

Allegheny Observatory,

Allegheny, Pennsylvania.

Allegheny, Nov. 1 1895.

Professor P. Tacchini,
Rome, Italy.

My Dear Sir,

A trip to Boston in order to attend our annual journal meeting, and to test the 40-inch objective of the Yerkes Observatory, has prevented me from sooner acknowledging the receipt of your very kind letter and the numbers of the Mem. Spettro. Ital. I beg to thank you very sincerely for both. With regard to the plates, I find that our back numbers contain two of no. 242, one of which was doubtless sent by mistake for no. 243, which is missing.

Mr. Hale and I examined the 40-inch objective very carefully. It is a good lens, but in certain positions the effect of flexure is quite apparent, and it is interesting to note that we are here approaching the limit of size in the construction of these great instruments.

Yours very sincerely,
James E. Keeler.