

the south pole during three months till it reaches the summer solstice, $23^{\circ} 28'$ from the equinoctial line. Then it begins to decrease while the sun continues his daily course around the horizon, until, after six months, having reached the autumnal equinox, it disappears for the north pole, and begins to enlighten the south pole in the same manner.

This position of the globe is called the parallel sphere.

13. What is the right sphere ?

The right sphere is that position of the earth where the equinoctial passes through the zenith and nadir, the poles being in the horizon. This is the position of the globe for those who live at the Equator. The days and nights are of equal length.

19. What is the oblique sphere ?

The oblique sphere is that in which the horizon cuts the equator obliquely. All the inhabitants on the earth, except those who live at the equator and at the poles, have this position of the sphere ; for in elevating the poles for any latitude, the axis of the earth is placed obliquely. The length of their days and nights varies continually, as well as their morning and evening twilight.

20. What do you mean by the declination of the sun ?

The declination of the sun is its distance from the equinoctial on any given day. The declination may be either north or south, but it cannot exceed $23^{\circ} 28'$, because the sun never goes beyond the tropics.

21. What do you mean by the right ascension of the sun ?

The right ascension of the sun is its distance from the first degree of Aries reckoned around the globe, from west to east, on the equinoctial.

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