

**LECTURES ON HISTOLOGY:
DELIVERED AT THE ROYAL COLLEGE
OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND, IN THE
SESSION 1850-51, ELEMENTARY
TISSUES OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS**

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JOHN QUEKETT

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P R E F A C E.

ALTHOUGH the Lectures contained in the following pages have already appeared in the "Medical Times" for 1851, it has been thought advisable to publish them in a separate form, and for this purpose they have been carefully revised, and a considerable amount of new matter has been added.

The last two Lectures have been omitted in this volume, but will be included in a subsequent one, as they relate to the Structure of the Skeleton of Invertebrate Animals, which formed the subject of the Course of Lectures for 1851—52.

The preparations exhibited, were, with few exceptions, those described in the first volume of the Histological Catalogue, to which work the Author would refer those of his readers, who may be desirous of having a more detailed account of the individual specimens.

The Author begs to tender his best thanks to his friend, Dr. P. B. Ayres, for much valuable assistance during the progress of the work.

32, BLANDFORD SQUARE,
APRIL 27, 1852.



CONTENTS.

HISTOLOGY OF VEGETABLES.

LECTURE I.

	PAGE
INTRODUCTION	1
MEMBRANE	6
FIBRE	13

LECTURE II.

FORMS OF CELLS	17
CONTENTS OF CELLS	26

LECTURE III.

STARCH	28
CHLOROPHYLLE	34
MILKY JUICES	35
FIXED OILS	37
VOLATILE OILS	40
RAPHIDES	42

LECTURE IV.

	PAGE
SILICA	49

LECTURE V.

SCLEROGEN	61
PHYTOZOA	70

LECTURE VI.

FIBRO-CELLULAR TISSUE	75
DOTTED OR POROUS TISSUE	78
WOODY TISSUES	87

LECTURE VII.

VASCULAR TISSUE.—SPIRAL VESSELS	93
SCALARIFORM VESSELS	101
POROUS OR DOTTED DUCTS	105

LECTURE IX.

CONCLUSION OF VEGETABLE TISSUES	109
-------------------------------------------	-----

HISTOLOGY OF ANIMALS.

LECTURE X.

ANIMAL TISSUES	115
MEMBRANE	117
FIBROUS TISSUE	120

CONTENTS.

vii

LECTURE XI.

	PAGE
YELLOW FIBROUS TISSUE	124
AREOLAR TISSUE	127

LECTURE XII.

CARTILAGE	135
---------------------	-----

LECTURE XIII.

ARTICULAR CARTILAGE	143
-------------------------------	-----

LECTURE XIV.

ARTICULAR CARTILAGE.—SYNOVIAL MEMBRANE	151
--------------------------------------------------	-----

LECTURE XV.

CARTILAGE.—ENCHONDROMA	163
OSSIFYING CARTILAGE	170
MOLLITIES OSSIUM	175
FIBRO-CARTILAGE	177

LECTURE XVI.

ADIPOSE TISSUE	180
--------------------------	-----

LECTURE XVII.

FATTY DEGENERATIONS	193
-------------------------------	-----

HISTOLOGY OF VEGETABLES.

LECTURE I.

HISTOLOGY,* the science of the minute structure of the organs of animals and plants, may be truly said to be the creation of the present century ; some glimpses, however, of organic structure had been obtained by the earlier observers, Lceuwenhoek, Malpighi, Hooke, Grew, and others ; but these, for the most part, consisted of unconnected observations, from which it was impossible to educe any of the general laws of formation and development. The microscope, except as a mere toy, fell into disuse during the greater part of the eighteenth century ; nor was it until within the last twenty years that the instrument was rendered capable of yielding such a magnifying power, together with such clearness of definition, as is necessary for the investigation of this most interesting and important field of research.

* From *ιστος*, a tissue or web ; and *λογος*, a discourse.