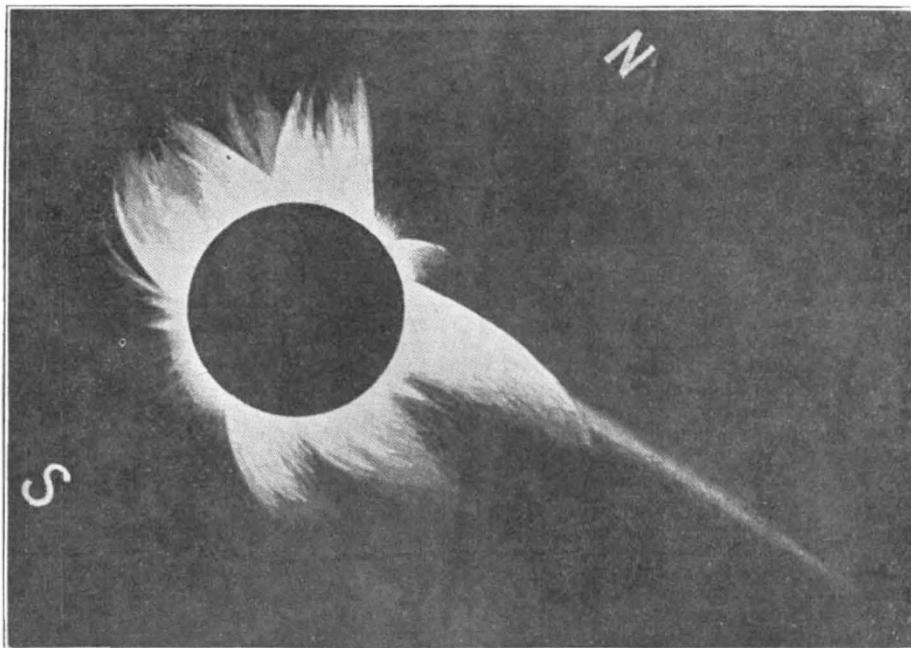


*RUSSIAN OBSERVATIONS OF THE CORONA  
OF AUGUST 9, 1896.*

I HAVE for many years been a reader of your honourable and interesting journal of science, NATURE. I beg you to accept for it the accompanying picture of the solar corona, as I had the opportunity to see it on August 9, 1896, in Sii-Kavuopio (on the Upper Muonio, in Lappania), where I went last summer as a member of the Lappanian Solar Eclipse Expedition of the Russian Astronomical Society.

shall be as brilliant and generous in hospitality as the last one held in Paris.

THE German Emperor is always ready to recognise deserving work in science. He has just conferred the Order of the Crown on Dr. Hauchecorne, the Director of the Prussian Geological Survey and of the Berlin School of Mines, and the Order of the Red Eagle on Dr. Hampe, the eminent Professor of Chemistry at the Clausthal School of Mines, and on Dr. Loretz, of the Prussian Geological Survey.



This photograph is the reproduction of a drawing carefully made by myself on the same scale for the Astronomical Society, and in which I tried to combine all the details of ten corona-photographs, which our expedition were successful in obtaining, the instruments used being—

- A 7-inch refractor (object-glass "Merz").
- A 4-inch camera (object-glass "Ross").
- A 2-inch camera (object-glass "Steinheil").

Combined with the pictures obtained by these is the general impression of the corona, as seen with the eyes, during fine and calm weather and very transparent air.

NICOLAS KAULBARS,  
Lieutenant-General, and Chief of Staff of  
the Finland Military District.

*NOTES.*

At the last meeting of the Chemical Society it was announced that Mr. J. J. Tustin had made a donation of one thousand guineas to the Research Fund of the Society.

M. FILIIOL has been elected a member of the Section of Anatomy and Zoology of the Paris Academy of Sciences, in succession to the late M. Sappey.

THE Paris Academy of Sciences has been invited to send representatives to the International Congress of Naval Engineers and Architects, to be held in London next July. Efforts are being made to ensure that the forthcoming meeting in London

PROF. CHARLES D. WALCOTT, Director of the United States Geological Survey, reports to the Secretary of the Interior the existence of an enormous gold belt in Alaska. An expedition sent out by the Survey in May last, investigated the valley of the Yukon River, from the British boundary to the mouth of the river. All the well-known placer deposits were examined, and the origin of the gold in them was found to be the quartz veins along the head-waters of the various streams entering the Yukon. The length of the gold belt in Alaska is 300 miles, entering that territory near the mouth of Forty-Mile Creek, and extending westward along the Yukon valley at the Ramparts.

M. FAYE, whose contributions to astronomy and meteorology are of world-wide renown, was elected a Member of the Paris Academy of Sciences in January, 1847. In honour of his jubilee, at the meeting of the Academy on Monday, M. Chatin, the new President, delivered an eloquent tribute to a life devoted to the advancement of science, and enumerated his most notable achievements. At the close he presented M. Faye with a gold medal representing the astronomer's effigy surrounded by an inscription affirming the pride of his colleagues in his friendship, and their admiration for his work. We learn from the *Times* that at a dinner at the Grand Hotel on Monday evening, presided over by M. Jannsen, M. Faye received from General Billot, Minister of War, the insignia of the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour, bestowed upon him by special decree of the President of the Republic. M. Rambaud, Minister of Education, was also present, and among those who spoke were M. Loewy, Director of the Paris Observatory, and General Toulza, of the École