

moon only four-fifths of the street-lamps need be lighted. When there is no moon, the star-spangled sky is a real treat, for the cloudy nights are few and far between, and the flat roofs of the houses easily lend themselves to the studies of amateur astronomers. Among the stars which can be seen in Cairo, but not in the latitudes of London, Boston, or Philadelphia, are Canopus and Horologium at the beginning of the year; while the Southern Cross shows about two-thirds of its height in May and June, though the foot of the cross cannot be seen till one goes south of Assouan. Ara and the Centaur are well seen in July, and the whole of the Scorpion shows to perfection; also at the close of the year we have the Crane and the Phoenix. The Milky Way is always beautiful, and the study of the stars has a special attraction in a country where one can become familiar with the original Arabic names still used by all those who have acquired the knowledge of the named stars.

It may be remembered that the march on Tel-el-Kebir, in 1882, before dawn, was steered by the stars, the English brigadiers being ordered to march on Arcturus.

*Climate.*—The isothermal line of Cairo runs between Algiers and St. Cruz, and between Florida and Canton (Pruner).