

THE HEAVENS IN DECEMBER

By Prof. Eric Doolittle.

ASTRONOMER FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

The stars which may now be seen in the early evening are much more brilliant than those which have been with us during the summer and autumn months.

THE AUTUMN STARS. If the observer will turn toward the west he will get a last view of the beautiful Northern Cross before it leaves the evening sky.

of the enmity of these two creatures. In a similar way just as Lepus sets the group known as the Crow rises and from this the ancient belief that the Hare detected the voice of the Raven is believed to have been derived.



Fig. 1.—The constellations at 9 p. m., December 1.

Cross is the bright star Vega, and a little to the south of it the brilliant Altair, both of which have been conspicuous in the early evening for many months, but which are now just on the point of disappearing for another year.

THE WINTER STARS. Except for the planet Saturn, the most striking and interesting objects for observation are nearly all in the eastern part of the sky.

well-known Mira at F Fig. 1, which, though usually a star too faint to be seen in smaller telescopes, yet once every eleven months increases so greatly in brightness that it becomes one of the conspicuous stars of the sky.



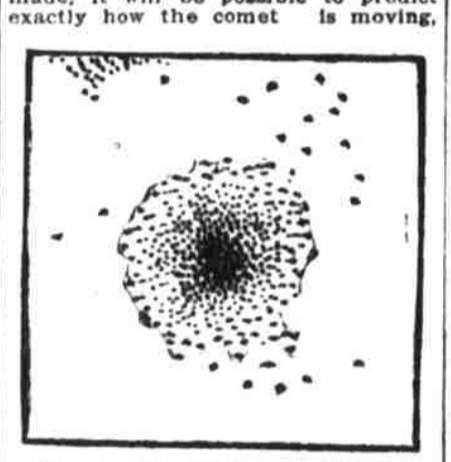
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junction with Mercury on December 13. Mars is also a morning star. It may be seen in the constellation Virgo about four o'clock.

THE NEW COMET. On November 19, a new comet was discovered in the constellation Cancer at the point marked C, Fig. 4.



and to mark its position among the stars. The comet is approaching the earth and may during the next few months become a bright and conspicuous object.

stition among many players against making the trump diamonds originally, and there is some reason for it, for you may find your partner with a "no trump" or a heart make.

When holding five including three honors, or six including one honor, make it diamonds. Thus: Diamonds, ace, king, jack, 6, 3, Spades, 10, 9, 5, Hearts, queen, 5, Clubs, jack, 4, 2.

Make it diamonds. The hand is too good to pass. Remember that when you hold two aces, your partner will be able to make it "no trump."

DUMMY. North, the dealer, makes it hearts. Although there are three aces in the hand, it is a better heart make than "no trump," on account of the large honor score.

A BOLD BURGLARY.

Home of Justice of Peace Barbee in Durham County Entered and Robbed of \$103.

Correspondence of The Observer. Durham, Nov. 30.—There was a bold burglary and robbery in the southern part of this county night before last, the facts being reported here to-day.

The Yearby Drug Company, of this city, has just been incorporated, with an authorized capital of \$100,000 and paid-in capital of \$50,000.

Heavy Repairs

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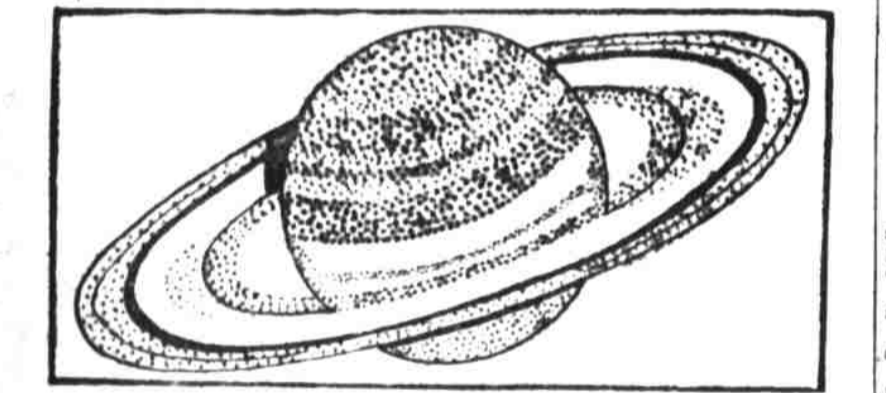


Fig. 2.—Telescopic view of Saturn and its rings. A faint dark band has recently appeared.

Jupiter, which is well up from the ground in the northeast and which may be instantly recognized, since at present it is very much brighter than any other heavenly object.

The observation just described is a delicate one. It is not probable that the slight changes of this nature which occur in the stars would ever attract the attention of any except the most interested and careful observers.

CAUSES OF VARIABILITY.

What is it that causes these changes we do not know. We know that the stars are suns, and it is possible that the changes in brightness may be due to the periodical recurrence of spots on their surfaces.

BRIDGE WHIST TALKS.

Written by Bessie E. Allen, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Bridge and Whist Writer and Teacher.

No. 2. Red Makes by Dealer.

HEART MAKES. The dealer, if unable to make it "no trumps," should then consider his red suits—hearts first, because they are of the greater value per trick.

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LONG TENNESSEE FIGHT.

For twenty years W. L. Rawlin, of Tenn., fought a hard battle. He writes: "The swelling and soreness inside my nose was fearful, till I began applying Bucklen's Arnica Salve to the sore surface."

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