

distance; this I approached nearer and nearer, till I could read the book, when the distance was about 24 feet. Afterwards turning the book, I endeavoured to read by the reflected light, having by a parchment intercepted the part of the light which did not fall on the mirror, in order to have only the reflected light on my book. To do so I was obliged to approach the candle nearer, which I did by degrees, till I could read the same characters clearly by the same light, and then the distance from the candle, comprehending that of the book to the mirror, which was only half a foot, I found to be in all 15 feet. I repeated this several times, and had always nearly the same results; from whence I concluded, that the strength, or quantity, of direct light is to that of reflected light, as 576 to 225; therefore, the light of five candles reflected by a flat glass, is nearly equal to that of the direct light of two.

The light of a candle, therefore, loses more by reflection than by the light of the sun; and this difference proceeds from the rays of the former falling more obliquely on the mirror than the rays of the sun, which come almost parallel. This experiment confirmed what I had at first found, and I hold it certain, that
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