

on an average of two to six times per month during the year ending March last; but observers who can command from  $15^{\circ}$  to  $45^{\circ}$  S. declination are still needed.

A NEW FAINT NEBULA\*.—Mr. Barnard, of Nashville, Tenn., announces the discovery of a new nebula which appears as a small faint object in a 6-in. telescope, the light being of an even tint. The mean position for 1884.0 is  $\alpha 17^{\text{h}} 16^{\text{m}} 45^{\text{s}}.8$ ,  $\delta -38^{\circ} 26' 18''$ , or  $2^{\text{m}} 22^{\text{s}} f$  and  $3'.9$  south of Gen. Cat. 4290. There is a faint star a little south, which confuses the light of the nebula. Herschel's description of 4290 is "!!!;  $\odot$ ;  $e F$ ;  $S$ ;  $am St$ "; but Mr. Barnard could not make out its annular character.

Mr. J. E. GORE, M.R.I.A., has prepared a catalogue of known variable stars, with copious notes, which the author has taken pains to render accurate and useful. The legend of the identity of Tycho Brahe's star with the "stars" of 945 and 1264, and with the star of the Magi, is, however, again repeated here. The catalogue was read as a paper before the Royal Irish Academy 1884, January 28.

WE have received Vol. iv. (new series) of the 'Annals' of the Royal Observatory, Brussels. It contains the observations with the transit-instruments made in 1879-80 and 1881; phenomena of Jupiter's satellites, 1880-81; physical observations of Jupiter, 1879-81, with copies of 140 drawings made by M. L. Niesten, who has a justly high reputation as an astronomical artist; observations of Comets *b* and *c*, 1881, with 16 drawings by the same observer; 32 drawings of parts of the Moon's surface, with notes by M. Stuyvaert, and a valuable series of drawings of the solar spectrum by M. C. Fievez. We have already referred to M. Fievez's work on former occasions ('Observatory,' No. 64, p. 242, and No. 78, p. 308). This is the first time spectroscopic observations have appeared in the 'Annals' of this Observatory, and the Director regrets that it is at present impossible to devote more attention to this interesting branch of astronomy.

A NEW Observatory has recently been erected at Doane College, Crete, Nebraska, under the supervision of Prof. G. D. Swezey. The instruments already secured are a Buff and Burger Transit, an 8-inch equatoreal by Alvan Clark and Sons, a Howard mean-time and a Seth-Thomas clock, a Sewell break-circuit chronometer, and a set of meteorological instruments. The observatory will be known as Boswell Observatory †.

A NEW Minor Planet (No. 239) was discovered by Herr Palisa at Vienna on Aug. 18. It was of the 13th magnitude. This makes Herr Palisa's 43rd discovery. Prof. C. H. Peters has discovered 42.

THE Minor Planet No. 238 has received the name of Hypatia.

\* Sidereal Messenger, 1884 Aug., p. 184.

† Ibid. p. 190.