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THE ASTRONOMICAL AND ASTROPHYSICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

I

THE eighth annual meeting was held
December 27 to 29, 1906, at Columbia Uni-
versity, New York. About sixty-five mem-
bers attended and thirty-two papers were
presented.

President Pickering, on taking the chair,
discussed three lines of work which he be-
lieved the society should pursue. First, by
cooperation to carry out some great routine
investigation too extensive to be under-
taken by a single observatory. The best
example of this was the accurate deter-
mination of the positions of the northern
stars, by European and American observa-
tories, under the direction of the Astro-
nomische Gesellschaft. Second, to bring
together socially astronomers from all parts
of the country, especially the older and
younger men. The latter may think the
work of the older men out of date, but they
may find the experience of the older men
and their personal acquaintance with the
eminent men of still earlier date of great
assistance. The older men have much to
learn regarding new methods, and the ex-
tensive appliances at their command may
often be employed to much greater advan-