Occultation of $\gamma$ Virginis, 1886. By F. C. Penrose.

A few remarks on an observation of an occultation of $\gamma$ Virginis on the 18th inst. may be interesting to the Royal Astronomical Society.

The morning was fine, but there were some slight clouds, and one was over the Moon near the time predicted for the reappearance, so that I could not see the grey Moon, and, as I was dependent on the position-angle at the vertex, could not use a power high enough to separate the star properly, but I think the observation was more interesting and beautiful in consequence.

At G.M.T., ± say 2°, 16h 33m 32s, a bright flash showed the reappearance of $\gamma$, and exactly 10 seconds later was another flash, which seemed to double the brightness of the star.

The time was corrected by altitudes of east and west stars observed at nearly the same altitude and azimuth with a theodolite.

I got several positions of Barnard’s Comet, particularly Nov. 29, Dec. 4, and Dec. 9, but they are probably liable to errors of two or three minutes of arc.

Approximate place of station, longitude 1h 34m 58s E., and latitude 37° 58’ 15” N.


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Occultation of Aldebaran, Jan. 6, 1887. By the Rev.
S. J. Johnson, M.A.

The occultation of Aldebaran on the 6th was observed here very favourably. Disappearance at 12h 12m 49s was instantaneous; not the slightest lingering or projection on the limb, though a portion of the Moon’s dark limb was left, and the sky around was perfectly clear. The star seemed to lose its redness as the Moon approached it; the emersion at 13h 14m 5s not nearly so sudden. Star seemed to creep out leisurely from a point just north of the Mare Crisium, but some haze was present. Power 50 employed, on 3½-inch. Time by sextant.

_Melplash Vicarage, Dorset_: 1887, Jan. 10.