tioners operated upon their "cross-eyed" patients, and thousands of cases were thus treated. Many of these were doubtless successful; but it was soon found that a large number of the cases of squint returned, and many that had a convergent squint before the operation had a divergent squint afterwards. The operation, therefore, in a comparatively short time, fell into disrepute, and was little heard of until very recently. This arose partly from want of proper laws to guide the operatorator but more particularly from the fact that the pathology of the affection was not known.

Within the past few years, however, much attention has been given to this subject, and we have now the satisfaction of knowing that in no part of ophthalmic surgery have greater advances been made of late than in the study of the pathology of the muscles of the eye. This is due chiefly to the labours of Prof. Von Graefè, of Berlin.

Closely following the publication of Von Graefè's papers, Professor Donders, of Utrecht, gave the world his great work on the defects of the refraction of the eye, and their relation to strabismus, in which is given to us for the first time the true pathology of strabismus.

The translation of Professor Donders' treatise on "The Anomalies of Accommodation and Refraction" was published in 1864, by the New Sydenham Society, and occupies the not very moderate space of 635 pages of the 22nd volume.

In these skilful researches in physiological and pathological optics, Donders brought to bear the application of the higher mathematics, and with mathematical precision he determined the existence and treatment of myopia, hypermetropia, and astigmatism, as well as the diseases which arise from these optical defects of the eye, viz: asthenopia and strabismus. These important discoveries of Donders are completely revolutionizing the treatment of these diseases, and have contributed not a little to the elevation of ophthalmic medicine and surgery.

Professor Donders was the first to give a complete description of hypermetropia; he pointed out how very common this affection is, and demonstrated that nearly all cases of *convergent strabismus* and *asthenopia* depend upon this optical defect of the eye. Donders was also the first to demonstrate the no less important fact that *divergent strabismus* is most frequently the result of myopia.

During Professor Donders researches, he registered over two hundred and eighty cases of strabismus, and took accurate notes of every circumstance in each case that appeared to be either a cause or a consequence of the squint.

Most ophthalmic surgeons of eminence in Germany, France, England,