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ARTIFICIAL LIGHTING OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS
AND PRIVATE HOUSES, AND ITS EFFECTS
UPON THE HUMAN EYE.

In three parts, with Illustrations.

I. INTRODUCTORY.

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Several observers have drawn our attention to the damage that may be done to the eyes of both pupils and teachers by the injudicious lighting of schools, one writer at least holding the malposition of their windows to be the principal defect in all our public buildings. Still another believes that misdirected sunlight stands high in the list of causes that produce school myopia. There is undoubtedly a great deal of truth in all this. I am sure that if anyone whose eyes are not of the strongest will make a tour of the schools in our larger towns, and will devote a few hours daily to sitting, for say ten minutes at a time, at various points in the different study and recitation rooms, not forgetting the teachers' desks, he will readily detect any weak spots in the illumination of the buildings in question. Sometimes it is the teacher, sometimes it is his or her pupils that suffer, sometimes both are victims. Occasionally either direct or diffused sunlight is permitted to pour upon the upturned face of the student, but more often his eyes are handicapped in their efforts to see by reflections from distant window panes, or by annoying sidelights, or by being obliged to make out figures on polished blackboards that only mirrors in disguise; or the light is so variable that one hour the school-room is brightly lighted and the next it is shrouded in semi-darkness.

Certainly the problem of effectively lighting large buildings—especially school buildings—is one that may well tax the ingenuity