

consent in what has been just now declared, & the Controversie being about *Matter of fact*, wherein Authority, Number, and Reputation must cast the Ballance, *Monf. Hevelius*, who is as well known for his Ingenuity, as Learning, will joyn and acquiesce in that sentiment.

Of a Correspondency, to be procured, for the Finding out the True distance of the Sun and Moon from the Earth, by the Parallax, observed under (or neer) the same Meridian.

Seeing that the knowledge of this distance may prove of important Use, for the Perfecting of Astronomy, and for the better establishing the doctrine of *Refractions*; it is in the thoughts of some very curious Persons in *England*, for the finding out the same, to settle a Correspondency with some others abroad, that are understanding in Astronomical matters, and live in places farr distant in *Latitude*, and under (or near) the same *Meridian*.

To perform which, the following Method is proposed to be observed; *viz.* That at certain times agreed on by two Observatours, making use of *Telescopes*, large, good and well fitted for this purpose, by a measuring rod, placed within the Eye-glass at a convenient distance, that it may be distinctly seen, and serve for measuring small distances by minutes and seconds (which is easie enough in large *Telescopes*) that, I say, each of such observers, thus furnish'd, shall observe the visible way of the *Moon* among the *Fixt stars*, (by taking her exact distance from any *Fixt Starr*, that lyes in or very near her way, together with the exact time of her so appearing) and the then apparent Diameter of her Disk; continuing these Observations every time for two or three hours, that so,
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if possible, two exact observations of her *Apparent* place among the *Fixt stars* being made, at two places thus distant in *Latitude*, and as near as may be under the same *Meridian*, by these Observators concurring at the same time, her true and exact distance may be hence collected, not onely for that time, but at all other times, by any single Observator's viewing her with a *Telescope*, and measuring exactly her *Apparent Diameter*. It were likewise desirable, that as often as there happens any considerable *Eclipse* of the *Sun*, that this also might be observed by them, noting therein the exact measure of the greatest Obscuration compared with the then *Apparent Diameter* of his Disk. For by this means, after the distance of the *Moon* hath been exactly found, the distance of the *Sun* will easily be deduced.

As for the time, fittest for making Observations of the *Moon*, that will be, when she is about a *Quarter* or somewhat less illuminated, because then her light is not so bright, but that with a good *Telescope* she may be observ'd to pass close by, and sometimes over several *Fixt stars*; which is about four or five days before or after her Change: Or else at any other time, when the *Moon* passes near or over some of the bigger sort of *Fixt stars*, such as of the first or second *Magnitude*; which may be easily calculated and foreseen: Or best of all, when there is any *Totall Eclipse* of the *Moon*; for then the smallest *Telescopical stars* may be seen close adjoining to the very body of the *Moon*. Of all which particulars the two Correspondents are to agree, as soon as he, that is to joyn abroad, shall be found out; whereupon they are mutually to communicate to each other, what they shall have thus observed in each place.

Of an Observation, not long since made in England, of Saturn.

This Observation was made by Mr. *William Ball*, accompanied