

I shall and I will



being 30 next week' – an impossibility, as age is something over which a person has no control. Or again, it

down? I was so taken with the usage, and which form to use in reply, that I forgot to move, and she left in a huff.

the time, and don't seem to miss it. So why has the debate dragged on for so long? I think it is because two

This problem regularly turns up in the case of *shall* and *will*, especially when the debate is carried on in writing.

You SHALL get a reply – I'll see that you do.

The stress factor is often not considered when discussing this

'provincial'. Others object to it because they are worried about inconsistency, and want to maintain a logical distinction. Some indeed impose a logical distinction of their