

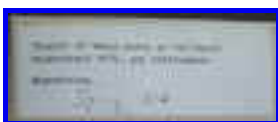


US Naval Observatory Expeditions



Page [1](#), [2](#)

In 1874 and 1882, the [US Naval Observatory](#) (USNO) sent multiple teams to time the transit of Venus with the aid of photographic equipment. Expedition photographs reproduced here are in the collection of the US Naval Observatory Library. These photos are not necessarily listed in any specific order.



Transit of Venus party at Old Naval Observatory 1874, and instruments; Expeditions; Spring, 1874



Plan of Photoheliograph



Details of Meridian Transit



Meridian Instrument



"Japan 1874 -D."

Chatham Island?





"Interior of Japan Photographic Hut..."



"Box room of photographic house ventilator"



"The Photograph Measurer in Interior of Admiral's Office. Negative of Sun leaning against books."



"The Kerguelen heliostat, clock, and pier. In the distance this Crozet's (?) & Siberia transit houses with doors open."



"New Zealand heliostat & clock; photographic lens 40 ft. focus; flat mirror; iron piers filled with sand."



"New Zealand photographic lens; flat mirror, heliostat, and driving clock. In the background the Chatham heliostat. On the right two transit houses."



(Numbered) "Chatham Photographic House; New Zealand Photographic House, Kerguelen Photographic House; Siberia Transit House; Crozet's Transit House; Kerguelen Transit House; Dome of 26-inch refractor."



"View of Venusia! from N.W.; New Zealand photographers in foreground."



"View of two transit and photographic house from roof of observatory...Shows framework for covering over ground between Kerguelen photographic lens and photographic house. To be double boarded. Experimental tube in situ."



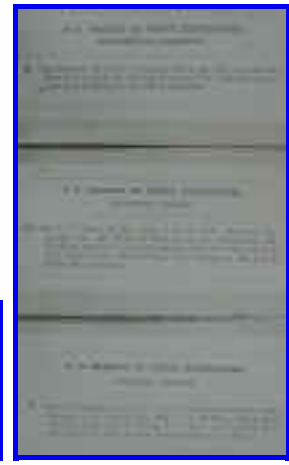
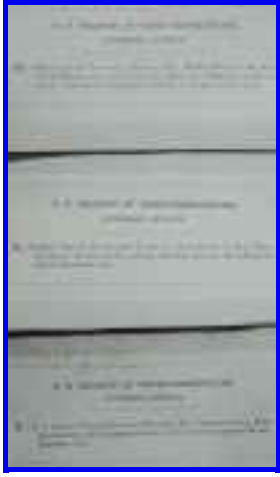
"Four of the 8 equatorial houses. 10-inch Transit-circle room & 9-inch equatorial dome in the distance."



"The Equatorial houses with square revolving domes."



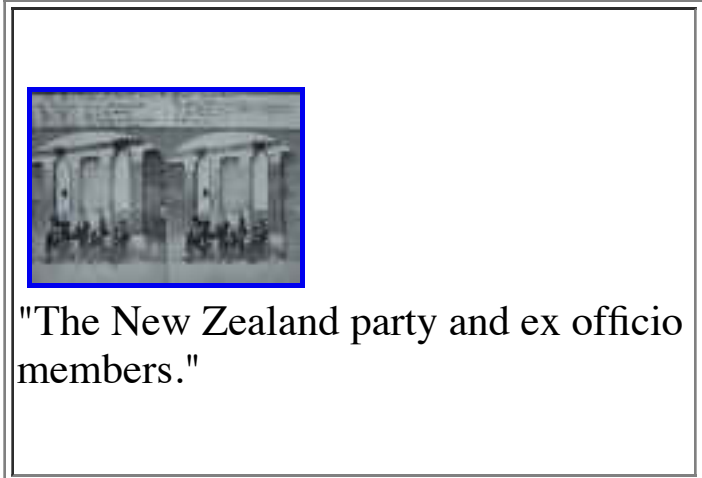
"View of Equatorial houses and packing up in Equatorial."



| | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Admiral Davis | 4. Prof. Peters New Zealand |
| 2. Prof. Newcomb | 5. Prof. Hall Siberia |
| 3. Prof. H. Draper | 6. Capt. Raymond- Crozets |



"Part of the Personnel- The 26-inch equatorial of the Naval Observatory in the background."



| | |
|--|--|
| 1. Mr. Phillips, chief photographer | 5. Lieut. Bass, assistant astronomer |
| 2. Prof. Peters, chief of party | 6. Mr. Aymi (?) 3rd assistant photographer |
| 3. Adm. Davis, President of Commission | 7. Mr. Pierson, 2nd assistant photographer |
| 4. Prof. H. Draper Sup. of Phot. depart. | 8. Mr. Russell, 1st assistant photographer |



"Chatham and New Zealand Transit houses in foreground on left. 10-inch Transit circle [??] and 9-inch equatorial dome. Crozet's Transit house in distance on right."



"View of Transit, Photographic & Equatorial Houses from roof of Naval Observatory."



"Interior of Equatorial house showing tripod stand."



"View of Washington Naval Observatory in the East. Equatorial houses from the distance."



"Miss Mitchell's Equatorial which resembles the (Venus transit) equatorial. View taken in the interior of the 9-inch Equatorial dome; shows also the Observatory Comet Seeker."



"The Transit-instrument in its house."



"Washington Observatory from the North."



"Washington Observatory from the North."



"Washington Observatory from the North-west."





Y.- Encampment of the U.S. Transit of Venus Party, on Wangoroa Bay, Chatham Island, December, 1874.



"QB512 no.1 ST 3 of 4"

"Fig 10"

"View in Venusea from the roof of the observatory."

"Is this S Newcomb's little joke? Does it mean just the ground covered by apparatus for observing Transit of Venus."



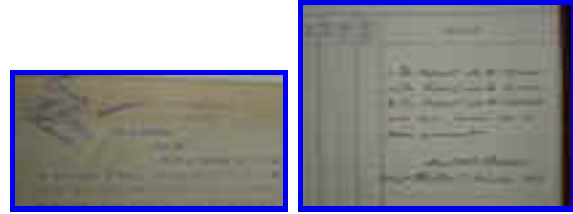
"QB512 no.1 ST 1 of 4" 0620 QB 512 no.1 ST 1 of 4



"Fig. 8 The heliostat and object glass"



"1874- Transit of Venus Equipment, Old Observatory, (temp eq)"



"[La.] Slide moved a trifle little slow and perhaps a trifle irregular"

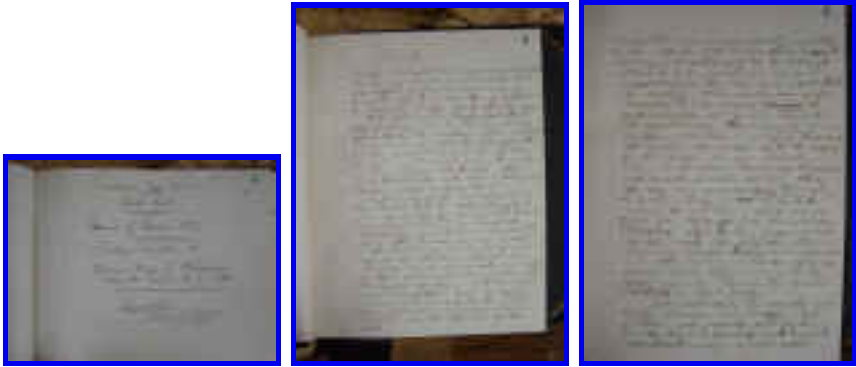
"Mirror and objective dusted off. Plumb line all right."



"Record of the Transit of Venus Station at Santiago de Chile, 1882."



"Stars this evening are extremely steady..."



David P. Todd of Amherst College Observatory writes

Asaph Hall about the duplicate records of observations of the Transit of Venus, 1882, from the Lick Observatory.



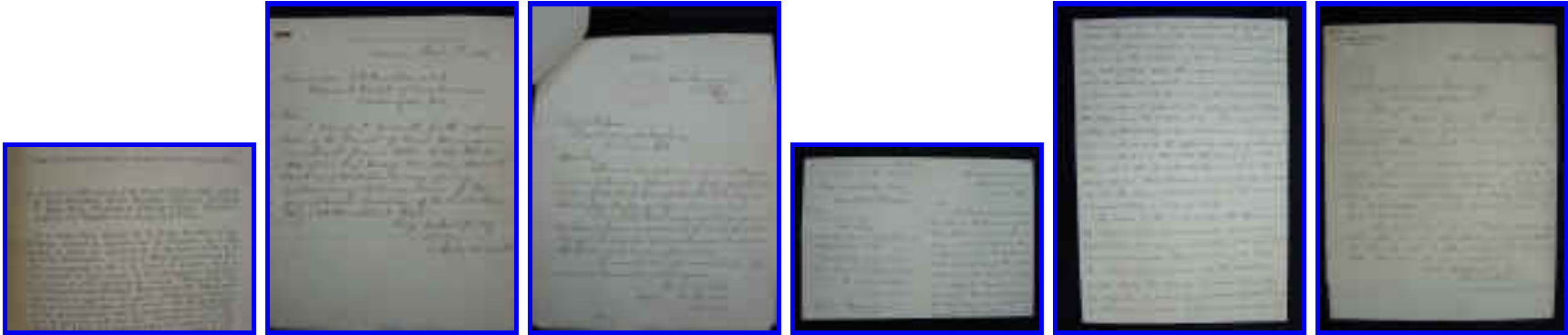
Piece of plumb-line wire used at the Lick Observatory, 1882.

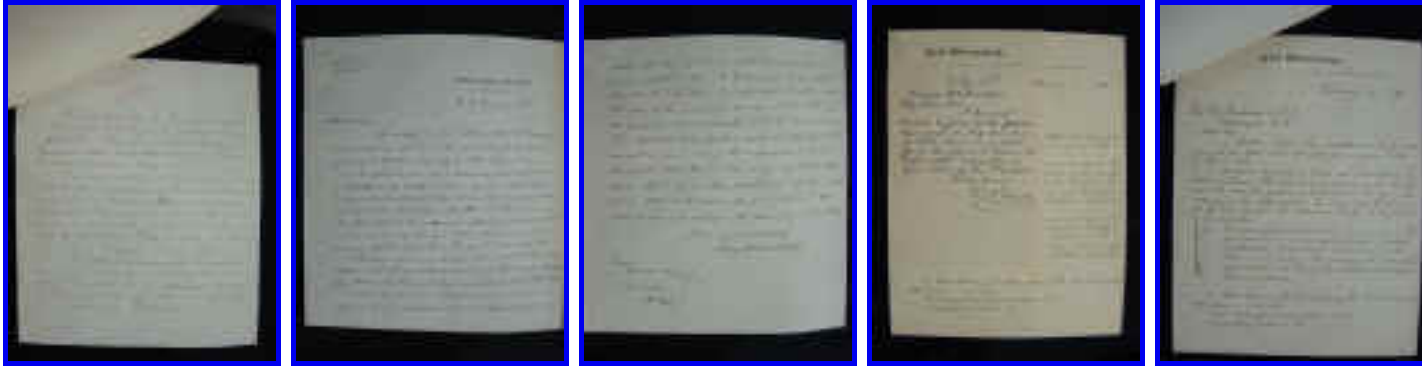


Observations of the Transit of Venus made at the Lick Observatory, by David P. Todd.

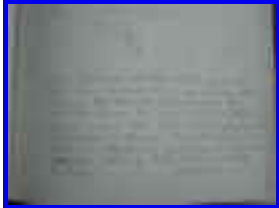


"With the compliments of Professor Todd..."





"Packing list for Lick Tr. of V. negatives"



"Thus have we concluded the sun photos at this Station and commence to pack for Home."



www.transitofvenus.org

Copyright ©2003-2008 [Chuck Bueter](#). All rights reserved.