## [ 182 ]

The diameter of the fun, in a horizontal direction, was measured just after the transit, and found to be

= 31'30.8''.

The clock at Savile-House was several times compared with my clock in Surry-Street, from Friday evening, the 5th June, to Monday evening, the 8th June; so that I am as sure of the time at Savile-House, as if the observation had been made at my house in Surry-Street.

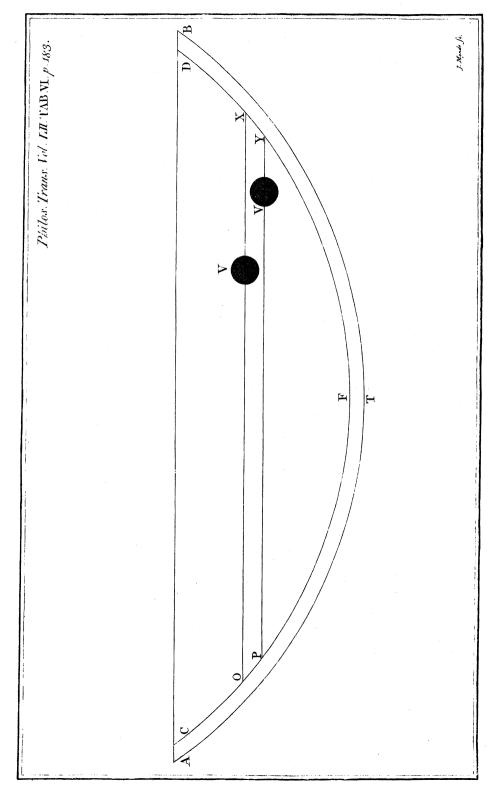
Ta. Short.

XXXIV. Observations on the Transit of Venus, June the 6th, 1761, made in Spital-Square; the Longitude of which is 4' 11" West of the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, and the Latitude 51° 31' 15" North; by John Canton, M. A. and F. R. S.

Read Nov. 5, Aving measured the diameter of Venus, on the sun, three times, with the object-glass micrometer, the mean was found to be 58 seconds; and but  $\frac{6}{10}$  of a second, the difference of the extremes \*.

<sup>\*</sup> With the same micrometer, the diameter of Venus was meafured, off the sun, twelve times, March the 29th, 1758, about noon; and the mean was 1' 1" 42"; whence the diameter, at the time of the transit, ought, by computation, to have been 1' 9" 19".

The



## [ 183 ]

The diameter of the fun, from four observations very nearly agreeing with each other, was 31' 33" 24".

The time, by the clock, of the internal 8 17 4

Of the external contact - 8 35 27

Of noon - - - 11 58 24½

Therefore the apparent time of the first contact, was - - - - 8 37 4

The two positions of Venus on the sun's disc, [Vide Tab. VI.] in chords parallel to the equator, were determined by frequently measuring the parts of such chords on each side the centre of the planet, with the object-glass micrometer; which was done with difficulty, both on account of the clouds, and the telescope's not having an equatorial motion.

Let the arc ATB represent a part of the sun's limb; let CFD be parallel to it, at the distance of a semidiameter of Venus; and let OVX and PVY be parallel to the equator. At 7<sup>h</sup> 14<sup>m</sup> 39<sup>f</sup> A.M. apparent time, OV was 14' 43", and VX 5' 32". At 7<sup>h</sup> 57<sup>m</sup> 21<sup>f</sup>, PV was 16' 36", and VY 1' 56".

These observations were all made with a reflecting telescope of 18 inches focal length, which magnified about 55 times.