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A Treatise on the Membranes in General, and On Different Membranes in Particular (The Classics of Medicine Library)

Xavier Bichat

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This historic book may have numerous typos, missing text or index. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. 1813. Not illustrated. Excerpt: ... arate membranes, existing single of their kind, cannot form a part of any classification. 11. Finally, the membranes accidentally developed in the morbid state, such as the pellicle of cicatrices, the membranous sack formed by cysts, etc., deserve also attention, both on their own account, as well as from their analogy to the natural membranes. article ii. of the mucous membranes. 1. Of the extent and number of the mucous membranes. 12. The mucous membranes, as we have said, occupy the inside of the cavities communicating with the skin by its different openings. Their number, at first sight, is very considerable, because the organs, within which they are reflected, are greatly multiplied. The stomach, the bladder, the urethra, the womb, the ureters, the intestines, etc. etc. borrow each from these membranes, a part of their structure; yet if we consider, that these are every where continuous, that in their elongations they always arise from one another, as they

primarily arise from the skin; we shall perceive that this number must be particularly limited. In thus considering them, not singly in each part, but at the same time in all those where they are continued, we see they are reduced to two general surfaces, of which all the others are portions. 13. The first of these surfaces penetrating through the mouth, the nose, and anterior surface of the eye, I. lines the first and second of these cavities, extends from the former into the excretory ducts of the parotids, and of the submaxillary glands; from the latter, into all the sinuses, forms the conjunctiva, passes into the lachrymal points, the canal, the nasal sack, and into the nose; 2. descends into the pharynx, and there furnishes a process to the Eustachian tube, then penetrates to the internal ear,...