

MONTHLY NOTICES

OF THE

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No. 5.

E. J. STONE, M.A., F.R.S., President, in the Chair.

The Rev. Edward Aurelius Adams, M.A., Vicar of St. John's, Eastbourne;

Major James Fellowes, R.E., Ordnance Survey Office, Southampton; and

Gerard Brown Finch, M.A., 24 Old Buildings, Lincoln's Inn;

were balloted for and duly elected Fellows of the Society.

Note on a Photograph of the Great Nebula in Orion and some new Stars near θ Orionis. By A. Ainslie Common.

The photograph which I have the honour to present to the Society this evening is a carbon enlargement of a negative taken on January 30, 1883, with the three-foot Reflector, the exposure being thirty-seven minutes.

This photograph shows a marked advance on those I have previously shown at meetings of this Society; and although some of the finer details are lost in the enlargement, sufficient remains to show that we are approaching a time when photography will give us the means of recording in its own inimitable way the shape of a nebula and the relative brightness of the different parts, in a better manner than the most careful hand-drawings.

To find if there is any change of form or relative brightness observable in a nebula with any degree of certainty, it will be necessary to compare photographs taken at some undetermined interval of time; and the best thing to do now seems to me to be to get as many photographs as possible, to form the basis of

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