

6 THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF BLINDNESS.

will serve to show how such misapprehensions may affect us.

Those personally acquainted with me know how fond I am of an argument. A short time ago, I came upon a group of men discussing politics. I listened long enough, the subject interested me, and, of course, I must needs express my view, supporting it by citing some newspaper comments. Usually my opinions are received with as much grace of assent and dissent as those of ordinary men, but on that occasion I was brought up sharply with "poor fellow! I suppose somebody told him that trash was in the papers." And it is by him, and his kind, that our disadvantages are understood perfectly!

Such an experience is of no great consequence, to be sure, nor do I mean to say that many persons are guilty of misjudging us exactly so, but in one way or another similar mistakes are constantly being made. Some people shout at us, absurdly confusing the loss