

TRANSACTIONS  
OF  
THE TORONTO ASTRONOMICAL  
SOCIETY

FOR THE YEAR 1900

INCLUDING ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

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1901.

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OF

## The Toronto Astronomical Society

DURING THE YEAR 1900.

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### FIRST MEETING.

1900, January 23rd. This being the annual public meeting was held in the Library of the Canadian Institute, the new President, Mr. G. E. Lumsden, F.R.A.S., in the chair. The attendance was large.

After the transaction of some formal business, the President spoke briefly upon the history and work of the Society. In the course of his remarks, he said that during the past ten years as an incorporated body, and during the five years prior to 1890, as a group of observers united together by the strong bond of common interest in the practical study of Astronomy, the members of the Society had endeavored to keep alight at this northern outpost the lamp committed to their charge, a lamp which had been lighted long years ago by men who, in a new country, were denied many of the advantages now within the reach of the majority of the students of Science. The wick of the lamp had been trimmed by loving hands and its flame, sometimes bright, sometimes dim, had been an object of solicitude to men whose heads had been whitened by the frosts of advancing years. It was matter for congratulation that most of these men were still spared, setting, as they did, examples worthy of emulation, for they had

exemplified the virtues of patience and application and had manifested a steady determination to make the best of their opportunities. The Society had much for which to be thankful and had in more than one respect been very fortunate. It had been fortunate in having for some years as its Honorary President the late Minister of Education, the Hon. G. W. Ross, LL.D., who had, by deserved advancement, recently become Prime Minister of his native province, and owing to whom it had for some years enjoyed the practical advantages of an annual grant. And now he was succeeded as Minister of Education by a gentleman no less a friend of scientific pursuits, the Hon. Richard Harcourt, Q.C., whose cheering letter accepting the position of Honorary President they had just heard read. The President felt that the interests of the Society were safe in the hands of Mr. Harcourt, who appreciated and would doubtless recognize its efforts to make provision for popularizing Astronomy in Ontario, one of its undertakings when it had received a subvention from the Province. The Society was equally fortunate in having elicited the practical sympathy of the Mayor and City Council and would show that it deserved these marks of confidence from the Province and the City. It must, however, continue to depend upon its own energies, which had been highly creditable, and to rely upon its own resources, which were capable of further development.

The President then introduced Mr. Arthur Harvey, F.R.S.C., the retiring President, who read the Annual Address, entitled "Astronomy,—in Infancy, Growth and Maturity," which was published *in extenso* in the Transactions for 1899.

At the close of the paper, the members and their friends spent a pleasant hour in social intercourse.

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