



DO NOT BE NEGLIGENT TO THE CLAIMS OF YOUR EYES FOR PROPER GLASSES
By Walter Irwin, M. O.

Many people who really need glasses have an aversion to wearing them, and postpone the day as long as possible. This is a deplorable mistake. But it seems that a great many do not feel that their eyes need attention, as well as the other organs of the body, and for this reason do not heed their claims for assistance and protection. Delay in this connection often means serious consequences, if not blindness. It was never intended that the organ of sight should be subjected to a constant strain in order to see. It is too often the case that where one has persisted in neglecting the eyes, he or she is at last called upon to consult an optician, and in many cases is obliged to begin with a much stronger glass than would have been necessary had the time been taken to have the eyes properly fitted in the first place. You will hear it said on every hand: "I haven't time now; but I must see what is the matter with my eyes. I suppose I need glasses, but then—well, they may get better, and I will wait and see." If such an one could only foresee the evil that such a delay would bring forth, how eagerly would he or she search for the proper glasses which are needed, without waiting to see what time would do for the eyes. It is vastly important that the eyes are properly fitted in time, as well as with lenses that are particularly suited to their needs.

Many people are indifferent to these important facts, and select their glasses at random—even buying them from the cheap ready-made stock—until they suddenly awaken to the fact that they have rendered their sight an estimable wrong, and then even the best that science can now produce will not restore to them the perfection of sight that could easily have been retained had proper care been taken at the right time, in the selection of glasses.

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Resources of Genius.

The editor looked over the manuscript submitted by the village poet and frowned. "Here is one line," he said, "in which you speak of the music of the cider press. How would you undertake to imitate the music of the cider press?" "I should think it might be done with a juke harp," answered the poet.—Chicago Tribune.

Canals and Roads in France.

It is curious that the French, who have done more than most nations to cultivate the graces of life, should be the people to boast the most perfect system of canals and roads in the world; more curious still that, when most practical, they are still careful not to sacrifice the purely graceful or decorative. The roads and canals are built for use, but between their serried ranks of poplars they become so many stately groves and avenues, crossing the country from end to end.—Century.

Changes.

Nagsby—You're naturally pessimistic. I don't think I ever saw you look cheerful. Carsby—Ah, that's easily explained! Nagsby—How so? Carsby—You didn't know me before I was married!—Illustrated Bits.

Matrimony.

Matrimony resembles a pair of shears, so joined that they cannot be separated, often moving in opposite directions, yet always punishing any one who comes between them.—S. Smith.

SHAVE WITH HOT STEEL.

An Old Cutler's Advice to Men Who Use a Razor.

"Whenever I hone a razor," said an old English cutler, "I always give some advice with it, free, gratis, and I take great satisfaction in knowing that I have made shaving easier and more comfortable for more than 10,000 men. Almost every barber will tell you how to strop a razor, but it takes a cutler to tell you how to care for your strop and how to get the best work out of your blade.

"A swing strop, canvass on one side and horse hide on the other, is the best. Always hold it taut and draw the razor lightly, but swiftly, from heel to point. If you let the strop sag you will put a round edge on your blade. Don't forget to cover your strop or put it away in a drawer after using. If it hangs in a bathroom near a window the dust and grime get into it and soon take the edge from your razor. Whether you keep the strop covered or whether you don't, rub your open hand over the two surfaces to free it from dust.

"But what I consider my most valuable advice is how to do away with shaving paper entirely and at the same time improve the cutting quality of the razor's edge. Nine men out of ten shave themselves in a room where there is running hot water. Now, the way to get a most gratifying result is this: Lather thickly and well and let it remain on the face half a minute before you begin to shave. If you have time wash it off, for with it will come the grit and dirt that you have loosened up in the pores of the skin, and then apply a second coat. It will be as soft, smooth and clean as new velvet.

"Now turn on the hot water faucet and let it run. Hold the razor under the stream until it is heated. Then take a slanting, or diagonal, stroke, like a farmer does with a scythe, not a square pull, and you will be amazed to find how beautifully and easily the hot blade cuts the beard.

"When it is filled with lather hold it under the running hot water instead of using shaving paper. This will wash off the lather and at the same time heat the blade again. Don't be afraid of taking out the temper. That would be impossible if you put the razor in a kettle and boiled it. Try the hot blade and you'll never shave with the cold steel again."—New York World.

POISONS IN TOBACCO.

Tobacco destroys the taste, smell and digestion. Tobacco kills mental, moral and physical vigor. Tobacco paralyzes the mucous membranes and glands.

Tobacco's most dangerous poison, nicotine, is without antidote.

Tobacco contains prussic acid, ammonia, carbonic oxide and nicotine. Tobacco contains stronger poisons than opium, alcohol, absinth or chloral. A single leaf of tobacco or a single cigar contains enough of this poison to kill a man if applied properly.

Nicotine is the most deadly poison known to the pharmacopoea. A single drop or a grain will kill a large animal.

Nicotine resembles prussic acid in appearance, effects and activity. Nicotine's victims die in violent convulsions.—New York American.

No Answer Handy.

This is only worth the telling, writes a correspondent, because it contains a retort which, though a triumph of ingenuity, seems to me quite unanswerable. I happened to be reading some obvious newspaper proofs in a train when the good natured man next to me, with the intention no doubt of making himself agreeable, asked, "Ah, are you connected with the press?" I intimated briefly and perhaps not over-courteously that it was none of his business. He persisted that it was a quite civil inquiry, which I met with the remark that I had not asked him whether he was a clerk or a shop assistant. As he was obviously neither, this nettled him. "If I knew," he said, "what newspaper you belong to I would never buy it again."—London Chronicle.

Buffalo Calves.

Buffalo calves, as a rule, are born in April and May. They are active, vigorous little creatures, mild eyed as domestic calves, but possessing much greater strength and endurance. In a few seconds after birth they can get on their feet, and in twenty minutes they are fit to fight for their lives. Usually it is unnecessary for them to defend themselves at this tender age, as a buffalo cow is quite capable of attending to any business which may arise in connection with the defense of her precious baby.—Washington Star.

Pleasant Thoughts.

"Make yourselves nests of pleasant thoughts," counsels Ruskin. Bright fancies, satisfied memories, noble histories, faithful sayings, treasure houses of restful and precious thoughts which care cannot disturb or pain make gloomy or poverty take away from us—houses built without hands for our souls to live in—these things are not for earth alone; they are a part of the treasure that may be sent over.

Artful.

Young Mr. Flitts—"What are you smiling at, dear? Mrs. Flitts—I was just thinking how you used to sit and hold my hand for an hour at a time before we were married. How silly you were! Mr. Flitts—I wasn't silly at all. I held your hand to keep you away from the piano.

The Regular Count.

The heart of a man who has lived to be seventy has beaten 260,000,000 times—not counting the times when he got scared and it worked overtime.—Somerville Journal.

ANOTHER GRAND OLD MAN.

William Pinckney Whyte, Who Succeeds the Late Senator Gorman.

William Pinckney Whyte, appointed by Governor Warfield of Maryland to the seat in the senate formerly occupied by the late Arthur Pue Gorman, was a member of the same body in days long gone by. His career furnishes a refutation of the Osler theory, for he will be eighty-two years old in August, and he is still capable of hard work, leads the bar of Maryland and until his appointment as senator rarely missed a day at his law office. He is as eloquent before a jury as ever, walks as erect as a trooper on parade and has all the alertness of a youth. His public career began away back in 1847, fourteen years before the outbreak of the civil war. He was elected to the Maryland legislature in that year. He has been mayor of Baltimore and comptroller, attorney general and governor of Maryland. It was in 1868 that he first became a member of the United States senate. He then took the seat of Reverdy Johnson, who had re-



WILLIAM PINCKNEY WHYTE

signed to become minister to England. He was appointed to fill the vacancy by Governor Swann, served out the term, served as governor and was again sent to the senate, this time by vote of the legislature, in 1874. He occupied his seat this time from 1875 to 1881. During this period occurred the memorable campaign of John Lee Carroll for governor. It resulted in Mr. Gorman becoming the dominant political factor in the state. Whyte was a candidate for re-election to the senate, but was defeated by Gorman, and the two men were enemies for years. The senator is sometimes called the "grand old man" of the Democratic party of Maryland. He has been married twice, and his second wife was his ward in early childhood. He gave her mother away when she married John de Spyer. He gave the daughter away when she married Raleigh Thomas. In 1892, at sixty-eight years of age, he was married to Mrs. Thomas himself.

AERONAUT BEACHEY.

The Sensation He Created Sailing About the Capitol's Dome.

The flights that M. Santos-Dumont made around the Eiffel tower were the marvel of their time, but the feats of the celebrated Brazilian aeronaut have been completely eclipsed by those of the young American navigator of the air, Lincoln Beachey, who made the wheels of legislation slip a cog or two while he was perambulating in the air in the vicinity of the national capitol recently. Beachey started from an amusement resort about four miles from the Washington monument and in half an hour was circling about the tall shaft named in honor of the first



LINCOLN BEACHEY.

president of the United States. He went around it twice and then started for the White House, where he landed gracefully in the president's back yard. Not finding Mr. Roosevelt at home, he set out for the capitol, and business in the house of representatives and senate was at a standstill while he was sailing around the dome of the great building. Mr. Beachey is a San Francisco youth of nineteen, and he first came into special notice last year at the Lewis and Clark exposition, where he called Baldwin's City of Portland.

LEGEND OF THE GARTER.

Contradictory Versions of the Foundation of the Order.

I knew, as every schoolboy knows, the legend that a certain Countess of Salisbury dropped her garter at a ball and that the king, picking it up amid the smiles of courtiers, handed it to her with the happy and now immortal phrase, "Honi soit qui mal y pense." But this legend, I recalled, had had to go the way of the story of King Alfred and the cakes, the story of William Tell and the apple and many another pretty fairy tale of history. At last I went to Sir Nicholas Harris Nicolas' "History of the Orders of Knighthood," where I found a delightful mass of contradictory authority produced.

The tale of the ensign and name of the order were first told by Polydore Vergil (1470-1555), who wrote in the time of Henry VII. and Henry VIII. and who said that the lady was "the queen or the king's mistress." Segar, whose work, "Honor, Military and Civil," appeared in 1602, 250 years after the order was founded, was the first to say that it was the Countess of Salisbury. Other writers say that it was the Countess of Kent. John Anstis (1669-1744), garter king of arms, who published several heraldic works, ridicules the whole story. He confesses that an author of Henry VI's time, who wrote in Latin and whose work is now entirely lost, upheld it.

Raphael Holinshed, a chronicler, who died in 1580, tells the story in detail and says the lady was the queen, which surely rather spoils the significance of the legend. Sir Harris Nicolas himself thinks the story is not improbable, although he urges the fact that Jean Froissart, who is the best contemporary authority on the reign of Edward III., while he has much to say about the order in his hundredth chapter, does not refer to it, and Nicholas admits that this tells very much against the supposed origin of the story, but Froissart may have thought the matter too trivial to relate. By the way, I feel very much aggrieved that G. C. Macaulay in the abridged volume of Froissart that he published through the Macmillans should have ruthlessly cut this hundredth chapter.

It is not, I may add, claimed that the incident caused the foundation of the Order of the Garter, but only that it gave Edward III. the idea for naming the order which he had resolved to found in any case. In the absence of any other solution than that which rests on these shadowy foundations I think we may still go on accepting the pretty legend, but I repeat my expression of dissatisfaction with the popular histories that they should leave such matters as this severely alone.—London Sphere.

One of the Wonders of Physics.

An experienced mechanic who was asked what he regarded as the most wonderful thing for general utility replied: "The tracking of a car wheel is the most wonderful thing to me in the whole range of science and invention. Here are two rails, uphill and downhill, round the sharp curves and along false tangents, and upon them fly at more than a mile a minute, without jar or jolt, a dozen heavy cars drawn by an engine weighing sixty tons. Passengers realize no danger, yet there is only the little flange of a wheel between them and eternity. An inch and a half of steel turned up on the inner side of the wheel holds up the whole train as securely to the rails as if it were bolted there in grooves."

Hide Your Fruit Trees.

As lawn specimens fruit trees are nearly always disappointing. They have more insect enemies and fungous diseases than first class ornamental trees and shrubs. If you spray them they are unsightly; if you do not your lawn is covered with wormy fruits, which look bad and smell worse. The peach is a short lived, delicate tree which is particularly subject to San Jose scale. Plums and cherries are sure to yield wormy fruit unless you jar the curculios out of them long before breakfast or unless you let the chickens run beneath the trees. Both are violent suppositions for a home lawn.—Country Life In America.

A Natural Inference.

For no other reason than that his poultry book told him to feed lime he slavishly fed lime and asked himself no questions.

The hens were variously affected. The Leghorns found difficulty in keeping their hot Italian blood from open revolt. The Cochins, with true oriental apathy, said it was fate anyway. But the old Plymouth Rock had the American sense of humor.

"He thinks we're going to lay bricks," she chuckled.—Puck.

No Back Action.

Mr. Gladstone knew how to admit that he was in the wrong. On one occasion he did so candidly and handsomely, as becomes a gentleman. But he preferred to keep clear of the necessity for apologies and had scant belief in their efficacy. "You can't unpull a man's nose," he once said to his private secretary, Sir Algernon West.

Knew How It Was.

"I presume you spend all you make?" "No; I don't spend a tenth of it." "Then you must have a nice little balance in the bank?" "Nope, not a cent." "Shake, old chap. I'm married myself."—Houston Post.

Had Heard Papa Say It.

The Schoolteacher—Willie, can you tell me the meaning of leisure? The Bright Pupil—It's the place where married people repent.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Power exercised with violence has seldom been of long duration, but temper and moderation generally produce permanence in all things.—Seneca.

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