

the centre, that is, these zones, being made horizontal, are made of segments of concentric with the centre of the great lens beneath and above them; and, by the whole apparatus revolving, nearly the whole of the light is projected horizontally in the eight directions of the octagonal prism. Proceeding upon the assumption that the whole of the emitted rays from the central lamp may be made to assume a horizontal direction, Mr. T. Stevenson has made several most excellent arrangements which, however, we cannot fully describe here. The simplest form is that of a hemispherical metallic reflector, in the focus of which is placed the lamp; before the lamp is a refracting polyzonal lens, of such a section that the whole of the direct rays from the lamp, and the reflected rays from the posterior reflector, are parallelized at their emergence. Carrying this principle to greater refinement, and as it was found that the totally reflecting glass prisms were effective compared with metallic ones as 140 to 87, a hemispherical arrangement of glass is proposed, which, by reflection and total reflection, produces the same result as the metallic hemisphere in the former instance. The formulae for the construction of this ingenious apparatus are calculated by Mr. William Swan, F.R.S.E. The glass refracting mirror has advantage over a metallic mirror in its powers of radiation, as in an experiment heat in the interior of the apparatus was so great as to cause the oil to boil: an inconvenience, however, which was afterwards obviated mechanically. Very numerous other applications of his principle are also proposed.*

The beautiful holophotal adaptations have been established at several important localities. The magnificent light at Whulsey Skerries, Shetland, constructed by Messrs. Chance, of Birmingham, is perhaps the most powerful apparatus yet in existence; Lundy Island, St. Abbs Head (constructing), the Red Sea, &c., have examples of the extending system.

Mr. T. Stevenson has constructed a holophotal arrangement which he calls an azimuthal condensing light, by which the whole light is used down a narrow channel; there are examples at Oronsay and Kyle Akin (1857), west of Scotland. Another most ingenious appliance is that at Stornoway, Lewis Island, by which a Beacon on the dangerous Arnish Rock is made to show an *apparent* light, reflected by a plane mirror from a light on the Lighthouse on the adjacent point.

As regards the history of the holophotal system, we may refer to Thomas Ross (1788), before mentioned. Sir David Brewster also proposed an arrangement of lenses, as a burning instrument, in 1812; and the same for Lighthouses, in 1817. Mr. Alex. Gordon, C.E., also constructed a combination of lens and reflector, which economised much of the stray light, in 1847. The carrying this system into full effect, by Mr. T. Stevenson, is as above related.

A first order lenticular apparatus is one of the most beautiful objects in the world. It is a combination of elements, nearly 12 feet high and 6 feet in diameter, constructed with the utmost skill and refinement, and involving in its structure some of the highest principles of applied science.

A *first* order light apparatus, as above said, is 12 feet high and 6 feet in diameter, and the cost of the lenses alone varies from £1,288 to £1,536; or, with the cost of the apparatus, and light-room or lantern, £2,488 to £2,984.

A *second* order of light apparatus is 4 feet 7 inches in diameter; the lens costs £788 to £1,131, or altogether, £1,624 to £2,187.

A *third* order apparatus, diameter 3 feet $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, costs £378 to £704, or altogether, £882 to £1,456.

A *fourth* order, or *harbour* light, is 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter; costs from £157 to £427 complete for the lenses, or £329 to £427 complete.

A *fifth* order harbour light, 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, costs £103 to £195, or £349 complete.

* See "Lighthouse Illumination; being a Description of the Holophotal System," By Thomas Stephenson, F.R.S.E. London, 1859.

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