

not confined to the radius in its articulation, but plays also upon the triangular fibro-cartilage covering the ulna. If the pyramidal bone is large, then the semi-lunar has but a small bearing on the plate of fibro-cartilage, and *vice versa*. Professor Sheppard also holds that where the triangular fibro-cartilage is pierced, this is always the result of disease. He presented also a number of other interesting specimens.

Dr. Dwight was the chief speaker in discussing this paper. His own investigations in regard to the semi-lunar bone had led him to adopt very much the views now enunciated by Dr. Sheppard.

Dr. Wilder, of Cornell University, then read a paper on

THE BRAINS OF A SHEEP AND CAT, LACKING THE CALLOSUM.

This condition is a very rare one in the human race, as may be judged when, out of the thousands of brains examined, only some fifteen cases are on record. Many of these had been so badly preserved as to be of little use in throwing light on the results of this curious condition. The opinion was expressed that where the callosum is wanting, the double layer of velum would be found reduced to a single layer, continuous anteriorly with external pia. Thus the roof of the third ventricle would be formed of but one layer each of ependyma and of pia mater. The essayist presented specimens of the examinations, and the paper, which was a very interesting one, was discussed by Dr. Duncan and others.

Dr. Carl Heintzman, of New York, then presented his paper on

PROTOPLASM AND MITOSIS.

His views, which are well-known, are startling. He asserts that the cell theory, as usually held, is entirely erroneous—in fact, he sweeps away the theory entirely. He finds in a bit of protoplasm (such as the *amorba*) a well-marked reticulum. The presence of this reticulum has been denied by many authorities, but Dr. Heintzman most unhesitatingly asserts its presence. Not only so, but he holds that it is in this reticulum that the life of the protoplasm exists, not in the fluid portions of it, nor yet specially in the nucleus. The movements of our own bodies are due to a similar reticulum,

for the sarcous elements he holds to resemble the protoplasm of the *amorba*. He vigorously combats those who speak of the blood as a tissue; there is no fluid tissue. After explaining what is meant by the term mitosis, the essayist exhibited to the members some beautiful microscopic preparations showing this condition.

Dr. Fish then read an excellent paper on

OCCCLUSION OF RHINOCELE IN THE DOG.

Dr. Wilder's last paper was upon the

RELATION OF THE OLFACTORY PORTION OF THE BRAIN TO THE CEREBRAL.

The opinion expressed was, in brief, that, as the olfactory portion was developed in advance of the cerebral, it (the olfactory) was really of more importance to the animal in that stage of his existence, and the thinking part of the brain, which was added afterwards, as a sort of after-thought, was really the less important part.

Dr. Heintzman and others discussed the papers, Dr. Heintzman vigorously supporting the views put forth by Dr. Wilder.

The secretary, Professor Dwight, then read a paper from Dr. Langdon, of Cincinnati, on

THE HOMOLGY OF THE CEREBRO-SPINAL ARACHNOID,

with the other serous membranes. Dr. Langdon claimed to have demonstrated the existence of two layers of arachnoid, viz., parietal and visceral. He has not yet, however, traced these two layers to their point of union, which would be at the emergence of the cerebral nerves. He hopes to accomplish this before another meeting takes place. He also claims to have discovered a pair of foramina, hitherto unknown, and which he proposes to name the "Lunated Foramina." As described by Dr. Langdon, they open a free communication between the cavity of the arachnoid and the sub-arachnoid space; are found one on either side of the medulla; measure half an inch by a quarter of an inch, and are crossed by three or four fine bands of fibrous tissue. They lie just opposite to the foramen of Magendie.

Dr. Wilder expressed grave doubts in regard to these foramina *lunulata*. The probabilities were that the openings were artificially produced.

Dr. Duncan, in discussing the question of the two layers of arachnoid, while admitting the