

in this science. The sum of six thousand dollars was lately expended by her in awards to various astronomers who had achieved distinction. Mrs. Draper, too, in addition to the large amount of money expended by her on the Draper Memorial, has founded the Henry Draper Medal of the National Academy of Sciences, to be awarded for distinction in solar physics.

Although in practical astronomy the field for woman's work is a wide one, the number of paid positions for workers in this field is naturally limited. Yet the success of the Harvard experiment of training a corps of women assistants has been so marked, that it is to be hoped that other observatories may follow this example. As the resources of the various observatories are increased by the liberality of people interested, like Mrs. Draper and Miss Bruce, in encouraging the development of astronomy, it may not be too much to expect to see larger numbers of women among the observatory assistants. Not all women are capable of working in this field, for the work demands special mental qualities. Mrs. Fleming has an eye remarkably keen in making measurements, a mind unusually alert in observing, and an executive ability so marked that it has gone far toward insuring the success of the Draper Memorial work. Mrs. Fleming is a native of Dundee, Scotland, where she taught for five years, and passed successful examinations in this capacity. Her father had strong scientific tastes, and was the first man in Dundee to take a practical

interest in introducing the daguerreotype process into that city. Miss Maury, also, has marked scientific ability. She is a granddaughter of that Lieutenant Maury whose meteorological work has been of infinite value to seamen on the Atlantic; she is a niece of Dr. Henry Draper, and before coming to Cambridge was graduated from Vassar College.

Mrs. Fleming's brief reports of discoveries made by her are sent to the *Astronomischen Nachrichten*, and other astronomical journals, over the simple signature, "M. Fleming"; but her work is well-known to astronomers as that of a woman. The extent to which it is appreciated may be judged by an extract from a review which appeared last October in *The Observatory*, the regular publication issued at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, England:

"It would be difficult to say too much in praise of the zeal and skill with which the great work (the catalogue) has been accomplished. The name of Mrs. Fleming is already well known to the world as that of a brilliant discoverer, but the present volume shows that she can do real hard work as well."

Of the Draper Memorial, it may be said that no scientific man ever had a nobler memorial than this. The catalogue itself is unique. In the words of a recent review above quoted:

"Hitherto catalogues have been made of the positions and geometrical characteristics of nebulae; but a general index to the physical nature of ten thousand objects is a novelty of the first importance, and cannot well fail of its avowed object."

