not those of spontaneous rhythm, but as in part due to excitation; and for these reasons it seems to me my experiments really indicate the amount of genuine spontaneous rhythm of the heart of the Chelonians more nearly than those of Gaskell, in which he has employed suspension, recording levers, and feeding.

At the same time I am inclined to believe that in the land tortoise the ventricle has greater tendency to spontaneous rhythm than in some other kinds of Chelonians.

Since the part of the heart, not sinus proper and not constituting the more prominent part of the auricles, is different in appearance, in structure to some extent, and in function, especially in its spontaneous rhythmic power, as well as conductivity, &c., and inasmuch as it, in these respects, approximates more closely to the sinus than to the auricle proper, it would, I think, conduce to clearness, if this part were considered and called the *sinus extension*. This seems the more natural, seeing that a similar structure, manifestly more like the sinus than the auricle, exists in the fish.*

Though this division was not clearly defined in my paper on the Terrapin, "auricle" is used in the sense of the auricle proper, or bulged part between sinus and ventricle.

II. Reflex Cardiac Inhibition.

The results of my experiments on this subject may be shortly stated as follows :---

1. Prolonged gentle tapping with a forceps over the abdominal organs had less effect than a pushing down movement with a seeker, and still less than a single sharp blow with the forceps.

2. Stimulation of the brachial plexus, with a strong interrupted current, has not, in general, produced much slowing of the rhythm. In one case it seemed to quicken it.

3. Sponging over the peritoneum vigorously has general. ly produced cardiac slowing or arrest.

Peculiar Effects.-1. In certain cases, electrical stimula-

* "On the Structure and Rhythm of the Heart in Fishes," &c., vol. vi. No. 4 and 5, Journal of Physiology.

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