

Note on period of Rotation of Satellite Ganymede.

BY REV. A. C. RIDSDALE, M.A., F.R.A.S., F.R.MET.SOC.,
M. LOND. MATH. S., F.PH.S., A.L.C.M., FOREIGN MEM-
BER SOCIÉTÉ ASTRONOMIQUE DE FRANCE.

Two very interesting observations upon Ganymede were made by W. H. Stevenson in September of last year. The nights were so clear that its disk was well defined with magnifications from 450 up to 920, I and II and IV satellites seemed quite normal, but III showed considerable markings. The first night of the observation, all the N's portion of the disk was so deeply shaded as to resemble a phase in its first stage, and from the middle of this dark limb, another dark marking projected at right angles or towards Sp. This second marking was almost rectilinear, and its area was nearly one-third that of the Ganymede's disk, when the satellite had just passed its greatest eastern elongation. The following night the dark N's marking first mentioned had spread over nearly half the disk. In view of Ganymede's position relative to its primary this dark marking could not have been a shadow. And if we admit the identity of the N's markings on the two nights, we have here a clear proof of what has long been suspected, namely, that the rotational and orbital periods of the satellite are synchronous.

Note on the Systematic Observation of the Sky.

BY H. G. TOMKINS, C.I.E., F.R.A.S.

It will be remembered that at our last meeting Mr. Mitchell made a proposal that the sky should be watched by members of the Society with a view to detecting new objects, and for this purpose he proposed that the sky should be divided up among the members, and each member should undertake to watch some small definite region such as a constellation. This idea has been taken up by the Scientific Secretary, Mr. P. C. Bose, and myself, and we have already in hand a definite plan of observation. I should like to explain that by the term 'observation' we do not refer mainly to observation with a telescope. Few of our members have large instruments,