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THORAX-No. 14.

POSITION OF THE VALVES IN RELATION TO THE CHEST-WALL.

View from in front, to show the interior of the heart and at the same time the sternum and costal cartilages. The position of the various orifices and valves is seen to be as follows:—

The PULMONARY ORIFICE is the most superficial, and lies behind the junction of the third left costal cartilage with the sternum. The pulmonary artery itself lies behind the inner end of the second left interspace and the second left costo-sternal articulation.

The AORTIC OPENING lies more deeply and at a lower level, behind the left side of the sternum at the lower border of the third costal cartilage.

The MITRAL ORIFICE lies very deeply behind the left half of the sternum at its junction with the fourth left costal cartilage. The TRICUSPID ORIFICE, the largest of all, and oblique in direction, lies behind the sternum, opposite the extremity of the fourth intercostal space of the right side.

The figures on the heart indicate—

- 1. Pericardium.
- 2. Where the superior vena cava enters the right auricle.
- 3. Overlies the eustachian valve.
- 4. Septal cusp of tricuspid valve.

- 5. Interventricular septum.
- 6. Pulmonary valve.
- 7. Papillary muscle of left ventricle.
- 8. Aortic cusp of the mitral valve.
- 9. Lies below and to the right of the aortic valve.





