

cially those of a nervous origin, the eyes are frequently at fault. In these, some knowledge of ophthalmology is of value.

Brunton, in the essay already quoted from, remarks that decayed teeth may be a cause of headache. And he calls attention to the fact that headache may be present, even although there be not the slightest pain in the teeth. We are aware that a similar state of things may exist in connection with the eyes, viz.: There may be a headache due to ocular causes, and no pain or aching be felt in connection with the eyes. "Perhaps," says Brunton, "a still more frequent source of headache than even decayed teeth are abnormal conditions of the eyes," and, he adds a most instructive remark, "Formerly I used to suffer myself from migraine (sick headache), which might affect either side of the head; but for some years past it has almost invariably affected the left side. My right eye is normal, but the left is hyperopic, and probably the greater strain that is thrown upon this eye in reading leads to the headache on the same side." And he sums up his remarks upon ocular headaches by giving the following causes: "Strain from reading, or working with imperfect light, or for too long a time. Myopia, hypermetropia (hyperopia), astigmatism, inequality of vision between the two eyes, and last, but not least, glaucoma." Or, putting the matter in plain words, we may say that the ultimate cause of almost all causes of ocular headache is some error of refraction. This being the case, should not every medical man be able to examine for, and detect, errors of refraction?

I am aware that this subject is often looked upon as very difficult—so difficult that many medical men do not pretend to make examinations at all. On the other hand, many do examine for errors of refraction, and find the knowledge thus obtained of the greatest value. It will be my endeavor to show that to examine for inequality of vision, or myopia, hyperopia, or astigmatism presents very few difficulties indeed. True, it needs special training to determine the whole amount of fault in the refraction, but in the vast majority of cases the kind of fault may be easily ascertained. In examining eyes to discover if they have to do with headache, at least four questions should be determined: (1) Are the eyes of equal vision? (2) Is there hyperopia (far-sightedness)? (3) Is there myopia (near-sightedness)? (4) Is there astigmatism (irregularity of vision due generally to irregularity of the cornea)?

The first question is often answered by the patient, who states that one eye is better than the other. But, in any case, the test referred to later should be made, so that we may know