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The subsequent fate of the bacilli is, however, of extreme interest. When tuberculosis has been produced by injecting a solution of broth containing bacilli into the vein of some animal, as the rabbit, it is found that the blood has passed, bearing with it bacilli, to the lungs, spleen and other large glands. Everywhere, however, intimately interlaced with the blood capillaries are the minute lymph channels which are abundant in the lungs, spleen, liver, etc., and hence at whatever points there is a stasis of blood in the minute capillaries, the active blood elements, the leucocytes, endeavor to free it from any foreign hurtful influences which may be present by seizing the bacilli, and finally, to some extent, carrying them as foreign materials into the lymphatics in which the circulation of lymph moves from the periphery at all points towards the great veins of the heart.

From the arrangement of the lymphatic vessels in their groups or plexuses in different parts of the body, it will hence be apparent that bacilli, entering the system by one of the two ordinary ways, i.e., by the respiratory or by the digestive tract, are (in case they are not destroyed by the phagocytes, i.e., the protecting white blood corpuscles) likely to become localized in the formation of tubercles in various organs. The importance of the distribution of the lymphatics of the intestinal tract in the one case and of the lungs in the other is so great in connection with the question of the way of entrance of bacilli into the system, that a brief resumé at this point may be in order.

Regarding the lymphatic vessels of the thoracic region, we find that those on the right side of the body (coming from head, arm, neck, chest, heart, right lung and part of the liver) empty by a common duct into the main venous channel of the same side (vena subclavia), whence the lymph goes to the heart. All the remaining lymphatics of this region (i e., the left side) empty into the thoracic duct (the great lymph carrier of the body), which empties into the main vein of the left side (vena subclavia) which sends the lymph along with that of the right side, to the right side of the heart.

Amongst the groups of lymphatics, those of the lungs are superficial and deep. Those of the surface form a rich net-work quite close underneath the pleural covering of the lungs (pleura pulmonalis), while the deep ones following the ramifications of the blood vessels pass towards the root of the lungs, where, after having passed through a few pulmonary glands, they unite with the branches of superficial lymphatics. Both then pass through the