

seemed to me eminently desirable to test this question on some other tissue. This I have done on striated muscle.

## II. THE ACTION OF NICOTINE AND CURARI UPON SOMATIC NERVE-ENDINGS AND UPON SKELETAL MUSCLE.

### *The stimulating action of nicotine on certain muscles of the fowl.*

In a former paper<sup>1</sup> I stated that the muscular contraction known to be produced in the fowl by nicotine appeared to me to be chiefly due to a stimulation of the nerve-endings. This observation I have followed up since it suggested a further means of investigating the nature of nerve-endings.

If a small dose of nicotine as 0.5 to 1 mgrm. is injected into the jugular vein of an anæsthetized fowl, lying on its back and unfastened, the legs are slowly and gradually extended and pass into a state of more or less marked tonic rigidity. They remain extended without support for a varying time—usually 8 to 12 minutes,—when they slowly relax and sink. The neck and head are drawn towards the thorax; but I have not noticed any marked rigidity of the neck. The wings are