

means before, without result, but which have been relieved by correction of an ocular defect. These and other neuroses, being often reflex in causation, are the result of using up of nerve force by eye-strain in the patient trying to overcome some ocular defect, and diverting to the eyes nerve energy that should have been used in stimulating the different organs of the body to perform their own proper functions.

If an optical error can so influence the general bodily conditions that a chronic state of ill-health can be remedied by optical correction, and this cannot be denied, then it is not too much to say that the general weakness that was the predisposing cause of a fatal disease could have been arrested in many cases by attention to the eyes. Many times all that can be said was that the previous poor health was the predisposing cause, permitting the infection to find a lodgment. Then, might we not with truth go a little farther and say that the primary cause of the condition was eye-strain, which lowered the bodily resistance and nerve tone, and so permitted the infective germ to gain a foothold?

I would like to illustrate this and allied conditions by a brief report of a case or two from my case-book.

Case 1—Miss M. S., aged 25. Factory hand. First seen Sept. 12, 1906. History of ill-health, not strong, cannot stand much work, irritable, mother says very nervous, and has to be humored. No particular benefit has been derived from general medical treatment. About three weeks ago thought she got some foreign body in the eye (left), which made it irritable for a couple of weeks. Four days ago got a slight blow on the same eye, and since cannot see well out of it. Exam., Rt. P. M. and F. N.; L. P. N. Media very hazy, under homatropine found the vitreous very milky, with dark opacities floating about, principally in the lower outer field. Vision, fingers at 1 ft., Rt. V. equal 6/9, and with plus .75 D. Cyl. Ax. 90, V. equal 6/6. Gave Rt. correction, ordered rest of the eyes, gave a nerve tonic. Sept. 29, reported can see much better out of each eye, feeling happier, not so irritable, L. V. equal 6/44. Oct. 16, L. V. equal 6/24. Nov. 2, L. V. equal 6/20. Disk can now be seen. Nov. 12, L. V. equal 6/20, and with minus 1, V. equal 6/16. Left vitreous was cleared up enough to allow fundus to be seen, and showed hyperemia and choroidal changes. Improvement in general health and happiness continued, and she could do her work with much less trouble, and eyes do not now tire. The vitreous and choroidal changes could not be due to the foreign body, or the slight blow, which, no doubt, simply served to bring the condition of