

stars, those enormous masses which roll through space. The application of the microscope to astronomy is due to two French savants, Messrs Drago and Boquet de la Grege. These two astronomers having been in Mexico studying the last transit of Venus, which occurred Dec. 6th, 1882, took several instantaneous photographs of that planet. Since their return to France they have studied with much care, with the aid of the microscope the impressions thus obtained, and they have succeeded in perceiving the details of the surface and outline of this star with great exactness. As this exactness is far superior to what has been obtained thus far in the description of the configuration of the earth itself, it has been proposed to make an application of this new method to the study of our globe.

To achieve this result a very ingenious means is employed. By taking advantage of the movement when an eclipse of the moon occurs, the shadow of the earth on that body is photographed. A large number of copies is made and these are studied with the microscope thus securing an accuracy of outline otherwise unattainable.

Whatever may be the results of this new method of furthering astronomical science we cannot but admire the ingenuity of its inventors.

Cette, France. Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1884.

Courage comes from application

Of a heart that does not shirk,

And whose sweetest consolation

Is upheld by steadfast work.

*Joel Benton.*

## THE PREVENTION OF HYDROPHOBIA BY INOCULATION.

BY J. EMILE BONNET.

(Translated by Madame Bauer.)

THE CANADIAN SCIENCE MONTHLY has already made known to its readers the researches of M. Pasteur on hydrophobia. Some time ago this savant asked the French Government for an appointment of a Commission to examine and verify his investigations. This Commission being appointed, Mr. Pasteur laid before it his first series of experiments on dogs. The following is the result of these experiments, according to the official statement rendered by the Commission :

Every dog that Mr. Pasteur had declared mad, thanks to the treatment he made them undergo, has survived the tests of inoculation, which have been made with the most powerful virus and by treatments acknowledged as most severe, while most of the dogs which have been subjected to the same tests without having been previously inoculated, were not able to survive them and have died of hydrophobia.

Mr. Pasteur has begun before the Commission other experiments relative to duration of the immunity procured by inoculation and for the prevention of human hydrophobia.

Let us hope that these last experiments will give as happy results as those already obtained, and that medical science will soon be in possession of a preventive against that terrible disease, hydrophobia.

Cette, France.