

the red Matter had been then consumed, put an End to the Phænomenon before Eight.

During the rest of the Evening, a pale Light covered the South Part of the Heavens, as if the Moon had shone.

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V. *A Letter from Mr. Christopher Maire to the President, containing Observations made at Rome of the Eclipse of the Moon, Dec. 23. 1749; and of that of the Sun, Jan. 8. 1750.*

*Honour'd Sir,*

Read Febr. 1. 1749. **I** Herewith send you my Observation of the two late Eclipses, to be communicated, if you please, to the Royal Society. The 23d of *December*, on which happened that of the Moon, was so boisterous a Day, that I despair'd of being able to see it, and for that Reason neglected to put my Micrometer in Order. My Clock had likewise been altered without my Knowledge, on which Account I betook myself too late to the Observation, as will appear by the following Detail. The Place of both Observations is in the Latitude of  $41^{\circ} 54' 0''$ . four Seconds of Time Eastward of *St. Peter's*. For I take  
it

it for granted that the *Thermæ Dioclesianæ* are, according to *Bianchini's* Determination, in the Latitude of  $41^{\circ} 54' 27''$ .

Eclipse of the Moon, *Dec. 23. 1749.*

Chord of the Part eclipsed 13 Min. as was			
deduc'd from the Map of the Moon	-	7 <sup>h</sup>	47' 18''
Hence Beginning of the Eclipse	-	7	40 53
The Shade to <i>Tycho</i> and <i>Capuanus</i>	-	7	54 3
<i>Tycho</i> intirely covered	- - -	7	55 56
Shade to <i>Fracastorius</i>	- - -	8	28 43
<i>Fracastorius</i> quite hid	- - -	8	30 24
<i>Tycho</i> intirely disengaged	- - -	9	30 24
End of the Eclipse, as far as could be			
perceiv'd thro' a thin Cloud	- -	10	0 16

I judg'd the Eclipse to be somewhat less than five Digits.

Solar Eclipse, *Jan. 8. 1750.*

Beginning by a Reflector of Mr. <i>Short,</i>			
<i>Jan. 7.</i>	- - - - -	20 <sup>h</sup>	34' 35''
The first Spot covered	- - - - -	20	49 50
The rest could not be observed for the			
Clouds	- - - - -		
Quantity of the Eclipse 7 Dig. 48. Min.		21	49 4
Again more exactly	- 7 - 43 -	21	51 28
The Sun appears for a <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Moment; Horns			
nearly horizontal	∴ ∴ ∴	21	56 15

Two

Two Digits remain eclipsed	=	=	22 <sup>h</sup> 55' 37"
One Digit exactly	-	-	23 3 42
End of the Eclipse	=	-	23 11 32

The Observation was made with a 7 Foot Tube, 2610 Parts of the Micrometer just clasping the Sun's Diameter.

I am, with all possible Respect,

Honoured Sir,

Rome, Jan. 14. 1750.

*Your most Obedient  
Humble Servant*

CHRISTOPHER MAIRE.

VI. *Some Observations on the Dragon-Fly or Libella of Pensilvania, collected from Mr. John Bartram's Letters, communicated by Peter Collinson, F. R. S.*

Read Feb. 1.  
1749-50.

**A** Bout the Beginning of *May* I observed many deformed Water-Insects, by Naturalists called *Hexipodes*, creep up out of the Water, and fix themselves on the Shrubs and Rushes; in this Situation they continue but a few Hours before their Back splits open; and from this deformed Case creeps out a beautiful Fly, with shining transparent Wings: