

seconds. At that time the Comet's tail extended from the Comet itself as far as the Star of the great Dog, and I do not think it ever appeared much larger than on the morning of that day.

On the last day of the year 1664, about six o'clock in the evening, the distance from the right shoulder of Orion to the Comet was 27 degrees; and from the eye of Taurus, 27 degrees, 35 minutes. The Comet then appeared to us only hairy, with no [110] indication of a tail. According to that observation, the Comet's right ascension was 64 degrees and nearly 57 minutes; its southern declination, 11 degrees, 46 minutes.

We will frankly confess here that, being unable to observe the Comet on the three preceding days, and remarking, moreover, such a notable change both in its form and in its path, which was altogether extraordinary, we would have had little difficulty in persuading ourselves that it was a second Comet.

On the same night, at half past eight o'clock, the altitude of the eye of Taurus was 59 degrees, 27 minutes,—the Comet's altitude being 32 degrees, 35 minutes, in the same vertical. The right ascension of the eye of Taurus was 64 degrees, 10 minutes; and that of the Comet, 60 degrees, 48 minutes, 30 [111] seconds,—the southern declination of the latter being 10 degrees, 9 minutes.

On the first day of the year 1665, at a quarter to ten in the evening, the altitude of Sirius was 22 degrees, 27 minutes; and of the Comet, 33 degrees, 52 minutes. The Azimuth from Sirius to the Comet was 44 degrees, 4 minutes; and hence the southern declination of the latter was 8 degrees, 4 minutes, and its right ascension 62 degrees, 50 minutes.