AN AMERICAN APPRECIATION.

The following generous appreciation (somewhat abridged) of the action which has led to the formation of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY appeared in the October, 1916, number of our contemporary, Ophthalmic Literature, edited by Edward Jackson, of Denver, Colorado:

**Combination of English Journals.**

Publication of The Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital Reports began in 1857. From the start they had more the character of an ophthalmic journal than of hospital reports. A very important feature of the earlier volumes was a department devoted to abstracts of the ophthalmic literature of other countries. This department was discontinued after 1864, but in the later years a majority of the articles published have not been devoted to the work of the hospital. The chief justification for its name has always been that it was conducted and written by men who had been connected with the hospital as surgeons, assistants, and students. In the last number issued, bearing the date of March, 1916, the leading article is a series of historical notes by the late George Coats.

In 1862 a journal, called The Ophthalmic Review, was started by T. Z. Lawrence, assisted by Thomas Windsor, but this was discontinued after a few years. In 1881 the present journal of that name was started by Karl Grossman, of Liverpool, and Priestley Smith, of Birmingham. With the exception of a few months, during the sickness of its then editor, N. M. Maclehose, it has been issued regularly to the present year. In 1903 Sydney Stephenson commenced the publication of The Ophthalmoscope, which immediately developed into a very important journal, and has continued to appear regularly to the present time.

Although it was not very apparent in their pages, the pressure of war has been severely felt by those who have had to bear the burden of these publications. Their separate maintenance has been a difficult problem; and the difficulty increased until combination suggested itself and became the practical solution of the situation. With the beginning of the new year, they will be merged into a single journal, THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF OPHTHALMOLOGY. The combined journal will be edited, under the supervision of a committee, by Mr. Sydney Stephenson and an assistant editor.

We had occasion a few months since to refer to the combination of two of the leading Italian journals, as a step in preparation for the new life expected to develop in all branches of the higher learning with the close of the present war. We have no doubt that this combination of British ophthalmic forces will prove an important step in the same direction; and the new journal will take a leading place, perhaps the leading place, in the world's literature of ophthalmology.