

variable degrees of intensity. This color is situated totally within the large mesoblasts of the columnar cells which compose the stratum (see Pl. 21, fig. 33, *h*, *i*; fig. 33a, *a*, *b*, *c*). The combined strata of the retina (Pl. 22, fig. 8, *h*) with the membrana Jacobi (*g*) have a uniform thickness throughout, except at the anterior border, where they suddenly thin out and come to a sharp terminating edge, (*i*¹) at a short distance behind the base of the iris. Opposite the entrance of the optic nerve, (*h*¹) the retina preserves the same uniformity as elsewhere, nor do there appear to be any nervous fibres prolonged through it from the optic nerve; but this point wants further special investigation. The optic nerve, (*h*¹) as well as the whole retina, is hardly consistent enough to hold together, when separated from the surrounding envelopes. Just within the retina, there is a very thin, striated layer, (*i*) composed of wavy fibres, which apparently radiate from the optic nerve (*h*¹) in every direction, and extend to the anterior edge (*i*¹) of the retina.

In another place it will be shown in detail, that these fibres are not prolongations from the optic nerve, but belong to the inner layer of nervous cells, of which they are tail-like prolongations (see Pl. 21, fig. 33, *b*). Next within the layer of wavy fibres (Pl. 22, fig. 8, *i*) is the membrana hyaloidea, (*k*, *k*¹) forming a closed sac, and lining the whole internal surface of the retina and the back of the crystalline lens (*l*). This membrane lies close against the retina over its whole extent, even to within a very short distance of the anterior edge of the membrana Jacobi, (*g*¹) where it folds backward and passes (*k*²) close behind the crystalline lens, (*l*) where it may be traced as readily as at any other part. The soft, thick, and tender nature of this membrane readily distinguishes it from the excessively thin, tough, glassy, glittering, and elastic triple membrane which forms the capsule (*m*) of the crystalline lens. The three membranes composing the capsule (*m*) of the crystalline lens adhere very closely to each other, so that it is very difficult to separate them. At the spot where the membrana hyaloidea comes in contact with the crystalline lens, the membrane of the capsule sends off a layer forward and centrifugally, which joins the hyaloidea as far as its first bend, (*k*²) and thence, turning suddenly upon itself, passes forward and centripetally before the edge (*n*¹) of the membrana pupillaris, (*n*) by which it is closely overlapped, and to which it adheres very tenaciously, and terminates a little behind the free edge of the iris. This portion of the membrane of the capsule clings so closely to the hyaloidea, especially at the angle (*k*²) where it reverts to pass before the membrana pupillaris, that, were it not for the great difference in structure between the two, as we have pointed out above, it might easily be mistaken for a continuation of the membrana hyaloidea, as it has been asserted to be, in the eye of Mammalia.

The crystalline lens, (*l*) when seen in profile through a line perpendicular to