

XLIII. *Astronomical Observations, made in the Forks of the River Brandiwine in Pennsylvania, for determining the going of a Clock sent thither by the Royal Society, in order to find the Difference of Gravity between the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, and the Place where the Clock was set up in Pennsylvania; to which are added, an Observation of the End of an Eclipse of the Moon, and some Immersions of Jupiter's First Satellite observed at the same Place in Pennsylvania: By Charles Mason and Jeremiah Dixon.*

Read December 15, 1768.

The Place where these Observations were made is the Northernmost Point of the Lines that were measured for a Degree of Latitude, or Point N. (see TAB. XIII. fig. 2.) relative to that Measure; it lies 31 Miles West, by Measurement; and 10', 5" South of the Southernmost Point of the City of Philadelphia, as found by the Sector.

| 1766 | | Time per Clock. | | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Decemb. d | h | ' | " | h | ' | " | | | |
| 24 | { | 4 | 28 | 40 | 5 | 25 | 3 | } Equal Altitudes of Capella. | |
| .. * | | 30 | 18+ | 26 | 40 | | | | |
| .. * | | 32 | 5½ | | | | | | |
| 28 | { | 4 | 28 | 41 | 5 | 20 | 59 | } Equal Altitudes of ditto. | |
| .. * | | 30 | 22+ | 22 | 47- | | | | |
| .. * | | 32 | 10 | 24 | 30½ | | | | |
| 30 | { | 4 | 5 | 52½ | 5 | 43 | 24+ | } Equal Altitudes of ditto. | |
| .. * | | 7 | 12 | 44 | 46½ | | | | |
| .. * | | 8 | 34 | 46 | 4½ | | | | |
| 1767 | | | | | | | | | |
| January. | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | { | 1 | 4 | 10 | 33 | 5 | 37 | 45 | } Equal Altitudes of ditto. |
| | | 11 | 55 | 39 | 10 | | | | |
| | | 13 | 19½ | 40 | 31- | | | | |
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| U u | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 7 | | | | | | | | | |

[33°]

| 1767 | | Time per Clock. | | | | | |
|--|----|-----------------|-------|--|--|----|------|
| January. | d | h | ' | " | h | ' | " |
| ♄ | 7 | 3 | 50 | 26 | 5 | 55 | 8½ |
| | | | 51 | 39+ | | 56 | 27 |
| | | | 52 | 56½ | | 57 | 41½ |
| } Equal altitudes of Capella. | | | | | | | |
| ♃ | 8 | 4 | 4 | 48 | 5 | 40 | 3 |
| | | | 6 | 7½ | | 41 | 24 |
| | | | 7 | 30— | | 42 | 44½ |
| } Equal altitudes of ditto. | | | | | | | |
| .. * .. | 12 | 59 | 30 | } The first Satellite of Jupiter immerged. | | | |
| } Apparent time 8 17 42 47½ | | | | | | | |
| ♃ | 10 | 6 | 21 | 28 | 8 | 2 | 45 |
| | | | 22 | 43 | | 4 | 3 |
| | | | 24 | 00 | | 5 | 18— |
| } Equal altitudes of Castor. | | | | | | | |
| .. * .. | 7 | 34 | 18 | } The first Satellite of Jupiter immerged. | | | |
| } Apparent time 10 12 10 23. | | | | | | | |
| ♄ | 16 | 4 | 5 | 4+ | 5 | 35 | 23 |
| | | | 6 | 25 | | 36 | 47 |
| | | | 7 | 50 | | 38 | 7 |
| } Equal altitudes of Capella. | | | | | | | |
| ♃ | 19 | 4 | 4 | 8½ | 5 | 34 | 44 |
| | | | 5 | 27½ | | 36 | 8 |
| | | | 6 | 52 | | 37 | 29 |
| } Equal altitudes of ditto. | | | | | | | |
| ♄ | 27 | 3 | 32 | 53 | 6 | 2 | 7 |
| | | | 34 | 5— | | 3 | 21½ |
| | | | 35 | 19½ | | 4 | 34½ |
| } Equal altitudes of ditto. | | | | | | | |
| February. | | | | | | | |
| ♄ | 3 | 4 | 21 | 12½ | 6 | 36 | 10½ |
| | | | 22 | 22 | | 37 | 24 |
| | | | 23 | 35+ | | 38 | 34 : |
| } Equal altitudes of β Aurigæ . . Windy. | | | | | | | |
| ♄ | 4 | 3 | 34 | 52— | 5 | 56 | 0½ |
| | | | 36 | 5 | | 57 | 16+ |
| | | | 37 | 20 | | 58 | 29 |
| } Equal altitudes of Capella. | | | | | | | |
| ♃ | 8 | 3 | 55 | 32 | 5 | 33 | 5½ |
| | | | 56 | 50+ | | 34 | 26+ |
| | | | 58 | 12 | | 35 | 45½ |
| } Equal altitudes of ditto. | | | | | | | |
| ♃ | 16 | 13 | 44 | 50 | } The first Satellite of Jupiter was not immerged } flying | | |
| .. * .. | 13 | 46 | 25 | } Ditto was immerged. } clouds. | | | |
| ♄ | 25 | 4 | 11 | 43— | 5 | 7 | 9 |
| | | | 13 | 21 | | 8 | 55½ |
| | | | 15 | 7— | | 10 | 32+ |
| } Equal altitudes of Capella. | | | | | | | |
| .. * .. | 10 | 42 | 50 :: | } First Satellite of ♃ immerged. Ap. time 25 ^d 12 ^h 24 ['] 40 ["] :: | | | |
| } From | | | | | | | |

From these observations we have the time of Capella's passing the meridian, and the rate of the clock's going as follows :

| 1766 | * passed merid. per clock. | Clock loses of Sid. time per day. | Mean rate of therm. | 1764 March. | D eclipsed Time per watch. |
|-----------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| Decemb. | h ' " | " " | o | h ' " | " " |
| 24 | 4 57 40+ | 16,3 | 35 | h 17 8 4 10 | Eclipse of the D ended. |
| 28 | 56 35 | 18,0 | 23 | | |
| 1767 | 30 | 55 59 | 13,4 | | |
| January. | 1 | 55 32+ | 14,8 | | |
| | 7 | 54 3 | 17,0 | | |
| | 8 | 53 46 | 16,3 | 8 58 46 | 10 27 30 :: } Equal altitud. of Regul. |
| | 16 | 51 36 | 16,0 | 9 1 16 | 29 41 |
| | 19 | 50 48+ | 15,63 | 4 5 | 32 9 |
| | 27 | 48 43+ | 15,35 | The watch went very regular sider. time. | |
| February. | 4 | 46 40½ | 15,5 | —Hence the eclipse ended at 8 ^h 21' 59" app. time, in the forks of the river Brandiwine. | |
| | 8 | 45 38½ | 15,9 | | |
| | 25 | 41 8— | | | |

N. B. The edge of the earth's shadow on the D's disk was the best defined I ever saw : it was remarkably distinct from the penumbral shade.

N. B. The clock was firmly screwed to a piece of timber, 22 inches in breadth, and five inches and a quarter thick ; the said piece of timber was let four feet into the ground, which was composed of a very firm, dry, hard clay.

The clock was placed in a tent, with Fahrenheit's thermometer hung to its side ; and a blanket was wrapped round the clock and thermometer, to secure it from any wind that might enter the tent. The pendulum was adjusted to the upper scratch, with N^o 3, at the Index, as directed by the Rev. Mr. Maskelyne, Astronomer Royal : but the spring at the suspension of the pendulum having been broke, (when the ship, in which it was sent, was wrecked on the Jersey coast) we cannot be certain that the pendulum is now of the same length as it was when sent from London.

Those observations marked : are a little dubious ; those marked :: are very dubious ; those marked . . * were made per Mr. Dixon. The eclipses of U's satellites were observed with a reflecting telescope of one foot focus, that magnified about 70 times.

| 1766 | Height of the ther. at about 7 ^h in the mor. in the Tent Air | | Height of the ther. at about 2 ^h in the after. in the Tent Air | | Vibration of the pend. on each side of O. that is, half the arch of vibration. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|---|-----|--|
| Decemb. a | | | | | |
| § | 24 | | 43 | 45— | |
| | 25 | | 44 | 46 | |
| | 26 | 38 37 | 45 | 47 | 1 40— |
| | 27 | 38 41 | 40 | 42 | |
| | 28 | 21 18 | 31 | 26 | 1 35 |
| | 29 | | 28 | 28 | |
| | 30 | | 32 | 32 | |
| | 31 | 5 above O. 3 below O. | 18 | 20 | both above O. |

Near midn. the ther. in the Tent 20
 the Air 16
 At 10^h ¼ P. M. therm. in the Tent 29
 the Air 28
 Near midn. in the Tent 17 Air 14

| 1767 January | Height of the ther. at about 7 ^h in the mor. in the | | Height of the ther. at about 2 ^h in the aft. in the | | Half the arch of vibration. | |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| | Tent | Air | Tent | Air | | |
| 16 | 30 | 30 | 39 | 37 | 1° 35' | The pend. fwings as before. |
| | At 9 ^h 5½ P. M. ther. in the | | | | { Tent 24 Air 21 | |
| 17 | at 9 ^h A. M. { 28 tent 25 air | | 43 | 39 | | |
| 18 | 33 | 31 | 39 | 39 | | |
| 19 | 25 | 26 | 39 | 36 | | At 9 ^h ½ P. M. ther. in the { Tent 21 Air 18 |
| 20 | | | 39 | 40 | | |
| 21 | 39 | 39 | 40 | 40 | | |
| 22 | 23 | 21 | 27 | 27 | 1° 30' | { The pendulum fwings to the eastward as before. |
| 23 | 25 | 23 | 32 | 32 | | |
| 24 | 32 | 32 | 43 | 40 | 1° 30' | Wound up the clock. |
| 15 | 32 | 32 | 31 | 30 | | |
| 26 | 28 | 27 | At 4 ^h ¼ P. M. ther. in the | | { Tent 32 Air 32 | |
| 27 | 21 | 20 | At 4 ^h ½ P. M. in the | | { Tent 27 Air 25 | |
| | | | 9 ditto | | { Tent 15 Air 12 | |
| 28 | 11 | 14 | 36 | 32 | 1° 20' | The pendulum fwings as before. |
| 29 | 15 | 13 | 35 | 34 | | |
| 30 | 16 | 16 | 31 | 35 | 1 20 | |
| 31 | 32 | 35 | At 4 ^h ¼ P. M. in the | | { Tent 36 Air 36 | |
| Feb: | 1 | 36 | 36 | 37 | | |
| | 2 | 15 | 40 | 34 | | |
| | 3 | 16 | 41 | 38 | 1° 30' | |
| | | | At 9 ^h ½ P. M. in the | | { Tent 26 Air 25 | |
| | 4 | 14 | 34 | 32 | 1° 30' | |
| | | At 9 ^h P. M. in the | | { Tent 24 Air 23 | | |
| | 5 | 30 | 45 | 41 | | |
| | 6 | 13 | 28 | 24 | 1 30 | |
| | 7 | 13 | 34 | 36 | | |

| 1767 Febr. | Height of the ther. at about 7 ^h in the mor. in the | | Height of the ther. at about 2 ^h in the aft. in the | | Half the arch of vibration. |
|---------------|--|---------------------|--|-----|--|
| | Tent | Air | Tent | Air | |
| 8 | 25 | 24 | 54 | 52 | 1° 35' |
| | At 8 ^h $\frac{1}{2}$ P. M. in the | | { Tent 33 Air 32 | | |
| 9 | 32 | 32 | 42 | 41 | |
| 10 | 41 | 41 | 34 | 35 | |
| 11 | 25 | 25 | 40 | 38 | 1 40 The pendulum swings as before. |
| 12 | 30 | 29 | 38 | 41 | |
| 13 | 31 | 31 | 32 | 33 | |
| 14 | 28 | 24 | | | |
| 15 | 26 | 27 | At 4 ^h P. M. in the { Tent 34 Air 33 | | |
| 16 | 18 | 10 | 39 | 48 | |
| 17 | 25 | 17 | 28 | 28 | |
| 19 | | | 39 | 44 | |
| ♀ 20 | near noon | { tent 46 air 55 | 48 | 59 | |
| ☉ 22 | 14 | 12 | | | |
| ♂ 28 | | | 69 | | 1° 40' { Pend. vibrates about 8' farther on the E. side of O, than on the W. side of O, as before. |
| March 1 | | | 56 | | |
| 2 | | | 46 | | |
| 3 | | | 57 | | |
| 4 | | | 49 | | |
| 5 | | | 51 | | |
| 6 | | | 51 | | |
| 7 | | | 48 | | |
| 8 | | | 56 | | |
| 9 | | | 51 | | |
| 10 | | | 50 | | |
| 12 | at ☉ rise | 11 | 26 | | |
| 13 | ditto | 7 | 28 | | |
| 14 | | | 36 | | |
| 15 | | | 47 | | |
| 16 | | | 71 | | |
| 17 | | | 67 | | |
| 18 | snow | | | | |
| June 4 | | | 91 | | |
| 5 | | | 95 | | |
| 6 | | | 95 | | |

The point of the pendulum swings something farther back from the arch (showing the degrees and minutes) than it did when it was set up.

Took down and packed up the clock.

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| 1767 June | d | Height of the ther. at about 7 ^h in the mor. in the | | Height of the ther. at about 2 ^h in the aft. in the | |
|--------------|----|--|-----|--|-----|
| | | Tent | Air | Tent | Air |
| | 7 | | | 93 | |
| | 8 | | | 91 | |
| | 9 | | | 80 | |
| | 10 | At 4 ^h $\frac{1}{2}$ P.M. | | 90 at 7 ^h P.M. 80 | |

{ The air much altered, being very cool and
pleasant.

N. B. The thermometer is in the shade, and in the same place it was in last winter.

XLIV. *Extract*