

was (that is the mode of brewing was) made to depend in some way on either the rotation or revolution of the Earth during the Transit. Of course both of these come into the consideration, & must be allowed for simply because the appearances to the eye in motion cannot be the same as to an eye at rest. But will you kindly look at the idea I have formed of the 2 methods - & tell me where I am wrong - in either or both. -

Halley's datum is the apparent displacement of the planet in transit N. or S. as it is viewed from a more S. or N. station - the amount of displacement being converted for greater accuracy, from linear measure, into time - the duration of transit giving the exact position of the chord on the Sun's disc. - This I believe is quite correct.

Delisle's method, on the contrary, gives a value of parallax at right angles to the former; being the apparent displacement of the planet E or W as viewed from a more W or E station - the amount of displacement being deduced from the acceleration or retardation of the ingress (or egress) of the planet. - Obviously, a correction must here be introduced for the movement of the Earth both in rotation &

orbital progression in the interval between the observations - which correction, as far as I see, is not required in Halley's method. But to make the method depend (as I believe the Edin: Reviewer does) on this correction as its basis seems to me a complete misconception of the principle. But possibly I may have misconceived him. -

I am just obliged to go out - & must wind up all at once - hoping I am right!

Your very affectionate old friend -

J. W. Webb