ASTRONOMISCHE NACHRICHTEN.

N^o 2698.

Schreiben von Hrn. Obristlieutenant H. Pomerantzeff, Director der Sternwarte in Taschkent, betreffend die Neubestimmung von Vergleichsternen.

Je viens de lire avec beaucoup de plaisir la lettre-de M. Gill aussi que votre addition (A. N. 2688) parce que leur contenu correspond tout à fait à mon intention. Notre observatoire, comme vous le savez, possède un beau cercle méridien, construit par M. Repsold, qui permet d'observer les étoiles jusqu'à la 9^{me} grandeur, mais dont l'emploi régulier n'est pas encore fixé. C'est la détermination des positions des étoiles de comparaison que j'ai supposé d'entreprendre à son aide. Il est probable que plusieurs observatoires manifesteront leur désir de prendre part à ces

Tachkent 1885 Nov. 3/15.

travaux importants et dans ce cas il faudra les distribuer rationnellement. Sera-t-il décidé que la détermination de toutes les étoiles, employées pour les observations d'une certaine comète ou d'une certaine planète, doit être confiée au même observatoire ou que les étoiles à déterminer seront partagées en zones; en tous cas, il me semble, qu'il est bien à désirer que les observateurs avertissent sans rétard les noms des étoiles à l'observatoire subordonné. Ce dernier aura ainsi la possibilité d'accomplir sa fonction à temps et avec confort et les calculs définitifs ne seront pas retenues.

H. Pomerantzeff.

Zusatz des Herausgebers.

Irgend eine Entscheidung über die Vertheilung der Beobachtungen von Vergleichsternen ist noch nicht getroffen und es stand mir auch nicht zu, eine solche zu treffen. Indessen möchte ich als meine Ansicht aussprechen, dass eine Vertheilung nach Zonen misslich sein würde; es könnte dadurch die Continuität von Beobachtungsreihen gestört werden und es würde ausserdem nach einmal geschehener

Kiel 1885 Dec. 5.

Vertheilung der Beitritt anderer Sternwarten gehindert. Zunächst denke ich mir, dass die Astronomen, welche Neubestimmungen von einzelnen Sternen irgend welcher Art brauchen, sich direct an einen der Herren wenden werden, welche in so dankenswerther Weise ihre Bereitwilligkeit zur Uebernahme dieser Arbeit erklärt haben.

A. Krueger.

Telescopic search for the trans-Neptunian planet.

By David P. Todd.

In the twentieth volume of the American Journal of Science, at page 225, I gave a preliminary account of my search, theoretic and practical, for the trans-Neptunian planet. I say the trans-Neptunian planet, because I regard the evidence of its existence as well founded, and further, because, since the time when I was engaged upon this search, nothing has in the least weakened my entire conviction as to its existence in about that part of the sky assigned; while, as is well known, the independent researches in cometary perturbations by Professor Forbes conducted him to a result identical with my own, — a coincidence not to be lightly set aside as pure accident.

That five years have elapsed since this coincidence was remarked, and the planet is still unfound, is not sufficient assurance to me that its existence is merely fanciful. In so far as I am informed, this spot of the sky has received very little scrutiny with telescopes competent to such a search; and most observers finding nothing would, I susspect, prefer not to announce their ineffective search.

The time has now come when this search can be Bd. II3.

profitably undertaken by any observer having the rare combination of time, enthusiasm, and the necessary appli-Strongly marked developments in astronomical photography have been effected since this optical search was conducted; and the capacity of the modern dry-plate for the registry of the light of very faint stars makes the application of this method the shortest and surest way of detecting any such object. Nor is this purely an opinion of my own. But the required apparatus would be costly; and the instrument, together with the services of an astronomer and a photographer, would, for the time being, be necessarily devoted exclusively to the work. While, however, the photographic search might have to be ended with a negative result, in so far as the trans Neptunian planet is concerned, there would still remain the series of photographic maps of the region explored, and these would be of incalculable service in the astronomy of the future.

In the latter part of the paper alluded to above, I state the speculative basis upon which I restricted the stellar region to be examined; also the fact that beetween

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November of 1877 and March of 1878 I was engaged in a telescopic scrutiny of this region, employing the twentysix inch refractor of the Naval Observatory. For the purposes contemplated, I had no hesitation in adopting the method of search whereby I expected to detect the planet by the contrast of its disc and light with the appearance of an average star of about the thirteenth magnitude. A power of six hundred diameters was often employed, but the field of view of this eyepiece was so restricted that a power of four hundred diameters had to be used most of the time. I say, too, that, after the first few nights, I was surprised at the readiness with which my eye detected any variation from the average appearance of a star of a given faint magnitude: as a consequence whereof my observing-book contains a large stock of memoranda of suspected objects. My general plan with these was to observe with a sufficient degree of accuracy the position of all suspected objects. On the succeeding night of observation they were re-observed; and, at an interval of several weeks thereafter, the observation was again verified. « Subjoined to the original observations are printed these verifications in smaller types.

In conducting the search, the plans were several times varied in slight detail, — generally because experience with the work enabled me to make improvements in method. Usually I prepared every few days a new zone-chart of the region over which I was about to search; and these charts, while containing memoranda of all the instrumental data which could be prepared beforehand, were likewise so adjusted with reference to the opposition-time of the planet as to avoid, if possible, its stationary point. The same thing, too, was kept in mind in selecting the times of subsequent observation. Nothwithstanding this precaution, however, it would be well if some observer who has a large telescope should now re-examine the positions of these objects.

Researches in faint nebulae and nebulous stars appearing likely to constitute a separate and interesting branch of the astronomy of the future, it has seemed to me that the astronomers engaged in this work may like to make a careful examination of some of the stars entered in my observing book under the category of »suspected objects.« The method I adopted of insuring re-observation of these objects was by the determination, not of their absolute, but only of their relative positions, through the agency of the larger »finder« of the great telescope. This has an aperture of five inches, a power of thirty diameters, and a field of view of seventy-eight minutes of arc. Two diagrams were usually drawn in the book for each of these objects, - the one showing the relation of adjacent objects in the great telescope, and the other the configuration of the more conspicuous objects in the field of view of the finder. Adjacent to these »finder« diagrams are the settings, -to the nearest minute of arc in declination, and of time in right ascension, - as read from the large finding-circles, divided in black and white. The field of view of the finder is crossed by two pairs of hair-lines, making a square of about twelve minutes on a side by their intersection at the centre. The diagrams in all cases represent the objects as seen with an inverting eyepiece. As the adjustment of the finder was occasionally verified, as well as the readings of the large circles, there should be no trouble in identifying any of these objects, notwithstanding the fact that no estimates of absolute magnitude were recorded. The relative magnitudes, while intended to be only approximate, are still shown with sufficient accuracy for the purpose of the research, and the diagrams are, in general, faithful tracings from the original memoranda.

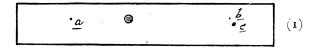
I transcribe the observing-book entire.

Telescopic search for trans-Neptunian planet, with 26 inch equatorial.

1877 Nov. 3.7. Clamping polar axis, swept in declination, intending to detect planet by its supposed disk. Using power of 600, swept along plane of orbit, from long. 155° to 166°.

An object with slightly planetary look seen in $\alpha = 10^{\rm h}\,27^{\rm m}$, $\delta = +10^{\rm o}\,{\rm o}'$.

An object (nebulous and about 5" in diameter) found in $\alpha = 11^h 9^m 5$, $\delta = +5^{\circ} 28'$:



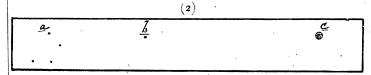
It follows a star α 44⁸3; and precedes b 69⁸, c 70⁸. 1877 Nov. 4.7. Searching by same method, $v = 148^{\circ}$ -163°. Power 600. Soon clouded over.

1877 Nov. 6.7. Attempted method of survey by recording RA.'s of stars in narrow zones, estimating δ and magnitude which were recorded by Townsend. Success not satisfactory — chronograph gave trouble. Then went on with sweep in declination, using power 400. $v=163^{\circ}$ to 168° Looked again for nebulous object seen Nov. 3.7. It has not moved. It is likely a nebulous star — a glistening point of light is seen from time to time in its centre.

1877 Nov. 7.7. Again tried method of search by recognition of disk Improved by having dome all dark. I set with tangent screw in declination upon successive narrow zones, and sweep in RA. Used power 600. Success good — shall try this method further. Clouded over between 16^h and 17^h.

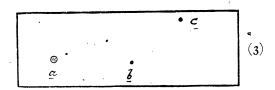
of my plan of to-day. Used power 600.

An object suspected, +9°45'.



Object is c. $ab = 24^{s} \pm$ $ac = 74^{s} \pm$ $RA. = 10^{h} 19^{m} \pm$

I do not much believe it to be anything but a star. Examined again, Nov. 13.7. Object a star. An object a about equally suspected, $+9^{\circ} 35'$, RA. = $11^{h} 1^{m}$. It has a faint companion, $p = 96^{\circ}$, s = 25''.



ab = 12.5. c is bright star and $2' \pm$ south of parallel of b.

Examined again, Nov. 13.7. Object a star. Twilight, however, prevented my seeing the comes.

(7) Iris Nov. 11. $u = 3^{h} 43^{m}$, $\delta = +24^{\circ} 50^{\circ}$.

After it began to be pretty light (about 17^h5), I tried search by clamping in RA, and sweeping in declination, following my adopted plane of the planet's orbit.

Set on $\delta = +6.5$, $\alpha = 11^{h} 12^{m}$.

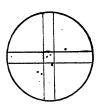
Suspected more fully an object which was too faint in the twilight to be compared with other stars near by. The instrumental position was, $\alpha = 11^{h} 20^{m} 5$, $\delta = +5^{\circ} 8'$.

Tried power 890 on it, but did not get much of a disk. Look at this again.

1877 Nov. 12.7. Swept (not so satisfactorily as yester-day) between 9° and 8°30′. Seeing not first rate. Used power 600. Faint nebula (probably) as follows, at b:

Instrumental position, $\alpha = 10^{h} 43^{m} 5$, $\delta = +8^{\circ} 58'$.

 $10^{h}43^{m} + 8^{\circ}50'$ 5-inch finder, thus:

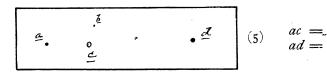


Examined again Nov. 13.7. Twilight prevented my speing b and d. Look at this once more.

Examined again Dec. 2.7. b nebulous, but now plainly not round. Outline oblong, and jagged. It is a fixed object

1877 Nov. 13.7. Good morning's work. Swept according to plan, from $+8^{\circ}30'$ to $+7^{\circ}$, only shortening the zones a little. An object which may be only a faint nebulous star at c.

Instrument $\alpha = 10^{\rm h} 48^{\rm m}$, $\delta = +8^{\circ} 30^{\circ}$.

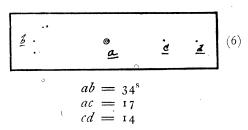


b is faint companion to c, about 2' distant, and $p = 177^{\circ}$. d ist bright, and 1' south of c.

1877 Nov. 17.7. Searched a short time for objects seen on the 12th and 13th. Was bothered variously, and search was ineffectual. Try again. Moonlight seems to interfere some. I think the object seen on the 13th is not now there.

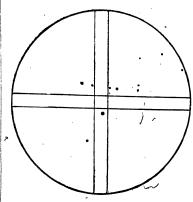
1877 Nov. 20.7. Searched for object seen on the 12th. Either it is not now in the position then indicated, or (more likely) the full-moon light prevents my seeing it. Try again, after the moon is out of the way — about Dec. 2.

1877 Nov. 30.7. Began search for object seen on 13th. Using power 600, swept carefully from +8°40′ to +8°15′ — zones about 3′ wide and 20^m long. Could find nothing at all nebulous, like what I saw on the 13th. No moon present. I then tried power of 400, and at about 16^h5 hit on very faint object a. It is not at all like a faint star; but has a disk of nearly uniform illumination. So I compare it as follows, with one star preceding, and two following:



Instrumental position $\begin{cases} \alpha = 10^{h} 45^{m} \\ \delta = +8^{\circ} 36' \end{cases}$ painted circles.

The stars in the finder are these:

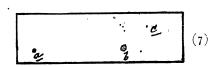


Some daylight at 17^h7, could not then see a. Looked also for object seen on Nov.12, but could not see it.

Dec. 2.7. Settled all doubt about object seen on Nov. 12. Searched with power 400 for object seen on 13th, from +8°50′ to +8°15. Zones 20^m± long. Could find nothing. Either the object is not now there, or it is much less easily recognizable than I supposed when I re-Shall now go on with the

corded so few stars near it. regular search.

1877 Dec. 3.7. Object b not like star, though I cannot see a disk well.





ab = 365. a is north of b about 1'. bc = 4'.

 $\alpha = 11^{h} 0^{m}$ $\delta = +7^{\circ} 10'$

See Dec. 11.8. Also Dec. 12.7.

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Object α suspected — it has a companion, $p = 25^{\circ}$.

<u>a.</u> .₹ (8)



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$$ab = 6.7$$

$$bd = 2.5$$

$$\alpha = 10^{h} 59^{m}$$

$$\delta = +6^{\circ} 42'$$

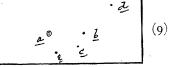
Swept with power 400, from 7° to 6° of plan of Nov. 11.

Dec. 11 8. Objects a and companion are fixed. Same Dec. 12.7.

1877 Dec. 7.7. Came over to observatory, but found dome disabled so that I could not go on with my work.

1877 Dec. 9.7 Began search from +6°, south. Soon clouded up Setting for next morning is +6°, exactly. Began to look for objects seen Dec. 3.7; but clouds too dense to permit their being seen. Power 400.

1877 Dec. 11.7. Searched with power 400, from $+6^{\circ}$ to $+4^{\circ}$ 10'. An object a suspected.





$$ab = 8^{s} (10^{h} \text{ s. t.})$$

$$\alpha = 11^{\rm h} 20^{\rm m}$$

$$bc = 1.5$$

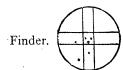
$$ce = 3'$$

$$bd = 5'$$

 $ab = 8.4 (11^h s. t.)$

Dec. 14.7 a is a very faint and small nebula. 1878 Feb. 11.7. Did not succeed in seeing a.

Termination of search — a star in setting $a = 11^h 30^m$, $\delta = +4^{\circ}10^{\circ}$.

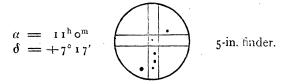


Equatorial, Power 400.



Hunted up objects seen on Dec. 3.7. The first one has moved; or, at least, pointing as then indicated with the finder, I found objects in about the position of a and b, which I suppose to be the same — though daylight prevents saying certainly. These second objects are on the same parallel, and distant $32^{s} \pm c$ was also seen.

1877 Dec. 12.7. Examined objects seen on Dec. 3.7. The second one, fixed. The first one — I cannot decide whether it has moved since yesterday or not, as I had no opportunity then of observing it accurately. The setting for it is, better, this:



I now proceed to observe it accurately in RA., and find by 14 chronographic transits that b follows a by $31^{5}92$, at $10^{h}3$ s. t.

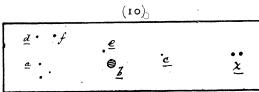
b is south of
$$a \begin{cases} 64.24 \\ 67.0 \\ 2^{\frac{1}{2}}76 = 27^{\frac{1}{2}}5 \end{cases}$$

The object-glass is somewhat dewed; but I can see a companion to b, faintly — can only estimate:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
s &=& 20'' \pm \\
p &=& 43^{\circ} \pm
\end{array}$$

1877 Dec. 14.7. Mean of 3 chronograph transits, a precedes b 31.88. The companion to b is visible. I conclude that b is a fixed star: I have not at any time seen the trace of a disk on it. Curiously enough, there is a group of stars nearly south of this, about 10', which have nearly the same relative positions and magnitudes (except that a is much smaller). I think I must have observed this on Dec. 3.7 though I shall not now spend time to see. I believe also that ab is more than 36.5, somewhat.

Go on with regular search — from $+4^{\circ}$ 10' to $+3^{\circ}$ 50'. (Object b large and nebulous.)





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$$ab = 21^{\circ}7$$

 $bc = 5'$
 $ad = 3'$
 $be = 2' (p = 210^{\circ} \pm)$

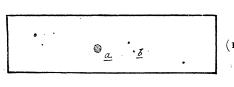
 $a = 11^{h} 38^{m}$ $b = +3^{\circ} 50'$ x = object in centre of field of finder. (Power 400.)

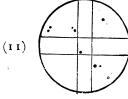
Search of this morning ends with this parallel.

1878 Feb. 11.7. Object b fixed. Instead of »large and nebulous«, I should now record small, quite condensed, somewhat nebulous, and faint.

1877 Dec. 19.8. Bright light of moon, nearly full. Also some clouds passing. Attempted verification of object seen on 14.7. Saw the two stars x; also d, f and c without difficulty. a, and the two stars below it, also e and b were not visible.

1877 Dec. 27.8. Object b, seen on the 14th is fixed — probably a faint nebula. Going on with regular search, I suspect an object a: it has a small, but poorly defined disk.





Power 400. ab = 7 from a few eye-and-ear

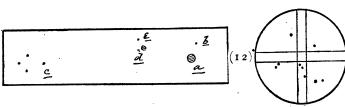
 $a = 11^{h} 56^{m}$ $\delta = +2^{\circ} 37'$ Finder.

transits). 1878 Feb. 6.6. Object fixed.

Search of this morning ends with this parallel. Search not wholly satisfactory, as light of moon, one day past last quarter, interfered some. Still, think I missed nothing.

1878 Jan. 2.7. Object a seen Dec. 27.8 is fixed. Farther south I find an object which is large and nebulous. Marked a. d, small, faint, and nebulous.

Finder.



$$ab = 2^{s} 1 (15^{h} 55^{m})$$

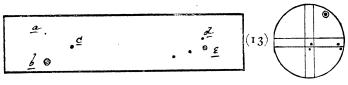
$$cb = 63^{s}$$

$$ad = 23^{s} 1.$$

b and c should be nearly on the same parallel. $\Delta \delta (ab) = 2.5.$ s(ed) = 1.5

1878 Feb. 6.6. d and a fixed.

Another pair of objects:



b large and nebulous. e suspected somewhat.

a precedes $b ext{ o}^{s}_{2}$.

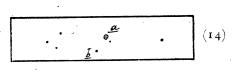
b precedes c 5.7.

d precedes e 1.4.

All these objects are far from my adopted plane of orbit of trans-Neptunian planet.

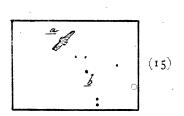
1878 Feb. 6.6. b and e fixed.

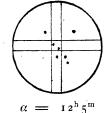
1878 Jan. 5.7. All four of the objects seen Jan. 2.7 are fixed. They are worth looking at again after two or three weeks, as they are near the present stationary point. Another object, a, slightly suspected.





Definition so poor that it may be only a star blurred.





Finder.

a precedes $b = 5.5 \pm (at 5^d 17^h 40^m)$.

1878 Feb. 5.6. Object fixed.

Object a has appearance of an elongated nebula. Beside the central condensation there is a minor and less marked one in the northern extremity (preceding).

Went on with regular search — that for this morning terminating with the above parallel, $+2^{\circ}$ o'.

1878 Jan. 6.7. At 16h, elongated object above precedes about 5s1, by eye-and-ear transits, roughly taken. Must observe it accurately on chronograph. The central condensation is not very sharp.

Object at (14) does not seem to be anything but a star with faint nebulous border. In fact, the one below it (and preceding), b, looks exactly like it.

Look at this again, after a week or so.

1878 Feb. 6.6 Objects fixed.

Went on with regular search. Nothing suspected. Employed power 400. Search terminates with 4 mag. star in finder, thus:

$$\alpha = 12^{h} 14^{m}$$

$$\delta = +0^{\circ} 15'$$
For parallel of end of this morning's search.

Battery out of order -- cannot use chronograph. So observed object at top of (15) by eye and ear. Mean of several transits.

$$a$$
 precedes b 5.04. $13^{\rm h}$ 30 $^{\rm m}$ s. t.

Measured $\Delta \delta$ with micrometer.

Fixed wire on a.

Movable wire on b, reads 55.62

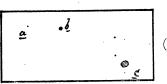
Coincidence 64.r4

 $8^{\circ}58 = 85^{\circ}35.$ a south of b

1878 Jan. 11.7. Object (elongated and nebulous) observed Jan. 5 and 6 is still at same distance as on the 6th, so far as a few eye-and-ear transits would decide. The preceding and northern "condensation", observed on the 5th, now appears as a faint star, apparently shining through that wing of the slender, elongated »nebula«,

Went on with regular search, power 400. curious configuration of stars - 12 and 13 mag. They form a nearly perfect square (about 35" on a side). On same parallel as η Virginis, and following it about ro^m .

c suspected object — faint and nebulous — outline quite regular.



 $\alpha = 12^{h} 18^{m}$ (17)

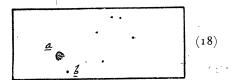
 $\delta = -0^{\circ} 20'$ Set rough circle at oo so as to bring small triangle in centre of

a precedes $b 8^{s} 2 \pm$ *b* precedes $c : 3.6 \pm 0.07$ at 17.5.

field of finder.

1878 Feb. 5.6. Object fixed.

This morning's search terminates with this parallel. 1878 Jan. 14.7. Suspected object c (Jan. 11.7) fixed. A nebulous cometary mass α (faint and irregular).





-o° 30′

a precedes $b \neq 1 \pm 1$. Power 400.

1878 Feb. 6.6. Object fixed.

Search ends (\gamma Virginis).

$$\alpha = 12^{h} 35^{m}$$

$$\delta = -1^{\circ} 10^{\circ}$$





Elongated object first seen Jan. 5.7 is a nebula. I think it is Herschel (G. C. 2776).

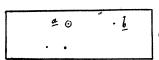
1878 Feb. 5.5. Began search — finder thus:

$$\alpha = 10^{h} 9^{m}$$

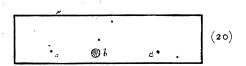
$$\delta = +13^{\circ} 30'$$

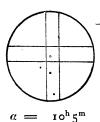


Power 400. Object α suspected.



 $ab = 25^{\circ}3 \pm 0^{\circ}1.$





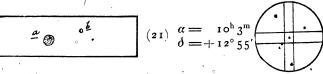
 $\delta = +13^{\circ}18'$

b very faint and diffused.

$$ab = 32^{\circ} \pm$$

$$bc = 43^{\circ} \pm$$

Came upon an object — finder:



b pretty bright.

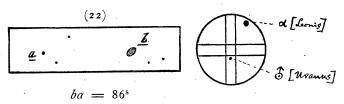
a quite faint, and seems to have a disk.

a precedes b (mean of 6 chronograph transits) 28517 at s. t. 11h 12m.

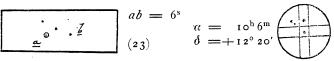
a precedes b (mean of 9 chronograph transits) 28.35at s. t. 14^h 6^m.

1878 Feb. 6.5. Object a (21) precedes b 28:39 (mean of 10 chronograph transits) at m. t. 12^h 50^m ± 10^m.

Went on with regular search. Power 400. Suspected object faint and diffused.



Object a small and quite faint.



1878 Mar. 5.6. Object fixed.

Continue search from this setting of finder — beginning with parallel of the wide pair. $\delta = +12^{\circ}8'$.

Spent an hour or two in re-examining objects previously suspected. Notes accompany each object examined. Found all fixed — many small and faint nebula.

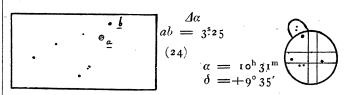
1878 Feb. 11.6. Object 10 lines above (23), fixed distance roughly 6s, by disappearance-transits.

Object a (21) precedes b 28:3; (mean of two eyeand-ear transits). It still has the same appearance very like that of a faint planet, with a small, ill-defined

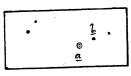
An hour of so in examining other objects previously suspected. Notes loco. Moon is beginning to interfere seriously.

1878 Feb. 26.5. Began search with power 400, at parallel +9° 30′, going north.

Object a suspected — not a good disk — only regular and nebulous.



1878 Feb. 28.5. Object fixed.

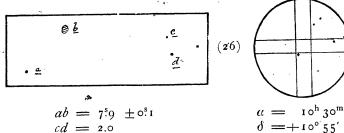


$$ab = 1.5$$

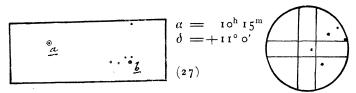
$$(25) \quad a = 10^{h} 37^{m} 5$$

$$\delta = +10^{\circ} 45' +$$

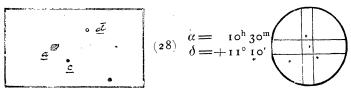
a very faint, and but faintly suspected. 1878 Feb. 28.5. Object fixed.



Morning's search terminates with this parallel. 1878 Feb. 28.5. Going on with search. Power 400. Verified places of objects seen Feb. 26.5.

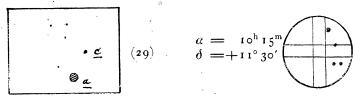


 $\Delta \alpha$ (ab) = 27.5 15. a bright and very star-like — disk slightly suspected. 1878 Mar. 4.5. Object fixed.



a very faint — could not observe transits. ac a little less than $\frac{1}{2}ad$ or $\frac{1}{2}cd$.

1878 Mar. 4.5. Object fixed.



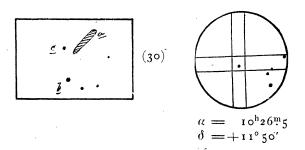
a quite faint: and nebulous (regularly). Δa (ac) = $(7^{\circ}o)$??

1878 Mar. 4.5. Object (probably) fixed.

Morning's search terminates with this parallel.

1878 Mar. 4.6, $\Delta \alpha$ (ac) = $5^{5}2 \pm 0^{5}1$. I feel quite sure that α has not moved: the $\Delta \alpha$ (7.50) was put down from memory on March 2, without much hope of its being right. But, judging from the configuration, I say that α has not moved appreciably.

1878 March 4.5. Proceeded with regular search (power 400) after verifying objects seen Feb. 28.5+.



 α like elongated nebula — rather faint. Centre of it about same RA as star b. I have represented it somewhat too far south — its centre should be nearer parallel of star c.

1878 Mar. 5.5. Object fixed.

Morning's search terminates with this parallel.

Put up instrument all in order at 1.45 a.m. Cahill, watchman — told him to wake me at 6 a.m.

1878 March 5.5. Proceeded with regular search (power 400), after verifying object seen yesterday.

Happened upon a nebulous mass — central condensation quite sharp — in $\alpha = 10^{h}39^{m}$, $\delta = +12^{\circ}20'$. I take it to be G.C. 2194, and so do not observe its position accurately: it is very bright.

Completed this morning the zone which fills up the gap to $\delta = +12^{\circ}20'$ (see Feb. 6.5); and went still farther north — to $\delta = +12^{\circ}40'$.

So that the adopted plane of orbit of trans-Neptunian planet is now searched (without break)

from
$$v = 146^{\circ}8$$

to $v = 186.1$.

Put up instrument all in order at 3 a.m., March 6, and went home at 3^h45^m. Hayes, watchman in charge.

Lawrence Observatory, Amherst, Mass., 1885 Oct. 7.

Berichtigung zu den Helligkeitsmessungen des neuen Sterns im Andromeda-Nebel (Nr. 2687).

Durch die Vergleichung, welche Dr. Müller zu Potsdam in Nr. 2690 der A. N. zwischen meinen Beobachtungen des neuen Sterns und seinen eigenen gemacht hat, bin ich auf einen Fehler in meinen Helligkeitsmessungen aufmerksam gemacht worden: ich habe nämlich aus Versehen bei der Berechnung der Helligkeit der Vergleichsterne für ν Andromedae 4.0 statt 4.4 angenommen: alle Zahlen sind deswegen um 0.4 zu erhöhen. Uebrigens hätte ich gleich hinzufügen sollen, dass die Bestimmung der Vergleichsterne nur eine vorläufige war.

Upsala 1885 Nov. 15.

C. V. L. Charlier.