inference is, that the stars are so many suns; of the lower powers of the telescope. Others, and many of them far greater than our own, which the lower powers could not resolve, and shining with an intrinsic splendor, in com- yielded to the higher. patison with which ours would fade into a powers which varied from 400 to over 6000, it minute star, scarcely, if at all visible to the was found that the higher the power the greater naked eve. But, have we any means of know- the number of those faintly shining spots ing, it may be asked, what would be the visi- which were resolved into distinct stars. It is Inequirities which it is present dis-the magnitude and brightness is inversely as the visible diameter is inversely as the distance; and secondly, that the brightness is inversely as the distance, for instance, the sun would have half the visible magnitude and one quarter the brightness which it now has. Pursuing this sum were seen at 200,000 times its present dis-tance, which at most would only equal that of the nearest star, its visible magnitude would be reduced to the 200,000 the part of what it now is, or to be less than the 100th part of one second : and its brightness would equal only the 40,000,000,000th part of its present splen-by the 40,000,000th part of its present splen-by the splent hle magnitude and brightness of our sun, seen | computed that many of these nebulous clusters the 40,000,000,000th part of its present splen- physical universe? Startling and incredible as dor. We are aware that numbers so vast fur- this conclusion may at first appear, no astrono-nish but a very inadeguate means of forming mer would have the hardihood to pronounce it a definite conception, but we have uothing impossible. Nay, further; every sound mind better to take their place. It is ascertained, would doubtless admit the separate probability with a good degree of certainty, by direct of every step in the chain of evidence upon measurement, that the solar brightness, dimi- which it depends. It is clearly possible, then nished in the ratio expressed by those that Herschel, on some clear evening, when figures, would only equal that of a star the starry firmament was rejoicing in its of the second magnitude. The conclusion, utmost splendor, may have caught glimpses of therefore, that the stars are, in fact, resplend- light which ten thousand centuries had only ent suns, is not only admissible, but one which sufficed to transmit from ... remote origin to can no longer be resisted.

made with regard to the distance of the stars, upon the chronology of the creation. We is the *least* which the facts allow. The stars regard it merely as illustrative of the vast-may be—and there are very strong analogical accss of the material universe. And in what reasons for believing that many of them are accounting tone does it speak to us of the

Reflect for a moment upon the amazing of that Being, who, from his lofty throne, looks extent to which we are enabled, with the aid of the telescope, to penetrate the depth of the stellar space, so as to pick up and examine a single star, 192 times further than the remotest that light must occupy more than 12,000 years in coming to us! And does this fix the limit of creation? Can it be believed that at , And how ennobling is the thought that the belimit of creation? Can it be believed that at And how ennobling is the thought that the be-this distance, inconceivable as it is, we have ing of an hour, whose life is precatious as the reached a point beyond which there is nothing, tempest's breath, should be able thus by the and where the wearied energies of creative aid of science to surmount the heavens, wan-power could do no more? Have our eyes beheld the *last solitary orb*, situated on the very verge of creation, and looking into the awful vacuity which stretches onward to absolute infinity beyond it? This we should have heaven a should natural to account to a should heaven a natural to account to account to a should heaven a hardly be prepared to admit, much less to assert, even though our vision could go no RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.-" Every thing in further. But we are not left in doubt on this the condition of mankind pronounces the apnoint. The spots of diffused nebulous light proach of some great crisis for which nothing which are thickly scattered in many parts of can prepare us but the diffusion of knowledge, the heavens have been examined. Some of probity, and the fear of the Lord. While the them were resolvable into stars, with the use 'world is impelled with such violence in oppo-

And thus, using our system? We say nothing of the bear-But the supposition which we have here ing of this fact, such allowing it to be, reasons for believing that many of them are-immeasurably beyond the limits here assigned. all-pervading presence and the ineffable glory