

## THE "LIGHTS" IN THE SKY.

No authority consulted can at all explain scientifically the alleged "strange lights" in the sky which people have of late been discovering. One clever amateur astronomer, who has a well equipped observatory, suggests that some one has been sending up a kite after dark, occasionally, with a lighted colored lantern on its tail, which has been visible over a limited area. He says he has seen nothing unusual in the heavens. Mr. Baracchi, the Government Astronomer, attributes the reports to the appearances of certain stars and planets in unfamiliar places, owing to the season of the year. So that the public may better understand what is to be seen, just now, he has catalogued the following arrangements for to-night; all the stars mentioned being bright and conspicuous and in new positions:—

At 7 p.m.—Canopus may be seen 5 degrees above the horizon south by west. Antares, a reddish star, will be then at 25 degrees altitude north north-west. Vega will be visible in 10 degrees altitude north north-east; and Venus and Jupiter, still fairly contiguous, low down on the western horizon.

At 9.30.—Antares will be lower than at 7 p.m., and between north-west by west and west north-west. Canopus will be due south and at 4 degrees altitude. Vega will be 12 degrees high, due north. Deneb, called also The Fawn Star, will be visible near the horizon north north-east; and Mars may be seen just risen in the east.

At 2 a.m. on Sunday Antares will be setting, south-west by west. Ceres, the brightest star in all the heavens, will be seen rising south of east. The stars of Orion will be rising in the east. Low down in the south the Southern Cross will be observable, and Saturn and Mars may be identified, midway between the horizon and the zenith to the north-east.