ance with this, both in health and disease, that practice can alone be based. To one ignorant here, all is obscure ; his treatment must be undecided, and of course unsatisfactory. The diseases of the organ are, to a remarkable extent, the result of the domesticity to which we have subjected the lower animals, and especially the horse ; in our stables they are ever forcing themselves upon our notice, while so long as he is running wild, and breathing the untainted air, they are never seen, and in the other animals, with the excep­tion of the dog, they are but rarely witnessed.

The front of the ball of the eye, and the inner surface of the eyelids, are covered with a membrane, the conjunctiva, most of whose blood-vessels are colourless. This membrane is the seat of common Opthalmia, in common speech, of *inflamed eye.* Whatever irritates, inflames ; and hence we see how the application of any foreign body, a few particles of sand, or a hair, may produce ophthalmia. This is the only disease of the eye which has been noted in cattle, and arising solely from the cause now mentioned. Sometimes these bodies are actually impacted into the membrane ; a straw or hay seed may be so fixed, that all the efforts of the animal may fail in removing it ; the eye becomes red and troublesome, and hence the importance, in all cases, of carefully examining the organ, and satisfying ourselves there is no cause of external irritation present. It is not, however, to be supposed that these foreign bodies are the sole cause of ophthalmia in the horse. From the state of the constitution, exposure to weather, and often the contamination of a filthy stable, idiopathic ophthalmia arises. The conjunctiva and its offshoots, towards the lachrymal gland, and elsewhere, are implicated. It is found universally red and inflamed, the eye is very sensitive to light. It waters much, and there is pain. This may excite general fever, or it may not; and this is always an impor­tant element. It may continue a long while, and prove troublesome without the deeper parts of the organ being implicated, or they may be involved ; and it may be *acute,* with a tendency to high inflammatory symptoms, or it may be *chronic,* where there is the very opposite, namely, weak­ness and debility in the parts, and in the frame ; this latter state is apt to be quite as tedious, though not so painful as the former. This distinction should never be forgotten in practice. When called to treat a case of this common oph­thalmia, after ascertaining there is no irritation from a fo­reign body, we are first to examine the state of the stable, that the air is not impure, or too hot. If a horse has previously had inflammation of the eye, this attack may be nothing more than a local affection of the vessels, and possibly a wash, or rather an injection, of some simple col­lyrium,@@1 once or twice a-day, is all that is required. These external applications should not be used too strong. Bran mashes should be substituted for corn, and a laxative pre­scribed ; the horse should not be exposed to the inclemency of the weather, and the light in the stable should be moderated. All this may by some be regarded unnecessary and troublesome ; but so long as it is a fact that one attack is apt to induce another, and that these in the long-run de­stroy the sight. It is the greatest folly not to meet, and if possible remove at once, the present ailment, and the fu­ture tendency. If the symptoms do not speedily yield to this treatment, we must determine whether there is inflam­matory diathesis, or chronic debility ; the condition of the animal, of the pulse, of the eye, are all to be considered, and if these show that mischief threatens, the antiphlogistic re­gimen in all its parts is to be energetically applied, and the eye is to be protected from the stimulus of light ; fo­mentations and injections are carefully to be applied, and setons introduced. These directions are given under the

supposition we have to deal with acute ophthalmia. When it is chronic, this treatment would be detrimental, both to the disease and the constitution. In the chronic form, the local treatment generally consists in stimulating collyria and setons, and the constitutional, instead of being lower­ing, must be strengthening. A peculiar, and not unfre­quent cause of irritation we must not omit, which consists in the inversion of the lower eyelid, whereby the eye­lashes constantly play upon the eye-ball, and thereby in­flame it, constituting the disease called Trichiasis. This complaint we have often witnessed in dogs and cattle, but seldom or never in the horse. Pulling out the eye-lashes affords but a temporary relief, as they soon grow again in a wrong position. A part of the loose skin of the eye-lid must itself be removed, by pinching up a portion, and removing it with scissors, and healing with stitches; after this, when the parts heal, the cilia are found restored to their proper position. It is in this connection that Nebulæ and Specks in the cornea are to be considered ; the former being more super­ficial, the latter dipping more deeply into the substance of the part. Directly in the sphere of vision, these of course impede it, and cause obscurity of vision. Even here, we must proceed gently. These blemishes are the pure con­sequences of inflammation, and this subdued, their tendency is to disappear. Time and nature will do much ; and the duty of the practitioner consists in helping forward the sa­lutary process where necessary, by gently stimulating washes, whi1st irritating powders should be avoided, espe­cially in dogs. Open Ulcers frequently occur in the cor­nea, and are always to be viewed with alarm, as they may speedily cut deep. They should be delicately touched with a fine point of lunar caustic, by which the morbid action is usually changed.

As the conjunctiva is liable to acute inflammation, so is it with the internal membranes, the choroid, iris, &c. It seldom, however, happens in the lower animals, that an op­portunity is afforded of examining these parts under disease separately; and hence, what has been called Inflammation of the Internal Eye, Specific Inflammation, and Moon Blindness,, may be considered as an inflamma­tion of the whole internal parts of the eye. That there is any thing *specific* about this complaint, we do not believe, although high authorities have proceeded so far as to dis­tinguish it as the specific gouty opthalmia. All that we are to learn from this is, that the constitution is often at fault, and must be regulated ; that there is an inflammatory dia­thesis, and that every error in diet or treatment tells upon the weakened part. This inflammation is apt to move from one eye to another ; and overcome once, to return again and again, (hence its name moon blindness,) till the sight is en­tirely lost; all which, we believe, is owing mainly to two causes already hinted at ; namely, that due care is not taken of the organ in early attacks, and in endeavouring to restore the constitution to sound general health. These views are to be our guides in the treatment ; and if this required to be decided in the opthalmia already dwelt upon, still more is it necessary in that now under consideration. As to the symptoms, this internal inflammation may exist without the external parts participating, but usually they are soon involved. One symptom very pathognomatic we must also add; it is a whitish opaque state of the cornea, which supervenes in a few hours, completely obscuring vision, and interfering with our perception of what is going on within the eye. This is not to be viewed as a distinct dis­ease of the cornea, as is often supposed, but merely the result of the fulness and pressure of the parts behind; and were that once relieved, the cornea would immediately re­gain its transparency. As to treatment, we have scarcely

@@@1 Collyria. *Cooling.* Sugar of lead, one drachm ; opium wine, one drachm ; water, two pounds. *Stimulating.* Sulpb. zinci, two drachms ; opium wine, one drachm ; water, two pounds ; or nitrut. argenti, one drachm, aquae distill, one pound.