

according to the newspapers, but the event did not come off. Perseus is a little higher up than Cassiopeia, and between it and the Pleiads. Find the Beta of Perseus from your map, and then pick it out in the sky. It is the wonderful variable star Algol. Capella is the very bright, yellowish star between Perseus and the zenith. If you are not sure of Perseus, run your eye from the Pleiads upward and bear a little to the right and you can't miss Capella. It is brighter than any other star on the west side of the meridian just now, except the Dog-Star. The other stars near it belong, like itself, to the constellation Auriga.

Turn now to the east side of the meridian. There is one brightest star there which you will have no trouble in finding. Its color is reddish, its brilliancy is second only to that of Sirius, its name is Arcturus, it is nearly in line with the two outer stars in the handle of the Dipper, and at IX, it is nearly due east. Within half an hour you will find another exceptionally bright star low down on the north-east horizon. This is Vega. For a couple of hours after it rises we have above our horizon the four brightest stars that we ever see here—Sirius and Capella on the west of the meridian, and Arcturus and Vega on the east. It is only during the spring months that we can see these four at the same time in the evening.

To the left of Arcturus and nearer the horizon lies the curved string of brilliants in the Northern Crown. Lower still and further left is the trapezium in Hercules. Higher than this and still farther north—just over the spot where Vega is trying to rise—is another four-cornered figure in the head of the Dragon. The dimmest of the four is the charming field-glass double, Nu Draconis.

The Dipper and the North Star are known to every one, of course. The Little Dipper is not so easy to make out; at IX, it stretches out to the east of the North Star. Before leaving the Big Dipper look at the middle star in its handle. Its name is Mizar. That little fellow you see close to it is Alcor. A good field-glass will show a third one, nearer to Mizar than Alcor is. A small telescope will show a fourth one very close to Mizar and forming a beautiful double with it. It has lately been discovered by the spectroscope that there is a fifth one still closer than this, so very close that no telescope can show it.

The outermost star in the handle is Benetnash. To the right of it is the star called King Charles's Heart (Cor Caroli). It and Arcturus are at two of the corners of a large diamond-shaped figure. A third corner is at Spica, that first magnitude star down near the south-east horizon. The fourth one is a

second magnitude star at the very tip of the Lion's tail; its name is Denebola. Between Denebola and Cor Caroli is Berenice's Hair, a good object for an opera-glass. South from Spica, four stars in the Crow form a quadrilateral. South from this a less conspicuous quadrilateral may be seen in the Cup. Very nearly due south there is a lone star between 30° and 40° above the horizon. It is Cor Hydrae. Above this is one of the smallest first magnitude stars Regulus. It and five or six of the stars above it form the Sickle, a figure easier to make out now than it was last year when Saturn was strolling about in its neighborhood. Saturn is not very far off yet. He is that bright, yellowish object to the east of the Sickle, which has not been mentioned among the stars and which you will not find on your star-map.

Saturn is a planet, and there is no room here for planets this month. But just note this one fact. The first half of April will be the best time this year to see Mercury as evening star. Look for a white, twinkling spot in the west from half an hour to an hour and a half after sun-set.

A. CAMERON.

Yale, JUN 8, 1880

THE WOODS IN MARCH.

The woods are still sleeping
But grass is a peeping
Out from under the snow;
The swallows are coming,
The bees are a humming,
The sap has begun to flow.

The buds that were hidden
In brown coats are bidden
To break and let the world know
The Ice-King is quaking
And Springtime is breaking,
For sap has begun to flow.

The Kindergarten.

MARCH.

Light-footed March, wild maid of Spring,
Your frolic footsteps hither stray,
Smiles blent with tears will April bring—
Tis April's sentimental way—
But your wild winds with laughter ring,
While young and old your will obey:
A moment here, then on the wing,
Coppetish March, what games you play!

I know a maid as blithe as you—
Child of the Ice-King and the Sun—
At her fair feet fond lovers woo,
She flouts and jeers them, every one.
And then she smiles—once more they sue.
Then blows she cold—they are undone:
Oh March, could you or she be true,
Then all were naught, so you were won.

—*Louise Chandler Moulton.*