Sir James Paget, in one of his lectures, tells the story of a young man who was under his care for a minor operation. Unfortunately pyaemia developed, but the patient eventually recovered after a long illness. Some months later he came back to hospital to thank Sir James for having made the cut which, as he thought, saved his life. Paget, in commenting on this, said that had he only known it, the cut was the cause of all his trouble. Most of us must be able to call to mind occasions when we have received credit for what we did which may have been undeserved; and it is equally true to say that occasionally we get blamed for what may not have been our fault. Such occurrences are interesting to remember. How often has one heard an out-patient say in response to the advice of operation suggested: "No, I won't have my eyes tampered with." Much more rarely we get "I wasn't going to let anyone tamper with my eyes but you." For many years we watched an out-patient who attended regularly for epilation. As house surgeon, she resented our aid, as assistant surgeon, she put up with it and as senior surgeon she welcomed it. Many of the hospital class of patients have a profound and even touching belief in the institution which has cared for their children and ancestors. They like to think that they have a vested interest in their hospital and would not care to go elsewhere. This is a state of affairs which must be taken into consideration in the re-planning schemes which are so much in evidence to-day or there will be a certain amount of dissatisfaction among those for whose benefit these schemes are being devised.

Some years ago a mother brought her grown-up daughter, who had had a nervous breakdown, to the writer to see if her myopic eyes might have any bearing on the case. The patient was dumb, would answer no questions and appeared to be in a highly mental state. She was, in spite of this, easy to deal with, for one acted as if she were a very young child. Her glasses were approximately correct and we told the mother that in our opinion the state of the refraction had no bearing on the general condition. A day or two later we received a most grateful letter from the mother thanking us for our patience and kindness, which had so impressed the patient that she had suddenly found her voice in the cab going home and was getting better.