

The connecting link between insects and the Myriapods, has lately been erected into a distinct order, (see Packard's Guide, 1883) the Thysanura. They are accordingly inserted with his classification.

The above list contains some of the principal genera of each order, but must not be considered as in any degree complete—DR. J. E. WHITE

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THE STARS.

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PAPER II. THE CONSTELLATIONS.

Lyra—the Harp.
Aquila—the Eagle.
Delphinus—the Dolphin.
Cygnus—the Swan.

These four constellations are adjacent and can be seen in the Eastern heavens during July and August.

If the student will scan the eastern sky carefully during these months he will see three stars in a straight line about $5\frac{1}{2}$ degrees in length. The middle star is much brighter than the others. This is *Altair* or Alpha Aquilæ, a star of the 1st magnitude. The one below or S.S.E. is Beta Aquilæ or *Alshain*, the one above or N.N.W. is Gamma Aquilæ or *Tarazed*. These three are the principal stars in the Eagle and are sufficiently conspicuous to be easily found.

On the left of this group or N. E. about 13 degrees distant is a beautiful little cluster which contains 4 stars of the 3d magnitude so arranged as to form the outline of a diamond. This is sometimes called *Job's Coffin* but it is known to Astronomers as the Dolphin. There are in this constellation fourteen other stars of smaller magnitudes.

If a line through the three stars in

the Eagle be continued towards the zenith about 35 degrees it will pass through one of the most brilliant stars in the northern hemisphere, conspicuous both for its brilliancy and for its being removed from other stars of the 1st magnitude. This is *Vega* or Alpha Lyrae situated in the Harp. This Constellation contains 21 stars including one of the 1st magnitude two of the 3d and two of the 4th. The most noted are Vega computed to be 400,000 times as distant as our Sun and Epsilon Lyrae only $1\frac{1}{2}$ degrees N.E. of Vega. This small star with another of the same (5th magnitude) makes with Vega a beautiful little triangle which can be easily made out on a clear night. A small field-glass will resolve Epsilon Lyrae into a double star and a large telescope resolves each of these components into binary systems. This apparently insignificant star of the 5th magnitude is really a splendid multiple star containing twin systems moving around a common centre of gravity and each of the components around each other. The period for the individual system is estimated at 2,000 years that for the whole system about its common centre 1,000,000 years.

Directly east or on the left of Lyra about 15 degrees distant is a remarkable group of stars forming the outline of a large cross, the longer or uprigh