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THE NEURONES AND THE NEURONE CONCEPT CONSIDERED  
FROM THE ANATOMICAL, PHYSIOLOGICAL, PATHO-  
LOGICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL POINT OF VIEW.

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In all advances in science both men and methods must be considered. In some instances the man is of more importance; in others, the method. In that evolution which has been wrought in neurology within the memory of the present generation, the methods seem to have been more important than the men. It is about twenty years since Golgi published his paper on his new method of nerve staining, which attracted but little attention till he again appeared on the scene about twelve years later. That method has probably been most successfully applied by Ramón y Cajal, of Madrid, who has made greater conquests through it than any one else, not excepting Golgi himself. It may be termed appropriately a Chrome-Osmic-Silver method, as Bichromate of Potash, Osmic Acid and Nitrate of Silver are the reagents used, the result being that the nerve elements are stained a dense black. This method brings out the processes of the cell more effectually than perhaps any other.

In the case of the *intra vitam* Methylene Blue method of Ehrlich, a strong solution of Methylene Blue is injected beneath the skin, into the cavities of the body, or into the blood vessels at short intervals till the animal succumbs. Then by the use of subsequent processes, too detailed to be mentioned on this occasion, a blue staining of the nerve cell results, in consequence of which the axis cylinder and its branches, the ends of the axone, or end-organ, and the nuclei of the cells come out in a beautiful blue colour in the most successful preparations.

One of the most important means for tracing out nerve tracts is known as the Weigert-Pal method. After fixation of the nervous tissues in bichromate of potash and sectioning, there follows staining with hæmatoxylin with differentiation in a special manner, which may be compared to a sort of bleaching process. This is especially adapted for staining

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