

## PREFACE

The object of this book is to present some of the fascinating physiological problems connected with the cerebrospinal fluid, and to show how they are related to the pathological problems which more directly concern the clinician. Not until the method of production and absorption of the fluid is completely understood can there be any hope of solving the age-long problem of the treatment of hydrocephalus; not until the details of the circulation of the fluid have been mastered, can intraspinal injections of drugs and sera be expected to fulfill the hopes of the therapist.

Any means which will facilitate the difficult diagnosis of diseases of the central nervous system is of value, and the cerebrospinal fluid, which bathes its deepest recesses and washes the very nerve cells and fibers themselves, is in truth a mirror which reflects every change taking place in that system.