

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE NEW PLANET.—On September 3rd Herr Palisa, of Vienna, discovered a minor planet, which makes the number of these bodies now known 250.

GOLDEN EAGLE.—A fine specimen, measuring 7ft. 2in. from tip to tip was recently shot by Mr. James Morrison, Jr. on Bear Island, N. S.

In the equatorial lake region of Africa a kind of beer is prepared from bananas. The missionaries there have discovered that it is a prophylactic against malarial fevers, and that its use is indispensable to health.

Dr. Honeyman has just discovered that, in Long. 80° W. and South of James' Bay the magnetic o (Zero) Variation (1870), the glacial divergence (S. E. & S. W.) and the Watershed, East and West, *approximated*. An interesting conjunction.

THE POTATO BEETLE.—*Doryphora decemlineata*, while extending his bounds in Nova Scotia, has not yet appreciably injured the Potato industry. This shows the advantage of an intelligent action on the part of our farmers. There is nothing like wide spread knowledge.

THE PEACH BORER.—*Algeria exstiosia*, Say, in the absence of the peach tree has turned its attention to the plum trees in Pictou. In Mr Salker's garden a number of trees were extensively injured by the eating away of large areas of sapwood under an apparently sound bark. Their presence is indicated, by the appearance of a minute gummy exudation scarcely noticeable, from the point at which the bark had been penetrated. A tapping upon the bark above the injured portions gives an indication of an unsound hollowness within.