

hospital without an accurate record of vision having been made. Moreover the records of visual acuteness commonly given in the statistics of cataract operations are seldom of much practical value because they do not by any means represent the final results. It often happens that an eye, which at the time of the patient's dismissal appears most unpromising, ultimately turns out very satisfactorily, and vice versa.

Vision of $\frac{1}{10}$ or $\frac{1}{5}$ after a successful operation may often be vastly improved and perhaps brought up to the normal by a secondary operation, and as a rule illiterate persons are satisfied with imperfect vision and do not return for any secondary operation. I may here state that in private practice I do not consider any cataract operation satisfactory, if the eye is otherwise healthy, unless the patient ultimately gets sufficiently good vision to admit of reading ordinary print. But in making up statistics of cataract operations I would, if classifying according to visual results, divide into four classes:—

- 1.—Good result $V \Rightarrow \frac{1}{10}$.
- 2.—Satisfactory result $V = \frac{1}{10} - \frac{1}{5}$.
- 3.—Unsatisfactory result, $V = \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{100}$.
- 4.—Bad result, $V < \frac{1}{100}$.

As in the present instance I am not giving a precise statement of the visual results I shall classify as follows:

1. *Good result*.—All cases in which no complication occurred likely to prevent the eye from attaining its maximum vision. For instance, a senile cataract is removed, no complications of any kind result from the operation. The fundus oculi is subsequently seen perfectly by the ophthalmoscope in all its details. Yet V . only $\frac{1}{10}$. There is found to be a central chorio-retinitis of old standing, accounting for the defective vision.

2. *Satisfactory result*.—All cases in which complications occurred after the operation, and fairly attributable to it, which would obviously prevent the eye from attaining its maximum vision but without greatly impairing its usefulness.

3. *Unsatisfactory results*.—All cases in which serious complications arose in consequence of the operation and caused diminution of vision, but not such as to prevent the patient from seeing sufficiently well to get about.