

have more to say about it. We will only point out here that while, as Geoffroy St. Hilaire the elder pointed out long ago, it is possible that where two separate fœtuses develop from one ovum, fusion may eventually develop where the two bodies come into apposition, mere fusion cannot explain cases such as those here exhibited. When we consider that we may have the whole succession of forms from those in which there is simply a deduplication of the pineal gland, through cases in which the head is provided with a median eye and two lateral eyes, and cases of janiceps, such as that recently shewn before our Society by Dr. Macphail, through other stages represented by our present specimen and by Dr. MacCallum's case here produced—down to cases like the Siamese twins, in which the band joining the two otherwise completely separate individuals marks the site where a common umbilical cord entered the body, we can only conclude that in the very earliest stages of the development of the ovum, there may be a greater or less bifurcation of the head end of the ovum and the development of a Y-shaped medullary groove, so that in the hinder portion there is developed a single medullary groove with single sets of organs, and anteriorly the organs develop round two growing points.

The numerous experimental researches upon the fertilised ovum of lower animals made during the last few years, tend to prove that this is the case. In other words, such monstrosities must with the rarest possible exceptions be the product of not the fusion of two original separate ova, but of a single ovum which has undergone a division at its anterior pole.