

## PREFACE.

Some years ago one of us ventured to write a short treatise entitled Lessons in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Eye Diseases. In the present volume it is intended to amplify this work so that *it shall consider ophthalmology from the standpoint of the physician in general practice*. It is proposed, mainly by describing only the commoner diseases of the eye (never using a technical term when a simpler word is available), by numerous illustrations, synopsis-headings, and a complete reference-index, to popularize a study that is too often considered difficult and unprofitable.

We are well aware that the conduct of the busy practitioner toward such ocular affections as occur in his practice usually differs from his treatment of most other diseases. The acquirement of even a moderate degree of knowledge respecting diseases of the eye—especially those requiring the use of the ophthalmoscope—necessitates considerable study and frequent chances for observation. The every-day routine of practice affords neither opportunities for the one nor time for the other, and it is not, therefore, surprising that such cases are usually referred to a confrère who makes a special study of them.

While one must admit the advantages that, on the whole, accrue to both patient and medical man