



**Essays on Astronomy: A Series of Papers on
Planets and Meteors, the Sun and Sun-
Surrounding Space, Stars and Star Cloudlets; And
a Dissertation on the ... of the Life and Work of Sir
John Herschel**

Richard A. Proctor

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Excerpt from Essays on Astronomy: A Series of Papers on Planets and Meteors, the Sun and Sun-Surrounding Space, Stars and Star Cloudlets; And a Dissertation on the Approaching Transits of Venus, Preceded by Sketch of the Life and Work of Sir John Herschel

I have collected into the present volume those essays to which I have had most frequently to refer in other works, and particularly in 'The Sun' and 'Other Worlds than Ours.' A certain degree of inconvenience is occasioned to readers when references are made to articles published in different serials, and still more when the reference is to essays published in the 'Proceedings' of scientific societies. It therefore seemed to me desirable to gather together these scattered papers, and, after submitting them to careful revision, to publish them in a single volume. To this course I was further encouraged by the welcome extended to my 'Light Science for Leisure Hours,' in which a series of papers covering a somewhat wider range of subjects had been similarly collected.

The first three essays in the present volume (though the third is entitled, simply, The Study of Astronomy) relate to the life and work of the great astronomer and philosopher whose loss science has recently had to deplore.

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