

W. Bishop's Observatory, Regent's Park, London  
1854, April 29-

Sir,

Immediately after I had the honor of receiving your last communication, I wrote to Mr. Airy and to Professor Challis to beg them to send me their observations of Calliope agreeably to your request. I have not heard anything from the Astronomer Royal upon the subject whence I conclude either that the observations are still in an unreduced state or that he has sent them to you direct. Professor Challis, however, has transmitted me the enclosed table of his own observations which I have much pleasure in forwarding to you.

Your letter in acknowledgment of election as an Associate of the Astronomical Society was duly delivered and read at the last Council.

Permit me to take this opportunity of thanking you on the part of the Society for the many valuable donations you have presented to their library and I must also beg to tender my best thanks for the interesting papers you have done me the honor to present to me two of which reached my hands a <sup>few</sup> days since.

I have lately been re-examining the various accounts which have descended to us relating to the Comet of 1556, whose return is shortly expected. The only record of the observations of Paul Fabricius at Vienna that I can find is in the work upon Prodigia and Omenes by Lycosthenes (Conrad Wolfhard) but it appears from Lalandi's "Bibliographie" that Fabricius published at Nurnberg a special treatise upon this Comet, in which very probably he may have described his observations at length. I have been much anxious to meet with the work, but all my endeavours to find it hitherto have failed. It has occurred to me, however, that the volume or tract will be at Vienna, if anywhere, and I therefore venture to take the liberty of asking you whether it exists in the Library of your observatory or in that of your Academy of Sciences. If so and you could furnish me with any information as to its contents I shall esteem it a very great favour. I hope shortly to make another communication to the Astronomical Society on this subject.

It would give me much pleasure to send you the Nautical Almanac for all future years, while I am connected with the establishment and, if you should



oblige me with a reply to this, I should be glad to know how I can most readily forward the volumes to you.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant

J. R. Smith

Professor Lettrow  
de de de

Paul Fabricius, Beschreibung der Romer,  
welcher 1556 vom 5. May bis 23. April  
archivirt ist.

Sigm. Suerus, Tract. von Romer 1578.

1855 ist der letzte Part. Alm. de von hat



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Vo  
to



Via Belgium

Monsieur  
Monsieur le Professeur Littré  
Directeur de l'Observatoire Impérial  
de Verne



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Paris, France