

1750

1900



**1784**  
Benjamin Franklin invented the **split bifocal lens**.

**1776**  
**Declaration of Independence** signed by American colonists.

**1765**  
**First American medical school** founded at the College of Philadelphia with the help of Dr. John Morgan and Dr. William Shippen, Jr.

**1751**  
**First American hospital**, Pennsylvania Hospital, founded in Philadelphia by Dr. Thomas Bond and Benjamin Franklin.



**1801**  
Thomas Young (1773-1829) discovered **astigmatism** and is the first to map the normal field of vision.

**1805**  
George Joseph Beer (1763-1821) describes **iridectomy**.

**1820**  
**New York Eye and Ear Infirmary** established.

**1817**  
Elisha North (1771-1843) founded **first American eye infirmary**, it closed in 1829.

**1812**  
**New England Journal of Medicine and Surgery** founded.  
John McAllister (1753-1830) begins to manufacture **spectacles**.



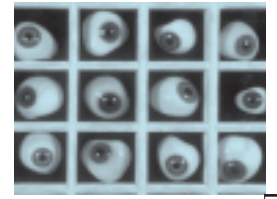
**1824**  
**Massachusetts Charitable Eye and Ear Infirmary** established.

**1823**  
George Frick (1793-1870) became the first American to publish a book on ophthalmology, **Treatise on the Diseases of the Eye**.

**1826**  
**Louis Braille** (1809-1860) invents an alphabet of raised dots to aid the blind.

**1832**  
James Wills, Jr. (1777-1825) founded **Wills Eye Hospital**.

**1830**  
William Mackenzie publishes **Practical Treatise on Disease of the Eye**.



**1851**  
Pierre Gougelman established a business to make the **first artificial eyes** in U.S.



**1850**  
Herman von Helmholtz (1821-1894) demonstrated the **ophthalmoscope**.  
Henry Willard Williams (1831-1895) conducted the **first clinical course** in ophthalmology in U.S.

**1846**  
John Homer Dix (1811-1884) was the first to perform an eye operation using **ether anesthesia**.  
First meeting of the American Medical Association, New York.

**1853**  
Frans Cornelis Donders (1818-1889) described **pigmentary retinopathy**.  
Ernst Adolph Coccius (1825-1890) described **retinal detachment**.

**1857**  
Albrecht von Graefe (1828-1870) reported successful treatment of congestive glaucoma using **iridectomy**.

**1855**  
Albrecht von Graefe (1828-1870) described **cupped disk glaucoma**.  
Richard L. Liebreich (1830-1917) described **retinal vein occlusion**.

**1862**  
Hermann Snellen (1834-1908) created a **test card** for vision.

**1866**  
Frans Cornelis Donders (1818-1889) published **Accommodation and Refraction of the Eye**.

**1869**  
George W. Wells (1846-1912) incorporates the **American Optical Company**.

**1870**  
John Jacob Bausch (1830-1926) and Captain Henry Lomb (?-1908), incorporate the **Bausch & Lomb Optical Company**.

**1892**  
Alexander Duane translates Ernst Fuchs' **Diseases of the Eye**.

**1888**  
G. E. Frothingham, MD elected **first Chairman** of the new Section of Ophthalmology within the A.M.A.

**1873**  
Ferdinand Caignet (1823-?) demonstrated **retinoscopy**.



**1883**  
**American Optical Company** establishes America's first optical lens plant.

**1893**  
Edward Jackson (1856-1942) designed the **cross cylinder**.



**1896**  
**American Academy of Ophthalmology** founded and Adolph Alt, MD (1851-1920) elected first President.

