

of the breathing and blood-circulating organs, and are separated from the stomach and blood-creating organs and the intestines by another organ of great importance to the full exercise and development of the lungs and the voice—the **diaphragm**. The **diaphragm** is a membrane that lies across the body, and by its muscular contraction and dilatation it becomes the principal agent in inspiration and expiration.

4. The lungs are formed of innumerable cells into which the air enters, and over which the blood passes, that it may be purified before it re-enters the heart for circulation. All these vessels, bronchial arteries, veins, lymphatics and nerves, are held in one compact form by the cellular tissue, called **parenchyma**. The lungs receive the outward air through another important vocal organ, the **trachea**, or windpipe. This organ, in its lower part, branches off into two divisions, which pass to the right and left, and are subdivided and ramified throughout the entire lungs. At the top of the windpipe is the **larynx**, whose structure is especially adapted to produce voice. The construction of this organ is complicated, and too minute for explanation in this work. It is sufficient to state that it acts upon the passage of the air by the contraction of its muscles and cords. Its opening, or entrance, is called the **glottis**, which opens or closes as we will to produce voice. When the passage is entirely opened no sound is produced; but as we will to speak or sing the aperture is narrowed, the edges of the glottis vibrate, and sound is heard. Just above the larynx, and between it and the mouth, is a broader passage called the **pharynx**, which is the entrance to the mouth; and this pharynx can be contracted and expanded by the will so as to form important modifications of speech.

5. The palate of the mouth is arched, and admirably adapted as a sounding board to give tone and purity to the voice, and

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