

preachers, but notice I said all intelligent men.

"A miracle is an act performed by the Master of Nature without any regard for the facts in nature. This is the only honest definition, and you might as well talk of making a square circle or of making four plus three equal eight. If in the heavens there is an infinite God, he could no more do these things than I can, because they are logical impossibilities.

"We are told of the design in nature that proves the existence of a loving Creator. But I can see no more design in the good things of earth than in the bad things. If there is a God, how do we know He is good? Why should we bow down to a perhaps? A short time ago the President called upon the people to thank God for the victory over the Spaniards. But I say we had no need of God's help to whip the Spaniards. For the victory at Manila bay I thank, not God, but the best admiral that ever trod a quarter-deck, George Dewey. And for the victories about Santiago I thank the men who did the work.

"When the perfume of gratitude rises from the human heart, let it rise to some one who did something you know about. At Chicago they erected arches and arranged a great thanksgiving to God, and there came a great storm which blew down the triumphal arches and drenched the earth with rain. Is that the way a gentleman does when you try to do him honor? When you approach his house, does he turn the nose on you?

"No, my friends, no intelligent person can believe the things the preachers tell us about God. A man who could not make a better world than this ought to go out of the business, for it is as full of pain as of pleasure. Disease and danger lurk on every hand, and the world was no more made for man than for spiders. And there is no more evidence of a protecting providence for one than for the other."

A person may read Ingersoll's lectures and essays and get many false impressions, but to my mind, one has but to hear him speak to decide that his great words, "There is no darkness in the world but ignorance," applies to the author of them quite as much as to any one else in the world.

While Ingersoll has a charming penmanship, he lacks that very spirit of humility and gratitude which makes a man truly great. The lover of Ingersoll is to my mind like the fellow of whom Josh Billings once wrote: "The man who does not believe in a hereafter must have a devil of an opinion of himself."

LEVI EDGAR YOUNG.

GOVERNOR AHUMADA'S VISIT TO JUAREZ.

Colonla Juarez, Oct. 13, 1898.

Sunday, Oct. 9th, we received a letter from Casas Grandes stating that, on the following day, the governor of this state would be at that place, and inviting the people of this colony to join them in giving him a reception. They said as they had no band, they would be pleased to have the brass band of Juarez to give some music. Accordingly, on the following morning, the band, about thirty horsemen and a number of huggies and wagons, started for the Casas Grandes station. At Casas Grandes they were joined by a number of Mexicans. From there they proceeded to the station, where they awaited the arrival of the train. At 6 o'clock the train rolled into the station and the governor made a short speech. The party consisted of Governor Miguel Ahumada, Major General

Martinez, Brigadier General Juan A. Hernandez, colonel of cavalry, two lawyers, Francisco Navarro, Jefe Politico of Jimmenez, Britton Davis, superintendent of Corralitos county, John Ramsey, superintendent of the R. G. S. M. and P. railroad, and others. The governor is a large, heavy set man. The procession then went to Casas Grandes, where its arrival was hailed with firing of cannon and ringing of bells. The Juarez people, or most of them, then returned home. The governor was invited to visit Juarez, and promised to do so the next day. Early Tuesday morning the Juarez horsemen started for Casas Grandes to escort him to Juarez. When he first appeared in sight the firing of cannon and ringing of the bell told of his arrival. On alighting from his carriage, near the school house, he was greeted with cheers from the crowds who stood around. The school children were arranged in two rows on either side of the walk leading to the school house and sang a Spanish song as he passed between them. At the school house an interesting program, consisting of songs by children, music by the band, a drill by a class of twelve girls, etc., was carried out. After this, speeches were given by the governor and others. The governor said he was pleased with the reception we had given. All the speakers expressed their surprise at the growth of the colony and the prosperous condition of the people. After meeting, all who desired were allowed to shake hands with the governor as they passed out, when the party took dinner in one of the large rooms of the school house. They made an inspection of the school house and inquired about the school. They were very much surprised to find that Algebra and other high school studies are taught. Also to find that the house had been built and academy run with no aid from the government. Thought the income tax, by which the people pay expenses, a remarkable thing. They visited some of the best orchards of the town and thought the fruit very fine. All seemed very much pleased with what they saw and expressed themselves to that effect. At 4 o'clock they started back, accompanied as far as Casas Grandes by the Juarez horsemen.

STUDENT.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SURPRISE.

Draper, Oct. 28th, 1898.

The Draper ward Sunday school had a good surprise last Sunday, October 23rd, on Superintendent Peter N. Garff, who has labored faithfully for twenty years, but was released a short time ago. Brother Garff has done a good work and was beloved by all. It was with much regret to us that he was released.

It was given out some time ago that a review was to be held on the Sunday mentioned. This worked well, and Brother Garff was completely surprised. He was overcome when a costly Bible was presented to him by the Sunday school, with the inscription in gilt: "Presented to Brother Peter N. Garff by the Teachers of the Draper Ward Sunday School."

He was also presented with a nice autograph. Speeches were made and songs rendered. Brother Garff was sincere in his Sunday school work. He has accepted the head teachership in the theological class, where he will do a good work.

HOME FROM MANILA.

Great big, good natured 250-pound Chris Wagner, who a few months ago left Salt Lake as one of the recruits for

battery B, Utah volunteers, returned home pinched and worn, from Manila, Friday morning, fifty pounds less than when he enlisted for the service. Wagner was perfectly well when he left here but contracted rheumatism in Camp Merritt before sailing for Manila. He recovered somewhat, however, on crossing the Pacific and when in Honolulu was in the best possible health. When he reached the Philippines, however, he had to be carried off the boat. He did not reach there until after the surrender of the Spanish colonial capital to the American forces.

On arriving there the city was full of the sounds of victory, and everywhere the praises of the Utah volunteers were being heralded. The Utah men, he says, have the entire to everything in Manila; every man is looked upon as a hero, besides that they are regarded as superior in personal appearance; they outclass any other company or set of volunteers. When a soldier or a body of soldiers go by looking particularly cleanly and nice as to appearance, it causes the remark to be made at once, he or they are Utah volunteers. This is considerable of a compliment when the fact is taken into account that all the men in all the companies wear precisely the same kind of uniforms.

Mr. Wagner was in the hospital nearly the whole part of his stay in Manila but got out occasionally to mingle with the boys. On Sept. 23rd, he with three other Utah men, Privates Lacey and Roland of Salt Lake, and Bluth of Ogden, started home on sick furlough on the transport ship Rio de Janeiro. In all there were 120 sick soldiers on board. Nearly every one had to be carried on to the boat, being so emaciated and reduced in strength and flesh; but considering there was much delay the Rio de Janeiro was chartered and proceeded to load her down with regular government rations. To this Captain Ward, the owner of the ship, objected and declared that he would not set sail with such food for sick men, and that if he conveyed them back to the United States he must feed them rations of his own selection. The result was that Captain Ward won his point and the men got good food. As a sample of what they received the following was the bill of fare for breakfast: Good coffee, hot rolls, plenty of beef steak and hash and potatoes. The government rations for breakfast would have been, pork, hard tack, salt horse. The bill of fare furnished by Captain Ward and his kindly treatment resulted in very many of the sick soldiers almost recovering en route home.

But there were some sad scenes on board the ship during the voyage. Nine of the men died. Of these four were buried at sea, three were embalmed and brought to San Francisco and from there shipped to their homes. One was buried in Japan, and another who became insane from his sufferings, jumped overboard and was drowned with \$475 on his person.

All of the Utah boys mentioned are on sick furlough and expect their discharges soon in the event none of them will again return to the Philippines. Mr. Wagner desired that he be permitted to pay tribute to Captain Young, whose brain he says evolved and perfected the plans which resulted in the splendid victory achieved by the Utah batteries. Captain Young, he declares, is not only loved and respected by his men for the personal kindness and treatment accorded to them. No matter how humble or ill a soldier may be, Captain Young finds time to call upon and encourage him. These characteristics have won for him the admiration of all his men, and the respect of many other companies.