

PREFACE.

THIS elementary treatise on Rigid Dynamics has arisen out of a course of lectures delivered by me, during the past few years, to advanced classes in the University.

It is intended as a text-book for those who, having already mastered the elements of the Calculus and acquired some familiarity with the methods of Particle Dynamics, wish to become acquainted with the principles underlying the equations of motion of a solid body.

Although indebted to the exhaustive works of Routh and Price for many suggestions and problems, I believe that the arrangement of the work, method of treatment, and more particularly the illustrations, are entirely new and original; and that they will not only aid beginners in appreciating fundamental truths, but will also point out to them the road along which they must travel in order to become intimate with those higher complex motions of a material system which have their culminating point in the region of Physical Astronomy.

My thanks are due Mr. J. C. Glashan of Ottawa, who has kindly read the proofsheets and supplied me with a large collection of miscellaneous problems.

W. J. LOUDON.

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO, Aug. 19, 1895.