

possible alterations have suggested themselves. If the anatomic classification were altered to: 1. Digestive System. 2. Respiratory System. 3. Circulatory System. 4. Glandular System. 5. Urogenital, etc., the lymphatic vessels with which the circulatory system ends would stand next to the lymphatic glands, and the suprarenals, with which the glandular system ends, would stand next to the kidney, with which the Urogenital begins. But this is a minor point, and it seems not worth sacrificing to it the natural order which would certainly begin the open book which the museum aims at making itself to the students with the circulatory system.

The pathologic classification presents, in the nature of the subject, many difficulties. In the present state of our knowledge it is not like an anatomic classification, based on certain well-established facts, it is largely tentative, for our ideas of pathologic conditions change constantly with the increase of our knowledge. One has only to glance at the repeated changes that are being made, for instance, in the Bertillon classification of the causes of death, to realize how impossible a permanent nomenclature will be, at least for many years to come. All that can be done is to classify so far as possible on the actual pathologic changes known to be present, rather than on any supposed etiology.

The advantages of this system may be summed up as follows:

First. A careful classification is, as has been said at the outset, absolutely necessary to make a museum of thoroughly practical use to teacher or student. A careful system of catalog numbers which follows the classification into its details, so far as one wishes to push it, is of inestimable use to the curator in meeting this requirement. The catalog number chosen carefully and with study to describe the condition cannot fail of its numerical order in relation to other specimens of the same kind, and the preparations can then be kept in their appointed order by any boy who follows the one order that he is to watch the figures closely and place the specimens under their main group in the strict rotation of their index figure.

Second. The system allows of an indefinite growth of the museum, for it is expansive, permitting the addition of an indefinite number of specimens without any disturbance of either the grouping or the numerical order.

Third. It admits of subclassification to an indefinite extent in any one direction that may seem desirable. Thus, supposing that the museum is particularly rich in tumors, or that the curator devotes much time to working out this particular department, he can subdivide, *e. g.*, Sarcoma—.65 Sarcoma; .651 Round-celled sarcoma; .652 Spindle-celled sarcoma; .653 Giant-