

107. Da Silvanus P. Thompson a Galileo Ferraris, West Hampstead 25 ottobre 1896
Carta intestata: Morland Chislett Road, West Hampstead, N.W.

Dear professor Ferraris,

there has arisen in England some dispute as to the date when your discovery of the rotatory magnetic field became public in this country. Finding a conflict of views in the matter I venture to appeal to you personally, in the hope that you may be able to enlighten us.

Your memory entitled *Rotazioni Elettrodinamiche* was, I believe, read in March 1888, but not printed until about one month after having been read.

Early in the month of May notices of these memoir began to appear. For example, there was an article in «Industries», vol. iv, p. 505 – a translation of your memoir by Mr. Gisbert Kapp.

The question is whether any copies were received in England before the end of April. Are you in a position to say whether you sent any copies – for example to the librarian of the Royal Society – and at what date?

Enquiring recently of one of the engineers of the Brush El. Engineering Co., I was sorry to learn that they are not able to do much with the invention of yourself and of Sig. Arnò. They say that there is found much objection to the use of revolving transformers.

Further, there is very little demand as yet in this country for electric motors in the towns where the electric current is supplied for lighting.

I am now revising my text-book of polyphase currents for a second edition. Have you any suggestion to make to me? Have you noticed any *errata*. Pages 151-2 contain (by reason of the printer's stupidity in neglecting my corrections) many errors: they have been set right in the French edition published three months ago.

I am, dear Prof. Ferraris, yours most sincerely, Silvanus P. Thompson.