

of collision in St. George's Channel, January, 1888, between the *Toronto* and *Fredis*, and the notorious case of H. M. S. *Vanguard* and *Iron Duke*, as proved to be due to same cause.*

Having thus, as far as the limited time at my disposal will permit, discussed the nature, causes, peculiarities and mode of detection of color blindness, I invite your attention to the remedy for this condition. When congenital, it is incurable. When caused by injury or disease it may be cured.

Exercising the ears with the names of the colors, and the eyes with sensations of color, help the color blind to supplement their eyes, but it *does not increase the color perception*.

As regards its frequency, I have tested nearly seven thousand public school children and students, and have found about four per cent. among the boys, and $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. among the girls. This is rather below the average of other observers who find five per cent. among the male sex. Color blindness is a great disadvantage to dry good merchants and painters.

In sailors and railroad employees of certain grades it is a great source of danger to the public. The only safety for the public is the elimination of the color blind. At present this is not sufficiently done. I have for the past five years questioned railroad and seafaring men with whom I have come in contact, and I am convinced that only the extremely color blind are eliminated by the crude and imperfect methods employed. So that color blind are employed and normal eyed are rejected by incompetent examiners.

It is also necessary that the men should be re-examined periodically, having in view the effect of tobacco, and especially after severe illness or injuries. In most of the states the examination is controlled by law, as it is also in many countries of Europe. Here it is left to chance. In my opinion, the officials of a road that through carelessness or other cause allow a color blind to run an engine, should in the event of an accident, be indicted for manslaughter, should death result therefrom. Such an accident would be preventable and the company should be made to pay therefor.

In conclusion I would express the belief,

1. That the color lists made by railway and marine authorities in Canada are imperfect.

2. That danger arises to the public from this cause.

3. That it is urgently necessary that this danger be obviated by the proper elimination of the color blind from among the employees.

4. And that the men should be re-examined periodically, particularly after severe sickness or injury.

LACHRYMAL ABSCESS WITH FISTULA.

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Ruby——, æt. 8, was seen at my office for the first time on Oct. 9th. She was suffering from lachrymal abscess, and the swelling having been freely poulticed had opened below tendo palpebrarum. She had been in this condition since June last. Two days later, under an anaesthetic, the lower punctum and canaliculus was freely opened with a Liebrich knife, the sac washed out with 10 vol. peroxide of hydrogen and with some difficulty and a No. 3 probe passed down the narrowed nasal duct. The probing was continued daily for a week, and the sac washed through the fistulous opening. At end of the week a No. 4 probe was used and at intervals of two or three days larger probes up to No. 6 were used, the washing being continued along with weak astringents in the eye.

At the end of the third week the fistula closed but opened again in a week. The washing through fistula was renewed for two or three days and coming out through the nose freely, showed patency of duct. The fistula closed and has remained closed since (a month) and the case is cured. There is no epiphora left, and the eye and its appendages are as well as they ever were.

I cite this case as an evidence of the value of peroxide of hydrogen. I have used it in diphtheria (spray) with marked success.

MRS. C. P. HUNTINGTON has given the Directors of the New York Post-Graduate Medical School \$2000, a sum sufficient to defray the expenses of a Lying-in Department for one year. Professor von Ramdohr will have charge of this department at 543 East 13th St., where instructions in Obstetrics will be given to graduates in medicine only.

* "Sailors and their eye sight."—Dr. Bickerton, of Liverpool, *Brit. Med. Jour* 1888.