

Winnipeg, April, 1910.

## How the World Looks to the Short-Sighted.

(Continued from Page 39.)

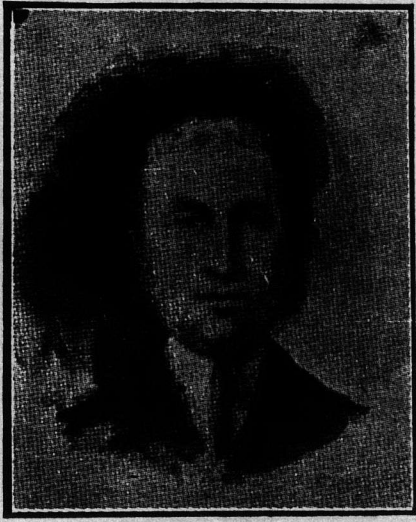
becoming bluish, white hairs resolving themselves pleasantly into high lights. The world ages ten years all round when the oculist permits us (he does not always do so) to assume glasses which bring us up to the normal, for wrinkles, unless large, do not usually exist for us, the oldest man having often a boyish look which vanishes when spectacles are donned. All the little blemishes of complexion and feature resolve themselves into nothing. Short-sight is the true magic jute which causes us to see "Helen's beauty in a brow of Egypt."

of ribbon, but ordinary mortals evidently endured their affliction without remedy.

There is a common notion that short-sighted persons enjoy the compensation of long sight in old age. This, however, is not the case. True myopia tends to increase with the years, and its victims are warned to put off the donning of the strongest glasses as long as possible. The trouble is caused by a defect in the shape of the retina. Forty years ago an experimenter promulgated the theory of a cure by pressing the eyeball into shape by some mechanical arrangement. Four years ago a London doctor wished to correct the fault by manipulation, but so far there is no news of any successful tests, and it is unlikely that the short-sighted will ever enter the real world save by the way of eyeglass or spectacles, as now.



A face as seen by ordinary sight.



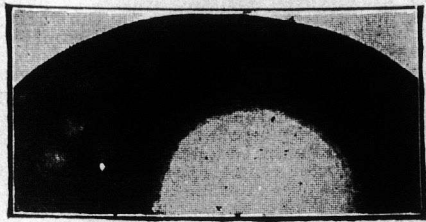
The same face as seen by the short-sighted.

The skyscape again has peculiarities of its own. For some reason or other the sky is always nearer to a short-sighted person than to his normal-sighted brother, the clouds being, however, less well defined. Again, the stars, which to you are twinkling spots of light, buried deep in the azure, to us are shining circles like silver tables. This is due to the convergence of the rays of light, which seem to run together till they form a solid wheel. For the same reason the moon is huge. What it gains in size, however, it loses in distinctness, for it has neither outline nor "face."

I have already mentioned that the myopic tendency is to see everything larger, though more blurred, than is the case in ordinary vision. Going suddenly into proper glasses, one notices this idiosyncrasy very particularly. A shilling, for instance, will at first look like a rather large sixpence; while as regards the threepenny-bit, one simply wonders what it has done to itself. At the same time, though small, those coins are more distinct than heretofore.

With the donning of glasses again objects become clearer yet a little more distant. The world, as it were, takes a step backward from us. Pavement and floor are farther off, and getting downstairs is at first a giddy task. The tube stairs, by the way, are specially trying to the myopic because of the metal at the end of each, which confuses one as to the real length of the step, shadow and substance interchanging as we feel our way to the lift.

Though spectacles were not used in Europe till the fifteenth century, short-



The moon and stars as they appear to the short-sighted beholder.

sight was commoner than is usually believed among ancient nations. Nero had his eyeglass for the Coliseum, though he did not dangle it by a piece

### Dawn,

Falls the quiet gloaming,  
Greyer grows the sea;  
Grey the silent moorland,  
Greyer still the sea.  
Sunset hues departed  
From the western sky;  
O'er the hills the shadows  
Of the daylight die.

Falls the night of sorrow  
Weary grows the heart;  
Loving ones and tender  
Forced by death to part.  
Weeping sad and bitter,  
Fill the days with gloom;  
Hopeless heart, and breaking,  
Long for the tomb.

Dawns the golden morning,  
Bright the eastern sky;  
On the sea and meadow  
Sunlight glories lie.  
Tipped the hills with splendor,  
Gold the rustling corn;  
Bursts of joyous gladness  
Herald in the dawn.

Ends the night of weeping,  
Dawns the morn of peace;  
Gone the bitter sorrow,  
Hopeless yearnings cease,  
Through the glowing furnace  
Of a living pain,  
Faith and Hope awakened  
In the heart again.

—Walter A. Locks.

### Joy and Grief.

Oh, deem not they are blest alone  
Whose lives a peaceful tenor keep;  
The Power that pities man has shown  
A blessing for the eyes that weep.

There is a day of sunny rest  
For every dark and troubled night;  
And grief may bide an evening guest,  
But joy shall come with early light.

### The Ideal.

It is no easy matter to keep hold of an ideal; it slips away amidst the excitements of society and the pre-occupations of business; it is compro-

## TALES FROM THE WONDERFUL WEST

Saint Patrick, We're Told,  
In The Glad Days of Old  
Drove The Snakes From The Hedges and Heather:

He Was Sure a Fine Man  
And He Worked a Great Plan  
To Get Rid of The Snakes Altogether.  
He Accomplished With Speed  
Quite a Wonderful Deed:  
And Was Blessed By The People and Pope.  
'Tis a Pity—But True,  
That Saint Pat Never Knew  
Of Such Blessings

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And The Premiums are Fine!

mised amidst the onsets of temptation and the accessions of passion; but it must be recaptured and set up as the signal and standard of everyone who has not abandoned the struggle for a life which is more than mere existence.  
—James Stalker, D.D.

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