

A SILVER CONCLAVE.

The Twenty-Fifth Triennial Gathering of the Knights Templar.

DENVER WILL BE FULL OF THEM.

Arrangements for Entertainment and the Pennsylvania Quarters.

FESTIVITIES TO OCCUR AT OMAHA

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.)

DENVER, COL., Aug. 1.—Embracing among its members men of every rank and condition of life, of every nation and clime, and of every religion which acknowledges a Supreme Being, the Knights Templar will open their twenty-fifth triennial convocation in this city during the week beginning August 9, under propitious circumstances.

The grand commanderies of States over common allegiance to the grand emblem of the United States, composed of the present and past grand commanders, repre-

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Miss Bernard, 26 years of age, who is the unfortunate sufferer, is the subject of only the fifth operation of this kind on the hospital records of the world, out of which only one has been successful.

It was the most heroic attempt at life-saving performed by surgeons.

Miss Bernard is the young housekeeper of a wealthy family who dwell on Madison avenue, this city.

Her story, as told at the hospital, confirmed by her friends and narrated by Dr. J. S. Hammond, is that the cause of the tumor is due to having been struck in her left breast by a swiftly thrown baseball some years ago while witnessing a championship game at the Polo grounds.

The injury was by no means a small one. Her ribs were fractured, as was also her breast bone.

She refused the operation. Three months after the injury she grew weak, and complained of a peculiar feeling in the breast—not that of sharp pain, but as if something was working near where she supposed her heart to be.

She was sent to New York Hospital by her mistress to consult with Prof. Frank Hartley. He informed her that a tumor had formed itself on the aorta, and that unless she submitted to an operation, she would die.

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THE AUGUST SKIES.

What Can Be Seen by an Observer During the Current Month.

METEOR MOVEMENTS DESCRIBED.

Together With Those of Sirius, Brightest Star of Them All.

PLANETARY FACTS TERSELY NOTED

(SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.)

Throughout the month of August the sun hurries away toward the South and the days shorten, the lengthened nights admitting of satisfactory repose after the heat and humidity of the dog days. Rather more than nine degrees of declination mark the path of the sun between the first and the last days of the month, his speed being half as much greater at the close than it is today.

From this it can be plainly seen, says the New York Times, that the sun recedes from the summer solstice the days decrease more rapidly.

The August moon falls on the 8th away down in southern declination, at which time it always seems so much nearer and clearer to us than when it passes high overhead nearer the zenith, as is the case when it has a corresponding northerly declination.

The nearly full moon and Mars are in conjunction on the 7th, but the distance separating the two, added to the brilliant light of the moon's full disc, detracts from the beauty of the event.

On the 13th the meeting with Jupiter is a very close one indeed, but it happens in the early morning hours and there is again too much moonlight for proper effect.

The day after last quarter is billed for a meeting with Neptune, followed two days later by a meeting with Venus, and four days after there is conjunction with Mercury, which we are not permitted to see at all.

On the 24th there will be quite a pleasing tableau, in which Saturn figures conspicuously, the moon completing her monthly course by passing very close to Uranus on the 27th, at almost noon with us.

Mars Has the Place of Honor. To Mars, without question, must be accorded the place of honor in the monthly annals, and those of us who have watched his progress and increasing brilliancy will not doubt take a genuine pleasure in reading about what the astronomers will discover on the 4th, when he is in opposition with the sun, and comes above the horizon about the same time that the sun disappears on the opposite side.

This phenomenon of opposition occurs once in 780 days, his orbital period, at which time he is in line with earth and sun. It is only once in every 15 or 17 years that the earth and planet are so situated as to bring them to their closest approach. The apparent distance between Mars and the sun is 3,000,000 miles further from him than when at his nearest point. Still the distance between these two points is comparatively small in the case of Mars here on earth, and farthest from the sun is 13,000,000 miles.

On August 4 Mars is nearly at his least distance, while the earth is about at the greatest distance from Mars, two being in line they must be almost at their nearest point of approach. The distance between them will be 35,000,000 miles, whereas if opposition occurs when Mars is at aphelion, or his furthest point from the sun, the distance will be 41,000,000 miles.

The instruments for accurate observation are so greatly improved over those formerly in use that it is not too much to expect that some new light will be thrown upon the perplexing problems of double canals, undulations, and melting polar ice caps. On the maps of Mars already printed we find names given to the slightly damaged, and these are fully as familiar to the professional as the markings of land and water on the terrestrial globe should be to us.

It will be 1200 before we again have a chance similar to the present, and this is many of us measurably our last chance. Jupiter's throne is again in danger, as he no longer reigns supreme among the morning stars. Venus will challenge him and wrest from him the glory that he has been enjoying for the past few months. He is, however, growing larger and more beautiful, and we find him at our meridian well above the horizon about 4 o'clock every morning, some five hours in advance of his charming rival, who rises about two hours ahead of old Sol, a fitting herald to approach the day.

Mercury is not of very great moment to us, but he will be seen in the twilight, reposed by the sun, which he is rapidly approaching, and with which he will be in inferior conjunction on the 25th. At present he is in the constellation of Leo.

Uranus can be found as to his whereabouts on the 27th, at which time he is in conjunction with the moon, only a portion of the degree separating the two. We cannot, however, pick him out with the unaided vision. With the exception of this meeting with the moon there is nothing of importance to be said about Uranus, who is in the Taurus group, where he has been used to look for him these many weeks past. His right ascension is 4 hours 33 minutes, and his declination 29° 31' north. He is approaching the position of quadrature with the sun, which he will attain early in September.

Who does not know that very beautiful occurrence which we call a shooting star, or which, in its more splendid forms, is sometimes called a meteor or fire ball? A small body, perhaps as large as a paving stone or a piece of iron pipe, or even a large marble, is moving round in space. There are at the present moment inconceivable myriads of such meteors moving in this manner about the earth, and the meteor which we see is only one of the many that are passing over our heads.

Movements of Meteors. At the time we see the meteor it is usually moving with enormous velocity, so that it often traverses a distance of more than 20 miles in a second of time. Such a velocity is almost impossible near the earth's surface, the resistance of the earth would prevent it. A lot, in the emptiness of space, there is no air to retard the meteor. It may have been moving round for millions of years without let or hindrance, but the atmosphere moment arrives, and the meteor perishes in a streak of splendor. In the course of its wanderings the body comes near the earth, and within a few hundred miles of its surface the meteor begins to encounter the upper strata of the atmosphere

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