

he was feeling better than usual. If he ever overstepped this limited boundary, at once it resulted in a heightening of cerebrate and nervous reflexes, with concomitant pains. He devised a gridiron to facilitate his writing: "He caused a wooden frame to be constructed of the size and shape of a sheet of letter paper. Stout wires were fixed horizontally across it, half an inch apart, and a moveable back of thick pasteboard behind them. The paper for writing was placed between the pasteboard and the wires, guided by which, and using a black lead crayon, he could write, not illegibly, with closed eyes." Some days he would succeed in penning five or six lines, which others would decipher afterwards. This is one of the most heroic and pathetic experiences which history offers and the saddest thing of all is that Dr. Gould now maintains, and with truth: "If Parkman had lived at the present time he could have found relief from his disability and suffering in the same way that thousands of

others have done." The pity of it all twists one's heart strings! Carlyle was a parallel case, but his eye trouble affected the organs of digestion and caused him to be extremely irritable. Through the use of glasses his general churlishness and hatefulness of disposition might have been transformed into a sweet and urbane disposition. Alas!

When one afflicted as Parkman was—a reflex ocular-neurosis, or eye strain caused by deficient, accommodative power—he may be relieved and generally cured by the wearing of proper glasses. In any case when presbyopia becomes completed, which generally happens at the age of sixty or thereabouts, ease and comfort comes to the sufferer. This is what finally happened to Parkman, and during the last few years of his life the gateway unto rest was unlocked. On the 8th November, 1893, he left the world quietly to enter an illustrious grave and the enduring peace of the beyond.



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