

ces, both in health and disease, and differ from the white corpuscles of the blood. Mr. Carpenter, in speaking of the different appearances assumed by the corpuscles in various parts of the body, has remarked that in the splenic veins and in the mesenteric glands certain peculiarities are to be met with. But as Mr. Donne has given some very interesting observations on this point, we shall quote from him:—"About two hours after injection—with milk—rabbits, dogs, and birds, have been opened. I have collected the blood in the different organs—in the lungs, the liver, and the spleen. Everywhere I have found the blood in the state which I have described it above, containing a certain number of white globules in all stages of formation, and of red globules more or less perfect, invariably the *spleen* has presented to me special circumstances, so *established*, and so *constant*, that it behoves me to mention them; and especially since they may throw light, at length, upon the true functions of this organ. The blood contained in the *large vessels* of the spleen, offers nothing very remarkable; but, in expressing that which is enclosed, and, as it were, combined with the tissue of this organ, one finds it a composition well worthy of fixing the attention. In a word, the blood is so rich in white globules that their number approaches nearly to that of the perfect blood globules: but further, the white globules which are there, present, in as evident a manner, all the degrees of formation and development; and the examination of this blood does not appear to me to leave any doubt upon the transition which I have pointed out above of white globules to red corpuscles, and upon the successive phases through which the white globules pass to arrive at the perfect blood corpuscles. The observations of Mr. Simon on the thymus gland; and of Dr. Bennett on the spleen and other glands, show that these organs are furnished with an abundant amount of cell growth distinguishable from the white corpuscles of the blood, and with which they are not to be—as has been the case before—confounded. If, then, the white globules of the blood were essentially corpuscular elements of nutrition, how is it that, with numerous organs abounding with this form of growth, we do not find a free supply of them issue forth? and why is it that they are only found when nutrition is imperfect? It seems surprising that Mr. Hassall should have passed over what would appear to be the real origin of the white corpuscle, and there importance to life, when he made the following remarks:—"It has been stated that, in addition to the white and red globules, numerous smaller particles, termed molecules, exist in the blood." The globules, in all probability, derive their origin from these molecules—a number of them going to constitute a single white globule. This aggregation of the molecules into masses, or globules, would appear to result from the operation of a general