

are hypertrophied, but also the excessively fine adenoid network forming the matrix of the pulp ; so that with a low power we see a tissue composed apparently of nothing but fibres crossing each other in all directions, and having little, if any, resemblance to the structure of the healthy organ. From the remarkably irregular course of the fibres and their arrangement, a peculiar appearance is given to the sections which will be best understood by an examination of the specimens. Light and dark columns of fibrous tissue are seen crossing each other in every direction, four or five often radiating from one point, corresponding generally to a transversely cut splenic vessel. Thin sections highly magnified further show the extent of development of the fibrous tissue, and the relation of the cells to the reticular network, explaining, moreover, the light and dark areas which give such an extraordinary appearance to the specimens when examined under a low power. Extending from the larger trabeculae coarse and fine fibres proceed which uniting enclose rounded or irregular-shaped areas, and from these others originate forming similar spaces. The nodal point of these fibres is usually somewhat triangular in shape, and a small nucleus is not unfrequently seen, so that in places they are or appear to be formed by the union of the processes of stellate fibre cells. Such an arrangement, I may remind you, constitutes the stroma or fibrous matrix of all lymphatic structures, and is known as an adenoid tissue. Normally it occurs also in the spleen pulp, enclosing the cells in an exceedingly delicate reticular network very difficult to make out. In this case the delicate stroma is greatly hypertrophied, and constitutes with the coarse bands dipping in from the capsule the bulk of the organ. The relation which the cells bear to the stroma is very easily made out, the latter simply encloses them in its meshes, and according to the width of these one, two, or more cells are included. In most instances the meshes are so small that only a single corpuscle is enclosed, which appears, moreover, closely embraced by the fibrous net. In other instances two or more corpuscles may be counted in a single areola.