Meridian observations of Comet Wells with the Transit Circle of Dudley Observatory.

1882	Albany m. t.	α app.	δ app. *)	$\Delta\alpha$	$\Delta\delta$	
June 5	23 ^h 41 ^m 7 ^s .2	4 ^h 40 ^m 6 ^s .55	+36° 10' 30".5	+ .15	— 2".4	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha^2 \text{ Geminor.} \\ \alpha \text{ Can. Min.} \end{array} \right.$
11	0 1 21.4	5 21 3.91	+19 9 17.6	+ .67	— 3.2	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \gamma \text{ Geminor.} \\ \alpha^2 \text{ Geminor.} \\ \alpha \text{ Can. Min.} \end{array} \right.$
12	0 17 10.4	5 40 51.93	+17 33 36.5	+ .69	+ 0.1	$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \alpha \text{ Tauri} \\ \gamma \text{ Geminor.} \end{array} \right.$

The observations depend upon the star places of the American Ephemeris. The columns $\Delta\alpha$ and $\Delta\delta$ are derived from a comparison with the elements of Mr. C. S. Wells already communicated. None of the remaining dates from June 5, to June 18, were clear enough for observation. On June 5 the comet was not seen until nearly forty seconds after transit, and was then with some difficulty observed on a single wire. The position observations on the subsequent dates are considered very satisfactory.

At the observation of June 11, sixteen hours after perihelion the true nucleus was plainly seen (with magnifying power 180) as a perfectly round and sharply defined disc of moderate illumination. By comparison with the close pair of zenith-distance wires (9") the estimated diameter of the disc was 0".75. The nebosity of the coma

was quite uniform and faint, and about 10" in diameter. In fact, while the nucleus was observed for position the coma was scarcely noticed at all.

On the following day the comet was a very easy object. The nebosity had increased in brightness. The image was very unsteady, however; and either for that reason, or because of the increased brightness of the vaporous screen, the nucleus proper could not be seen. As to the reality of the nucleus at the observation of June 11, there can be no question whatever. The sky was sparsely covered with cumulus clouds, while the intermediate clear spaces were exceedingly transparent. The nucleus was steadily seen throughout the observation.

Albany 1882 June 19.

Lewis Boss.

*) Corrected for Parallax.

Beobachtungen des Cometen Wells am Meridiankreise der Moskauer Sternwarte,
angestellt von A. Belopolsky und A. Socoloff.

1882	Mittl. Berl. Zt.	Beob. Rectasc.	Beob. Decl.	Beob.
Mai 23	9 ^h 43 ^m 20 ^s .2	3 ^h 25 ^m 28 ^s .49	+63° 3' 46".4	S
24	9 48 28.4	3 34 34.05	+61 28 1.8	B
25	9 52 42.3	3 42 45.25	+59 49 6.8	S
26	9 56 9.4	3 50 9.51	+58 7 10.2	S
29	10 2 40.4	4 8 31.25	+52 44 20.9	S
Juni 4*)	10 4 25.7	4 33 56.14	+40 30 30.5	S

*) Wegen niedriger Lage schlechte Bilder.

Sull' orbita definitiva della cometa Barnard 1881 VI.

Discutendo tutte le osservazioni e prendendo a base l'orbita parabolica calcolata dall' astronomo Chandler (vedi A. N. No. 2404), ho dedotto i seguenti elementi parabolici, che rappresentano l'intero e corto periodo di osservazioni.

$$T = 1881 \text{ Sett. } 14.365339 \text{ t. m. di Greenwich.}$$

$$\pi = 280^\circ 28' 0".14$$

$$\Omega = 274 \quad 9 \quad 50.68$$

$$i = 112 \quad 48 \quad 47.39$$

$$\log q = 9.6524399.$$

Eclittica Eq. medio 1881.

I dettagli di calcolo si trovano nell' Appendice del Giornale intitolato: «Memorie della Società degli Spectroscopisti Italiani» Anno 1882 Puntata di Maggio.

Roma 1882 Giugno 13.

Prof. E. Millosevic.