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Skylight! We usually think of light as coming directly from the sun, but the indirect light received from all portions of the sky is not inconsiderable. When the sun is about 40 degrees high, the light from the sky is about one-quarter of that received directly from the sun itself. This diffused light must of course be added to direct sunlight, and has the same effect as though the sun were higher in the sky when the illumination on a horizontal surface is considered. The great value of skylight is to throw light on all sides of an object, thus softening the shadows. It also prolongs the hours of daylight by giving us the twilight periods at dawn and sunset.