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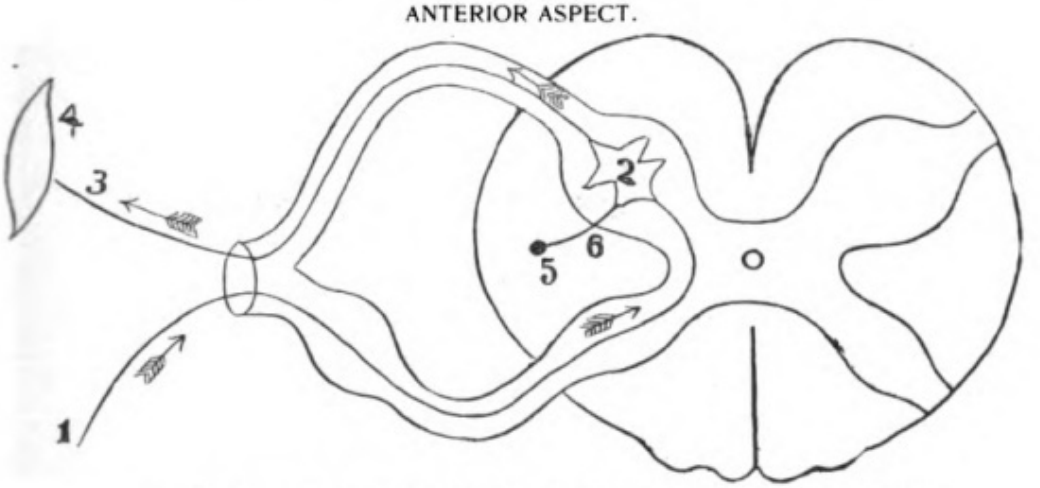

FIG. 1.—Schematic Section of Spinal Cord and Nerves, Illustrating a Reflex Arc. 1. Fibre (afferent) for sensation from periphery to spinal cord; 2. Motor cell of cord, where sensory impression is transformed into motor impulse; 3: Motor (efferent) fibre conveying motor impulse from cord to peripheral muscle (4); 5. Inhibitory conducting fibre from brain with connecting fibre (6) to motor cell (2).

Reflexes have been divided into skin or superficial reflexes and tendon or deep reflexes, or jerks; and into organic or physiological and pathological. Some authors do not consider the tendon jerks as true reflexes, but I so regard them and think they are quite as emphatically entitled to be considered as true reflexes as the skin reflex phenomena. All reflexes are dependent on spinal cord or sympathetic or ganglionic or brain central connections, and I see no need of any confusing differentiation, since the principle of their display is the same, namely: an impression made at one end of a sensory nerve exciting a corresponding motor response through a connecting motor nerve and central communication. The so-called superficial reflexes are those of the foot (dorsal flexion), and the withdrawal that results from tickling or making a sudden painful or cold or hot impression on the sole of the foot, the abdominal, etc. Every one knows how, in sleep, the foot will flex and the leg draw up when the sleeper is tickled or scratched on the sole of his foot. The reflex of the testicles or cremasteric reflex, by which the testicle is made to draw up by pinching or applying electricity to the inner side of the thigh are other skin reflexes so-called. They are organic reflexes, though not

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