

If you lived before the twentieth century then ‘quacks’ or ‘oculists’ might have advised the use of this little ‘Eyebright’ herb to cure your poor vision rather than buying a pair of glasses.



Modern Spectacles might not always be the cure for tired eyes or fuzzy vision but since the sixteenth century concave spectacle lenses have been the best option for correcting short-sight and convex lenses were used for improving the vision of aging eyes for several centuries before that. Since the late nineteenth century spectacle lenses have been available that are not only scientifically measured and manufactured but can be tailor made to an individual’s requirements.

According to historians the history of medicine is littered with allegations of Quackery. The diseased of the past wanted just as much as the diseased of the present to be cured of their aches and pains and were prepared to pay what they could for promises of better health. Modern medicine is aware that panaceas or placebos can sometimes appear to be as effective as pharmaceutically proven medicines. Quackery played on this belief for those who sought relief from their symptoms, however not everyone wanted relief. Some God-fearing believers saw dis-ease as a burden that had to be endured, it was a test of a believer’s faith and for these people seeking man-made cures was anathema - God would give ease or not, it had to be left to his The Lord’s Will.

This might be one explanation for why some individuals were reluctant to improve their sight by wearing glasses. God had given them the vision they had and it was not man’s place to artificially improve it.