This invention relates to improvements in a combined eye dropper and an eye wash cup.

The principal object of this invention is to provide a means whereby an eye dropper and an eye wash cup can be safely used in a combination for their respective uses whereby an eye dropper may be employed without the danger of in any way hurting the eye ball through accidental contact of the end of the dropper therewith. In this construction the functions of an eye wash cup are still retained.

Another object is to provide means whereby the fluid being used with the eye dropper will not be wasted, through the improper placement of the dropper on the eye.

Another object is to produce a device of this character which is relatively inexpensive and a device which can be readily marketed.

A further object is to produce a device of this character which can be used by an unskilled person, as well as by a doctor.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent during the course of the following description.

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification and in which like numerals are employed to designate like parts throughout the same,

Figure 1 is a side elevation of our improved eye dropper.

Figure 2 is a vertical cross section taken on the line 2—2 of Figure 1.

Figure 3 is a preferred form of our device shown partly in cross-section, and

Figure 4 is a cross-sectional view on the line 4—4 of Figure 1.

At the present time in order to place drops within the eye, a dropper is employed which has a pointed tip and a rubber sac upon its opposite end. The tip is placed within a fluid and drops thereof sucked up into the dropper through the action of the rubber sac. By placing the tip close to the eye ball and depressing upon the rubber sac, drops will be expelled through the tip. However, it is exceedingly difficult to cause these drops to fall upon the eye ball and oftentimes the drops are entirely lost through the fact that the eye winks, at the time the drops are being deposited.

We have accordingly produced a device which is an eye dropper combined with an eye cup in a novel manner, whereby the eye ball is kept exposed and the dropper is so arranged that it cannot injure the eye in any manner and the medicine drop will fall upon the eye ball, thereby eliminating the waste which formerly occurred.

In the accompanying drawings wherein for the purpose of illustration is shown a preferred embodiment of our invention, the numeral 5 designates an eye cup which may be of any desired construction and made of any desired material, the essential feature being that it fits the eye socket, and when placed there-against will seal the eye within the cup.

This cup 5 has an opening 6 in its bottom, and an offset shoulder 7 provided about the opening. This offset shoulder serves to house a gasket 8, which acts as a packing for the shoulder 9 of the dropper tube 11 which has a tip 12 positioned within the cup 5.

A portion of the tube 11 is enlarged and threaded as shown at 13 so that a nut 14 may be screwed thereon for the purpose of tightening the shoulder 9 against the gasket 8.

A rubber sac is shown at 16, which sac functions in the usual manner.

In the modified form of our invention shown in Figure 3, the construction is substantially the same as heretofore described and the same numerals are applied to the major parts thereof.

The principal difference is that the tube 11 is provided with a pair of lugs 17 and 18 which lugs are spaced a short distance from the shoulder 9 and are adapted to pass...
through slots 19 and 21 formed in the bottom of the cup 5.

The result of the above construction is that after the lugs are passed through the slots and the tube 11 rotated, the shoulder 9 will be drawn against the gasket 8 and thus will seal the same together.

In employing our device, when it is desired to place medicine drops from a bottle in the eye the nut 14 is loosened, after which the cup may be moved toward the rubber sac, at which time the dropper may be inserted into the bottle and the medicine sucked up into the dropper through the manipulation of the rubber sac.

By now returning the parts to their normal position it is evident that if the cup 5 is placed over the eye socket, the sides of the cup will hold the lid of the eye in an open position and consequently the drops expelled from the dropper will fall upon the eye ball proper. At the same time, it is apparent that it is impossible for the end of the dropper to in any manner contact the eye ball, with the result that no injury thereto can occur.

It will thus be seen that we have provided a very simple device which will accomplish all of the objects herein set forth, in an efficient manner.

It is to be understood that the forms of our invention herewith shown and described, are to be taken as preferred example of the same and that various changes relative to the shape, size, material and arrangement of parts may be resorted to without departing from the spirit of the invention, or the scope of the subjoined claims.

Having thus described our invention, we claim——

1. In a combined eye dropper and eye wash cup, a cup portion having a conformation adapted to fit the eye socket and being provided with an opening in the base thereof, a sac carrying tube slidably positioned in the opening of the cup and having a shoulder adjacent its end adapted to contact the base of said cup and an adjustable member carried by said tube and positioned thereon exteriorly of said cup, whereby the shoulder of the tube is tightened against the base of said cup.

2. In an eye dropper and eye wash cup, a cup portion having a conformation adapted to fit the eye socket and being provided with an opening in the base thereof, a sac carrying tube slidable in the opening of said cup and having a shoulder formed adjacent its end and being provided with an enlarged exteriorly threaded portion in proximity to the shoulder, and an internally threaded nut adapted to be positioned on the enlarged portion of said tube whereby the shoulder of the tube is tightened against the base of said cup.

3. In an eye dropper a cup portion having a conformation adapted to fit the eye socket, a shoulder formed in said cup and provided with an opening concentrically therein, a tube positioned in said opening and having one end thereof tapered and positioned adjacent the end of the cup portion, a shoulder formed on said tube and adapted to engage a gasket carried in the offset shoulder of said cup portion, and means for causing said shoulder of said tube to engage said gasket.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures.

LOUIE T. LA PAUGH.

ELIZABETH C. SHEA.