

Planets between Mars and Jupiter.

THE name of the new planet discovered in April, by Mr. Grahame, at Mr. Cooper's observatory, Ireland, is *Motus*, a goddess, who in the ancient mythology was considered the wisest of them all. As the new planet is the ninth known to exist between Mars and Jupiter, and the fifth that has been discovered within the last four or five years, we subjoin a list of nine for the benefit of our young astronomical readers.—*Traveller*.

<i>Vesta,</i>	Discovered early in the century, or about 1800.
<i>Juno,</i>	
<i>Pallas,</i>	
<i>Ceres,</i>	
<i>Astræa,</i>	Discovered by Mr. Heincke, in Germany, 1844 & '45.
<i>Hebe,</i>	
<i>Iris,</i>	Discovered by Mr. Hind, in London, in 1846.
<i>Flora,</i>	
<i>Motus,</i>	Discovered by Mr. Grahame, in Ireland, in 1848.

Our Library.

No. 20.

"Kings and Queens; or, Life in the Palace." By John S. C. Abbott."

THE works of this author on subjects connected with religion, as the "Way to do Good," "Fireside Piety," &c., are deservedly celebrated, both in Great Britain and America, but those of a miscellaneous character, such as the "War in China," the "Teacher," and the present work, though not so well known, are likewise interesting and well written. The volume before us has but just been published, and contains the latest and most correct information with regard to the principal reigning Sovereigns in Europe. The sketches of Victoria and Louis Philippe are particularly interesting. He gives the following account of the early education of Queen Victoria:—

"The Duchess of Kent was a very intelligent and superior woman. She did not seclude the royal infant from the observation of the public, but accustomed her to walks and rides where she could be seen, and where she would see the common people. Much attention was paid to her physical culture, that, with a vigorous constitution, she might be prepared to encounter the trials to which all, whatever may be their lot, must be subjected. She was, in her early years, a frail and delicate child, but extremely active in her habits, of a joyous temperament, fond of all sports and games, and of an inquiring mind. She was not educated as a potted favorite, but was inured to hard study, exposed to fatigue, and habituated to constant industry.

She early evinced a taste for the beauties and sublimities of nature, a taste which she still cherishes and cultivates. On one occasion, when too young to express her ideas in words, she called her uncle Clarence to the window to share with her the exuberant joy she felt in witnessing a beautiful sunset scene.

The Duchess of Northumberland was appointed governess to Victoria when she was twelve years of age, and her education was then prosecuted with renewed zeal. It was deemed essential for her welfare that she should be withdrawn from society, and her whole time devoted to intellectual and physical culture. Some dissatisfaction was expressed that Victoria was no longer seen in the brilliant drawing rooms of the palace; but the judicious plan was persevered in. Victoria was thoroughly instructed in the history of her own country—its laws, its literature, its science. There is not a nation upon the globe which has a literature more rich in all the treasures of poetry, eloquence and science, than the English; and there is no fashionable folly of the present time more glaring than that which consigns so many ladies of our own country to entire ignorance of the treasures of their own mother-tongue, in order that they may acquire a few common-place phrases of French. Victoria was to be Queen of England, and, first of all, she was to be educated as an English woman: to be able to converse gracefully in the English language, to write in her own vernacular tongue with ease and elegance, and to become familiar with the works of the poets and philosophers who have been the brightest ornaments of humanity. An English education is the most important accomplishment of an English mind.

Victoria's education, however, did not stop here. From infancy, she spoke and wrote the German language with equal facility with the English. She also became familiar with the French, and was introduced to several other of the languages of modern Europe. In Latin she also made such proficiency as to be able to read Horace with considerable fluency. She was enthusiastically fond of music, and became, upon several instruments, quite an accomplished performer. Much attention was devoted to drawing, and in daily excursions she was taught to sketch from nature. There was hardly a romantic rock, or tree, or water-fall, a moss-covered tower, or an embowered cottage in the vicinity of Kensington, her childhood's happy home, which Victoria had not transferred to paper. And this pleasure-giving accomplishment still continues to be one of the prominent sources of enjoyment to the queen.

Her physical education was an object of very special attention. She was accustomed to much exercise in the open air, took long walks and rides, and, under the tuition of a very celebrated riding-master, became an accomplished and even a daring equestrian. Her graceful manners, her royal air and demeanor, and the unaffected simplicity of her dress and habits, attracted the attention of all who were permitted to approach her. In fact, every thing was done which the wisdom and the wealth of the nineteenth century could contribute, to adorn this maiden with every excellence of which human nature. She was regarded with favorable eyes by the whole nation. It was fashionable to speak of our lovely princess; to regard her with a sort of chivalrous homage; and often was she met by fairy-footed maidens, who scattered flowers in her path, while gathering thousands greeted her with their acclamations.

While engaged in these delightful avocations in the old palace of Kensington, and sporting with childish mirthfulness in the lovely gardens surrounding it, the little princess had, at times, for a companion and a play-fellow, a young cousin Albert from Germany. Little Albert gathered flowers for his fair cousin; with her trundled the hoop, and played at "tag" among the shrubbery of the graveled walks. He was a handsome and noble-hearted boy. The playmates loved each other as cousins, and soon far better. Happy Victoria! to find in a court a heart! These were the sunny hours of a morning whose day has not yet been clouded. And when the hour came for Victoria to leave the old palace gate of the dear home she had loved so well, and to enter upon the more stately and ostentatious splendors of Buckingham House, and St. James Palace, and Windsor Castle, tears of regret flooded her eyes; and sobbing almost convulsively, she was unmindful of the brilliant future in the retrospect of joys that had departed forever.

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D. C. VAN NORMAN, A. M.,

Hamilton, August 9, 1848.

Principal.

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