

*To the Editor of the Sydney Gazette.*

SIR,

Your X. correspondent in last Tuesday's *Gazette* seems to ridicule the simplicity of "An Inquirer," who in his ignorance, poor man! had imagined that the appearance of a star near mid-day in this brilliant climate of the south was a very unusual, if not an unprecedented occurrence. It is indeed a singularly beautiful and interesting object; and when the blue expanse above is partly obscured with clouds during the day, its apparent rapid passage between them might suggest to a poetic imagination the idea of a bright angel winging with speed his way through the heavens on some errand of love and mercy from the great Lord of all this glorious creation. But after all, this star is probably no star at all. In the absence of information from the learned, and without ephemeris or telescope at hand to determine, I would suggest that it is in all probability the planet Venus, but appearing with unusual splendour. On a clear morning, at the earliest (about two hours before sunrise,) its advance in the eastern sky is extremely beautiful. Its globular form seems distinctly apparent; and, but for its unusual brightness would at once be taken for this little queen of heaven.

yours respectfully,

A. STARGAZER.

Sydney, 25th Nov., 1839.