

one, and how much to the other cause, and hence
the method - perfectly correct in theory - which ^{you} have
proposed, of finding the rate of ascent of the tail,
becomes embarrassed - and in the present state of our
knowledge, inadequate. Yet it would be interesting
to try its results. - I do not think we have yet
got matters at all straight as to Cometary Phenomena.
Though it is easy to speak of this resistance, and to see
effects which look like it, the very striking and obvious
fact that the head of the tail which "precedes" (that
is according to the real or orbital, not the diurnal
apparent motion of the Comet) has been very much denser
and broader ~~than~~ than the other. This gives no indication
of resistance - & seems unintelligible. - A curious
feature has been that above a certain point the tail
has been deflected from the regular curve, and bent
into quite a fresh direction. This has happened in
comparatively a faint region, and consequently may
not have been universally taken notice of. But it
has been so evident to my eye and other eyes since first