

## Re: Kolker's False Claims...

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On Mon, 27 Dec 2004 Paul Stowe wrote:

- > *OK fine. Show us (I challenge anyone) where in Maxwell's work*
- > *it/he says that the MMX should have found something.*

In a letter published in the proceedings of the Royal Society in 1880 (page 108) Maxwell pointed out that no first-order effect of the Earth's motion on the round-trip speed of light was to be expected, because the time of the round trip would be affected only by an amount proportional to the SQUARE of the ratio ( $v_{\text{earth}}/v_{\text{light}}$ ). He doubted whether such a small effect could be measured, but a young experimentalist named Albert Michelson read Maxwell's letter and took it as a challenge to develop optical interference techniques sensitive enough to detect the effect of the Earth's motion through the ether predicted by Maxwell. But when the experiment was performed, the fringe shifts predicted by Maxwell were not found.