

The *Sunday Times* of the 27th August referred to this meteor in a paragraph which reads as follows:—

“Reports are to hand in regard to a singular phenomenon witnessed at Potchefstroom on Friday. [This seems to be a mistake for Thursday.] It is said that a shooting day-star was seen, taking a westerly route right over the town. The star or meteor is described as being very brilliant, having a lengthy tail like a comet. The occurrence was just before 11 a.m. and the sky was quite clear at the time.”

If all the writers refer to one and the same body, the records are not consistent, but it is possible that what the

different observers saw were portions of a broken-up meteor of such extraordinary brilliancy that they arrested the attention in full sunlight.

These reports recall to attention the somewhat similar Pelahatchie meteor which passed over central Mississippi on the forenoon of 1910, October 17 (see U. S. Monthly Weather Review, 1911, January). Although this great meteor did not fall to the ground, numerous splinters from it did and were found; some of the pieces weighed as much as 2 lb. and were buried 6 to 8 inches in the soil.

THE COUNTERGLOW (GEGENSCHN), 1911, AUGUST 26.

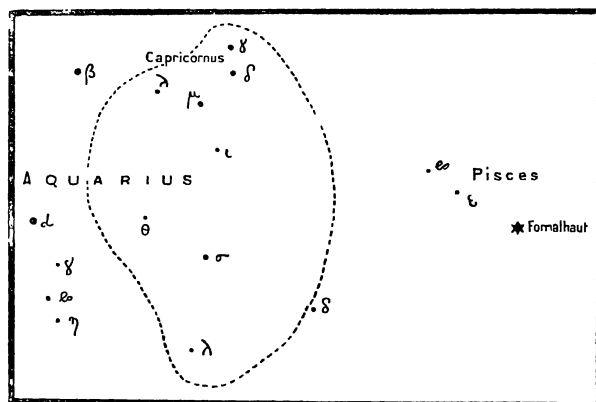
The counter glow, early this evening, although unlooked for, arrested attention by its unusual visibility. It extended about 10 degrees along the ecliptic and at its broadest part was 2 or 3 degrees. Although as a whole the glow was conspicuous enough, its extent or limits could not be accurately defined.

R. I.

The glow was quite distinct, but the boundaries were not determinate. The light seemed to fade away.

Beyond the contour marked on the map, no glow could be distinguished.

M. E. W.



KIESS'S COMET, 1911 (b)

This comet would not bear magnification. It was visible to the naked eye for about a week, but was never brighter than 5th magnitude.

It has been frequently photographed for position by Mr. H. E. Wood, and the results so far obtained have been communicated to the *Astronomische Nachrichten* week by week. The whole series will appear in a later circular.

1911, August 17.—Large and very diffused. No nucleus. Apparently circular. Diameter about 20'. As difficult to bisect as a 12th mag. star, or in other words it was too faint to observe for position with the 9-in. refractor.

1911, August 19.—About 10' in diameter, brighter towards centre, but no nucleus—very diffused in the 9-inch. Naked eye magnitude=5.

R. I.

OCCULTATION OF S.D. —12°, 4042 BY JUPITER ON 13TH AUGUST, 1911.

This important phenomenon was not visible from South Africa. On the evening of the 13th August the star was close to the satellite J1. It is decidedly coloured, = 6 on Chandler's scale, J1 being 3. Diffraction rings were seen around the star, the satellite having none. The disk of the satellite was larger than the spurious disk of the star

in the ratio 1.6 [1.7, R. I.; 1.5, H. E. W.]; assuming that the star's disk is 0.50" in diameter, this estimate gives 0.80" as the diameter of J1 at $\Delta = 5.52$ [0.85" at $\Delta = 5.202$].

Telescope: 9-inch refractor.

R. I.