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A contemporary observer on the visit of Giordano Bruno to Oxford in 1583: "... stripping up his sleeves like some Juggler, and telling us much of *chentrum* & *chirculus* & *circumferencia* (after the pronounciation of his Country language) ... undertooke among very many other matters to set on foote the opinion of Copernicus, that the earth did goe round, and the heavens did stand still; whereas in truth it was his owne head which rather did run round, & his braines did not stand still."¹

Really, you have to understand this: it was a *joke*.

¹ George Abbot, "The Reasons Which Doctour Hill hath brought, for the Upholding of Papistry" [1604]. — I tracked this down finally to a secondary reference, but then misplaced it — something by/about Francis Godwin edited by William Poole.