

Outline of Work for the Lunar Section.

BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE SECTION.

The advice given in the following notes is offered to beginners only, but if the old lunar hands, in addition to their own special work, will co-operate with the Section in that particular field now suggested, it will greatly enhance the value of the work which the Section may do as a whole.

Telescope—

From 3" upwards.

Books—

1. Proctor's Moon. A general book.
2. Elger's Moon (George Philip & Son). A thoroughly practical book. All members of the Section should procure this work.

Map—

Elger's Map. The map in the book, in four Sections, may be taken out and bound separately.

METHODS OF WORK.

I. General Instructions—

1. Make careful notes.
2. Sketch precisely what is seen. No more, no less.
3. Never alter the notes or the sketch.
4. Do not trouble too much about the work that has been done in the same field. Be original.
5. Let there be uniformity in the size of the Drawings.
6. Make fresh sketches each night if possible.
7. Follow up the work through several lunations.

II. More Specific Instructions—

In connection with all sketches and observations—

1. Note aperture of Telescope and power used.
2. Note character of Atmosphere—moist, clear, cloudy, unsteady, etc.
3. Note age of Moon and date.
4. Note position of terminator.

Special fields of Study—

1. A Ray Centre *Proclus.*
2. A Sea (Mare) *Mare Serenitatis.*
3. A Walled Plain *Schickard.*
4. A Catalogue of Bright Spots.

I. Proclus—

Concentrate on this particular Ray centre. How do the Rays behave under varying altitudes of the Sun?

Special features.—Do the Rays get wider, narrower, or longer. Do they change their positions, or do they change in brightness at all from one lunation to another?

II. Mare Serenitatis—

Sketch and describe appearance under varying altitudes of Sun through several lunations.

Special features—

1. Study the dark stain round the margin of the southern portion. Does it vary in any way?
2. Note if there are any 'ripple' marks along the edge of the terminator.
3. Examine the strange 'parallel structure' South of the sea.

*III. Schickard—*A typical walled plain.

Study carefully the walls and floor through several lunations.

Special features—

Note the peculiar shading in North and South portions of floor. Is this shading constant?

IV. Bright Spots—

There is so far no complete catalogue of these bright spots. It is proposed to chart them.

Scale.—

Elger's Map.