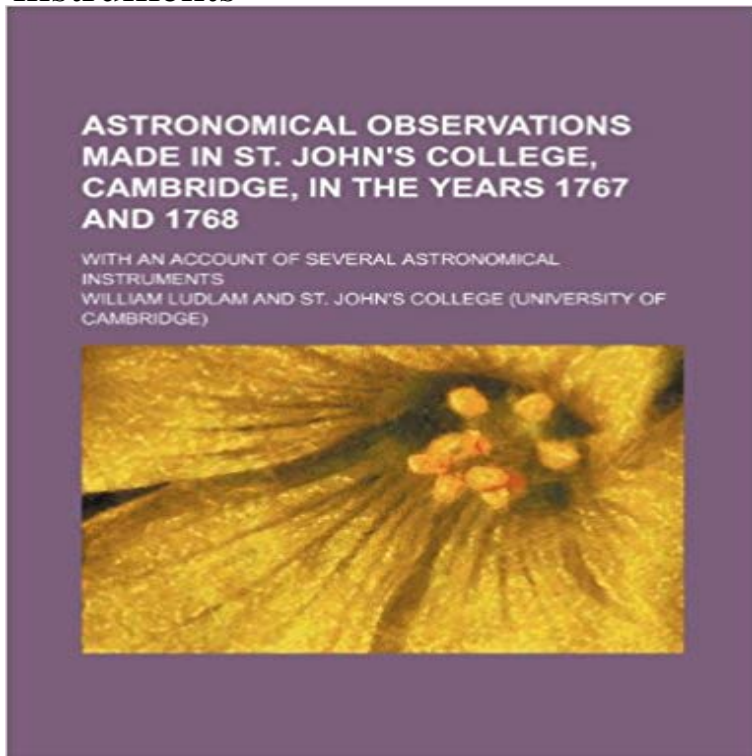


# Astronomical observations made in St. Johns College, Cambridge, in the years 1767 and 1768; with an account of several astronomical instruments



This historic book may have numerous typos and missing text. Purchasers can download a free scanned copy of the original book (without typos) from the publisher. Not indexed. Not illustrated. 1769 Excerpt: ...into beat is given by M. Bertboud, in his essay on clock-work. This was suggested by Mr. M. reach the pendulum ball; still more of that force will be lost, if instead of wood, any softer substance intervenes: A piece of paper interposed between the ends of the screws s s and flat n n, will much lessen the motion of the pendulum; if a piece of soft leather be interposed, the clock will hardly go at all!.. 92. It contributes further to this end (of transferring the whole motion with certainty to the ball) that the crutch acts edgewise, and that the rod being. diameter, is much stiffer than one of steel of the same weight. Anyone will see that if the ball were suspended by a thread only, the force of the crutch would be wholly spent in bending that thread, and no motion be communicated to the ball. The case will resemble this in some degree, if the rod is weak, and unelastic: Part of the force of the clock will be spent in bending the rod backward and forward, part only impel the ball. For this reason it is a fault in the construction of a pendulum rod, to have it consist of many parts and joints, especially if the ball is likewise loose upon the rod. In some pendulums of this sort, the ball may be heard to grate upon the parts that support it as the pendulum vibrates,-f 93. The crutch here described has this further advantage in its construction, that it acts upon the pendulum rod in a point very near its axis, and in a direction passing through that axis at right angles to the flat of the spring, all which can be effected with ease and certainty in this method. Whenever motion is communicated through bodies imperfectly elastic, some part of it will be lost, and both the part so lost and the part communicated will be uncertain, because

the degree of elastic...

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