in taking care that his own methods of investigation
the conditions which had been agreed upon. A false
ments of those who differ with him in opinion; and
unusually critical; and
are above suspicion (of special pleading) and fully
appear are perhaps too ready to denounce the whole.
Seeing is valueless if it has not taught us
horizontal.
convex, the line of sight would have been a tangent
altitude or top of the flag, at B, was five feet. The
that the surface of six miles of standing water is
the earth is
erected and "levelled" on the sea shore; on
looking over it towards the sea, the horizon, or boundary
is contrary to every carefully-made observation of my
own. But to seek to decide an important point by
the elevation of two little sticks upon a rock near the
sea is not sufficient. The slightest possible change in
the position of the axis of the eye would make a con-
iderable difference in the apparent position of the
horizon. Let a perfectly smooth block of marble or
wood be fixed and "levelled" on the sea shore; on
looking over it towards the sea, the horizon, or boundary
of the water, will in every instance, and from every
altitude, appear to rise, and be distinctly visible in a
line with the marble surface. The fact of the sun not
being visible all over the earth at any one time, which
Mr. Wallace thinks is a proof of rotundity, is a matter
which cannot well be explained without the aid of
diagram; and as I am not certain whether you will
so far indulge your readers as to have such diagrams
engraved, I will refer to the subject, by your permission,
diagram Fig. 1, of this letter? Parallax.

1, Haxley Villas, Chalk Farm-road, London,
October 17.