II. Lizards.

§. 12.

Rathke has provisionally indicated from his recent investigations that lizards, snakes, and turtles possess those enigmatic organs in the fetus. *Contributions to the History of the Animal World*. 4. H. p. 135. 136. Rathke also thought he had noticed that these organs completely disappear in females, but develop into the epididymis in males. This, however, is neither here nor in birds and mammals possible; because the nodular part of the vas deferens, which is called the epididymis in these animals, is a continuous tube, and has no resemblance to the structure of the Wolffian body. However, in young lizards and snakes, there is still a remnant of the Wolffian body; but this gradually disappears altogether, and the older animals show no trace of it.

§. 13.

In the lizards, the Wolffian body behaves according to my investigations in the beginning just as with the birds. For they do not form, as in the Batrachians, a round heap of small appendices, but the small appendices develop parallel along the whole spine on both sides, from the heart to the tail; they first appear as little cylinders, which are thicker at the end, or as stalked vesicles, and seem connected at the posterior surface; all are strange in the beginning and quite parallel. Our first observation of an embryo of *Lacerta viridis* from earliest stages belongs to this type of development. **See fig. 10. Tab. I.**

These are evidently the same organs which Emmert and Hochstetter in their essay on the development of the lizards (*Reil's Archiv für Physiologle*, p.10, p. 94) indicate from a later time as spongy reddish organs on both sides of the abdominal cavity and which they incorrectly consider rudiments of the kidneys.

§. 14.

In nearly formed lizard embryos, the Wolffian bodies still extended upwards through 2/5 of the abdominal cavity, located to the sides of the spine. They were wider at the top, gradually narrower at the bottom, and flat. They could still have been thought to be kidneys, but these were also present and lay entirely in the lowest part of the abdominal cavity, covered by the lower ends of the Wolffian bodies on the inner side. The ovaries or testicles lay on the inner side of the upper broad part of the Wolffian bodies as millet-like white bodies, which also had a brown-yellow halo around them.

Three similar embryos, 2 were male, one female were examined. In the latter case, the very prominent oviduct was quite free, and without connection with the Wolffian bodies on the outer side of it; above, they diverge more from each other outwards and reach much higher than the Wolffian bodies, their ends being dull and broad. They are independently grown tubes, which have absolutely no relation to the Wolffian bodies. **See fig. 11. Tab. I.**

a. Kidneys.

b. Wolffian body.

c. Ovaries.

d. Oviduct.

The male embryos showed nothing that could be compared with the oviduct. Only on the outer side of the Wolffian body, as in the case of the female embryo, was there a duct that is characteristic of the Wolffian body. It seems, therefore, to maintain the same relation as in the birds, where the ductus deferens is formed by the course of the Wolffian body, but in the females, there is a peculiar, self-contained oviduct in addition to this duct.