

COPY

Normanton House  
Lake  
Salisbury  
31st July 1929

Dear Sir-

I have received three copies of your pamphlet "The Origin of the Solar System," but can make nothing of it. It seems to be purely imaginative, and to incorporate all sorts of data in inappropriate and essentially meaningless manner, so as to arrive at merely fanciful results. You cannot expect astronomers to take it seriously. I do not expect you to accept this verdict, but it is the only one I can give, and it is best to be frank.

Yours faithfully

(Signed) Oliver Lodge

To Charles Strangman Esq.

COPY OF REPLY

Sir Oliver Lodge F. R. S.  
Normanton House Lake Salisbury

Dear Sir:-

I thank you most sincerely for your letter of 31st July. I much appreciate your candor for it gives me an insight into your point of view, and from your point of view the verdict is just. I cannot however escape the conviction that 20th Century physics has made the scrapping of Newton's theory of gravitation inevitable. Should this idea seem preposterous my thesis becomes automatically ruled out of Court. Newton's theory will be scrapped by the open-minded when a better one has been formulated. I venture to think that 20th Century physics has already provided data for a better one. I venture to think that a more profound knowledge of the structure of atoms will reveal the factors which determine the