

TRANSACTIONS  
OF THE  
ASTRONOMICAL AND PHYSICAL  
SOCIETY OF TORONTO,

FOR THE YEAR 1899

INCLUDING TENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

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PRICE ONE DOLLAR

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TORONTO:  
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1900.

Several reports were received of observations of the partial eclipse of the Moon which had occurred on December 16th. Mr. Howell and Mr. Collins noted that the peculiarity of colour had not been so pronounced as in the case of a total eclipse. Some of the members present confessed to having overlooked the phenomenon entirely. Among these was Mr. Lindsay, who stated that he had no apology to offer, for like many others he had been too much absorbed in watching the record of events transpiring in South Africa, to take much interest in the path of the Moon. He had been glad to learn that the temporary darkness had aided the gallant defender of Ladysmith in his flashlight signalling operations.

Mrs. A. G. Savigny then read a brief but concise review of the work done at Flagstaff, Arizona, by Mr. Percival Lowell and his staff. The planet Mars was specially dealt with, Mr. Lowell having added so much to the existing knowledge of that body. The contention of the observers at Flagstaff, that the seeing there is distinctly better than at other stations, was referred to and occasioned some discussion. Conditions similar to those at Flagstaff had been said to exist in our own Muskoka district, and had been frequently the subject of remark. Some of the members present had met Mr. Lowell on the occasion of his visit to Toronto in 1897, and were specially pleased with Mrs. Savigny's review of the work of one whose charming personality it would be hard to forget.

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#### ANNUAL MEETING.

January 9th, 1900; the President, Mr. Arthur Harvey, F.R.S.C., occupied the chair.

The officers nominated at the previous meeting were declared elected for the year 1900.

The unfinished business of the previous meeting was then taken up; this related to the election of the Honourary President of the Society.

It was moved by Mr. Geo. E. Lumsden, seconded by Mr. Chas. P. Sparling, and

*Resolved,* That on the occasion of becoming Prime Minister of the Province of Ontario, and retiring from his position as Minister of Education for the

Province, this Society wishes to place on record its appreciation of the countenance given to it by the Honourable G. W. Ross, LL.D., who, by reason of being such Minister of Education, was invited and gladly consented to become the Honourary President of this Society, an office which he has graced and which he has filled to the satisfaction of the Society; and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Dr. Ross.

It was then moved by Mr. W. B. Musson, seconded by Mr. G. G. Pursey, and

*Resolved*, That the Honourable Richard Harcourt, M.A., Q.C., Minister of Education of the Province of Ontario, be asked to accept the position of Honourary President of this Society, in the room and stead of the Honourable G. W. Ross, LL.D., who, having become Prime Minister of Ontario, has resigned the said office of Minister of Education, and relinquished the said office of Honourary President, which he occupied and held as such Minister.

The question of appointing an Assistant Librarian was then discussed. Mr. Elvins stated that he would be glad to give Mr. Collins any assistance he might require. This being most acceptable to the Society, Mr. Elvins was appointed Assistant Librarian.

Mr. Elvins called attention to the announcement of the death of Mr. Green, an old contributor to the *Astronomical Register*, at a time when Mr. Elvins was a contributor and correspondent. Mr. Green would be missed very much in the astronomical world.

The report of the Treasurer was read and adopted. The financial position of the Society was about the same as at the close of the preceding year.

Mr. W. B. Musson read his report of progress made in regard to the Library. Several additions had been made to the exchange list, and a large number of sets of publications had been bound. It was the intention soon to issue a complete catalogue of books, monographs, etc., in the Library.

Mr. D. J. Howell reported progress made in his department, and stated that he had made a complete set of negatives of the plates of the Lunar Atlas as far as they had been received from Paris. These would soon be ready for lantern projection.

After a general discussion on various matters of interest the meeting adjourned, closing the tenth year of the Society's existence.

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