

oppositions of Mars have been interesting events, as affording a means of determining the sun's distance. But it is now found that observations of the minor planets between Mars and Jupiter will give the most accurate results. The astronomers at the Cape of Good Hope have published the details of their work in this direction, and have arrived at an estimate which will now be accepted as final. The minor planets are near enough to have a measurable displacement on account of parallax, and if this angle is known

the distance is known; then if the linear distance of any one planet is known we have an accurate measuring rod for the whole system. The advantage in observing the minor planets lies chiefly in this, that they are merely points of light in the telescope. Their positions, therefore, can be much more accurately determined than is possible with Venus or Mars, where several corrections are necessary before an observation of the limb can be reduced to the centre of the disc.

THOS. LINDSAY, Toronto.

This is what the Bishop of London is reported in the papers to have said: "People knew nothing about education, and cared nothing. England really possessed no public opinion, and was entirely indifferent in the matter. All people troubled about was getting their children pushed through school, and they seemed to regret that education could not be laid on by means of a pipe like gas and water, and that the

sooner the pipe was detached the better. He felt he was not exaggerating when he said that that was the opinion of the general body of Englishmen on the question." Dr. Creighton well expresses the root of the difficulty in all "education questions." The general public does not care. Consequently there is in England at present no public opinion on the matter.

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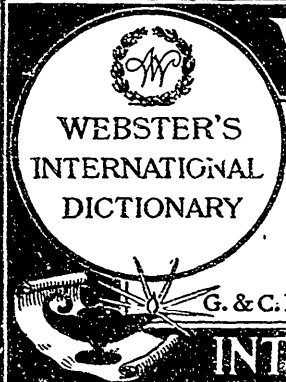
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