

the Chicago telescope was let yesterday to Warner & Swazey, of Cleveland, Ohio, who built the one at Mount Hamilton; it is to be finished in a year and will be twenty-five per cent larger than the latter. It will be forty inches in diameter, seventy-five feet long and weigh six tons. That ought to make the moon quite neighborly and will doubtless be the means of settling the case of the next comet that comes within hailing distance after the instrument is in working order.

Speaking of telescopes suggests the working of the idol-smasher again. This time his guns are trained on the image of Galileo. Here is (or was) the man who was so firm in the conviction that his discovery of mundane rotation was right and must be accepted sooner or later, that his enforced recantation before the Inquisition was given under a *sub voce* protest, while the petty annoyances to which he was subjected were innumerable. Yet "they are after him," as the following extract from the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat* shows:

"Most people suppose that Galileo was the first man to advance the theory that the world is a globe and revolves around the sun, but this is an error," said Professor H. P. Seanlan, one of a party discussing Chicago's big telescope in the corridors of the Southern. "More than 600 years before the birth of Christ, Thales of Miletus taught that the world is a globe with five zones. He also explained the lunar eclipses and advanced theories regarding the moon which have been confirmed by scientific investigations during the past century. More than 500 years before the beginning of the Christian era Pythagoras taught those admitted to the esoteric studies that the world was globular in form. Nearly 300 years before the birth of the Babe in Bethlehem Aristarchus of Samos came near losing his life for maintaining that the earth turns upon its axis and revolves about the sun. They didn't have any telescope in those days, but they had a wonderful sight of good horse sense."

The one thing that is more mystifying to the average reader than any other in this connection, is that events of thousands of years ago are so well authenticated and yet have been kept from us with such conspicuous success. Galileo's fame began to spread when the sixteenth century closed and he was quite a young man; it increased with the coming years and became universal as soon as the agents of communication were sufficiently effective to carry it across the waters. There is scarcely a school boy of ordinary advancement in this century but knows or knew the great astronomer and what he contributed to the domain of science. For three hundred years Galileo has remained securely upon his pedestal, and now a man in a St. Louis hotel comes to the front with a bludgeon and beats the image to the ground.

NO, SIR.

"A subscriber" writing from Midway, Wasatch county, under date of the 21st, says: "Please answer through the News the following question: Has the United States government in the past few years, or at the present time, appropriated money for a bounty

payable to any of the industries in the United States for the purpose of sustaining them—except the sugar industry?"

THE STAR COURSE.

The Theatre was not filled Sunday night, but it contained a large audience, and it is safe to say a more appreciative or better entertained one is seldom seen in that auditorium. Dr. Talmage is a remarkably cool and well equipped speaker. His subject was one that he could treat *con amore*. His natural love of scientific investigation has fed, as one can see, upon his study of the lives of the Franklins of science.

The doctor proposed to treat his subject in "the orthodox way" and so began with Franklin's ancestry and early life, prefacing his story, however, with a few beautiful sentences, among which were the statements that "Every man is a letter. Every life is a word." On this foundation he made his claim for the uses of biography. He presented many interesting episodes in the early life of Franklin, showing his struggle with a poverty that had come down to him through five generations of Franklins as blacksmiths.

Benjamin Franklin was "set apart" by his parents for the ministry. He began his studies with the delight of a young mind eager to learn. But as the tenth son of the tenth son in five successive generations, he was not in a position to command means to pursue his studies and so consented to be apprenticed to a soap and candle maker. Yet he declared that if that was to be his lot he would make the best soap and candles in the market. Then came his apprenticeship to the printer's art in his brother's office. From there he ran away on account of ill treatment and made his way to Philadelphia. There he gradually rose to eminence as a writer and publisher. In all the agitations among the colonists rising out of the arbitrary acts of the British parliament towards the American colonies, Franklin was ever at the front working for justice to his countrymen. His efforts in England prior to the Revolution were set forth vividly, particularly his protests against the Stamp act of 1765. His efforts in France in behalf of the Americans and his relations to General Lafayette and other eminent Frenchmen, were delineated in a most entertaining manner, and the lecture closed with touching references to the usefulness of Franklin's life and the value of his great example to the young people of today.

The lecture was listened to with the closest attention and even the small boys in the audience caught the story of the great American with unflagging interest.

At the close of the lecture the manager announced that he had just received a telegram from the physician attending Hon. W. H. King, saying that he is seriously ill and unable to fill his engagement. He also stated that he had been asked to have a lecture given on the silver and gold question now being considered in the international conference and that he was trying to secure Judge C. C. Goodwin to give such a lecture. Whether he succeeded or not there would be a good

lecture next Sunday night, which would be duly announced.

Miss Maude Pratt at the piano, and the Union Glee club, under direction of Prof. C. J. Thomas, added to the pleasure of the evening.

The audience tendered Dr. Talmage a hearty vote of thanks.

DRAMATIC AND LYRIC.

Under the heading—Dramatic and Lyric—it is the purpose of the News to publish hereafter in its Saturday evening issue, a resume of events theatrical and musical, news of interest in professional and amateur circles, and reviews more or less critical of current dramatic and musical representations in our city. Without doubt the constituency of the theater and the concert hall is steadily and enormously growing, and there is no class of news read more widely today than that relating to the stage and the musical world. To furnish an entertaining and instructive class of information for its readers, to encourage struggling art in whatever form it may be found and to protect the public from the two frequent shame and impositions that masquerade in the guise of art—these will be some of the endeavors of this department. During the week the record of amusements will be fully presented, and public performances will be fairly and impartially criticised. The good will be praised and the bad slated, without regard to the frowns of managers or the extortions of artists. An honest attraction appreciates honest criticism, even though it may not always come in the shape of praise, and as for dishonest ones how they view the matter no one thinks or cares.

Truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth; honest judgment tempered by a kindly spirit—these shall be our mottoes; our duty is to the public, and the public may rely on being informed as to the true merits or demerits of any attraction that asks for its support.

Utah talent is giving a very good account of itself just now. In a recent trip to the east the writer had the pleasure of seeing Maudie Adams one of the Honesses of the hour in New York, of beholding Edwin M. Royle in the full tide of prosperity in Chicago, of witnessing Ada Dwyer walking away with the handsomest press notices of any one in her company, of seeing Viola Pratt, on five minutes notice, secure the part of leading contralto in a New York church in a contest with thirty or forty competitors, and of seeing Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Young holding responsible places in the Chicago Conservatory and being among the principal features in a Central Music Hall concert. Besides these we ran across our old friend H. S. Goddard, snugly ensconced with his wife in a Harlem flat, and diligently studying under Mr. Sweet. Miss Eldredge, another Utah girl, a cousin of Miss Pratt, is in New York studying elocution and the Delsarte system. Annie Adams, Salt Lake's leading lady twenty years ago, is in the same company as her daughter, and looking more like her sister than her mother. Lily Snyder is studying