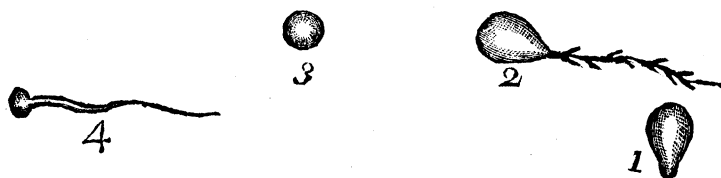


Two Minutes, gently shooting withal to the North-east, till it arose to about 45 Degrees; then suddenly quitting its Tail, which vanished, colouring the neighbouring Clouds with a Yellow on their Separation, it formed itself first into a Ball of Fire; then shooting quickly to the South-east in a Stream of Light, disappeared, making a Noise like a Clap of Thunder at some Distance, and leaving behind it a smoaky Substance in its Traçt.

The Weather moderate and cloudy, Wind, as nigh as I can remember, West South-west. It continued in Sight upwards of Five Minutes.



III. *Extract of a Letter from the Rev. Mr. William Gostling to Peter Collinson, F. R. S. concerning the Fire-ball seen Dec. 11. last, and the Mock-Suns seen the 19th of the same Month.*

*My good Friend,*

*Canterbury, Mar. 9. 1741-2.*

Read March  
18. 1741-2.

**A**S the Fire-ball appeared at Noon-day, and the Sun shining, few People saw it, and they could only guess at the Course.

Course. The best Account I have had is at Second-hand, from two Farmers who saw it together, and make its Course from North-west by North to South-east by South, and right over *Littleborn* (which is the first Village in the Road from hence to *Deal*). Their way of telling its Course was by saying, it went from *Westbere* toward *Ratling*, near which Place Lord *Cowper* was then hunting, and heard but one Explosion, which seemed to be within a few Rods of him: The other, I suppose, happened at such a Distance, as to be in one with that so near him.

I have inclosed a Sketch of an Appearance we had eight Days after the Ball, viz. *Dec. 19.* of which, I believe, the Duration was uncommon, from Sun-rise to Noon \*.

I remember *Dampier* mentions *Haloës* as presaging Storms, and this Combination of them has been succeeded by a long Season of stormy Weather. I am

*Your obliged Friend and Servant,*

William Gostling.

\* The Representation of it was exactly the same as that at p. 47. of N<sup>o</sup> 462. except that the Light at c, expressed in that, was omitted in this.