

INDEX

Note numbers are indicated by 'n.'

- Adams, John Couch, 118, 134–137, 142n.38, 161
Ahmed, Ibrahim ben, 60
Ahrens, Tom, 243, 245
Aikin, W. E., 18–19, 78–79
alcoholism, and meteors, 41
American Journal of Science and Arts, 12n.8, 13, 18, 65, 84, 91, 104
American Meteor Society, 174, 175, 176, 178, 182
American Philosophical Society, 65
Amor (asteroid), 225
Amun (asteroid), 250
Anderson, Jay, 294–297
Andromedid meteors, 80, 98n.20, 139, 152
Apollo (asteroid), 225
Appleton, Edward, 186
Arago, François, 86, 88, 101
Arden, Mima, 166, 167
Aristotle, meteors as viewed by, 35–38
Asteroid 1994XM₁, 241
asteroids
 deflecting danger from, 242–246
 as economic resource, 246–250
 as threat to Earth, 225–237, 238–242
Aten (asteroid), 225
Atkinson, Stuart, 286
Atlanta Astronomy Club, 210
August meteors. *See* Perseid meteor showers

Bache, Alexander, 65–66, 67
Bacon, J. M., 162–163
Bailey, Dana K., 214
Ball, Robert, 112–113
Barber, Virgil H., 9
Barnard, Edward, 168
Barringer Meteor Crater, 222, 223
Bauer, James, 269
Baxendell, Joseph, 113, 115n.31
Beccaria, Giambatista, 115n.24
Benzenberg, Johann Friedrich, 48, 52n.26, 52n.29, 60

Berlin Observatory, 134
Bessel, Friedrich, 138
Biela, Wilhelm von, 138
Biela's Comet. *See* Comet Biela
Bielid meteors. *See* Andromedid meteors
binoculars, 263, 266
Biot, Jean Baptiste, 50, 52n.31, 222
Blackfoot Indians, 32–33, 45
bolides, 262, 267n.6
Bone, Neil, 256, 283–284, 293
Bonpland, Aimé, 3, 53–55, 62n.4
Bowell, Ted, 238, 241
Bradley, Francis, 138
Brahe, Tycho, 38, 51n.17
Brandes, Heinrich Wilhelm, 48, 52n.26, 52n.29, 60
Brown, Peter, 293
Browning, John, 146–147
Brownlee, Donald, 200
Brownlee particles, 201, 202
Brussels Observatory, 86

Calder, William Alexander, 210–211
Capen, Charles (Chick), 212, 213
Capen, Mars, 212
Capen, Virginia, 212
Carlson, Chester F., 49
Cassini Division, 119, 140n.2
Central Bureau for Astronomical Telegrams, 228
Ceres (asteroid), 238
Chasles, Michel, 103
Chiron, 227, 231–232
Chladni, Ernst, observations regarding meteors and meteorites, 46–48, 51n.21, 52n.23, 52n.25, 142n.33, 147, 222
Chumash Indians, 45
Clarke, W. B., 74–80, 82n.11
Colbert, Elias, 160–161, 168
Comet Biela, 79–80, 119, 138–139, 152, 197
Comet Encke, 192
Comet Giacobini–Zinner, 185, 197
Comet Hale–Bopp, 238, 241

Comet Halley, 30, 39, 104, 150, 192, 222, 238
Comet Holmes, 158n.19
Comet Machholz 2, 231
comets, 38, 39, 41, 77, 79–80, 307–312
 deflecting danger from, 242–246
 orbit of, 194–195
 as possible source of meteor showers, 85–86, 97n.10, 119–120, 122–123, 124, 125–132, 134–139, 140, 141n.18
 Schiaparelli’s observations of, 122–123
 size of, 238
 speed of, 238–239
 as threat to Earth, 221–222, 231–241, 248–249
 Whipple’s theory of, 191–194
Comet Schmidt, 127
Comet Shoemaker–Levy 9, 227–231
Comet Swift–Tuttle, 127, 238
Comet Tempel–Tuttle, 129–132, 309, 310, 311
 orbit of, 205–206, 269–270, 291
 as parent of Leonid meteor storms, 132, 174, 135, 269–273, 286–287
Comet Wilson–Harrington, 238
contraction theory, 102–103
Copenhagen Observatory, 138
Copernicus, 38
Crilley, Ray, 180
Crommelin, Andrew C. D., 174
Cumaná, Venezuela, 53–55

Damocles (asteroid), 227
Danaldson, Thomas F., 8
d’Arrest, Heinrich, 118, 129, 138–139
Delta Aquarid meteors, 185
Denning, William Frederick, 148–151, 158n.16, 166–167
Denver Post, 163–165
Denver University Observatory, 163–165
Devens, Richard M., 12n.1, 14, 159, 171n.2
dinosaurs, 102, 224
Doppler Effect, 186
Dorsey, George A., 45
Downing, Arthur M. W., 161–162, 168–169, 176
Draconid meteors, 185

Earth
 asteroids as threat to, 225–242
 comets as threat to, 221–222, 231–242
 deflecting danger to, 242–246
 meteoroids as threat to, 221–225
Eastern Pomo Indians, 45

Edberg, Stephen J., 258–259, 260, 262–263, 267n.3
Edgeworth, Kenneth E., 197
Elkin, Lewis, 153–155, 158n.22
Ellicott, Andrew, 24, 55–56
Encke, Johann, 138, 192
Espy, James P., as challenger of Olmsted’s hypotheses, 65–74
Eta Aquarid meteors, 150
Etheridge, Dale, 212

Fain, Nathan A., 209–210
falling stars. *See* meteorites; meteors
“Falling Stars” (Denning’s poem), 151
fireballs, 46–48, 255–256, 259, 262–263, 267n.5
Fisher, Clyde, 176
Fitzsimmons, Alan, 286
Flanagan, James, 8
Forshey, C. G., 106
Forster, Thomas Furley, 93, 97n.4, 99n.25
Frank, Louis, 248–249
Franklin, Benjamin, 9, 42, 43, 65
Franklin, Kenneth L., 207, 211
Fraunhofer, Joseph, 145–146
Freitag, Ruth, 99n.26
Fried, Bob, 210
Fritz, M., 8
Fulkes, William, 38–39

Galileo, 39
Galle, Johanne, 118, 129, 138, 139
Gamma Leonis
 as apparent source of meteor storms, 3, 16
 see also Leonid meteor storms
Gautier, Alfrède, 59, 60–61
Gehrels, Tom, 241
Geminid meteors, 154
Georgics (Virgil), 36
Goddard, Jules, 134
Good, Battiste, 33
Goodall, William M., 184
Gould, Benjamin Apthorp, 110
Graves, Rufus, 77
Grétry, André, 87–88
Grimm, Jacob, 37
Grosser, Morton, 142n.38

Hainaut, Oliver, 269
Halley, Edmond, 39–40, 41, 222
Halley’s Comet. *See* Comet Halley

- Haloid Company, 49
Harris, Alan, 243
Harvard College Observatory, 154, 191
Hayden Planetarium, 206, 207
Heath, J. M., 111
Helin, Eleanor, 226, 241
Helmholtz, Hermann von, 102–103
Henry, Joseph, 15, 21
Henry Draper Catalogue, 147
Herrick, Edward
 honored by Yale University, 96, 100n.30
 as observer of Comet Biela, 119
 as observer of Leonid meteor storms, 61, 62n.11, 62–63n.13, 82n.11, 98n.22, 101–102
 as observer of Perseid meteor showers, 83–86, 89, 90, 92–93, 96, 98n.15, 99–100n.28, 104
Herschel, Alexander, 111, 130, 146, 157n.4
Herschel, John, 79, 108, 111
Herschel, William, 146–147
Hey, J. S., 185
Hind, John Russell, 115n.31
Hitchcock, Edward, 76–77
Hoffleit, Dorrit, 158n.22
Hoffmeister, Cuno, 186–188
Hopkins, Robert, 99n.26
Hopper, Edward, 50
Hoving, Thomas, 207, 208
Hubble Space Telescope, 198
Hughes, David, 186
Humboldt, Alexander von, 3, 24, 53–55, 59, 62n.4
Humphreys, Hector, 6–7
Humphreys, Marie, 6
hyperbolic velocities, 186–188, 195
- Ida (asteroid), 233
Indians, as observers of meteor storms, 32–33, 43, 45
International Astronomical Union, 228
Ivar (asteroid), 238
- Janssen, Jules, 162
Jauslin, Karl, 11
Jenniskens, Peter, 290, 293
Jensen, Oscar, 178
Jet Propulsion Laboratory, 241
Jewett, David, 232
Jones, Jim, 293
Journal of the Franklin Institute, 83
- Jupiter, and Comet Shoemaker–Levy, 9, 228–231
- Kant–Laplace nebular hypothesis, 141n.18
Kawaiisu Indians, 45
Keay, Colin, 256
Khan, M. A. R., 183
Kiliwa Indians, 45
Kiowa Indians, 32–33
Kirkwood, Daniel, 117, 118–120, 140n.4
Kirkwood Gaps, 119
Kitt Peak Observatory, 211, 215–216
Koasati Indians, 45
Kowal, Charles, 227
Kresák, Ľubor, 293
Kuiper, Gerard, 196–197
Kuiper Belt, 197, 227, 231, 306
- Lapham, Darius, 27, 28
Lassen, Minnie D., 178
Lavater, Johann Kaspar, 49
Lawrence, St., associated with Perseid meteor storms, 96, 99n.27
Lebofsky, Larry, 250
Leo (constellation), as apparent source of meteor storms, 1–3, 4, 16–17, 24, 78, 81
Leonid meteor storms
 altitude of, 19–20, 22–23, 32n.9, 60–61
 Bache and Espy's skepticism regarding, 65–74
 as biblical prophecy, 6, 11
 brightness of, 2, 12n.2
 and Comet Tempel–Tuttle, 129–132, 135, 174, 269–273
 composition of meteors, 22
 drawings of, 10, 11, 16, 34
 duration of, 24
 earliest sightings of, 60, 61
 expectations of, in 1899, 159–167, 170; in 1900, 168–169, 170; in 1932, 174–177; in 1966, 205–208
 explanations for, 7–9, 18–19
 eyewitness accounts of, 4–9, 13–14, 54–61
 factors favoring return of, 269–281, 289–290
 favorable omens, 284–285
 Humboldt and Bonpland's observations of, 53–55
 Indian accounts of, 32–33
 Moon as factor in observation of, 80–81, 285

Leonid meteor storms (*cont.*)

- newspaper accounts of, 4–7, 9, 12n.14, 15, 32n.5, 105–111, 206–208, 209–211
- observation of, 283–284, 289–292
- Olmsted's observations of, 1–3, 9, 12n.2, 12n.8, 13–29, 50, 61, 63n.13, 83, 91, 105, 122
- orbit of, 23–25, 26, 120–121, 129, 130, 135–137
- predictions of recurrence, 104–105, 113, 205–208
- prospects for, in 1999 and 2000, 285–289, 292–299
- quantity of meteors, 14–15, 66, 285, 212–213, 215–216, 217, 219n.22
- radiant of, 15–19, 60, 217
- Schiaparelli's theories of, 124–127
- as seen, from Europe, 108–113; from Florida, 56; from South America, 53–55
- as seen, in 1901, 169–170; in 1932, 178–181; in 1933, 182–183; in 1961–1965, 205, 286; in 1966, 209–217, 286; in 1967, 218; in 1969, 218; in 1998, 285–287
- sound associated with, 15, 71, 73
- source of, 1–3, 15–19, 20, 26–29, 78, 81
- speed of meteors, 19–20, 32n.7, 32n.8, 97n.7, 114–115n.20, 187
- volcanoes proposed as source of, 75–78
- weather prospects for observation, 294–298
- see also* meteors
- Le Verrier, Urbain J. J., 117, 118, 128–129, 130, 132, 138
- Levy, David, 227–228, 260, 262–263, 267n.3
- Lewis, John E., 153, 158n.19, 250
- Lichtenberg, Georg Christoph, 48, 49, 52n.25, 52n.29
- Locke, John (philosopher), 92
- Locke, John (scientist), 90–93
- Locke, Samuel, 92
- Lone Dog, 33
- Loomis, Elias, 30, 67, 82n.11, 104, 105, 106
- Lovell, Bernard, 167, 186, 188, 205
- Lovering, Joseph, 89–90
- Lowell Observatory, 187–188, 211
- Luu, Jane, 232
- Luyten, Willem J., 177, 181
- Lytleton, Richard Arthur, 202n.3
- Magazine of Natural History*, 74–75, 76
- Malte-Brun, Conrad, 9

- Marsden, Brian, 140n.4, 206, 228, 229, 238
- Mason, John, 282, 293
- mass drivers, 245–246, 247
- Mauray, Alain, 251n.22
- Mayer, Julius Robert, 102, 103
- McDonald Observatory, 209–210
- Meech, Karen, 269
- Mesopotamia, meteors as omen in, 35
- meteor*, origin of word, 35
- meteorites
 - Aztec record of, 44
 - Chladni's conclusions regarding, 45–48, 49–50, 52n.23
- meteoroids, 120–121
 - descent through the atmosphere, 197–200
 - journey of, 301–312
 - as threat to Earth, 221–222
- Meteorology* (Aristotle), 35, 36
- meteors
 - and alcoholism, 41
 - altitude of, 42–43, 48, 52n.26, 52n.29
 - Aristotle's view of, 35–38
 - Benzenberg and Brandes' observations of, 48
 - catalogs of storms, 98n.14
 - Chladni's insights into, 45–48, 49–50, 51n.21, 52n.23, 52n.25
 - comets as possible source of, 85–86, 97n.10, 119–120, 122–123, 124, 125–132, 134–139, 140, 141n.18
 - early explanations for, 38–43
 - effect of gravity on, 43
 - Indian observations of, 32–33, 43, 45
 - measurements of, 145–155
 - Moslem view of, 35
 - mythology of, 35, 37, 160
 - Native American beliefs about, 45
 - new developments in study of, 198–199
 - observation of showers, 253–255, 262–263, 266
 - obstacles to observation of, 80–81, 259–261
 - orbits of, 140n.11
 - particles of, 200–201
 - photography applied to study of, 146, 151, 152–155, 158n.19, 188
 - photography of, 212, 256–259
 - radar applied to study of, 185–188

- radiants of, 45, 60, 148–150, 151–152
- radio waves applied to study of, 173–174, 177, 183–186
- in sailing lore, 37
- Schiaparelli's theory of, 123–125
- spectroscopy applied to, 145–147
- speed of, 84–85, 120–122, 155, 186–188
- source of, 85–86
- table of showers, 264–265
- and term limits, 36
- theories as to origin of, 102–103
- see also* Leonid meteor storms
- Meyer, William F., 179
- micrometeroids, 200–201
- Mikutis, Mark, 287
- Milky way, 301, 304–305
- Millman, Peter, 147
- Milon, Dennis, 211, 215–216
- Mimas, 140n.2
- Moulton, Forest Ray, 45
- Mount Wilson Observatory, 173, 179
- Nagaoka, Hantaro, 183–184
- Naismith, Robert, 186
- Nakano, Syuichi, 228
- Nashe, Thomas, 99n.26
- Neptune, 117, 129, 134, 302–303, 306
- Newcomb, Simon, 103
- Newton, Hubert Anson, 103, 154
 - as meteor scientist, 104–106, 107, 114n.9, 114n.11, 114–115n.20, 117, 125, 142n.33
 - and prediction of meteor showers, 120–121, 135, 140n.11
- Newton, Isaac, 39, 42, 102
- New York Herald*, telegram hoax, 108, 109–110
- Niagara Falls, 14
- Nicholson, Thomas, 206, 207–208
- Niessl von Mayendorf, Gustav, 186–188
- Nunamiut Eskimos, 45
- Nurell, C. A., 178
- Olbers, Wilhelm, 101
- Olivarez, Jose, 214, 217
- Olivier, Charles, 52n.29, 150, 151, 159, 162, 166, 167, 173, 174–175, 181, 182, 206
- Olmsted, Alexander Fisher, 31
- Olmsted, Denison
 - hypotheses challenged by Bache and Espy, 65–74
 - life of, 29–31
 - as observer of Leonid meteor storms, 1–3, 9, 12n.2, 12n.8, 50, 61, 63n.13, 83, 91, 105, 122
 - scientific conclusions of, 13–29
- Olmsted, Denison (son), 31
- Olmsted, Francis Allyn, 31
- Olmsted, John Howard, 31
- On Man and the Development of His Faculties: A Treatise on Social Physics* (Quetelet), 87
- Oort, Jan, 194–197
- Oort Cloud, 195–197, 203n.6, 231, 304, 305, 306
- Öpik, Ernst, 145, 151, 187, 188, 195–196, 197
- Oppolzer, Theodor Ritter von, 117, 126, 130, 131, 132
- Orionid meteors, 150
- Palmer, James N., 26–27, 28, 71, 72–73
- Parizek, Keith, 211
- Parker, Gideon, 13–14
- Parsons, John, 185
- Parsons, William, 112
- Pawnee Indians, 45
- Perseid meteor showers
 - early observations of, 83, 92–96
 - Herrick's observations of, 83–86, 89, 90, 92–93, 96, 98n.15, 99–100n.28
 - photographs of, 153
 - Quetelet's observations of, 86–89
 - radiant of, 91, 99n.23, 148, 149, 158n.9
 - Schiaparelli's observations of, 125–126
 - Van Allen's observations of, 180–181
- Peters, Carl F. W., 118, 130, 142n.33
- Peters, Christian A. F., 118, 129–130
- Phaethon, 237–238
- Pholus, 232
- photography
 - as applied to meteor science, 146, 151, 152–155, 158n.19, 188
 - of meteor showers, 256–259
- planetesimals, 302–304
- planets, 122
 - minor, 232
 - see also* Jupiter; Neptune; Pluto; Saturn
- Pliny the Elder, 38, 51n.6
- Potentially Hazardous Objects (PHOs), 241–242

Poulter, Thomas C., 180
Prentice, Manning, 151–152, 173, 180–181
Pringle, John, 40–42, 51n.16
Proctor, Richard A., 202n.3
Pruett, J. Hugh, 176, 182

Quetelet, Adolphe, 125
 life of, 87–88
 as observer of Perseid meteor showers, 86, 88–89, 91, 92–93, 98n.14, 99–100n.28
Quetelet, Ernest, 88

Radar, as applied to meteor science, 185–188
radiants, 45, 60, 148–150, 151–152
 of Leonid meteor storms, 16–19, 60, 217
 of Perseid meteor showers, 91, 99n.23, 148, 149, 158n.9
radio waves, as applied to meteor science, 173–174, 177, 183–186
Ramsay, David, 56–57
Rao, Joe, 292
Ra-Shalom (asteroid), 226
Rees, John K., 160
Riddell, John R., 19, 81
Ridley, Harold B., 205, 212
Rittenhouse, David, 42–43, 51n.20

Saturn, rings of, 119, 140n.2
Sauval, Jacques, 87–88, 94–95
Schaeffer, George C., 99n.23
Schafer, J. Peter, 184
Schiaparelli, Giovanni, 117, 121–132
Schubart, Joachim, 205–206
Scotti, James, 240
Secchi, Angelo, 117, 121, 130
Seneca, 37, 51n.6
Shawnee Indians, 45
Shoemaker, Carolyn, 227–228
Shoemaker, Eugene, 227–228
shooting stars. *See* meteorites; meteors
Siberia, damage from meteoroid in, 223–224
Silliman, Benjamin, 12n.8, 13, 27, 65, 83, 86, 89, 92
Sinding, Erik, 188
Sioux Indians, 32–33
Skellett, Albert M., 173, 177, 184

Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory, 206
solar sails, 245–246
solar system, theories of origin, 141n.18
Solberg, H. Gordon, Jr., 214
Spaceguard Survey, 235, 241
spectroscopy, 145–147, 157n.4
Spencer, Percival, 162
Steel, Duncan, 246, 251n.22
Steward Observatory, 240, 241
Stewart, Gordon, 185
Stoney, G. Johnstone, 161–162, 168–169, 176
Strickland, Samuel, 74–75
Sullivan, Walter, 207, 209
Sun, formation of, 301–302
Swift, Edward, 128
Swift, Lewis, 127, 128, 133
Sykora, Joseph, 154

Table Mountain Observatory, 212–213
telescopes, 266
Tempel, Wilhelm, 132
Teutonic Mythology (Grimm), 37
Theobald, John A., 173, 181
Tomlinson, Daniel, 22
Treadwell, John, 30
Tunguska River, meteoroid explosion over, 223–224
Tupman, George, 149
Turner, Herbert Hall, 166
Tuttle, Horace P., 132, 133
Twining, Alexander, 13, 14, 16, 17–18, 31–32n.3, 66, 67, 68–69, 104, 158n.9

United States Naval Observatory, 113
Uranus, 117, 129, 134, 302–303, 306

Van Allen, James, 180–181
Van Biesbroeck, George, 177, 206
Virgil, 36, 37

Waggoner, Joseph Harvey, 11
Walker, Sears, 91
Wallingford, V. O., 182–183
Wa-po-ctan-xi (Brown Hat), 33
Weinek, Ladislaus, 152–153
Weiss, Edmund, 118, 132, 137–138, 139, 140n.8
Weiss, Gustav, 118
Weissman, Paul, 270, 281, 297

Wells, H. G., 150	Yale Observatory, 153
Weyenberch, A. V., 134	Yale University, 114n.8
Whipple, Fred, 155, 188, 197, 237	Herrick honored by, 96, 100n.30
theory of comets, 191–194	Olmsted as professor at, 30–31
White, H. H., 82n.11	scientists at, 104
Whiteside, John, 40	Yau, Kevin, 269–270, 281, 297
Williams, Iwan P., 198–199	Yeomans, Don, 231, 269–270, 271, 272, 277,
Williams, Mattieu, 103, 114n.5	281, 282, 287–290, 292, 293, 297, 298,
Wintu Indians, 45	299
Woodman, Joseph H., 57	Yerkes Observatory, 168, 177, 196
Woolsey, Theodore, 31	Young, Frances, 212
Wright, Marmaduke Burr, 93	Young, James W., 212–213
Wylie, Charles C., 173, 174, 181	
	zodiacal light, 27–28, 79, 98–99n.22, 311,
Xerox, 49	312n.9