

An

Buller, F.
With the writer's compliments

677

[Reprinted from the OPTHALMIC REVIEW, December, 1897.]

ANOMALIES IN THE FUNCTIONS OF THE EXTRINSIC OCULAR MUSCLES.¹

By F. BULLER, M.D., MONTREAL.

THE complex phenomena which constitute the act of vision have been so thoroughly elaborated in the science of physiological optics, that the ophthalmologist justly claims for his work a greater exactness than pertains to any other department of medicine or surgery.

Certain well defined laws enable him to detect and successfully contend with abnormal conditions in refraction and accommodation. An absolute standard of visual perfection, both for form and colour, serves as a guide in every functional examination of vision, and the ophthalmoscope enables him to discover the most minute pathological lesions in the interior of the eye itself. A complete and methodical examination will often enable him to determine, with surprising precision, the nature and gravity of morbid conditions beyond the eye and even in other organs of the body. When, however, he comes to investigate the complicated problems presented in the function of binocular vision which, in the presence of a multitude of disturbing influences, may be rendered hopelessly difficult, he feels that he is still treading upon uncertain ground. Since the majority of eyes possess a normal refraction,

¹ Read before the Ophthalmological Section at the Meeting of the British Medical Association held at Montreal, August and September, 1897.