

comets and stars, and unfolds the wondrous revelations of the spectro-scope and of the more recent discoveries of celestial photography. So great is the power and accuracy of modern telescopes that the very minute moons of Mars have been, not only discovered, but found to be less than ten miles in diameter. This is as if a human hand, held up at Washington, could be seen and measured from Boston, 400 miles away. Our author gives copies of photographic pictures taken in less than the hundredth part of a second.

If our scientific readers desire "information up to date" on the wonders of the heavens, comets, meteors and solar astronomy, we commend them to the study of this sumptuous book. Its fine illustrations, nearly one hundred in number, are beyond all praise. The photographs of the moon show vividly the more than Alpine sublimity of its scenery. Our author conceives that the great cracks in its surface are possibly those of an ice covering. Two of the photos are reproductions, without the aid of a graver, from the spectra of the stars, the sign manual, as it were, of these distant bodies. This is one of the most fascinating books we have ever read.

Charles Grandison Finney. By G. FREDERICK WRIGHT, D.D., LL.D., Professor in Oberlin Theological Seminary, Ohio. Pp. 330, price \$1.00. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Toronto: William Briggs.

Few more attractive figures will be found described in the series of "Religious Leaders" published by Houghton, Mifflin & Co. than that of President Finney. It is a remarkable fact that one of the greatest evangelists of the times grew up to his twenty-ninth year without having a copy of the Bible. A school teacher, a student at law, a man of culture and intelligence, a choir-leader in the Church, and yet without a copy of the Word of God! His acquiring possession of this book soon led to his conversion, and to his entering upon an active

and successful ministry. He was remarkably successful in revival efforts, and became in due course President of that famous Oberlin Seminary, where he conducted a very vigorous warfare against the hyper-Calvinism then popular in certain quarters.

It is the personal character of the man, however—his sincere devotion, his sanctified life, his earnest evangelism—that specially strikes us. An illustration of a beautiful trait in his character is exhibited on his being requested by the Boston preachers to controvert the pre-millennial views of the famous William Miller, who predicted the speedy end of the world, and produced for a time an intense sensation. Instead of publicly denouncing the errors of the man, he went to see Miller privately, having carefully studied his works, and succeeded in a large degree in convincing him of his mistakes, and made him forever his friend.

Finney was a humourist in his way. An amusing account of this is recorded in the sermon on "Signs of a Seared Conscience," one of these signs being neglecting to return borrowed articles. The effect of this sermon is thus described:

"The result of this appeal was everywhere visible on the following day. Very early in the morning Oberlin began to move from centre to circumference. Norion was called up by his father before light to go out and pacify the watch-dog, which seemed to be in trouble. The occasion of the commotion was that a Scotchman, living across the street, had borrowed a saw-horse, and was endeavouring to get it home unobserved; but as he climbed over the fence he found himself within the dog's domain, and the mastiff had seized him, and was holding him down in triumph, while the saw-horse was lying near by as a mute witness to the guilty conscience. All through the day farming implements and tools came in from every quarter. Not satisfied with rearing altars to the deities they knew, these delinquent borrowers reared altars to unknown gods. Tools came in that