STAR PICTURES AND STAR LESSONS.

Now we come to one of the most beautiful and clearest of the sky pictures.

Look at the thirteen stars of the diagram-three for the head-three for the sword—three for the belt, and then one at each leg and arm. First place these, and then an outline supplied will show you how clearly it resembles the figure of a man. For its place in the sky, you must look south of Capella and westward of the

There is one especially beautiful object connected with Orion which we must notice. You have already placed three stars for the sword of Orion. Now the middle star of those three is sometimes in appearance misty and hazy.

Long years ago, an astronomer turned his telescope to the spot, and found the supposed star consisted of a nebula-that is, a faint, misty spot of light, not moving like a silvery cloud would do, but fixed and self-luminous. Seen by a very powerful telescope, the centre star of the sword itself is seen to be, not one, but several stars. These stars seem to be surrounded by a constant light of a bluish color; and much thought and care has been given to try and learn of what this light is formed.

There is another nebula in Lyra, but this you would scarcely find without looking through a telescope. This curious nebula takes the form of a circle with a fringe of much whiter light at the actual

You see we are only touching on the very border-land of wonders. As you and calleth them all by their names."

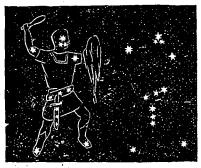


Fig. 15.

stars and their courses," will make you long to read more, and search out more for yourself, of these mighty heavens which show forth the glory of God.

We have only two more lessons, and then we shall have described some of the most readily seen of the sky pictures; but these will help us to trace out so many others, that by degrees I hope we shall get to know all the chief groups in the sky, and the names of the brightest stars in those constellations.

I think we will take now the twin stars called Castor and Pollux, in the group of Gemini which contains about eighty stars. Castor looks a very bright, beautiful star, and if you look at it through a telescope you will see that it is really a double star. Pollux lies to the south of it.

An easy way of finding these will be to use the pointers of the Plough as the point or apox of a triangle. Capella will be away



Fig. 16.

at the end of one long side of the triangle and Pollux at the other; while just over Pollux shines out the bright double star of Castor.

The stars we speak of as fixed, because on account of their immense distance we cannot see any movement, that is to say, the figures or groups remain the same and unchanged for ages; but sometimes you

you. It comes under the list of the planets | his word, they actually go so far as to blot | service than by disposing of immense reor "wanderers."

steady light. The stars twinkle, the planets have an even, steady shining. You the remember a star is a sun; now a planet only shines because light falls upon it, not because of the light which is in it.

Beautifully bright wanderers many of these planets are; and it is by getting quite

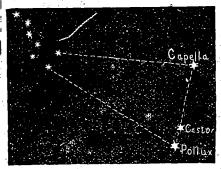


Fig. 17.

used to the stars in their groups that you will be better able to judge which is a stranger to the group and therefore a wanderer.

Our imaginations must naturally be overwhelmed with the thought of the possible existence of all these millions of separate worlds, created by the Almighty power of God for some wise purpose, but unrevealed as yet to the inhabitants of our compara-tively little Earth. Meanwhile, we may well rest content with the Divine knowledge contained in the words of the Psalmist: "He telleth the number of the stars;

NEVER TO BE OPENED.

A hundred years ago there lived in the the town of Hamburg in Germany a young countess. She was known by all her friends to be one who declared the Bible to be a lie, and who believed in no God-no future life-no resurrection. This countess died when about thirty years of age, and before her death she gave very minute orders about her grave.

She was so anxious to show that she believed in no liferafter this, that she determined to be buried in a grave which could never be opened either by God or man. It was to be covered with a massive slab of granite, and all round it were to be placed heavy solid blocks of stone. The corners of these stones were to be fastened to each other and to the granite slab with huge iron clamps.

Who then could ever open the countess' grave?—So she thought; and as a challenge she directed this inscription to be engraved on the granite slab, "This burial place, purchased to all eternity, must never e_opened."

The grave was made as she desired. All that man's power could do was done to make the opening of the grave an impossibility. Many visited the strange tomb, and read the bold defiance which was engraved upon it.

And yet, of all the graves in that churchrard, it is the only one that now lies open And yet man has never touched it: opened it. How did he do it? Was it by an earthquake? No. Did he send a mighty angel to open it? No. His agent mighty angel to open it? No. His agent wasomething exceedingly small and insignificant. He used a tiny seed. The seed found its way in with the soil, and it soon sent up a tiny shoot which gradually forced its way between the side stone and the upper slab. Slowly but steadily it increased in size, until at last the iron clamps were torn asunder, and the massive lid was raised up; and this day the grave may be seen with the granite lid and side stones resting against the trunk of a large tree which grows up from the midst of the open

to be opened to all eternity! Surely a new inscription might be engraved on that granite slab, and what better could be found than this, "The weakness of God is stronger than men!" Could a more in-significant instrument have been found than a tiny seed rotting in the soil? And yet by means of it God shatters that foolish woman's mightiest efforts. Who indeed can resist his will?

r "wanderers." him out of his own universe, and deny sources, or being great rulers and teachers. You can tell a planet from a star by its that he exists!—Octavius Walton, in the Church, if only by unity of purpose, Friendly Greetings.

ENEMIES OF THE CHURCH.

ARRANGED IN ALPHABETICAL FORM BY REV. DR. MACKAY.

At the recent Presbyterian General Assembly in Montreal the Rev. Dr. Mackay, in the report of the committee on the state of religion, gave the following novel summary of the causes which operate against spiritual progress and the development of Christian character.

A. Ambition to be on an equal footing with others in style of living and dress, and it possible outstrip them. Adventism.

B. Blaining the church for coldness and apathy after giving strength to organizations outside the church.

C. Covetousness. Card playing. Craze after novelties in the pulpit and church services.

D. Debt. Divisions amongst Christians. Dancing parties. Dyspepsia of spirit, so that neither the milk nor the meat of the word can be assimilated.

E. Erroneous views of God's Word Ego," or self, in its weakness and strength not known.

F. Frivolity. Formality. False doctrine.

G. Gambling. Gossip. Gaiety and frivolity among women.

H. Haste to be rich. Homes scarce. Horse racing.

I. Intemperance. Immorality. Indifference. Inconsistencies of professing Christians.

J. Jealousy among Christian workers.

K. Knee drill neglected.

L. Light literature. Lumber camp life. Lotteries. Love of gain. Low moral tone in politics.

M. Mammonism. Mistaking means of grace for grace.

N. Neglect of family religion. O. Ordinances irregularly attended.

P. Pleasure-seeking. Political corruption. Party strife. Poverty. Plymouth-

Quack evangelists.

R. Rivalry between denominations. S. Sabbath desecration. Subordination of God's word to so-called religious books. Scepticism among adherents. Slander. Shebcens

T. The trinity of evil—the world, the devil, and the flesh. Theatre going as the

worship of this trinity.
U. Uncharitableness. Universalism. V. Vanity in individuals and congrega tions.

W. Worldliness. Want of good women X. Extravagance. So much money spent on self that no money is left for good jects. Exodus of many families.

Y. Young and old dominated by the principle "Enjoy yourself and don't get

Z. Zeal for the glory of God and the salvation of souls-wanting.

CONCENTRATION.

The late Dr. Liddon in preaching his last sermon in St. Paul's Cathedral, referred to John Howard, the philanthropist. Speaking of the rigid unity of purpose which distinguished the prison-reformer, the Canon said: "This was the secret of his success, by which he revolutionized the prison system, not only of England but of Europe, so that punishments were universally recognized as remedial as well as penal throughout the civilized world. The absence in our day of concentration of thought and effort is the reason why promising lives, bright thoughts, and good resolves lead to little or nothing. The dissi-pation of intellect is greater than a hunred years ago, owing to the facilities of travel, the number of books and papers, and men, through their breadth of interest and various occupations, do not accomplish one-twentieth part of what John Howard did. Let young men and women, whatever they take up, devote their whole heart to it, whether it be the most unshowy and unromantic way of doing good, such as helping in a night school, setting on foot a Sunday breakfast, or keeping the will see a star appear in one of your well-known groups which is quite a stranger to themselves against God! They laugh at eyes of the Infinite Mercy be doing better

springing from disinterestedness, they lay at the feet of the greatest Philanthropist their hearts' truest affections and noblest efforts."—The Young Man.

CURIOUS LAWS.

An English paper says that last year 1,-356 people died of delirium tremens in England. In the same year twenty-five people died of hydrophobia. Because of the death of the twenty-five by hydrophobia, thousands of dogs were killed and all kept alive had to wear a muzzle. But the rum business and the rumsellers who caused the death of the 1,356 were not only not imprisoned, but were authorized and protected by law in their deadly work.

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Parents are usually very chary and cautious regarding the introduction of artificial foods in the home for the babies and young children. The large majority of the foods now offered for sale are totally unfit for infantile nutrition, and are often a source of danger.

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says:—
"I desire to substantiate what is said about Lactated Food. Our little baby is one year old, and if ever a child looked the picture of health and contentment, our dear little pet girl does; and she owes it all to your Lactated Food. She has never known the luxury of a mother's breast. For the first three weeks of her existence we were at a loss to know what to give her, as she could keep nothing on her stomach. A kind friend suggested your Food, and from that time to the present, we have constantly used it, and now desire to thank you for your life-giving food.

"I cannot speak too highly of it, and have thought it only just that I should drop you a line or two in appreciation of your efforts on behalf of our darlings.

"Yours very thankfully,
"H. LOVELOCK."

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