

fully developed cells, intermingled with these according to the circumstances under which it is developed.

Is it really true, as stated by Mr. C., that the coagulable lymph thrown out for the reparation of injuries possesses the formative power in a higher degree than does the ordinary plasma of the blood?

By reference to Mr. Paget, and to his Reviewer, we shall find that the "formative power of the effused plasma is only apparently higher since that of the solids is lowered, or even in abeyance.

Surely then it is not correct to say that the formative power is possessed in a higher degree by lymph thrown out for the reparation of injuries. To build up an argument, therefore, for the essentiality of Fibrin to nutrition, on the behaviour of that substance after its abstraction from the body, or its exudation under diseased states, is untenable: for it seems probable, observes Mr. Carpenter in his General Physiology, that the animal tissues have less *converting* power than those of plants; and that not only each tissue, but each *part of the same tissue* selects some different material from the blood. For there are certain morbid matters, whose presence in the blood is manifested by the perversion of the nutritive process in certain spots of the body only, these spots being similar in size and situation on the two sides; so that it would seem that the only parts of any tissue which are really identical in composition, are those which occupy symmetrical positions or opposite sides of the body. "Now in the healthy state, as in those diseased conditions which afford more striking exemplifications of this principle, every part of the body, by taking from the blood the peculiar substance which it needs for its own nutrition, thereby removes from it a certain part of its constituents which would interfere with the nutrition of the rest of the body if retained in the circulation, as in the case of the extirpation of one gland throwing back on the system a quantity of urea &c., the remaining organ enlarges itself there being an increased cell growth for the elimination of the salts of the urine.

Whether the principles advanced by Mr. Simon be really true or not, it is at all events evident that the opposite doctrine which attributes to the *white* corpuscles the office of elaborating fibrin, and to fibrin the sole agency in building up the tissues may be legitimately questioned, and ere we attempt to silence Mr. Simon's views it would be well to ascertain that no discrepancies exist in the generally received theory. It may be that the term "excrementitious" applied by Mr. Simon, conveys more than was intended; for there are parts of the fabric into which fibrin enters largely, and in those very parts whose office is to give elasticity or support, and whose life is long and their nutrition slow, they undergoing but little change. "As every component part of the most completely organised fabric has an individual life of its own,