

Answered
Aug 24

78, REDCLIFFE GARDENS,
S. W. 10.
FLAXMAN 6717.

Aug. 8. 40.

Dear Mr Raddall,

Imprimis, may I say how much I have enjoyed your tales of Oldport in Maga the last few months. You will, no doubt, publish them in book form in due time, but before you do so it would be well, if possible, to correct an error ~~covered~~ in "The Love Moon" which, though probably unnoticed by nine readers out of ten, spoils the tale for the tenth.

"In the east over the sea glittered the evening star,"... The evening star is Venus, always in the West, & setting soon after the sun. When in the east she is a morning star rising shortly before the sun.

... "And above the dark woods of Topsail Point hung a faint radiance where the young moon slowly climbed."

The young moon is always in the West, setting like Venus after the sun. The only sickle moon that climbs is the old or waning moon which rises in the small hours before the sun in the east.

You can make Jupiter the star in the east (he is pretty bright in opposition), but how you are going to fix in a climbing moon in the west I can't imagine! But you may think me hypercritical, & perhaps I am!

Yours Sincerely
Robert Ballard.