ABDOMEN.

PELVIS-No. 3.

VERTICAL MESIAL SECTION OF THE MALE PELVIS, TO SHOW ESPECIALLY THE VISCERA.

The pelvic colon has been left undivided, in order to show its whole extent.

The pelvic colon is a loop of intestine, about 15-18 inches in length, attached by a peritoneal mesentery to the wall of the pelvis, from the inner border of the left psoas muscle to the third piece of the sacrum. The length of the mesentery permits considerable alterations to take place in the disposition of the loop, but it may be said that usually it first passes into the true pelvis, it then crosses the pelvic cavity from left to right, and then bends back to the middle line and becomes continuous with the rectum.

The rectum begins at the level of the third piece of the sacrum, and extends forwards on the front of the sacrum, coccyx, and ano-coccygeal body, adapting itself to the curve of these structures. It is usually curved from side to side, at the points of the flexures of the rectum, which are usually

three in number.

It terminates about 1½ inches in front of the tip of the coccyx, where it bends downwards and

back, to form the anal canal.

The anal canal is the short passage through the floor of the pelvis, surrounded by the external and internal sphincter muscles, and the two levatores ani. These structures form the lateral relations of the canal, and beyond them is the ischio-rectal fossa on each side. In front are the bulb of the urethra and the base of the triangular ligament, and behind, the ano-coccygeal body.

The relations of the peritoneum to the different parts of the intestine are well seen, the upper two-thirds of the rectum having a partial investment, and the lower third being destitute of it.

The figures indicate—

- 1. Disc between the fourth and fifth lumbar vertebræ.
- 2. Symphisis pubis. 3. Pelvic colon.
- 4. Termination of the pelvic colon.

- 6. Anal canal.
- 7. Bladder.
- 8. Prostate.
- 9. Bulb of the urethra.



