

Country.	Latitude of the middle of the arc.		Arc measured.		Length of the degree concluded.	Observer.		
	D.	M.	S.	D.			M.	S.
Sweden . . .	66	20	10	1	37	19	365782	Svanberg
Russia . . .	58	17	37	3	35	5	365368	Sturve
England . . .	52	35	45	3	57	13	364971	Roy, Kater
France . . .	46	52	2	8	20	0	364872	Lacaille, Cassini
France . . .	44	51	2	12	22	13	364535	{ Delambre, { Mechain
Rome	42	59	0	2	9	47	364262	Boscovitch
America, U. S.	39	12	0	1	28	45	363786	Mason, Dixon
Cape of G. Hope	33	18	30	1	13	17½	364713	Lacaille
India	16	8	22	15	57	40	363044	{ Lambton, { Everest
India	12	32	21	1	34	56	363013	Lambton
Peru	1	31	0	3	7	3	362808	Condamine.

From these and other observations we deduce that the earth is not a perfectly round body, but that its real figure is that of an oblate spheroid. A spheroid may be either oblate or prolate, the former being flattened, and the latter drawn out, at the poles.

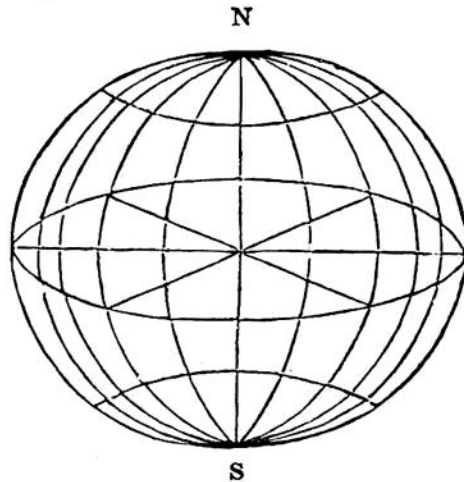


Figure of the Earth.

The following are the dimensions of the earth, as calculated from the best series of meridional arcs.

	Miles.
Greater or equatorial diameter . . .	7925.648
Lesser or polar diameter . . .	7899.170
Difference of diameters, or polar compression	26.478