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The Arris and Gale Lectures

ON

## THE NEUROLOGY OF VISION.

BY

J. HERBERT PARSONS, B.S., D.Sc., F.R.C.S.,

Assistant Ophthalmic Surgeon, University College Haspital; Carator, Royal Eundon Ophthalmic Hospital; Lecturer on Physiological Optics, University College, London; Arris and Gale Lecturer, R.C.S. (1904).

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## The Arris and Gale Lectures

ON

## THE NEUROLOGY OF VISION.

## LECTURE I.

## THE AFFERENT VISUAL PATHS.

THE nerves which deal with the special senses are specially differentiated sensory nerves. In the process of differentiation, however, the analogies which they present to the ordinary spinal sensory nerves are greatly obscured, and may be easily overlooked. Just as the segmental arrangement of the central nervous system is most manifest in the cord, becomes obscured in the medulla oblongata, and is scarcely appreciable in the higher parts of the brain, so the cranial nerves assume that increased complexity which is characteristic of the evolutionary process wherever it occurs.

Considering first the mechanism of transmission and transmutation of an ordinary sensory impulse, we find that the physical stimulus is received by an end-organ, and is there transformed into a nervous impulse. This is carried by a nerve fibre along the sensory nerve and the dorsal spinal root to the cord. It travels up in the posterior columns of the cord to the nucleus gracilis or the nucleus cuneatus as the case may be. The whole of this course is along the processes of a single cell or neurone, which has been called the neurone of the first order. The impulse is taken up in the nucleus gracilis or nucleus cuneatus by a second cell, and is carried along the nucleo-thalamic tract or

mesial fillet to the opposite optic thalamus; other fibres, especially those derived from the nucleus cuneatus, pass to the superior colliculus or corpus quadrigeminum. These cells in the nuclei gracilis and cuneatus are the neurones of the second order. A third cell, the neurone of the third order, situated in the thalamus or colliculus, carries on the impulse to the cortex cerebri. Here the nervous impulse is transformed into a psychic impulse, a change which is not, and probably never can be understood. This is the simplest path of an afferent impulse, though by no means the only one; it best serves our present purpose, since it is the most typical.

Returning to the genesis of the impulse in some physical stimulus, there is, as far as we are aware, no preparation of the physical forces before they fall upon the sentient surface. This applies to all sensory nerves, with the exception of the nerve of vision, and to a less extent, the auditory nerve. In the former case, with which we are immediately concerned, the whole eye, with the exception of the retina, is a complicated mechanism for preparing the physical force, light, so that it may produce specific and complex sensations. It is well, therefore, to emphasise the fact that in dealing with visual sensations the stimuli themselves are composite, and for all we know, each component may be provided with its own transmitting apparatus.

At the outset of our comparison of the anatomical structures for the transmission of visual and common sensations, we are met with difficulty. The so-called optic nerve is in no sense comparable with an ordinary sensory nerve. Morphologically and physiologically it is part of the brain. Careful investigation shows that the true optic nerve, corresponding with the sensory neurone of the first order, must be sought in the retina itself. Even so, the analogy is not absolutely complete, for the dorsal root ganglion cell, which forms the first neurone, emigrates at an early stage of development from the neural crest and loses its connection with the cord, only to regain it at a later stage. The retina,

on the other hand, develops entirely in the invaginated primary optic vesicle.

THE MORPHOLOGY OF THE RODS AND CONES.—If we seek the analogues of the successive sensory neurones in the optic system, we are met with further difficulties. Histological investigations of the retina have shown that the conducting elements may be divided into three orders: (1) The rods and cones, with their nuclei, which form the main mass of the outer nuclear layer and their processes, which contribute to the outer reticular layer; (2) The rod and cone bipolars, which form the main mass of the inner nuclear layer, with their axones, which contribute to the inner reticular layer; (3) The ganglion cells, the axones of which form the nerve fibre layer, and the main mass of the so-called optic nerve. We shall see later that the ganglion cells and their processes behave exactly like the second order of sensory neurones, a fact which affords further evidence that the optic nerve belongs essentially to the central nervous system. The neurones of the first order, therefore, must be either the rods and cones, or the bipolars. In the former case an extra neurone is intercalated in the visual afferent path; in the latter no such assumption is necessary, but it remains to explain the nature of the rods and cones.

There can be no doubt that the second view is the simpler and more probable. If we adopt it, the rods and cones will be epithelial ependymal cells, corresponding with Merkel's *Tastzellen* or touch cells and the epithelial cells of endorgans, with the neuro-epithelial cells of taste buds, the epithelium of the organ of Corti, &c. The olfactory nerve will prove the sole exception to such a scheme, the sensory neurones of the first order being here situated actually upon the surface, like the sensory cells of some invertebrata.

If we consider the position of the retinal pigment epithelium and the rods and cones from an embryological standpoint, it will be seen that they correspond with the lining of the primary optic vesicle, *i.e.*, with a part of the central neural canal. This is itself an invagination from the

surface epiblast, and its lining epithelium, therefore, will correspond with the superficial epithelium of the body. In the neural canal these cells become ciliated ependymal cells, so that their condition in the retina is merely a specific differentiation.

Evidence in favour of the ependymal nature of the rods and cones has been brought forward by Krause. This tends to show that the outer limbs are really coiled up cilia.

Verhoeff, working in the laboratory at Moorfields, supports and extends this theory by further observations. If the rods and cones are ependymal cells we might reasonably expect to find the pigment epithelium also showing traces of the same origin. By bleaching and special staining methods, e.g., Mallory's phosphotungstic acid hæmatoxylin, a membrane, resembling the external limiting membrane, can be made out surrounding the internal ends of the pigmented epithelial The appearance in transverse sections is that of a delicate line running along near the inner margins of the cells. The latter project beyond it in the form of processes of variable length, showing that the line does not represent the inner contour of the cells. Black dots occur at regular intervals along the line, each occurring at the line of junction of two cells. On careful focussing it can be seen that the line is not always at the same level, evidently passing sometimes behind and sometimes in front of the cells. Hence it is difficult to photograph the membrane. In oblique sections the true structure is made more apparent, the membrane appearing not as a straight line, but as a series of hexagonal loops, which are fused together at the lines of contact so as to form a screen into the openings of which the pigment cells project. The little dots are the points of junction of the loops, i.e., the sections of the lines of contact.

It would take too long to discuss the bearing of these observations upon the generally received idea that the membrana limitans externa is formed by Muller's fibres, *i.e.*, by neuroglia. Reference must be made to the original paper in the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital Reports. Suffice

it to say here that there is reason to think that neuroglia is absent in this situation in glioma retinæ.

There are other staining reactions which tend to show that the rod and cone cells differ essentially from the bipolar cells of the retina. In some specimens, more particularly in cases in which the nutrition of the retina has suffered from some cause, the rod and cone nuclei stain differently from the nuclei of the bipolars. This may be seen with the ordinary hæmatoxylin and eosin staining, but as shown by Verhoeff, it is brought out much more clearly by Mallory's acid hæmatoxylin after hardening in 4 per cent. formaldehyde for 4 days or longer. The inner nuclear layers then remain unstained. The contrast between the two layers may be further intensified by staining for 24 hours in lithium carmin after differentiating in ferric chloride solution. The inner nuclei then take on the carmin stain. In some specimens only portions of the retina show this It occurs most frequently in cases of differentiation. detachment of the retina or choroiditis, but it also occurs in apparently normal retine. The condition is present also in the retina of the guinea-pig and in that of the frog.

The other theory—that the rods and cones are true peripheral neurones—is supported chiefly by observations on lower types. This has been shown particularly by van Lenhossék in cephalopods. Thus, in eledone, the retina consists entirely of complicated rod cells. From these the retinal fibres pass through the cartilaginous sclerotic to the visual lobe, which contains a peripheral or external nuclear layer, followed by a reticular layer, then an inner nuclear layer, and finally a layer of white fibres. These layers are themselves complex, and until the morphology of the individual cells is more accurately determined the evidence in favour of the purely nervous nature of the rod apparatus is not overwhelming.

Phylogeny, indeed gives better support to the theory in the analogy of the ordinary sensory neurones of the first order, though here, too, the other interpretation is not disproved. In man the spinal ganglion cells are bipolar when first developed; only in the cochlear and vestibular ganglia is this condition retained through life. In the fish it is retained in all the posterior root ganglia. In invertebrates transition stages are found in which the cell body lies farther and farther from the central nervous system, until finally, as in the earthworm, it is actually situated in the surface epithelium (Retzius). One vertebrate, amphioxus, has its bipolar sensory cells within the spinal cord, and some animals, in a comparatively limited space, show a number of transitional stages between the peripheral and the central position (Edinger). In only one undoubted instance in man the peripheral situation is maintained, viz., the peripheral olfactory neurones.

THE NEURONES OF THE FIRST ORDER.—We pass on now to consider very briefly the neurones of the first order, viz., the rod and cone bipolars. Ramon y Cayal's work by a modified Golgi method has shown most clearly the relationship between the various cells of the retina. The bipolar cells come into relation peripherally by vertical dendrones with several rods. The dendrones of the bipolar cells for the cones lie in a deeper plane and are horizontal, but similarly come into relation with several cones. The axones of the rod bipolars run centrally to the inner part of the inner reticular layer, whilst the axones of the cone bipolars may form their arborisations at any of the five layers of the inner reticular layer. Over the greater part of the retina there are about a hundred rods and cones to one ganglion The fovea centralis has been investigated only in the bird and chamæleon. In both, cones alone are present; their axones end in knobs without fibrils, or with only a pair of very short rudimentary fibrils. The dendrones of each ganglion cell in this region seem to come into relation with only a single bipolar, and possibly several amacrine cells; so that here each cone has its own bipolar and ganglion cell—it remains, so to speak, "individualisirt" (Cayal).

THE NEURONES OF THE SECOND ORDER.—The neurones

of the second order, or the ganglion cells and their processes, will be considered at greater length. Their axones pass into the nerve fibre layer of the retina, thence into the optic nerve; most cross in the chiasma to the opposite optic tract, some only passing along the tract of the same side; from both optic tracts most are distributed to the external geniculate bodies, whilst others pass to the superior colliculi, and yet others to the pulyinar of each optic thalamus. In man probably 80 per cent. pass to the external geniculate body (von Monakow). In lower animals the optic lobes, i.e., the region of the corpora quadrigemina, are the main visual organs. In fish, almost the whole of the optic nerve ends in the mid-brain; in birds, there is a differentiation of a mesencephalic nucleus, the superior colliculus, from a diencephalic nucleus, the lateral geniculate body, and in them for the first time one meets with a genuine occipital cortex (Edinger). This anatomical differentiation is accompanied by a parallel redistribution of function, and is, therefore, of prime importance in analysing the results derived from experiments upon animals.

Most of our knowledge of the arrangement of the fibres of the optic nerves, apart from the broad question of the relative amount of decussation in the chiasma, is derived from clinico-pathological investigation. I propose here to limit myself to a description of my own researches by the experimental method upon monkeys.

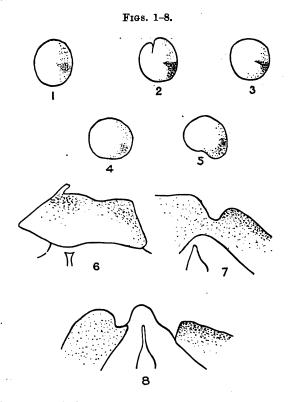
Following the ordinary Wallerian law of degeneration, the afferent fibres of the visual paths degenerate on the central side of a lesion which separates them from their cells of origin, the ganglion cells. The method adopted was to introduce a Graefe cataract knife into the eye 4 or 5 mm. behind the corneo-scleral margin, at either the nasal or temporal side, thus avoiding dangerous injury to the ciliary body and minimising injury to the retina. (The monkeys were of course completely anæsthetised.) The knife was passed across the eye through the vitreous to the opposite side, and the retina wounded there to the required extent,

the position of the point of the knife being in some cases observed by the ophthalmoscope (direct method). opthalmoscope was especially used in lesions near the disc or macula. In other cases the slight resistance encountered was sufficient to show that the retina had been reached. The exact position and nature of the wound were subsequently determined by ophthalmoscopic examination, which was repeated after an interval of a few days, and also shortly before killing the animal. The lesions were all investigated macroscopically by a suitable section of the eye post-mortem, and were then prepared for microscopic The monkeys were chloroformed to death examination. from a fortnight to three weeks after the operation. Great care was taken to preserve the accurate orientation of the The degenerations were examined by the Buschnerves. Marchi method.

In Experiment I, a lesion about 2 mm. long, in a direction tangential to the disc, was made near the equator in the lower nasal quadrant of the right eye. The main area of degeneration is wedge-shaped near the eye, the apex of the wedge being towards the centre of the nerve, and the base at the periphery, the whole lying in the upper part of the inferior nesal quadrant (Figs. 1-5). There are scattered degenerated fibres over the whole nasal side, and a few isolated ones upon the temporal side. In sections taken more posteriorly, behind the entrance of the central retinal vessels, the shape of the area occupied by the degenerated fibres becomes more crescentic, but is still nasal. In the chiasma the fibres cross principally in the inferior or ventral part (Fig. 6). Fig. 7 is a slightly more oblique section farther back, being in a direction downwards and forwards; the degeneration is therefore ventral and anterior. Fig. 8 is still more oblique, approaching the horizontal, and the tracts are cut more or less longitudinally. Very few dots of degeneration are seen in the chiasma and tract of the same side, the main area of degeneration being in the outer part of the contra-lateral tract. Farther back the fibres spread

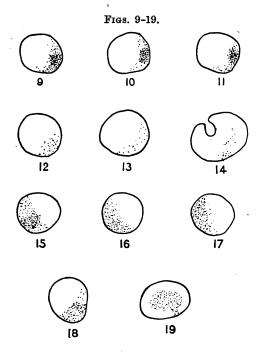
out over a larger area of the section of the tract, becoming diffuse as they approach their termination.

In Experiment II, a lesion about 3 mm. long was made in a direction tangential to the disc a little in front of the equator in the lower temporal quadrant of the retina of the left eye. The main area of degeneration is on the temporal



side along the whole course of the nerve (Figs. 9-11). It is most marked and is very dense in the lower temporal quadrant, being more or less wedge-shaped near the eye, and becoming rounder farther back. It tends to become more dorsal near the chiasma, but it is possible that this may be due to slight error in orientation. There is some diffuse degeneration, most marked on the temporal side. The fibres lie princi-

pally in the dorsal part of the chiasma. Many degenerated fibres are seen crossing to the opposite tract. Farther back the fibres lie principally in the central part of the tract of the same side. Posteriorly they spread out and become more diffuse. In a similar area of the tract of the opposite side, i.e., dorsally and centrally in front, becoming broader behind, there are many finer black spots of degeneration.



In Experiment III a very small lesion was made upon the temporal side near the equator, just below the horizontal meridian of the left eye. The degeneration is almost limited to the inferior temporal quadrant, and is very slight (Figs. 12–14). In the chiasma it is at first ventral and anterior in position, gradually tending towards the dorsal surface. In the tract of the same side it is central and dorsal at first, becoming more diffuse posteriorly. There are only a few scattered fibres degenerated in the contra-lateral tract.

In Experiment IV the lesion was larger, about 3 mm. long. It was on the temporal side of the right eye, a little behind the equator, and extended above and below the horizontal meridian. The degeneration is diffused over the whole temporal side of the nerve, without any special area of concentration (Figs. 15–17). In the chiasma it occupies the central and dorsal parts. There are no fibres degenerated in the ventral part. In the tract of the same side the degeneration is arranged much the same as in Experiment II, but more fibres are affected. There is a finer, scattered degeneration in the contra-lateral tract.

In Experiment V a small lesion was made between the macula and the disc, but at slightly lower level in the left eye. It was rather deep, injuring the choroid and sclera. In the anterior part of the nerve the degeneration was down and out (Fig. 18); posteriorly it became more central. It occupied the central part of the chiasma, and continued central, and rather dorsal in the anterior part of the same tract, becoming more diffuse posteriorly. There was a large amount of degeneration considering the small extent of the lesion. This was probably due to its proximity to the disc, and to its situation in the neighbourhood of the macula. There was fine degeneration in the contra-lateral tract, the fibres crossing in the central part of the chiasma.

In Experiment VI a lesion, 2 mm. long, was made in a direction down and out from the fovea centralis of the left eye. In the anterior part of the nerve the degeneration is most marked on the temporal side, especially just below the horizontal; but there is also a considerable amount of degeneration over the whole area of the section (Fig. 19). It is chiefly central in the anterior part of the chiasma; in the posterior part where the sections are more oblique, i.e., about half way between vertical and horizontal, it occupies a crescentic area at the periphery of each side with a connecting band in front. In this situation, therefore, the degeneration tends to become dorsal and external. Farther back, at the commencement of the tracts, there is degeneration in the

central and slightly dorsal parts of each side; and this becomes diffused over the whole tract more posteriorly.

These experiments agree, upon the whole, with some observations made upon rabbits by Pick and by Dean and Usher. They also confirm the results arrived at by pathological investigation of cases of toxic amblyopia, in which the papillo-macular bundle is particularly involved (Samelsohn, Nettleship, Uhthoff, Birch-Hirschfeld, and others). disease, or rather group of diseases, has long been regarded as a form of retrobulbar neuritis. Recent investigations by the extremely delicate Nissl method, carried out principally by Birch-Hirschfeld, strongly support the view, which I had already advanced from theoretical considerations, that there is no true neuritis, but that there is degeneration, chiefly confined to the papillo-macular bundle, and in every respect comparable with those under discussion. They are due to the action of the toxic substances upon the retina. degeneration in the nerve is actually caused by the destruction of some of the ganglion cells. Most of the toxic agents, whilst acting to some extent upon these cells themselves, act principally upon the terminal arborisations or synapses It has been shown by Warrington that around them. section of a spinal posterior root leads to degeneration of certain groups of cells in the anterior horns, probably by the removal of afferent impulses which are necessary for the nutrition of the cells. The same probably occurs in toxic amblyopias, the arborisations of bipolars suffering most, and causing degeneration of the ganglion cells. These diseases, therefore, afford good evidence of the course of the fibres from the macular region. Indeed, so far as their very limited application admits, they are better than the experimental lesions, for in the latter there is invariably some diffuse degeneration. This is not surprising, owing to the impossibility of absolutely controlling the amount of injury. lesion made by the point of a Graefe knife is minimal, probably much less than by the galvano-cautery, which was used by the other observers. It is, however, rarely possible to

effect one's purpose without injury of the choroid or even the sclerotic, and it is impossible to avoid entirely the retinal vessels. A slight amount of hæmorrhage into the vitreous usually occurs, and the mere passage of the narrow knife across the eye must lead to reactive changes, probably accompanied by transient shrinking of the vitreous, which may well interfere with the nutrition of the ganglion cells in other parts of the retina.

As might be expected, the nearer the lesion to the optic disc the greater is the resultant degeneration, for not only are ganglion cells destroyed, but the axones of ganglion cells over a large peripheral area are also cut through. As these cells lie within the central nervous system, no regeneration takes place; moreover the time allowed is too short.

We see that, speaking generally, the fibres derived from various parts of the retina retain their relative position in the optic nerve, *i.e.*, temporal fibres remain external, nasal internal, &c. The temporal fibres, however, tend towards the dorsal side as they approach the chiasma, and the nasal towards the ventral side. A further dislocation, affecting the temporal fibres most, occurs as the result of the intercalation of the papillo-macular bundle.

It is probable that there is really some degree of variation in different individuals. Thus in the famous case reported by Ganser, the uncrossed temporal fibres of the right side formed a separate and isolated bundle, which passed to the ventral side of the tract of the same side, and fused with it near the external geniculate body; and in the unique case figured by Vesalius, there was no chiasma, the whole optic nerve running directly into the tract of the same side. The number of uncrossed fibres bears some relationship to the development of binocular vision, and as this occurs late in the evolution of mammals, slight variation is less to be wondered at than the extreme constancy which apparently obtains.

I invariably found some degeneration in the optic nerve of the opposite side, an unexpected result which, however,

confirms the work of previous observers. In all the specimens it was a diffuse degeneration, usually without very definite areas of concentration, and always much less than on the injured side. The degeneration could be traced throughout the length of the nerve, and such concentration of fibres as occurred retained its relative position in all the sections. As a rule it was on the homonymous side of the nerve, as compared with the side of the lesion. I have eliminated, as far as is possible, any error of technique, which is further unlikely because all the degenerations were confined to visual paths, although much of the rest of the brain was examined.

There is one pathological examination which affords some support to the experimental result. Kellermann, in a case of old-standing atrophy of the left optic nerve, found a small tract of degeneration in the right nerve, ventro-lateral near the eye, becoming central near the chiasma, and therefore running in the course of the macular bundle. No abnormality of vision was noticed during life, and the central vessels entered the nerve at the inner and lower part, which is not invariably the case; hence the bundle ran independently of them. Kellermann attributes the degeneration to compression of the fibres in the chiasma, due to skrinking from atrophy of the fibres of the left nerve. Hebold, in a similar case, found the nerve sound, as shown by Pal's method, but this is not sufficiently sensitive for the purpose. Dean and Usher suggest that fat may be removed from the degenerated nerve and carried by lymphatics and deposited in the opposite nerve. This is disproved by its absence in other parts of the nervous system, in spite of the innumerable researches carried out by the Marchi method.

We are forced to conclude that the degeneration is a genuine one, and if so, what is the nature of the fibres involved? It is not probable, as Dean and Usher point out, that they are concerned in the pupillary reflexes, as these remain absolutely unimpaired. They must belong to some form of inter-retinal fibres—a reversion, in a sense, to

the much disputed inter-retinal tract (commissura arcuata anterior of Hannover, vordere Bogencommissur of Stilling). Ramon y Cayal has demonstrated, by the methylene blue method in rabbits, a division of the optic fibres, and Kölliker discovered an isolated example in a human fœtus. Bernheimer was struck by the variety in size of the fibres in the chiasma, so that it appears in many places as if the larger fibres divided. It is not improbable that the degenerated fibres in the nerve of the uninjured side are collaterals, and that they may be distributed to physiologically corresponding parts of the opposite retina, possibly inducing chemical changes in the visual substances or movements in the cells, and so afferent impulses which subserve a modified type of binocular vision.

These fibres would, therefore, be centrifugal fibres. That fibres which are undoubtedly centrifugal occur in the optic tracts and nerves was first proved by the Golgi method by Ramon y Cayal, and has been confirmed since by other methods (van Gehuchten, Held, Kölliker, v. Monakow). They arise in the external geniculate body, the superior colliculus, and probably in the pulvinar of the optic thalamus. They end by arborisation in the inner reticular layer. Their functions can only be conjectured, and are possibly those already suggested for the inter-retinal collaterals.

In all of my experiments there was some degeneration in both tracts. This may be explained partly by the diffuse injury which probably always results from the lesion, and which is manifested by diffuse degeneration in the nerve. I do not think that this accounts for it entirely. There are apparently more fibres degenerated in the tracts than in the nerve, and we are here more powerfully forced to the conclusion that division of the fibres occurs. Most of the experiments were temporal lesions, with a view of obtaining, if possible, a pure degeneration in the homolateral tract. In these cases the degeneration in the contralateral tract usually showed smaller black globules, as if

less myelin was present. Probably these were finer fibres, in fact, collaterals.

THE BASAL VISUAL CENTRES, AND THE NEURONES OF THE THIRD ORDER.—The optic tract runs round the cerebral peduncle, and divides posteriorly into two branches, a lateral and a mesial. The lateral root contains the visual fibres, and ends in the lateral geniculate body; the mesial joins the mesial geniculate body, and consists of fibres which are not connected with vision.

The lateral geniculate body, in which the great majority of the visual fibres end in man, consists of alternating layers of white and grey matter. The grey matter contains the cell bodies and dendrones of the optic neurones of the third order. The white matter consists of the axones of the neurones of the second and third orders, i.e., the ends of the fibres from the optic tract and the beginnings of the fibres from the geniculate body to the cortex cerebri. The latter pass out laterally into an area situated on the outer side of the external geniculate body known as Wernicke's Here they are joined by similar fibres from the superior colliculus and pulvinar, the latter being ventral to those derived from the geniculate body. They all turn round the caudate nucleus and enter the optic radiation of Gratiolet. This forms a large sagittal bundle which passes backwards and upwards, outside the posterior horn of the lateral ventricle, to the occipital lobe. The fibres from the lateral geniculate body tend towards the neighbourhood of They are well seen in Weigert the calcarine fissure. sections of the brain of the new-born child, the other fibres being unstained, owing to their medullary sheaths not having yet developed (Flechsig). Flechsig thinks that the fibres from the geniculate body end exclusively in the calcarine fissure, and represent the fibres from the macula.

Other fibres from the optic tract pass into the pulvinar of the optic thalamus, which very much resembles the external geniculate body in histological appearance. The cells here, around which the fibres arborise, are also optic neurones of the third order. We have already referred to the relation of their axones, dorsal to those derived from the geniculate body. Their ultimate distribution is probably less localised, extending over a large area of the occipital lobe.

The last group of fibres from the optic tract pass to the superior colliculus or corpus quadrigeminum. this has a complicated structure in man, it is a mere rudiment as compared with its condition in the lower animals. Without going into the details of its structure in man, it may be said that it consists of alternate layers of white and grey matter, the actual surface being covered by a thin layer of white fibres. The function of these is unknown: they do not degenerate after removal of the eye. principal optic fibres enter the middle white zone, which is separated from the superficial white layer by the superficial grey layer or cappa cinerea (Tartuferi). Their terminal arborisations are around the cells in the superficial and also in the deeper grey matter. It is noteworthy that the deeper fibres pass to the region in which the fibres from the These ganglion cells of the superior lateral fillet end. colliculus are also optic neurones of the third order. A few of their axones pass to join the optic radiation, though this is doubted by some. Most of them pass down and bend round the grey matter surrounding the aqueduct of Silvius, decussate with those from the opposite side beneath the III nuclei and the posterior longitudinal bundle, forming Meynert's "fontänenartige Haubenkreuzung," and finally entering the posterior longitudinal bundle as they pass downwards towards the medulla. In their course they give off collaterals which pass to the opposite superior colliculus. to the III, IV and VI, and probably to other nuclei. is certain at any rate that they enter into intimate relation with the nuclei which govern the eye muscles, a fact which accounts for the mechanism of the eye-muscle reflexes.

The effects of experimental destruction of the corpora quadrigemina are important. Most of the earlier observers,

Flourens, Longet, McKendrick, Bechterew, Ferrier, and others, found a constant relation between the anterior lobes and the visual sense. The loss of vision following destruction depended upon the amount of decussation at the chiasma. In animals with total decussation—any below the rabbit, including the guinea-pig, birds, and fish-removal of one optic lobe caused blindness of the opposite eye. In animals with binocular vision, heteronymous hemianopsia occurred, as Bechterew showed upon dogs; bilateral destruction produced complete blindness. More recent experiments on Testudo palustris (Fano), and birds (Stefani), show that the blindness is not complete. Nothnagel and Eisenlohr, from pathological data in man, found no interference with vision which could be ascribed to the corpora quadrigemina, and the later experiments of Ferrier and Turner contradict the earlier observation of Ferrier that complete blindness follows destruction of both superior colliculi in the monkey.

Confining our attention to primates, histological evidence all points to the dorsal and superficial layers as being most intimately connected with the visual afferent system, whilst the deeper layers are concerned with the ocular motor nuclei. Stimulation of the superior colliculus in monkeys, causes, amongst other phenomena, widening of the palpebral fissures, elevation of the eyebrows, and conjugate deviation of the eyes to the opposite side, accompanied by a similar movement of the head and neck. These results may be attributed to spread of the current to the subjacent motor nuclei, but this is contra-indicated by the different effects obtained from the superior as compared with the inferior colliculi.

Ablation causes temporary deviation of the eyes to the same side, lasting only a few hours. No ptosis or ophthalmoplegia follows as long as the lesion is not sufficiently deep to interfere with the third nuclei. The anatomical relations involve the removal of one occipital lobe, with consequent hemianopia. Apart from this, there are no visual effects which can be ascribed to the corpora quadrigemina.

We are forced to conclude that the superior colliculi are

relatively unimportant as regards visual functions in primates, though they still probably retain some importance in the co-ordination of the ocular movements, acting principally as a reflex centre, receiving afferent impulses from the retine, the cortex, the acoustic-vestibular system, and the spinal sensory system through the fillet and cerebellum. These functions are too complex and too easily replaced vicariously to be elucidated by the coarse methods of experiment.

As the size and importance of the mesencephalic visual nuclei diminish in ascending the animal scale, so the size and importance of the diencephalic nuclei—the lateral geniculate body and the pulvinar of the optic thalamus, both of which must be regarded as nuclei of the diencephalon—increases. The pulvinar is large only in primates. Excitation of the thalamus produces very little result; ablation results in visual defects. A very important pathological observation was made by Hughlings Jackson in 1875. There was localised softening of the posterior part of the right optic thalamus; the visual defect consisted in left hemianopia. Ferrier, and Turner, and Lo Monaco, from experimental lesions found contra-lateral hemianopia plus amblyopia of the whole field.

We are now in a position to realise the parallelism which exists between the nuclei under consideration and those belonging to the afferent tracts of common sensibility. The ganglion cell layer is found to correspond with the nuclei gracilis and cuneatus, whilst the termination of the optic tract in the superior colliculus and thalamus (lateral geniculate body and pulvinar) corresponds with the terminations of the nucleo-thalamic (mesial fillet) tract in the mesencephalon and diencephalon respectively.

Ramon y Cayal divides the optic path from these lower centres to the occipital cortex into two parts, a superficial and a deep. The superficial path, which is the less important, arises in the superficial layers of the lateral geniculate body and possibly from the stratum zonale of the thalamus. It curves towards the middle line, passing into the "central

optic path" (Ramon y Cayal) of the cerebral peduncle. The deep path arises from the deep cells of the lateral geniculate body, as well as from the stratum zonale, and enters the central optic path on its mesial border. Some of the axones entering the central optic path undergo bifurcation, one branch ascending with the main bundle into the corpus striatum, the other descending towards the tegmentum. Ramon y Cayal suggests that the descending branches may represent a reflex path between the visual centres and the motor nuclei for the eyes, head, and neck. (See Lecture II.)

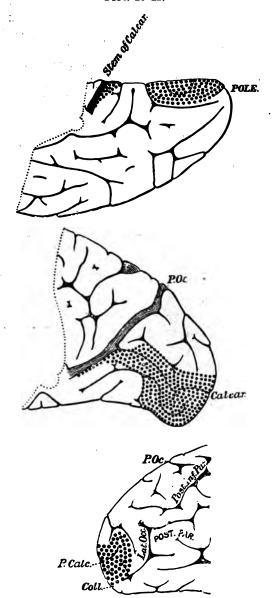
Ramon y Cayal succeeded in following the axones of the central optic path throughout their entire course from their entrance into the corpus striatum to their termination in the occipital lobe in the new-born mouse. He found that they were distributed to those areas of the cortex in which the white stripe of Gennari is best developed. This agrees with the embryological results obtained by Flechsig.

THE CEREBRAL VISUAL CENTRES.—Since the early part of the last century, it has been known that the cortex cerebri in the neighbourhood of the calcarine fissure possesses a characteristic structure owing to the existence in the centre of the grey matter of a white line, which is easily visible to the naked eye. This has been variously termed the line of Gennari, of Vicq d'Azyr, or of Baillarger, after the original investigators. Since the earlier descriptions of Meynert, Krause and Betz, this region of the cortex has received special attention from Leonova, Hammarberg, Schlapp, Cayal and most recently and most exhaustively from Bolton. According to the last-named author, the calcarine or visuosensory cortex may be divided into the following layers:-(1) Outer layer of nerve fibres; (2) Layer of small pyramidal cells; (3) Outer layer of granules containing pyramids; (3a) Middle layer of nerve fibres or line of Gennari, containing the solitary cells of Meynert; (3b) Inner layer of granules; (4) Inner layer of nerve fibres, containing the solitary cells of Meynert; (5) Layer of polymorphic cells. In the neighbouring visuo-psychic cortex the layers are:—(1) Outer layer of nerve fibres; (2) Layer of small and large pyramids; (3) Layer of granules containing pyramids; (4) Inner layer of nerve fibres; (5) Layer of polymorphic cells. The third layer is, therefore, split up in the calcarine region by the intercalation of white fibres which undoubtedly represent the terminations of the optic fibres.

Figs. 20,21 and 22 (p. 24) show the distribution of the visuosensory area in a previously healthy man of 55, who died of right lobar pneumonia. The results were worked out by Bolton with enormous labour and care, by means of serial sections and micrometer measurements. The area occupies the whole of the body of the calcarine fissure extending above to the parallel cuneal sulcus, and below to the collateral fissure. It occupies the posterior part of the calcarine fissure, extending round the pole to the outer surface of the hemisphere to a considerable extent, being surrounded at its postero-external extremity by well-defined sulci. Anteriorly it extends along the lower lip of the stem of the calcarine fissure almost to its anterior extremity.

Bolton examined five other occipital lobes from various cases, one of which was a case of anophthalmia. concludes from this research that the specific area is approximately pear-shaped, with the apex anteriorly and the thick end at the pole of the hemisphere. In general distribution it occupies:—(a) The body of the calcarine fissure, including the anterior and posterior annectants, and extending upwards to the parallel cuneal sulcus and downwards to the collateral fissure; (b) The posterior part of the calcarine fissure extending to the polar sulci surrounding its extremities; (c) The inferior lip of the stem of the calcarine fissure (including the superficial surface and lower lip of the cuneal annectant) nearly to its interior extremity, just posterior to which the area tails off to a sharp point. The area is much decreased in extent, but not in distribution, in cases of old standing. optic atrophy. In anophthalmia it is much contracted as regards both extent and distribution. It then occupies the usual position in the stem of the calcarine fissure,

Figs. 20-22.



but only extends backwards as far as the posterior cuneolingual annectant, and it is confined to a portion of the inferior lip of the fissure and to the cortex between this and the collateral sulcus.

At the junction of the area of special lamination with the surrounding cortex the line of Gennari suddenly ceases. In the area itself the line is decreased nearly 50 per cent. in thickness in old standing optic atrophy, and the outer granule layer more than 10 per cent. On the other hand, in the cortex surrounding the area referred to, old standing optic atrophy causes no modification of the lamination. In anophthalmia, the combined outer granule layer and line of Gennari are narrowed down to two-thirds of the normal thickness, the other layers of the cortex being approximately unchanged. This amount of narrowing is the same as that found in cases of old standing optic atrophy.

Hence it may be reasonably concluded that the area thus localised is the primary visual region of the cortex cerebri, and that the part of this area to which afferent visual impulses primarily pass is the region of the line of Gennari. Bolton thinks that the area can probably be described as the cortical projection of the corresponding halves of both retinæ. In this projection the part above the caltarine fissure represents the upper corresponding quadrants, and the part below the lower corresponding quadrants of both retinæ.

Ferrier first described the occipital lobes in various animals as being excitable and giving rise to movements of the eyes to the opposite side. In experiments with Yeo, he found that destruction of the angular gyri in monkeys produced loss of vision of the opposite eye. This result has since been quite disproved by Schäfer and Sanger Brown and others, the explanation of Ferrier's results being probably the injury of the underlying fibres in the corona radiata passing from the occipital lobes. H. Munk first showed that removal of the occipital lobe alone in the monkey caused heteronymous hemianopia, i.e., blindness of

the corresponding halves of both retinæ with loss of the opposite halves of both fields of vision. All optical reflexes, . with the exception of the pupillary reflex, were abolished. Munk tried to discover localisation within this visual area in dogs and monkeys by partial extirpations. He came to the conclusion that in the dog the upper part of the retina corresponds with the anterior part of the visual area, the lower with the posterior, the mesial or internal with the mesial or internal, and the lateral with the lateral. vision was most represented at the posterior pole. and Sanger Brown came to the conclusion that in the monkey central vision is represented in the neighbourhood of the anterior part of the calcarine fissure. considers that in the monkey and in man the whole of the visual area of one hemisphere is connected with the corresponding halves of both retine; that the upper zone of the visual area of one hemisphere is connected with the upper zone of the corresponding lateral halves of both retinæ; similarly for the lower zones; and that the focal point of the visual area, which is placed on the anterior part of the mesial surface of the occipital lobe, is connected with rather more than the corresponding halves of both Pathological observations confirm these statemaculæ. ments for the most part. Lesions of the occipital lobe produce hemianopia, without affecting the pupil reflexes. The fovea almost invariably escapes. Lesions of the mesial surface, near the calcarine fissure, produce the most serious disturbance for their size.

von Monakow limits the visual area to the cuneus, the lingual lobule, and the occipital gyri; all parts of the macula are represented in both hemispheres, and over the whole visual cortex.

According to Henschen, the visual centre is confined to the neighbourhood of the calcarine fissure, the upper lip being connected with the upper quadrant of the retina, the lower with the lower quadrant, and the macula with the anterior part of the area, each macula being represented on both sides. As far as anatomical evidence goes it seems certain that most of the fibres from the lateral geniculate body end in the region of the calcarine fissure. According to Henschen all the visual fibres of the optic tract end in the external geniculate body, whence new fibres are carried to the calcarine fissure. Flechsig, too, finds the termination of the fibres of Gratiolet's radiation in the mesial surface of the occipital lobe and a small area close to the longitudinal fissure. On the other hand von Monakow and others trace the thalamo-occipital fibres to the whole of the occipital cortex, and possibly to the posterior part of the parietal lobe; those from the external geniculate body pass principally to the cuneus and lingual lobule.

The idea that the macular region is represented only in the anterior part of the calcarine fissure is opposed by some pathological observations, so that Forster and Sachs consider the posterior part of the fissure the more probable. This view is similarly negatived by other cases, so that it seems probable that the whole length of the calcarine fissure is concerned in representation of the macula (Barker).

von Monakow assumes a wide distribution of the macular fibres in the external geniculate body, so that almost any portion of the occipital cortex is capable of receiving macular impulses. This view is opposed by cases of localised bilateral lesions of the occipital lobes, causing complete blindness, though in some of these there has been double hemianopia with partial escape of central vision.

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### LECTURE 11.\*

#### THE INNERVATION OF THE PUPIL.

THE iris consists of a highly vascular membrane, the blood vessels of which are arranged radially. It also contains two muscles, composed of unstriped fibres—the sphincter and the dilatator. Of these, the former is a compact ring of muscle, situated near the pupillary margin; the latter is a thin layer of muscle, situated near the posterior surface, the constituent fibres being arranged radially. Each muscle has a separate and independent motor nerve supply.

The sphincter is innervated by the third cranial nerve, the pupil-constrictor fibres originating in the third nucleus in the floor of the aqueduct of Sylvius, passing out of the mesencephalon in the third nerve, and running in the main trunk of the nerve as far as the orbit. The fibres here pass into the branch which supplies the inferior oblique, leaving it by the short root of the ciliary ganglion. From the ciliary ganglion, they pass by the short ciliary nerves to the eye, piercing the sclerotic around the optic nerve, and forwards in the choroid and ciliary body to the iris.

The dilatator pupillæ is supplied by the cervical sympathetic nerve. The dilatator tract probably commences in the neighbourhood of the third nucleus in the mesencephalon, passing through the medulla oblongata, where its exact path is still unknown, into the lateral columns of the cord. The fibres leave the cord by the ventral roots of the first three thoracic nerves (cat, dog, ape), enter the rami communicantes, and run to the first thoracic or stellate ganglion. From here they mostly pass into the anterior limb of the annulus of

<sup>\*</sup> This is an extended version of Lecture II, with an historical résumé, the literature upon the subject being somewhat scattered and difficult of access.

Vieussens, though some run in the posterior limb. They pass up the neck in the cervical sympathetic to the superior cervical ganglion. From here the dilator tract enters the skull by the cervico-Gasserian strand, running independently of the carotid plexus. It joins the Gasserian ganglion, and passes thence into the first or ophthalmic division of the fifth nerve, following the nasal branch, which it leaves finally to enter the long ciliary nerves, thus avoiding the ciliary ganglion. The long ciliary nerves enter the eye on each side of the optic nerve, and running forwards between the choroid and the sclerotic, pass through the ciliary body to be distributed to the iris. (See Plate I.)

These bald statements are the conclusions arrived at as the result of a vast amount of research during the latter part of last century. In many cases the results have been contradictory or apparently so, but recent work tends to establish the given statements as incontrovertible facts. There are still, however, many unsolved problems, and these are intimately bound up with the apparently contradictory results of the early experiments. No one attacking the subject afresh can afford to ignore these investigations. It will be well, therefore, to give a brief résumé of the evidence upon which the principal statements are founded.

THE MECHANISM OF CONSTRICTION AND DILATATION OF THE PUPIL.—Given constrictor and dilator muscles, each with its own independent nerve supply, together with radially disposed blood vessels, it is clear that constriction of the iris may be due to any of three causes:—(1) contraction of the constrictor muscle; (2) relaxation of the dilator muscle; (3) dilatation of the blood vessels. Similarly dilatation may be due to:—(1) contraction of the dilator muscle; (2) relaxation of the constrictor muscle; (3) constriction of the blood vessels. There is ample evidence to support the view that each of these methods is actually brought into use, and that the three causes are effectual in diminishing degree in the order named.

The Dilatator Pupillæ.—Histological evidence alone has



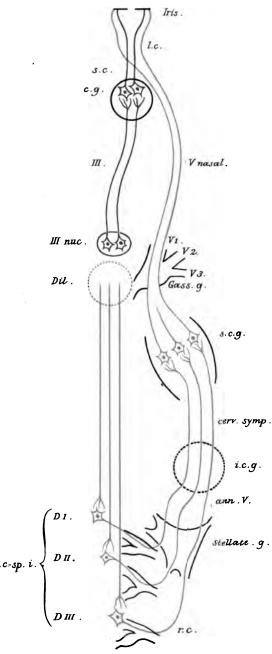
#### PLATE I.

THE EFFERENT PUPILLO-CONSTRICTOR (RED) AND PUPILLO-DILATOR (BLUE) PATHS.

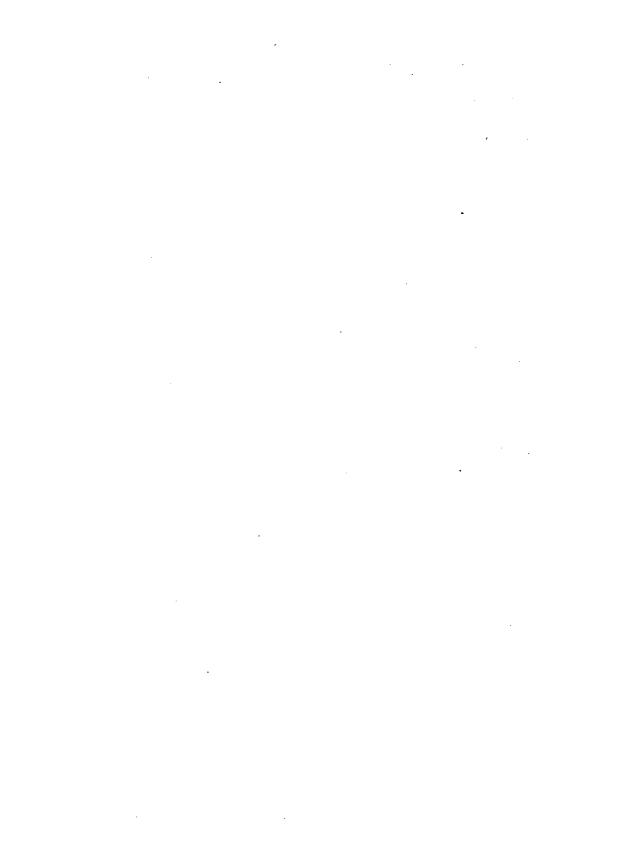
III. nuc., nucleus of third nerve; III. third nerve; c.g., ciliary ganglion; s.c., short ciliary nerves.

Dil., hypothetical dilator centre in medulla; c.c.sp.i., centrum ciliospinale inferius; DI, DIII, BIII, first, second, and third dorsal nerves; r.c., ramus communicans; stellate g, stellate ganglion; ann. V., annulus of Vieussens; i.c.g., inferior cervical ganglion; cerv. symp., cervical sympathetic; s.c.g. superior cervical ganglion; Gass. g., Gasserian ganglion; V1, V2, V3, first second, and third divisions of the fifth nerve; V nasal, nasal branch of the ophthalmic (first) division of the fifth nerve; l.c., long ciliary nerves.

Plate I.



Bale & Danielsson I'd lith.



not succeeded in demonstrating beyond cavil the existence of a dilator muscle in the iris, but taken in conjunction with the physiological evidence it must now be considered proved. The histological difficulties are to be found in (1) the proof of the presence of radial muscle fibres, other than those in the walls of the vessels; and in (2) the interpretation of the nature of the cells forming the posterior layers of the iris.

Maunoir first stated the existence of a circular sphincter and a radial dilator. This view was supported by Valentin (1837), Krohn (1837), Bruch, Brücke, Kölliker, Henle, Luschka, Merkel, v. Hüttenbrenner, Faber, Dogiel, Hulke. Iwanoff, Jeropheeff, and others. It was controverted on the anatomical side by Arnold, Hall, Hampeln, v. Michel, Schwalbe, Koganei, Fuchs, Eversbusch, Retzius, and others. The present state of the question is that the anterior layer of retinal pigment epithelium acts as a dilator muscle (Juler, L. Müller, Gabrielides, Grunert). On bleaching, the cells of this layer resemble in all respects unstriped muscle fibres. They stain in the same manner, and may be well demonstrated, for example, with Mallory's phosphotungstic acid hæmatoxylin after hardening in Zenker's fluid (Verhoeff). Further, Szili has brought forward evidence to show that the sphincter pupillæ is also derived from the retinal epiblast. These muscles would therefore resemble the arectores pilorum of the skin in being formed from epiblast.

The physiological evidence in favour of a distinct dilator contractile tissue in the iris is stronger than the histological, the researches of Langley and Anderson being quite conclusive. Historically it is inextricably mixed up with the vaso-motor theory, so the two are best considered together.

In 1840, Crimelli showed that injection of coloured oil into young eyes (children) caused constriction of the pupil; and Rouget (1866) proved the same fact by injecting fluid into the ophthalmic artery. The early literature will be found in the papers of Zeglinski and Heese.

Grünhagen, in a series of papers from 1864 to 1893,

warmly supported the vaso-motor theory, whereby a diminished quantity of blood in the vessels leads to shrinkage of the iris. It is clear also that constriction of the arteries, accompanied by contraction of the longitudinal muscle fibres in their walls, may lead to dilatation of the iris by dragging the sphincter outwards (Langley and Anderson). Budge and Waller (1851) and Budge (1855) proved that dilatation through the sympathetic can occur in the absence of variations of blood supply, e.g., after death. Waller (1856) showed that making the iris of a white rat bloodless by pressing upon the eye had no effect upon the pupil. Brown-Séquard (1859) found barely appreciable constriction of the pupil on injecting blood into the ophthalmic artery, though the effect is greater a day or two after death (Mosso, 1874). François-Franck (1880) obtained dilatation through the sympathetic after bleeding the animal to death.

Claude Bernard (1852), and Waller (1853) demonstrated vaso-motor nerves to the ears, etc., and Kuyper (1859) to the iris, in the cervical sympathetic. Salkowski (1867) also proved that constriction of the vessels accompanied dilatation of the pupil, Donders noting the same fact in albino rabbits, and Becker in human albinoes. Sinitzin showed that excision of the superior cervical ganglion was followed by dilatation of the vessels. Arlt. Jr. (1869) and François-Franck (1880) proved that dilatation of the iris and constriction of the vessels of the ear do not occur synchronously. Langley and Anderson (1892) proved the same fact for the iris vessels, showing at the same time that no deductions can be made as to time relations from the vessels of the ear.

There is evidence that the vaso-motor and pupillo-dilator fibres run independent paths. Bernard (1862) found in the dog that section of the first and second thoracic nerves caused dilatation of the pupil, but no vascular change in the skin of the head, whereas section of the thoracic sympathetic between the second and third ribs caused the reverse effects. Langley and Anderson (1892) showed that dilatation of the

pupils and distinct constriction of the vessels of the iris were caused by the first three thoracic nerves and by these only, but the readiness and extent of the pupillary dilatation was not proportional with the several nerves, to the readiness and extent of the arterial constriction. Schiff (1872) showed that the two sets of fibres could occasionally be isolated as separate bundles in the cervical sympathetic, and one or other effect obtained alone. Budge and Waller (1851) found that the pupillo-dilator fibres, after leaving the superior cervical ganglion, accompanied the internal carotid artery in its canal, running to the Gasserian ganglion; whilst François-Franck (1880) showed that the superior cervical ganglion gives off two strands to the carotid canal, and the external causes dilatation of the pupil, but no increase in pressure in the peripheral end of the carotid, the other strand causes the reverse effects. François-Franck also found separation of the two tracts in the annulus of Vieussens, but these experiments are inconclusive (Langley and Anderson). Some of the short ciliary nerves cause constriction, others dilatation of the pupil, according to Francois-Franck, whilst neither cause variation of the retinal vessels or change in intra-ocular pressure. experiments are also inconclusive. Jegorow (1886) found that after section of the long ciliary nerves, stimulation of the central end of the vago-sympathetic causes strong contraction of the retinal vessels, but no pupillo-dilatation, whilst stimulation of the peripheral end of a long ciliary nerve causes the reverse effect.

Waller (1856) and Vulpian (1873) noticed in the white rat that no constriction of the iridic vessels accompanies dilatation of the pupil by atropin. Langley and Dickinson (1890) showed that intravenous injection of brucin may eliminate pupillo-dilatation from the sympathetic, the vaso-constriction of the vessels of the ear still remaining, and Langley and Anderson (1892), by the same method, were able to obtain complete constriction of the vessels of the iris without any change in the size of the pupil.

Even if the relative unimportance of the vaso-motor changes be conceded, the dilatation of the pupil may be due to inhibition of the sphincter pupillæ. This possibility was announced by Grünhagen and Samkowy (1875), without further investigation, except that they showed that the tone of the sphincter can be diminished by direct stimulation, the muscle becoming elongated. François-Franck (1880) expressed the same view with some reserve, whilst Gaskell (1886), influenced largely by dubious analogies, definitely advanced the inhibitory theory. Kölliker (1855) had already obtained dilatation after removal of the sphincter, but the conditions of the experiment prevent its being accepted as positive evidence. The inhibition of antagonists on stimulation of muscles is definitely proved in many cases, and inhibition of the sphincter tone is also proved, but whether the cervical sympathetic has this property must still be considered sub judice, though with distinct bias to the negative. In any case it would afford no disproof of the existence of a dilator muscle.

The possibility of pupillo-dilatation as the result of relaxation of the ciliary muscle was advanced and controverted by Langley and Anderson (1892).

Most important are the experiments which definitely prove the existence of a contractile dilator mechanism. Weber first showed that stimulation of the sclerotic near the limbus caused dilatation of the pupil, whilst stimulation of the cornea was followed by constriction of the pupil. Bernstein and Dogiel (1865–67) found that the result might be varied by other arrangements of the electrodes (see Langley and Anderson (1892)); their experiments were confirmed by Engelhardt (1869).

Local dilatation can be obtained by other means. Hensen and Völkers (1868) found it on stimulating a single ciliary nerve, but this may be followed by general dilatation or general constriction (François-Franck). Jegorow (1886) obtained local dilatation in the dog from stimulation of a single long ciliary nerve; on section of all but one ciliary

nerve, subsequent excitation of the cervical sympathetic or of a sensory nerve causes well-marked local dilatation.

The effects of stimulation of the sclerotic near the cornea have been exhaustively investigated by Langley and Anderson (1892). They obtained: (1) Movement of the iris on the side opposite to local dilatation, which was of such a nature that it could not be explained by inhibition of the sphincter in the presence of radial elastic fibres; (2) local dilatation of the pupil with simultaneous local contraction of the sphincter; (3) contraction of a radial strip of the iris. They also proved the absence of any great elasticity in the iris, such as might account for some of the results on the theory of sphincter inhibition.

THE EFFERENT PUPILLO-CONSTRICTOR PATH. The Third Nerve.—Romberg (1851), in his text-book on "Nervous Diseases," refers to dilatation of the pupil as a symptom of paralysis of the third nerve. Budge (1851) states that constriction of the pupil follows stimulation of the third nerve in recently killed animals and man; this observation was confirmed by v. Trautvetter (1866). Schiff (1868) thought that the iris fibres were on the inner side of the trunk of the nerve, since section of the inner fibres caused paralysis of the iris movements without abrogating the movements of the globe. Hensen and Völkers (1868) found pupil constriction from stimulation of the ciliary ganglion and the short ciliary nerves; excitation of single short ciliary nerves caused local constriction, whilst section caused local dilatation. Adamük (1870) confirmed the importance of the ciliary ganglion; he further stimulated the origin of the third nerve in the floor of the aqueduct of Sylvius, and adduced evidence to the effect that the pupillary fibres passed backwards from the nucleus on their way to the trunk of the nerve. Hensen and Völkers (1878) proved that the fibres pass forwards rather than backwards, Adamük's results being due probably to stimulation of afferent fibres running forwards in the medulla to join the centre.

This course for the pupillo-constrictor fibres has been confirmed by all subsequent observers, the only discovery of importance being that there is a cell station in the ciliary This was proved by Langley and Anderson (1892), both by the nicotin method and by the degeneration method. If the third nerve is cut within the skull, many degenerated fibres are found running to the ganglion, but none peripherally of it (Apolant, 1896). The preganglionic fibres running from the third nerve to the ciliary ganglion are mostly small medullated fibres. The postganglionic fibres running in the short ciliary nerves are three or four times as numerous as the preganglionic ones, and also consist chiefly of small medullated fibres. These facts were stated by Bidder and Volkmann (1842). These autonomic (Langley) postganglionic fibres differ, therefore, from the rule which applies, though with many exceptions, to the postganglionic fibres of the sympathetic system in being medullated.

Further proof of the origin of the postganglionic pupilloconstrictor fibres in the cells of the ciliary ganglion is afforded by the Nissl method. This method is extremely delicate, but demands the greatest care in the interpretation of the results. In this case it gives valuable confirmatory evidence; in others the conclusions deduced from it must be accepted with reserve. There is even considerable divergence of opinion in the results of experiments upon the ciliary ganglion. Thus Bach (1899) found that nearly all the cells were degenerated after excision of the iris and ciliary body; none when the cornea was removed. Marina (1899-1901) found degeneration from destruction of the cornea, but much more after iridectomy. Bumm (1902) counted the cells, and found the normal average to be 6432. After cutting the ciliary nerves, 3854 remained unaffected; after excising the superior cervical ganglion, the cells were reduced to The latter result may be due to the removal of afferent impulses (cf. Warrington).

Paradoxical Pupillo-Constriction.—Under ordinary con-

ditions the pupillo-constrictor centre emits tonic impulses, so that when these are cut off by section of the constrictor path in any position the pupil becomes slightly larger than normal. It has occasionally been observed that the pupil is smaller than normal; this is called paradoxical pupillo-constriction. It has been less frequently seen than paradoxical pupillo-dilatation, to which reference will be made later.

Paradoxical pupillo-constriction has been investigated by Anderson (1902), only an abstract of his results having been as yet published. He found that after excision of the left ciliary ganglion and section of the right third nerve proximally of the ganglion in a kitten, the two pupils were equally dilated until regeneration occurred on the right side 8 days later. In a cat the right pupil continued to be widely dilated 38 days after division of the right short ciliary nerves. Under certain circumstances, however, the pupil on the side of the excision was smaller, e.g., in the cat the right pupil was smaller in dim light than the left after local application of eserin to both eyes in equal quantity; and 18 days later the right pupil was smaller after the death of the cat.

In another cat the left pupil immediately after excision of the left ciliary ganglion was very widely dilated, but next day the left pupil had become slightly smaller, and was smaller than the right in dim light if the cat became restless under observation. On the same day after administration of ether and section of both cervical sympathetic nerves the left pupil became a slit, though the right was almost maximally dilated, and for 48 hours after death the left pupil remained much smaller than the right.

In other observations made 2 and 318 days after denervation of the sphincter on one side, the pupil on the side of the lesion was smaller after the death of the animal, though previously it had been the larger since the denervation.

Anderson concludes that the paradoxical pupillo-con-

striction is due to increased excitability of the denervated sphincter, the exciting stimuli in the observations mentioned being alterations in the blood supply, eserin, and probably ether (see, however, the observations on paradoxical pupillo-dilatation).

THE EFFERENT PUPILLO-DILATOR PATH.—Investigations on the pupillo-dilator path have been attended with more ambiguous results than those on the constrictor path.

The Cervical Sympathetic Nerve.—Parfour du Petit (1727) first showed that section of the cervical sympathetic was followed by constriction of the pupil upon the same side, as well as by other symptoms which do not concern us here. The observation was confirmed by Molinelli (1755), Arnold, Valentin pointed out that section Stilling and others. caused a short and transitory dilatation of the pupil, followed by constriction which remained permanent. Serafino Biffi (1846), repeated Petit's experiments and confirmed them, and further supplemented them by showing that stimulation of the sympathetic causes dilatation. Reid (1848) isolated the sympathetic from the vagus fibres in the cat and showed that only the sympathetic caused dilatation of the pupil on stimulating the peripheral end.

Budge (1851-55) first seriously attacked the problem of the innervation of the pupil, and it is only within the last few years that anything of importance has been added to his results, though they have been corrected in details. He found that if the spinal cord between the sixth cervical and the fourth thoracic vertebræ is isolated by transverse section above and below, then stimulation of this area causes dilatation of both pupils, which is abrogated on one side if the corresponding sympathetic is cut. Stimulation of the cord above or below this region caused no effect. Hence Budge concluded that there was a centre for the dilatation of the pupil here; he called it the centrum cilio-spinale inferius. He also traced the dilator fibres from this centre to the cervical sympathetic, showing that they leave the cord by the anterior roots of the seventh and eighth cervical

and first and second thoracic nerves; Budge also described a centrum cilio-spinale superius, which he thought was in the region of the nucleus of the hypoglossal nerve. He thought that the superior cervical ganglion received pupillo-dilator fibres directly from this centre as well as from the inferior one through the sympathetic. The experiments upon which the idea was founded are open to another interpretation, and afford no evidence of a superior centre. Schiff (1855) confirmed Budge's results, but opposed his idea that the centrum cilio-spinale inferius was an automatic and independent centre. He gave good evidence to show that it was under the control of impulses descending from above, so that hemisection of the cord above the fourth cervical vertebræ caused constriction of the pupil on the same side and the other effects of cutting the sympathetic. He therefore considered that the superior centre alone was automatic.

The complete demonstration of the dilator path was intimately bound up with the discovery and investigation of the sensory pupillary reflex, which must, therefore, be referred to in this connection. Chauveau (1861) discovered that dilatation of the pupil followed excitation of the posterior columns of the cord; this only occurred with the intact cord in his experiments. (It had long been known that pupil dilatation often occurred in trigeminal neuralgia (Notta, 1854)). Claude Bernard (1862) first showed that excitation of the central end of any sensory nerve caused dilatation of the pupil; he found that the effect was abolished by section of the anterior roots which are known to carry the pupillo-dilator fibres.

Balogh (1861) noticed dilatation during asphyxia, even if the superior cervical ganglion had been removed. Stimulation of the trunk of the fifth nerve, or of the Gasserian ganglion, or of the ophthalmic division of the fifth, caused dilatation. If the trunk of the fifth nerve was cut, stimulation of the medulla caused no change in the pupil. He therefore arrived at the deduction that the fifth, nucleus is the upper centre for the dilator fibres, and that the dilator

fibres all pass through the Gasserian ganglion and thence into the ophthalmic division of the fifth.

Oehl (1862) obtained dilatation of the pupil from the first division of the fifth after excision of the superior cervical ganglion; there were no dilator fibres in the trunk of the fifth nerve. Hence he concluded that the dilators arise in the Gasserian ganglion—an erroneous deduction. Guttman (1864) supported this view; he opposed the medullary centre and found slight pupillo-constriction after dividing the fifth just proximal to the Gasserian ganglion.

Salkowski (1867) confirmed Budge's experiments and supported the view of the medullary centre, which he found to be the reflex centre for the sensory stimuli. He asseverated the existence of a single pupillo-dilator path from the medulla through the centrum cilio-spinale inferius to the cervical sympathetic.

Nawalichin (1869) confirmed Balogh's results and fell into several errors:—he found that the sensory reflex was eliminated by section of the cord above the spinal centre of Budge; and also that the sympathetic is not the only The latter view was founded upon two chief dilator tract. observations: (1) if the cord is cut at the level of the third cervical vertebra, stimulation of the upper cut end causes dilatation; (2) if the cord is cut below the medulla, asphyxia still causes pupillo-dilatation. Both of these observations are correct, but they are open to other interpretation. Vulpian (1874) also thought that the trunk of the fifth nerve contained dilator fibres, both from his experiments in which it was cut, and also because the sensory reflex from the sciatic nerve persisted after extirpation of the superior cervical and stellate ganglia.

Hurwitz (1878) repeated Vulpian's experiments and performed two new ones which are of some importance. If the superior cervical ganglion was removed, then after at least 120 hours' interval it is found that direct stimulation of the iris of the atropinised eye of a curarised animal causes not the slightest trace of dilatation. If the sympathetic is cut

a few days before stimulation of a sensory nerve, pupillodilatation is not abolished but is slower in onset and more prolonged.

Schiff and Foa (1874) devoted special attention to the sensory reflex, and found that the pupil may be regarded as an æsthesiometer. They confirmed Chauveau's result that the afferent path runs in the posterior columns of the cord, adding also the grey matter; they obtained no sensory reflex after section above or below the medulla.

François-Franck (1878-80) made an exhaustive investigation of the whole subject. The results which concern us here are as follow. From the fact that section of the trunk of the fifth nerve is followed by constriction of the pupil, he concluded that that nerve contains dilator fibres. also found dilator fibres in the vertebral nerve. He showed that the dilators pass by the rami communicantes of the fourth cervical to the sixth or seventh thoracic in cuts to the thoracic sympathetic. Thence they pass into the stellate ganglion, and from there, by the anterior limb of the annulus of Vieussens, to the cervical sympathetic. He found no pupillo-dilators in the posterior limb of the annulus, but this is untrue (Langley and Anderson). The sympathetic receives no other dilator fibres in the neck. All the ciliary nerves are pupillo-constrictors with the exception of two or three. The short ciliaries cause rapid constriction, whilst the long ciliaries cause slow dilatation. Extirpation of the stellate, or of the superior cervical ganglion, causes greater dilatation of the pupil than simple section of the sympathetic nerve; hence he concludes that these ganglia exert a tonic influence over the irido-dilator mechanism. Guillebeau and Luchsinger (1880) ascribed the dilatation from the vertebral nerve to sensory fibres contained in it.

Luchsinger (1880) supported the view that the inferior cilio-spinal centre is automatic. He obtained the sensory reflex after section of the cord, if the excitability is increased by picrotoxin or strychnin. Tuwim (1881) failed to obtain dilatation from sensory stimuli after cutting the cord. He

confirmed the discovery of François-Franck that the superior cervical ganglion exerts a tonic influence; he found the pupil smaller on the side in which the ganglion was extirpated than on the side in which the sympathetic was cut. Guillebeau and Luchsinger (1882) obtained the sensory reflex in young cats after section of the cord without artificially increasing the excitability of the cord, and this result was also found in cats by Ott (1882).

Sheglinski (1885) showed that the pupillo-dilators in birds run in the first division of the fifth. They do not run in the cervical sympathetic. This statement was controverted by Grünhagen, but has been substantiated by Langley (1903). It was also confirmed by Jegorow (1886), who found vaso-motor fibres in the sympathetic, but no pupillo-dilators. This observer also confirmed the course of the dilators in mammals in the ophthalmic division of the fifth, and in the long ciliary nerves.

Bellarminow (1886) first used the photographic method for recording the pupillary movements. He distinguishes between (1) direct (sympathetic) dilation and (2) reflex dilation. The latter occurs whether the sympathetic is intact or not. He found that the pupil varies independently of the blood pressure or the intraocular pressure.

Katharina Schipilow (1886) traced the dilators in the frog. She found no difference between cutting the sympathetic and excising the sympathetic ganglia.

Nawrocki and Przybylski (1891) found that in cats the dilators leave the cord by the ventral roots of the eighth cervical and first and second thoracic nerves. The fibres do not pass through the ciliary ganglion, but enter the long ciliary nerves. These authors also admit a cranial dilator path, though they deny the presence of dilators in the vertebral nerve. There is a centre in the brain, but there are no sufficient grounds for supposing that there is an inferior cilio-spinal centre.

Braunstein (1894) re-investigated the whole subject in an extremely careful research, using Bellarminow's photographic method. He found the dilator fibres in the rami communicantes of the seventh and eighth cervical and first and second thoracic nerves of the cat. He found no dilators in the posterior limb of the annulus of Vieussens. Above the superior cervical ganglion the dilators run in a special branch, separate from the carotid branches, to the Gasserian ganglion. Stimulation of a long ciliary nerve caused partial dilatation (as opposed to general dilatation found by François-Franck and Bellarminow).

The pupillo-dilator fibres in the cervical sympathetic end around the cells in the superior cervical ganglion. This has been proved by the degeneration method by Waller and Budge (1851-53), and by the nicotin method by Langley and Dickinson (1899–1900).

Langley (1892, sqq.) found the dilator fibres in the first three thoracic nerves. In the cat and dog the third has much less effect than the other two; in the rabbit, and apparently in the ape, the third may have a greater effect than the first, but never so great an effect as the second. It has already been mentioned that Langley and Anderson (1892) found dilator fibres in the posterior limb of the annulus of Vieussens, as well as in the anterior limb, though they were not so numerous.

The preganglionic fibres of the cervical sympathetic, including, therefore, the pupillo-dilator fibres, consist of fine medullated fibres. The postganglionic fibres in the branches from the superior cervical ganglion consist for the most part of non-medullated fibres. Degeneration of these fibres has been specially investigated by Tuckett (1896).

By the Nissl method, according to Marina, some of the cells of the superior cervical ganglion degenerate when the ciliary nerves are cut.

The Fifth Nerve.—We have already seen that several observers considered that there were pupillo-dilator fibres in the fifth nerve. Magendie (1824) first proved that section of the fifth within the skull in the rabbit caused constriction of the pupil. This was denied by Longet

(1842). Valentin and Claude Bernard showed that the effect was transitory, whilst the effect of section of the ophthalmic division of the fifth was lasting. Balogh, Nawalichin, Vulpian, and François-Franck all confirmed the presence of dilators in the trunk of the fifth. Schiff (1867) thought they were sympathetic fibres from the cavum tympani. Rembold (1880) agreed with Schiff that the tone of the dilator was kept up by afferent sensory stimuli, explaining thereby the miosis which follows section of the fifth. In order to explain the constriction caused, according to several authors, by excitation of the trunk of the fifth, he considered it probable that there were actually pupilloconstrictor fibres in the fifth nerve. Eckhard (1892) also thinks that there are constrictors in the fifth.

It is unnecessary to enumerate all the authors who consider that there are dilators or constrictors in the trigeminal. Braunstein and Hurwitz may be held to have proved their absence. Further, Langley could not obtain local dilatation of the pupil from stimulation of the sclerotic after excision of the superior cervical ganglion some time before, and Anderson failed to obtain it even on stimulating the iris under the same conditions. Other observers, amongst them myself, have failed to obtain any movement of the pupil after section of the third nerve and the cervical sympathetic. It may, therefore, be considered definitely proved that all the dilator fibres run in the cervical sympathetic.

Paradoxical Pupillo-Dilatation.—Paradoxical pupillo-dilatation is the antithesis of paradoxical pupillo-constriction. "Section of the cervical sympathetic causes constriction of the pupil, and simultaneous removal of the superior cervical ganglion on the other side causes slightly greater constriction, as first shown by Budge, but in certain circumstances the pupil on the side without the ganglion becomes larger than the pupil on the side with the nerve alone cut. This greater dilatation on the more paralysed side has been called parodoxical pupil-dilatation by Langendorff. Moreover, if only a superior cervical ganglion be excised, the pupil on the

paralysed side may nevertheless become larger in certain circumstances than the normal pupil. This is also spoken of as paradoxical dilatation." (Anderson.)

Budge (1855) first called attention to the occurrence of paradoxical pupillo-dilatation. After section of the left sympathetic and of the branches above the right superior cervical ganglion in a young rabbit he found the right pupil smaller than the left 1 hour later, equal after 24 hours, and the right larger than the left after 48 hours. Schiff (1868) observed the effect after section of the sympathetic, and after excision of the ganglion; he connected the phenomenon with oxygenation of the blood after previous asphyxiation. Surminski (1869) and Tuwim (1881) observed it after Kowalewski (1886) saw it in a kitten after the administration of chloroform. Braunstein (1894) observed it after curare; and Tuckett (1896) incidentally in the course of another research. Langendorff (1900) investigated the subject specially, and noticed the phenomenon after anæsthetics and after death. Lewandowski (1900) also called attention to these paradoxical effects, and showed that they could be produced by dyspnæa. It was also observed incidentally by Langley (1901) and Levinsohn (1902).

The subject has been exhaustively investigated recently by Anderson (1903). He proved that the effect might be observed as soon as 1 day after the lesion, and as long as more than a year. Excitement, dyspnœa, anæsthesia, death, are conditions which evoke the effect. It is produced much more readily by slight dyspnœa in kittens than in cats. The paradoxical effect persists even when the postganglionic branches of the ganglion have been allowed to regenerate. Immediately after removal of the ganglion on one side, and section of the sympathetic on the other, there is always greater paralysis on the side without the ganglion. Later there is frequently greater paralysis on the side with the nerve cut, but if sufficient care is taken to insure a quiet condition of the cat, the signs of greater paralysis are often transferred to the side without the ganglion.

In the quiet condition of the cat the evidence is therefore often against the views (1) that the sphincter is weakened on the side without the ganglion (Budge, Tuwim, Levinsohn), or (2) that there is permanent contracture of the vessels of the iris, or dilatation on this side (Surminski, Langendorff), or (3) that on the side with the ganglion the dilator is inhibited (Kowalewski).

After the local application of eserin to the eyes of a kitten the pupil is smaller on the side from which the superior cervical ganglion has been removed so long as the kitten is quiet, but slight dyspnæa will cause the pupil to become almost maximal though the normal control pupil is very small. A similar result may be obtained when the sphincters are contracting strongly in bright light instead of under the influence of eserin.

This paradoxical pupillo-dilatation must therefore result from an actual increase of tone in the dilator on the side without the ganglion. This increase of tone may be directly demonstrated in the nictitating membrane and lids. The paradoxical effect is therefore due to an increased excitability of the contractile tissues on the side without the ganglion (Lewandowski, Anderson).

The great accentuation of the paradoxical effect seen under anæsthesia does not occur until dyspnæa arises. If only the sympathetic has been cut, the paradoxical effects occur much later, and are much less pronounced.

The paradoxical effects show that the ganglion cannot inhibit the automatic excitability of the contractile tissues with which it is still in connection.

Bright light cannot inhibit the paradoxical dilatation through the third nerve, since the effect will still persist in bright sunlight for more than a minute.

Inhibition of Antagonists.—It is known that in the case of the skeletal muscles contraction of a given group is accompanied by simultaneous active relaxation of the antagonistic group (Sherrington). By analogy, therefore, it is not improbable that constriction of the pupil through the third nerve should be accompanied by simultaneous active inhibition of the dilator, also carried out through the third nerve by means of inhibitory dilator fibres. And, indeed, Waymouth Reid (1895), from consideration of the electrical phenomena occurring during contraction of the sphincter, concluded that this actually happened. Anderson (1903), however, has brought forward strong arguments against this view. Thus, using bright light as a stimulus to contraction of the sphincter, it is found that the paradoxical dilatation may arise and continue for more than a minute in bright sunlight; and further, under the same conditions, a difference between the two pupils caused by paralysis of one dilator is not diminished, but increased by brighter illumination of the eyes. Neither of these observations is consistent with inhibition of the sphincter through the third nerve.

The iris is not under the control of the will, hence these motor nerves are invariably set in action indirectly, either by reflex stimuli, or by what I shall call synkinesis, i.e., association with other voluntary or involuntary movements.\* There are two chief reflexes, and two chief synkineses or associated movements. (1) The Light Reflex; (2) The Accommodation Synkinesis; (3) The Sensory Reflex; (4) The Cerebral Synkinesis.

THE LIGHT REFLEX is carried out entirely through the mechanism of the constrictor centre. Of the afferent paths we know very little for certain. The fibres are contained in the optic nerve, and they arise from all parts of the retina. The optic nerve contains large and small fibres; it is possible that the large fibres are concerned with visual sensations, and that some of the fine ones are afferent pupillo-constrictor fibres. The opposite view has also been advanced. It is certain that the pupillary fibres undergo partial decussation

<sup>\*</sup> The corresponding term for the association of ideas, or an associated idea, would obviously be synpsychosis.

in the chiasma, and enter the optic tracts. It is also certain that they do not enter the lateral geniculate body, but leave the tract to pass by a path which is as yet conjectural to the third nucleus. The tone of the constrictor centre is kept up by constant afferent impulses along this tract; it is possible that it also possesses inherent tone. The tone is probably continually depressed by less effectual impulses along the fifth and other sensory nerves.

There are two types of light reflex, viz., that through the retina of the same side, or the direct reflex, and that through the retina of the opposite side, or the consensual reflex; i.e., light falling upon the retina causes constriction of the pupil—a direct reflex, but it also causes constriction of the opposite pupil—a consensual reflex.

Lambert (1760) found that the constriction increased with the area of the retina which was stimulated. E. H. Weber (1851) found that it was stronger the nearer the affected part lay to the macula, and was strongest of all when the luminous body was the object of fixation.

Herbert Mayo first obtained constriction of the pupil from experimental stimulation of the optic nerve. Flourens (1824) placed the reflex centre in the corpora quadrigemina, a view concurred with by Longet, Budge, and others. Knoll (1869) showed that the whole anterior colliculus might be destroyed without preventing the light reflex. This was confirmed by v. Bechterew (1884) and others—recently by Ferrier and Turner (1901).

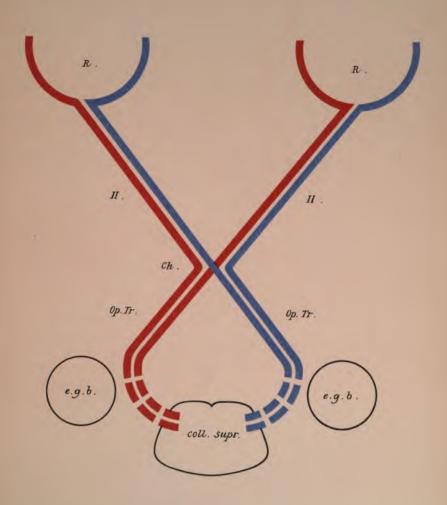
The Afferent Pupillo-Constrictor Path (Plate II).—The fact that, like the afferent visual fibres, the afferent pupillo-constrictor fibres undergo partial decussation in the chiasma is proved by the hemiopic pupil reaction of Wernicke. This observer found that any lesion which destroyed one optic tract caused loss of the light reflex on stimulation of the corresponding halves of both retine, whilst stimulation of the opposite halves gave the normal reaction. Attention was called to the fact that the pupillary and visual paths are not identical by the effects of destruction of the superior



## PLATE II.

## THE AFFERENT PUPILLO-CONSTRICTOR PATH.

R., retinæ; II, optic nerves; Ch., chiasma; Op. Tr., optic tracts; e.g.b., external geniculate bodies; coll. supr., superior colliculus or anterior quadrigeminal body.



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colliculi, and this was confirmed by the effects of destruction of the lateral geniculate body. I have in the first lecture given additional evidence that the visual fibres divide, probably more frequently than has hitherto been supposed. It is not improbable that the pupillary reflex is carried out by means of collaterals.

In any case, destruction of the lateral geniculate body does not abolish the light reflex (v. Bechterew, Henschen Hence the pupillary fibres leave the tract and others). before it reaches the geniculate body. Bogroff and Flechsig (1886) describe a tract passing directly into the stratum griseum centrale of the third ventricle. According to an earlier view of v. Bechterew (1883), the fibres do not enter the optic tract, but pass into the grey matter of the third ventricle close behind the chiasma. Such a view is negatived by the Wernicke reaction, and has apparently been abandoned by v. Bechterew (1900); he now thinks they leave the optic tract at the level between the corpus cinereum and the root fibres of the third nerve, i.e., near the entrance of the optic tract into the geniculate body, running thence to the posterior part of the third ventricle, where they make connections with cells which send axones to the third nucleus of the same side.

Darkschewitsch (1886) thinks that the pupillary fibres leave the optic tract near the geniculate body and pass through the thalamus to the ganglion habenulæ. Thence fresh fibres pass through the posterior commissure to his obere Oculomotoriuskern. This, however, has been shown by v. Bechterew and others to have nothing to do with the third nerve. His results have been supported on comparative anatomical grounds by Bellonci, and also by Mendel.

The evidence is in favour of the afferent pupilloconstrictor fibres making new connections before reaching the third nucleus. Bernheimer (1899), however, thinks that they pass direct to the third nucleus, but Bach (1900) was unable to confirm his results. It must be admitted that the question is by no means settled. It seems most likely that



the fibres pass through the superior brachium into the superior colliculus, there making new connections with cells which convey the impulses to the third nucleus of the same and also of the opposite side. This view is held by Barker, and is probable from the histological researches of Held. It would account satisfactorily for all the facts, including both the consensual reaction and the hemiopic pupil reaction. The effects of extirpation of the superior colliculus are not necessarily fatal to this theory. It is most probable that the afferent pupillary fibres end in the lateral part of the colliculus, and this may quite easily have escaped destruction in experiments in which it is so important that the lesion should be strictly localised.

The Pupillo-Constrictor Centre.—I do not intend attempt in this lecture to unravel the tangle of speculations as to the reflex pupillary centres. The number of these centres which have been described and localised by various writers, each with the utmost assurance, is bewildering in the extreme. To name only a few, we have several constrictor centres, several dilator centres, not to mention various cortical and sub-cortical centres of each kind, and finally Bach has added to the confusion by hypothecating an inhibitory constrictor, and even in his last paper an inhibitory dilator centre. The explanation is to be found in wild theorising upon quite inadequate data, and much of this is due to the use of the unfortunate term "centre." inclined to wish that this term might be abolished from neurology, so great is the ambiguity and confusion to which it has given rise. The intercommunications between the cells of the central nervous system are so complex that there are almost innumerable alternative paths whereby any given group of efferent cells may receive excitatory impulses. aim should be, first to determine the efferent cells governing any given movement, second to determine as far as is possible which are the afferent tracts which can lead directly or indirectly to those cells, and third to find out how each of those afferent tracts leads to the efferent cells.



problem is the most difficult, and we shall find that many of the afferent tracts are very devious, and have many cellstations on their way. Each of these may be dignified with the title "centre," or better, none of them.

There are one or two points, however, which must be mentioned in spite of the obscurity of the subject. We have seen that the third nerve contains all the constrictor fibres for the iris. We have reason to believe that the light reflex is an active constrictor effect and not an inhibitory dilator effect; for, seeing that probably both centres exert a tonic influence, it is obvious that the result might arise from either of these causes. If this reasoning is sound, the only true centre for the light reflex is the part of the nucleus of the third nerve which gives rise to the pupillo-constrictor fibres. Most authors are inclined to agree that this is the Edinger-Westphal nucleus, which consists of small cells occupying the median part of the third nucleus. It may be subdivided into two parts, an anterior paired nucleus and a posterior unpaired nucleus. The former, according to Bernheimer, contains the pupillo-constrictor cells.

This view is not universally adopted, and there are still some—chiefly neuro-pathologists (e.g., Sacki and Schmaus, Schaffer), who adhere to the inhibitory dilator theory, or a modified form of it. Argyll Robertson (1869) must be considered principally responsible for this view, which he held best explained the pupil phenomenon which bears his name. Pathological evidence in favour of it has been collected by Wolff (1899), and it has received some support from the (inconclusive) experiments of Bach, Ruge and others.

Marina (1901-3) thinks that the ciliary ganglion is the centre for the light reflex, and he brings forward some ingenious experiments to prove his point. They cannot, however, be considered conclusive.

Very conclusive evidence in favour of the supreme importance of the third nucleus in the light reflex is afforded by the fact that variations in illumination have no effect on the pupil after section of the third nerve (Braunstein and others). Anderson (1903) points out the necessity for care in eliminating all tactile and other sensory reflexes in these experiments. They prove that the light reflex is entirely through the pupillo-constrictor mechanism, and that inhibition of the dilator tone plays no part. This is additional evidence that the sphincter and dilator do not follow the law of contraction and relaxation of antagonists (see p. 46).

The Accommodation Synkinesis is a constrictor effect commonly associated with accommodation. It is more nearly related, however, to the convergence which normally synchronises with accommodation, since it is possible to accommodate without inducing constriction of the pupil, whereas this invariably occurs during convergence. Very little is known about this phenomenon; even the views stated are open to doubt, but there can be no doubt that it is not a true reflex, but a case of associated movement. The same remark applies to the well-known lid-closing phenomenon.

The accommodation synkinesis has been known since Scheiner (1619). The efferent fibres for accommodation were investigated by v. Trautvetter (1866), Hensen and Völkers (1868, 1878), Kaiser (1868), Adamük and Woinow (1871), and others. Adamük and Woinow found that the pupillo-constriction was not proportional to the distance of the point of fixation. Olbers (1780), on the other hand, had already shown that it was proportional to the angle of convergence, and E. H. Weber (1851) proved that constriction of the pupil occurred on convergence without accommodation, but not on accommodation without convergence; this can be shown by the use of prisms. Hering (1868) devised an experiment for showing that constriction of the pupil also occurs on accommodation without convergence, but Verwoort (1899) thinks that this was due to imperfect exclusion of convergence.

Adamük (1870) obtained depression of the eyes, strong convergence, and pupillo-constriction on stimulating the posterior part of the anterior colliculus in dogs and cats,

similarly convergence and pupillo-constriction from the floor of the aqueduct. These results were confirmed by Hensen and Völkers (1878), and the intimate association of the pupillo-constriction with the internal rectus was further demonstrated.

Henke (1860) put forward the view that the reverse effect, relaxation of accommodation for distance, was accompanied by active dilatation through the sympathetic. However this may be, Hensen and Völkers found that stimulation of the slightly more lateral sixth nucleus was accompanied by some pupillo-dilatation. This is probably an active pupillo-dilator divergence synkinesis.

Curious cases are on record in which pupillo-constriction accompanied outward movements of the eye (Adamük, Weiss, Sichel, v. Graefe, Schiff).

THE SENSORY REFLEX is a dilator reflex induced by tactile, pathic and other sensory stimuli. It is a complex effect exhibiting a primary rapid dilatation due to augmentation of the dilator tone through the cervical sympathetic, followed by a second dilatation, rapid in onset but very slow in its disappearance, due to inhibition of the constrictor tone. When originated through spinal sensory nerves, the afferent impulses are carried up in the posterior columns of the cord.

In dealing with the course of the pupillo-dilator path we have seen that Chauveau (1861) first obtained the sensory reflex experimentally by stimulating the posterior columns of the cord. He found that if the cord was cut above the inferior cilio-spinal centre the effect was abolished, except in one experiment on an ass, in which a very small effect was produced. Claude Bernard (1862) showed that the sensory reflex might be obtained on stimulation of the central end of any sensory nerve.

Reference has already been made in the same section to the work of Salkowski (1867), Balogh (1869), Hurwitz (1878), Schiff and Foa (1875), François-Franck, Luchsinger, Bellarminow, and Braunstein. Balogh (1861), however, was

the first to obtain the sensory reflex after section of the ordinary dilator path in his experiment after excision of the superior cervical ganglion. Hurwitz, as we have seen, found that the effect was very slow after the cervical sympathetic had been cut. Vulpian (1878) observed reflex dilatation after removal of both the superior cervical and v. Bechterew (1883) contended that the stellate ganglia. sensory reflex was entirely due to inhibition of the light reflex, i.e., of the tonic action of the third centre. He based this view largely upon the findings of neuro-pathology, the light and pain reflexes being almost invariably abolished together. He also supported it by further experiments. Thus, if one optic nerve is cut, no further dilatation was caused in the eye of that side by pathic stimuli unless the opposite eye was open, and contraction thereby excited consensually in the sphincter on the side of the lesion. Secondly, the dilatation was inconsiderable when the eyes were examined in a dim light. Thirdly, the degree of dilatation did not exceed that which followed the withdrawal of the light. These experiments were confirmed by Mayer and Pribram (1884), and later by Braunstein (1894). The last-named author found that after section of the third nerve inside the skull, stimulation of the central end of the sciatic nerve with strong and weak currents at periods varying from 12 days to 7 months after the operation caused no reflex movements of the pupil. He observed no change in the size of the pupil between the operation and the final experiment, though during the latter he obtained dilatation from stimulation of the cervical sympathetic.

The subject has received attention from this point of view recently by Anderson (1903). As the result of five experiments in which the pupillo-constrictor tract was divided in some part of its course, he found that well-marked dilatation could be obtained by stimulating the sciatic nerve, pinching the skin, or stroking the hairs. The effect was accompanied by all the usual effects of exciting the cervical sympathetic, and all were abolished if this was cut in addition to the third nerve.

The converse aspect of the subject has also been disputed. Luchsinger (1880) and Guillebeau and Luchsinger (1882) obtained the sensory reflex after the cervical cord had been cut above the inferior cilio-spinal centre. Kowalewski (1886) failed to obtain this result, and similarly Braunstein. Anderson obtained a positive result in the only experiment specially directed to the point; the effect was slow, and was accompanied by slight retraction of the nictitating membrane and eyelids. Second stimulation was ineffectual unless an interval of some minutes was allowed to elapse. The effect continued after destruction of the brain and medulla, and hence cannot have been due to inhibition of constrictor tone.

Anderson considers that the ordinary sensory reflex is of two-fold origin:—(1) reflex augmentation of the dilator tone, causing relatively rapid and short dilatation; (2) reflex inhibition of the constrictor tone, causing a second rapid dilatation which only slowly and gradually subsides.

Hippus.—Anderson makes a valuable contribution to the obscure question of hippus. He found that this occurred not uncommonly after section of the third nerve, but ceased immediately on cutting the sympathetic. It was excited by tactile stimulation, or by a certain state of anæsthetisation. It might be accompanied by rhythmic movements of the eyelids and nictitating membrane.

THE CEREBRAL SYNKINESIS is also a complex phenomenon, and cannot be considered a simple reflex. It is induced by psychic stimuli, e.g., fear, etc., and also by concentration of thought upon a bright light or a dark room. It is also largely an associated movement, accompanying eye movements which may be themselves due to sensory impulses.

The pure psychic reaction, entirely caused by ideas of light and shade, was described by Haab (1886), though Beer had long before discovered that he was himself able to alter the size of his pupils in this manner; it may account for some cases in which persons have apparently been able to alter their pupils at will. The phenomenon is unaccompanied

by any obvious movement of the eyes, and, therefore, cannot be called a synkinesis; it is, in fact, a *psycho-kinesis*. The reaction has recently been called in question by Bumke (1903), and it must be admitted that it is very difficult to exclude the many sources of error, of which accommodation is the most probable and difficult to avoid.

I propose now to discuss in detail my observations on the relationship of the cerebral cortex to the movements of the pupil.

Fontana, as long ago as 1770, showed that in the cat, even under the strongest light stimulus, the pupils dilated widely if the animal was frightened by a loud noise. A child's pupil can also be made to dilate, even during ophthalmoscopic examination of the macula, by a loud sound, such as clapping of the hands. Raehlmann and Witkowski consider that psychic impulses assist in maintaining the tone of the dilator centre, accounting for the constriction of the pupil during sleep by their absence.

Schiff and Foa (1869) first stimulated the cerebrum by electricity, and obtained dilatation of the pupils from stimulation of the anterior four-fifths, and of the cerebellum only by strong stimuli. They attributed the effect to the sensibility of the brain.

Hitzig (1871) sometimes obtained constriction of both pupils, but generally dilatation, rarely only one pupil reacted.

Similar experiments have been carried out by Bochfontaine (1875), Danilewski (1876), Luciani and Tamburini, Grünhagen, Bessau, Ferrier, Horsley and Schäfer, Schäfer, Beevor and Horsley, Grünhagen and Cohn, Katschanowski, François-Franck and Pitres, Mislawski, Bechterew and Mislawski, and Braunstein. In most of these cases the observations were incidental during research directed to some other object. In all, dilatation was much more easily induced than constriction, and no accurate localisation was effected.

Most observers have regarded the effects as inconstant, and but little attention has been specially directed to them.

Thus Ferrier includes dilatation of the pupil with salivation from the submaxillary gland, changes in pulse and blood pressure, and "other indications of general reverberation throughout the organism." He regards them as "merely complications and not as results of localised cortical stimu-On the other hand, Bechterew and Mislawski conclude that "stimulation of the given regions of the cortex and of the optic thalami has hit off the central endings (Verlangerungen) of the cervical sympathetic," and that "the chief reflex centre for the secretion of tears lies in the optic thalami, and that there, too, are found the central tracts of the cervical sympathetic, their prolongations (Fortsetzungen) being continued thence to the cortex." François-Franck is careful to distinguish between two causes of dilatation of the pupil resulting from cortical stimulation. One is a special and localised effect following excitation of definite foci in the cortex, and also obtained from excitation of the underlying fibres of the corona radiata and internal The other accompanies epileptoid convulsions resulting from stimulation of any and every part of the motor areas, and is never obtained from the underlying white matter, which does not induce the epileptic state. the latter he attributes the dilatation after administration of curare which was observed by Bochfontaine. He perhaps lays too much stress upon this as a fundamental distinction, for it applies equally to other motor effects induced through the cortex.

My experiments were made principally upon cats; a few dogs and one monkey were also used. The animals were anæsthetised with ether, the degree of anæsthesia varying, but always being amply sufficient to cause insensitiveness to pain. The qualifying terms used apply to the condition of excitability of the motor areas of the cortex to stimuli of moderate severity, as shown by movements of the limbs of the contra-lateral side. "Epileptoid convulsions" is the term used to express the violent general movements which often follow stimulation of the motor area after exposure of

the brain to air, or prolonged or frequently repeated excitation. This condition is quite compatible with complete anæsthesia.

The cervical sympathetics were either cut or isolated on one or both sides. In the dog the vago-sympathetic was treated as a whole. This was also done in the cat to insure the complete division of all sympathetic fibres. In some experiments the superior cervical ganglion was extirpated to eliminate any dilator fibres which might reach the ganglion by any hitherto unknown course. Section of the sympathetic was usually followed by a distinct moderate constriction of the corresponding pupil, but this was certainly not invariably the case. Absence of a tonic dilator influence is probably under these circumstances due to the condition of anæsthesia of the animal.

I need not enter into further details of the operative procedures, which were those usually employed in cerebral physiology. It was important to keep the light falling upon the eyes as constant as possible throughout the experiment.

It is easy in the cat's eye to direct one's attention to the horizontal meridian. The constricted pupil being a vertical slit, the distance from the centre to the periphery can be divided into four imaginary parts, the pupil being said to be a quarter, a half, three-quarters, or fully dilated.

I have not paid much attention to any movements other than those of the eyes and pupils. Dilatation of the pupils is often obtained without any movement of the eyes or body. I have usually found that a slightly stronger stimulus is necessary to evoke it than that which is required to produce movement from excitation of the arm or leg areas; or the same strength of stimulus may suffice if the animal be slightly less under the influence of the anæsthetic.

(A) Cat.—In the cat dilatation of the pupil can be obtained from a considerable area in the neighbourhood of the crucial sulcus and from a considerable area of the occipital region. As the result of many experiments it is

found that the mesial surface of the hemisphere near the crucial sulcus (prorean and presplenial convolutions) gives the most marked effect, but I have also found that the anterior part of the third or median convolution (coronal or anterior supra-Sylvian) gives a very constant effect. In one or two instances there was a transitory constriction of the pupils before the dilatation from this area. Ferrier obtained constriction of the pupils and divergence of the eyeballs from this spot in the dog, but I have not observed the latter effect in the cat.

In the occipital region, what may be called the focal spot is in the posterior part of the third or median convolution (posterior supra-Sylvian convolution). I have not observed any constriction of the pupil here, as described by Ferrier. François-Franck, however, obtained a transitory constriction from this spot, followed by dilatation, exactly like that which I describe for the coronal gyrus. It is, therefore probable that there are foci for pupil constriction both in the frontal and occipital areas, but that they are masked by the dilator effects, which are much more readily produced. One may compare with this the greater representation of lateral eye movements over any other eye movements in the cortex.

Only the results which are deduced from a large number of carefully planned experiments can be considered trust-worthy, more particularly in deciding between areas which give a positive result independently of epileptoid convulsions. These are very readily brought about by repeated excitation of the same or closely neighbouring areas, owing to the increased excitability of the cortex which is thereby induced. The condition of anæsthesia is also of the utmost importance. If this is deep, the pupils remain immobile. If it is too light, dilatation is obtained from almost every part of the cortex, at any rate when bodily movements occur. The results are only reliable when the anæsthesia is moderate.

(B) Dog.—The areas are very much the same in the dog as

in the cat. This animal is less suited for the purpose because of the rarity of dogs with light-coloured irides, and a round pupil is less easy to detect slight variations upon than the slit-like one of the cat. In the dog I obtained a very marked effect from the precrucial gyrus, but I failed to observe any convergence of the optic axes as noted by Ferrier.

(c) Monkey.—I have done only one experiment of this nature upon the monkey. I found it much the easiest animal to work with, and it gave very definite results.

We conclude, therefore, that previous section of the cervical sympathetic diminishes the effect, but by no means abolishes it. When both cervical sympathetics are intact, the dilatation of the pupil, when well marked, is accompanied by all the usual effects of excitation of the nerves themselves, viz., retraction of the nictitating membrane, widening of the palpebral aperture and projection of the eyeball; to these, Bechterew and Mislawski add secretion of the lacrymal gland, but this I am unable definitely to confirm. All these effects are abolished by previous section of the sympathetics except the dilatation of the pupils, and this is diminished. when the nerves are intact full dilatation of the pupils may occur, especially during epileptoid convulsions; after they are divided, the pupils rarely become more than three-fourths The effect is very well seen if one nerve is divided, the other being intact. In this case the two pupils move synchronously and apparently to the same extent, except that they start unequal, the one on the divided side being the smaller. François-Franck is, therefore, certainly wrong in asserting that the pupillary dilatation is unilateral if one sympathetic has been cut. He certainly admits a slight degree of dilatation, which he attributes to dilator fibres running another course, probably in the trigeminal. I have eliminated this possibility by dividing the fifth nerve intracranially, and still obtaining the undiminished effect. eliminate the possibility of other dilator fibres reaching the superior cervical ganglion I have, as already stated, extirpated The pupil on the side from which the ganglion was

removed was slightly but appreciably smaller than on the side on which the vago-sympathetic was cut.

I have found that section of the third nerve intracranially after previous division of the cervical sympathetic causes the pupil to become immobile, about three-fourths dilated. Stimulation of the cortex has then no effect upon it.

Complete section of the corpus callosum has no effect upon the result of exciting the cortex. The bilateral effect is, therefore, not due to the stimulus acting through the opposite cortical areas, but to its acting upon lower centres, but whether the optic thalami or the superior colliculi, or the sub-collicular nuclei I am not prepared to say, but probably upon the last mentioned.

Stimulation of the anterior and posterior parts of the corona radiata and internal capsule containing the fibres derived from the cells of the frontal and occipital areas leads to bilateral dilatation of the pupils. I have generally found a stronger excitation necessary, but this may be due to the fact that stimulation took place at the end of prolonged experiments. In one case I obtained a very marked constriction of the pupils, with strong convergence of the eyeballs from stimulation of the posterior part of the internal capsule.

A point of great interest arising from these experiments is the question of the mechanism whereby dilatation of the pupils can occur in the absence of the usual dilator tract. Two explanations offer themselves, viz., inhibition of the tonic action of the third nuclei, and dilatation brought about by vascular changes in the iris. An extremely interesting observation by Sherrington may be mentioned in this connection. In bringing physiological experiment to bear upon current theories of the emotions, he performed "appropriate spinal and vagal transection" in the dog to eliminate "the sensation of all the viscera and muscles below the shoulder." He says:—"The eyes were well opened, and the pupil distinctly dilated in the paroxysm of anger. Since the brain had been, by transection, shut out from discharging impulses

via the cervical sympathetic, the dilatation of the pupil must have occurred by inhibition of the action of the oculomotor centre."

It is said that after the optic nerves have been cut, dilatation of the pupil is not obtained upon section of the third nerve, and hence tonic action of the third nuclei has sometimes been denied. There can be no question, however, that it exists when the optic nerves are intact, as in my experiments.

The immobility which follows section of both the third and the sympathetic is strong evidence in favour of the inhibition theory. It must be noted, however, that the blood pressure was probably very low at this stage of the experiment.

We have seen that dilatation of the pupil is still obtained after section of the sympathetic. No vaso-motor fibres are known to run to the iris, except by way of the sympathetic, and even if such exist, the experiments of Langley and Anderson tend to show that vascular effects are inefficient to bring about the dilatation observed. Moreover, it is well known that changes in blood pressure may occur from stimulation of various parts of the cortex, whereas pupil dilatation only occurs from certain localised spots in the absence of the epileptoid state.

It seems justifiable from these considerations to regard the effect as another example of direct inhibition of the oculo-motor nerves from the cortex.

There is no lack of evidence as to the presence of fibres connecting the cortex with the mesencephalon, and some of these must be regarded as the ones concerned in the pupillary effects. We may leave out of the question the dilatation of the pupil which accompanies the epileptoid state, for this is undoubtedly of an extremely complex nature, requiring special investigation. Confining our attention to the more specialised results obtained from the oculo-motor area in the posterior part of the frontal convolutions, which are to be looked upon as part of the fronto-parietal motor or kinæsthetic

area and quite distinct from the more anterior or so-called pre-frontal area, and to the results obtained from the oculosensory or visual area in the occipital convolutions, we find definite anatomical connections with the lower centres.

The pallio-tectal or cortico-mesencephalic system of fibres has recently been thoroughly investigated by Dr. Beevor and Sir Victor Horsley. It is noteworthy that no fibres were found passing to the mesencephalon from the frontal region, i.e., from the area of cortex in front of the excitable cortex. From lesions of this part there was marked degeneration of the fronto-thalamic fibres previously described by Déjerine; the only mesencephalic centre to which fibres could be traced was the upper or anterior part of the locus niger. No fibres, therefore, go to the tectum.

A large number of fibres could be traced from the excitable cortex to the corpora quadrigemina and mesence-phalon, especially to the superior colliculus. This was very marked in the cat, much less so in the monkey. The fibres from the oculo-motor areas have not yet been specially investigated.

The results from lesions of the occipital lobes were particularly striking, and confirmed Edinger's researches on birds. In proportion as more of the area of the cortex containing Gennari's streak is involved in the lesion the number of degenerated fibres passing to the colliculus increases. The fibres are large, and stand out distinctly from the medium-sized occipito-thalamic and occipito-geniculate fibres, and from the small callosal fibres and fine collaterals which enter the corona radiata in large numbers. Some of the occipito-tectal fibres pass among the fibres of Gratiolet's radiation, others run through the mesial region of the inferior longitudinal bundle. All the fibres are distributed to the whole breadth of the stratum griseum profundum of the superior colliculus.

Which of these fibres are concerned in the pupillary phenomena, and whether they pass, any of them, directly to the superior pupillo-dilator centre or to the pupilloconstrictor centre, or only by intermediate connections, must be left for future research to determine. We have already shown that the cortical pupillo-dilatation is a complex event, strikingly resembling the ordinary sensory dilator reflex in that it is accompanied by all the usual effects of stimulation of the cervical sympathetic as long as that path is intact, but that it also occurs, deprived of the other sympathetic effects, when this nerve is divided. The evidence is, therefore, in favour of a more circuitous course, or at any rate of multiple and complicated interconnections.

There is evidence that pupillo-constriction can also be elicited from stimulation of the cortex. Ferrier obtained it from stimulation of the anterior and posterior limbs of the angular gyrus in the monkey, but this observation is probably incorrect. I have already stated that, apart from a transitory constriction (cf. François Franck and Pitres), I failed to confirm the same observer's results from the third external or coronal convolution in dogs. In pigeons, Ferrier found intense constriction of the pupil from excitation of the middle of the convexity of the hemisphere. Schäfer obtained marked constriction of the pupil from stimulation of the quadrate lobule in monkeys.

This brings us to the consideration of the exact nature of the phenomena. The view of Bechterew and Mislawski that we have here the central prolongations of the cervical sympathetic, is, à priori, highly improbable, or at any rate a misleading explanation of the results. Indeed, the continuance of the dilatation after section of the cervical sympathetic proves that it can only be partially true.

So, too, it is unlikely that we are dealing with "centres" for the pupils, in the ordinary sense of the term. We have found that the effect is most specifically obtained from the areas which are most concerned with ocular movements, whether from the motor or the sensory side. Moreover, it would seem that the effect is indissolubly connected with those movements, and does not occur in their absence. Hence it is most reasonable to conclude that the phe-

nomenon is an associated effect. As regards the so-called sensory areas, i.e., the visual centres in the occipital cortex, it is probable that the attention plays some part. We produce, by artificial excitation, some strong, but probably ill-defined, visual sensation, which arouses the attention, and leads to the appropriate movement of the head and eyes towards the direction from which the stimulus seems to procede. The sensation is strong and sudden, and is accompanied by dilatation of the pupils in no physiological sense other than the expression of emotion.

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