Distorted Solar Halos

flexions becomes by projection a flattened circle, i.e., an ellipse.

In the previous example we saw a case of a distorted halo of refraction. Here in the elliptic form we have what we may regard as a distorted halo of reflexion, in which a horizontal circle, seen obliquely or partly edgewise, is flattened into an ellipse. It is never directly overhead like the parhelic circle with its centre overhead, and it probably occure at a very great height above the ground, 10 miles or upward. For parallel light forming a halo of reflexion, there would be only a certain range of visibility within which it could be seen. This range would necessarily be small and hence the elusive and rare appearance of the elliptic halo.

This concludes what I have to say in regard to distorted halos, both of refraction and of reflexion, in which we see nature at her best, like "sports" in biology.

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