

(Pl. 9d, fig. 1, e' ; Pl. 9e, fig. 5, e') and the contiguous portion on each side of it (p). At about midway between the head and tail, this band is divided transversely, by four or five fissures, into so many block-like bodies (Pl. 9d, fig. 1, f ; Pl. 9e, fig. 5, f ; Pl. 12, fig. 1, f , fig. 1a, f ; Pl. 24, fig. 13, f). These blocks are the dorsal vertebræ; and through them we recognize that the "broad band" of former pages is the vertebral layer or basis, from and by which the backbones, constituting the axis of the skeleton, are formed. The chorda dorsalis along its middle portion is now distinctly separated from the vertebral layer, but remains hardly differentiated from the latter at its ends, (Pl. 9d, fig. 1, g , g') and may be recognized as a long, cylindrical body, (Pl. 9a, fig. 1, g , g' ; Pl. 9e, fig. 5, g) tapering before and behind, lying between the two halves of the broad band, to which it forms an axis. When seen through the thickness of the spinal marrow, this stylet-like body resembles a long and narrow continuous band, (Pl. 9e, fig. 5, $g-g$) bounded on each side by the abutting inner edges (f^2) of the dorsal vertebræ (f) mentioned above.

The next lower and more interior layer, the subsidiary layer, (Pl. 9d, fig. 1, n ; Pl. 9e, fig. 5, n) is separated from those above by a shallow, open space, (Pl. 9d, fig. 1, h , j^2 ; Pl. 9e, fig. 5, j^2) which extends as far as the length and breadth of the body, and is deeper at the cephalic end, where a considerable portion is almost isolated (Pl. 9d, fig. 1, h) from the rest. It will be seen presently that this is of significant importance in relation to the location and development of the system of circulation. The subsidiary layer, which forms the lower floor of this cavity, is thinner than formerly along its middle line, (Pl. 9d, fig. 1, n) excepting at the cephalic end, where it thickens as it follows the backward folding of the germino-amniotic layer (Pl. 9d, fig. 1, a^0). Beyond the outline of the body, however, it thins out again in all directions, and follows for a short distance the amnios as it folds upwards, but soon leaves the same and takes a more direct course (a^2 , a^4) to the edge (d) of the area pellucida (c). At the point where it leaves the cephalic hood to follow its own course forwards, the subsidiary layer makes a rather sudden bend, which, when seen from below, resembles the anterior edge of a broad wing, (Pl. 12, fig. 1a, a^2) whose posterior edge (a^0) is the line along which the amnios, and along with it the subsidiary layer, projecting from each side of the body, bends upon itself, preparatory to covering the head. In older stages, this is still more prominent (Pl. 12, fig. 3, a^3 , a^0 , fig. 3a, a^3 , a^0).

There is, at this time, beyond the body and for a certain distance (Pl. 9d, fig. 1, from d to i^1 ; Pl. 9e, fig. 5, d to i^1) outside of the area pellucida, a dark, clear space of a strongly marked character, and readily recognizable by the naked eye. (Compare Pl. 14, fig. 12, which, although a little older phase, presents to