

COPY

Lansdowne Road The Uplands
Victoria B. C. Sept 28th. 1929

Dr. H. N. Russell
Hotel Weisses Kreuz
Pentrisena Switzerland

Dear Sir:-

I wish to thank you most sincerely for your favor of Sept. 11th. in reply to my letter of July 22nd. You have taken two exceptions to my effort:-

First, You tell me that "the reality of these retrograde motions is a simple fact of observation" An astronomical event is a reality, but an astronomical event has never been observed, the observer merely observes the news of astronomical events - "An altogether different thing" as you remark in another connection. This would be quibble were it not for the fact that it labels the theory of relativity the achievement of a conjurer - i, e, the co-ordination of perverted ideas. The dictionary definition of retrograde motion is going backwards, and since the earth overtakes the moon in their (practically) common orbit, the retrograde motion of the moon becomes a simple 'fact' of observation. We know however from other sources that the moon persists in a forward motion, and this knowledge reduces the simple fact of observation to fiction. The astronomical observer has earned a front seat in any company, but the astronomical interpreter keeps on barking up the wrong tree. I have demonstrated (pages 23-25) that revolution, in the case of the moon would determine a period of 7h & 10m. but since its actual period is 27d 7h & 43m, it does not revolve round its primary, therefore its motion cannot be retrograde. I have also demonstrated that, in the case of the exterior satellite of Saturn (alleged to be retrograde), revolution round its primary would determine a period of 31d & 4h, but since its actual period is 550 days