It is believed that spectacles were discovered in the early 14th century, most probably by Armati of Florence.

The testing spectacles illustrated were the property of Pierre de Sales La Terriere of Trois Riviers, Quebec, Canada. He studied medicine in Canada and subsequently at St Thomas’s Hospital, where he became MRCS. He previously served as a Surgeon in the Voltigeurs Canadiens, during the war of 1812. Whilst at St Thomas’s, he attended wounded from the Peninsular Wars. These spectacles were purchased at auction.

PH Starling
Curator AMS Museum