1884]

lous mass, there could be formed by condensation a system of such wonderful symmetry as our own. Still we must conclude, as we said before, that either the Nebular Hypothesis is true or comething founded on similar principles and nearly allied to it is true. There are many difficulties connected with it, of which the principal one is to show mathematically how a ring of vapor could be detached from the sun and form into a single planet. One of the modern scientists has summed up his conclusions as follows :--- "At the present time we can only say that the Nebular Hypothesis is indicated by the general tendencies of the laws of nature; that it has not been proved to be inconsistent with any fact; that it is almost a necessary consequence of the only theory by which we can account for the origin and conservation of the sun's heat; but that it rests upon the assumption that this conservation is to be explained by the laws of nature, as we now see them in operation."

There are some who reject the hypotheses thus put forward which indicate the workings of the Creator through processes or by means of second causes, thinking that they not only are in opposition to the teachings of the Bible, but also that they take away from the wisdom, grandeur of working, and power of God. But to such we would quote the words of a modern astronomer, that "It gives an altogether higher idea of that wisdom, which must in any case be far above our conceptions, to regard the laws of God as so perfect that they operate always to work out His will without the necessity of special interference on His part, than to see His hand directly operative in all the phenomena of the universe."

MR. E. R. L. GOULD, B.A. (Victoria University), a Fellow of Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed to a Professor's chair in Washington. He will take the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in 1885. We offer him our congratulations on his success as a Canadian student.

153