

complete surrender. This sounds much better than defiance or resistance, open or covert, and may result in the vanquished power receiving some consideration in the manner indicated. Demands will not be noticed, supplications undoubtedly will be whether favorably disposed of or not. This looks a great deal better.

As an additional incentive to hopefulness we have a report from Agoucello, representing Aguinardo at Paris, to the effect that he is very much pleased with the present status and outlook. He does not, it is said, look for the immediate possession of the island by the provisional government (in which he is very sagacious), but is satisfied that Spanish ownership and sovereignty will be extinguished, which is the first and foremost consideration. Eventually, American professions and instincts of justice can be trusted to extend proper treatment to the islanders, and this is the proper view to take of it. The United States cannot afford to be unjust to any nationality, race or class and will not be. What is done will undoubtedly be with the view of ultimately rendering unto all who come within our control or guardianship that which is properly theirs, although it may take time, care, a fostering hand and a strong arm to so shape things that when the heritage is bestowed it will not be unappreciated or treated in such a way that its intended benefits will be obliterated.

This means a great deal, and carried out substantially as stated would be the means, no doubt, of establishing the most amiable relations between Americans and Filipinos, relations that would grow, expand, and become stronger with continued association. There seems now to be no danger of a general collision with any of the powers and if the native islanders can be satisfied and made to settle down to peaceable conditions, there will be no longer anything to fear from them. With this safely and securely accomplished there will soon be no need of a large army and naval force in the islands. A few strong ships and enough land forces to maintain order and support authority will be sufficient, meaning that the army and navy establishments at Manila could be cut down one-half in a short time. This reduction would enable so many of the discontented to get away that there would be less for those remaining to find fault with; they would have more of the comforts and less of the discomforts of life and by means of occasional exchanges all who wished to get away could eventually do so. It might as well, however, be noted at this point that as a rule men are not nearly so anxious to leave a place which is at all tolerable when they can do so at any time as when there is any form of duress bearing upon them.

So those who are anxious to have their sons, brothers, husbands or friends get away from the islands can now indulge in a more hopeful view. The news received from Paris—which, by the bye, is as far from the Philippines as Utah is, but is yet the center of interest—is very significant and altogether promising. Perhaps it may take another tack, as it has done so many times, but there can be but one thing, as we look at it, that will prevent such a consummation as that now foreshadowed—the breaking off of negotiations through the refusal of the Spaniards to proceed any further. This would leave everything as much unsettled as before the commissioners got together and make the diplomatic situation as a whole even worse. The only thing for the United States to do in such an event would be to proceed in accordance with the terms of the protocol as far as they settle anything,

and make its own terms regarding the Philippines. If that should occur there would scarcely be any releases of soldiers or ships right away, certainly not until it was definitely determined whether or not there were likely to be any complications as a result of our "going it alone." Spain, urged on by senseless resentment as well as hope for gain, might sell the islands to Germany or some other power, and the effort to deliver the goods might make things look vastly different for awhile. This, however, is a very remote contingency, so remote that it is hardly worth while to waste time considering it. We reiterate, the outlook in all directions is quite favorable.

HOLGER DRACHMAN.

Holger Drachman, a Danish author and poet of more than national reputation, arrived a few days ago in New York, where he was enthusiastically received by friends and admirers, as well as by a host of reporters. We learn from eastern exchanges that Mr. Drachman intends staying at Staten Island some time in order to complete a new work. Then he will travel through the United States and spend the winter in California. In all probability he will visit Salt Lake on his journey west. Miss Bokken-Lassen and Mr. Drewsen, two Norwegian artists, are the traveling companions of Mr. Drachman.

CELESTIAL PYROTECHNICS.

Prof. Garrett P. Serviss, the eminent astronomer, has a lengthy article in the New York Journal regarding the great meteor showers which are scheduled for next month. The unusual circumstance also obtains that the displays will be only two weeks apart and nothing is said about where they will be seen to the best advantage, but it is a fair presumption that Utah will not be slighted as she has been regarding all the fine solar eclipses of this decade. Some eight years ago we remember a fine shower of meteors which was visible all over the Territory; at least it was at every place reported from and in this city it was particularly vivid, the upper deep being a constant network of filmy flashes for some hours. Such spectacles are very beautiful and productive of most profound thought.

Prof. Serviss explains that one of the expected showers will be that of the Leonid meteors which envelope the earth every thirty-three and one-fourth years, thrice in a century. The main mass is due on November 13, but as their array extends over the easily understood distance of some 2,000,000,000 miles the bulk of the train may be a little early or a little late as relates to the hour; it takes three years for them to pass the place where they swing through our orbit, and the question of when the densest part of it is passing, and our conjunction with it, being the best if not the only occasion for observation with the naked eye, we suppose cannot be set down with so much certainty as can the proceedings of the heavenly bodies that have more clearly defined movements. However, as the professor says, the tocsin of science has been sounded, star maps and directions to observers have been scattered broadcast, the latest improvements in photography have been enlisted in the service, and the astronomical world is on the qui vive for the expected encounter.

The other great shower occurs on the night of November 27, and will be caused by the meeting of the earth with the meteors known as the Andromedes, or Bielids, which are closely related to the famous missing comet of Biela, if they are not, in fact, scattered debris

of that comet itself. These meteors were last seen in a great shower in 1835 when a huge ball of blazing iron dropped out of the sky while it was filled with their dazzling rains and buried itself in the earth near Mazapil in Mexico. That meteor, or piece of a smashed comet, is now in a mineralogical museum in Europe, and the man who finds another like it, after the shower next month, will possess a treasure for which the entire scientific world will envy him.

We are assured that the average individual who takes the trouble to stay outdoors for a while on the nights of the 13th and 14th of November and again on the 27th may be well repaid for his trouble. Whether he is able to see the meteors or not will of course depend somewhat upon conditions, those of the atmosphere as well as of the individual. The sparks will be there, however, and but for the all-pervading air the spectacle would be many removes from gratifying. We thus have a shield of such resistance that only the very large meteors can penetrate it, the smaller ones being instantly consumed by the friction as soon as they enter the atmosphere. People have been killed by meteors that were sufficiently bulky to reach the earth, but such cases are rare. That they must be very bulky indeed will be apparent when the velocity of their flight is known—from 50,000 to 250,000 feet per second, while a Mauser bullet travels only 2,000 feet in the same time. It is such terrific speed that produces the inconceivable heat which results from impact with even so tenuous a substance as the upper air, and this consumption producing a purple streak is what we see, not the meteor itself. The show is worth the trouble it costs to see it.

HOW TO COMBAT MORMONISM.

We copy below an article from the Christian Advocate, a Methodist paper, of May 12, this year. It contains the ideas of Mr. W. W. Ankworth of how Mormonism is to be combatted successfully, and will no doubt be of interest to many of our readers.

The author, as will be noticed, gives it as his experience that the Saints cannot be "prayed out," nor overcome by means of "revivals;" nor is it a good plan to "ignore" them, and to debate with them is positively dangerous. The only remedy left is to make personal friends among the people inclined to listen to the Gospel and then to preach Mormonism to them. That, he says, will have the desired effect. "Master and preach Mormonism as it is," he says: "you will find it only in the Mormon Bibles; Book of Mormon; Doctrine and Covenants; the inspired translation of the Bible. These are the true books of revelation. Other books will be helpful, but these are all-important. These are the only books that will defeat the Saints at their own work."

It is evident that if the ministers of the world will act upon this advice, there will in the near future be a number of students and exponents of Mormonism. A caution or two should be added: One is, that for a correct understanding of the doctrines of that system, the student should not approach the Book of Mormon or the Doctrine and Covenants in the spirit in which Ingersoll flashes the Bible, but in the spirit of humility and prayer, which prepares the heart for the discovery and reception of truth. Another is not to accept as final authority anything but that which is contained in the standards of faith. If these suggestions are kept in mind, the study of Mormonism, as recommended by Mr. Ankworth, will be of infinite benefit to the ministers and their flocks. If