

MANUAL OF THE DISEASES OF THE EYE FOR STUDENTS AND GENERAL PRACTITIONERS.

By Charles H. May, M. D., Chief of clinic and instructor in opthalmology, college of physicians and surgeons, medical department Columbia University, New York, 1890-1903 ; opthalmic surgeon to the French Hospital, New York ; consulting opthalmologist to the Red Cross hospital, New York ; adjunct opthalmic surgeon to Mt. Sinia hospital, New York, etc., third edition, revised with 275 original illustrations, including 16 plates with 35 colored figures. Publishers : Wm. Wood & Co., New York.

A book that reaches its third edition in three years and has been reprinted twice within that time must bear all the elements to make it valuable as a medical work. Many books are written on ophthalmology especially intended for final year students and general practitioners. Many are failures because they are too large and offer too much for the student to digest, others are failures because in attempting to make a small book they omit too much. This book seems to have taken the middle course. Those diseases seen frequently in general practice are fully taken up, while the rarer conditions are given but very little space. The author has aimed at being very practical. Illustrations showing exactly how to examine the conjunctiva and retro-tarsal folds add very materially to the student's knowledge. Very minute instructions are given showing how an eye case should be examined, every little point is clearly brought out, and how to estimate vision is made much plainer than usual. A number of colored plates showing various conditions of the eye grounds are of decided value. In connection with lacrimo-nasal obstruction no mention is made of the desirability of teaching the patient how to probe his own tear duct. This adds materially to the success of many cases where long continued probing is essential. Also, in cases of catarrhal conjunctivitis, nasal and nasopharyngeal catarrh seem to have a relationship the author has omitted to mention. The author speaks very lightly of antitoxine in Diphtheria conjunctivitis, solutions of Quinine are not referred to. The treatment of Trachoma is fully given and is enhanced very materially by full page illustrations, showing how to use the expression forceps. He uses for this operation a general anaesthetic, in children and neurotic females this may be necessary, otherwise it is not desirable. The chapter at the end of the book on ocular therapeutics and general rules for eye operations is excellent, concise and practical. This book is undoubtedly the best of the smaller works on ophthalmology and one from which all general practitioners will find great assistance.
