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GEN MSS 664  
Box 56, Folder 1201  
Edwin J. Beinecke Collection of Robert Louis Stevenson  
Series II Manuscripts

Manuscripts by Others  
Stevenson, Thomas  
"First Designs for Condensing Lights" (7326) / undated

4<sup>o</sup> First designs for condensing lights  
 The first design I think occurred to  
 me is shown in fig. When the parallel  
 light from the photophore tube should  
 be made to converge <sup>in a point</sup> to a virtual  
 focus  $f'$  by the refractor  $CC$   
 after which it would diverge over  
 the horizontal sector  $Gf'H$ .  
~~By adjusting the refractor~~  
~~of which the varied in curvature~~  
 so as to vary the angle of convergence  
 & ultimately the divergence. This  
 design satisfies the conditions  
 of the problem so long as it is  
 not essential to spread the  
 light uniformly over the sector  
 $Gf'G$ . But in nearly  
 every case uniformity in  
 distribution is needed.  
 If instead of the simple  
 refractor  $CC$  in fig  
 a number of independent  
 refractors — as in fig — be  
 employed each of which spread  
 the light over the required sector  
 the light incident upon such  
 refractors will obviously be  
 distributed over the desired  
 sector. Such then were the  
 first & the indeed the predominant  
 designs for spreading all the light  
 uniformly over the <sup>sector</sup> angle of illumination.  
 But the same result may be effected  
 by other & more better designed forms  
 of which several examples will be  
 described in a Condensing Instrument



