

4. *Bad result or failure.*—All cases in which complications occurred of so serious a nature as to prevent the patient from regaining sufficient vision to see his way about.

On this basis then how does it stand with the ninety cases now under consideration? I find there are 76 good results, or 84.4 per cent.; 12 satisfactory results or 13.3 per cent.; 2 unsatisfactory results or 2.2 per cent., and no failures. Most of these operations were done under the influence of cocaine, and I think this has had something to do with results being better than were usually obtained before the days of cocaine, for there is no doubt operations on the eye are now performed with much greater deliberation and precision than was the case where no anæsthetic, or such anæsthetics as ether or chloroform were used; and there is, moreover, no doubt but that the patient's general condition is much more favorable after cocaine anæsthesia than it used to be after the profound disturbance so often seen in consequence of the administration of a general anæsthetic.

In my own experience I have never had so long a series of cataract operations without loss of one eye as the one now presented, and I am quite inclined to attribute this unusual success to the strict use of antiseptic precautions rather than to increased skill in operating or any other collateral circumstance. Compared with the cataract statistics of other ophthalmic surgeons as we find them in current literature of a few years ago, my results are certainly more favorable as it is not uncommon to find the failures amounting to five and even ten per cent.

I will not go into details of the ninety cases just referred to but at the same time I cannot refrain from calling attention to the remarkable absence of suppurative inflammation in the whole series.

In only one instance there was a dense yellowish infiltration of the vitreous humor which had the appearance of a suppurative process, and when the patient disappeared from observation vision was reduced to qualitative perception of light. The eye, however, was beginning to clear up and about six months later the woman's husband wrote to say that she could see quite well again.

The two worst results were in both eyes of the same patient,