

improved, canals gradually became visible, until, on a night of peculiar clearness, October 25, he saw Mars with canals and oases so distinctly and steadily without intermission for an hour and a half that no doubt was left in his mind as to the reality of the features shown in Professor Lowell's drawings. He writes : " Nothing that I had hitherto seen had prepared me for the astonishing steadiness and fineness of the details visible on this superb night "; and later on " As to the deductions which Professor Lowell has drawn from his observations, I have nothing to say except that the startlingly artificial and geometrical appearance of the canals did force itself upon me."

[*The Observatory.*

Notices of the Society.

The Common Seal.

The illustration which accompanies this number of the JOURNAL is a representation of the Common Seal of the Society which, through the kind offices of Lt.-Col. Lenox Conyngham, R.E., F.R.A.S., has been designed for the Society by Mr. F. C. Scallan; the print is taken directly from the engraving.

The Seal has been approved by the Council and was accepted by the members at the last meeting. It now only remains therefore to complete Bye-law No. 57, which will be done this month.

It may be mentioned that the Seal was selected from several designs, one of which came from the pen of Mrs. Colquhoun, a member of the Society, and the acknowledgments of the Council are due to all those who have assisted them in the matter.

Election of Members.

The attention of members is invited to Bye-law No. 14 regulating the election of persons who desire to join the Society. It is hoped that those who are already members will induce others to join. Forms of application can be had from the Secretary, Mr. P. N. Mukherjee.

The Library.

A subscription list for the furnishing of a Library has been opened, and a good many members in Calcutta have

put their names on it. The Library will be available to members both in and out of Calcutta, and members who have not already done so are invited to help the Society in making a good start with this important branch of the work. Suggestions as to useful books for the Library will also be welcomed by the Librarian.

Mr. A. Lawrie having been obliged to resign the Librarianship owing to his transfer to Burma, the Council have, under Bye-law No. 4, appointed Mr. Ashutosh Mitra to be Librarian in his place.

Subscriptions.

Some of the subscriptions are still due for the current session from members. Those who have not yet done so are requested to remit the amounts to the Treasurer.

The Treasurer will also be glad to receive those donations promised for the Library and quarters which have not already been paid, as the Council wish to take full advantage of the promised assistance as soon as possible during the present session.

Classes for Beginners.

The Council have arranged to hold a series of four classes for beginners in Calcutta, to enable those who wish to learn the rudiments of the science and how to use their star charts to do so. Mr. B. M. Rakshit, late of the Alipore Observatory, has kindly consented to hold the classes, and the names of those who wish to take advantage of the classes should be sent to him at 77-3, Musjid Barry Street, Calcutta, or to the Secretary, Mr. P. N. Mukherjee, without delay to enable a commencement to be made on an early date.

Lunar Section.

The Revd. J. Mitchell having resigned the directorship of the Lunar Section owing to his furlough to Europe, the section has been taken over by Mr. H. G. Tomkins, Barrackpore.

Meetings.

A special General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, the 28th February 1911, in the Imperial Secretariat Buildings, at a quarter to 5 p.m., for the purpose of passing Bye-laws, for the regulation of the Library, and for the amendment of Bye-laws Nos. 4 and 57.

It will be immediately followed by the usual ordinary meeting of the Society.

The ordinary meetings of the Society will be held on the following dates :—

	1911.
February 28th.	May 30th.
March 28th.	June 27th.
April 25th.	

The meetings will commence at 5 p.m. and, until further notice, will be held in the Imperial Secretariat (Treasury) Buildings.

Addresses of Officers.

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| (1) <i>President</i> | . . . | H. G. TOMKINS, F.R.A.S.,
9, Riverside, Barrackpore. |
| (2) <i>Secretary (Scientific)</i> | . . . | W. G. BURN, B.Sc., Assistant
Controller of Stores, E. I.
Ry., 105, Clive Street,
Calcutta. |
| (3) <i>Do. (Business)</i> | . . . | P. N. MUKHERJI, M.A., F.S.S.
Imperial Secretariat Build-
ings, Calcutta. |
| (4) <i>Treasurer</i> | . . . | U. L. BANERJEE, Office of the
Acct. General, Koila Ghat
Street, Calcutta. |
| (5) <i>Librarian</i> | . . . | ASHUTOSH MITTRA, M.A.
6-10, Chowdhuric's Lane,
Bagh Bazar, Calcutta. |
| (6) <i>Editor</i> | . . . | J. J. MEIKLE, 8, Hastings
Street, Calcutta. |
| (7) <i>Directors:—</i> | | |
| <i>General Section</i> | . . . | DR. E. P. HARRISON,
Presidency College, Calcutta. |
| <i>Lunar Section</i> | . . . | H. G. TOMKINS, F.R.A.S.,
9, Riverside, Barrackpore. |
| <i>Meteor Section</i> | . . . | B. M. RAKSHIT, B.A.,
77-3, Musjid Barry Street,
Calcutta. |
| <i>Variable Star Section</i> | . . . | LT.-COL. LENOX CONYNGHAM,
R.E., F.R.A.S., United
Service Club, Calcutta. |
| <i>Photography</i> | . . . | R. J. WATSON,
37, Park Road, Barrackpore. |
| <i>Instruments</i> | . . . | S. WOODHOUSE,
1, Little Russell Street,
Calcutta. |