

THE ENCEPHALON OR BRAIN.

**General Considerations and Divisions.**—The brain, is contained within the cranium, and constitutes the upper, greatly expanded part of the central nervous system. In its early embryonic condition it consists of three hollow vesicles, termed the **hind-brain** or **rhombencephalon**, the **mid-brain** or **mesencephalon**, and the **fore-brain** or **prosencephalon**; and the parts derived from each of these can be recognized in the adult (Fig. 677). Thus in the process of development the wall of the hind-brain undergoes modification to form the medulla oblongata, the pons, and cerebellum, while its cavity is expanded to form the fourth ventricle. The mid-brain forms only a small part of the adult brain; its cavity becomes the **cerebral aqueduct** (*aqueduct of*

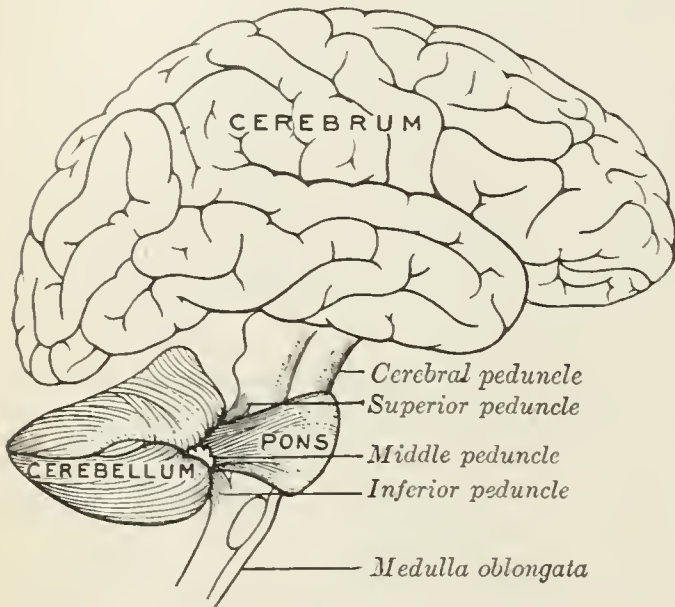


FIG. 677.—Scheme showing the connections of the several parts of the brain. (After Schwalbe.)

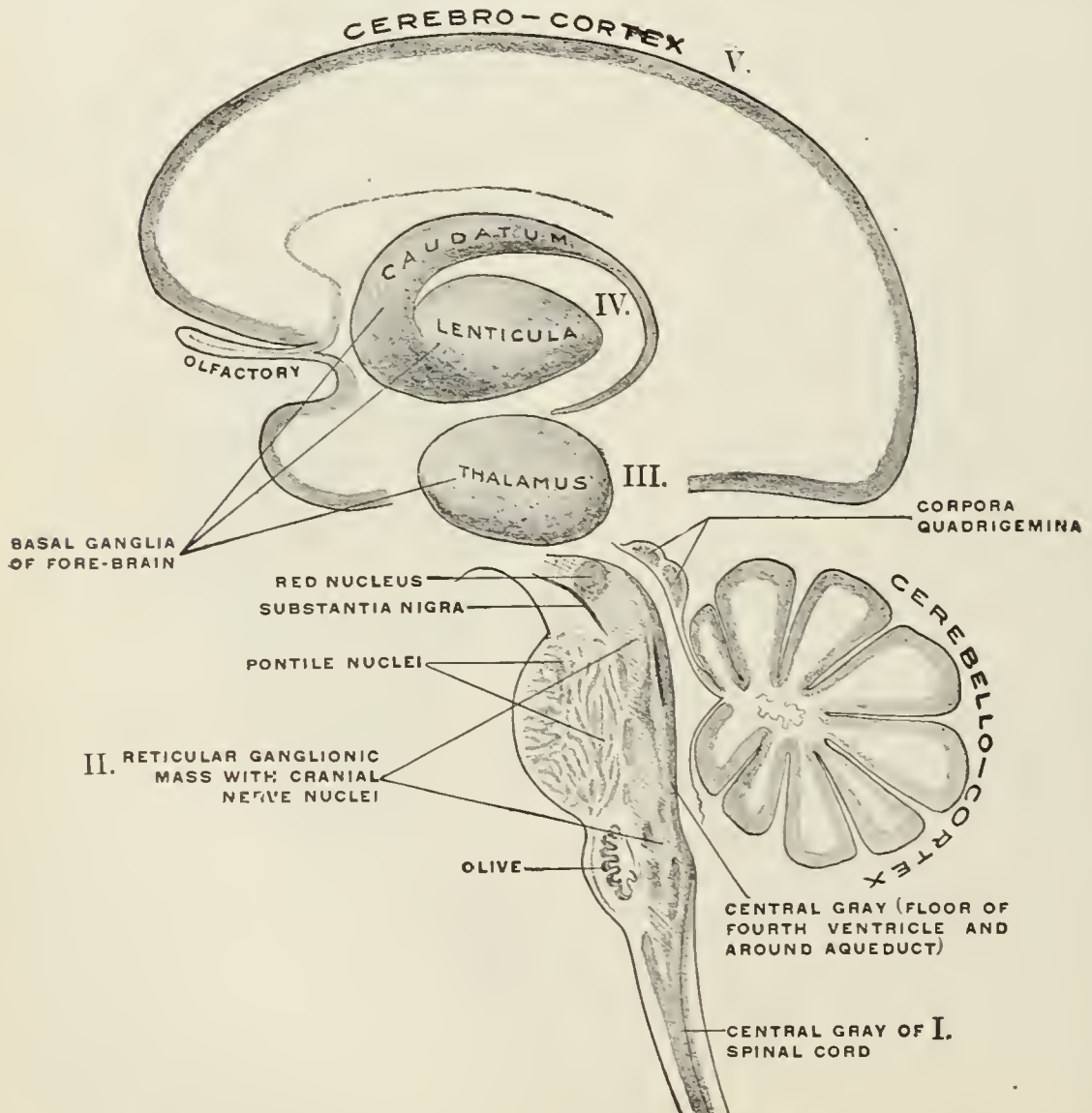


FIG. 678.—Schematic representation of the chief ganglionic categories (I to V). (Spitzka.)