

“ In cases where the optic nerve is deeply excavated, the bottom of the cup appears to be of a greenish colour, while its margin (corresponding to the part of the sclerotic immediately surrounding the nerve, and not covered by choroid) has a yellowish white colour, and a brilliant aspect at certain parts from its reflecting the light like the rim of a cup. The retinal vessels may be seen passing over this to reappear indistinctly at the bottom of the cup, and they may seem more or less dislocated as they do so, according to the position of the patient's eye with respect to the observer, and according to the position in which the biconvex lens is held, if one is made use of.”*

“ When we perceive opaque bodies situated in the media, by means of light coming from the fundus oculi, they will appear black, whatever their real colour may be ; thus, opacities in the lens, though they may appear grey, or even white, under ordinary circumstances and contrasted with a black pupil, appear like black spots or streaks upon the illuminated fundus. We may, no doubt, see light reflected from the fundus oculi, and light reflected from opaque bodies in the media at the same time, and contrast will then determine in a great measure the appearance presented by the latter. Supposing an opacity in the lens to have a power of reflecting light falling almost perpendicularly upon it equal to that of the fundus oculi, the former would appear dark in comparison with the latter, if the illuminated area of the fundus were smaller than the area of the pupil ; because the fundus would in that case be better illuminated than the opacity, and the observer would in general see each with nearly its proper brilliancy, provided the pupil of the observed eye were somewhat larger than his own.”

“ In all cases in which the observer seeks to draw conclusions from the colour of objects seen within the eye, he must remember to make allowance for the quality of the light by which they are illuminated, and which reaches his own eye after undergoing various modifications consequent upon its reflection from, and transmission through other bodies, besides those which it renders distinctly visible.”

“ It will be found that objects seen by means of the ophthalmoscope generally present a lighter shade of colour than they do when seen by ordinary daylight, especially if the direct method is employed.”

“ The principles upon which we may determine the state of focal adjustment of the observed eye have been already discussed. The importance of the ophthalmoscope used for this purpose in military and medico-

* The reader will find observations on this subject by Mr. Streatfield. *Ophthalmic Hospital Reports*, No. xi.