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III. *Observations of the late Total Eclipse of the Sun on the 22d of April last past, made before the Royal Society at their House in Crane-Court in Fleet-street, London. By Dr. Edmund Halley, Reg. Soc. Secr. With an Account of what has been communicated from abroad concerning the same.*

**T**Hough it be certain from the Principles of Astronomy, that there happens necessarily a Central Eclipse of the Sun in some part or other of the Terraqueous Globe, about Twenty Eight times in each Period of Eighteen Years; and that of these no less than Eight do pass over the Parallel of *London*, Three of which Eight are Total with continuance: yet, from the great Variety of the Elements whereof the *Calculus* of Eclipses consists, it has so happened that since the 20th of *March, Anno Christi 1140*, I cannot find that there has been such a thing as a Total Eclipse of the Sun seen at *London*, though in the mean time the Shade of the Moon has often past over other Parts of *Great Britain*.

The Novelty of the thing being likely to excite a general Curiosity, and having found, by comparing what had been formerly observed of Solar Eclipses, that the whole Shadow would fall upon *England*, I thought it a very proper Opportunity to get the Dimensions of the Shade ascertained by Observation; and accordingly I caused a small Map of *England*, describing the Track and Bounds thereof, to be dispersed all over the Kingdom, with a Request to the Curious to observe what they could



could about it, but more especially to note the Time of Continuance of total Darkneſs, as requiring no other Inſtrument than a *Pendulum Clock* with which moſt Perſons are furniſh'd, and as being determinable with the utmoſt Exaċtneſs, by reaſon of the momentaneous Occultation and Emerſion of the luminous Edge of the Sun, whoſe leaſt part makes Day. Nor has this Adverſement failed of the deſired Effect, for the Heavens having proved generally favourable, we have received from ſo many Places ſo good Accounts, that they fully answer all our Expectations, and are ſufficient to eſtabliſh ſeveral of the Elements of the *Calculus* of Eclipses, ſo as for the future we may more ſecurely rely on our Predictions; though it muſt be granted, that in this our Astronomy has loſt no Credit.

The Day of the Eclipse approaching, I received the Orders of the Society to provide for the Obſervation to be made at their Houſe in *Crane-Court*, and accordingly I procured a *Quadrant* of near 30 Inches *Radius*, exceedingly well fixt with Telescope Sights, and moved with Screws ſo as to follow the Sun with great Nicety; as alſo a very good *Pendulum Clock* well adjusted to the mean Time, and ſeveral Telescopes to accomodate the more Obſervers.

In order to examine both Clock and Quadrant, I, on the 20th of *April*, obſerved the Diſtance of the upper Limb of the Sun from the Zenith  $36^{\circ}.16'$ , and the next Day  $35^{\circ}.58'$ ; by which it appeared that the Diſtances from the *Zenith* taken by this Quadrant ought to be encreaſed by about one Minute: and that Allowance being made, by ſeveral Obſervations taken before and after Noon on the ſaid 21ſt Day. the Clock was found to answer the apparent Time or Hour of the Sun with ſufficient Exaċtneſs, as not going above 10" too faſt. The next Day *April* 22<sup>o</sup>, juſt before the Eclipse began, we took three Diſtances of the Sun from the Zenith, *viz.* at 7<sup>h</sup>. 42'. 52". A. M. the  
correct

correct Distance of the Sun's Center à *vertice* was  $62^{\circ}.1'.40''$ . At  $7^{\text{h}}.45'.48''$ . it was  $61^{\circ}.34'.40''$ . And again at  $7^{\text{h}}.48'.55''$  it was  $61^{\circ}.6'.40''$ : which with the given Declination of the Sun and Latitude of the Place shew the true Times respectively to have been  $7^{\text{h}}.42'.38''$ ,  $7^{\text{h}}.45'.35''$ . and  $7^{\text{h}}.48'.39''$ : all concurring that the Clock was only 14 Seconds too fast, and had gained scarce any thing sensible in a Day's time: so that it might be entirely depended upon during the Continuance of the Eclipse.

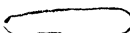
Having computed that the Eclipse would begin at  $8^{\text{h}}.7'$ , I attended soon after Eight with a very good Telescope of about Six Foot, without stirring my Eye from that part of the Sun wherewith the Eclipse was to begin: and at  $8^{\text{h}}.6'.20''$ . by the Clock, I began to perceive a small Depression made in the Sun's Western Limb, which immediately became more conspicuous; so that I concluded the just Beginning not to have been above five Seconds sooner; that is, exactly at  $8^{\text{h}}.6'.00''$  correct Time.

From this time the Eclipse advanced, and by Nine of the Clock was about Ten Digits, when the Face and Colour of the Sky began to change from perfect serene azure blew, to a more dusky livid Colour having an eye of Purple intermixt, and grew darker and darker till the total Imersion of the Sun, which hapened at  $9^{\text{h}}.9'.17''$ . by the Clock, or  $9^{\text{h}}.9'.3''$ . true time. This Moment was determinable with great nicety, the Sun's light being extinguish'd at once; and yet more so was that of the Emerfion, for the Sun came out in an Instant with so much Lustre that it surprized the Beholders, and in a Moment restored the Day, *viz.* at  $9^{\text{h}}.12'.26''$ . true time, after he had been totally obscured for  $3', 23''$  of Time. And as near as I could estimate the Points on the Moon's Limb; where the last Particle of the Sun vanished was about the middle of the *South East* Quadrant of her Limb, or about 45 Degrees from her *Nadir* to the Left-Hand: And the first  
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Emerſion was about Ten Degrees below the Horizontal Line through the Moon's Center on the Weſt ſide ; and at 14 Minutes paſt Nine, correct Time, I judged the Horns of the Eclipse to have been exactly perpendicular, and by conſequence, the Centers of the Sun and Moon to be in equal Altitude.

It was univerſally remarked, that when the laſt part of the Sun remained on his Eaſt ſide, it grew very faint, and was eaſily ſupportable to the naked Eye, even through the Teſticle, for above a Minute of Time before the total Darkneſs; whereas on the contrary, my Eye could not endure the Splendour of the emerging Beams in the Teſticle from the firſt Moment. To this perhaps two Cauſes concurred ; the one, that the Pupil of the Eye did neceſſarily dilate it ſelf during the Darkneſs, which before had been much contracted by looking on the Sun. The other, that the Eaſtern parts of the Moon, having been heated with a Day near as long as Thirty of ours, could not fail of having that part of its Atmosphere replete with Vapours, raiſed by the ſo long continued action of the Sun ; and by conſequence it was more denſe near the Moons Surface, and more capable of obſtructing the Luſtre of the Sun's Beams. Whereas at the ſame time the Weſtern Edge of the Moon had ſuffered as long a Night, during which there might fall in Dews all the Vapours that were raiſed in the preceding long Day ; and for that reaſon, that part of its Atmosphere might be ſeen much more pure and transparent. But from whatever cauſe it proceeded, the thing it ſelf was very manifeſt and noted by every one.

About two Minutes before the Total Immerſion, the remaining part of the Sun was reduced to a very fine Horn, whoſe Extremities ſeemed to loſe their Acutenefs, and to become round like Stars. And for the Space of about a Quarter of a Minute, a ſmall Piece of the Southern Horn  
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of the Eclipse seemed to be cut off from the rest by a good interval, and appeared like an oblong Star rounded at both Ends, in this Form : which Appearance could proceed from no other Cause but the Inequalities of the Moon's Surface, there being some elevated parts thereof near the Moon's Southern Pole, by whose Interposition part of that exceedingly fine Filament of Light was intercepted.

A few Seconds before the Sun was all hid, there discovered it self round the Moon a luminous Ring, about a Digit or perhaps a tenth Part of the Moons Diameter in Breadth. It was of a pale whiteness or rather Pearl colour, seeming to me a little tinged with the Colours of the *Iris*, and to be concentrick with the Moon, whence I concluded it the Moon's Atmosphere. But the great height thereof far exceeding that of our Earth's Atmosphere; and the Observations of some, who found the Breadth of the Ring to encrease on the West Side of the Moon, as the Emerfion approached; together with the contrary Sentiments of those whose Judgment I shall always revere, makes me less confident, especially in a Matter whereto, I must confess, I gave not all the Attention requisite.

Whatever it was, this Ring appeared much brighter and whiter near the Body of the Moon than at a Distance from it; and its outward Circumference, which was ill defined, seemed terminated only by the extream Rarity of the Matter it was composed of; and in all Respects resembled the Appearance of an enlightned Atmosphere viewed from far: but whether it belonged to the Sun or Moon I shall not at present undertake to decide.

During the whole time of the Total Eclipse I kept my Telescope constantly fixt on the Moon, in order to observe what might occur in this uncommon Appearance: and I found that there were perpetual Flashes or Coruscations of Light, which seemed for a Moment to dart out

from behind the Moon, now here, now there, on all Sides; but more especially on the Western Side a little before the Emerfion: And about two or three Seconds before it, on the fame Western Side where the Sun was juft coming out, a long and very narrow Streak of a dusky but strong Red Light feemed to colour the dark Edge of the Moon; tho' nothing like it had been feen immediately after the Immerfion. But this instantly vanifhed upon the firft Appearance of the Sun, as did alfo the aforefaid luminous Ring.

As to the Degree of Darknefs, it was fuch that one might have expected to have feen many more Stars than I find were feen at *London*: The three Planets, *Jupiter*, *Mercury* and *Venus* were all that were feen by the Gentlemen of the Society from the Top of their Houfe, where they had a free Horizon: and I do not hear that any one in Town faw more than *Capella* and *Aldebaran* of the Fixed Stars. Nor was the Light of the Ring round the Moon capable of effacing the Luftre of the Stars, for it was vastly inferiour to that of the full Moon, and fo weak that I did not obferve that it caft a Shade. But the under Parts of the Hemisphere, efppecially in the *South East*, under the Sun, had a crepufcular brightnefs: and all round us, fo much of the Segment of our Atmosphere as was above the Horizon and was without the Cone of the Moon's Shadow, was more or lefs enlightened by the Sun's Beams: and its Reflection gave a diffufed Light which made the Air feem hazey, and hindred the Appearance of the Stars. And that this was the real Cause thereof, appears by the Darknefs being more perfect in thofe Places near which the Center of the Shade paff, where many more Stars were feen, and in fome not lefs than Twenty; though the Light of the Ring was to all alike.

During the Time whilft the Sun recovered his Light, feveral Altitudes were taken to examine the Regularity of the

the Clock's Motion ; and though the Sun now rose much slower than at the beginning, yet they all conspired within a very few Seconds that the Clock went still one Quarter of a Minute too fast. And the End of the Eclipse approaching, I attended the Moment thereof with all the Care I could, and concluded the compleat Separation of the Sun and Moon at  $10^{\text{h.}} 20'. 15''$ . by the Clock, or exactly  $10^{\text{h.}} 20'$ . correct time.

Hitherto I exhibit only what my self saw, but there were with us a great many of the Members of the Society ; and the Right Honourable the *Earl of Abingdon* and the Lord Chief Justice *Parker* were of the Number : the latter of which shewed an uncommon Curiosity and Desire of Exactness, his Lordship doing us the Honour to assist at most of the Observations made for determining the Error of the Clock ; and did himself, at the Moment of the Emerision from total Darkness, observe the Distance of the Planet *Jupiter* from the Zenith  $48^{\circ}. 29'$ . by which the Time thereof is verified.

There were also present several foreign Gentlemen, and among them *Monfieur le Chevalier de Louville* and *Mr. Monmort*, both of them Members of the *Royal Academy of Sciences at Paris* : the first whereof came purposely to observe this Eclipse with us, and having seen the Beginning applyed himself to take Digits with his Micrometer, and to observe the Occultations of three Spots at that time seen in the Sun ; and he was pleased to communicate the following Notes, *viz.*

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| At | 8 | 28 | 20 | Four Digits were Eclipsed.                  |
|    | 8 | 32 | 57 | The First and bigger Spot touched the Moon. |
|    | 8 | 33 | 18 | The same was wholly hid.                    |
|    | 8 | 34 | 08 | The first of the two lesser Spots was hid.  |
|    | 8 | 34 | 58 | The Second of them was hid.                 |

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- At 9. 36. 01 Emerfion of the greater Spot.  
 9. 38. 26 Emerfion of the first leffer Spot.  
 9. 40. 25 Emerfion of the fecond leffer Spot.  
 10. 20. 04 The End of the Eclipse.

And he determined the time of the total Darknefs 3'. 22", or one Second lefs than by my Account.

The Heavens were all the while very propitious to us, and there was very little or no Wind, and not fo much as one Cloud interrupted our View from the Beginning to the End; but no fooner was the Eclipse over, but a great Body of Clouds hid the Sun for many Hours after.

Thefe Obfervations having been made with all the Care we could, are not, 'tis hoped, far from the Truth.

What we have received from other Places is as follows,

The Reverend Mr. *James Pound* Rector of *Wansted* in *Effex* and R. S. S. gives the following Account of the principal Phænomena obferved there; he being furnifh'd with very curious Inſtruments, and well skill'd in the Matter of Obfervation, and having rectified his Clock by feveral Altitudes of the Sun taken both before and after, *viz.*

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- At 8. 6. 37 The Eclipse firft perceived.  
 9. 9. 28 The Total Immerfion.  
 9. 12. 48 The Emerfion.  
 10. 20. 32 The juft End of the Eclipse.  
 6. 3. 20 The Continuance of total Darknefs.

The near Agreement of this Obfervation with our own (the Difference being only what is due to the Difference of our Meridians) makes us the lefs folicitous for what was noted at the *Royal Obfervatory* at *Greenwich*, from whence we can only learn that the Duration of Total Darknefs was 3'. 11".

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The Reverend Mr. *William Derham* Rector of *Upminster* in *Essex* and *Reg. Soc. Sod.* assisted by *Samuel Molyneux* Esq; Secretary to his *Royal Highness* the *Prince*, and other Persons of Quality, made the following Observations there, which he has lately communicated, *viz,*

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| At 8. | 7.  | 41 | The Eclipse began.   |
| 8.    | 33. | 46 | The Moon touched the greater Spot.                                   |
| 8.    | 34. | 36 | She touched the middle Spot.   |
| 8.    | 35. | 41 | She touched the third Spot.  |
| 9.    | 10. | 58 | The total Darkness began on a sudden, and <i>Aldebaran</i> appeared, |
| 9.    | 14. | 6  | The Emerfion or End of total Darknefs.                               |
| 9.    | 3.  | 8  | Continuance of total Darknefs.                                       |
| 9.    | 42. | 41 | The third and last Spot discovered.                                  |
| 10.   | 21. | 45 | The End of the Eclipse, by a $13\frac{1}{2}$ Foot Glafs.             |

And a little before the Beginning of the Eclipse, he found the greater and preceding Spot to be more Northerly than the Sun's Center  $373\frac{1}{2}$  such Parts as the Sun's Diameter was 1647, and that it followed his Western Limb  $0'.43''$  of Time: by which *data* the Situation of that Spot is well determined.

Our Professors of Astronomy in both Universities were not so fortunate: My worthy Colleague Dr. *John Keill* by reason of Clouds saw nothing distinctly at *Oxford* but the End, which he observed at *10h. 15'. 10''*. As to the total Darknefs, he could only estimate it by the sudden Change of the Light of the Sky; and reckoned its Continuance but  $3'. 30''$ ; which was certainly too little, the Center of the Shadow having without doubt past very near *Oxford*. And the Reverend Mr. *Roger Cotes* at *Cambridge* had the misfortune to be oppress'd by too much Company, so that, though the Heavens were very favourable, yet he mis'd both the time of the Beginning of the Eclipse and that of total

total Darknefs. But he observed the Occultations of the three Spots, *viz.* of the first and greateft at 8<sup>h</sup>. 34'. 11". of the fecond at 8<sup>h</sup>. 35'. 15", and of the laft at 8<sup>h</sup>. 36'. 55". He noted alfo the End of total Darknefs at 9<sup>h</sup>. 14'. 37", and the exact End of the Eclipse at 10<sup>h</sup>. 21'. 57".

We have received feveral Accounts from fome Places which lay near the Track of the Center of the Shade, and which might have been very proper to determine the greateft Continuance of the Darknefs; as from *Plymouth, Exeter, Weymouth, Daventry, Northampton* and *Lynn regis*, all agreeing that the whole Sun was obfcured at thofe Places full four Minutes, and at fome of them rather more. But thefe Observers give us no Account how they meafured this Time, and therefore it may well be fuppofed they took it in a round Number, and perhaps from pocket Minute-Watches. What I think may beft be relied on for this Purpofe, are two correfponding Observations made, the one at *Barton near Kettering* in *Northamptonshire*, where by the Observation of *John Bridges* Efq; Treasurer of his Majesty's Revenue of Excife, and R. S. S. with a good Pendulum-Clock and all due Care, the whole Sun was hid no more than 3'. 53". The other was by Mr. *John Whitefide*, A. M. Keeper of the *Afhmolean Museum* at *Oxford*, and a skillful Mathematician, who obferved after the fame manner, at *King's-Walden* in *Hertfordshire* near *Hitchin*, that the total Eclipse continued but 3'. 52". Hence it follows that the Center of the Shade paff near the middle between thefe two Places, which are but 30 Geographical Miles afunder, and fitate near at right Angles to the Way of the Shade, and therefore that the total Obfcurity, where longeft, could laft but about 3'. 57", or perhaps a fecond or two more at *Lynn* and lefs at *Plymouth*: the Velocity of the Progreff of the Shade gradually decreasing, and its Diameter encreafing as it paff on to the Eaftwards. And this Situation of the middle Line is confirmed by an Observa-  
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tion made at the Seat of the Right Honourable the Lord *Foley* at *Witley* eight Miles beyond *Worcester*, by his Order, and communicated by his Lordship to the Royal Society; whereby it appears that the total Darkness lasted there 3'. 15". Hence it follows that *Witley* was about three or 4 Miles farther from the Center of the Shade on the North-side than *London* on the South; and *Witley* being by *Ogilby's* Mensurations, 118 measured Miles from *London*, it is plain that the Center past over *Islip*, which is, by the same Ad-measurement, 57 such Miles on that Road, and about five Miles almost due North from *Oxford*; so that the Center of the Shade left *Oxford* but very little upon the right Hand. This Situation agrees perfectly well with the former between *Barton* and *King's Walden*, and as far as the Geography of our Country may be relied on, I conclude the Center to have entred upon *England* about *Plymouth*, and to have past over *Exeter*, the *Devizes*, *Islip*, *Buckingham* and *Huntington*, leaving *Oxford* and *Bedford* on the Right, and *Lynn* on the Left, and to have quitted the Coast of *Norfolk* about *Wells* and *Blakeney*.

As for the Limits of the Shade, both on the North and South side, we have by Enquiry gotten them with all the Exactness the thing is capable of, and we should have been glad the *French Astronomers* had done the like for the Total Eclipse that past over *Languedoc*, *Provence* and *Dauphiny* on the First of *May* 1706. But as this is the first Eclipse of this kind that has been observed with the Attention the Dignity of the Phænomenon requires, we hope those which may happen for the future to traverse *Europe*, may not pass by so little regarded as hitherto.

As to the Southern Limit or Term where the Eclipse ceased to be Total on the South side of the Sun. we have received an Account of an Observation made at *Norton-court* about Ten Miles on this side *Canterbury*, by the Reverend Dr. *John Harris*, S. T. P. Prebendary of *Rochester*  
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and R. S. S. assisted by that accurate Observer Mr. *Stephen Gray*; by which we learn that the Eclipse began there at 8<sup>h</sup>. 8'. 55". and ended at 10<sup>h</sup>. 24'. 47"; and that the Total Darkness continued but about one Minute or rather less, the middle thereof being at 9<sup>h</sup>. 13'. 52". From this Duration it will follow that *Norton-court* was but about 3 or 4 Miles within the Shade. And that it was really so is confirmed by the Relation of the Inhabitants of *Bocton*, about Midway between *Norton-court* and *Canterbury*, who assured Mr. *Gray*, as he was returning home that same Day, that the Eclipse was not Total there, but, as one of them express it, before the Sun had quite lost his Light on the East-side he recovered it on the West: and that there was a small Light left on the lower part of the Sun that appeared like a Star. And from *Cranbrook* in *Kent*, we are informed, by the Relation of the curious *William Tempest* Esq; R. S. S. that he observed there the Sun to be extinguished but for a Moment, and instantly to emerge again: So that the Limit past exactly over this Town, which is about 38 Geographical Miles from *London*, and very near the right Angle where the Perpendicular from *London* falls on the Line of the Limit, being 3'. 00 of Time to the Eastwards of *London* in the Latitude of 51°. 6', as near as I can gather.

How it past over *Suffex* we have not so authentick Relations, but have learnt that it was Total at *Wadhurst* beyond *Tunbridge-wells*, as also for some short time at *Lewis*; but that it was not so at *Brightling*, which Place being situated on an Eminence that has a commanding Prospect, all the Country to the Northward was seen in Darkness, whilst they there had some Benefit of a small Remainder of the Sun.

From these Observations we may conclude that this Limit came upon the Coast of *England*, about the middle between *Newhaven* and *Brightelmston* in *Suffex*, and passing by

by *Cranbrook* and *Boston*, left *Canterbury* about 4 Miles on the Right hand, and quitted the Coast of *Kent*, not far from *Hern* toward the antient *Regulbium*, now called *Reculver*. So that it seems scarce one third part of *Kent*, and not so much of *Suffex*, out of all the South Coast of *Great-Britain*, escaped being involved in this Darkness.

The Northern Limit, having past over a much greater Space, has had more Observers, and is not less curiously determined than the other. We find by the Account given by the Reverend Mr. *Roger Proffer*, Rector of *Haverford-West*, that the Eclipse was total there a Minute and half, whence it follows that *Haverford* was but about 6 Miles within the Limit; and therefore that it entred on *Pembrokeshire* about the middle of *St. Brides Bay*, leaving *St. David's* and *Cardigan* on the left Hand: and having traversed those two Counties and *Montgomery-shire*, it entred on *Shropshire*, leaving the Town of *Shrewsbury* 1'. 40". in the Shadow, as was observed there by Dr. *Hollings*: whereby it appears that *Shrewsbury* was about 8 Miles within the Limit. Thence it proceeded by the East-side of *Cheshire*, leaving *Whitchurch* and *Nantwich* a very little without; and passing by *Congleton* went over the Peak of *Darbyshire* into *Yorkshire*, and cross the great Northern Road between *Pontefract* and *Doncaster*, somewhat nearer the former than the latter. For by the Observations of that curious Gentleman *Theophilus Shelton* Esq; at *Darrington* about two Miles on this side *Pontefract*, (in Lat. 53°. 40' and Long. West from *London* 4'. 40". of time, as may be concluded from *Norwood's* Measure of a Degree) the Sun at 9<sup>h</sup>. 11'. was reduced almost to a Point, which both in Colour and Size resembled the Planet *Mars*; but whilst he watched for the Total Eclipse, that Point grew bigger and the Darkness diminished; whence he argued the Limit to have been very little more Southerly. And since he has been informed that it was just Total in *Barnsdale*, three Miles South from thence.

And that it was so at *Badsworth* about the same Distance from *Darrington*, we are told by a Letter of the Reverend and Learned Mr. *Daubuz*, that he has a certain Account from that Place, that the luminous Ring round the Moon was seen there, which was no where visible but while the Eclipse was Total. From these *Data* we may securely determine the Remainder of this Track, and that the Edge of the Shadow having past over the rest of *Torkshire* went off to Sea about *Flamborough* head.

So that of the forty Counties into which *England* is subdivided, only the five most Northerly have not had the Sun wholly hid from them ; and six others have escaped but in part, viz. *Shropshire*, *Cheshire* and *Torkshire*, and the extream part of *Darbyshire* on the *North*, and *Kent* and *Sussex* on the *South* ; all the rest of the Kingdom having more or less suffered an Interval of Total Darkness.

I shall not at present consider this Eclipse as universal, but only as it related to *England* ; and it shall suffice to say, that the Shadow came out of the *Atlantick* Ocean, having past over the Islands *Azores* ; and that the Southern Limit thereof reach'd the Isle of *Ushant*, and the Northwest Coasts of *Britanny* between *Brest* and *Morlaix* ; and dividing our Islands of *Guernsey* and *Jersey*, just touch'd upon the Promontory of *Normandy* called *Cape de Hague*. And that after it had quitted *England* and traversed the *German* Ocean, it fell on *Jutland* on the Southside, and *Norway* on the *North* ; and thence proceeded to the Eastwards over *Sweden*, *Finland*, &c.

It remains now to consider the Figure, Position, Direction, Velocity and Magnitude of the Shadow at is past over us. And first as to the Figure, 'tis obvious that the Shadow of the Moon being a Cone and the Earth's Surface sufficiently Spherical, the apparent Shadow on the Earth will be the common Interfection of a Cone and Sphere, which is a Figure hitherto little considered by Geometers ;  
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and not being *in Plano* is not to be exactly described but in the Spherical or Conical Surface. How to find the Points of this Curve in all Cases is taught by *P. Courcier*, in a very scarce Latin Book printed at *Dijon* in *Burgundy*, and published at *Paris* in the Year 1663 : nor do I hear of any other Author that has handled the same Subject since, though capable and worthy of further Improvement. By what he there delivers, *Prop. 11. 12. Lib. I.* it will be easily understood, that the Convexity of so small a part of the Earths Surface as the Shadow commonly occupies, can produce but an inconsiderable Effect ; so that without sensible Error we may take it for a Plain, and the Section for a true *Apollonian Ellipsis*, whose transverse *Axis*, by reason of the smallness of the Angle of the Cone, will be to its Conjugate nearly as *Radius* to the *Sine* of the Sun's Altitude at its Center, especially if he be considerably elevated. But when he is near the Horizon, it will be necessary to have regard to the true Figure, by reason of the great Length to which the Transverse Axe is extended, and particularly when the Shade is entring upon or leaving the Earth's Disk. Of these perhaps a fuller Account may be given upon a further occasion.

As to the Position of the *Axis* of the Shadow, it is manifest that it must always lie in the Plane of a great Circle of the Earth passing through the *Axis* of the Cone of the Shade : and therefore it will be only requisite to obtain the Azimuth and Altitude of the Sun at the Place where the Center of the Shade at any time is found, to determine the Situation of the Axe and *Species* of the Ellipse required. Thus the middle of the Eclipse at *London* having been observed at  $9^{\text{h}}. 10'. 45''$ , by the given Latitude and Declination we find his Azimuth about  $59^{\circ}. 00'$ . and Altitude  $40^{\circ}. 46'$ . that is just 40 Degrees high at the Center of the Shadow. Wherefore the Transverse Axe of the Ellipse was to its Conjugate very near as *Rad.* to the *Sine* of  $40^{\circ}$ ,

or as 1000 to 64; *proximè*; and did make an Angle of  $59^{\circ}$ , or very little more, with the Meridian passing at that time through the Center of the Shade.

Next the Direction and the Velocity of the Motion wherewith the Center of the Shade past over *England* comes to be considered, wherein the Reader is to be told that the Shadow passes in a very compound Curve, which, as the former, is not *in plano*, and only describable on the Surface of the Sphere: nor is its Motion equable, but compounded of very many Elements producing a great Variety. By what Method its Points, and its Tangents in those Points, are to be obtained, I reserve to the next Opportunity, this Account being designed for the Curious in general: only I must acquaint them, that for so small a part of the Curve as went over *England*, it may be esteemed a right Line, with more Exactness than we usually find in most of our Geographical Charts. And the like may be said for the Velocity, which, though in our present Instance it was continually decreasing, may, for so short a time, be supposed to have been the same without sensible Error.

By a careful Calculation I have determined the Velocity of the Motion, at the Time of the Middle of the Eclipse at *London*, to have been 29 Geographical Miles in a Minute of Time *quam proximè*: and that its Way made an Angle of  $52^{\circ}.45'$  with the Meridian towards the Eastwards of the North; wherefore the said Way made an Angle with the Axis of the Ellipsis of  $68^{\circ}.15'$ . And the greatest Duration of Total Darkness having been  $3',57''$ , (as was before shewn) it will follow, that that Diameter of the Elliptick Figure according to which the Shade past, was no less than  $114\frac{1}{2}$  Geogr. Miles. And from the Elements of the Conicks 'tis easy to be proved, that supposing the Figure of the Shade a true Ellipse, whose Axes are as *Radius* to the *sine* of 40 Degrees, the greater Axis would be 171 Geographical Miles, and the lesser 110; and the nearest distance between the Limits supposed Parallel 164 such Miles.

And



And this Length of the *Axis* of the Shade, derived purely from the Continuance of Total Darkness, is fully confirmed by the observed Distance of the Parallel Limits; the one passing by *Badsworth* in *Yorkshire*, the other by *Cranbrook* in *Kent*. For by the two Latitudes  $53^{\circ} 37'$  and  $51^{\circ} 6'$ , with the Difference of Longitude  $7'$  and  $40''$  of Time, or  $1^{\circ} 55'$ , the Distance of these two Places is given  $166\frac{1}{2}$  Geogr. Miles; with the mean Angle of Position 25 Degrees from the North Westwards; wherefore this Arch makes an Angle with the Track of the Shade of  $77^{\circ}\frac{1}{4}$ : and hence the nearest Distance of the Parallels becomes 163 such Miles, which by the other Way was found 164.

If therefore we conclude the *Axis* of the Shadow, when the Sun was just 40 Degrees high, to have extended over  $2^{\circ} 50'$  of a great Circle, we may securely determine the Difference of the Sun and Moon's Diameters at this time. For the Difference of the Horizontal Parallaxes of the Sun and Moon being found to be  $60'. 38''$ . (as shall be hereafter shewn, but is not required with extream exactness for this Purpose) the Difference of the Parallaxes in Altitude at both Ends of the Axis, will be found to be  $1'. 56''$ ; and by so much did the Diameter of the Moon when forty Degrees high exceed that of the Sun: Hence the Horizontal Diameter of the Moon in this Anomaly is found  $33'. 27''$ , which may serve for a Rule in all other Cases.

I forbear to mention the *Chill* and *Damp* which attended the Darkness of this Eclipse, of which most Spectators were sensible, and equally Judges. Nor shall I trouble you with the Concern that appear'd in all Sorts of Animals, *Birds*, *Beasts* and *Fishes* upon the Extinction of the Sun, since our selves could not behold it without some sense of Horror.

Lastly, I have added the following *Synopsis* of such Observations as have hitherto come to my Hands; acknowledging the Favour of all those, who have been willing to promote our Endeavours to perfect the Doctrine of Eclipses.

| Place                     | Observer      | Beginn. | Immerf. | Emerf.      | Tot.   | End.     |
|---------------------------|---------------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|----------|
|                           |               | h. . "  | h. . "  | h. . "      | h. . " | h. . "   |
| Barton                    | M. Bridges    |         |         |             | 3.53   |          |
| Bell-bar                  | M. Jones      | 8. 6.25 | 9. 9.45 | 9.13.27     | 3.42   |          |
| Broadway }<br>Carmarth. } |               |         | 8.47.00 | 8.49.30     | 2.30   |          |
| Cambridge                 | M. Cotes      |         |         | 9.14.37     |        | 10.21.57 |
| Canterbury                | M. Gray       | 8.10.00 |         |             |        | 10.24.30 |
| Chester                   | M. Ward       | 7.57.40 |         |             |        | 10. 6.35 |
| Crew                      | M. Wright.    |         | 9. 2. 8 |             | 2.00   | 10. 9.00 |
| Dublin                    | L. Arch Bish. | 7.42.11 |         |             |        | 9.49.40  |
| Dublin                    | M. Hawkins    | 7.41.30 |         |             |        | 9.48.45  |
| Exon                      | L. Bishop     |         | 8.55. 0 | 8.59. 0     | 4.00   | 10. 0.00 |
| Exon                      | M. Hudson     | 7.47.30 |         |             | 3.30   | 10. 0.30 |
| Greenwich                 | M. Flamsteed  |         |         |             | 3.11   |          |
| King's Wald.              | M. Whitfide   |         |         |             | 3.52   |          |
| Llanidan }<br>Anglesey }  | M. Rowland    | 7.52.30 |         |             |        |          |
| London                    | R. Society    | 8. 6 00 | 9. 9. 3 | 9.12.26     | 3.23   | 10.20.00 |
| Northampt.                | M. Hawkins    |         | 9. 5.22 | 9. 9.24     | 4. 2   | 10.15.35 |
| Norton-court              | D. Harris     | 8. 8.55 | 9.13.23 | 9.14.22     | 0.59   | 10.24.47 |
| Oxon                      | D. Keill      |         |         |             | 3.30   | 10.15.10 |
| Paris                     | R. Academy    | 8.11.00 |         |             |        | 10.28.00 |
| Plymouth                  | M. Heines     | 7.41.00 | 8.45.30 | 8.50.00     | 4.30   | 9.54.30  |
| Portchester               | C. Candler    |         | 9. 2.25 | 9. 6.15     | 3.50   |          |
| Salop                     | D. Hollings   | 7.58. 0 |         |             | 1.40   | 10. 6.00 |
| Upminster                 | M. Derham     | 8. 7.41 | 9.10.58 | 9.14. 63. 8 |        | 10.21.45 |
| Wansted                   | M. Pound      | 8. 6.37 | 9. 9.28 | 9.12.48     | 3.20   | 10.20.32 |
| Weymouth                  | M. Hobbs      |         | 8.54.00 | 8.58.00     | 4.00   |          |
| Witley                    | M. Baxter     | 7.59. 0 |         |             | 3.15   | 10.13.00 |