

An Extract of Monsieur Christian Hugen de Zulichem his Letter to the Publisher, of the 15th of May 1674. from Paris; touching his Thoughts of Mr. Hook's Observations for proving the Motion of the Earth, not long since printed by Mr. Martyn, and taken Notice of in Numb. 101. of these Tracts.

— **T**HE Observations of Mr. Hook for finding out the Motion of the Earth are very good, and of great Consequence; but they must be continued, to see, whether in the Course of one or more Years the *Parallaxes* do regularly answer to the Annual Motion of the Earth. To which we also shall contribute our Labours; and the Vault, that is in our Observatory, being 28 Fathom deep, will in Time be very useful for that Purpose. This, if it succeed, will prove an almost entire Conviction of the *Anti-copernicans*, since there will remain for them nothing but this un-grounded Subterfuge, to say, that the Center of the Sphere of the fix'd Stars continually changes its Place for an Annual Motion.

An Extract of another Letter, written by Seignior *Cassini* to the Publisher, relating to the same Subject, dated *June 28. 1674.* Which we shall insert here in the same Language, 'twas written in.

— **N**on poterat, meo iudicio, D. Hookius aptiori methodo *Parallaxes Orbis annui in Fixis investigare, nec aptiorem ad eam investigationem eligere Stellam, quæ ex lucidioribus & vertici proxima esset, & à polo Zodiaci non remota. Nec inutilis fuit viri doctissimi conatus, cum diversitatem invenerit ad eam partem, ad quam exigit Parallaxis.*

Nostræ equidem Observationes nihil adhuc adeò liquidum hoc in genere exhibuere, licet in Fixarum Altitudinibus meridianis, variis anni temporibus, deprehenderemus differentias alias ab iis, quæ ad promotionem Fixarum ex Æquinoctiorum præcessione consequuntur. Nondum tamen, quas ad hanc rem præmeditati sumus Observationes, exæqui potuimus.

Pateam

*Puteum habemus in Observatorio ad id paratum, per fornicum
 foramina cælo pervium, altitudinis à fundo, quò scala commodè du-
 cit, pedum fermè ducentorum, sed operibus fabrorum, supremum for-
 nicem fulcientibus, adhuc impeditum. Itaque nihil nobis per eum
 hæcenus tentare licuit. Gratias interim Tibi ago maximas, Vir
 Clarissime, pro communicatis D. Hookii Observationibus, quæ no-
 bis majori erunt incitamento ad correspondentes instituendas. Vale,
 & me ama.*

*Observations concerning the Comet that was seen in Brasil, An.
 1668. in March, by P. Valentin Estancel a Jesuit, and by him
 sent to Rome; where they were printed in the 9th Italian Gior-
 nale de Letterati, Septemb. 31. 1673.*

THis being the same Comet with that, taken Notice of in
 Numb. 35. of these Tracts, and our Account, then given
 of the same, being likely to receive some Advantage and Light
 from these Observations, made in *Brasil*, and but lately come
 to our Hands, we thought it would not be un-acceptable to the
 Curious in *England*, to see them English'd out of the *Italian*,
 and here inserted. They are as followeth;

There hath not been a *Phænomenon* this great while, of which,
 as of this, I am now going to describe, we have had Observations
 from all Parts of the World. Those from *Europe* and *Asia* may
 be seen in our 3^d and 4th *Giornale*. Now I have received those
 of *America*, made in the City of *St. Salvador*, in the Southern
 Latitude of 12 deg. 47 min. Likewise the Jesuit P. *Pietro Su-
 sarte*, Rector of *Macao*, in the *East-Indies*, well vers'd in Mat-
 ters Astronomical, writes to have seen the same all along the
 Coast of *Bona Speranza*, though he communicates no particu-
 lar Observations, because he wanted Instruments to make accu-
 rate Ones, and to see the *Head* of this Comet.

To come then to the *Brasilian* Observations, it hapned, that
 on the 5th of *March* 1668. (*st. n.*) at 7 a Clock at Night, the
 Sun being then in *Piscis*, Father *Estancel* began to see this Co-
 met a little above the Horizon from West to East-South-East.
 That which somewhat surpris'd him was, that at the very
 Beginning it appear'd in its greatest Bulk, and with extraordi-