The wonder book of light

Houston Edwin J
THE WONDER BOOK OF LIGHT
LARGE LIGHT-HOUSE LENS

Exhibited at the Chicago World's Fair, in 1893, and was employed in connection with a nine thousand candle power arc light.

By courtesy of "The Scientific American"
THE WONDER BOOK OF LIGHT

BY

EDWIN J. HOUSTON, Ph.D.


WITH 115 ILLUSTRATIONS

NEW YORK
FREDERICK A. STOKES COMPANY
PUBLISHERS
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November, 1908

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Dedicated to my Friend

L. WEBSTER FOX, M.D., LL.D.,

Professor of Ophthalmology in the Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia,
in appreciation of the encouragement given me in
the new field of juvenile literature
PREFACE

Light, though one of the most difficult of all the natural forces to explain thoroughly, contains within it so many wonders that it can be made attractive to young and old alike.

The author has not hesitated, in either this or the other Wonder Books, to employ freely a few of the old, old fairy stories for illustrating some especially difficult point. It is his experience in the teaching of the natural sciences to the young, that the more unusual or out-of-the-way the illustrations employed, the greater the chance of their producing a marked effect on the mind.

At the same time, however, too elementary a treatment has been carefully avoided. Especial care has been taken to employ the optical terms in general use; for there is no more difficulty in learning the correct scientific names than in remembering a number of fictitious names. In this way the reader has laid up in his or her memory, along with the elementary principles of the science of optics, information that cannot fail to be of great value in after years.

The author acknowledges his indebtedness to his friend, Dr. L. Webster Fox, Professor of Ophthalmology in the Medico-Chirurgical College of Philadelphia, for reading the proof sheets.

Acknowledgment is gratefully made to Messrs. William
PREFACE


E. J. H.

PHILADELPHIA, 1908.