Note on ϵ Lyræ.

On Aug. 10, after clouds in the early part of the night, the sky was very clear, and on turning the 26-inch refractor on ϵ Lyræ I was surprised to find three stars besides those given in the 'Observatory,' Oct. 1881, p. 281. The three additional stars are situated as follows :—one about 30″ north of *a*, the following star in the group of seven; another about 15″ north of the star next preceding *a* in the group; and the third one precedes ϵ_1 Lyræ and is a little south of this star. These additional stars are faint, but were steadily seen on Aug. 10 and 11.

This observation may be worth recording, as showing how easily such faint objects may be overlooked on nights when the images are good for measurement, but the sky is not quite clear.

1882, Aug. 12. A. Hall.

The August Meteors.

The August meteors were observed on the 9th and 11th, the 10th being unfortunately overcast.

The shower on the 9th and 11th was certainly a very meagre display. On the 9th, from 11^h to 13^h, 37 meteors were recorded, of which 27 were Perseids. The radiant-point was well defined at its nominal position. The brightest Perseid (which was as bright as Jupiter) was seen at $11^h\ 10^m$, with path from R.A. 51° +85° to 116° +80°. A shower from near β Cephei gave several fine meteors. On the 11th, from 11^h to 12^h (cloudy afterwards), 18 meteors were recorded, 14 being Perseids, the hourly rate being about equal to the 9th. E. F. Sawyer.

Cambridgeport, Mass., U. S. A.,
Aug. 13, 1882.

Spectroscopic Observations of Comet Wells made at the Observatory O'-Gyalla.

I first observed the comet on April 17 with the recently mounted 10-inch refractor by G. and S. Merz. The spectroscope employed was after a design by Dr. H. C. Vogel, of Potsdam. On the 17th and following days the continuous spectrum of the comet was exceedingly bright, particularly in the red. The well-known bright cometary lines were hardly visible, the presence of the brightest could alone be really established.

The second detailed observation was made on April 25, when the comet had become much brighter, but was situated very near the horizon. The continuous spectrum was very bright, and its red end exceedingly vivid; the comet seemed to be surrounded by a nebulosity, which also showed a spectrum, though a very faint and short one. According to my measurements the spectrum extended from wave-length 669·5 to 445·3 mmm. Although the comet was