

THE THEORY OF OBSERVATIONS

By

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Thiele's "Theory of Observations" constitutes a classic contribution to both mathematical statistical theory and the theory of least squares. Unfortunately, his researches, and in particular his semi-invariant or "half-invariant" theory, have not received the recognition in this country that they deserve. Since, according to importers of books, the "Theory of Observations" is now out of print and copies are rare, the editor has deemed it advisable as a matter of policy to make this work in this way available to the readers of the *Annals*.

This reprint should also be construed as an acknowledgment of our indebtedness to Mr. Arne Fisher for his unswerving endeavors to bring before American statisticians the important contributions of Danish and Scandinavian writers.