

# THE STARS IN DECEMBER.

(Copyright, 1906, by C. de Saint-Germain.) There are but few Constellations to gaze upon in the December skies that we have not had occasion to admire during the month of November. But their positions have shifted. "Perseus" has moved to the very zenith, half of it behind our heads, so to speak. "Queen Cassiopeia"

favorite among Constellations, is somewhat higher above the horizon; it used to be known also as "David's Chariot," or simply the "Great Chariot." The Egyptians called it the "Thigh of the Northern Sky" or the "Thigh of the Ox," and, to this day, the Arabs speak of it as "The Leg." In other countries it is called "The

331 days to change from the second to the ninth magnitude and vice versa. Returning to the Zenith, we find "Andromeda" close to her rescuer "Perseus;" she has not yet found time to be ungrateful through these centuries of model love-making. Underneath, the faithful steed "Pegasus" displays its splendid square completed by star "a" of Andromeda, Alpheratz of the third magnitude. "Enif," its very last star toward the east, supposed to shine from the nostril of the Winged Horse, is just above the Zodiacal Constellation "Aquarius" (The Water Bearer), a sort of double triangle, with its largest star, Sadalmelik, of the third magnitude.

The west is lighted up by some admirable examples of first and second magnitude stars. To the left of the Pleiades, and partly within the domain of the Zodiacal Constellation "Taurus," shines the superb Aldebaran; under it the splendid square of "Orion" with "Betgeuse" (The Shoulder) to the west, and "Rigel" (The Foot) to the east. The other corners of the square are marked, upwards by "Bellatrix" (The Female Warrior), downwards by "Mintaka" both of the second magnitude; there are three stars of the same dimension in a row within the enclosure; they are called "The Three Kings"; truly Orion is one of the most glorious sights in the heavens. Close to the horizon, another orb of the first magnitude adds to the splendor of this celestial region; it is Procyon,

## ...As the World Revolves...

### Devoted to Her Father.

Although the re-election of Charles A. Boutelle of Maine to a seat in congress will probably never reach him, it is a source of great satisfaction to his daughter, Miss Grace, who is devoting her life to his comfort. As is well known, Mr. Boutelle has been for many months an inmate of a private asylum at Waverly, Mass. His mind is a complete wreck and even the most sanguine of his friends have given up hope of his restoration to reason.

### Is Called the Corn King.

A new star has risen on the Chicago Board of Trade. This latest star on "change" belongs to the constellation taurus, for he has given corn such a boost as it has not had for many a day. The big institution is more or less accustomed to all kinds of financial sensations, but George H. Phillips has given the board a nervous shock of the kind probably a little different from any received heretofore. Mr. Phillips is the youngest man who even engineered a corner in grain in Chicago, and the youngest who ever attempted such a stupendous operation. The young man is not yet 32 years of age, and he has only been a dealer upon the Geo. H. Phillips, Board of Trade for a period of eight years. The extremely boyish appearance of the big bull has occasioned no end of remark since he jumped into such prominence. Mr. Phillips is slender and short of stature, is light, almost pale, complexioned, with light eyes and hair and a man of most unpretentious appearance and address. He is so extremely modest and unassuming that the notoriety he has attained and the attention which he has attracted have been almost painful to him.



Geo. H. Phillips.

### One on Senator Clark.

A new bit of Washington gossip tells how one day last winter Senator Chandler of New Hampshire, being about to enter the senate chamber from the public corridor, was accosted by one of two little girls, who had wandered in there. "Mister, what does it cost to go in there?" said the child. At that moment Chandler saw Clark, the Montana millionaire, coming around the corner. "Ask that man," said the New Hampshire man. "He knows all about it."



GRACE BOUTELLE.

lodgings to the insane asylum to spend as many hours with the patient as the doctors will allow. By her tender and loving caresses she seems to soothe the uneasy patient, and if Congressman Boutelle recovers the doctors declare the credit will be due to his affectionate daughter.

### Good Roads Recommendations.

Besides providing for a permanent highway improvement organization, with headquarters in Chicago, the national good roads convention recently held in that city adopted certain general recommendations made by a committee for the promotion of the end in view.

The first recommendation is rather obscurely worded, but it seems to mean that the state should repeal the provisions of their road laws requiring people to work so many days each year on the roads and substitute therefor a provision requiring cash payment of road taxes. This is reasonable as far as it goes, because the labor under this system is largely ineffective and misapplied; the work is pretty much all done at one time, which is irrational, and it is rarely well directed. It was stated by one of the speakers at the convention that fully 75 per cent of the work done under this system was thrown away. With the taxes paid in cash and the money used to buy suitable materials and appliances and to employ capable workmen and direct them wisely far more and better results would be secured at no great expense. The second recommendation was that state legislatures make provision for the employment of convict labor in preparation of material for the construction of roads. The third recommendation is the passage of suitable state laws in aid of the work of improvement and the appointment of "non-partisan" highway commissioners.

### Marquis of Anglesey.

The Marquis of Anglesey, who has just been sued by his wife for divorce, is Henry Cyril Paget, and head of the famous Paget family, whose members are intermarried with prominent American houses. The marquis is only 25 years old and succeeded his father two years ago. His wife is the daughter of Sir George Chetwynd, the famous turfman. She is a beautiful woman of 20, with violet eyes and Ti-



MARQUIS OF ANGLESEY.

tian hair. The pair have never got on well together since the marriage. She left her husband in the middle of their honeymoon because of the marked symptoms of insanity exhibited by him. He tries to dress like a woman, carries pug dogs in his promenades, wears rings on every finger, and appears on the public stage as a skirt dancer. The marquis inherits his eccentricities. His mother was erratic and committed suicide because she was not happy with her husband. The marriage of Anglesey and his wife was made to secure inheritance on both sides, and it was not their intention to live together.



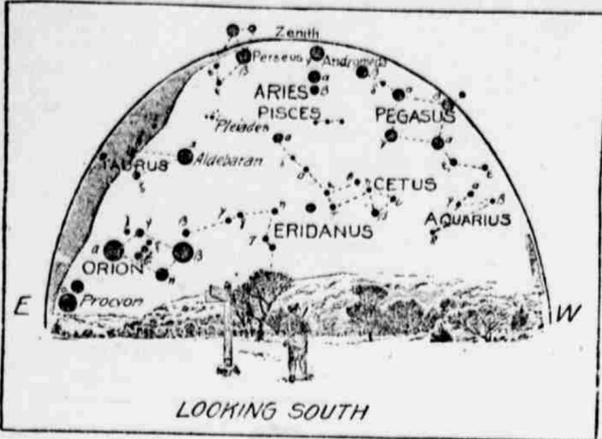
MRS. CHARLES H. HERREID, removed to South Dakota with her husband and has since been a resident of that state.

### Theater "Blabbers."

Under the head-line, "Bunce the Blabbers," a Cedar Rapids paper makes vigorous protest against the chattering who disturb theater and lecture audiences. It offers a reward of \$5 for the first usher who will "go after such idiots in the proper manner," and refers to one of them as having a mouth that "would be a profitable enterprise if turned into a windmill."

### Has Ran the Naval Gamut.

Rear Admiral Andrew Kennedy Bickford, C. M. G., has been appointed commander-in-chief on the English Pacific station, in succession to Rear Admiral Beaumont, who goes to the Australian station. The son of Mr. W. Bickford of Newport House, South Devon, he was born in India, but was educated at the South Devon Collegiate school. He entered the navy in 1858, and first saw active service in China. Admiral Bickford. He was senior and gunnery lieutenant of the Amethyst at the time of its encounters with the Peruvian rebel ironclad Huascar. Service in Alexandria and elsewhere brought him on to the captaincy he exercised as senior officer of combined French and English and German and English squadrons at various operations in the South Pacific during the course of which he put a stop to civil war at Samoa. He commanded the Resolution in the Channel squadron; became captain of first reserve at Portsmouth; captain-superintendent of Sheerness dock yard in 1896; rear admiral in 1899, and A. D. C. to the Queen. His C. M. G. was gained for services as captain of the allied squadron at various operations in the South Pacific.



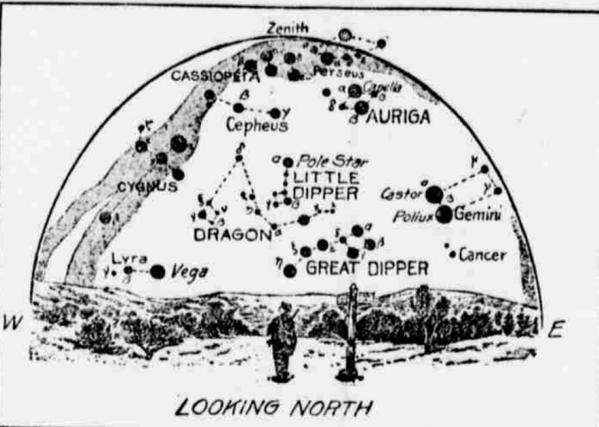
LOOKING SOUTH

above her "King Cepheus" has glided to the west, while "Auriga" with its beautiful "Capella" (The She-Goat) and her "Kids," has followed Perseus up to the Zenith. The Cross of "Cygnus" (The Swan) is never more beautiful than during this month as it lies among the million stars that form the "Milky Way"—"St. Jacob's Road," as the French peasants call it. Its largest star Deneb (Arabic for "Tall") is of the second magnitude; the star at the opposite extremity of the same arm of the cross is Albireo of the third magnitude; it is said to mark the beak of the Swan. It is a double star; its larger component, a pale red, its smaller one, a beautiful blue. To the right of Cygnus, the curiously complicated shape of "Draco" (The Dragon) with its six folds, forms first a small, lower square, then a triangle between Cygnus and the Little Dipper; finally its neck and head end with the handsome Thuban of the third magnitude, just between the two Dippers. As I stated before Thuban was 4,640 years ago the pole star; the change is due to a small annual alteration in the position of the earth's axis, of which I may have to speak again.

This month the Great Dipper, this

Jackal," the leader of the "Celestial Dogs." Further west, the last stars of the Great Dipper, popularly known as the Pointers look straight toward the superb Castor and Pollux (second magnitude) of the Zodiacal Constellation "Gemini" (The Twins). Just below Pollux, shines feebly the insignificant star constituting the Zodiacal Constellation "Cancer" (The Crab). A pretty aggregation of minor stars, a "nebula" called "Prosepe" has its home within the domain of Cancer. With Vega, the first magnitude star of "Lyra" (The Lyre) toward the west and close to the Milky Way, this aspect of the sky is completed. Now let us turn about, and begin looking southward.

Above our heads shines the other half of "Perseus;" under it, in succession, the two Zodiacal Constellations "Aries" (The Ram) and "Pisces" (The Fishes), the splendid cluster of the "Pleiades" to the left of Pisces. Just underneath, behold the star "a" of "Cetus" (The Whale), in the jaw of the beast; it is called Menkar and is only of the third magnitude; "Miracoeli" (The Marvel of the Heaven) belongs to the same Cetus; I told you last month, all about its strange vagaries; I will add that it takes this star



LOOKING NORTH

of the Constellation "Canis Minor" (The Little Dog). Toward the middle of the horizon "Eridanus" (The River Eridan) displays its zigzag shape, not unlike the course of its prototype, the Italian River Po.

Until the 20th, "Mercury" lights the east, just before sunrise; after that date it becomes invisible. Before day-break "Venus," now the morning star, shines splendidly in the eastern di-

rection. During the later part of the night "Mars" sends forth its ruddy glow. "Jupiter," owing to its nearness to the sun, is not visible. "Saturn" feebly lights the first hour of night-time, then vanishes from sight. This terminates our study of the firmament during the last month of the year 1906.

### Stops a Water Monopoly.

An irrigation company in Nebraska was sued by a farmer who proved that a canal dug by the company had decreased the flow of water at his place. The canal furnished water for irrigation purposes. The trial court held that he should be granted an injunction forbidding the further appropriation of water, and on appeal the supreme court sustained this view. The court held, according to an old law, that the proprietor of a river bank is entitled to have the stream flow through his land, undiminished in quantity and unimpaired in quality.

### Economy in Good Roads.

The common road is the connecting link between the farm, the home, the country school house and the church. The utility of good roads requires no exposition. Leaving the railroads out of the category of public roads for which government is responsible to the people, one expert estimate states that 89 per cent of every load hauled by railroads must be carried in a wa-

gon or truck over a highway. No more convincing proof is needed that building and maintaining highways is a question of a wise public policy.

A letter from Theodore Parker, the famous Unitarian preacher and reformer, to James Freeman Clarke, with marginal comments by the latter, was sold in Boston the other day for \$75.

### A Great Moving Army Needed

Can any one offer any valid objection to this proposition? Increase the army of the United States from its present size to 1,000,000 men. Divide it into departments limited to states and put each department under a good general who understands how to superintend the construction of good roads. Then put every mother's son of the great army at work. Each state would bear its own part in the expense. In ten years time we would have a system of good

roads that would last for the centuries. What is an army good for if it can't build good roads in time of peace. Those who offer great objections to a vast standing army could not find fault with a vast moving one of such a character.—EX.

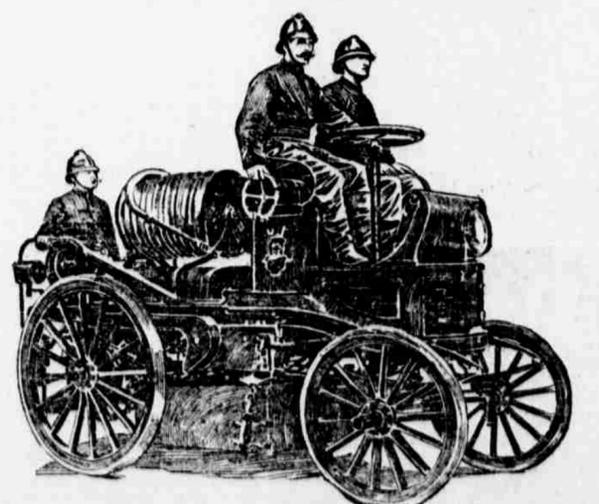
Senator Hoar of Massachusetts always prepares his speeches most carefully, and although he often appears to have no notes, yet what he says has generally been determined upon even to the slightest word at least a day in advance.

## Automobile Fire Engines.

Electricity has gained another victory over horse and steam power. The fire department of Paris is now abolishing horses from all the fire engine houses of the city and is selling its old fashioned steam fire engines to country towns. It is a strange sight when the fire alarm sounds to see the ponderous doors of the engine houses fly open and from it emerge the modern electric fire engines manned by only two sergeants. There is none of the old stamping and dashing of fiery steeds, impatient to rush down the crowded avenues to the scenes of conflagration. Here again, of course, is the spectacle of the loss of occupation to a lot of brave fellows. The stablekeepers and the grooms have been driven out. Instead there is a single engineer for each vehicle, whose sole occupation is to keep his auto-engines in trim during the long leisure hours between fires and to

manipulate them when the fire alarm sounds.

The engine and the hook and ladder hurry to the fires in much quicker time than the fastest horses could have gone. All the old dash of wind, almost uncontrollable horses, driven by a man who seems on the point of being dragged from his seat; the confusing sounding of gongs and bells and shouting of the spectators, cursing of drivers and street passengers, taken unawares—all this is a thing of the past. Instead the trim electric fire engine wends its way with comparative little noise and conspicuity through the crowded thoroughfares. All that warns of its approach is the constant ringing of a loud electric bell, which does not vary even when the passage is obstructed. The police, however, are instructed to arrest the driver of any vehicle that does not at once respond to the electric warning.



AN AUTOMOBILE FIRE ENGINE.

## A Royal Engagement.



Prince Louis Napoleon and the Grand Duchess Helena of Russia are officially announced affianced husband and wife from St. Petersburg. Louis has been an officer in the Russian army for the past fifteen years, and is now a general of cavalry. His command is the regiment of the Czarina's Lancers—one of the favorite organizations of the Muscovite army. His betrothed is the daughter of the Grand Duke Vladimir, uncle of the czar. She is one of the most eligible princesses of all Europe. This alliance is bound to strengthen the cause of the Bonapartist faction in France. Prince Louis

is the much beloved of the reactionaries. He is respected far more than either his brother, Prince Victor, who was disinherited by his father, Jerome Napoleon, or Prince Louis of Orleans, the royalist pretender. Louis Napoleon is a soldier, a strong man, watchful of his opportunities, purposeful and ambitious. He is a stranger to France, unlike his brother Victor, the natural heir to the imperial throne, he has been "preparing himself for war" with France always in view. Little has been heard of him since he entered the Russian military service almost as a la-

### Love's Hard Row in Connecticut

They have some queer, old-fashioned notions down in Connecticut. The other day a man named Lewis E. Dilley, aged thirty-eight, announced to the citizens of Hartland, a small town in the interior of the state, that he was about to marry Mrs. Gower, a widow sixty-six years of age, by whom he has recently been employed as a farm hand. He had even secured a license, and she had made various preparations for this thrilling event. Then the neighbors began to get interested. They held mass meetings and made speeches, and came to the general conclusion that Dilley was an inglorious wretch—a base deceiver—who wanted the Widow Gower's money, for it was known that besides her farm she had \$1,000 in the bank. No man, they argued, would want to marry a widow sixty-six years of age except for the gratification of mercenary motives. Having thus decided, they sallied forth to cover Mr. Dilley with tar and feathers. This they were unable to do on account of Dilley's powers as a sprinter, but one angry old man succeeded in tearing the marriage license out of the lover's hand as he whizzed past, and the document was quickly rendered unfit for further

use. Dilley, safe in an adjoining county, is now threatening legal proceedings, and the widow is sighing alone and waiting. The case teaches a lesson that is very plain. Dilley should have had the foresight to pose as an impecunious dude or a hare-brained count, and the old woman should have disguised herself as the daughter of some railroad king. If he had done that no man in Connecticut or anywhere else would have dared to cut the wife or pull out the plug or otherwise break the circuit. The people of Connecticut should be severely censured. If our beautiful, golden-haired young girls, scarcely past twenty-one and heiresses to millions, may make fools of themselves and by so doing reach lofty social stations, why shall our 66-year-old widows be rudely yanked out of Love's young dream? Somewhere in this business a balance must be struck, and the earlier it is done the better will it be for all concerned.

The Prince of Wales has taken to writing verse. It is said in London that a small volume containing a collection of his works is to be handsomely printed, but only for private