

ness of a small Star; from the Comparison of which with the Tail the Brightness of the latter may in some sort be collected: The Tail appear'd sharper, and not so much spread in the two following Observations, and in the last did not exceed one third Part of the first Length; it was then of a much darker Colour, which made the Difference between that and the Head more observable, the Head yet appearing sufficiently bright. For some following Nights his Lordship's Observations were interrupted by cloudy Weather, after which the Comet was so far diminish'd, as only to be known by its Motion, its Appearance being no ways distinguishable from that of a small nebulous Star.

III. *Observatio ejusdem Cometæ ab Illustrissimo Domino Francisco Bianchini habita Albani Mensis Octobri, 1723. & ab eodem Ulyssipponem missa P. Joanni Baptistæ Carbone Soc JESU. Commuicavit Isaacus Samuda, M. D. Col. Med. Lond. L. S. R. S.*

DIE 17 *Octobris*, postquam Jovialium Comitum situm observassem fortè in Constellationem *Capricorni* oculos conieci; cumque astra singula percurrerem, in quamdam veluti nebulosam stellam incidi, cæteris sane grandiozem, quam tamen ibidem loci numquam antea observaram. Rei novitate perscrutaturus, eo Telescopium direxi, statimque Cometen esse deprehendi; siquidem tenuissimæ nebulæ globus apparuit, ejusque in medio veluti lucidus nucleolus. Idem quoque nudis oculis discernere licuit; & præ-

I 2

ter

ter nebulam, seu Cometæ atmosphæram, brevem quoque caudam, quæ ad orientem vergebat, eratque hujusmodi. [*Fig. 4.*]

Ne me igitur ea occasio præteriret, consuetas circa illum observationes institui, ut ejus Longitudinem, Latitudinem, propriumque motum deprehenderem.

Et quidem prima nocte, die nempe 17. supradicta, transit per Meridianum (qui penè cum Romano coincidit) circa horam septimam 44' post Merid. ejusque distantia à Zenith, 69° 29'.

Hora 8. 11' 30'' distantia Cometæ à *Fomabant Aquarii*, intercepta est, 20° 33' & hora 8. 17' 30'' distabat à Stella β in humero dextero *Aquarii*, 21° 8'. Proindeque versabatur Cometes in 11° 54'. *Aquarii*, cum Latitudine Australi ab Ecliptica 11° 10' circiter.

Die 21. erat adeo proximus Stellæ ϵ in Lino supra manum sinistram *Aquarij*, quàm ipsa ϵ est proxima Stellæ μ minori in eodem Lino, constituebatque Cometes cum utraque Stella ϵ , μ rectam Lineam, sic [*Fig. 5.*] Ex hac igitur observatione, & ex Ascensionis rectæ nec non declinationis differentiâ inter Cometem, & supradictam Stellam ϵ quam diligentissime observavi, inferitur locus Cometæ fuisse in 6° 45'. *Aquarii* cum Latitudine Boreali ab Eclipt. 8° 5'.

Hinc etiam inferitur qualis Cometæ motus proprius fuerit, & quale iter; per planum scilicet circuli maximi secantis Eclipticam in gradu 9 *Aquarii*, & constituentis cum eadem Ecliptica angulum 80 graduum circiter.

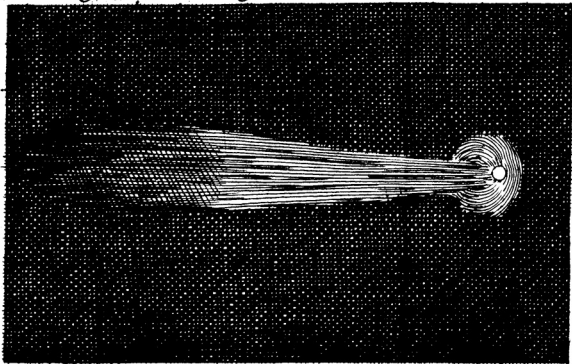
Reliquis diebus eadem semper proportionem movebatur, magisque in dies elongari à terra visus est.

Parallaxim nullam sensibilem, etsi pluries intenterim, deprehendere potui; proindeque maxima ejus distantia à terra credenda est.

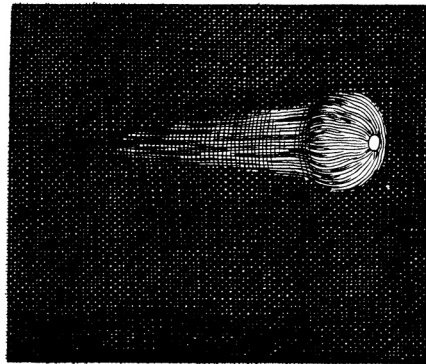
Hactenus Illustrissimus Dominus *Franciscus Bianchini* in Mathematicis Scientiis apprime eruditus, & in observando, quoad noverim, accuratissimus. Ejus observatio à nostra, mea scilicet, ac Prioris Dominici *Capassi* vix in uno aut altero minuto quoad latitudinem discrepavit, cæterum omninò conformis. Quapropter nec illam hic arbitror apponendam.

IV. *Observations about Wasps, and the Difference of their Sexes.* By the Reverend Mr. Derham, F. R. S. Prebendary of Windsor.

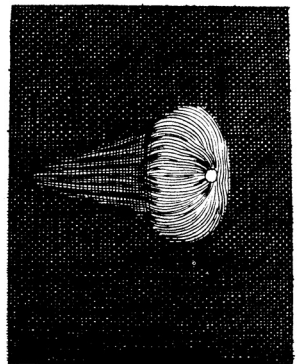
IN the Beginning of *July* last 1723. having frequent occasion to be on the Top of our *Collegiate Chapel* in *Windsor Castle*, I observed many *Wasps* flying about it; and particularly frequenting a Covering of Deal Boards, and the Pieces of Timber lying on the Leads. I took notice that most of these *Wasps* were of a larger sort than usual, and thought they came thither to gnaw the Wood, and to carry it away in Mouthfuls to build their Nests; the Artifice of which I have taken notice of in my *Phys. Theol.* particularly *B. 4. ch. 11. note 21. and chap. 13. not. 12.* But having caught some of them, and amongst the rest a large *Queen-Wasp* (which sort of Wasp, by the by, never engages in any Labours of the Colony) I began to be more strict in my Observations; and on *July 6.* I observed a Cluster of only three *Wasps* closely embracing each other; one of which was a large *Femak*



F.1. Friday Oct. 11th at 7. in the Evening.



F.2. Sunday Oct. 13th at 6. ditto



F.3. Tuesday Oct. 15th at 6. ditto

Supposing the Moon to be of this Diameter, the Comet seem'd to me to be in proportion to this Circle; as above delineated.

Fig. 4.



μ

Fig. 5.

ε

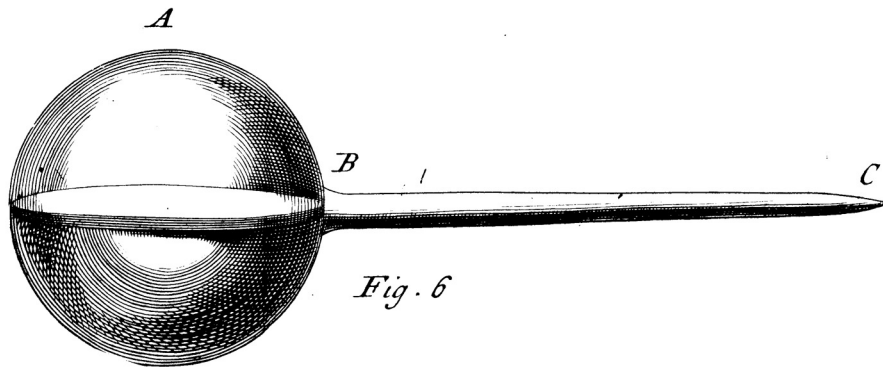


Fig. 6