arch of the aorta, and descends behind the root of the left lung, forming there the **posterior pulmonary plexus**. From this it runs along the anterior surface of the esophagus, where it unites with the nerve of the right side in the **esophageal plexus**, and is continued to the stomach, distributing branches over its antero-superior surface; some of these extend over the fundus, and others along the lesser curvature. Filaments from these branches enter the lesser omentum, and join the hepatic plexus.

The **Jugular Ganglion** (*ganglion jugulare; ganglion of the root*) is of a grayish color, spherical in form, about 4 mm. in diameter.

Branches of Communication.—This ganglion is connected by several delicate filaments to the cranial portion of the accessory nerve; it also communicates by a twig with the petrous ganglion of the glossopharyngeal, with the facial nerve by means of its auricular branch, and with the sympathetic by means of an ascending filament from the superior cervical ganglion.

The **Ganglion Nodosum** (*ganglion of the trunk; inferior ganglion*) is cylindrical in form, of a reddish color, and 2.5 cm. in length. Passing through it is the cranial portion of the accessory nerve, which blends with the vagus below the ganglion.

Branches of Communication.—This ganglion is connected with the hypoglossal, the superior cervical ganglion of the sympathetic, and the loop between the first and second cervical nerves.

Branches of Distribution.—The branches of distribution of the vagus are:

In the Jugular Fossa	Meningeal. Auricular.
In the Neck	Pharyngeal. Superior laryngeal. Recurrent. Superior cardiac.
In the Thorax	Inferior cardiac. Anterior bronchial. Posterior bronchial. Esophageal.
In the Abdomen	Gastric. Celiac. Hepatic.

The **Meningeal Branch** (*ramus meningeus; dural branch*) is a recurrent filament given off from the jugular ganglion; it is distributed to the dura mater in the posterior fossa of the base of the skull.

The **Auricular Branch** (*ramus auricularis; nerve of Arnold*) *arises* from the jugular ganglion, and is joined soon after its origin by a filament from the petrous ganglion of the glossopharyngeal; it passes behind the internal jugular vein, and enters the mastoid canaliculus on the lateral wall of the jugular fossa. Traversing the substance of the temporal bone, it crosses the facial canal about 4 mm. above the stylomastoid foramen, and here it gives off an ascending branch which joins the facial nerve. The nerve reaches the surface by passing through the tympanomastoid fissure between the mastoid process and the tympanic part of the temporal bone, and divides into two branches: one joins the posterior auricular nerve, the other is distributed to the skin of the back of the auricula and to the posterior part of the external acoustic meatus.

The **Pharyngeal Branch** (*ramus pharyngeus*), the principal motor nerve of the pharynx, *arises* from the upper part of the ganglion nodosum, and consists principally of filaments from the cranial portion of the accessory nerve. It passes across the internal carotid artery to the upper border of the Constrictor pharyngis