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Lafcadio HEARN in New Orleans

Lost Worlds: Lafcadio HEARN and Percival LOWELL

By

William P SHEEHAN

Though somewhat tangentially relevant to the main preoccupation of readers of the CMO Bulletin, M. Minami has asked me to pen a brief article about Lafcadio Hearn (1850-1904). Most readers of the CMO Bulletin know Hearn, if nothing else because of his connection with Percival Lowell, but more substantively, for his role as prolific popularizer of all things Japanese in the West. His was a more sympathetic view of Japanese culture than was Percival Lowell's, though it was the latter's mania for Japan (and his best-known book on the Orient, *The Soul of the Far East*) that helped inspire Hearn's even more supersized mania. ("I have a book for you," Hearn wrote to a friend in 1889, after reading Lowell, "an astounding book—a god-like book. But I want you to read every single word of it... It is the finest book on the East ever written; and though very small contains more than all my library of Oriental books. And an American wrote it!" Above all, Hearn was enamored of Lowell's idea that Japan was "topsy-turvy," the opposite in all ways to the West. Lowell, thought Hearn, had discerned "the fluttering of the Human Soul in its chrysalis." Hearn was eager to follow his lead.

Lafcadio Hearn was a man without a country, or

at least without a settled country. He was born on the island of Leukas (Lefkas), the son of an Anglo-Irish surgeon in the British navy and a beautiful but illiterate Greek woman. When Hearn's father learned she was pregnant, he deposited both mother and son in the care of Dublin relatives and took up a new post in the Caribbean. By the time young Patrick Lafcadio (Lafcadio was derived from Lefkas) was seven, his mother returned to Greece—he would never see her again—and he was placed under the (heartless) care of strait-laced great-aunt, who sent him to boarding schools in England, where he lost an eye in a playground fight, and France (a classmate there was Guy Mau-passant). Finally, at nineteen, the family decided to get rid of him once and for all: he was shipped off to a distant relative living in Cincinnati, a booming city of mostly German immigrants on the Ohio River. Not surprisingly, the relative wanted nothing to do with him; henceforth Hearn was on his own.

According to his biographer S. Frederick Starr, "Hearn fit in nowhere and spent his entire life searching for a place he could call home." Rootless as he was, he shared—with Percival Lowell, whose family conflicts were different from Hearn's, but who also experienced, at least for a time, restless

uncertainty about his direction of his life which he tried to resolve through travel-- a strenuous search for identity. In Cincinnati, Hearn—a rather gnome-like figure with a bulbous hypertrophied left eye and a gimpy right eye, with an adult height of only five-foot 3 inches—caught on as a cub reporter for the Cincinnati *Enquirer*. He soon made a name for himself by showing the dark and sordid underbelly of the brawling city then known as “Porkopolis.”

In his spare time he immersed himself in French literature and married a half-Irish ex-slave—an unforgivable social faux pas as it would have been anywhere else in the United States at the time. As a result, the *Examiner* promptly fired him. Before he left Cincinnati, however, he agreed to do a series of articles on Louisiana for a rival paper. The fees for these articles tided him over until he caught on with the newly founded New Orleans *City Item*.

Christopher Benfey, in his *Great Wave: gilded age misfits, Japanese eccentrics, and the opening of old Japan*, has said of Hearn that the “pattern of [his] life was to arrive in a place just as what he loved there was on the point of disappearing.” Recoiling from the complexity of modern thought and the super-regulated, oversophisticated, and emotionally impoverished world of the bourgeois culture of his time, Hearn—who had almost completely missed out on his own childhood—embraced the widespread late-Victorian tendency to idealize the child’s capacity for unrepressed emotional and imaginative experience. Related to this was a tendency to idealize “primitive,” i.e., pre-Industrialized peoples, who were seen as appealing childlike, spontaneous, energetic, and unspoiled. Hearn shared psychologist Stanley Hall’s suspicion that “civilization is at root moribund and sure to end in reaction and decay.” Though Hearn would—as noted by T. J. Jackson Lears in his *No Place of Grace: antimodernism and the transformation of American Culture, 1880-1920*—eventually seek to find his ideal in Japan, a country which he saw as a “toy land” whose people were “in many respects a race of children,” he first applied what has been called “affectionate impres-

sionism” to New Orleans.

To the newly-arrived Hearn, New Orleans in 1877 seemed “a land of perfume and dreams,” as later would seem the Lotus-land of Japan. Starr asks:

“How did it happen, then, that a writer-journalist who arrived not speaking a word of Japanese could, within a few years, establish himself as the premier interpreter of Japanese culture to the English-speaking and European world?

“Back in Louisiana Hearn had mastered the art of precise observation. He had learned how to convey the telling detail and to relate it to larger traits of culture. Equally important, he had developed a Manichean world view that pitted Good against Evil in an unequal struggle. His notion of a gentle, aesthetically rich, feminine, sensual and fragile Creole culture gradually losing out to the Anglo-Saxon world of Mammon could be transferred to Meiji era Japan....

“In short, Hearn constructed a Creolized version of Meiji Japan using ideas and techniques he first developed while working [in] New Orleans...Those aspects of Hearn’s portrait of Japan that most appealed to the Japanese themselves were already stowed in his intellectual and artistic baggage when he arrived, the fruits of his years in Louisiana and of his own tortured inner life.”

Even today, a traveler to New Orleans is allowed, if only briefly, to (in Starr’s words) “escape the modern world of which one is a part and to revel in a more innocent world of beauty and eros in the moments before its demise.” We are still enthralled with the image that Hearn created even as the world he sought there was passing away before his eyes. The following passage from “*At the Gate of the Tropics*,” which Hearn penned on November 19, 1877, soon after his arrival in the Crescent City, is characteristic. (Reflect a moment on that date, and on what else was going on: Giovanni Schiaparelli was still watching Mars from Milan, while Percival Lowell had returned from his post-graduation “Grand Tour of Europe,” and was beginning to

work in his father's office on State Street.)

"It is not an easy thing," writes Hearn, "to describe one's first impression of New Orleans; for while it actually resembles no other city upon the face of the earth, yet it recalls vague memories of a hundred cities. It owns suggestions of towns in Italy, and in Spain, of cities in England and in Germany, of seaports in the Mediterranean, and of seaports in the tropics. Canal street, with its grand breadth and imposing façades, gives one recollections of London and Oxford street and Regent street; there are memories of Havre and Marseilles to be obtained from the Old French Quarter; there are buildings in Jackson Square which remind one of Spanish-American travel I fancy that the power of fascination which New Orleans exercises upon foreigners is due no less to this peculiar characteristic than to the tropical beauty of the city itself. Whencesoever the traveler may have come, he may find in the Crescent City some memory of his home—some recollection of his Fatherland—some remembrance of something he loves...."

Already by the winter of 1884-85, alas, Hearn had come to realize, with regret, that the New Orleans he so relished—with its perfumed strolls among moss-draped oaks by the Mississippi—was nearing extinction; that year the World's Industrial and Cotton Centennial Exposition was held, and Hearn beheld electric lights go on "like a million moons dawning slowly at once." It was the harbinger, writes Benfey, of a great industrial future for the New South, but the beginning of the end for Hearn, who had come to New Orleans precisely pledged to "the worship of the Odd, the Queer, the Strange, the Exotic, the Monstrous." He would leave the Crescent City for Martinique, where he hoped to discover a still more authentic Creole world, before encountering Lowell's book and heading out for what would become his ultimate goal, Japan (as for Lowell, disillusioned in his turn with Japan, it would be Mars).

Are not all our most cherished visions drenched in nostalgia?

Hearn would find in Japan that the world of "fair-folk" of childlike "grace and simplicity" was also nearing its denouement. Indeed, it would become apparent to most Western observers within a year of Hearn's death, following the shock of the Japanese attack on the Russians at Port Arthur, that Japan was not a country not of "children" but of an educated urban elite that was fast on the way to modernization and status as an international rival to Western powers. Lowell's Mars would also be cut out of the same romantic cloth as Hearn's Japan (or New Orleans). Mars was a world that was well and fatally on the way out. Its oceans had dried up, and it was in a state of advanced desertification. The Martians clung to bitter existence through the laying down of their desperate planet-wide canal network.

Its denizens were, as Lowell pointed out, such as whose acquaintance was well worth making, as Hearn had found the "colored Creoles" of New Orleans, and as both had found the childlike, feminine, and artistic people of Medieval Japan.

Hearn and Lowell sought for exotic worlds, *fin de siècle* worlds of nostalgia, regret, and loss: New Orleans, Japan, Mars.

"I have spoken with enthusiasm of the beauty of New Orleans," wrote Hearn. "I must speak with pain of her decay. The city is fading, mouldering, crumbling—slowly but certainly.

"As moulders and crumbles some quaint pleasure-house in the midst of weed-grown gardens once luxuriantly romantic as those which form a background for the warm pictures of the Decameron, so moulders this fair, quaint city in the midst of the ruined paradise of Louisiana. So, also, are mouldering all the old cities of the South, for their prosperity had its root of nourishment in the enormous wealth of the planters of cotton and rice and sugar, and that wealth is gone.

"I suppose that when the hatreds of the war have burnt themselves out; when the descendants of the ruined planters remember the family misfortunes only as traditions are remembered; when a new social system shall have arisen from the ashes of the



Lafcadio HEARN,
cited from Christopher BENFY's Book

old, like the new world of the Scandinavian edda from the fires of Ragnarok—then shall the old plantations be gain made fertile, and the cottonwood cleared away, and the life of those southern cities be resurrected. But the new South shall never be as the old. Those once grand residences that are being devoured by mossy decay can never be rebuilt; the old plantations ... will be parceled out to a hundred farmers from States that are not Southern; and the foreign beauties of New Orleans will never be restored.... The new South may, perhaps, become far richer than the old South; but there will be no aristocracy, no lives of unbridled luxury, no reckless splendors of hospitality, no mad pursuit of costliest pleasures. The old Southern hospitality has been starved to death, and leaves no trace of its former being save the thin ghost of a romance.... The period of decay seems to me the close of the romantic era of Southern history."

So, too, in *The Soul of the Far East*, Lowell had evoked the same note of "beauty that must die"; of beautiful, childlike people, about to be overtaken by the more robust—and sophisticated—peoples of the

West:

"Just as surely as the morning passes into afternoon, so surely are these races of the Far East, if unchanged, destined to disappear before the advancing nations of the West. Vanish they will off the face of the earth and leave our planet the eventually possession of the dwellers where the day declines.... Their Nirvana is already being realized; already it has wrapped Far Eastern Asia in its winding-sheet, the shroud of those whose day was but a dawn, as if in prophetic keeping with the names they gave their homes,—the Land of the Day's Beginning, and the Land of the Morning Calm."

Finally, Lowell would close *Mars as the Abode of Life* with the same elegiac note:

"A sadder interest attaches to such existence: that it is, cosmically speaking, soon to pass away. To our eventual descendants life on Mars will no longer be something to scan and interpret. It will have lapsed beyond the hope of study or recall. Thus to us it takes on an added glamour from the fact that it has not long to last. For the process that brought it to its present pass must go on to the bitter end, until the last spark of Martian life goes out. The drying up of the planet is certain to proceed until its surface can support no life at all. Slowly but surely time will snuff it out. When the last ember is thus extinguished, the planet will roll a dead world through space, its evolutionary career forever ended."

It is a deep-seated tendency of human nature to sentimentalize and romanticize the past—and the far away and exotic. In fact, as we now know, the Martians have not vanished; they were never there.

The other worlds we imagine through the mistifying eyes of nostalgia are often but idealized and gilded visions of our own childhood, fading recollections of something that existed in the mind alone, not otherwise. And the glamour of that which has not long to last is the glamour of life itself, which relentlessly sifts from us and which we are able to grasp for but a fleeting moment. □

Letters to the Editor

●.....*Subject: Mars 19 sept*
Received: Wed 21 Sept 2011 06:02 JST

Hi, Poor seeing & average condition. PLS see it.

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110919/SGh19Sept11.jpg>

○.....*Subject: Mars 23 Sept*
Received: Sun 15 Sept 2011 03:39 JST

Hi, on 23 Sept seeing was fair so that I took one image. PLS see them. B.W

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110923/SGh23Sept11.jpg>

○.....*Subject: Mars 30 sept*
Received: Fri 30 Sept 2011 14:01 JST

Hi, Average condition with 35 degrees above. I took one image of mars. PLS see it.

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110930/SGh30Sept11.jpg>

○.....*Subject: Mars 2 oct*
Received: Tue 4 Oct 2011 10:58 JST

Hi, Under fair seeing, I took one image of Mars. PLS see it.

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/111002/SGh02Oct11.jpg>

○.....*Subject: Mars 8 Oct*
Received: Mon 10 Oct 2011 00:02 JST

Hi, Under a fair seeing, I took one set of images. PLS see it.

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/111008/SGh08Oct11.jpg>

Sadegh GHOMIZADEH (Tehran, IRAN)

●.....*Subject: Nix Olympica*
Received: Sun 25 Sept 2011 00:23 JST

Dear Masatsugu, Thank you for the very illuminating article on the aspects of Olympus Mons as observed from the Earth. I remember your expounding on this at the Paris meeting. One cannot hear this often enough as there is so much confusion on these points.

Over the summer, I have read a novel in manuscript about Percival Lowell—as seen through the eyes of his secretary Wrexie Louise Leonard—by Jan Milsapp, a filmmaker in San Francisco, and just received notice that the novel about Percival Lowell by Jean Cave, whom you met in Paris, is about to be published. The title is *Nos Reves sont plus*

Grands que le Ciel.

Have been very busy but hope to get to Hearn for you after a while. Best

○.....*Subject: Wm. Herschel and Mars*
Received: Sun 25 Sept 2011 00:57 JST

Dear Masatsugu, Just after I sent the last, I resumed work on a chapter of a Galaxies book describing the career of William Herschel, and returned to the excellent article by Hitomi Tsunemachi (translated by you in No. 377 of the CMO or No. 3 of the *International Society of Mars Observers*). It raises some interesting points; namely, that Herschel's interest in Mars went back to early in his career as an astronomer—he was observing the planet already in 1777, and making observations which would eventually lead him to assert: "That planet has a considerable but moderate atmosphere, so that its inhabitants probably enjoy a situation in many respects similar to ours." Ms. Tsunemachi makes an interesting point I had not thought about before: when William Herschel moved from No. 5 Rivers Street in Bath back to No. 19 New King Street, it was because the latter had a fine southward-facing garden, which the house on Rivers Street lacked (in fact, William had to set up his seven-foot reflector on the cobblestone street in front of his house), and he mentions the interesting circumstance that that summer of 1781 Mars was inexorably moving to a very fine opposition, similar to that in 1986, when it would be close to the Earth but far to the south. I think it is quite likely that the move was in anticipation of this grand Martian event, though I don't know of any place where Herschel specifically mentions it.

As Ms. Tsunemachi points out, Herschel's observing log books for March 12 and 13 show that:

On March 12, he observed Mars at 5:45 in the morning, and noted "Mars seems to be all over bright but the air is so frosty & undulating that it is possible there may be spots without my being able to distinguish them." At 5:53 he includes an entry: "I am pretty sure there is no spot on Mars." He also looked at Saturn and noted, "The shadow of Saturn lays [sic.] at the left upon the ring."

On March 13 his log book reads: Pollux is followed by 3 small stars at about 2' and 3' {thus he was examining it for companions as part of his double star research project}

Mars as usual.

In the quartile near Zeta Tauri the lowest of two is a curious either nebulous star or perhaps a comet.

A small star follows the Comet at 2/3rds of the field's distance.

The "comet" was of course Uranus.

It appears clear from all this that Herschel observed Pollux and Mars in the morning of March 13, and then the discovery of Uranus occurred as he commenced observations (presumably after he returned from giving concerts or whatever) that evening.

It is at least possible that Herschel's move to the house at New King Street—and the discovery of Uranus—owed something to his early fascination with Mars.

Bill SHEEHAN (Willmar, MN)

●.....*Subject: Mars 24-Sept-2011*
Received: Mon 26 Sept 2011 18:48 JST

Hi Guys after a great Jupiter session I finally located Mars through the branches of a weeping willow.

An hour later I got some images showing reasonable detail of Sinus Meridiani, Oxia Palus and Mare Acidalium. The North polar region is shrouded in cloud

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110924/DTy24Sept11.jpg>

Best wishes

Dave TYLER (Flackwell Heath, Bucks, the UK)

●.....*Subject: Mars 2011/09/26*
Received: Mon 26 Sept 2011 22:59 JST

Hello, Here is Mars on 2011/09/26. The transparency was bad, while the seeing was average. T = +11.5°C. Regards

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110926/JpP26Sept11.jpg>

○.....*Subject: Mars 2011/09/29*
Received: Thu 29 Sept 2011 20:11 JST

Hello, Here is Mars on 2011/09/29. The transparency was average, and the seeing was fair. T = +10°C

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110929/JpP29Sept11.jpg>

○.....*Subject: Mars 2011/10/01*
Received: Sat 1 Oct 2011 20:05 JST

Hello, Here is Mars on 2011/10/01. The transparency was average, and also the seeing was average. T = +12°C. Regards

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/111001/JpP01Oct11.jpg>

○.....*Subject: Mars 2011/10/02*
Received: Sun 2 Oct 2011 18:04 JST

Hello, Here is Mars on 2011/10/02. The transparency was average, while the seeing was fair. T = +11°C.

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/111002/JpP02Oct11.jpg>

○.....*Subject: Mars 2011/10/14*
Received: Fri 14 Oct 2011 16:42 JST

Hello, Here is Mars on 2011/10/14. The transparency was average. The seeing was bad. Sometimes, the wind was annoying. T = +8°C

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/111014/JpP14Oct11.jpg>

Regards

Jean-Jacques POUPEAU (Essonne, FRANCE)

●.....*Subject: Mars 2011.09.26*
Received: Tue 27 Sept 2011 04:04 JST

Hi all, As usual, it's always a thrill to start again imaging a planet for a new apparition. That was the case for me this morning, for my first image of Mars since almost 1 year and a half.

For now, I'm rather satisfied despite the small 5.1 arcsec diameter:

<http://astrosurf.com/delcroix/images/planches/m20110926-MDe.jpg>

We can see North Niliacus Lacus and Mare Acidalium, and East Deuteronilus, and South Chryse very bright, dark Mare Erythraeum, with Sinus Meridiani/Sabaeus East. And the North Pole covered with clouds. And of course the usual limb artefact always very strong in my images.

Steady skies,

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110926/MDc26Sept11.jpg>

Marc DELCROIX (Tournefeuille, FRANCE)

●.....*Subject: mars sketches 20/08 & 24/09*
Received: Tue 27 Sept 2011 17:59:22 JST

Hi, here are my 2 sketches from august 20 and september 24.

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110924/KSm24Sept11.jpg>

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110820/KSm20Aug11.jpg>

Instrument: 12" f/5 dobson, magnification: 416x.
Seeing: poor + very good. Filters: no colour filters used, apodizing mask used. Greetings,

○.....*Subject: RE: mars sketches 28/09 & 02/10*
Received: Sun 2 Oct 2011 20:33:37 JST

Hi, here are my 2 sketches from september 28 & october 02.

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/111002/KSm02Oct11.jpg>

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110928/KSm28Sept11.jpg>

instrument: 12" f/5 dobson, magnification: 312x + 536x, seeing: average + very good, filters: no colour filters used, apodizing mask used. Greetings,

Kris SMET (Bornem, BELGIUM)

●.....*Subject: Re: CMO/ISMO updated*
Received: Sat 1 Oct 2011 2:16 JST

Dear Masami, Thank you for your emails and the printed CMO which is always a pleasure to read. This fall I will be trying out a new scope and see if it produces better planet images than my LX200. I look forward to the upcoming Mars season. Please note that from now on I have a NEW ADDRESS:

I would very much appreciate if you sent the printed CMO there. I now live 4 km from the Swedish south coast, about as far south in the country as you can come (55°25' N). The planets are thus almost five degrees higher than in Uppsala.

All the best,

Johan WARELL (Skivarp, SWEDEN)

●.....*Subject: Mars obs. last 3rd from SMK*
Received: Tue 4 Oct 2011 5:54 JST

Dear sir, Please find my recent observations performed last 3rd with the RC200mm. Some comments are noted with the sketch. I join the report from the Mr Gomizadeh's images of last 30th sept. (nothing to see with the atmospheric refraction disturbance).

For your perusal. Have good receipt. Faithfully.

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/111003/SMk03Oct11.jpg>

Stanislas MAKSYMOWICZ

(Ecquevilly, FRANCE)

●.....*Subject: Mars images (September 22nd, 2011.)*
Received: Thu 6 Oct 2011 05:42 JST

Hi all, Some Mars images from the 22nd. Fair seeing and windy conditions. Solis Lacus is nicely seen along with clouds around the NPC. Ganges/Lunae Lacus looks especially dark and prominent. Some clouds over Tharsis.

http://www.damianpeach.com/mars1112/2011_09_22rgb.jpg

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110922/DPc22Sept11.jpg>

Best Wishes

○.....*Subject: Mars images (September 23rd, 2011.)*
Received: Sat 8 Oct 2011 06:26 JST

Hi all, Good seeing conditions on this morning. Chryse is again nicely presented. Weak clouds around the NPC with Ganges/Lunae Lacus again appearing distinctly dark.

http://www.damianpeach.com/mars1112/2011_09_23rgb.jpg

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110923/DPc23Sept11.jpg>

Best Wishes

○.....*Subject: Mars images (September 28th, 2011.)*
Received: Wed 12 Oct 2011 06:21 JST

Hi all, Here are some images from the 28th. Sinus Meridiani and Acidalius are prominent.

http://www.damianpeach.com/mars1112/2011_09_28rgb.jpg

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110928/DPc28Sept11.jpg>

Best Wishes

Damian PEACH (Selsey, the UK)

●.....*Subject: Mars: 27/09/11*
Received: Thu 6 Oct 2011 05:44 JST

Greetings All!! Attached is an observation I made of Mars on 2011 September 27th. Alas, as one would expect, not a great deal is revealed on a 5" disk. Nevertheless, I was able to see M Acidalius, Sinus Sabaeus, and the bright NPC. I believe there may have been a bright equatorial cloud but I am far from certain of this.

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmons/2011/110927/PAb27Sept11.jpg>

Best wishes,

Paul ABEL (Leicester, the UK)

●.....*Subject: Mars 1 October 2011*
Received: Wed 12 Oct 2011 12:39 JST

Here my best Mars of this year imaged in the wonderful night of October 1, 2011. For Dutch stan-

dard seeing was quite good. Considering the low altitude there are many details visible.

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmoms/2011/111001/JSb01Oct11.jpg>

Regards,

John S SUSSENBACH

(Houten, the NETHERLANDS)

●.....*Subject: Change of address for Martín Gaskell*
Received: Fri 14 Oct 2011 11:49 JST

Hi everybody, please note my change of institution and change of e-mail address.

Best wishes for Mars observing,

Martín GASKELL (Valparaíso, CHILE)

☆☆☆

CMO/ISMO 2011/12 Mars Report #02

2011/2012 ISMO Mars Observations in September 2011

♂.....Present report deals with the observations made in September 2011. During the period, the Martian season proceeded from $\lambda=354^\circ\text{Ls}$ to $\lambda=009^\circ\text{Ls}$: On 13 September the northern spring equinox visited. The apparent diameter is still small which just went up from 4.7" to 5.2". The central latitude however moved from 11°N to 17°N so that the northern hemisphere is facing towards us. Apparent declination D decreased from $22^\circ49'\text{N}$ to $19^\circ33'\text{N}$. The phase angle ι augmented from 30° to 33° . (We hope every observer does not use the 'phase' but employs the 'phase angle'.)

♂.....The observations we received from the following observers in September are as follows:

ABEL, Paul G (PAb) Leicester, the UK

1 Colour Drawing (27 September 2011) 310×20cm speculum

AKUTSU, Tomio (Ak) Cebu island, the Philippines

2 Sets of RGB + 2 IR + 2 Colour Images (9, 11 September 2011)
 36cm SCT @f/24, 55 with a DMK21AU04, DFK21AU04

DELCROIX, Marc (MDc) Tournefeuille, France

1 Set of RGB + 1 IR Images (26 September 2011) 25cm SCT with a Basler acA640-100gm

GHOMIZADEH, Sadegh (SGh) Tehran, Iran

1 Set of RsGB + 3 Colour + 1 R + 2 B Images (10, 19, 23, 30 September 2011)
 (28cm SCT @f/37 with a DMK21AU04.AS)

KIDD, Simon D (SKd) Welwyn, Herts, the UK

1 Colour Image (2 September 2011) 36cm SCT (with a DBK21AF04.AS)

MELKA, James T (JMI) Chesterfield, MO, the USA

1 Set of RGB Images (6 September 2011) 30cm speculum with a DBK21AU04.AS

MINAMI, Masatsugu (Mn) *Fukui City Observatory, Fukui, Japan

27 Drawings (10, 12, 14, 15, 24, 27 September 2011) 340, 400×20cm Goto ED refractor*

MORALES RIVERA, Efrain (EMr) Aguadilla, Puerto Rico

1 Set of LRGB Images (5 September 2011) 31cm SCT with a Flea3

MORITA, Yukio (Mo) Hatsuka-ichi, Hiroshima, Japan

1 Set of RGB + 1 LRGB Colour + 1 L Images (6 September 2011)
 25cm speculum @f/80 with a Flea3

NAKAJIMA, Takashi (Nj) *Fukui City Observatory, Fukui, Japan

27 Drawings (10, 12, 14, 15, 24, 27 September 2011) 340, 400×20cm Goto ED refractor*

PEACH, Damian A (DPc) Maidenhead, Berkshire, the UK

6 Sets of RGB Colour Images (15, 22, 23, 28 September 2011) 36cm SCT

POUPEAU, Jean-Jacques (JPp) Essonne, France

2 Sets of RGB + 2 R Images (26, 29 September 2011) 35cm Cassegrain with a SKYnyx 2-0

SMET, Kris (KSm) Bornem, Belgium

2 Colour Drawings (24, 28 September 2011) 310, 420×30cm Dobsonian

TYLER, David (DTy) Flackwell Heath, Bucks, the UK

1 Set of *RsGB* Images (24 September 2011) 36cm SCT with a SKYnyx 2-0

WALKER, Sean (SWk) Chester, NH, USA

1 Set of *RGB + 1 LRGB + 1 L + 2 IR* Images (13 September 2011)
32cm speculum with a DMK21AU618.AS

♂.....As the month of September came in, good images were delivered. However the KIDD (*SKd*) image conveys a strange colour which might have been useless. MORALES (*EMr*) obtained a set of good LRGB images on 5 Sept ($\lambda=356^\circ\text{Ls}$) at $\omega=282^\circ\text{W}$ where Syrtis Mj was caught near the CM and the *nph* and Utopia were clearly shot. On 6 Sept ($\lambda=356^\circ\text{Ls}$), MELKA (*JMl*) showed Syrtis Mj in the evening at $\omega=297^\circ\text{W}$ ($\iota=31^\circ$). On the same day, MORITA (*Mo*) in Japan imaged M Acidalium in the evening. On 9 Sept ($\lambda=358^\circ\text{Ls}$), AKUTSU (*Ak*) in the Philippines took similar scene at $\omega=056^\circ\text{W}$ (058°W) while Ophir and Ganges are more evident. On 10 Sept ($\lambda=359^\circ\text{Ls}$) MINAMI (*Mn*) and NAKAJIMA (*Nj*) started observing: Since the planet soon went high up, they each obtained 4 drawings every 40 minutes until the sunrise. It was confirmed Margaritifer S was recovered as in the preceding apparition. On 11 Sept ($\lambda=359^\circ\text{Ls}$), *Ak* took a set of images at $\omega=026^\circ\text{W}$ where M Acidalium was evident as well as Margaritifer S. The northern spring equinox visited on 13 Sept ($\lambda=360^\circ\text{Ls}$), and WALKER (*SWk*) produced excellent images at $\omega=212^\circ\text{W}$ where M Cimmerium was clearly caught, and the area around of Elysium was well described. It is possible that there is a rift due to a dust inside the *nph*. On 15 Sept ($\lambda=001^\circ\text{Ls}$), PEACH (*DPc*) also took a nice set of images at $\omega=122^\circ\text{W}$ (125°W) where it is shown Tharsis Montes are thinly covered by the evening clouds so early. The *npc* may be seen as a core but still the cloud hood exists. On 19 Sept ($\lambda=003^\circ\text{Ls}$) GHOMIZADEH (*SGh*) showed a thick M Acidalium at $\omega=017^\circ\text{W}$, and as KONNAÏ cautioned, the southern hemisphere may be affected by some effect of the dust MARCI pinned down (which was however not sensitised by THEMIS). On 22 Sept ($\lambda=004^\circ\text{Ls}$), *DPc* showed the surfaces at $\omega=058^\circ\text{W}$ and 063°W which are comparable with those taken by *Ak* on 9 Sept ($\lambda=358^\circ\text{Ls}$). On 23 Sept ($\lambda=005^\circ\text{Ls}$) *SGh* took an insufficient set at $\omega=339^\circ\text{W}$ where S Sabaeus was evident, and the *nph* is thick on the morning side. On the day at $\omega=041^\circ\text{W}$ and 050°W , *DPc* produced nice images where the evening M Acidalium prevailed and the *npc* shows a shadowy area at the northern limb. On 24 Sept ($\lambda=005^\circ\text{Ls}$), TYLER (*DTy*) first made a shot at $\omega=008^\circ\text{W}$ where M Acidalium was at the morning side. Deuteronilus is visible. It was said that the seeing on the night was very excellent (especially for Jupiter) at Bucks. On the same day SMET (*KMs*) drew at $\omega=019^\circ\text{W}$. On 26 Sept ($\lambda=006^\circ\text{Ls}$) DELCROIX (*MDc*) and POUPEAU (*JPp*) observed at $\omega=006^\circ\text{W}$ and at $\omega=019^\circ\text{W}$ respectively, and supplemented the preceding observations. *MDc*'s images may show a dust inside the *nph*. At Fukui, *Nj* and *Mn* visually judged on 24 Sept ($\lambda=006^\circ\text{Ls}$) and 27 Sept ($\lambda=007^\circ\text{Ls}$) that the *npc* was apparent around $\omega=210^\circ\text{W}\sim 220^\circ\text{W}$ bounded by a dark fringe though this must have been different from the region at M Acidalium: That is, the centre of

the nph must be deviated from the pole. On 27 Sept ($\lambda=007^\circ\text{Ls}$) ABEL (*PAb*) made a sketch at $\omega=356^\circ\text{W}$. On 28 Sept ($\lambda=007^\circ\text{Ls}$) at $\omega=341^\circ\text{W}$ *KSm* made a sketch, and *DPc* produced an excellent set at $\omega=358^\circ\text{W}$ where Aryn's nails (even in G) and Deuteronilus are evident. On 29 Sept ($\lambda=008^\circ\text{Ls}$), according to the images of *JPr* at $\omega=351^\circ\text{W}$, the north of M Acidalius looked occupied by a disturbed nph. *SGh*'s images on 30 Sept ($\lambda=008^\circ\text{Ls}$) at $\omega=270^\circ\text{W}$ show Syrtis Mj near the CM: Utopia is visible but still looks to be covered by the nph. Hellas was shot not white, but every one should not only take B image, but also G image.

Now the Martian surface is making a fresh start, and every observer should pay attention to the activity of Hellas and the variations of the npc as well as the orographic phenomena and so on.

(M MINAMI & M MURAKAMI)

Ephemeris for the Observations of the 2011/12 Mars. IV

November 2011

Masami MURAKAMI

As a sequel to the preceding list of the Ephemeris for the physical observations of Mars, we here list up the necessary elements of the Ephemeris for period from 26 October 2011 to 3 December 2011: The data are listed for every day at 00:00 GMT (not TDT). The symbols ω and ϕ denote the Longitude and Latitude of the sub-Earth point respectively. The symbols λ , δ and ι stand for the Areocentric Longitude of the

Sun, the Apparent Diameter and the Phase Angle respectively. We also add the column of the Position Angle Π of the axis rotation, measured eastwards from the north point: This is useful to determine the north pole direction from the $p\leftarrow$. The Apparent Declination of the planet is also given at the final column (denoted D). The data here are basically based on *The Astronomical Almanac for the Year 2011*.

Date (00:00GMT)	ω	ϕ	λ	δ	ι	Π	D
26 October 2011	011.21°W	21.3°N	020.51°Ls	5.74"	35.8°	4.3°	+15°46'
27 October 2011	001.54°W	21.4°N	020.98°Ls	5.77"	35.9°	4.6°	+15°37'
28 October 2011	351.88°W	21.5°N	021.45°Ls	5.80"	36.0°	5.0°	+15°27'
29 October 2011	342.22°W	21.6°N	021.92°Ls	5.83"	36.0°	5.3°	+15°17'
30 October 2011	332.57°W	21.8°N	022.39°Ls	5.86"	36.1°	5.7°	+15°07'
31 October 2011	322.91°W	21.9°N	022.86°Ls	5.89"	36.2°	6.0°	+14°58'
01 November 2011	313.25°W	22.0°N	023.32°Ls	5.92"	36.2°	6.4°	+14°48'
02 November 2011	303.61°W	22.1°N	023.79°Ls	5.95"	36.3°	6.7°	+14°38'
03 November 2011	293.96°W	22.2°N	024.25°Ls	5.98"	36.3°	7.0°	+14°28'
04 November 2011	284.30°W	22.3°N	024.72°Ls	6.01"	36.4°	7.4°	+14°19'
05 November 2011	274.66°W	22.4°N	025.18°Ls	6.05"	36.5°	7.7°	+14°09'
06 November 2011	265.01°W	22.5°N	025.65°Ls	6.08"	36.5°	8.0°	+13°59'
07 November 2011	255.38°W	22.6°N	026.11°Ls	6.11"	36.6°	8.4°	+13°49'
08 November 2011	245.74°W	22.7°N	026.57°Ls	6.15"	36.6°	8.7°	+13°40'

	Date (00:00GMT)	ω	φ	λ	δ	ι	Π	D	
09	November 2011	236.09°W	22.7°N	027.04°Ls	6.18"	36.7°	9.0°	+13°30'	
10	November 2011	226.47°W	22.8°N	027.50°Ls	6.22"	36.7°	9.3°	+13°20'	
11	November 2011	216.83°W	22.9°N	027.96°Ls	6.25"	36.7°	9.7°	+13°11'	
12	November 2011	207.19°W	23.0°N	028.42°Ls	6.29"	36.8°	10.0°	+13°01'	
13	November 2011	197.58°W	23.1°N	028.88°Ls	6.32"	36.8°	10.3°	+12°51'	
14	November 2011	187.94°W	23.1°N	029.34°Ls	6.36"	36.9°	10.6°	+12°42'	
15	November 2011	178.33°W	23.2°N	029.80°Ls	6.39"	36.9°	10.9°	+12°32'	
16	November 2011	168.70°W	23.3°N	030.26°Ls	6.43"	36.9°	11.2°	+12°23'	
17	November 2011	159.09°W	23.3°N	030.72°Ls	6.47"	37.0°	11.5°	+12°13'	
18	November 2011	149.47°W	23.4°N	031.17°Ls	6.51"	37.0°	11.8°	+12°04'	
19	November 2011	139.87°W	23.5°N	031.63°Ls	6.55"	37.0°	12.1°	+11°54'	
20	November 2011	130.26°W	23.5°N	032.09°Ls	6.59"	37.0°	12.4°	+11°45'	
21	November 2011	120.66°W	23.6°N	032.55°Ls	6.64"	37.1°	12.7°	+11°36'	
22	November 2011	111.06°W	23.6°N	033.00°Ls	6.68"	37.1°	13.0°	+11°26'	
23	November 2011	101.47°W	23.7°N	033.46°Ls	6.72"	37.1°	13.3°	+11°17'	
24	November 2011	091.87°W	23.7°N	033.91°Ls	6.76"	37.1°	13.6°	+11°08'	
25	November 2011	082.27°W	23.8°N	034.37°Ls	6.81"	37.1°	13.9°	+10°59'	
26	November 2011	072.70°W	23.8°N	034.82°Ls	6.85"	37.1°	14.2°	+10°50'	
27	November 2011	063.12°W	23.8°N	035.27°Ls	6.89"	37.1°	14.4°	+10°41'	
28	November 2011	053.54°W	23.9°N	035.72°Ls	6.94"	37.1°	14.7°	+10°32'	
29	November 2011	043.97°W	23.9°N	036.18°Ls	6.99"	37.1°	15.0°	+10°23'	
30	November 2011	034.40°W	23.9°N	036.63°Ls	7.03"	37.0°	15.3°	+10°14'	
01	December 2011	024.84°W	24.0°N	037.08°Ls	7.08"	37.0°	15.5°	+10°06'	
02	December 2011	015.28°W	24.0°N	037.53°Ls	7.13"	37.0°	15.8°	+09°57'	
03	December 2011	005.72°W	24.0°N	037.99°Ls	7.18"	37.0°	16.0°	+09°49'	- - -

TEN YEARS AGO (198)

----- CMO #252 (25 October 2001) pp3143~3158-----

<http://www.hida.kyoto-u.ac.jp/~cmo/cmomn2/cmo252/index.htm>

The 16th Report in 2001 treated the period from the latter half of September to the first half of October 2001. Four months passed since the emergence of the global dust storm while the markings were still obscure, and it was considered some were due to the fallout of dust. The atmospheric dust must have been fewer, but still local dust disturbances were occurring. The planet was in Sgr and the apparent declination was slightly going up. Just before the eastern quadrature, the planet was near the meridian when the Sun set down. The Martian season λ was from 234°Ls to 253°Ls. The δ was under 10", and the φ was up from 2°S to 10°S, and the ι was maximal at 46°.

Reporters were 6 with 40 observations from abroad and domestically 7 members with 240 observations. Unfortunately MORITA (*Mo*) could not observe because of the machine troubles.

The aspects of the dust were picked out according to the regions. Olympus Mons was still covered by the dust float and the summit was a dark spot. At the area of Solis L the bright dust streaks were still visible, and Solis L itself was not well recovered. S Sabaeus was peculiar due to its western part was obscure together with S Meridiani. M Cimmerium was caught by every observer.

At the circumpolar region M Chronium looked rather darker. Hellas was the place with smaller dusts *inside* but because of the fall down of the angular diameter it was difficult to observe minutely.

The spc was clear though small since the southern hemisphere declined towards us. Quite roundish. The season was near when Novus Mons should be detached, but nobody could check. Otherwise, such varieties of markings of Mons Argentius, Deltoton Sinus, M Tyrrhenum and so on were mentioned.

It was reported and touched that HST and MGS images were published on 11 October. It was criticised that it was no good to seriously take an MGS rotating lantern with images just made at 2 o'clock PM. Especially it does never show the morning phenomena including dust disturbances.

On the other hand the results by the TES was said interesting: (in the following, MGC/TES, HST, MGS/MOC, respectively)

<http://tes.asu.edu/>

<http://hubblesite.org/newscenter/archive/releases/solar-system/mars/2001/31/>

http://www.msss.com/mars_images/moc/10_11_01_dust_storm

LtE shows ones from GRAFTON (TX), PARKER (FL), MELILLO (NY), WHITBY (VA), VALIMBERTI (Australia), QUARRA (Italy), DOMBROWSKI (CT): On the other hand, from Japan, KUMAMORI, MORITA, ISHADOH emailed.

TSUNEMACHI's Essay (11th) was about "utility of copying": She especially exemplified how a famous researcher (called S SHIRAKAWA) was able to *newly* unearth the meaning of structures associated with Kanji (Chinese characters) by copying the old style Kanji by his own hand; his research now being recognised revolutionary and very right from the oriental world. TSUNEMACHI suggests that the sketching of Mars will bring something more important than the just imaging. TYA (74) treated CMO #110 (25 October 1991): Mars twenty years ago was near the conjunction and the CMO began to describe how to observe "1992/93 Mars". This apparition was rather aphelic but was indispensable to observe the northern hemisphere season.

(Mk & Mn)

COMMUNICATIONS IN

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MARS

No. 252
25 October 2001

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CMO 2001 Mars Report # 16 OAA Mars Section

FOUR months have passed since the global dust cloud was entrained, while the apparent Martian surface still remains opaque. The dust-laden atmosphere must have been much cleaned and the activity must be in the decay phase, but the usual dark markings do not well show up, possibly because the surface must have received some fallout of the dust particles which will survive until the landed dusts will be gradually blown away. Furthermore we sometimes observe that the surface looks duller as if subsequent minor local dust disturbances still inject an amount of airborne dust into the atmosphere. At any rate, however, it is now harder to watch the details since the apparent angular diameter δ is already under 10 arc seconds.

We review this time our observations made during the period from 16 September (23rd Lt) to 15 October 2001 (25th Lt).

On 16 September, δ was 11.9", while it went down to 9.8" on 15 October. The central latitude ϕ went up from 2° S to 10° S. As is illustrated on a Figure in CMO #237 p2846, the tilt ϕ reads around from 250° Lt in a similar way as in 1986, 1969, 1954 and so we may compare the present case with the behaviour in those preceding years, though the angular diameter differs as shown in the other Figure of the same article.

The phase angle ϵ remained near 46° during the present period, and was maximal at the beginning of October (46.3°). The altitude is ascending seen from the NH, and the apparent declination recovered upto -24° 13' on 15 October. Mars attains the eastern quadrature on 30 October at 2h, so that the most preferable observing hour is just around the time at set of the Sun.

ϕ ……黄雲が立つて既に四ヶ月になるが、依然として火星は綺麗に見えない。残るか暗色模様は塵埃にでも覆えられ様になっている、大気の方は透明度は増しているようだが、表面の砂埃りが取れないのであろう。而も、局所的な黄塵はまだ起っているらしく、時には黄雲が濃くなっているように見えるときがある。然し、視直径 δ は10秒角を割った。今回は

16 September (23rd Lt) から 15 October 2001 (25th Lt)

までの観測を扱うが、16 Sept. に6°11'9"であったのに対し、15 Oct. に6°40'に落ちた。中央緯度 ϕ も2°Sから10°Sまで延びた。#237p2846の図を参照すると分かるが、250°Lt通りからは1986年、1969年、1954年時の ϕ と似てくる。従って、南緯度の見掛けなど比較が容易である。但し、その前頁の視直径の比較を見ると分かるように、視直径は相違している。尚、火星の位相角はこの期間中 $\epsilon=46^\circ$ で、十月上旬最大になった($\epsilon=46.3^\circ$)。火星の高度は上がっており、15 Oct.には-24°13'となった。観測時間は日没前後から夕方暫くとなった。30 Oct. 2hに東距となる。従って、そろそろ日没時が高度の最も高い時である。

3 1 4 3

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