

gists go so far as to contend that nearly every case of migraine or sick headache is associated with some defect in the visual apparatus ; for my own part, whilst admitting that such an association is of frequent occurrence, I am inclined to think there is a large proportion of these cases not to be accounted for in this way. Others, again, claim that all sorts of nervous disorders, including chorea, epilepsy and insanity, are often due to the same cause ; on this point I am not prepared to express an opinion.

There is, however, among ophthalmologists, and through their labors also, I think, in the general profession, a settled conviction as to the importance of ocular defects in causing headache. On this subject there is, however, but little information to be gained from the ordinary text-books of medicine, though current literature contains much that is well worth careful study.

Every one has heard of remarkable cures of headache by the correction of certain errors of refraction, and there is, perhaps, a widespread notion that ocular defects causing headache only require the adaptation of suitable glasses to remove the trouble. This is quite true of certain cases, the correction of the refractive error may accomplish all that is to be desired. Sufferers from headache during half a lifetime have time and again been cured in a few days by wearing the glasses that have corrected a simple hyperopia. I once saw a student who had reached the third year of his university course, a martyr to headache all the time, and subject to attacks of vomiting if he studied longer than two hours consecutively, so disheartened that he had decided to abandon his university career when he found himself suddenly cured of all his ailments by wearing convex cylindrical lenses of 36 inches focus. Convex sphericals of the same focal distance had been used for some time previously without benefit. Here there was only a simple error of refraction, slight in degree, but giving rise to symptoms that might readily have been mistaken for some serious organic disease. Such a case can, I take it, only be explained by assuming an instability of nerve force which a trivial disturbing element was capable of putting completely out of balance. On the other hand, it is a matter of daily experience to meet with persons whose visual apparatus presents