

recognized. This can only be done by the careful examination of a large number of embryos in comparatively early stages of development. On the other hand, in view of the small number of observations in this direction, and the fragmentary state of our knowledge of the development of the kidney, the absence of such evidence does not negative this view. On the contrary, we have seen, on the one hand, that it is in accordance with the tendency of adenomata in other regions to remain true to the cellular type of their parent tissue, while, on the other hand, the proof of the teratoid nature of other anomalous growths has been found forthcoming when carefully sought for.

For the present, I would suggest, as a working hypothesis, that the only true renal adenomata are those of the convoluted tubules, and (perhaps) the papillary form found in the pyramids.

While this view as to the heterologous nature of renal adenoma has been suggested by the fact that the histological features of the tumor in this case differ so widely from those which might be expected in any growth developed in normal kidney, I am not able, from examination of the specimen, to throw any light as to the tissue from which it is derived. The peculiarities of the specimen consist in the non-renal appearance of the epithelial cells and their intimate relation with the finer filaments of the stroma. The tumor, however, shows in places such marked degenerative changes, that one cannot help wondering whether, even in the best preserved portions, the peculiar structure of the cells may not be due to a process of involution.

The relatively large, polygonal cell-bodies, composed of clear, translucent, fat-containing protoplasm, with distinct, sharp cell-wall and small, round, centrally-placed nuclei, have certainly more resemblance to the epithelium found in sebaceous glands than to that of any other region.* Two undoubted cases of sebaceous cyst of the kidney have been recorded. One by Paget (*Surgical Pathology*), the other by Madelung (*Centralblatt für Chir.*, 1888). A third (doubtful) case has been observed by

* This similarity in the section of tumor hardened in alcohol seems to be due to the extraction of the fat which lay in the cells in the fresh condition, leaving the cell body shrunken and making the cell wall unusually distinct. The cells, too, in any case, are larger than any sebaceous cells I have seen.—[J.]