http://www.geology.19thcenturyscience.org/books/Bridgewater-Treatises/index.html

The organization of the blood is even more wonderful than its chemical composition, and is still less understood. The red portion of the blood, for example, is composed of innumerable minute globules, varying in size in different animals; and in all instances, highly organized: the real structure indeed of these globules is very imperfectly known; but they are generally supposed to be formed of solid colourless nuclei, within red vesicles. The fibrin, also, is diffused through the mass of the blood in a state of equally minute subdivision; though the particles of the fibrin are colourless, and their magnitude much less than the magnitude of the red particles. From this inferiority in size, some physiologists have been led to think, that the colourless particles of the fibrin, are identical with the nuclei of the red particles. During the life of an animal, the particles of the fibrin, as well as the red particles of its blood, seem to be in a state of extreme self-repulsion; by which self-repulsion, the union of these particles is prevented; except as the economy of the animal may require, and may determine. After death, however; or in blood withdrawn from the body of a living animal, the property of self-repulsion, more especially among the fibrinous particles of the blood, ceases, and they readily cohere: this cohesion is termed the *coagulation* of the blood. Much beautiful design is probably concealed