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The Boy Astronomer.

JEREMIAH HORROX - THE FIRST OBSERVATION OF THE TRANSIT OF VENUS.

The first transit of Venus ever seen by a human eye was predicted by a boy, and was observed by that boy just as he reached the age of manhood. His name was Jeremiah Horrox. We have a somewhat wonderful story to tell you about this boy.

He lived in an obscure village near Liverpool, England, He was a lover of books of science, and before he reached the age of eighteen he had mastered the astronomical knowledge of the day. He studied the problems of Kepler, and he made the discovery that the tables of Kepler indicated the near approach of the transit of Venus across the sun's centre. This was about the year 1635.

Often on midsummer nights the boy Horrox might have been seen in the fields watching the planet Venus. The desire sprang up within him to see the transit of the the boy began to examine the as- ed in the Congregationalist. It strate at what time the next transit | racles of all times: would occur. He found an error in the tables, and then, he being the first of all astronomers to make the precise calculation, discovered the exact date when the next transit would take place.

He told his secret to an intimate friend, a boy, who, like himself, loved science. The young astronomer then awaited the event which he had predicted for a number of years, never seeing the loved planet in the shaded evening sky without dreaming of the day when the transit should fulfill the beautiful vision he carried in his mind

The memorable year came at last-1639. The predicted day of the transit came, too, at the end of the year. It was Sunday. It found Horrox, the boy astronomer, now just past twenty years of age, intently watching a sheet of paper in a private room, on which lay the sun's reflected image. Over this reflection of the sun's disc on the paper he expected moment by moment to see the planet pass like a moving spot or a shadow.

Suddenly the church bells rang. He was a very religious youth, and was accustomed to heed the church bells as a call from beaven. The paper still was spotless; no shadow broke the outer edge of the sun's luminous circle.

Still the church bells rang. Should he go? A cloud might hide the sun before his return, and the expected disclosure be lost for a century.

But Horrox said to himself: " must not neglect to worship the Creator, to see the wonderful things the Creator has made."

the sun on the paper and went to the sanctuary.

When he returned from the ervice he hurried to the room. The sun was still shining, and there, like a shadow on the bright circle on the paper, was the image of the planet Venus! It crept the finger of the invisible. Then the boy astronomer knew that the correct, and the thought filled his

pure heart with religious joy. Horrox died at the age of twentytwo. Nearly 130 years afterward Ve- suggest to the Attorney General nus was seen crossing the sun. The whole astronomical world was then interested in the event, and expeditions of observation were fitted out by the principal European governments. It was observed in this country by David Rittenhouse, who fainted when he saw the great vision. - St. Nicholas.

DRINK.-There has been in the last six months a renewal of the discussion of the President's fondness for drink, and for the manifest deplorable effects of yielding to the cravings of his appetite. It is boldly charged that he has been frequently, of late, on the ragged edge of the "jim jams." Whether those making the charge are well informed or not is not known, but it is certain that his excellency's ap-

dant gray hairs have come, especially in his whiskers. But he has acquired within eighteen months a puffy and flabby look, and the dimmed eyes that are not usually produced by a rigidly temperate life. Every once in a while a loyal admirerer of his excellency comes from a White House interview with a shocked manner and protruding eye balls to take one aside and in a horror-stricken whisper confide the dreadful suspicion that, after all, these stories, heretofore set down to partisan malice, have a foundation in fact. - Washington Correspondence Cincinnati Com-

Miracles, Ancient and Modern.

Have miracles occurred in our day? "The thing is not possible." say some; "the age of miracles is past." But this begs the question. What right have we to affirm that the age of miracles is past? Give us sufficient evidence of a modern miracle and we must admit it.

This is the true attitude in the beautiful planet across the disc of case. If one affirms, let him give the sun, for it was a sight that no the proof; if one denies, let him do eye had ever seen, and one that it on the ground that no sufficient would tend to solve some of the proof has been adduced. Professor Will Uni greatest problems ever presented Seelye puts it right in the following to the mind of an astronomer. So brief statement, originally publishtronomical tables of Kepler, and will be seen that the attitude deby their aid endeavored to demon- manded applies to the alleged mi-

> "The only proper attitude towards this question, and the only truly scientific method, is to inquire whether such occurrences have actually taken place—an inquiry whose answer is only to be gained through a careful sifting of the evidence which declares them. If we find wonders reported which turn out to be no miracles, but only delusions of witchcraft and magic, these no more militate against the reality of miracles than does an abundance of counterfeits against the reality of genuine coin. If we find some miracles reported for which the evidence fails, this no more precludes our finding others of undoubted verity than do false statements in other matters prevent us from learning any thing true. Let the quality of the reported miracle and its evidence be sifted to the utmost, and while we reject nothing from preconceived skepticism, let nothing be taken in credulous superstition. Let the eye be open and clear, and the heart receptive and responsive only to the truth, and if miracles are proved by sufficient testimony to have taken place, the wise man will accept them, and follow their conclusions, whatever these may

SHOULD BE RECEIVED WITH EXTREME CAUTION. - Judge Poland of Press Gag law notoriety, chairman of the committee appointed by Congress to investigate the political condition of Arkansas, has given an extra-judicial deci-ion So he left the reflected image of in regard to the very mixed condition of affairs in that State. Which decision is, not unexpectedly, adverse to the validity of the Arkansas Constitution Judge Poland has been summoned to Washington by Mr. Attorney General Williams to repeat his decision there, in order that Mr. Williams may act upslowly along the bright center, like on it, as on a previous occasion he summoned Messrs, Casey and Packard from New Orleans to repeat great problems of astronomy were their opinion that Louisiana could not count its election returns without the aid of Federal troops. We most earnestly and respectfully that he shall receive the decision of Judge Poland with extreme caution, for the prior decisions of Mr. Chairman Poland upon the Credit Mobilier, District of Columbia Investigation, &c., &c., &c., were of a nature to render them of little worth, and to affix to their author the title of "the Great Congressional Whitewasher." It is possible that in this Arkansas business he may be correct, but anything he may say or do will be received by | South-To Ploche, daily 7 10 p.m. the country with suspicion and distrust. Besides, to overturn a State election upon the word of one man, and to overrun Arkansas with Federal troops at this time, would be as unwise as it would be unjust. -Philadelphia Inquirer.

In forty-nine performances by pearance lends color to the asser- Frank Mayo of "Davy Crockett," in tion. He has changed greatly Boston and San Francisco, the within the last four years. Abun- cash receipts were \$48,881,75.

Bianistr's ordered Baron Hols

NEWS NOTES.

Monte men say Utah is poison to their fraternity. -Fx.

The common council of Philadelphia, at a special meeting yesterday afternoon, affirmed the action of the finance committee lixing the rate of taxation on a full valuation at \$1.90 per hundred dollars for 1875. An additional tax of 25 cents on the one hundred dollars was imposed for the erection of public buildings. - Washington Star.

The present organist of Westminster Abbey has seen more than fifty years of active service. During his official career of more than halfa century he has been present at the coronation of three of England's sovereigns-George the Fourth, William the Fourth, and Victoria. Though well along in years the venerable organist, with true English fortitude and endurance, refuses all proffers of assistance, and still takes his seat daily and twice a day at the Abbey organ.

HATU

JOHN R. PARK, Actuary.

JAMES DWYER, Business Manager.

SPECIAL IMPORTANCE TO SCHOOL OFFICERS AND TEACHERS.

The way to get the right teacher in the right place, communicate with the Educational Bureau.

School Officers who want a teacher should

send to the Bureau answers to the following 1. The name and locality of school?

2, What branches to be taught?
3, Is a lady or gentleman wanted? 4. Have you preference as to age? 5, What is the average number of pupils and their age?

6, What salary will you pay? 7. How is it to be paid? 8, Is board included?

9, If without board, what does board 10, Must the teacher be a church member; if so, of what denomination ?

11. For how long will you engage? 12, When must the teacher commence?

13, Will you pay traveling expenses? Teachers who want situations should send to the Bureau answers to the following ques-

1 What is your age? 2, Where educated?

3, What branches can you teach? (Underscore branches in which you are specially proficient.)

4, Have you taught? 5, If so, how long and where? 6, Are you married or single? 7, If a church member, of what denom-

ination? 8, What salary do you expect? 9, The lowest you will accept? 10, Have you preference as to locality?

11. When can you commence? 12, What certificates or recommendations do you hold? 13, What references can you give? (Give

names and address in full.) 14, For how long will you engage? Literary, Scientific and other Societies wanting Lecturers to address their meetings, may arrange for such through the Bureau. To cover expenses one dollar should accompany each application. Applications will remain three months on the register of

the Bureau, unless sooner filled. Address:

JOHN R. PARK, University of Descret, Salt Lake City.

OFFICIAL.)

rivals and Departures of Mails.

ARRIVALS. Through mail, daily 7 40 p m Local - Ogden, Echo City, Wasatch and Morgan County, daily 7 40 p m Summit and Wasatch counties, Tuesday and Thursday, 740 p m Alta, Tuesday, Thursday and

Saturday 7 10 p m West-Through ma., daily..... 10 10 a m Local-West Jordan and Her-Ophir, Tooele City, daily, excopt Sunday..... 8 00 p m Grantsville, Saturday 8 00 p m Bingham, daily, except Sunday 7 10 p m

orth-Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington Ter. daily 10 10 a m Local-Davis and Box Elder Cache county, Thursday and Rich county, Monday and Thursday 7 40 p.m

St. George and Arizona, alternate days 710 p.m Sanpete county, Tucsday, Thursday and Saturday 7 10 p m Fairfield and Cedar Valley,

CLOSING. Cast- Through mail, daily 900 pm Local-Ogden, Morgan county, Eche City and Wasatch, Summit and Wasatch counties, Monday and Wednesday, 900

Alta, Monday, Wednesday

and Friday 5 30 a m West-California, Nevada and Ogden, (through mail) daily 1 30 p m Local-West Jordan and Herriman, Thursday 5 30 a m Ophir, Tooele, Stockton and Grantsville, daily, except Sunday 6 30 a m Bingham, daily, except Sun-Worth-Idaho, Montana, Washington

Local - Davis and Weber counties, daily 900 p m Box Elder county, daily 1 30 p m Cache county, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday 130 p m Rich county, Tuesday and Thursday, via Evanston 9 00 p m South-Pioche, etc., daily 5 30 a m St. George and Arizona, al-

ternate days..... 530 a m Sanpete county, Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday 5 30 a Fairfield and Cedar Valley, OFFICE HOURS,

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pen from 9 a m to 4 p m. Outside door open from 6 a m to 9 p m. J. M. MOORE. Postmaster.

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