

degrees of space, when viewed with great light-gathering power, while its distance defies all attempts at measurement. Nor have the stars in that region any sensible parallax under the most refined methods, and we are left to face what is practically a whole stellar universe, consisting of glowing gas. That such a mighty mass obeys the known laws of gravi-

tation we must believe, but we cannot demand that it shall in future ages repeat the history of our own nebula, condensed now to a single sun and system. Rather would we expect that the great nebula of Orion is destined to become a universe of glowing suns of the same order as the many clusters which present so beautiful an appearance in the telescope.

NOTES FOR TEACHERS.

A NEW lighthouse will be built on Penmarch point off the coast of Brittany and will be known as the Eckmühl lighthouse. It will contain an electric light of 40,000,000 candle-power, casting a beam which can be seen, a distance, in clear weather, of thirty-three miles, and in foggy weather a distance of twenty-one miles. The highest order of light now in operation in the United States lighthouse service can be seen only twenty-one miles in clear weather.—*Washington Post*.

SIR JOHN SEELEY.—The great event we have to record at Cambridge is a loss which the whole Empire is sharing with us. The death of Sir John Seeley removes a figure to whom we all looked with sympathy and affection. His mind was permeated with the grave problems of the age, and it was a happy thing for the University that he stood out to us all as the great rebuker of modern pessimism. For Sir John was a patriot of patriots, and brought to many of us a new vision of the ideal Roman senator. We have no space for chronicling his career, but the daily press has already done it for us. Few men, who have served the cause of learning so closely and continuously, have

received at the end so public and ungrudging a recognition. Even those papers which were not distinguished for their love of colonial expansion or their pride in the Empire in his lifetime have done him honor in his death—him who personified both to many generations of Cambridge undergraduates and to numbers who never came near our University town.—*The Educational Review*.

TOO OFTEN.—Too often we pass over the employment of teachers lightly and consider it as any other business transaction. In the one case, perhaps, you are ordering a Century dictionary, and in the other case you are ordering intellectuality, love, sympathy, passions, appetites, and wills for your children. For with children these powers and faculties of the soul are germinated, nurtured, and trained by environments and companions. The disposition and character of a child may be made or spoiled by his teacher. There is constantly and unconsciously flowing out of the character of the teacher an influence, a force, which surrounds, permeates, and enters into the plastic character of the child under her charge.—*Superintendent W. W. Chalmers, Grand Rapids, Mich.*