AN INTRODUCTION TO ASTRONOMY: DESIGNED AS A TEXT-BOOK FOR THE USE OF STUDENTS IN COLLEGE

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An Introduction to Astronomy: Designed as a Text-Book for the Use of Students in College by Denison Olmsted & E. S. Snell

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DENISON OLMSTED & E. S. SNELL

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1. Telescopic view of the full Moon.
2. do do of a part of the Moon near quadrature.
3. Telescopic view of Saturn & his rings
4. do of Jupiter & his Moons.

F. E. Brasch
1917.

AN

INTRODUCTION

TO

ASTRONOMY:

DESIGNED AS A

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FOR THE USE OF

STUDENTS IN COLLEGE.

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THIRD STEREOTYPE EDITION.

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PREFACE TO THE REVISED EDITION OF 1866.

THE revision of Professor Olmsted's Astronomy made in 1861, owing to circumstances which I could not well control, was not so thorough as I desired. The present edition is more in accordance with the idea which was in my mind, but which was then only partially carried out. The changes now introduced are principally of the same nature as those made in the revision of the College Natural Philosophy. Some historical matter is omitted; a few alterations are made in the arrangement of topics; the subject of nearly every paragraph is presented in an italic heading; and, throughout, I have aimed to state principles and describe phenomena with more conciseness, where I thought I could do it with equal clearness. About one-half of the engravings are new. A part of these are for the illustration of points either not illustrated or not discussed before, and a part are substituted for those which were faulty. The true proportions of lines and angles can not, in general, be presented in astronomical diagrams; and the pupil must depend mainly on his teacher for the help which he needs in this respect. In a very few cases, where it seemed practicable, a figure is added, simply for the purpose of exhibiting the true size of an angle, and the correct proportion of lines. A few pages at the end of the volume are occupied with tables, which may be found useful.

I am much indebted to Professor Henry H. White, of the Kentucky University, who has very kindly aided me by numerous criticisms and suggestions, of which I have made free use in this revision.

E. S. SNELL.

AMHERST COLLEGE, March, 1866.

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