

in the line of our visual ray. Knowing the velocity of the sun's motion, he took as basis of his calculations, the displacement of the lines of the solar spectrum.

At the Greenwich, Paris and other observatories the following results were obtained: The mean velocity of the earth in its orbit being 30 kilometres per second, Aldebaran was found to move at the rate of 50 kilometres, Alpha Orion at 47 k., and Gamma Gemini at the rate of 52 k. per second. Professor Deslandres, of the Paris observatory, has lately calculated that Sirius, the largest and brightest of the fixed stars, is approaching towards us at the rate of 19 kilometres per second.

Careful observations have also been made on this side of the Atlantic. Last year, Professor Pickering, while directing spectroscopic researches in the heavens from his cabinet in the Harvard Observatory, discovered that Zeta of the Dipper is not a single star as previously sup-

posed, but that it consists of two distinct stars revolving around each other. The photographs of their spectra, taken at fixed intervals, showed the periodical appearance and disappearance of a dark line.

We are struck with wonder and admiration while recording such facts. Through the medium of the spectroscope, man is placed in daily contact with the huge and ponderous masses that wend their flight through space. Gazing in the depths of the celestial vault, he observes the vast bulk of these monstrous bodies, the alarming velocity with which they roll on their course, lost as it were in millions and billions of leagues. Remembering for a moment that all this is not a dream, he holds the book of science with a trembling hand and bows with awe and veneration before that Mighty One of whom all these wonders are but the faint and perishable vestiges.

CHARLES GAUDET, '92



### *COWARDS ALL!*

All mankind

"Is one of these two cowards:

Either to wish to die

When he should live, or live when

He should die."

—SIR ROBERT HOWARD.