The object of this paper will be to show how closely the tumors adhere to the types of tissue in which they originate—judged by the arrangement and distribution of their intercellular substance.

First of all—if, "after the embryonic period hylic tissues never take on lepidic characters," we could expect to find among the tumors that none of those arising in connective tissue of any kind would present any of the features of a carcinoma.

Second, we might expect the reverse to be true if we confine ourselves to tumors arising in mature epithelium or hypothelium.



FIG. 1. Cancer of rectum. Metastasis in lymph gland. Mallory's stain, Leitz, I-6.

Judging from the case reports of several writers we cannot expect the tumors arising in mesothelial tissues to possess such stable characters, and since the endothelium is a later development from a relatively undifferentiated tissue, we should expect this lining membrane to show no more permanent characters than those of the physiologically functional cells derived from mesothelium, and too, less stability than has the older hypoderm or epiderm. In view of such peculiarities of the tumors arising in these differentiated mesodermic tissues, Adami calls them the "transitional lepidomata."

When we come to study the finer supporting tissues of the class of tumors which are more usefully—for the present purpose—called lepidomata, since this term excludes those growths which may originate in other than the true covering membranes, we are able to state definitely that the rule is for the absence of an intercellular fibrous tissue. This point White has made after a careful study of tumors, treating them by Mall's, Spalteholz', Van Gicson's, Weigert's and Mallory's methods. The text of his conclusion is as follows: "Carcinomata possess a stroma of white fibrous tissue outlining the cell spaces, but have no intercellular network" (p. 220).