anything to disturb the harmony that now prevails, but we cannot consent to leave things as they are now without protest. In the long run, we believe that some such course will be found necessary to prevent the demand for denominational schools from gaining a following such as might wreck the present system altogether. —*Presbyterian Review, May.*

SCHOOL WORK.

ASTRONOMICAL NOTES.

THE most important of recent additions to astronomical literature is the list of new double stars discovered at the Lowell Observatory by Dr. T. J. J. See. This accomlished astronomer, with two assistants, had examined over 100,000 stars from the first to the tenth magnitude, the area swept over being the zone between 20 degs. and 45 degs. south declination. The interest in double and multiple stars has in recent years been specially marked, while the study of those which are known to be physically connected has occasioned some very searching investigations into stellar evolution. It is a noteworthy fact that Dr. See is not only an observer of the keenest powers of vision and most correct judgment, but is an accomplished mathematician as well. At the present time he shares, with G. H. Darwin, the distinction of being foremost among those who have applied analysis to the history of nebulous masses. One result they reached is that a nebula will not necessarily assume the spheroidal form as supposed by La Place, and throw off rings when the force of gravity is overcome by the centrifugal force, but may take a pear-shaped form, finally separating into two masses, revolving about their common centre of gravity. This certainly has not been the history of our solar system, but there are many binary systems which offer evidence of the truth of the theory.

The observer will find Jupiter still a beautiful object, and though drawing nearer to the sun the phenomena of the satellite may be well observed for some time yet. The occultations by the planet of the 3rd satellite are particularly interesting. When occulted by Jupiter the moon disappears of course on the west limb; passing behind it reappears on the east limb, and remains visible for a short time before being immersed in the shadow cone cast by the planet. This phenomenon may be observed on the evening of June 28th. The satellite is eclipsed by the shadow at 8h. 40m., reappearing 2h. 20m. later.

Saturn, now past oppostion, is visible at convenient hours. Towards the end of June he comes to the meridian at 10 o'clock. The retrograde motion is quite noticeable; he is about 7 degs. north of the well known red star Antares, in the Scorpion; during the month, until the 23rd, Saturn is east of the star, but, passing westward, is west of the star on the 24th. If the two objects are watched as they come to the meridian the retrograde motion of the planet will be most readily seen. Venus is a very beautiful object now. Perhaps the most interesting point about the planet is the increasing brightness. The brilliancy of the disc is tabulated in the Nautical Almanac in terms of a stated unit, thus: Suppose a disc of radius one second, at distance from the sun equal to earth's distance; it is illuminated as Venus is, and the light reflecting power is the same; that brilliancy