The Star Sirius. By David Trownrings, Waterburg, N. Y.

On a clear night when the atmosphere is free from smoke and haze, as we ometimes have it in winter, we have presented to us the most sublime speccontemplation. Turn the eyes in any lated, but rich; it was beside the "subdirection above the horizon, and we see stars innumerable, from those of the first magnitude to others so small that we catch only a glimpse of them by means of a side view, the stars disappearing when we turn the eyes and the attention directly on them.

Those stars which we distinctly see on any night, leaving the planets out ceau of to-day, was bounded by the of consideration, appear to occupy the old wall d'enceinte the Rue Valois same relative positions with respect to one another night after night and year called the Cemetery de Mousseaux, as after year. We see them all appear to known officially, but all the people of move toward the west each night, and we notice after a suitable lapse of time tiere des Errancis." It was "Inaugurthat they set a little earlier each night, ated" in July, 1795, by the burial of so that at the end of a year they all Charlotte Corday, one of the very come back to the place of starting. first to be interred there. It received When we reflect that all these stars also all the "hard-cases" of the revoare as free to move as the earth or the lution. The cemetery was very moon, how wonderful it is that they soon closed and never again used. thus appear to retain their relative positions so exactly, even for centuries. We must conclude that their not) that in many instances the stars | suburb of Paris caused this "petit Ti- | for him.

star shines during our winter evenings great brilliancy, and its magnitude which is greater than that of any other fixed star. It has received the name of Dog-Star, from the constellation, or collection of stars which it occupies. For convenience of recognition and reference the ancient astronomers divided the starry heavens into constellations, each one having a somewhat definite outline which could be traced by means of the stars. The name Canis Major, or the Greater Dog, was given to that one which contains the star Sirius; and since this is the principal star in the constellation, it is often called the Dog-Star. This star, has played a somewhat important part in the history of mankind. It the Ancient Egyptians.

The present position of Sirius is in right ascension 99 deg. 55 min. 30 sec., and in south declination 16 deg. 32 min. 28 sec. This position is subject both to an apparent and a real variation. The apparent variation is due to a gyratory motion of the earth, which causes the poles of the heavens (the north pole is now near the north star) to revolve around the poles of the ecliptic, or the vanishing points to the plane of the sun's apparent orvary from the same cause.

The real variation of the position of Sirius is due to its proper motion, as it is called. Though the stars are called fixed stars, yet they really are not so, but each one has an independent motion of its own, by which it is carried through space with greater or less rapidity. This motion of the stars is owing to the attractive influence which they exert on one another. The whole proper motion, however, is not real, but a part of it is apparent and due to the real, or proper motion of the sun, carrying with him the planetary system. The proper motion of Sirius is subject to some irregularity, but the matter has been pretty thoroughly discussed by Dr. Auwers, so that it is now very well understood.

WIT AND HUMOR.

Don't despise a woman because she can't drive nails or hang pictures; if you want to discover your own weak points, just carry a 6x4 mattress down a narrow, winding stairs.

When a woman requests her husband to bring home a dozen or more needed trifles and he returns without them, she realizes that in domestic life as well as in politics, instructions do not instruct.

To educate young ladies is to let them know all about the ogles, the omenies, the ifics, the tics and the misties; but nothing about the ings, such as sewing, darning, washing, baking, and making pudding.

A bride of a month went to a married lady of a quarter of a year, and said: "My darling says that women are fools.', "Never mind," said the other, "he is only studying nouns; wait untill he reaches adjectives."

"I am an independent voter, and I can't support you until I've seen your platform," she said as he finished proposing. A couple of hours later it dawned upon the young man's mind that she wanted to know the amount of his salary.

Not one American woman in twenty-five can walk five miles," says an English physician. See here, Doc., you just show an American woman a street five miles long, with bonnet stores every ten rods, and see if she can't walk the whole distance.

Some admiring poet said of his best girl; "Upon her face a thousand dim-ples smile for me;" which only adds more emphasis to the adage, "Love is blind." How like the mischief a girl would look with a thousand dimples on her face. The poet must have

"My daughter, never tell any one your private affairs," said a mother in sending her daughter away upon her first journey. "Monsieur, a third-class ticket, if you please !" said the daughter, at the ticket office. "For where?" asked the employe. "Is that any of your business?" answered mademoiselle, indignantly, remembering her mother's advice.

A Sacramento girl was guilty of a mean trick the other day, the relation of which will cause the blood of every mother in the land to curdle evening at his house. "Ah—hum—no, with horror. She eloped with her thank ye," said the old man; "I never objectionable lover the same day her mother was enameled, and, as the latter was compelled to remain shut up three days or else crack all over, the couple managed to get away without pursuit.

A fair and buxom widow, who had buried three husbands, recently went with a gentleman, who, in his younger days, had paid her marked attention, to inspect the graves of her dear departed. After contemplating them in mournful silence, she murmered to her companion: "Ah, James, you might have been in that row now if you had

only had a little more courage." A young man with an umbrella overtook an unprotected lady acquantance in the rain-storm, and extending his umbrella over her, requested the pleasure of acting as her rain-beau. "Oh !" exclaimed the young lady, taking his arm, "you wish me to be your rain-dear." Two souls with but a single umbrella, two forms that stepned as one.

Lafayette's Tomo. American (Paris) Register.

All Americans should make a pil-

grimage to the last resting-place of the great Lafayette at the cemetery of with dead. This is an error; the room was not lacking, but the place of interment was badly situated in ject of the diatribes of the aristocrats and of the contre revolutionists." The result was its removal. During the of a sort of desert, which backing up against the very walls of La Folie Chartres, that is to say the Parc-Mon-Before the 18th brumaire no more interments were made there, and its very existence seemed to be ignored. are in rapid motion.

But we did not commence to write about all the stars, but only one of extending of the Rue Miromenil scatand some ball players come together there occasionally to enjoy themselves. Picpus, La Madeleine, and Les Errancis were, therefore, the three depositaries of the victims of the guillo-

FASHION ITEMS.

LACES AND EMBROIDERIES .-- For all other purposes than for trimming, Spanish lace, both black and white, is still in high favor, and vails, searfs, overdresses and sleeves of the same provide a graceful finish to handsome toilets. White lace of this kind is much used on dress bonnets, and the black on bonnets for street wear. was to a certain extent the almanac of Breton and Languedoc are still poputhe Ancient Egyptians. | lar materials for jabots and fichus; and ecrue has proved so acceptable a shade in the latter lace that it will

probably appear in other varieties. The old lace points, Malines Angleterre and guipure are more and more in favor in Paris, and Malines will doubtiess be soon extensively inof a straight line drawn through the and white, cream tinted, pink or blue You are not only yourself, but poscentre of the earth, and perpendicular | crepe de chine, often handsomely em- | sibly the future mother of other belared in colored silks are amon bit. This revolution is completed in | the materials employed as centers. A | self to be driven by either schools of about 25,000 years, and it gives rise to new fichu recently observed was in apostles beyond what you may do the precession of the equinoxes. Since | cape form, finished by a very full | easily, comfortably, or pleasurably. the star's right ascension is reckoned standing ruffle of lace at the throat The healthy balance of your nervous from the spring, or vernal equinox, and terminating in front in long flow- system is far more important to you the precession causes it to increase at | ing ends. Imitations of Russian laces | and your future family relations than a slow rate. The declination will also are attractive to those who desire all the mathematics or dress-making, ranged to spare the shopper trouble broidery, which much resembles Hamburg, and is said to be as durable as what are called "everlasting" trim-

CHILDREN'S FASHIONS .- The changes in children's fashious are never radical They merely distinguish change by a loop more, a ruffle or tuck less—a sash worn low down, high up, or none at

The princess dress, that displaced the long-favored, loosely-fitting Engstylish for little misses at present. Skirts are very short, and the pantalets quite invisible.

Every child should wear a waist of strong muslin, with a stout band well supplied with buttons, to which all the under-garments are buttoned, thus bearing the weight of them upon the shoulders, and leaving the person free to grow as nature intended it should. As the child develops into the "miss" the waist can be shaped, and attain the dignity of whalebones as a sort of demi-corset. The gradual training of the human body is as necessary as the

training of a vine. The broad-brim Rubens hat, worn somewhat on the back of the head, and slightly on the side, is still the most favored. The face shading and protecting Directoire form vies with the coquettish toque for the second place. Large, flat collars are decided-

Fancy colors in dress fabrics, such as pink, light blue, etc., are not worn in the street. Velvet and satin are less used for trimming children's outdoor garments than formerly. Dark blues, browns, and Russian green, trimmed with plush of the same shades, are the prevailing styles. Dark suits, trimmed with hand-some white lace, are much in vogue

for little boys under five years of age. Nothing about a little girl displays a mother's peculiar taste more than the way the hair is arranged. The severely neat mother will comb the hair smoothly back from the brow; the vain mother will curl and twist it; the elegant mother will "bang" a pretty fringe of hair over her child's intellectual brow, brush the rest back, slightly braid it, leaving an end free to kink or curl, with a pretty-colored ribbon bow that holds the hair in

Sunday-school scholar (to the teacher)-"Did you say that the hairs of my head were all numbered?" Teacher-"Yes, my dear." Sunday-school scholar-"Well, then," (pulling out a hair and presenting it) "what's the

number of that one?" "Elder, will you have a drink of cider?" inquired a farmer of an old temperance man who was spending an drink any liquor of any kind-'specially cider; but if you will call it ap-

ple-juice, I'll take a drop." HURRAH!



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July Atlantic. The men of a Nation inevitably make the women what they will, and the women in return impress upon their Picpus. It has been said that it | children what they have received from became necessary to abandon this their own fathers. Hence it comes that cemetery because it was gorged the existence of the American woman has become almost as purely objective as that of the man. Her ideal of life from her cradle has been associated with the maximum of exertion. There is no quietude among Americans, and wonderfully little egotism in their social life. It is a never-ending series of sensations and mental shocks, which keeps the whole being in a nervous quiver, and allows no time for any quality save that of energy to develop itself symmetrically. The American woman is as unquiet in her thoughts and enslaved by her duties, however light, as the man. Even when she visits she has no air of repose. Her conversation is not thoughtful, but actual. She tells you what she does or suffers, not what she thinks or feels. There is no reverie about her, no sug-gestion of that brooding spirit which indicates a capacity for impassioned affection, a capacity which to bache-lors is always ideally seductive, how-ever little the married man may appreciate or return it. Yet. generally speaking, undemonstrative as the American girl may be, she will wear her life out in working for the man real motions are very slow, or the stars are very far from us. We are now sure very far from us. We are now sure that the start was established on its she loves. She forgets all about being for him in that merciless energy danced there. The annexation of that which always drives her into doing There is, again, another reason why

the American girl seems cold to the superficial observer. It is because she them, Sirius, or the Dog-Star; this tered nearly the last remains of this is free. She is educated to repress ancient cemetery. All that is left of emotion, because her independent and it may be easily recognized by its | it now is a fragment close to the walls, | movements expose her to contact with men of all classes, among whom there are many very "vile persons." Her coldness of demeanor, therefore, is her armor against impertinence or even worse things. She passes, Diana-like, through crowds of men every day, not one of whom for one instant suspects her of being other than she is, because her manner shows her at once to be a free-born, spotless American Woman! They never dream that because no one is watching her she means to go

The defects of the American girl may be done away with by giving less prominence to the purely intellectual or purely practical side of her education. For while one class of men is striving to solve the problem of disc by educating women intellectually, there is another class which is shouting for education in domestic matters. While the professors at Harvard are rejoicing over some girl who can take in their philosophies in their mathematics, the newspaper editor sings the praises of her who can roast a turkey, bake bread, or make her own dresses. troduced here by leading houses. bake bread, or make her own dresses. Fichus and jabots differ only in slight Neither gives the poor girl a chance to particulars from those heretofore exist, but only to work, with either shown. Swiss, mull, plain or figured hand or brain. No one says to her, ings. Do not therefore allow yoursomething inexpensive for trimming or even roasting of turkeys. Occupy underclothing, and for the same pur- yourself steadfastly, but without pose Hamburgs are provided in a strain, without hurry, and without great variety of unusually pleasing emulation. As the apostle said (and patterns, and in sets conveniently ar- | it must have been meant expressly for Americans), 'avoid emulation.' Find in matching edgings and insertings. out first what you can do best, and Another material especially adapted even if it does not come up to somefor a finish to muslin is Indian em- | body else's standard, learn to content yourself with that."

The London Examiner says that Oxford and Cambridge are mere boarding schools.

The emperor of Austria has set the fashion of wearing a golden pig as a pin or watch-charm.

A colored preacher of Cobb county, Georgia. has a novel way of collecting lish dress, competes with the long his salary. When his members haven't vest and jacket suit; these, and the | the money he puts them to work on panier tunic costumes, are the most | his farm until they work out their assessments.

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