

Patients with myopia complain that, although their vision for near objects is perfect, they cannot see objects at a distance with any distinctness. They can read the smallest type, when brought near the eyes, even better than persons with normal vision, but they are not able to recognize their friends at a distance of fifteen or twenty feet.

In order to enable such persons to see distinctly at a distance, it is necessary for them to wear concave spectacles of such a strength, that the parallel rays from distant objects may have such a degree of divergence, that, falling upon the myopic eye, they may form a focus upon the retina. Theoretically, we should prescribe concave glasses of such a strength that their focus will correspond with the patient's "far" point. Thus, if the "far" point be 12 inches, we should prescribe — 12, as a twelve inch concave lens, placed before such an eye, will give parallel rays from distant objects the same degree of divergence as if they proceeded from the "far" point of the eye; namely, at 12 inches from the eye. Thus, in Fig. 9, P, P, represent parallel rays falling upon the concave lens, A. B.; they are made to diverge, as if coming from the focus, C, and falling upon the eye divergently, they are focussed upon the retina at F. Practically, however, we would find that — 12 would be rather too strong, and that — 15, or — 16 would probably answer better. As a rule, the weakest glasses should be worn that will enable the patient to see distant objects with distinctness.

In testing the degree of myopia, we use a series of test types that are so constructed that No. I (smallest) can be distinctly seen and read by a person having normal vision, at a distance of 1 foot; No. II, at 2 feet; No. V, at 5 feet; No. XX, at 20 feet; and so on. A specimen of these types will be annexed to this paper. The types are also used in testing the acuteness of vision in Presbyopia, Hypermetropia, Amblyopia, &c.

2. In determining the degree of myopia in any case, we ascertain the greatest distance at which No. I test types can be read distinctly; if at 10 inches, the "far" point will be at 10 inches, and the myopia would be called $\frac{1}{10}$; if at 6 inches the myopia would be called $\frac{1}{6}$. From this we can, as stated above, get a proximate knowledge of the strength of the concave lens necessary to relieve the myopia.

3. A myopic eye, when in a state of rest, is adjusted for diverging rays. To enable such an eye to see distant objects, that is, to bring parallel rays to a focus on the retina, it is necessary to give these parallel rays a preliminary degree of divergence by the interposition of the proper concave lens.

Myopia can be distinguished from every other defect of vision, by the