

ECLIPSE OF THE SUN.

OBSCURATION NEXT YEAR MAY SHOW NEW PLANET.

**A Celestial Body That Affects Orbit of Mercury Believed to Be in Existence, Says Director of Lick Observatory.**

The total eclipse of the sun August 19 will be observed by astronomers with exceeding interest, for observations then taken may help to solve some questions about which there has been much speculation. The shadow path of the eclipse will make the necessary scientific work of observation comparative easy.

This path begins at sunrise south of Mexico City, enters the Atlantic ocean about distance north of Newfoundland, crosses northeastern Spain, northeastern Africa, and northward Tunis, passes

southward Assuan on the Nile, and ends at sunset in southeastern Arabia.

The curvatures on the coast of Labrador, in Spain, and at Assuan are two and a half three and three-fourths and two and three-fifths minutes, respectively.

In connection with this eclipse Prof. W. W. Campbell, director of the Lick Observatory, has published an interesting paper on the facts already ascertained regarding the sun during previous observations. To the modern astronomer our sun is only one of the ordinary stars, says Prof. Campbell, but it is the only star near enough to us to show a disk. All other stars are as mathematical points even when the greatest telescope magnifies them 3,000 fold.

Our sun is likewise the only star bright enough to supply metrical standards demanded in the study of other stars. To understand the other stars we must first gain a complete knowledge of the sun, and several of its most interesting portions are invisible, except at times of eclipse. It is for this reason that eclipse expeditions are dispatched at great expense of time and money, to occupy stations within the narrow shadow belt.

The difficulties of star study are great, the spherical body which we speak of as the sun is covered by a cloud composed of dense vapors of the metallic elements. This outer covering formed of different layers is thousands of miles in thickness, and yet it is but an insignificant part of the mass. Yet our knowledge of the sun has been almost entirely based upon a study of these outlying vapors.

It is a difficult matter to comprehend the condition of any of the sun's outcasts, to determine what the conditions within the sun must be in order to create and maintain such a shell is far more difficult.

Eclipse problems relate not only to the properties of the less massive portions of the sun, but also to the question of possible planets between the sun and Mercury. It is well known that Newton's law of gravitation has not yet fully accounted for the motion of Mercury. The perihelion of its orbit moves forward at least 40 minutes in a century more than theory calls for. The most plausible way of accounting for this progression has been the supposition that an undiscovered planet, or group of small planets exists within the orbit of Mercury. The search for such objects has been a well-defined eclipse problem; the sun's sky prevents effective search by ordinary methods. No such bodies have been detected, however, up to the present time.

The eclipse of August 19, 1905, will occur when the earth is seven degrees from the plane of the solar equator. It is to be hoped that observing parties well-equipped for the intramural search will be located in Labrador, Spain, Tunis, and Egypt. If clear weather prevails at one of the four stations valuable results may be secured. Should a new planet be observed at three stations the enormous interest heightened by the fact that its approximate orbit would be determined at once. If no planets are revealed the negative result would be scarcely less valuable than positive results and the intramural question would cease to be a pressing eclipse problem.

PLOWS UP BURIED MONEY.

Kentucky Farmer Several Hundred Dollars Richer Owning to Good Luck.

While J. A. Jackson, a farmer living near Mayfield, was plowing in the garden the little six-year-old child found a sum of gold and silver money where it had been plowed up, and went and showed it to his father. He then stopped work and began to scrape about and found several hundred dollars in gold and silver which is supposed to have been buried by parties there during the civil war. The date on the money were from 1840 to 1860. Arnold, a citizen of that town during the war, has been dead for years and it is supposed the parties who buried the money have long since been dead.

OIL FOR SHIP FUEL.

Nine thousand barrels of oil were consumed as fuel in burning the flag-ship steamer Nebraska to San Francisco from New York recently. The trip required 20 days and 20 hours. The oil-burning appliances were never out of order. This is based upon an average estimate of the fuel that the crew of the Nebraska is the largest ever made by a vessel dependent upon oil for fuel.

Old Friends of the Sea.

The start of the season has started, probably, the Indianapolis Journal, 100,000 words in news of one 25 feet long that travels with its head five feet off the ground. Now for the children to shake their acquaintance among the passengers. The ship is the largest ever built for the purpose.

X-RAY SUBJECT OF A SUIT.

Boy Who Claimed to Have Injured by a Skingraph Brings Action Against Surgeon.

A test of the Roentgen ray, so far as the liability of surgeons and colleges are concerned, was heard in the Dublin courts recently.

A lad, a resident of Galway, the seat of one of the Queen's Colleges, was suspected of having a self-diagnosing within or near one of his joints. Prof. Colohan, of Queen's college, sent him to the assistant in the physical laboratory, a man named Haire, to have the joint skinned in order to perfect the diagnosis. The result was unsatisfactory, and after some repetition, a Roentgen ray burn appears to have been developed.

Ultimately the boy was sent to Dublin for advice and treatment, and the comments there made on the origin of the cutaneous sore led to the legal proceedings. There were three actions brought by the guardians of the boys,

one against Dr. Colohan, one against the laboratory assistant, Haire, and one against the college authorities.

The trial lasted seven days. 12 K.C.'s were retained throughout, the most noted experts summoned from the other side of the Irish channel and those of Dublin were necessarily pressed to the front. The evidence of Dr. W. S. Haughton, the premier Roentgen ray specialist of Dublin, was the conspicuous expert feature of the whole trial.

Every possible aspect and every practical property of the Roentgen rays in their relationships with human tissues were thoroughly threshed out in open court and the most up-to-date Roentgen ray machinery was made to display its modes of action to the jury. After the brilliant display of native science and native wit nobody was surprised that the Roentgen ray specialists carried the opinions of the jury, and that a verdict was recorded in favor of the defendants.

The result must have taught something to the lawyers as well as to the general medical and lay public, for the trial was one of the most expensive that has taken place in Dublin for a long period and the plaintiffs do not appear to be persons of any substance.

IS A GROWING COUNTRY.

Population of Indian Territory Estimated to Be Increasing at the Rate of 500 Per Day.

It has been estimated that the population of Indian territory is growing at the rate of 500 people a day. This applies to a period covering the last six months. Taking the last census figures, 392,000, and comparing it with the present estimated population of 552,000, a growth of 133 persons per day would be shown. But this is not a fair test, as the increase in population within the past year has been greater than in the three preceding years combined. If the territory continues to increase in population during the next two years as it has in the past year, when statehood comes in 1906, Indian territory will come in with a population of 557,000. Oklahoma will probably equal this and make the total population of the new state 1,914,000. This will be the largest population ever claimed by any state at the time of admission.

Taking the census figures of 1900 for basis, the population of Indian territory at that time was nine times as large as Nevada, six times that of Alaska, four times that of Wyoming, twice that of Hawaii, and double that of Idaho, Delaware and New Mexico. Lying more than Montana, 115,000 more than Utah, 72,000 more than North Dakota. The population of the territory has increased at the lowest estimate 20,000 since that time, while it is not likely that in any of the other territories mentioned it has increased 25 per cent and in the states mentioned not more than ten per cent since the census, so that the comparative figures, if they could be had at this time, would be still more in favor of Indian territory.

ROMANTIC BANDIT IS DEAD.

Last of the Old-Time Brigands Expires in Prison at Florence, Italy.

The last of the old-time brigands, Nicholas Morro, who used to rob in the picturesque style of story books, is dead at the age of 85 in prison at Florence, Italy, where he was serving a sentence of 11 years for attempted murder. He had been notorious since the times of the Bourbons of Naples.

When clad in velvet uniform and riding his favorite horse he long had been both the terror and the idol of the rural population of the Puglia, where his generosity and attractive manner long shielded him from the police. He was caught at last after a stubborn resistance and sentenced to prison.

When his time expired he returned to his native Puglia, where the populace gave him an enthusiastic welcome, insisting on his appearing on the hotel balcony to make a speech.

Make Pets of Mice.

The ate 150 among 1,000 shooable women in London is the option of many a pet. Following the exhibition of the National Mouse Club, the wives of wealthy lawyers, doctors and aristocrats have presented live specimens of the mice to their pets in their homes. The mice are being trained to their masters' hands and are offered good food, are highly favored, and as high as \$20 has been paid for one specimen.

Nations Must Be Careful.

It has been some time now we have heard from our friends the Foreign News that France with its head five feet off the ground, says the Indianapolis News, but it closed in Indianapolis the other night with the news, friends

THE LATEST COLLEGE

NO STUDENTS UNDER 60 YEARS OF AGE TO BE ACCEPTED.

Institution Incorporated in Illinois with Philanthropic Object in View—Life Insurance Theory Followed.

No student less than 60 years of age will be admitted to the Home college, incorporated under the laws of Illinois recently. The co-eds will be under the same age restriction. No provision has been made for athletics. The officers of the Home College company will be in Chicago and Dr. John Merritt Driver, pastor of the People's church; Hamilton White, and Charles S. Northrop are the incorporators, their plan being a unique reversal of the life insurance theory for philanthropic purposes.

The college will be an institution in which men and women more than 60 years old, having purchased scholarships exactly as if buying life insurance policies, will be freed from financial cares and stimulated to an enjoyment of their old age by studies along whatever line they choose to take up. Each one will, by the fees paid for the scholarship, purchase a right to board, room, tuition, lecture, reading-room, and library privileges for the balance of his life with medical attendance and funeral expenses after death.

A man 20 years of age can buy a scholarship which will support him after his sixtieth year by paying a premium of \$15, or he can take out a paid-up scholarship for \$200. Premiums increase with the age of the applicant. If death takes place before the age of 60, the money already paid on the scholarship will revert to the company, according to the present plan.

Hamilton White, who has had many years of experience in educational work in Amity college, Iowa, and Hamilton White college, Missouri, is the originator of the idea. He said: "The company is not organized to make money but for philanthropy. Our institution will not be an old people's home. It will not be a charity. The people will not be inmates but students—boys and girls more than 60 years old."

"The plan has met with the favor of every man to whom I have explained it. I hope within a short time to have several prominent millionaires enlisted in the cause. Our first step will be to raise \$25,000 for a building. I could find 400 men in Chicago at this moment ready to enter such a college, most of them retired ministers."

HAMILTON WHITE

Secretary of Oklahoma Board of Agriculture Declares That the Industry Is Thriving.

J. B. Thoburn, secretary of Oklahoma's state board of agriculture, says that within the next two years Oklahoma will outrank Rocky Ford as a producer of the melons. The rich sandy loam lands of the territory produce watermelons and cantaloupes in perfection.

F. J. Weymouth, of Lincoln county, one of the most extensive growers of melons in the territory, says that the conditions in his county are as favorable to the successful growing of cantaloupes as in any part of the United States. Even in 1901, when the season was unusually dry, it was proven that this is one of the most profitable crops that can be grown there. In that year the crop paid a net profit of from \$40 to \$45 per acre. An acre of cantaloupes should produce from 5,000 to 7,000 melons. The past year the farmers received from one to three cents each for the melons, or 10 to 12 cents and earliest melons are profitable for shipping. The Oklahoma crop, if on the market within a reasonable time will be considerably ahead of the Arkansas and Missouri crop. Mr. Weymouth has found in shipping that Oklahoma melons bring from 50 cents to \$1 a crate more than the market price in St. Louis.

CONSIDERATE POSTMASTER.

Pendleton, Ore., Official Provides a Stool So That Short Patrons May See the Boxes.

There is one permanent feature in the Pendleton, Ore., post office.

It is a dainty stool, about six inches high, covered with carpet, and left standing on the foot next to the lock boxes, and has been placed there by the thoughtfulness of Postmaster Lavermore, so short patrons of the office may step up and look into the upper boxes, if they happen to be returning on the upper row.

Many an accommodating tall patron of the office has answered the sweet request to "please unlock my box, it is so high," or "please tell me there is anything in No. — I can't see through the door."

The innocent little stool will do away with all this inconvenience and the shortest woman in the city can now reach her box. If this stool will not answer the purpose, Postmaster Lavermore will place a portable step-ladder at the service of the patrons.

The chief argument which the speakers advanced was that the queu was a symbol of slavery, inferiority, and degradation, and that it marked them as an inferior race to their fellow British subjects, and invited contempt and suspicion.

A resolution was put, and it was decided by an overwhelming majority to discard the queu. A second vote was in favor of carrying out the resolution at once.

The chairman, amidst the cheers of the majority and the loud and vigorous protest of the minority, proceeded to amputate all "pigtail" to be found in the room. The struggles of the victims were as unavailing as their protests against the abandonment of an immemorial custom.

Fully half the Chinamen of Selangor are following the example of the immigrants, and it is believed that the movement will spread all through the Straits Settlements.

DOG DEVOTED TO A GOOSE.

Unusual Companionship Between the Fowl and Canine, Who Help Each Other to Fight Enemies.

The peculiar devotion of a goose at Melia Karla, B. C., to the pet dog of a grocery merchant arouses the interest of all the tourists who visit the town. Two years ago the goose flew down apparently from the heavens, and alighted on the steamer Neil, which was steaming into port. When the Neil was docked the goose immediately chose for its intimate friend the dog, which was then at the wharf.

It has been ever since a case of Mary and the lamb. Everywhere the dog goes the goose is sure to go. The singular devotion of the fowl has continued unbroken, and in all the skirmishes and fights among the neighborhood the goose is always a factor never failing to defend its chosen ally vigorously.

Probably Too Busy.

An effort is being made to get Bandit Rashi to appear as a Pike attraction at the St. Louis fair, but it is hard to some quarters to believe the Chicago Inter Ocean, that he may be kept too busy writing magazine articles to take any other engagements.

INDIANA MAN WHO TAUGHT SCHOOL 62 YEARS AGO

Ephraim Hodges Still Lives Near Old Log House Where He First Imparted Wisdom to the Youthful Hoosiers.

A school teacher 62 years ago. That is the record of Ephraim Hodges, who has the distinction of being the first white child born in Wayne township, Owen county, Ind. He is the oldest living school teacher of Morgan county. He began teaching a district school 62 years ago in a log schoolhouse with puncheons floor and long, brawns seats, without desks, standing near where he now lives.

Despite the opinion of other experts, the chief engraver, Charles E. Barber, has said that there is not the slightest doubt that the coin is spurious. The fact that so radical a difference of opinion exists is clear evidence of the dangerous counterfeit a specimen of the coin has been forwarded to Washington.

To enable the secret service of the United States treasury department to determine the genuineness of the quarter-dollar which has been declared by the chief engraver of the mint to be a dangerous counterfeit a specimen of the coin has been forwarded to Washington.

Some idea of the enormous profits which the counterfeiter of this coin, if it is found to be spurious, are making is obtained by a comparison of the relative weight and value of the American and the Mexican dollar. The standard of fineness of the United States dollar is 900, while that of the Mexican dollar is 802. In weight, also, the Mexican has somewhat the advantage, being of 41.7 grains, as against 41.6 of the United States dollar.

When it is borne in mind that the Mexican dollar may be bought to-day for 45 to 48 cents it is readily seen how lucrative a game such counterfeiting would be playing. The profit on their venture would be nearly, if not quite, 100 per cent. There is no such coin as a counterfeit quarter dollar made of fine silver on the official list at present.

TELLS DYING SENSATIONS.

Louise Michel Declares Coming of Death Similar to Approach of a Cyclone.

Louise Michel, much broken in appearance from the severe strain of a recent illness, has just given in Paris a lecture in which she described her feelings when she believed herself to be dying.

"My will was absolutely gone," she said. "I observed myself as dispassionately as if I were another being. All material things were vague. But my impressions grew powerfully acute—my senses became externalized, as it were.

I received a summons from a man I had in New Caledonia during a cyclone. The heavens were black, the sea black, and it seemed to me that from the depths of the sea rose a profound power of attraction. It was as if we had existed in the elements and death was only a return to them.

"Thought made impressions in symbols and language no longer was possible. The war in which I was engaged appeared to me as a vast stain of blood. The future was an indistinguishable mass in which different epochs loomed like the summits of a mountain range. Beyond them appeared the new horizon where truth shone for all.

"What restored me to health was the universal sympathy extended to me with which I felt myself in constant communication. Now that I am well I shall continue my lectures for my one desire is to diminish the hatred between people who think."

CHINESE WITHOUT QUEUES.

Those in Kuala Lumpur Will Abandon Custom in Vogue Since Year 1400.

The Chinese British subjects in Kuala Lumpur have decided to abandon a custom that has been in vogue since the fifteenth century—that of wearing queues.

This action was taken at a public meeting recently which was called to consider the matter.

The session was a most excited one, but it was soon clear that the majority were in favor of the progressive plan.

The chief argument which the speakers advanced was that the queue was a symbol of slavery, inferiority, and degradation, and that it marked them as an inferior race to their fellow British subjects, and invited contempt and suspicion.

GIRLS DUCK A BRIDEGEROM.

After Riding Him on a Rail the Mischievous Maids Dump Him Into a Creek.

Rosa Moser and John David, who live a few miles west of Navajo, Ind., were married at the home of the bride's parents recently. After the ceremony the young couple entered a boat of young folk from the city and neighboring farms, and among them were the bridesmaids, eight pretty but mischievous girls who resolved to make the night a memorable one by an un