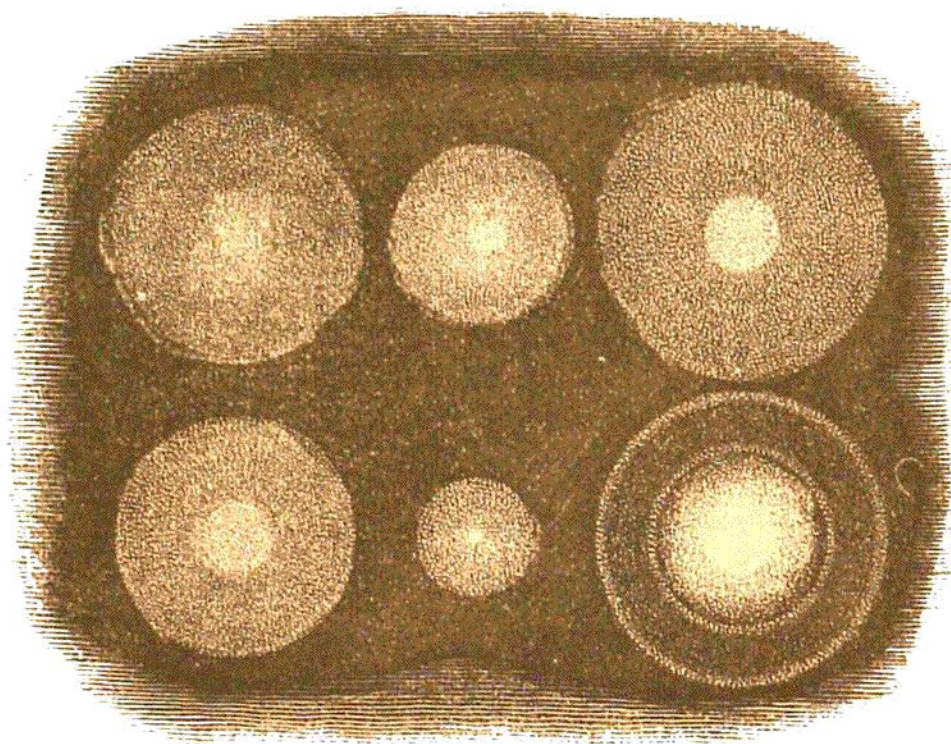


as regards a single nebula, the human mind might otherwise be unable to ascertain.\* Thus Herschel has traced from nebular masses of absolute vagueness, to others which present form and structure, the effects of the mysterious law which governs the stupendous stellar phenomena that are constantly taking place.

21. DIFFERENT STATES OF NEBULÆ.—Some of



Tab. 4.—TELESCOPIC APPEARANCE OF VARIOUS NEBULÆ.

the nebulæ appear as mere clouds of attenuated light—others as if curdling into separate masses—

\* Sir John Herschel states, that the only change in a nebula which he has yet observed, is in that of Orion. A small transverse strip, which when he first figured that nebula was straight, had become *curved*, and showed a *knotty* appearance, which it did not before possess.—*Athenæum*, No. 565, p. 596.