

telephones and the auxiliary apparatus, by F. C. Allsop; and "Practical work in Organic Chemistry," by Fredk. Wm. Streathfield, with a prefatory notice by Professor R. Meldola.

— An ephemeris for the use of members of the astronomical department of the Brooklyn Institute, July to December, 1891, prepared by the executive committee of the department, has just been issued by the Institute. Garrett P. Serviss, president of the department, says that the purpose of the ephemeris is to present in a convenient and readily accessible form information about variable stars, meteors, occultations, and other phenomena, with the hope that many may be induced to undertake observations which will certainly prove to be interesting to the observers, and cannot fail to be valuable to the department by giving a definite direction to the efforts of its members. The greatest charm of the starry heavens is felt only by those who study them systematically, but for that purpose an observatory, and even a telescope, is

not essential. With an opera-glass, and with the naked eye, many of the most interesting phenomena of the sky may be satisfactorily and usefully observed. Arrangements have been made to furnish special information and assistance to observers at the meetings of the department, which will be resumed in October, and in the meantime members are requested to observe, in any way that may suit their convenience, the phenomena to which attention is called in the ephemeris, and to make notes of their observations. The president of the department will be particularly obliged if members will, at their earliest convenience inform him, by letter or otherwise, of their intention to undertake any of the observations recommended. Any request for additional information or advice will meet with prompt attention. It is intended to make the department of astronomy one of the foremost in the Brooklyn Institute, both in the attractiveness of its meetings and in its general influence, and every member who undertakes any of these observations will give material assistance to that end.

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