

equally so with the eyes open or closed, and it appeared to advance slowly from out of the corner till it spread all over the visual area, and passed across to the right side, where it disappeared. I cannot say how long it lasted, but it must have been a minute or two. I was a little alarmed, looking on it as the precursor of some disorder of the eyes, but no ill consequence followed. Several years afterwards the same thing again occurred, and I recognized, not indeed the same precise form, but the same general character—the fortification outline, the dark and bright lines, and the steady progressive advance from left to right. I have mentioned this to several persons, but have only met with one to whom it has occurred. This was a lady of my acquaintance, who assured me that she had often experienced a similar affection, and that it was always followed by a violent headache, which was not the case with me. In this case the regularity of the pattern was not great, but the lines were quite straight and the angles sharp and well defined. Had it remained stationary, it might be assumed that the retina had a structure corresponding to the figure; and that some undue pressure might render that structure visible. But such an hypothesis is precluded by the gradual transit of the lines over every part of the visual area.

(10.) I come now to cases of perfect symmetry, and geometrical regularity. The most ordinary class of patterns of this sort I find to be formed only in darkness, and if the darkness be complete, equally with open as with closed eyes. The forms are not modified by slight pressure, but their degree of visibility is much and caprici-