

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Associate Professor Orchiston,

Re: Montgomery et al.'s paper on "Michell, Laplace and the Origin of the Black Hole Concept"

I was very pleased with the recent article on Michell and Laplace (Montgomery et al., 2009). May I add that Laplace's article is reprinted in my Zach collection book *Astronomie der Goethezeit* (Brosche, 1998), a second edition of which has appeared. Also, you should notice the book by Jean Eisenstaedt (2005) titled *Avant Einstein ...*, where Michell and Laplace are treated extensively. Finally, you may be interested to see that the germs for such ideas were more widely distributed. For example, our writer and scientist, G. Ch. Lichtenberg (1742–1799), also made pertinent notes, but did not publish his thoughts during his lifetime (see Brosche, 1993).

References

- Brosche, P., 1993. Ahn-Herr der Lichtablenkung. *Lichtenberg-Jahrbuch 1992*, 138-146. In 1994 corrections were published in the *Lichtenberg-Jahrbuch 1993* on page 106.
- Brosche, P. (ed.), 1998. *Astronomie der Goethezeit. Textsammlung aus Zeitschriften und Briefen Franz Xaver von Zachs.* (Second Edition). Frankfurt/M, Verlag Harri Deutsch. Pp. 98-102.
- Eisenstaedt, J., 2005. *Avant Einstein. Relativité, Lumière, Gravitation.* Paris, Éditions du Seuil.
- Montgomery, C., Orchiston, W., and Whittingham, I., 2009. Michell, Laplace and the origin of the black hole concept. *Journal of Astronomical History and Heritage*, 12(2), 90-96.

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