

(and by "stomach" it is to be understood the public includes, in one broad sweep, all that prairie-like stretch of territory from ensiform cartilage to the crest of the pubes). This reptile is of an active temperament, and the way that man describes the circumnavigation of his abdomen by this animal is appalling to one who has a correct idea of the obstacles intervening between the aortic opening in the diaphragm and the anal outlet.

Ignorance of the arrangement of the internal organs and their relation to the surfaces of the body, leads to a continuance of unhealthy forms of dress. If the fashionable woman realized the condensed state of her internals under the pressure of a highly applied corset, it is not unreasonable to suppose that she would be a less servile follower of King Fashion.

Within a few years an explanation has been given by Glenard and Pasteur to account for those peculiar sets of symptoms commonly attributed to indigestion, but which are not amenable to medicinal treatment applied to the stomach or other digestive organs. These observers have pointed out that with a great number of patients complaining of symptoms of chronic indigestion, a prolapse of stomach or bowels, or both, is the fundamental cause of the trouble. They showed that many dyspeptics may be cured by the application of a bandage for the support of the displaced organs. Investigation shows that these displacements are more frequent in women than man, which is readily accounted for by apparent errors in female dress.

As has been noted, the study of anatomy took origin away back in the early centuries, and coming from those times we have descriptions of parts that hold good to-day. Anatomical study is limited, and whatever advance there is noticeable within the last century can be classed as but a closer analysis of parts that have already been well described. Thus there is a finer division of fascial and the subdivision according to function of many muscles has led to a multiplication of names. The brain is mapped out with

much greater precision. A great agent in this finer analysis of grosser parts has been the microscope. So old is the study of anatomy that we believe it must have played a part in the inception of woman-kind; for are we not told, in Holy Writ, that Adam was put to sleep (anaesthetized evidently), and while the poor fellow was thus disabled, he had taken from him a rib, from which was made Eve? Thus, her ladyship must have been the result of a dissection.

One not infrequently hears the statement that a close knowledge of anatomy is not necessary to good surgery. A glance at the course of education of the great surgeons shows that, in all cases, the study of anatomy preceded and paralleled their surgical work. The operator unskilled in anatomy is like the traveller in a strange city, who has consulted no guide, and who, in consequence, finds his progress now blocked by an impassable wall or lost in a network of cross streets. But the anatomist is like the habituated dweller of the city. On the one side, clumsy, short-sighted work is likely to be done; while on the other, an intelligent knife picks its way through the oft travelled territory of the body. The surgeon's fingers have to be his eyes on many occasions, transmitting to his brain the condition and relation of parts out of sight. This *tactus eruditus* can be acquired only after long dissection upon the living and dead body. To appreciate the value of anatomical research as an aid and stimulus to advanced workers, one may look over the pages of our text books, where, in connection with many subjects, especially of surgical import, will be found acknowledgements on the part of authors and investigators of the great value of the work of their anatomical colleagues. Of notable instance is this in regard to hernia, the treatment of which depends for almost every principle upon an anatomical basis. Marcy, in his exhaustive treatise on hernia, quotes Arnaud, an earlier authority on the same subject, as follows. "It is only since the beginning of the present age that cures truly singular have been