

great white circle passed through the moon's disk and extended horizontally around the sky. This circle, of the same breadth and altitude as the moon, was exceedingly well-defined, being complete around the entire sky, and the centre of it was the zenith. The ordinary first circle was faintly visible at the same time, and also an upright or vertical shaft of light was faintly visible, having the same diameter as the moon's disk and passing through it. There were three features of the great circle of this halo that I noted particularly, viz. :—

1. It was perfectly horizontal.
2. It was white, or rather the color of the moon itself.
3. While so extensive, and the band of light as wide as the moon, it was uniformly bright around the entire sky.



(See Plate 1, 1890)

HALO OF THE MOON OBSERVED AT BARRIE, ONT.; MARCH 3, 1890
The large horizontal circle had the zenith for its centre.

The air had a foggy appearance, and there was a slight fall of fine snow at the time, but not thick enough to obscure the moon or the halo. White circles like this must arise from exterior reflexions from the flat faces of the crystals, as there would be spectrum colors, at least on the edges, if there was any refraction of the light through them. We may regard the small snow crystals as small mirrors or looking glasses all hanging in one position in