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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Mock Sun.

THE train leaving Albany for Boston, in surmounting the hills east of the Hudson River, affords the traveller very beautiful views of the wide valley, the river, and a picturesque sky-

line formed by the bold and broken Helderbergs. On the evening of the 9th this view was enhanced in beauty by a superb sunset, having seemingly the double glory of two suns twenty degrees apart. It was not easy to determine the actual sun, so brilliant were both reality and counterfeit; but the mock sun, like many pretenders, overdid the thing a little, and assumed very gorgeous rainbow effects, that are not seen very near the royal original. It was north of the actual sunset.

The pretender was not, however, the often seen "sun-dog," which is ordinarily a scrap of rainbow color, but it had a luminous centre of golden refulgence, that was worthy of the orb of day; and, when seen by shutting off the sun with a shade, it made a centre of a brilliant sunset, really holding a court of its own.

This most attractive phenomenon, with varying changes, all wonderful, lasted for nearly half an hour, affording, in connection with the remarkable views, a very unusual union of terrestrial and celestial beauty. The change of our point of view was five or six miles as the train sped on; but the thin clouds upon which the colors were so lavishly embroidered were very far away, not showing perceptible change in position relative to the sun with that movement of the observer.

The same phenomena were simultaneously observed at Cazenovia, one hundred and ten miles due west, but there the sun's rival was seen south of the great luminary.

The next day was clear and fine at Cazenovia, but snowing at Boston, indicating that the frost crystals that masqueraded

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