

from Bronchocele by its becoming stationary just at that period of its development when the growth of the latter usually begins to be accelerated. The description of this case and its publication is the reason why exophthalmic goitre is pretty generally known throughout the English speaking world as Graves' disease. For the same reason continental writers call it Basedow's disease. The records, however, show that it was not till 1840 that Basedow published his history of three cases. From this time on our clinical knowledge of the disease was increased by the observations of various clinicians. The causation or etiology, however, was veiled in mystery. In 1849 Thomas Addison of Guy's Hospital, described in a paper the disease which bears his name and then stated it was due to interruption of function of the suprarenal glands. In 1864 Brown Sequard, of Paris, turned our attention to the possibility of internal secretions in general. In 1875 Sir Wm. Gull described the condition of myxoedema, which is now known to be due to atrophy and loss of secretion of the thyroid gland. These clinical facts, along with a great many others were a stimulus to physiological investigation and these investigations have put the theory of the internal secretion of glands on an established experimental basis. That this secretion of which we are now speaking may become altered, increased, decreased or perverted seems reasonable, and it is with reference to this altered condition in the thyroid gland which gives rise to the subject of our study this afternoon.

#### *Anatomy.*

The thyroid is an unpaired very variable, frequently a symmetrical gland weighing from one to two ounces when in its normal state. It consists of two lateral lobes, an isthmus, the latter has going out from it, usually from the left side, a process variable in form which is called the pyramidal lobe. The gland is situated on the lateral surfaces of the larynx as well as upon the anterior and lateral surfaces of the upper end of the trachea, and surrounds the latter like a horseshoe. It is of bluish red or reddish-yellow color and in embryo possesses a duct the Ductus Thyreoglossus. Later, however, this duct is obliterated and the gland forms a body completely shut off from the surface. A point of great interest is its remarkably free arterial supply. The superior thyroid artery from the external carotid, the inferior thyroid from the thyroid axis and the thyroid media from the innominate. Luschka has estimated that the sum of their transverse sections equals the sectional area of the internal carotid and vertebral arteries of the same side. The veins form a plexus on the surface of the gland and correspond to the arteries. The nerves are derived from the inferior and middle cervical ganglia of the sympathetic.