

THE HEAVENS IN DECEMBER.

Something of Interest Concerning the Constellations.

The close of the nineteenth century is marked by no celestial pageant. Indeed, the heavens are more than usually bare, for all the outer planets, except Neptune are hidden behind the sun, and the inner ones are all three morning stars. So on the last evening of the century we shall see those silent and eternal stars which present the same aspect to us that they did to the sages of the East more than three centuries ago—Orion and the Pleiades, familiar to star-gazers when the Book of Job was yet unwritten, even as in present times, and seeming even more inconceivably far beyond our reach to us than to them.

To the fixed stars, therefore, must our attention be chiefly directed, when, as our custom is, we survey the evening skies. At 9 p. m. on December 15, the Milky Way extends in a broad span across the sky from east to west, passing a little north of the zenith. It is much brighter in the west than in the east, and also much more irregular in form and brilliancy.

Following its line from east to east, and noting the principal constellations, we come at first to Cygnus, a great cross of stars standing erect right along the center of the Galaxy, and close above the western horizon. Some distance higher up and nearly overhead, is Cassiopeia, marked by a zigzag line of bright stars; and the next group to the east is Perseus. Midway between the last-named constellations is a bright spot in the Milky Way, which with even the smallest telescope, is seen to be a magnificent cluster of telescopic stars.

Still following the Milky Way down toward the east, we next reach Auriga, whose brightest stars, Capella, are considerably surpassed as they have so far passed. Below is Gemini, containing the conspicuous pair Castor and Pollux, both of which are almost of the first magnitude. Their line is turned downward pointing out a little bright spot of light which is the cluster Praesepe, in Cancer, the most characteristic feature of the constellation. The separate stars of this cluster can be separated by a field glass, and are clearly visible with a Helder's eyepiece.

To the right of Cancer is Canis Minor, whose only conspicuous star is the brilliant Procyon. Further on in the same direction is Sirius, which, even at its present low altitude, is by way comparison the brightest star in sight. The lower part of Canis Major—to which constellation it belongs—has not yet risen.

Above Sirius in Orion, which is too familiar to need description here, are high above him again is Taurus, Aldebaran, Sirius, and the two brightest in Orion, Rigel and Betelgeuse, form a remarkably perfect parallelogram.

Below and to the right of Orion is the little constellation Lepus, the Hare, which between the hunter Orion and his Great and Little Dogs must be pretty hard pressed. Just above Rigel is a moderately bright star, which is Beta Eridani; and the classic river Eridanus is represented by a long series of faint stars extending thence to the westward, and then southward and eastward to the horizon and filling up most of the southern sky.

The almost equally irregular and extensive shape of Cetus and Pleiades similarly occupy the southwest. Above is Aries, a little south of the zenith, below which to the west is Andromeda, with the great square of Pegasus further down and standing on one corner.

In the northern heavens we may note that the Little Dipper hangs directly above the Pole Star, and nearly three Draco lies below it. The Great Dipper is on the right, the last star of its handle out of sight near the horizon and the head and paws of the Great Bear extend from it toward Gemini and Cancer.

This month has more than the usual number of planetary conjunctions, with the sun; but these are unfortunately not observable phenomena. Mercury is morning star in Libra and Scorpio, and in a month. His greatest elongation occurs on the 7th and throughout the first half of December he is well placed for observation, rising about two hours before the sun.

On the morning of the 22nd he passes Andromeda, with the great square of Pegasus further down and standing on one corner. Venus is morning star in Virgo, Libra and Scorpio, rising nearly three hours before the sun on the 1st, and more than two hours on the 31st. She is receding from the earth and growing fainter, but remains as always the brightest of the planets.

Mars is rapidly approaching opposition and becoming more conspicuous. He is in Leo, moving slowly eastward and growing brighter. By the end of the month he will be a brilliant object, brighter than a first magnitude star and rising about 10 p. m.

Jupiter, Saturn and Uranus are all in conjunction with the sun during this month; Uranus on the 4th, Jupiter on the 15th, and Saturn on the 28th, and all are invisible during the month. The planets are in the morning sky, very clear air just after sunset in its very first days.

Neptune is almost opposite to the three planets last named, and comes to opposition on the 19th. He is on the boundary of Taurus and Gemini, and is invisible to the naked eye, and, indeed, hardly worth looking at in any but large telescopes.

Full moon occurs on the morning of the 6th, quarter on the afternoon of the 12th; new moon on that of the 21st; and first quarter on the evening of the 28th. The moon is nearest the earth on the 3d, most remote on the 15th, and nearest again on the 30th. She passes Neptune on the morning of the 7th, Mars on the evening of the 12th, Venus on the night of the 18th, Mercury on the morning of the 20th, Uranus noon the same day, Jupiter on the morning of the 21st, and Saturn on that of the 22d.

At 1 a. m. on the morning of the 22d the sun enters the sign of Capricorn, and, according to the almanac, "winter begins." And with the stroke of midnight on the 21st the nineteenth century closes.—Henry Norris Russell in the Scientific American.

THE UNSEEN UNIVERSE IS REAL.

It is astonishing how recent advances in astronomy are plunging us deep into the invisible universe. It has become evident that the heavens are more filled with unseen than with seen things. These unseen additions and planetary interest to the fact that our solar system is traveling at mad speed through space, the Southern stars closing in behind it and the Northern stars respectively opening out before it as it races nearer to the Sun. One can not help wondering what may lie undetected, because unseen, in our pathway.

WHAT ANIMAL CONTROLS YOU?

Of all animals upon earth man came last. All of earth's animal creations are bound up in man.

As to the first statement there is no difference of opinion. The Bible and Darwin agree that man was created last of all the animals on earth.

Very superficial observation will convince you that man contains in his mental make-up all of the "inferior" animals, or at least a great many of them.

You, Mr. Jones, or Smith, who read this are in your single self a sort of synthesis of the entire animal creation.

If you could be divided into your component animal parts they would be a menagerie in your house and you, Smith or Jones, would be missing. That thing we call a soul would be floating around, impalpable, looking for its home to live in.

Of course you can see the animal make-up in your neighbor more readily than in yourself.

How do men describe each other? Do they not speak as follows, and mean exactly what they say: "He is as slow as a tortoise," "He is as fast as a pig," "He is as dog-like faithfulness," "He is as brave as a lion," "He is as treacherous as a snake," "He is as hungry as a wolf," etc.

Our good and our bad qualities alike are mapped out in our humble relations. The horse stands for ambition, which strives and suffers in silence. The dog represents friendship, which suffers and sacrifices much, but whines loudly when injured.

We have no doubt that of the twelve passions which enter into Fourier's complex analysis of man each has its prototype in some animal.

To rebel at the animal combination which makes up your own nature is to be anti-imperialist, naturally gathered together the various parts in lower animal form before finishing the work in man.

A harmoniously balanced mixture of all the animals is calculated undoubtedly to produce the perfect man.

Therefore, study your animal make-up. Analyze honestly and intelligently the so-called "lower" creatures from which you derive your mental characteristics. If you have not yet done so, study at once some good work on embryology, and learn with amazement and awe of your marvelous pre-natal transformations.

Then do your best to control the menagerie that is at work in your mind. Superly Mr. Pig, if he is too prominent, Circumvent Mr. Fox, if he tries to rule you and make of you a mere cunning animal. Do not let the Old Dog Tray qualities of friendship lead to your being made a fool of.

In short, study carefully the animal qualities that make up your temperament and prove your own personal falseness of Napoleon's irritating statement that a man's temperament can never be changed by himself.

It may interest you to note that when man becomes insane the fact is at once apparent that his mind, which has been so far from the ruler of a menagerie. Many men imagine themselves animals of one sort or another. Nearly all of them display the grossest animal qualities, even their mind is degraded. Women of the highest refinement sink into dreadful animalism when insane.

Heine tells of a constable who, in his boyhood, ruled his native city. One fine day "this constable suddenly went crazy." Heine remarks with calculated naïveté: "We little boys were greatly delighted at the old fellow, and trooped yelling after him, until he was carried off mad and had the natural animal in 'little boys.'" It takes years to make a fairly reasonable creature of a young human. For that reason many ignorant parents are foolishly distressed at juvenile displays of animalism, which are perfectly natural.

The same Heine, whose writings you ought not to neglect, describes beautifully a human maneger. We'll quote that, and then let you off for the day. Heine was living in Paris, in the forties and used to visit a curious revolutionary freak named Ludwig Borne. Of this man's nose Heine wrote: "I found in his saloon such a menagerie of people as can hardly be found in the Jardin des Plantes (the Paris Zoological Garden). In the background several polar bears were crouching, who snored and hardly ever spoke, except to growl at one another. Then a real Fatherland 'donner wetter' in a deep bass voice. Near them was squatting a Polish wolf in a red cap, who occasionally yelped out a silly, wild remark in a hoarse tone. There, too, I found a French monkey, one of the most hideous creatures I ever saw. He kept up a series of primaces, each of which seemed more lovely than the last," etc.

If Heine's polar bears and monkey had studied themselves, as we advise you to study yourself, they might have escaped the sarcasm of the sharpest tongue born in or out of Germany. Hearst's Chicago American.

THE CRIMINAL CLASS.

Much interest just now in criminals. Much horror aroused by depravity. Many plans more or less appropriate for making the safe pure.

GENERAL NEWS.

The republican plurality for presidential electors, official count, in Massachusetts, was 182,194.

Thirty dental surgeons will probably be killed in the American army by the teeth of the soldiers.

Charles Watson Grant, one of the best known insurance men on the coast died suddenly in San Francisco last Saturday.

Albert T. Patrick, charged with forging Millionaire Rice's will, in New York, has confessed. He was a lawyer in good standing prior to his arrest.

Henry Russell, the composer of over 800 songs, including "A Life on the Ocean Wave," and "Cheer, Boys, Cheer," died in London, Thursday, aged 87 years.

Max Mayberg & Co., one of the oldest firms in Los Angeles, made an assignment for the benefit of their creditors. The liabilities are \$78,000; assets, nominally \$100,000.

Liung Chang has informed General Chen, in American uniform, at the Province of Chi Li are extremely pleased and gratified at the behavior of the American troops toward the Chinese.

The Nansen fund, which was started for the return of Dr. Nansen from the Arctic, has received \$1,000,000 kroner, and no further contributions will be made.

President Kruger has abandoned his proposed journey to other capitals and all further diplomatic efforts to secure a truce in the South African war.

Representative Burleigh introduced a bill in congress authorizing the appointment of Representative Bottelle of Maine, now a confirmed invalid, as the acting captain on the retired list of the navy.

At Newark, Ohio, Cincinnati Typographical Union withdrew from the Ohio Federation of Labor in session because of the failure of the convention to adopt resolutions censuring the administration.

The vote cast for the leading democratic elector and the leading republican elector, according to the official count in Kentucky, gives the former 234,899 and the latter 226,801, a plurality for Bryan of 8098.

Commodore Alexander Henderson, U. S. N. retired, is reported to be at his home in Yorkers, near New York City. The commodore had a stroke of paralysis a year ago, from which he never recovered. He is nearly 70 years of age.

The pension roll for the coming year will call for about \$142,000,000, against about \$138,000,000 for the year just closing. There are a little less than 1,000,000 names on the roll now and these are being added to by recent legislation.

Miss George Cayvan, the actress, who has been ill for several weeks at the Sanford hall sanitarium of Flushing, L. I., is suffering from nervous prostration. It is said that she is on the verge of mental and physical wreck, having become almost totally blind.

The commission having charge of the erection of the equestrian statue of General W. T. Sherman in Washington city, has decided to permit Mrs. Carl Rohl-Smith, the widow of the sculptor and contractor who recently died in Copenhagen, to carry out her husband's contract.

A strike of servant girls on Manhattan Island is imminent, according to Mrs. St. Justin Reale, who is planning a servant girls' union. Three hundred domestics, she says, stand ready to stop work as soon as the union is formed and demand better conditions.

In the sales ring of the live stock exposition in Chicago Dolly Fliv, a Hereford cow, sold for \$330 to C. A. Jamieson of Peoria, Ill. This breaks the world's record for the sale of a Hereford cow. This same cow was sold last April in the celebrated Hereford sale in the same amphitheatre for \$1000.

ONLY FOUR PERSONS IN THE COUNTY

Some Facts Regarding Texas Disclosed by the Census Bureau.

THE NATIONAL LEAGUE BASEBALL

magnates are holding a session at the Fifth Avenue hotel, New York.

The Romanian government has broken off the negotiations with the Standard Oil company for a lease of the petroleum fields in that country.

At The Hague the feeling is one of alarm at the prospect of an Anglo-German-Portuguese combination which might snatch the Dutch seaboard or seize Java.

Recruits are arriving at the Presidio, San Francisco, from various enlistment points throughout the country at the rate of about 250 a week. There are at present over 400 at the barracks.

Adnah Adams Treat died at Denver, Sunday, at the age of 103 years and eight months. He had long been the oldest living Mason in point of age, and the second oldest in point of time connected with the order.

Brooklyn, N. Y., will soon rejoice in the possession of the largest family hotel in the world. It will be 23 stories high, and have over 1000 rooms, in suites, so that 250 families will be housed under one roof.

Representative Jones, of Washington, is seeking to amend the pension laws by lifting from the soldiers the necessity of providing that the disability for which they seek pensions did not exist prior to their enlistment.

The grand jury at Minneapolis has indicted Frank H. Hamilton, a newspaper man, for the murder of Leonard E. Day, in the West hotel billiard room on November 29. The charge is murder in the first degree.

The presidents of the railroads included in the trunk line associations and the central, western and northwestern traffic associations have decided to postpone further consideration of the proposition to do away with free transportation until next year.

The population of New York according to the new census is 7,268,012, an increase of 1,270,159 since 1890. This is the only state that gained more than a million in the decade. Illinois, with a population of 4,821,550, gained 965,109, but this is 26 per cent, against 21, New York.

Rev. P. Daly, of Hot Springs, South Dakota, while reading a biography of Marcus Daly the other day, discovered that they were brothers. Marcus had left home early in life, ragged and penniless. He had never corresponded with the preacher who supposed his brother dead long ago.

A new baseball league has been organized at a meeting held at Detroit. Ben Johnson, president of the American Association, is president of the new league. The following cities comprise the circuit: Detroit, Grand Rapids, Toledo, Louisville, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Kansas City and either Indianapolis or Buffalo.

It is learned on good authority that George Westinghouse, of Pittsburgh, has bought the entire Buena Vista grant, comprising 700 acres of land near Nogales, Ariz., and intends to erect at some point on the Santa Cruz river colossal reduction works and smelters and build a railway connecting the mines, the reduction works and Nogales.

Following are the amounts carried in the proposed appropriation bill of the next congress: Agriculture, \$4,669,050; army, \$113,019,044; diplomatic and consular, \$1,897,638; District of Columbia, \$9,080,733; Indian, \$2,481,193; Indian, \$9,250,754; legislative, etc., \$25,399,509; military academy, \$1,045,750; navy, \$87,172,430; pensions, \$145,245,230; postoffice, \$22,267,349; river and harbor, \$25,132,029; sundry civil, \$83,373; permanent annual appropriations, \$124,358,220.

Oberlin M. Carter, formerly captain in the United States army, will have to serve his five years' sentence in the federal penitentiary at Leavenworth, Kansas. He misappropriated nearly \$1,000,000 of government funds while in charge of the harbor work at Savannah, Ga. He was also fined \$500, which he paid. The judge of the federal district court of Kansas has remanded Carter to the custody of the warden of the penitentiary. He entered prison last April. With one year off for good behavior he still has more than three years to serve.

FIFTY CENT DOLLARS IN PHILIPPINES.

Silver to be Used in the Islands as a Circulating Medium.

The McKinley cabinet recently discussed the question of coinage in the Philippines, and as a result of the cabinet's consideration of it the secretary of war will request a hearing of the subject before one of the committees of congress. Nearly all of the business from the islands is transacted in Mexican dollars, and the secretary of war and others who buy supplies with United States money are at times greatly embarrassed in making purchases from the Filipinos by the fact that, knowing nothing of our money, the latter refuse to accept it.

The price of silver is steadily advancing. Great demands on the silver supply are made by China and India. From London, in the past nine months, has been shipped \$11,000,000 to China and from San Francisco nearly \$13,000,000. Japan has taken \$10,000,000 this year as against nothing last year.

Big Salary for an Indian.

An American Indian riding for the prime minister of Austria at a princely salary. How that for a jump in the saddle, like a page from the "Arabian Nights," but it's true. True as gospel, Jimmy Morgan, one time stable boy and later on jockey for Marcus Daly, the "Copper King," is the clever little rascal who has made a name and a place for himself in the midst of royalty thousands of miles across the silvery seas. Morgan was the first and only American jockey to ride in Austria. He attracted much attention there by reason of his olive-headed skin and the fact that he is a half-breed, his father having been an Englishman and his mother a Comanche Indian. While in Austria this season he rode for the prime minister, receiving a salary of \$10,000. A Mr. Bononey has second call on his services at a salary of \$5000. He landed thirty-seven times and rode three dead heats.

THE BOARD OF SCHOOL LAND COMMISSIONERS

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RECRUITING STATISTICS.

Out of more than 40,000 applicants at federal naval recruiting stations during the latest governmental year only 8123 were accepted, and of these a noteworthy percentage were re-enlistments. Man-o-war's men now a days must possess peculiar qualifications and knowledge, and in order to acquire these qualifications there must be schooling in actual service. Hence the value of the training vessel system, by means of which green landmen may be turned out in ships of a finished ship for duty in ships of war.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST NEWS.

Newt Jones, aged 21, committed suicide at Forest Grove Thursday. He had been drinking to excess.

Jerome Palmatore, a prominent citizen, fell on the sidewalk at Hillsboro, Wednesday, and severely fractured a leg.

Nearby \$1100 was raised in Heppner by subscription for improvement of the public road from that place to Monument.

It now looks as if Moran Bros., of Seattle, are to be awarded a contract for building one of the unshathed battleships.

The secretary of the interior has sent to the house an agreement with the Klamath Indians relinquishing their reservation in Oregon.

The hotel at Hot Lake, Union county, is to be heated throughout during the winter months by the hot water of the great spring.

The Masonic Temple at La Grande will be dedicated December 20. H. B. Thielsen, of Salem, grand master of the state of Oregon, will officiate.

Palouse is making strenuous efforts to secure the strawboard factory which officials of the Northern Pacific railroad will locate in one of the towns along its line.

Frank Hath was arrested at Eugene on charge of forgery. His offense is that of indorsing the name of a man named H. H. Hath on a check given by the Acme Commercial company.

John Henry Williams, who has been held at North Yakima for some time on charge of having murdered W. W. Scott, at Prosser, has been released under habeas corpus proceeding.

The new town of Foster, on the south end of the Santiam, in Linn county, is preparing to come to the front as a sawmill headquarters and terminus of a branch railroad from Lebanon.

The first train will be run through the new Great Northern tunnel in the Cascade mountains next Sunday. The tunnel is 13,200 feet long and the thickness of the roof at the thickest place is 5300 feet.

The eighth annual declamation contest of the Washington Agricultural college came off at Pullman Saturday. Joseph W. Tugdale, junior, won first prize, and Olga Todd, also junior, second prize.

Julia A. Livingstone died at Albany Thursday, at the home of her son, Silas Livingstone, aged 81 years. She had been a resident of this state for 15 or 20 years. Her husband was a veteran of the civil war.

Wildcats entered the rabbitry of Professor F. H. Babcock, at Chehalis, last week, and killed all but eight of over 40 young and old hares, among which were two does worth \$50 each, all fancy pedigreed stock.

John Nichols died at his home at Lebanon, Linn county, after an illness of several months, at Chehalis, Wednesday. He was 70 years of age. Death was due to quick consumption. Mr. Nichols was born in Kentucky. He crossed the plains in 1852.

Rev. Mr. Carlson, of Port Townsend, has been arrested charged with embezzlement. The complaint alleges that he retained \$2500 belonging to Mrs. Donaldson to forward to her grandchildren in Switzerland.

William Jones Philpott died of paralysis December 9, 1900, at the residence of C. W. Yates, near Oakville, Or. Mr. Jones was born in Virginia in 1822. He came to Washington state and settled in Linn county, near Crawfordville, where he lived until two years ago.

Mrs. William H. Effinger, wife of the well known lawyer died Sunday at Chehalis, after a brief illness, at the age of 57. She leaves one daughter, Miss Mollie H. Effinger, who is identified with Portland free kindergarten work, and her husband. George McCredy has sold his sheep in Klickitat county for \$60,000. The purchasers are Mrs. C. H. Gilman and Leland, and the property consists of 10,000 or 11,000 head of sheep, hay ranch of 800 acres and several thousand acres of range land along the Columbia.

THE TEMPERANCE MEETINGS HELD

at Corvallis for several days past by Colonel Holt of Chicago concluded Tuesday night. Colonel Holt desired a continuation, but on account of the management made at Salem before the phenomenal interest at Corvallis unexpectedly developed, the speaker was obliged to leave for the Capital City where a series of meetings is to begin tonight. During the progress of the Corvallis meetings 383 persons signed the pledge and local temperance organizations are much increased in membership.

H. M. Gilbert, a farmer of the Yakima, India reservation, is shipping his large bean crop. The prices received range about 3 1/2 cents per pound. He has harvested and threshed 1000 sacks of 100 pounds each. His beans are the brown Mexican, white California and red navy varieties. They yield under ordinary fair conditions from 40 to 60 bushels per acre thus giving an income of \$5 to \$125 an acre. Gilbert has 1000 acres of the Little Italy property leased at Chehalis and includes the Reserve hotel in his holdings. The land is leased from the Indians at about \$1 an acre per annum.

Leodore Schoppa, who has been in the Medical Lake asylum at Spokane for the past two years, was Tuesday adjudged free by Assistant Attorney General A. V. Anderson. Schoppa and Schoppa murdered a man named Gus Hager, in Seattle, December 25, 1898, but the jury found him not guilty by reason of insanity. He has now regained his reason. The crime was most brutal and cold-blooded. Schoppa and the man he killed were roommates together. They had a drunken quarrel, and the next day Schoppa procured a revolver and blew the top of his companion's head off. The superior court judge who committed him ordered him to be kept pending further orders from the court, but the opinion of the attorney-general seems to put this at naught. It is likely that some appeal against the decision will be made.

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