

316 *Mr. Walter on the New Variable T Coronæ.*

These three were the only stars seen by me. The instrument used was the excellent Equatoreal of the Observatory, King's College, Aberdeen, by A. Ross (formerly Mr. Burr's) of $3\frac{3}{8}$ -in. aperture; power used, 195. I have every confidence in the observation, because my diagram was made without previous knowledge of the existence of No. 7.

The star could not have been formed by reflection from the eye-piece, as the clock motion was stopped, and the star allowed to transit across the field.

Aberdeen, 28th August, 1867.

On the New Variable T Coronæ. By M. Walter, Esq.
Surgeon H.M. 4th Reg. North India.
(*Extract of a Letter to Mr. Stone.*)

As you evidently take much interest in all matters connected with this *Stella Mirabilis*, I venture to address you, with some hesitation and diffidence, with a view to correct an error as to the time of its first appearance, which you state must have been between nine and midnight on the 12th of May last year. Now I am certain that this same conflagration was distinctly perceptible here at least six hours earlier. And my knowledge of the fact came about in this wise. The night of the 12th of May last year was exceedingly sultry, and about eight o'clock on that evening I got up from the tea-table and rushed into my garden to seek a cooler atmosphere. As my door opens towards the east, the first object that met my view was *Corona Borealis*, which had then an altitude of some 45 degrees. My attention was at once arrested by the sight of a strange star outside the *Crown*, which was then certainly quite as large and bright, I thought rather more so, as its neighbour *Alphacca*. I was so much struck with its appearance that I exclaimed to those indoors, "Why here is a new comet;" and so impressed was I with this idea of its being a comet that I immediately made the following rough diagram of its relative position with the rest of the stars in the *Crown*, that I might be able to trace any movement on a future night:—

. Alphacca.

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. New Star.

Now as the longitude of this place is about $78^{\circ}33'$, our time