

world, may be reckoned by millions ; on the other, by the actual injury inflicted by unsuitable glasses ; and lastly, by the customary sale of most spectacles by persons who have no adequate knowledge of the conditions of their utility.

Since the visional process is not an absolutely simple action, but is compounded of several acts which are originally independent, and which, through the unity of the sensorium, come secondarily to influence one another, it follows that, in defects of vision, the determination of the necessary spectacles can never be a perfectly simple procedure.

It requires a due consideration of all the ocular functions ; and the neglect of any one of them may produce a strain which will act injuriously and will impair the eyes ; while the proper spectacles adapted to correct the defect would be preservative and beneficial.

The injury produced by wearing improper spectacles is not always immediately perceived ; but when, after long use of them, the sight comes to be sensibly impaired, it is considered as the natural consequence of age--although the greater part of the evil be occasioned by using lenses carelessly adapted to the eye.

With the healthy eye, on looking at a distance, the rays of light that enter the eye are focussed on the retina without effort ; but in regarding near objects, as in reading or writing, there is an effort of the eye to focus the rays of light, other