

is a great tendency in the disease to invade the other also; sometimes a few days only may elapse; in other cases many months, or even years. When glaucoma supervenes upon another affection of the eye, as, for instance, traumatic cataract, iritis, &c., it is called secondary glaucoma.

II.

The varieties of glaucoma are:—1. Acute inflammatory glaucoma. 2. Chronic inflammatory glaucoma. 3. Glaucoma simplex. 4. Secondary glaucoma.

I. ACUTE INFLAMMATORY GLAUCOMA.

According to Von Graefe, there is a premonitory stage in about 75 per cent. of the cases of acute glaucoma.

Premonitory Stage.—The symptoms of the precursory stage are arranged by Soelberg Wells in the following order:—(1.) Increased tension of the eye-ball. (2.) Marked increase of any existing presbyopia. (3.) Venous hyperæmia. (4.) Haziness of the aqueous and vitreous humours. (5.) Dilatation and sluggishness of the pupil. (6.) Periodic dimness of sight. (7.) The appearance of halo or rainbow round a candle. (8.) Intermittent pains in and around the eye; these are not always present. (9.) Slight contraction of the field of vision.

These symptoms may be so slight as to escape observation; or they may be very marked; their intensity varying with the severity of the attack. When the attack is severe, we may often observe, also, diminution of the anterior chamber, arterial pulsation, and indistinctness of vision.

(1.) *Increased Tension of the Eye-Ball.*—In ascertaining the degree of tension, the patient should turn the eyes downwards, and gently close the eye-lids; the surgeon now applies the forefinger of each hand to the upper part of the eye-ball above the cornea. By making pressure alternately with the two fingers, he can easily ascertain whether the globe can be readily dimpled, or is of a strong hardness. Mr. Bowman, of London, distinguishes nine degrees of tension of the globe,—normal tension, four degrees of increased tension, and four degrees of diminished tension,—as follows:—Normal tension; doubtful increased tension; first degree, or *slight* but *positive* increase of tension. Second degree of increased tension, or *considerable* tension; third degree of increased tension, called *extreme* tension; doubtful diminished tension; first, second and third degrees of diminished tension.

For convenience and accuracy in notetaking, Bowman designates these degrees by special signs; thus, in the order in which they have just been mentioned:—T₀. T₁? T₁. T₂. T₃. — T₁? — T₁. — T₂. — T₃.