

A Method of Cutting Glass Tubes, Bottles, Etc.

Mr. Wm. Thomson recently read some papers before the Society of Chemical Industry, one of which treated of the subject mentioned in the title.

The method consists in having some strips of thick blotting paper at hand, from a quarter to half an inch in width, and of different lengths. Two pieces of such paper are wetted and wrapped around the bottle tube or other vessel to be cut, once or oftener (once is sufficient). These pieces of paper, cut true, are wrapped around the vessel like two bands. They must not be placed too close together, say from a quarter to three-eighths of an inch apart for larger vessels, and rather less than a quarter of an inch apart for tubes of an inch in diameter.

When this is arranged, a fine flame about two or three inches long is allowed to play on the glass between the two pieces of wet paper, the vessel being slowly revolved and the point of the flame kept between the two papers. Within a minute, usually, the vessel separates with a clean cut along the line against which the flame played. The blotting paper can then be removed and put aside for use on other occasions. — *Chem. and Drug.*

All Watches Compasses.

A FEW days ago I was standing by an American gentleman when I expressed a wish to know which point was north. He at once pulled out his watch, looked at it and pointed to the north. I asked him whether he had a compass attached to his watch. "All watches," he replied, "are compasses." Then he explained to me how this was, "Point the hour hand to the sun and the south is exactly half-way between the hour and the figure XII on the watch. For instance, suppose that it is four o'clock; point the hand indicating four to the sun, and 11 on the watch is exactly south. Suppose that it is eight o'clock; point the hand indicating eight to the sun, and the figure X on the watch is due south." My American friend was quite surprised that I did not know this. Thinking that very possibly I was ignorant of a thing that every one else knew, and happening to meet Mr. Stanley I asked that eminent traveller whether he was aware of the simple mode of discovering the points of the compass. He said that he had never heard of it. I presume therefore, that the world is in the same state of ignorance. Anakti is proud of having been the home of the inventor of the compass. I do not know what town boasts of my American friend as a citizen. — *London Truth.*

A Lesson in Longevity.

THE *Medical Age* draws a lesson in longevity from the life of the late George Bancroft, in which, while it admits that there is no system of living which will insure longevity, yet, withal, there are cer-

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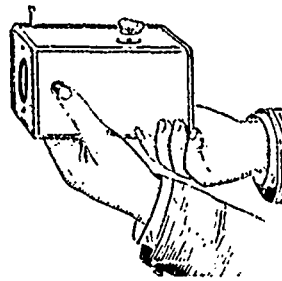
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tain considerations tending that way, and which, if carefully lived up to, offers probably the best chance of reaching close to, if not quite, the hundred year period. The following pertinent advice is given:

Live as much as possible out of doors, never letting a day pass without spending at least three or four hours in the open air.

Keep all the powers of body and mind occupied in congenial work. The muscles should be developed and the mind kept active.

Avoid excesses of all kinds, whether of food, drink, or of whatever nature they may be. Be moderate in all things.

Never despair. Be cheerful at all times. Never give way to anger. Never let the trials of one day pass over to the next.

The period from fifty to seventy-five years should not be passed in idleness, or abandonment of all work. Here is where a great many men fail—they resign all care or interest in worldly affairs, and rest of body and mind begins. They throw up their business and retire to private life, which in too many cases proves to be a suicidal policy.

During the next period—the period from seventy-five years to one hundred years—while the powers of life are at their lowest ebb, one cannot be too careful about "catching cold." Bronchitis is a most prolific cause of death in the aged. During this last period rest should be in abundance. — *The Journal of the A. M. A.*

Grains of Thought.

It is not always the man who looks the wisest who knows the most, but most people don't know this, so it will pay you to look just as wise as you can.

Here is a bit of wisdom with which Bob Burdette is credited: "There's nothing like knowing your business clean through, my boy, whether you know anything else or not."

"Now then," said a physician cheerily to a patient, "you have got along far enough to indulge in a little animal food and—" "No you don't, Doctor," interrupted the patient, "I've suffered enough on your gruel and slop, and I'd starve sooner than begin on hay and oats."

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