

We are not aware to what point of investigation these several objects have been brought during the past month by our American scientific brethren, or by the two or three Canadian observers who have been enabled by the liberality of the Dominion Government to witness and record, in a more favorable locality, those interesting phenomena which may justly be deemed physical and astronomical, apart from those which may be termed photographic, which, indeed, are only of a secondary and less important character.

The recent investigations of Huggins and Lockyer on the sun's envelope, show that it is not necessary that an Eclipse should take place for the observation of these peculiar and hitherto mysterious prominences, the spiral form or rotary motion of which remind us of those similar forms of nebulae, which Lord Ross has so well delineated from actual observation in his six-foot reflector.

As far back as the Eclipse which occurred on the 24th June, 1778, and was observed at sea by the Spanish Admiral Don Antonio Ulloa, these prominences were seen, and by him described as possessing rotary motion.

The observations here recorded were carried out at the Magnetic and Meteorological Observatory at this place, (Montreal,) latitude $45^{\circ}31'$ N., and longitude 4 hours 54 m. 17 sec. West of Greenwich, and 182 feet above the mean sea level. Mr. Black kindly consented to act as assistant and time-keeper, an office he very faithfully and vigilantly fulfilled. Mr. Balch, one of the students in Arts, received some instructions, which he carried out at Tadouac, while on a visit to that place.

The Observatory possesses no telescope which could be used with advantage: a 42 in. Dollond, 3 in. aperture, with a power of 40, was the only one which was available. A small comet-seeker, of about the same power, possessing a large field, was also brought into requisition. The screen glasses used in both cases during the whole time were red.

The first contact took place at 5 hours 7 min. 41.5 sec., Montreal mean time. The position at the telescope was taken at 5 o'clock, and my assistant was very exact, and marked well the calls and signals previously fixed upon. There was a slight agitation of the sun's limbs a second or two before the first contact occurred: it seemed as though the edge of the sun became suddenly lighted up as it were with rose-coloured prominences,