

may be known by the pale greenish disc which it presents in the telescope.

Saturn is now a beautiful object in the morning sky, rising at about 2 a.m. He is easily observed, just east of

Spica, the first mag. star of Virgo, and about 4 degs. north. The northern surface of the ring is now visible at an elevation of 13 degs., the whole system being in admirable position for study at the telescope.

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### CONTRIBUTIONS.

*To the Editor of THE EDUCATIONAL MONTHLY :*

SIR,—The principle of conducting university matriculation examinations for honours and scholarships in a number of centres throughout the province, instead of holding them in the Convocation Hall of the university, where all the candidates can compete on the same footing, is so manifestly unjust, except to those who write in their own schools, that the wonder is any one can be found to advocate it. The last matriculation examination was the means of bringing discredit on the university, and on the candidates as well. There had been no demand for such a radical change. Everyone was satisfied with the old and tried method of awarding scholarship at the university, and the advocacy of the vicious system, inaugurated last mid-summer, looks like an attempt to make those examinations serve some purpose, not in the interest of the candidates, or that of the university. The system is a bad one and can not be defended on any grounds whatever. Sending out university professors to conduct these examinations, instead of leaving them to the care of the local examining board, will not remove the objection to the system, while it will certainly add to the cost of the examinations, and we surely pay enough for examinations in this province without adding other burdens of

expense. A fair award cannot be made when pupils compete for these scholarships under different circumstances. The conditions should be the same for all, and besides all this, the risks are far too great, especially when no good purpose is to be served by the change.

In selecting the places for these examinations my school could not well be passed over. I, therefore, urge a return to the old and tried method, simply as a question of principle.

It may be that the university has no intention of permitting a repetition of last summer's experiment, or that the department will not urge it. Let us hope, for the sake of fair play to the small schools, that honcr and scholarship candidates will all write in the university examination hall under the eye of the same presiding examiner.

HEAD MASTER

ONTARIO, Nov. 28th, 1893.

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*To the Editor of the MONTHLY :*

SIR—May I take the liberty of making a suggestion which has often occurred to me, and which, if approved and acted on, would, I think, add to the interest and usefulness of the MONTHLY.

There are doubtless among its numerous readers many teachers who, like myself, have not the time, the inclination, or, it may be, the courage,