found scattered in the interstices of glandular tissues, within the villi of the intestines, among the interstitial cells of the glands of Lieberkühn, in the substance of the pancreas, in the salivary glands, etc.

THEORIES OF THE GENERAL STRUCTURE OF THE SYMPATHETIC AND ITS CONNECTION WITH THE CEREBRO-SPINAL SYSTEM.—Before passing to a detailed description of the various parts of the sympathetic system, I deem it necessary to give a few general remarks anent the theories of the general structure of the sympathetic and the interrelation of its parts to the central nervous system by fibre tracts. The sympathetic nervous system contains fibres of centripetal, *i.e.*, sensory, and of centrifugal function. The centrifugal function may be motor (viscero-motor or vaso-motor), secretory, trophic, or it may be inhibitory (viscero-inhibitory, vaso-inhibitory, secreto-inhibitory). This division of the centrifugal fibres into centrifugo-exciting and centrifugo-inhibiting fibres may hold true also of the centripetal fibres; these are probably also centripeto exciting and centripeto-inhibitory fibres. The centrifugal fibres must further be divided into at least two varieties, which distinguish themselves by their mode of origin.

1. *Cerebro-spinal motor* (or, more correctly, centrifugal) fibres, called also *motor fibres of the first order* by Kölliker, and *preganglionic fibres* by Langley (see Fig. 4576). These fibres have their cells of origin in the spinal cord or cerebral axis, being, in fact, the axis-cylinders of such cells. These fibres condition the dependence of the cells of the sympathetic upon the cerebro-spinal system.

2. *Sympathetic motor* (or in general centrifugal) fibres, called also *motor fibres of the second order* (Kölliker) and *post-ganglionic fibres* (Langley) (see Fig. 4576). These have their cells of origin in the ganglia of the sympathetic system, some in the ganglia of the two great gangliated cords, others in the prevertebral or peripheral plexuses. The fibres of the first-named order terminate in end-arborizations or pericellular nests around those nerve cells of the sympathetic ganglia or plexuses which give origin to fibres of the second order; in this manner the conduction of a motor impulse to the periphery is possible.

The existence of a third or fourth set of fibres is denied by Langley and Kölliker, but claimed by Jendrassik. The former two deny that the connection of the primary motor centre of the spinal cord or cerebral axis with the periphery is ever established by more than two sets of neurones, which the latter claims.

Jendrassik's ingenious theory of the general structure of the sympathetic cannot be discussed nor quoted in detail here, but must be read in the original (see literary references at the end of this article).

The views of the mode of origin of the sensory fibres of the sympathetic system and of the manner of their connection with the cerebro-spinal system are still divided. Kölliker claims that all sensory fibres of the sympathetic

originate from cells of the spinal ganglia in exactly the same manner as do the sensory fibres of the cerebro-spinal system. Dogiel, on the other hand, is inclined to assume the existence of specific sympathetic fibres derived from cells of sympathetic ganglia or plexuses (see Fig. 4576, second type Dogiel). Researches by J. Collins and the writer confirm Dogiel's view.

The two kinds of motor fibres, the cerebro-spinal and the sympathetic, are represented in nearly all subdivisions of the sympathetic system. Both kinds are met with in the rami communicantes, the white rami of which are for the most part composed of cerebro-spinal, the gray ones chiefly of sympathetic fibres (Gaskell). Many efferent rami contain predominantly sympathetic fibres; on the other hand, those efferent rami which proceed from the ganglia of the thoracic part of the sympathetic cord and unite to form the splanchnic nerves are said by Langley to be for the most part cerebro-spinal fibres, showing that they pass through the sympathetic ganglia of the thoracic portion without being interrupted by the cells of the latter. Cerebro-spinal fibres are found also in the more peripheral plexuses, intermingled with sympathetic fibres.

A word should be said here regarding inhibitory nerves. These may be of the efferent (analogous to motor nerves) or afferent order (analogous to sensory nerves), inasmuch as they can display their inhibitory influence on a given nerve cell in both a descending (toward the centrifugally terminal cells) and an ascending (toward the same cell centripetally) direction. Such inhibitory nerves are of frequent occurrence. Indeed, wherever in the vegetative system one finds nerves performing motor, vaso-motor, or secretory functions, one also finds usually the antagonists, that is, nerves inhibiting such functions. The inhibitory nerves have been encountered again and again by physiologists, and for a long time their rôle was not understood. Gaskell, however, has given a very ingenious and plausible interpretation of their significance. In defining anabolism and catabolism he expresses himself as follows:

"There is, then, to my mind, no greater mystery involved in the conception of a nerve of *inhibition* than of a nerve of contraction. In the former case the cessation of function, the relaxation of tissue, is the symptom of constructive chemical changes going on in the tissue, *i.e.*, the anabolism or assimilation or trophic action, in precisely the same way as the activity of function, namely, the contraction of tissue, is a symptom of destructive changes, *i.e.*, catabolism or dissolution." Or, by transcribing this, we may say that the purpose of *inhibition* is the installation of restorative or constructive or anabolic changes in the tissue, while function is the expression of opposite changes, *i.e.*, destructive or catabolic changes. It is evident, however, that the installation of restorative changes after function (or perhaps even during function) is indispensable for the resumption of function. The rôle of inhibition seen in this light clearly gains great importance for the muscular, glandular, and other activities.

The writer (Onuf, "A Tentative Explanation of Some of the Phenomena of Inhibition on a Histophysiological Basis, Including a Hypothesis Regarding the Function of the Pyramidal Tracts," *State Hospitals Bulletin*, 1897) has attempted to give an explanation of inhibition on a histophysiological basis, and has called attention to the regulative rôle that inhibition may have on certain functions. The theory

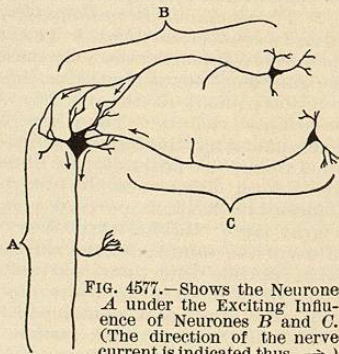


FIG. 4577.—Shows the Neuron A under the Exciting Influence of Neurons B and C. (The direction of the nerve current is indicated thus →.)

may be expressed in word and diagram (Figs. 4577 and 4578) as follows

For the excitation of a nerve cell, the nerve current has to pass in the direction from the cell body or its protoplasmic processes toward the nervous process; for the inhibition of the cell, the nerve current has to pass in the

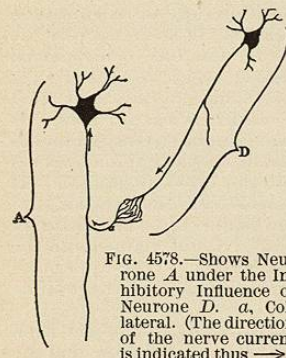


FIG. 4578.—Shows Neuron A under the Inhibitory Influence of Neuron D. a, Collateral. (The direction of the nerve current is indicated thus →.)

opposite direction, that is, from the nerve process or its collaterals, back to the cell body. In other words, to produce excitation of a given cell, the nerve current must enter this cell from the surface of its cell body or of its dendrites; but in order to inhibit or moderate the action of the cell, the nerve current has to enter the cell from its nerve process or collaterals thereof.

These two modes of action are best illustrated by the diagrams (Figs. 4577 and 4578). For both figures the same neurone A has been chosen. Fig. 4577 shows this neurone A under the influence of excitation from the neurones B and C. Fig. 4578 represents neurone A under the influence of inhibitory action from the neurone D.

ANATOMY OF THE GANGLIATED CORDS.

We shall begin the detailed anatomical account with a description of the two great gangliated cords.

It is customary to distinguish four parts or portions of the great gangliated cords: the cervical, the thoracic, the lumbar, and the sacral. We shall describe these in this order, basing our description on that given by Thane (Quain's "Anatomy").

I. *CERVICAL PART OF THE GANGLIATED CORD.*—This is situated behind the great blood-vessels of the neck, resting on the muscles which cover the anterior surface of the vertebral column. The cervical part of the gangliated cord consists of three ganglia, as described below.

1. *Upper or Superior Cervical Ganglion.*—This, the largest ganglion in the great sympathetic cord, lies on the rectus anticus major muscle, opposite the second and third cervical vertebrae, behind the internal carotid artery, and to the inner side of the pneumogastric nerve. Usually fusiform in shape, it continues above into an ascending branch and tapers below into the connective cord. The following are the connections of this ganglion:

(a) *Connection with Spinal Nerves.* At its outer side the superior cervical ganglion is connected with the first four spinal nerves by means of gray rami communicantes. The branches to the third and fourth cervical nerves often pierce the rectus anticus major muscle. They may be given off from the upper part of the cord instead of directly from the ganglion. It probably consists primarily of several ganglia which have coalesced. Gaskell considers it to be a distal or collateral ganglion. It receives its cerebro-spinal fibres, which constitute the "cervical splanchnic nerve" of Gaskell, from the upper dorsal nerves to the cervical part of the sympathetic cord.

(b) *Connection with Cranial Nerves.* The ganglion or its cranial continuation is connected by small branches with the lower ganglion of the pneumogastric (ganglion cervicale vagi, plexus nodosus), and with the twelfth cranial nerve near the base of the skull. Another branch (N. jugularis), which is ascending, divides at the base of the skull into filaments, one of which ends in the petrosal ganglion of the glosso-pharyngeal nerve, while the others enter the jugular foramen to join the ganglion of the root of the pneumogastric.

Besides the branches connecting it with the cranial and spinal nerves, the first cervical ganglion gives off other

ascending branches, *viz.*, pharyngeal branches, the upper carotid nerve, and branches to the blood-vessels, as well as two or three filaments which pierce the prevertebral muscles to supply the upper cervical vertebrae and their ligaments.

(c) *Ascending Branch and Cranial Plexuses.* The ascending or carotid branch of the first ganglion (N. caroticus internus) is in some degree a prolongation of the ganglion itself. Ascending behind the internal carotid artery, it enters the carotid canal, dividing here into an external and internal division.

The *external division*, lying on the outer side of the internal carotid artery, distributes filaments to the latter, receives one or two carotico-tympanic twigs from the tympanic branch of the glosso-pharyngeal, and after communicating by means of other filaments with the internal division of the cord forms the carotid plexus.

The *internal division*, rather the smaller of the two and situated on the inner side of the internal carotid, supplies filaments to the carotid artery and goes to form the cavernous plexus. The terminal parts of these divisions of the cranial cord are prolonged on the trunk of the internal carotid and extend to the cerebral and ophthalmic arteries, around which they form secondary plexuses, those on the cerebral arteries ascending on the pia mater. One minute plexus enters the eyeball, accompanying the central artery of the retina.

The *carotid plexus* (plexus caroticus internus) is situated on the outer side of the internal carotid artery at its sec-

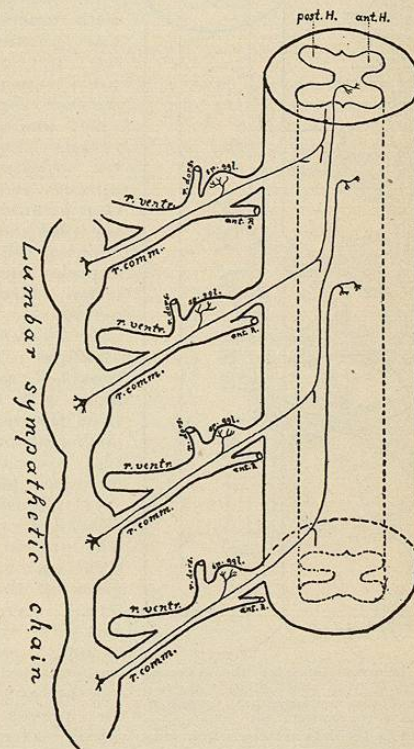


FIG. 4579.—Diagram to show the Ascent in the Spinal Cord of the Afferent (and probable Descent of the Efferent) Fibres derived from the Lumbar Sympathetic Chain, as resulting from the degenerations following removal of lumbar sympathetic ganglia. *post.H.*, Posterior horn; *ant.H.*, anterior horn; *r. ventr.*, ramus ventralis (anterior division) of lumbar nerve; *r. dors.*, ramus dorsalis (posterior division) of lumbar nerve; *sp. ggl.*, spinal ganglion; *ant. R.*, anterior root; *r. comm.*, ramus communicans. For further details see p. 590.

ond bend (reckoning from below) or between the second and third bends. It forms connection with the sixth nerve and with the Gasserian ganglion (the latter, however, occasionally receiving its supply from the cavernous

