

OFFICE OF  
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Schöneberger strasse, 12<sup>II</sup>  
~~Chicago~~, Berlin, Nov. 22 1893

My dear Professor Tacchini,

I have come to Europe with the idea of making a further attempt to photograph the corona next spring. Meanwhile, I shall be in Berlin, and probably carry on some spectroscopic work on metallic reversals in the electric arc in connection with my previous researches on the double reversal of the H and K lines in faculae. I write to ask your opinion in regard to the best point from which to make our experiments on the corona - for I remember your kind promise to go with us on the expedition, and beg leave to consider you as one of the members of the party. On account of the observatory and equatorial mounting on Mt. Stua I should think that would be altogether the best place if (1) the volcano is not active, (2) the HCl and sulphur fumes will not tarnish our silver and speculum metal mirrors and (3) M. Ricco is willing to allow us the use of the observatory. I should be

glad of any information you may be able to give me on these points.

While in London I saw Capt. Abney, and I am glad to say that he feels sure my method of protecting the photographic plate by the dark K band will succeed. He says that from measures he had made of the intensity of the light in the K band the light of the sky can be reduced in this way to  $\frac{1}{3}$  its normal brilliancy. He was anxious to have me try the instrument on Monte Rosa, where he assures me the sky is darker than he has seen it anywhere else. When in London

the other day M. Janssen offered me the use of the Mt. Blanc Observatory, but it seems to me that Mt. Etna would be preferable to either of the places mentioned, for it would be extremely difficult and expensive to carry up the necessary instruments. I should be very glad to have your opinion and that of M. Ricco on this question.

Will you not be kind enough to continue to send your solar statistics, addressed to me at the Kenwood Observatory, Chicago, for publication in "Astro-Physics"? They will be received and cared for by my assistant.

With kindest regards, I am  
Very sincerely yours  
George E. Hale