

wise they would reach the back of the eye without being brought to a point at all.

The reason of this is, that rays of light from small objects, as in letters for example, approach the eye not in parallel lines, but in lines that diverge as they pass into the eye. To converge such lines to a point on the retina requires more focussing power than if they entered the eye in parallel lines.

This focussing power is furnished by a muscle, and when it is brought into use the lens is made more convex or full, and thus a greater focal power is given to the eye.

If we look at distant objects, the muscle relaxes, because the use of the accommodative power is unnecessary; but always in reading, writing, sewing, and every kind of occupation requiring fixation of sight on near objects, this accommodative apparatus is brought into use.

Though involuntary, the accommodation or adjustment of the eyes for near objects is an effort. Hence the relief that comes from looking up and off from near work, so especially grateful to fatigued and sensitive eyes.

Another factor in the act of adjustment of the eyes for near objects is convergence. By this is meant the turning inward of the eyes so that both may be directed to the same object. The convergence of the eyes is also an effort, and is brought about by a muscle on the outside of each eye-ball attached to the white of the eye, on the side