

condition was absent in the four vessels that sprang from the arch of the aorta, and did not involve those of the neck, but commenced in the axillary on either side. It likewise commenced in the iliacs and extended downwards. The age represented by the person thus circumstanced was 100 years, although not in reality more than sixty, and he may be said popularly to have had his arterial blood vessels converted into bone. The muscles were normal in their arrangement.

The comparative infrequency of four separate trunks being given off from the aorta—without crossing one another or going to opposite sides,—and excluding the vertebral which sometimes arises from the aorta—is perhaps not very great, as in the instance under consideration. But taken with some peculiarities in the vessels on the left side of the body and more especially in the left great ischiatic nerve, the deviation becomes one of general interest.

In the other and second instance, the aorta is *almost* disposed to confine itself to the well known usual type, but on careful examination it was seen that the main trunk had divided into *two great branches*, the *first* of which subdivided into the innominate and left carotid, the latter crossing the trachea obliquely upwards to the left side; the innominate divided into the two usual branches of right subclavian and carotid.

The *other* subdivision of the arch was into the left subclavian and descending aorta, both vessels taking their usual course.

If my interpretation of this peculiarity is correct, then we have a unique instance of division of the aorta into two branches, which in their subdivision give off the proper trunks.

No similar example has been found, even in Mr. Quain's great work, and the inference is that it is unique. Differing from the first case considered, there were no peculiarities noticed in other parts of the body.

So striking was the appearance presented by the aorta in its division, that when first seen, it immediately attracted special notice. (The specimen is preserved, labelled B. C. 4).

Mr. Quain gives three examples of reduction of the primary branches to two, as in figures 6, 7 and 8 of his 6th plate. The nearest approach to my example is his No. 6; but a comparison of the two figures will show that in mine the parent trunk is even larger than that part of the aorta going to the left, and I may say that I was *particularly* careful to give a correct rendering of this peculiarity of division, on the spot, at the time of its discovery, so as to avoid any possibility of error.

The only example of a dichotomous division of the aorta in a normal condition which exists in ourselves is at its termination into the two