









from these bodies to their connections with the straight tubes of the pyramidal substance.

**Malpighian Bodies.**—These are ovoid or rounded, terminal dilatations of the convoluted tubes, and are  $\frac{1}{250}$  to  $\frac{1}{100}$  of an inch (100 to 250  $\mu$ ), in diameter. They are composed of a membrane, which is continuous with the external membrane of the convoluted tubes, and is of the same homogeneous character, but somewhat thicker. This sac, called the capsule of Müller or of Bowman, encloses a mass of convoluted blood-vessels and is lined with a layer of nucleated epithelial cells. In addition to the cells lining the capsule, there are other cells which are applied to the blood-vessels.

The cells attached to the capsule of Müller are smaller and more transparent than those lining the convoluted tubes. They are ovoid, nucleated and finely granular. The cells covering the vessels, however, are larger and more opaque, and they resemble the epithelium lining the tubes. They measure  $\frac{1}{1400}$  to  $\frac{1}{1000}$  of an inch (16 to 25  $\mu$ ), in diameter, by about  $\frac{1}{2500}$  of an inch (10  $\mu$ ) in thickness.

**Tubes of the Cortical Substance.**—Passing from the Malpighian bodies, the tubes present first a short, constricted portion, called the neck of the capsule, which soon dilates to the diameter of about  $\frac{1}{500}$  of an inch (50  $\mu$ ), when their course becomes quite intricate and convoluted. These are what are known as the convoluted tubes of the kidney. The membrane of these tubes is transparent and homogeneous, but quite firm and resisting. It is lined throughout with a single layer of epithelial cells,  $\frac{1}{1400}$  to  $\frac{1}{1000}$  of an inch (16 to 25  $\mu$ ) in diameter, somewhat larger, consequently, than the cells lining the straight tubes. The cells lining the convoluted tubes present two tolerably distinct portions. The inner portion or zone, which is next the lumen of the tube, is finely granular, with sometimes a few small oil-globules. The outer zone presents little fibrils or rods, which are perpendicular to the tubular membrane. These are called "rodged" cells, and a similar appearance is presented by some of the cells of the pancreas and of the salivary glands. The nucleus is usually situated between the granular and the rodged zones.

The researches of Heidenhain and others have shown that the greatest part of the solid excrementitious constituents of the urine, such as urea and the urates, is separated from the blood by the cells of the convoluted tubes of the cortical substance and perhaps by the dilated portions of the tubes of Henle, while the water and a certain portion of the inorganic salts of the urine transude through the blood-vessels in the Malpighian bodies. This view was first advanced by Bowman, in 1842.

**Narrow Tubes of Henle.**—The convoluted tubes above described, after a tortuous course in the cortical substance, become continuous, near the pyramids, with the tubes of much smaller diameter, which form loops extending to a greater or less depth into the pyramids. The loops formed by these canals (the narrow tubes of Henle), are nearly parallel with the tubes of Bellini and are much greater in number near the bases of the pyramids than toward the apices. The diameter of these tubes is very variable, and they

present enlargements at irregular intervals in their course. The narrow portions are about  $\frac{1}{2000}$  of an inch (12  $\mu$ ) in diameter, and the wide portions,

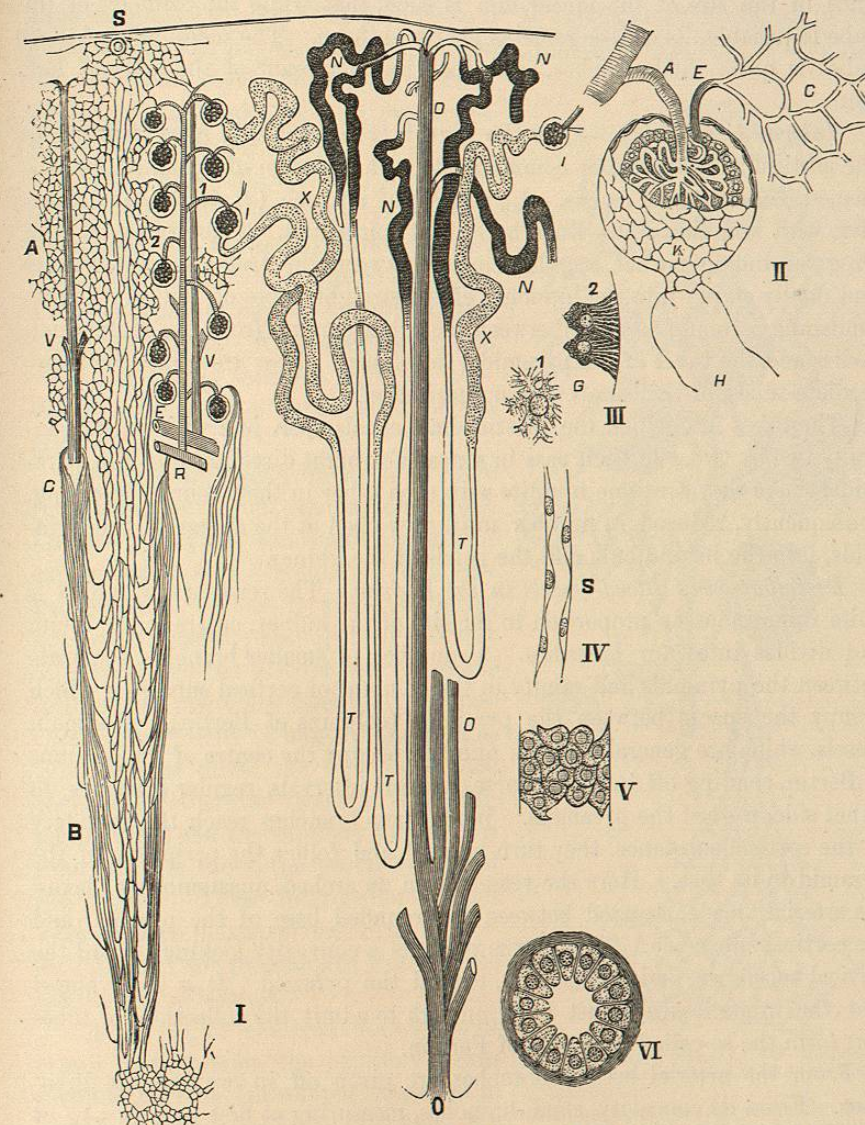


FIG. 116.—Structure of the kidney (Landois).

I, blood-vessels and tubes (semi-diagrammatic). A, capillaries of the cortical substance; B, capillaries of the medullary substance; 1, artery penetrating a Malpighian body; 2, vein emerging from a Malpighian body; R, arteriole rectæ; C, venæ rectæ; V, V, interlobular veins; S, stellate veins; I, I, capsules of Müller; X, X, convoluted tubes; T, T, T, tubes of Henle; N, N, N, communicating tubes; O, O, straight tubes; O, opening into the pelvis of the kidney.  
II, Malpighian body. A, artery; E, vein; C, capillaries; K, epithelium of the capsule; H, beginning of a convoluted tube.  
III, rodged cells from a convoluted tube. 1, view from the surface; 2, side view (G, granular zone).  
IV, cells lining the tubes of Henle.  
V, cells lining the communicating tubes.  
VI, section of a straight tube.

about twice this size. The narrow portion is lined by small, clear cells with very prominent nuclei. The wider portions are lined by larger, gran-



ular cells. Near the bases of the pyramids the wide portion sometimes forms the loop, but near the apices the loop is always narrow. The difference in the size of the epithelium is such, that while the diameter of the tube is variable, its caliber remains nearly uniform. The membrane of these tubes is quite thick, thicker, even, than the membrane of the tubes of Bellini.

*Intermediate Tubes.*—After the narrow tubes of Henle have returned to the cortical substance, they communicate with a system of flattened, ribbon-shaped, anastomosing canals,  $\frac{1}{1200}$  to  $\frac{1}{1000}$  of an inch (21 to 25  $\mu$ ) in diameter, with very thin walls, lined by rodged epithelium. These tubes take an irregular and somewhat angular course between the true convoluted tubes and finally empty into the branches of the straight tubes of Bellini, thus establishing a communication between the tubes coming from the Malpighian bodies and the tubes of the pyramidal substance. They are called the intermediate tubes, or the canals of communication.

The tubes into which the intermediate canals open join with others generally two by two, and then pass in a nearly straight direction into the pyramids, where they continue to unite with each other in their course, becoming, consequently, reduced in number until they open at the apices of the pyramids, into the infundibula and the pelvis of the kidney.

*Distribution of Blood-vessels in the Kidney.*—The renal artery, which is quite voluminous in proportion to the size of the kidney, enters at the hilum and divides into four branches. A number of smaller branches penetrate between the pyramids and ramify in the columns of cortical substance which occupy the spaces between the pyramids (columns of Bertin). The main vessels, which are generally two in number, occupy the centre of the columns of Bertin, sending off in their course, at short intervals, regular branches on either side, toward the pyramids. When these branches reach the boundary of the cortical substance, they turn upward and follow the periphery of the pyramid to its base. Here the vessels form an arched, anastomosing plexus, the arterial arcade, situated between the rounded base of the pyramid and the cortical substance. This plexus presents a convexity looking toward the cortical substance, and a concavity, toward the pyramid. It is so arranged that the interstices are just large enough to admit the collections of tubes that form the so-called pyramids of Ferrein.

From the arterial arcade, branches are given off in two opposite directions. From its concavity, small branches, measuring at first  $\frac{1}{1200}$  to  $\frac{1}{750}$  of an inch (21 to 34  $\mu$ ) in diameter, pass downward toward the papillæ, giving off small ramifications at very acute angles, and becoming reduced in size to about  $\frac{1}{2500}$  of an inch (10  $\mu$ ). These vessels, called sometimes the arteriolar rectæ, surround the straight tubes, and pass into capillaries in the substance of the pyramids and at their apices.

From the convex surface of the arterial arcade, branches are given off at nearly right angles. These pass into the cortical substance, breaking up into a large number of little arterial twigs,  $\frac{1}{1500}$  to  $\frac{1}{800}$  of an inch (17 to 40  $\mu$ ) in diameter, each one of which penetrates a Malpighian body at a point oppo-

site the neck of the capsule. Once within the capsule, the arteriole breaks up into five to eight branches, which then divide dichotomously into vessels measuring  $\frac{1}{3000}$  to  $\frac{1}{1500}$  of an inch (8 to 17  $\mu$ ) in diameter, arranged in the form of coils and loops, constituting a dense, rounded mass (the Malpighian coil, or glomerulus), filling the capsule. These vessels break up into capillaries without anastomoses.

The blood is collected from the vessels of the Malpighian bodies by veins, sometimes one and frequently three or four, which pass out of the capsule and form a second capillary plexus surrounding the convoluted tubes. When there is but one vein, it generally emerges from the capsule near the point of penetration of the arteriole.

The efferent vessels, immediately after their emergence from the capsule, break up into a very fine and delicate plexus of capillaries, closely surrounding the convoluted tubes. These form a true plexus, the branches anastomosing freely in every direction; and the distribution of vessels in this part resembles essentially the vascular arrangement in most of the glands. Bowman has called the branches which connect together the vessels of the Malpighian tuft and the capillary plexus surrounding the tubes, the portal system of the kidney. These intermediate vessels form a coarse plexus surrounding the prolongations of the pyramids of Ferrein into the cortical substance.

The renal, or emulgent vein takes its origin in part from the capillary plexus surrounding the convoluted tubes and in part from the vessels distributed in the pyramidal substance. A few branches come from vessels in the envelopes of the kidney, but these are comparatively unimportant. The plexus surrounding the convoluted tubes empties into venous rad-

icles which pass to the surface of the kidney, and these present a number of little radiating groups, each converging toward a central vessel. This arrangement gives to the vessels of the fibrous envelope of the kidney a peculiar, stellate appearance, forming what are sometimes called the stars of Verheyen. The

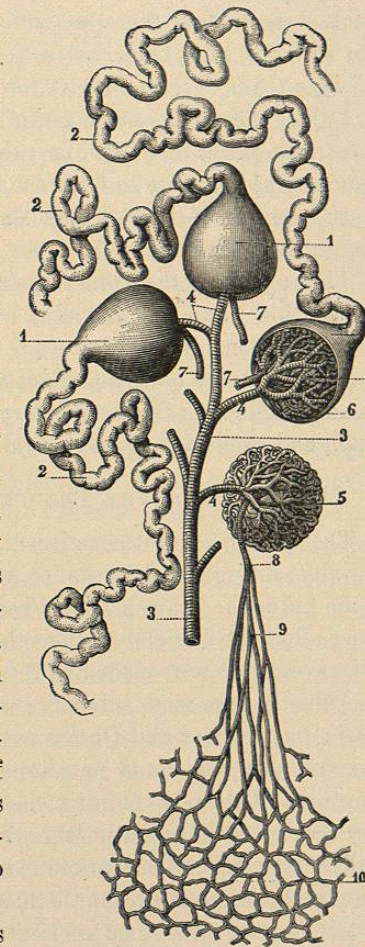


FIG. 117. — Blood-vessels of the Malpighian bodies and convoluted tubes of the kidney (Sappey).

1, 1, Malpighian bodies surrounded by the capsules of Müller; 2, 2, 2, convoluted tubes connected with the Malpighian bodies; 3, artery branching to go to the Malpighian bodies; 4, 4, 4, branches of the artery; 6, 6, Malpighian bodies from which a portion of the capsules has been removed; 7, 7, 7, vessels passing out of the Malpighian bodies; 8, vessel, the branches of which (9) pass to the capillary plexus (10).