



Principles of General and Comparative Physiology; Intended as an Introduction to the Study of Human Physiology, and as a Guide to the Philosophical Pu

By William Benjamin Carpenter

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Excerpt: . between the veins of the system and the respiratory vessels, was seen in the Crustacea, where the venous sinuses, situated at the commencement of the branchial arches, may be regarded as so many repetitions of a simple form of a respiratory heart. In the class of Fishes, it will be seen that the heart is entirely respiratory, the arterial trunk which proceeds from it being distributed at once to the gills, and the blood which has been aerated in them being returned into a systemic artery or aorta, whence it proceeds to the body at large. In the higher Cephalopoda we observe a curious form of the circulating apparatus, which manifestly establishes the transition between that of the Mollusca in general, and that which is peculiar to Fishes. The systemic heart consists of only one cavity or ventricle, which is usually of a...



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