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**Bayard Taylor, John Stoddard, Burton Holmes, and  
The Technological Development of the  
American Travelogue at Mechanics Hall from the  
19<sup>th</sup> Century through the 20<sup>th</sup> Century**

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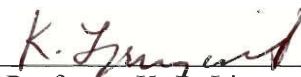


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## **Abstract**

Bayard Taylor, John Stoddard, and Burton Holmes were three major figures who gave travel lectures in Worcester and also nationally from the 1850's to the 1950's. These lectures evolved from educational talks on foreign lands into visual presentations meant mostly as a form of entertainment. The changing format of the travel lecture was shaped by emerging technologies throughout these years that allowed lecturers to project images, and eventually introduce motion pictures as a vehicle for entertaining and educating their audiences.

## Introduction

Travel lectures and travelogues, two variations of the same idea, are quickly fading from our culture as resources on videotape and on the Internet are replacing them. However rare they may now be, travel lectures once thrived throughout the United States. This amazing phenomenon achieved its greatest popularity for around one hundred years from the mid 1800's until the mid 1900's (and continued on fairly strongly for another quarter century). Developing technologies that would allow presenters to leave their audiences in awe helped drive this movement. Ironically these same technologies that developed for another quarter century are a leading cause for the decline of the lectures. The social impact of the changes in these technologies and the impact of these lectures themselves on society can be examined by looking at three major lecturers who practiced this style of communication throughout its golden years. By examining Bayard Taylor, John Stoddard, and Burton Holmes, we can extract a good deal of information on what these travel lectures would have been like for the people who viewed them at Mechanics Hall and many other lyceum Halls throughout the United States. This information will enhance the understanding of these topics and may be of interest to Worcester historians, Mechanics Hall staff, Mechanics Association members, and various other people with an interest in the history of travelogues and travel lectures, Mechanics Hall, the Mechanics Association, Worcester, or the development of slide projectors into motion pictures.

This evolution will be examined by focusing on Taylor, Stoddard, Holmes, and their reception at Mechanics Hall in Worcester. Information on these three lectures has been obtained from a time line developed through research into previous Mechanics hall IQPs, Worcester newspapers, published works of the lecturers, and the private collection

of Mr. Joseph Lemire, which contains many irreplaceable documents, clippings, brochures, and reports from these lecturers, and Mechanics Hall (see Appendix B), and also from these sources themselves.

## **Background on Mechanics Hall**

Mechanics Hall was built in 1857 to house the Worcester County Mechanics Association. The impetus for building the Hall was the 1848 decision by the Association to hold a mechanical arts fair. This fair, and others, were held in rented space; the first at the depot of the Worcester and Nashua railroad at Lincoln Square, and the other two (in 1849 and 1851) at halls rented in the Merrifield buildings. Because of the success of these fairs, as well as the discontent with the rented halls, a committee headed by Ichabod Washburn was formed. Washburn sought and made arrangements for the land, donated thousands of dollars to the project and worked directly with Elbridge Boyden, the architect. The building was built with astonishing speed for the times; the groundbreaking occurring in July of 1855, the building started with the cornerstone being laid on September 3<sup>rd</sup> and construction was finished eighteen months later. The building was dedicated on March 19, 1857, and festivities continued for 2 days, ending with a ball the next night. The hall prospered for fifty years and had an anniversary dedication on March 19, 1907.

With the opening of the Boys Trade School in 1908, however, Mechanics Hall began its decline. The Hall was at one of the lowest usage points by 1931 when the Municipal Auditorium opened and took on the role of concert and social event center in Worcester. The Mechanics Association decided to sell the Hall for 250 thousand dollars in 1948. The Association had only one prospect by 1957 who failed to show up for the final sale after holding an option to buy open for six months with a five thousand-dollar deposit. On March 19, 1957, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mechanics Hall, the doors were locked and the Hall was empty. Because this sale fell through, the Hall managed to

survive its dark ages and was restored and rededicated in 1977. It has again become a cultural center in Worcester. The Hall was used for many purposes through its first 50 years while it was in its prime. One of its main goals was to educate young men in various fields, including architectural drawing, and later steam, gas, and water pipe fitting. While the Mechanics Association used the Hall to focus on education of young boys, the Hall also took on the role of a major setting in the Worcester lyceum and fulfilled the role of a venue for numerous lecturers who passed through the Worcester area.



## **Background on the American Lyceum**

The American lyceum began to form only a few years after lyceums began to appear in London and other English cities. The first workings of the American lyceum began in late 1826 in New England. The leader in the crusade to bring this educational system to America was Josiah Holbrook. After looking at various communities, Holbrook decided to open Millbury Branch Number 1 of the American Lyceum, in Millbury, Massachusetts. From this beginning, the Lyceum system quickly spread to other communities in Worcester County. By November 22, 1826, the Worcester *National Aegis* reported, “Mr. Holbrook, an intelligent and interesting lecturer on different scientific subjects, has established in many of the towns in our country, associations for mutual instruction and information in the arts and sciences.” On January 26, 1827, the first “Board of Delegates of the American Lyceum of Science and the Arts, for the County of Worcester” met in Leicester to form a constitution to govern the body. While the County Lyceum was held in high regard and was reported on in not only local but also national papers, the County Lyceum was not a significant influence and met only a few times a year. The actual lecturing, and most of the planning, was done on the town and city level of the lyceum, with each community planning its own activities. The lyceum system quickly radiated from Worcester and found many communities that were open and ready to embrace such a system that would advance the knowledge of the population. The lyceum system encountered few obstacles, most of them being physical obstacles, such as mountains to the north of Worcester, forests to the west, and no major form of transportation to break through some of these barriers. Despite these barriers when the lyceum began to form in Maine, the scattered towns along the coast had a large

enough population with intellectual interests that, when the lyceums did form, they quickly grew in popularity. The lyceums in New England not only offered lectures to the public, but also were instrumental in founding many of the first libraries and also contributed greatly to the public school systems. In Worcester, Mechanics Hall became a Mecca of the lyceum and its lecturers began to draw crowds not only from Worcester, but also from many surrounding towns. The same sequence of events in other major cities, as well as the ever increasing ease of travel, caused many lyceums in towns surrounding these cities to eventually break down, or more accurately merge into metropolitan lyceums as happened with the Worcester lyceum.

## **Background on Travel Lectures**

Mechanics Hall was the home to many types of lectures. Through its years of operation, lectures have been given on many scientific, agricultural, theological, cultural, and technical topics. At its peak usage as a lecture hall, Mechanics hall might have had five lectures throughout the week, possibly with an agriculture lecture one day, a lecture on religious beliefs another day, followed by a talk on Physics, a travel lecture, and the appearance of a small orchestra throughout the rest of the week. Travel lectures are of particular interest because their rise and decline in interest closely follows some of the historic changes in Mechanics Hall. The travel lectures changed in their tone and purpose from the 1850s to the 1950s. Many travel lecturers were present in the lyceum system before, during, and after the three who will be examined, but Bayard Taylor, John Stoddard, and Burton Holmes are three of the most prominent lecturers in the time period with which this IQP is concerned.

## **Bayard Taylor**

One major figure in the evolution of the travel lecture was Bayard Taylor (1825-1875), who was brought up in Kennett Square, West Chester County, Pennsylvania. Taylor was well known and lectured at many major halls throughout the United States, including many lectures at Mechanics Hall. Born January 11, 1825, his parents named him after Senator James A. Bayard of Delaware. Taylor's Family was of German and English decent. His ancestors up to his grandfather's Generation were Quakers and his family's way of life was for the most part in accordance with the Quaker principles of the Pennsylvania heartland. Taylor was taught to be a farmer while he was young, but remained indifferent to farming throughout his childhood.

Taylor's interest in literature grew quickly while he was a child. He was reading by the age of four, writing poetry by the age of seven, and first publishing (an account of visiting a historic battlefield) at the age of fifteen. With his father's position in the community, he was also quickly introduced to the lyceum system and lecturers. In 1839, Dr. Thomas Dunn English, a young phrenologist from Philadelphia, lectured in West Chester County, and was invited to the county jail to speak with Taylor's father (at this time Sheriff) and cast "characters and dispositions" by "examining the formations of heads" of some of the prisoners held at the jail. While there, Sheriff Taylor asked Dr. English to look at his son and tell him if he might grow up to be a farmer. Upon examining Bayard Taylor, Dr. English commented, "You will never make a farmer out of him to any great extent: you will never keep him home; that boy will ramble around the world, and furthermore, he has all the marks of a poet" (Smyth 20). As it turned out, Dr. English was right in all respects.

Because of family economic hardships, after Taylor finished his schooling at Unionville Academy he did not bring up the topic of college, despite his eagerness to attend. His father's farm was small enough to be taken care of without Taylor's help, so Taylor looked forward to a job as a printer's apprentice, and signed on for four years with Henry Evans who owned the *Village Record* and was a close friend of the Taylor family. During his years working for Evans, Taylor began paying great attention to lecturers who would travel the coast. One of the first lecturers that Taylor followed closely was Dickens, who helped form one of Taylor's happiest memories when he received a reply letter containing the Dickens' autograph. Taylor, however, would be found two decades later replying to autograph requests with letters that read, "Dear Sir: I do not attach any value to Ms. written merely for the purpose of being an autograph, but if you do so, this is mine. Very truly yours, Bayard Taylor" (Beatty 24). Taylor followed the entire lyceum system as it spread and grew from Ralph Waldo Emerson asking for "\$5 and four quarts of oats for my horse" to expecting \$500 as a reasonable fee for a night's lecture.

In addition to following these lectures, Taylor also continued writing his poetry and was often published in both local and national papers. One of his publications was compensated with enough money for Taylor to buy the rest of his apprentice time from Evans and support him while he traveled to Philadelphia to talk to publishers. With several advance payments for travel letters that would be published in newspapers while Taylor was traveling, and many purchases of poems, Taylor returned home with \$140 (the price of passage to Europe being about twenty-four dollars including provisions and all other expenses). His family's worries about having to support a failing poet and dreamer faded quickly. Bayard next set out on foot with his cousin Franklin to

Washington to get a passport. Soon afterwards, Taylor was on a boat to Liverpool for his first world tour, which he considered his “university education” (Beatty 31).

Because of limited funding, Taylor was only able to travel by foot over most of Europe. However, when he returned to the states after two years of touring the continent, he had enough information to not only publish material, but to publish six editions in the first year and another fourteen editions over the next eight years of his Views A-Foot series. Views A-Foot was the best-known and best seller of all of Taylor’s travel writings. It was extremely well received during the nine years that it was published and covered many different regions through which he traveled. Taylor also published many other single edition books, and a trilogy. After having built a phenomenal reputation as a traveler and writer, Taylor took to editing various travel books and writing critical works. The first of these books was the Cyclopaedia of Modern Travel. The Cyclopaedia, published in 1856, was a 937-page book that included fifty-five narratives on land travel. Taylor had one narrative of his own published in the book. The other extraordinarily well received series that Taylor wrote was the At Home and Abroad series, which was published in two volumes, the first in 1859 and then the second in 1862. Between these dates Taylor split his time between traveling and lecturing.

From 1861 until 1869 Taylor shifted the focus of his writing from his travel books toward the writing of novels, writing a total of 6 novels over the eight years. He completed his first novel, Hannah Thurston in 1863 and in 1864 started working on John Godfrey’s Fortunes: Related by Himself which was finished in the same year. Godfrey was the only novel written by Taylor that took on the first person point of view, and was not as well received as his first had been. Still, after only two novels, Taylor found that

this was truly the most profitable venture yet. Taylor continued to publish novels – one each year or two until the end of the 1860's. Taylor also had many volumes of poetry published.

Poetry was Taylor's favorite genre. Throughout all of his careers he was constantly publishing volumes of his poems. He considered his other writings and his lectures to "merely [buy] time in which to write poetry" (Wermuth 108). Taylor was known to compose most of his poetry in his head while traveling or doing other things, and then wait until he had the time to write them down. With his poetry, far more than with any other form of writing, Taylor had an almost excessive need for approval and praise. Much of Taylor's work showed a technical excellence even more so than a creative excellence. He was able to write in almost any poetic form that he saw, and have it sound just as perfect as any other form. Taylor published his first volume when he was nineteen at his own expense. He was supported in this by the financial subscriptions among his neighbors, and mentally by "hopes of occupying at some future day a respectable station among our country's poets" (Wermuth 110).

Taylor was part of the "Genteel Tradition" which, among many other aspects, expected that any great novelist, poet, or writer of any other sort would gain some amount of noticeable wealth. Taylor's wealth was enough to build his house, *Cedarcroft*, for fifteen thousand dollars in 1860. The house was built entirely under the supervision of Taylor and, among other attributes, had two foot thick walls, a tower "large enough for use as well as ornament," a custom black walnut mantelpiece that he had designed, and a 200 acre plot of land. The house was nearly his only tangible display of his success. However, shortly after the building was completed, the Civil War broke out, and Taylor,

living in a virtual castle and close to the Maryland border, was forced to quickly bury his manuscripts and try to find weaponry to defend his mansion from an invasion that never came about. Ten years later, in 1870, Taylor had developed a loathing for the mansion because of the high cost of upkeep and the small amount of time that he was able to spend at the house. His book sales, and lecture dates had decreased significantly due to the war, labor to help with the upkeep of the house had increased in cost, and his frequent travels left him living in the house only a few months out of the year. During one 6-month tour of Europe, Taylor dumped five thousand dollars into the house, about one third of its original cost. Taylor eventually had his parents, sister, and brother-in-law move into the house and only stayed there a few weekends out of the year. The house became a family tradition and was passed down generation-to-generation, always cited as an example of Taylor's success.

A December 31, 1874, lecture on Ancient Egypt at Mechanics Hall is framed by a statement of a previous lecture by Wendell Phillips "that most of the boasted discoveries of this age are really only re-discoveries of what was known to the forefathers" (The Daily Spy 01/01/1874). This allows Taylor not only to deliver educational and entertaining information about Ancient Egypt, but also to incorporate the information from Ancient Egypt into Modern Day life. After quickly telling about Taylor and what the lecture was about, The Daily Spy's Reviewer goes into detail on the lecture, restating facts, and paraphrasing much of the lecture. This shows a few things about Taylor's talents as a lecturer; Taylor was able to create images that the reviewer could remember vividly enough to base most of his article on them and these images impressed the reviewer enough to have him focus on the images, possibly hoping to draw more readers



to his article because of the interesting images. In his lecture on Ancient Egypt, Taylor was not only able to describe the physical signs of the area such as the pyramids, but also the cultural background. One of the images that is conveyed through the review is that of Taylor relating in great detail the “finding of three inscriptions, side by side, one in Greek, from which it was learned that ... the mysterious Egyptian hieroglyphics... were not arbitrary signs, but were veritable letters.” Taylor also related many other pieces of the historic Egyptian world, including information on Pharos, beliefs, Egyptian mythology, and many other topics. Taylor also went into great depth describing his fascination with the lands that he visited. In By—Ways of Europe Taylor tells of his week in Capri and how splendid he found it by describing the time spent there.

With every day, every hour, of our residence, we more fully realized the grandeur and variety of the landscapes of Capri. This week which I thought sufficient to enable us to see the island thoroughly drew towards its close; and although we had gone from end to end of the rocky shores, climbed all the principal peaks, and descended into every dell and ravine, our enjoyment was only whetted, not exhausted. The same scenes grow with every repetition. There is not a path or crooked lane among the old houses, which does not keep a surprise in reserve. The little town, with only here and there a stone to show for the past, with no architectural interest whatsoever, is nevertheless a labyrinth of picturesque effects. In the houses, all the upper

chambers are vaulted, and the roofs domed above them as in the Orient; while on one or more sides there is a *logia* or arched veranda, overhung with cornice of grapevines, or gay with vases of blooming plants. Thick walls, narrow windows, external staircases, palm-trees in the gardens, and raised platforms of masonry placed so as to catch the breezes of summer nights, increase the resemblance to the orient. Living there, Syria seems to be nearer than Naples. (Taylor 356-357)

Taylor is able to create an exact visualization of the town, and to approximate his feelings of when he was living there. One is able to picture the summer nights, one's position on a raised platform, the coming breeze, palm trees and vases, a staircase heading up outside of a building towards the domed roof and past the seemingly extra thin windows that are inlaid into the thick walls. It is no wonder that Taylor attracted such large crowds when his talk can give one the feeling and memories of a warm vacation on a cold winter night in the middle of the week.

Taylor toured all of the major cities throughout the United States. Among these travels, he stopped in Worcester at least five times over a period of around twenty years. Due to the decrepit state of many of the surviving newspapers from this era, it is a challenge to find dates much less articles. In addition to his Ancient Egypt lecture review, a short review of his "Russia and the Russians" lecture on February 11, 1864, can be found in The Worcester Daily Spy. While the review does not have nearly the detail of the Ancient Egypt review, it does show Taylor filling Mechanics Hall and, as he did in

his Ancient Egypt lecture 10 years later, speaking not only of scenery and of the land, but also of the culture, the hundreds of tribes present in the huge land, their “complicated political organization,” and the religions present in the various areas. Taylor also speaks of the Emperor as “the first sovereign in Europe, being honest, true, calm, clear-minded and firm, and not weak or intemperate as charged by his enemies.” Taylor spoke of being able to often see the Emperor on the street alone or driving his own carriage.

Most likely his lectures closely resembled his travel books, and thus writings in these books can be read to get an idea of the type of lectures that Taylor may have given in his other appearances at Mechanics Hall. Taylor’s By-Ways of Europe speaks more of the Russians, and thus allows insight into what the Spy review did not show of the lecture. It speaks of leaving Moscow and how Taylor’s party “enjoyed one more glimpse of the inexhaustible splendor of the city’s thousand golden domes and pinnacles, softened by luminous smoke and transfigured dust” (Taylor 61). And his observations of cultural differences can be seen when he is speaking of their food and drink saying, “These people drink beverages of a temperature which would take the skin off Anglo-Saxon mouths. My tongue was more than once blistered, on beginning to drink after they had emptied their glasses... our cooking (for the public at least) is notoriously the worst in the world; and I can safely pronounce the Russian better, without commending it highly” (Taylor 62).

Taylor’s books, much as his lectures would have, covered topic after topic seamlessly, allowing Taylor to include as much about his travels as he would like into either of these. And he would never have to worry about running out of material, as a typical tour would read something like the following list of travels from Views A-Foot:

Voyage to Liverpool; three weeks travel in Ireland and Scotland; a week in London; a month at Heidelberg; seven months in Frankfort; a tour through Cassel, the Hartz, Sazony, Austria, Bavaria; followed by another week in Frankfort; a trip over the Alps to Switzerland; from Milan to Genoa; four months in Florence; an Eight day journey to Rome; two weeks in Rome; Five weeks in Paris; six weeks in London; and then back home (Taylor 393). This two-year pilgrimage, costing Taylor around five hundred dollars in the early 1840's, most likely would cost around \$100,000 today.

Taylor had the amazing ability to create images from his words. This ability was successfully tested and stretched to its maximum by three lectures “that were vivid word pictures of the lands and people they described.” These lectures covered “The Arabs,” “India,” and “Japan and Loo Choo,” all given in costume. For these lectures, Taylor simply described exactly what he had seen so vividly that the audience could get no better idea of the lecture topic than if they had pictures to go with the lecture.

## John Stoddard

Another popular lecturer who appeared in Mechanics Hall was John Stoddard (1850-1931). Stoddard was born in Brookline, MA, on April 24, 1850. He had a great interest in religious theology and, after graduating as valedictorian of his Williams College class in 1871, he studied at Yale Divinity School. After teaching Latin and French at Boston Latin School, he began traveling to Europe, Greece, Asia, Palestine and Egypt and spent an extended amount of time studying in Germany. Stoddard then returned to the U.S. and began lecturing for twenty years straight, only stopping when he traveled to remote countries to obtain more information. Stoddard's travels covered almost the entire habitable world. Stoddard's life can be chronicled through his world travels. He set out at a young age and continued traveling after that. Stoddard described his life by saying, "It is the land we have not visited that is to give to us our greatest happiness. If we have not yet found it in America, it is awaiting us in Europe; if not in Europe, surely in Japan... Hence travel is attractive, if only as a means of acquiring that happiness which here seems so elusive" (Stoddard 3).

In addition to his career as a traveler and a lecturer, Stoddard also found some time to write books (largely about religion), some of which are still available for sale. Stoddard also had most of his lectures published into a multi volume series. There are many libraries, used bookstores, and other places that Stoddard's lectures can be found. His pictures and writings are still used today, and while not much information on Stoddard himself can be turned up in a search on the Internet, one can turn up a variety of quotations from his books, or references to his books or travels that show Stoddard's way of life as a traveler. If a quotation is needed on a foreign land, one is likely to be able to

flip through Stoddard's lecture books, and find just what one is looking for. Because of Stoddard's interest in comparative religion and theology, he was able to keep his Western cultural bias suppressed far more than many travelers were while he was traveling in lands such as India, China, and Japan, lands which had drastically different cultures from his own.

Inspecting his photographs, even in our current age, shows how he captivated the audiences over 100 years in the past. Stoddard not only used amazing photography to make his points, but also incorporated a predecessor of the slide projector to display these photographs on a large enough scale so that everyone in the full hall was able to clearly see his magnificent work. Stoddard told of his journeys as did Taylor, but he accompanied it with imagery that no doubt imprinted itself into the minds of many of those who attended. When examining reviews of Stoddard's lectures, one notes that little emphasis is placed on his words, while his pictures are described in detail. The pictures without a doubt seized the descriptions that he gave orally and froze them in the audience's mind. The technology Stoddard used would allow him to greatly expand beyond the information that Taylor had been able to give in his lectures. Stoddard was able to show single images, or a series of fading images using a magic lantern slide projector that would visually show the audience in one or two minutes what Taylor might spend five to ten minutes explaining. This left the same five to ten minutes open to Stoddard to speak of a related topic, recall a short story that happened at the same time during his travels, or go into more detail on the culture which cannot be as easily depicted with photographs. Stoddard lectured at Mechanics Hall from the late 1870's until the early 1890's. Stoddard could speak and write vividly, just as Taylor could. This can be

seen when one looks at any of his published works. When speaking of the Grand Canyon region, he diverted from the actual canyon for awhile to speak of the Flagstaff Observatory.

Upon a hill near Flagstaff stands an astronomical observatory from which distinguished students of the midnight skies search for secrets of the moon and stars. Few better sites on earth could have been chosen for this purpose, since Arizona's atmosphere is so transparent that the extent of celestial scenery here disclosed is extraordinary. We visited the structure at the solemn hour that marks the hush between two days, when the last sound of one has died away, and before the first stir of the other thrills the morning air. Then, gazing through the lenses of its noble telescope, we welcomed the swift waves of light pulsating toward us from the shoreless ocean we call space.

(Stoddard X: 61)

While the writing in this excerpt is excellently crafted on its own, the photograph through the telescope that is placed just above the text in its published form, (displayed during a lecture, takes his words and displays their meaning to the viewer. The photograph shows the crystal skies that of, but below them large rolling clouds and a vast dry desert are clearly visible, giving the entire effect of the landscape that is not mentioned in the text. Stoddard would use his projections, with a highly perfected skill. Reviews were carried both in the Daily Spy and in the Worcester Telegram. The Spy said that “[t]he

accompanying views, which were thrown upon a very large screen, are uncommonly fine, followed one after another in rapid succession. One would fade into another exactly at the proper second and just as it was needed to illustrate the lecture, which was nowhere broken by waits or moments of hesitation” (Worcester Daily Spy 11/14/1879). The Telegram, while not speaking directly of the greatness of the visual aspects of the lecture, was constantly saying that the audience was “shown views of...” giving the entire lecture a very visual description. In Stoddard’s second lecture of the same year, the Spy reviewer started by describing the oral portion of the lecture before the visual, saying that Stoddard “captivat[ed] his hearers by his pleasing descriptions, well told incidents of travel, and beautiful views, as he took them through southern Spain” (The Daily Spy 11/21/1879). The review then praised his mastery of the visual arts when it was said that the different areas of southern Spain “were, by the aid of beautiful views, placed before the audience, as they cannot be placed by a mind picture, no matter how brilliant it may be, and a lasting impression of their vastness and elaborateness left on the minds of those who heard the descriptions and saw the views of the places described.” Stoddard had truly mastered mixing his words with his photography in a way which balanced both aspects of his presentation, guaranteeing him a good turnout at each lecture. Stoddard delivered another three lectures in his 1879 lecture series; the two that followed his introductory lecture on southern Spain were reviewed with much less emphasis placed on the style. The fourth in the lecture series showed Stoddard’s mindset for philosophical and theological topics. As can be seen in the transcription of the review in Appendix C, the reviewer focused primarily on the Russian nihilist movement, showing that Stoddard must have spent a large portion of time on the subject, which accounts for its most



memorable portions of the night. The Spy review states that Stoddard began speaking of these topics before presenting any of his stereopticon views. Because Stoddard was extremely capable of fluently mixing both verbal and visual modes of communication he must have wanted the audience to be fixated on his spoken words.

## Burton Holmes

Burton Holmes (1870-1958) brings yet another advance in technology, and even more vivid imagery than Stoddard had provided to the Lyceum. Holmes devoted his life to his travelogues and has stated that “his biography will be found in his Travelogues, each being a chapter from his life of travel.” He was born in January of 1870 to a wealthy family in Chicago. His father was a successful banker and Holmes was the grandson of a wealthy builder and importer of French wines and gourmet foods. Holmes’ formed his interest in photography and bought his first camera at the age of 13. By the time he was 16 (1886) he had dropped out of private school and traveled through the United States, Cuba, and Mexico. He made two tours of Europe, the first in 1886 with his grandmother, and then again in 1890. From these two tours he collected the material that he used in his first lecture, “Through Europe with a Camera,” which was presented as an amateur to the Chicago Camera Club. He traveled to Japan in 1892 where he met “ (and bec[ame] a junior associate of) Stoddard.” Upon returning, he found his father had been financially hit hard by the Panic of 1893 and was forced to find work. His first attempt was to become a camera salesman, but he was unsuccessful. He found quickly that he could make enough to support his family by giving stereopticon lectures of his world travels.

His first professional appearance was given in Recital Hall in Chicago on the topic of Japan. The lecture was split into two parts, “The Country” and “The Cities”. This was a ground breaking travel lecture, being the first time a lecture was given with all illustrations in color. He followed this path for four years. At this point Stoddard retired and arranged for Holmes to fill the rest of his scheduled engagements for the 1897-98

lecture season. Holmes began introducing film clips into his lectures in 1897 but, until well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century, lantern slides, hand colored in Japan, were the standard for his lectures. By 1898, Holmes had established himself as a major lecturer in the Midwest and was becoming prominent in many large Eastern Cities. Holmes believed that he was a performer more than a lecturer or teacher, a viewpoint which was popular among travel lecturers by 1900 and had developed in the time of Stoddard. Taylor would have tried to educate his audience on each of the lands that he visited. As technologies became available to lecturers, eventually leveling out with the introduction of motion pictures, the lecturers were able to visually impress their audience to the point that the travel lecture evolved from education to entertainment. Holmes belief can be seen in travelogue announcements such as the ones in Joseph Lemire's Personal Collection (See Appendix C for examples.) Holmes would lecture during the winter and travel from late spring to early fall to gather information for his next season. At times Holmes was known to give six lectures in a week, occasionally with each of the six being in different states. Holmes took great pains to obtain his material. In one lecture that he gave, He told the audience of how he had dressed as a diplomat in order "to attend the coronation of Haile Selassie in Ethopia [Sic]." Where as Taylor had dressed in costume to relate his knowledge of foreign lands to his audience, Holmes had dressed in costume while in foreign lands to be able to bring more back from these lands to his audience. Holmes traveled "to every country he could find (except Afghanistan,)" for a total of six times around the world. Holmes accumulated a massive lecturing career before his retirement in 1951 (at 81 years old), having given a little over eight thousand lectures or, on average two or three lectures a week for his entire fifty-eight year lecturing career!

Holmes did branch out occasionally from his traveling and lecturing. Some of his other achievements include the formation of a travel film company, which produced a short film every week for 6 years starting in 1915. He often wrote articles for travel magazines. And another small company that he started lasted into the 1980's. All of his work earned him a star with his name on Hollywood Boulevard. Holmes had his entire lecture series arranged into a ten-volume set in 1901, later adding more volumes as he gathered more information. Over forty thousand copies of the volumes were sold across the country. Holmes also wrote two other books. The Traveler's Russia did not sell well, and Holmes purchased the remaining copies after its publication and gave them to friends. His other books, The World Is Mine, which chronicles his life through the late 1940's along with Thayer Soule's On The Road with Travelogues, which covers from 1935 to the end of Holmes' life, offer an insight into many of Holmes' travels and lectures. Soule spent many years working with Holmes, helping set up and operate equipment. A few collections of his photographs have been published since he ended his career in travelogues. Millions of people have seen Holmes' work without knowing it was his. How many people have not seen "the classic photograph of a locomotive which has crashed through the wall of an upper level of a railway station in Paris, landing outside the station at an angle on the street below?" At some future time Holmes may be forgotten forever, but his work will surely last. "Holmes didn't invent travel stories; those were old when Odysseus recited his to Homer. He didn't invent slide shows; magic lantern slides were old in the 1850's. He didn't invent moving pictures... He didn't invent cross-country travel lecture series... Burton Holmes took an enterprise and made it into an art form" (Ward). Taylor enjoyed poetry far more than lecturing, Taylor had

continued lecturing to keep a steady source of income and to finance his interests into his more artistic interests. If a lecturer could build a following giving travel lectures, he would surely be successful in life. Holmes had joined this enterprise and put so much back into it that he had truly pushed the enterprise that Taylor had helped jumpstart into an art form that could only be mastered with talent such as Holmes possessed. Holmes had in fact adapted and integrated the now old technology of slide shows into the newer motion picture technology and used it to advance his travelogues. Motion picture technology was developed around the same time that Holmes began his yearly lecture series and, he immediately knew he must take advantage of the newest technology or it might pass him by.

“Mr. Holmes has a way of picking out some of the most picturesque and appealing in his travel talks,” as the Evening Gazette (1/24/1919) noted his ability to pull together information and compact it into a very entertaining and informative lecture. Holmes’s lectures, always well attended, were often sold out. Holmes, like Stoddard, gave many of his lectures in the form of a course that would be presented weekly over the span of a month or two. From the reviews of his lectures (featured in Appendix C) it is easy to see how informative and entertaining he could be. After the first part of his “Dizzy Days and Nights in Paris” lecture, the newspaper review stated that it was well attended, by not only the general population, but also by “many American Legion members who recently visited Paris with the Second A. E. F.” The admiration for Holmes on the reviewer’s part is apparent as he described the audience as “a group of Worcester ‘tourists’ in Mechanics Hall.” This shows how well Holmes was able to use both spoken word and visual technologies when presenting his subject. He wanted the

members of the audience to feel as if they were transported from the hall; had traveled to Paris themselves and; when speaking of the lecture, felt that they experienced Paris directly.

Holmes lectured in Mechanics Hall often many times in one year and may have appeared almost every year from 1914 until the early 1950's. Reviews can be found in the Worcester Morning Telegram, and the Worcester Evening Gazette on many of these dates depending on popularity of the lectures and what other events were occurring in the area and nation on those days. In addition to the Paris lecture cited above, reviews are also available on "Japan in Korea," "Rome," "The Grand Canyon," "Northern Italy," and other topics. Most likely Holmes would have also taken an active part in many of the later Stoddard lectures.

Holmes' photographs, motion pictures, slides, and projections were always a highlight of the travelogues. One of the first lecture series he gave in Worcester, entitled "With the Yanks at the Front," was reviewed with repeated statements about his "Splendid pictures of aerial activities..." and "The pictures are proof of what has been told and printed before and impress the public better than anything could." Reviews like these show his immense popularity throughout the United States and underscore the vividness of his pictures (Evening Gazette 02/17/1919). After Holmes' 02/05/1914 lecture on "Japan in Korea," a Worcester Telegram reviewer noted his use of colored pictures and of motion pictures. The use of motion pictures allowed Holmes to show "the ghostly dances which were far different than the up-to-date tango movements" (Worcester Telegram 02/20/1925). Holmes would often give his lectures as a series. On February 19, 1925, in his first lecture after several years' absence from Worcester,

Holmes presented Rome to a full Mechanics Hall audience. This lecture was followed by three other lectures covering the topics of “the Italian Alps, through the Riviera and one on Czecho-Slovakia” (Worcester Telegram 02/20/1925).

When reading a Burton Holmes book, pulling one’s eyes away from Burton Holmes’ vivid illustrations long enough to absorb the immense amount of information contained in the words, one faces a challenge, as it must have been at the live travelogues, to pull one’s eyes away from the vivid illustrations long enough to absorb the immense amount of information contained in the words. However, his words must be considered if one is to grasp the full impact of the lectures. When he speaks of the Grand Canyon, for example, he says that it

has become for me a haunting memory, dwarfing all things that I have seen, belittling all the gorges, all the mountains that in the past impressed me, robbing the sun of Africa of its luster, causing the colors of the Orient to fade. I have to-day a new and totally different standard by which to measure all that I intend to see before the greater, the eternal journey is begun; and I am certain that in this life there is awaiting me no other spectacle equal to that afforded by the chasm of the Colorado. It has revolutionized my perceptions of the beautiful and the sublime (Holmes V.10 116).

There is truly no way to explain the words that Holmes used while describing the places he had traveled without using his own words. In some cases Holmes’ words must speak for themselves.

## **Technology: Travel Lecture to Travelogue**

Technology developed quickly from the years of Taylor's lectures until the end of Holmes' travelogues. Taylor delivered lectures that were accented by costumes. The audience would be able to use his costuming to visualize the images that Taylor had seen. Taylor was able to give the lecture from either his point of view or the point of view of the people about whom he spoke, and have it be just as believable to the audience. He was, however, not forced into doing this. A few methods of slide projection (mainly glass slides with a gas light projection) were available during his lecturing years. Taylor did not dip into the available technology, and instead kept his lectures mainly educational, with a touch of theater added.

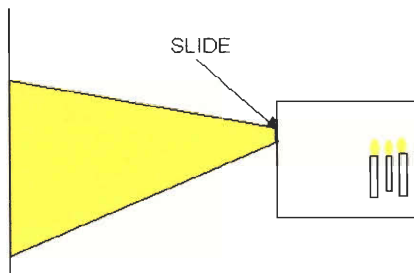
Stoddard had developed an early interest in both traveling and photography, and thus naturally toted a camera with him on all of his excursions. When he began lecturing, he took many of his photographs and created versions that could be projected by the magic lanterns of the time. A Magic lantern was an old version of a modern slide projector, thought to be magic because it made a small photograph appear to cover an entire wall or screen through a method unknown to most. These projections allowed Stoddard time to speak more extensively on the culture of each of the lands he visited. Stoddard did not have to belabor the landscape, landmarks, or views as Taylor did because Stoddard could simply project images of each of these aspects on to screens and allow the audience to quickly see them.

Holmes trained under Stoddard and took many of his methods of lecturing into his own tours when he first started giving lectures. Just before the turn of the century, Holmes found that new methods of projection would have to be adopted in order to keep



the audience as impressed with the visual aids as they had been with the “magic” that Stoddard presented to them. Holmes adopted motion pictures into his lectures and created the first true travelogues. The audience responded so enthusiastically to this innovation that it became the standard that all travel lectures followed. Holmes created a form of lecturing on travel topics that would last until the lectures themselves started to slip into the archives of the halls in which they were given.

The introduction of photography into the travel lectures represents the first of the two major changes in technology. When Stoddard lectured, many kinds of slide projectors existed, and one could be found for almost any price range. The projectors

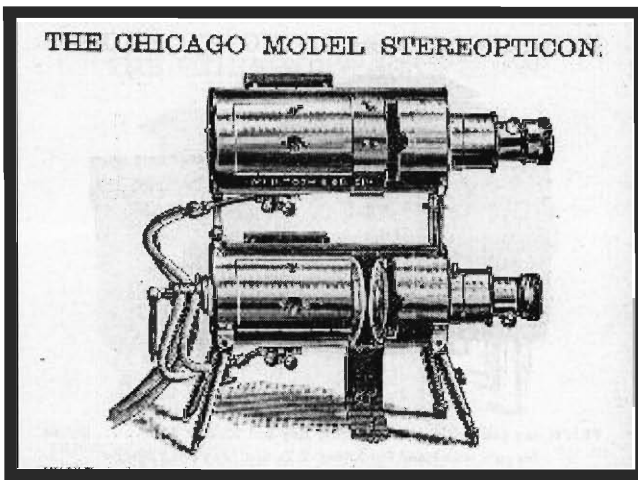


**Figure 3: General Magic Lantern Device**

differed in many ways. Some projectors were simple, single hole projectors that enlarged the slide proportionate to its distance from the screen or wall. The Projector would be powered by candle or gas light and project this light through a focal point where the slide was located (Figure 1). This was the

basic operation of all of the projectors. Other styles had lenses built into them with the ability to enlarge and focus without moving the projector. They also differed in some of the following ways: how the slides were inserted into them, how many projection lenses were present, and how the lighting was set up. The first projection units were actually developed in the late 1700’s, well before the first photography. These projectors would use glass slides that were hand painted. These slides quickly evolved to become long rectangles that contained four or five images showing a succession of images. These slides could then be used to create the effect of a moving image over a short three to five

second span of time. For the years that this technology was being used, it was largely impressive. One showman from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century used a projector that was on wheels, and projecting from behind the audience, to be able to better move the image while the still paintings were changing. One piece of a show that he put on had four or five still drawings, each in succession, showing a nun lifting and then bringing down a bloody knife. The projector would be moved forwards while this slide succession was being shown to give the audience the effect that the nun was coming towards them as the image grew (Fontanella Personal Interview). Around the mid 1800's slides evolved into film transparencies, printed directly from negatives and then loaded into a cartridge or carousel that would allow the performer to trigger the next slide. The speed at which the slides could be switched, as well as a larger number of lenses (Figure 2) being used allowed pictures to fade, overlap, and switch even quicker, created the ability for magic lanterns to show motion well before the dawn of motion pictures. The idea of motion



**Figure 4: Duel Magic Lantern circa 1880**

projection was around long before photography as we know it was ever achieved. In the 1920's, short three to five minute shows of a scene would be accomplished using thin painted screens with many lights placed behind them. The Performer could then switch certain lights on and others off

to create the movement throughout the painting. One such performance showed an avalanche rolling down a mountain. A main set of lights would enable the audience to

see the mountain scene, while other lesser lights would show parts of the avalanche and could be progressively lit to create movement (Fontanella).

Many of the projectors in Stoddard's time were gas lit. The brightness of the light controlled how a slide had to be set up. A fairly bright projector could project through a thin paper, while a dim projector would need a glass slide, most of which would need to be hand colored if color was required. The brightness also often controlled how far away from the screen the projector could be moved, and thus controlled the size to which the projection could be scaled. If a curved lens was present in the projector, the projector could magnify the image at a higher rate and allow the projector to be located closer to the front of the room. Stoddard would typically use a dual projector to allow him to fade one image into another instead of having a break between slides. This would be accomplished either with independent gas that could have the brightness adjusted manually, or with diaphragms that would open and close to cause the same effect. Either way, one projection would increase in intensity while the other decreased, thus causing the effect of the images fading together. At the time of Stoddard's lectures, a projector could either be manually fed, or run off of a cartridge. A cartridge allowed a smoother flow of slides, and easier organization. Because lectures were fairly well planned, a cartridge also offered the benefit of being able to have an ordered set of slides that never needed to be reordered. If the cartridge was dropped on a floor, or knocked around while traveling, there was a much slimmer chance of its causing a problem than if a stack of slides was put through the same treatment. A diagonal line could quickly be drawn down the length of the cartridge to show that the slides were in the correct order.

In the late 1800's, awhile after Stoddard turned the reins over to Holmes, motion pictures came into existence, and quickly gained popularity. Oscar B. Depue first met Burton Holmes while he was learning to be a projectionist. Holmes was seeking someone to operate a projector to display the slides that he had from an 1892 tour of Japan. Depue continued working with Holmes through much of his career. In 1896 the pair realized that motion pictures were quickly growing, and that this was a wonderful opportunity. In 1897 Depue set out to London to search for a motion picture camera for Holmes. He said that when he went to London, at this time the motion picture capital of the world, "I found little from which to chose, and the prices were exorbitant. I was forced to go to Paris to see what I could find there. The situation was almost as bad – with one exception. Mr. Leon Gaumont had a Demeny camera for 60-mm film – the only machine I could find in all of Paris... I was somewhat fearful of what I could do with this equipment, but nevertheless I purchased it and took the first train to Rome to join Mr. Holmes" (Depue 60). As Depue worked with Holmes, he slowly picked up the different techniques demanded by motion pictures. He states that it took him four or five film clips to figure out that he did not need some famous background to make a good movie, and that in fact, the main element was motion. His first few films would contain a beautiful building, but would last for half a minute before anything in the scenery moved. Throughout Holmes' years of giving lectures, the technology of motion pictures did not change extensively. The film quality improved as the years progressed and some small adjustments were made to technique, but the basic idea remained the same.

Each time one of these new media was introduced into the travel lectures, the lecture itself was transformed. Stoddard was able to embellish his descriptions and cover

broader topics because he did not have to describe the way the land looked, the way the people dressed, or any of a hundred other things that could be seen through his pictures. Holmes was able to introduce movement through time into his lectures with the use of motion pictures. He could show a Japanese dance to the crowd and they would have no question as to how it appeared. He could show film of almost any action, and save himself hours of description throughout a lecture, thus being able to inform the people of more about a country than either Taylor or Stoddard could. Each change in technology created a more extravagant lecture, and truly was instrumental in converting the travel lectures of Bayard Taylor into the world famous Burton Holmes travelogues.

## **Conclusion**

Advancements in projection technology were a leading factor in the development of the travelogue of the early 1900's from the travel lectures of the 1800's. New ways to project images and motion pictures, in better quality and more rapid succession than was previously available, allowed lecturers to change their highly educational talks into a form of entertainment, and provide their audience with a wider view of the lands in the same amount of time as that which was provided to early travel lecturers. While image projections allowed the audience to see lands that they had most likely only heard of, motion pictures allowed them to preview what was to be seen throughout the world. The lectures of Bayard Taylor, John Stoddard, and Burton Holmes are excellent examples of the advancement of these technologies. Their travel lectures evolved from mainly educational talks to highly entertaining visual presentations. Each lecturer represents a period in a time when projection technology was quickly emerging.

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- Worcester Spy. Dates as listed in Appendix A.
- Worcester Telegram. Dates as listed in Appendix A.



## Appendix A: Compiled Time Line of Lecture Dates

The following list is based on information found in previous IQP's, information from the private collection of Joseph Lemire, and research at Worcester Public library and other Worcester area Libraries. Some information is not included in this table, since some dates could not be confirmed in Worcester Newspapers for various reasons. Some lecture dates could not be confirmed if reviews were not found.

Dates of Lecture	Lecturer	Subject	Found Review
12/15/1854	Bayard Taylor		
02/07/1856	Bayard Taylor		
01/17/1861	Bayard Taylor		
01/28/1864	Bayard Taylor	Russia & the Russians (postponed until 2/11/1864)	X
12/31/1874	Bayard Taylor	Egypt	X
11/13/1879	Stoddard	Northern Spain	X
11/20/1879	Stoddard	Southern Spain	X
12/04/1879	Stoddard	Central Europe	
12/11/1879	Stoddard	Russia - St. Petersburg	X
12/18/1879	Stoddard	Russia - Moscow	X
11/04/1880	Stoddard	La Belle France	X
11/11/1880	Stoddard	Between Two Seas	X
11/18/1880	Stoddard	The passion Play of Ober Ammergau	X
12/01/1880	Stoddard	German Poets and Princes	X
12/09/1880	Stoddard	The Sultan's Paradise	
11/03/1881	Stoddard	A summer in Scotland	X
11/10/1881	Stoddard	Down the Danube	X
11/17/1881	Stoddard	Florence and Pisa	X
12/01/1881	Stoddard	Sicily and the Neapolitan Shore	X
12/10/1881	Stoddard	From Mars Hill to Mt. Olivet	X
10/26/1882	Stoddard	Netherlands	X
10/30/1882	Stoddard	French Castles	
11/09/1882	Stoddard	Switzerland	X

11/16/1882	Stoddard	London	X
11/23/1882	Stoddard	European Mosaics	X
11/06/1884	Stoddard	Through England with Charles Dickens	
01/02/1885	Stoddard	in France with Marie Antoinette	X
11/10/1885	Stoddard	Mary Queen of Scots	X
01/09/1890	Stoddard	Napoleon Bonaparte	
01/16/1890	Stoddard	Napoleon Bonaparte	X
01/21/1890	Stoddard	Berlin in 1889	X
01/16/1919	Burton Holmes	Victory Lectures with the "Yanks"	
01/23/1919	Burton Holmes	Victory Lectures with the "Yanks"	
01/30/1919	Burton Holmes	Victory Lectures with the "Yanks"	
02/06/1919	Burton Holmes	Victory Lectures with the "Yanks"	X
02/05/1914	Burton Holmes	Japan In Korea	X
02/12/1914	Burton Holmes	Panama	
01/13/1916	Burton Holmes	Florida	
01/20/1916	Burton Holmes	Down In Dixie	
01/27/1916	Burton Holmes	The Grand Canyon	
02/03/1916	Burton Holmes	The Panama Pacific Exposition	
02/10/1916	Burton Holmes	California	
02/19/1925	Burton Holmes	Rome	X
02/26/1925	Burton Holmes		
03/05/1925	Burton Holmes		
03/12/1925	Burton Holmes		
03/19/1925	Burton Holmes		
10/24/1927	Burton Holmes	Dizzy Days and Nights in Paris	X
01/09/1952	Burton Holmes	Northern Italy	

**YEAR NOT  
FOUND**

Fri Feb 11	Burton Holmes	Yellowstone National Park
Fri Feb 18	Burton Holmes	The Wonders of Thessaly
Tue Feb 22	Burton Holmes	More About Japan

Tue Jan 11     Burton  
                  Holmes     Cycling through Corsica

Thu Jan 9	Burton Holmes	West Indies
Thu Jan 16	Burton Holmes	Panama and The Suez Canal
Thu Jan 23	Burton Holmes	India Part 1
Thu Jan 30	Burton Holmes	India Part 2
Thu Feb 6	Burton Holmes	Burma and Ceylon

## **Appendix B: Index of the Private Collection of Joseph Lemire.**

- Announcement for Burton Holmes lectures being retold by other lecturers.
- Burton Holmes announcements for travelogues given at Mechanics Hall: various years and topics.
- December 23, 1992 Worcester Telegram & Gazette clipping “travelogues premiere in Mechanics Hall” mentioning Burton Holmes.
- Mechanics Hall Annual reports (most years from 1870-1952).
- Mechanics Hall Bylaws (various years).
- Mechanics Hall Travelogue seasons schedules and announcements: various years.
- Personal Correspondence with:
  - Andre DeLavarre
  - Chicago historical Society
  - Kenneth Richter Productions
  - Library of Congress: Motion picture, Broadcasting & Sound Division
  - Polly Lindi, Mechanics Hall Publicist
  - Professor Hanlan
  - Thayer Soule
  - University of California – Los Angeles
  - Worldwide productions LTD
- Printouts from Mechanics Hall travelogue database containing month, year, title, and lecturer.
- The Sunday Gentleman, Irving Wallace, Photocopies of sections pertaining to Burton Holmes

- Travel lecture announcements and advertisements for various lecturers who presented in the same years as did Burton Holmes.
- WPI IQPs relating to Mechanics Hall: Various.

### Appendix C: Index of Photocopies of Lecture Reviews

Page	Lecturer	Topic	Newspaper	Date
C1	Taylor	Russia and the Russians	Worc. Daily Spy	2/12/1864
C2	Taylor	Ancient Egypt	Worc. Daily Spy	1/1/1875
C3	Stoddard	Northern Spain	Worc. Daily Spy	11/14/1879
C4	Stoddard	Northern Spain	Worc. Telegram	11/14/1879
C5	Stoddard	Southern Spain	Worc. Daily Spy	11/21/1879
C6	Stoddard	Central Europe	Worc. Daily Spy	12/5/1879
C7	Stoddard	St. Petersburg	Worc. Daily Spy	12/12/1879
C8	Stoddard	Russia – Moscow	Worc. Daily Spy	12/19/1879
C9	Stoddard	Russia – Moscow	Worc. Telegram	12/19/1879
C10	Stoddard	Italy	Worc. Telegram	11/19/1880
C11	Stoddard	Neapolitan Shore	Worc. Daily Spy	12/2/1881
C12	Stoddard	European Mosaics	Worc. Telegram	11/24/1882
C13	Stoddard	Downfall of Napoleon	Worc. Telegram	1/17/1890
C14	Stoddard	Berlin	Worc. Telegram	1/22/1890
C15	Holmes	Japan in Korea	Worc. Telegram	2/6/1914
C16	Holmes	With the Yanks at the Front	Worc. Gazette	2/17/1919
C17	Holmes	Rome	Worc. Telegram	2/20/1925
C18	Holmes	Paris	Worc. Gazette	10/25/1927

Date refers to newspaper date. Lecture date is one day before newspaper date.

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BAYARD TAYLOR'S LECTURE.—The lecture by Mr. Taylor on Russia and the Russians, before the Lyceum course, last evening, attracted the largest attendance of the season, with the single exception of that by Mr. Gough. The lecture was of great interest, being philosophical in its character and giving a picture of the people of Russia as they are, correcting many mistaken ideas of them that are prevalent. Mr. Taylor described the three general races of which the population of Russia consists, with their hundred tribes, their complicated political organization, and their religion. Of the emperor he said he was a man among men; often to be seen walking in the streets alone, or driving his own carriage. He was, in the lecturer's estimation, the first sovereign in Europe, being honest, true, calm, clear-minded and firm, and not weak or intemperate as charged by his enemies. On the whole the lecture was of more than ordinary value, both in the amount of information and the interesting manner in which it was presented.

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## THE LECTURE SEASON.

Bayard Taylor on "Ancient Egypt"

The cold weather thinned out the usual Lyceum audience last evening, but Mechanics Hall was about two-thirds filled with an audience eager to greet Bayard Taylor and listen to his very interesting lecture on "Ancient Egypt." The lecturer appeared promptly, was warmly welcomed, and began by noting the fact mentioned by Wendell Phillips in one of his lectures, that most of the boasted discoveries of this age are really only re-discoveries of what was known to the forefathers. Civilization is older than we are willing to admit, and to form a just estimate of our own wisdom it is necessary to trace civilization backward. For this purpose he proposed to discourse of "Ancient Egypt." In the first place, he said, the country might claim to be especially set aside as the home of a favored race of men. A climate absolutely without storm, a watery highway extending the entire length, an ocean on the north, an impassable desert in the west, and only a narrow neck of land to connect it with Asia, truly no other people were ever so favored by nature for rapid growth in wealth and civilization, and so protected from invasion.

The first start of the ancient Egyptian civilization is buried in obscurity, but the estimated time must have been at least 10,000 years ago. Three centuries before Christ a history of the country was compiled from the ancient records, in which thirty-three dynasties are chronicled. The earliest of these dynasties of which any ruins have been found is the third, and these all testify that a long period of progress must have preceded.

One of the most wonderful things about this wonderful country is the loss and re-discovery of the ancient Egyptian alphabet. The lecturer then told of the finding of three inscriptions, side by side, one in Greek, from which it was learned that the inscriptions were a decree of the priests, in which it was decreed that the announcement should be made in the three different languages. Thus a key was found to the mysterious Egyptian Hieroglyphics, and patient research led to the discovery, first, that they were not arbitrary signs, but veritable letters, and that the alphabet contained 25 characters; and second, the great key, that the Coptic language is only a later and corrupted form of the ancient Egyptian. These famous discoveries were first published to the world in 1822. For some time after that, investigations were carried on at random, and it is only within the last ten years that intelligent investigation began. Eight years ago the German scholar, Lepsius, discovered another stone with inscriptions in three languages which proved conclusively

that the Hieroglyphics had been correctly interpreted.

Then came the great discoveries of the French scholar, Mariette, who discovered ancient Memphis, the oldest city of the world, and is now carrying on explorations there under the official patronage of the government, which have already resulted in the most valuable historic collection in the world. His discoveries have already not only proved that Menes, the first king, was a real person, but also that he was probably the inventor of the first written language. From the records latest discovered, Mariette estimates that Menes reigned about 5000 years before the Christian era. The astronomers of that time first divided the circle into 360 parts and they calculated the years not by moons, as the Hebrews did, but by the sun. They had no leap year, but calculated so nicely that they added a year once in 1460 years. According to the records of such accurate men as these must have been, the third dynasty must have begun about 4400 B. C., or more than 6000 years ago, and yet the paintings and carvings of these days appear as fresh as though painted yesterday. It is not generally known that in those early days woman was considered the equal of man. She was styled, in the inscriptions on the tombs, "the supreme mistress of the family," and the sons frequently took the mother's instead of the father's name. Women too sat on the throne, and all the records prove that the assertions of the woman suffragists of today that women have always been in a state of subjection, is glaringly false. The relics and the portraits of these early people show that they were a race of ladies and gentlemen, and that they had reached a state of civilization as high, if not higher, than our own. The age of Rameses has always been considered the age of the greatest progress in civilization, but the records of previous periods proves that the age of greatest progress was at least 2000 years earlier than the age of Rameses, and that during the period between the end of the tenth and the beginning of the eighteenth dynasties, there was a very marked falling off in civilization. During this period, and when the nation was weak by reason of internal dissensions, the shepherd race (unquestionably of Tartar origin), invaded the country.

The ancient mythology was based, like the Greek, on the forces of nature, and its highest type was the sun. Each God represented some force in nature and some animal was taken to typify it. This

naturally deteriorated into animal worship, but a people so far advanced as the Egyptians could not have worshipped the mere brutish element. The priests early adopted the policy of keeping the mysteries of their religion exclusively to themselves. Later, they became a powerful cast, deified their kings, and contributed very greatly to the final overthrow of the living. Their kings were deified while living. The Roman Emperors were deified after death. Later, kings were content to be called "kings by divine right." Later still, "kings by the grace of God," and in the future, perhaps not far distant, may be content to be called "kings by the will of the people." The time of Joseph's dwelling in Egypt is placed during the reign of one of the shepherd kings, not only because the chronology agrees, but because foreign kings would have been more likely to appoint a foreign ruler than the proud and haughty native kings, and because the Shepherd kings removed the capital to the ancient Zoar of the Bible. Other sure proofs are found of the captivity of the Hebrews and of their hardships while in Egypt, and it is now agreed that the son of Rameses must have been the Pharaoh of the Exodus. The fact that Moses was brought up in the shadow of the courts, and learned the Egyptian laws and the mysterious religious principles which were concealed by the priests, explains how these principles were embodied in his code of laws. But Moses freed himself from the grossness of the Egyptian religion, and raised himself to the belief in the one true Jehovah. Unquestionably the sacred literature of the ancient Egyptians was the model from which the form and style of the sacred writings of the Hebrews was taken, and the Hebrew culture was based on that of Egypt.

To that eastern corner of the Mediterranean we must turn for the basis of our laws, our sciences, our arts or religion. The fame of Greece and Rome is well known, but Egypt was the mother of them both. The cause of the decline of Egypt was unquestionable, because the people were tired of the work of progress. They cried out we are already far in advance of our forefathers and of our neighbors, the nation became conservative, tyrannical and dead. And so while Egypt instructs she also warns us. While her splendid civilization and achievements put to shame our self conceit, her history teaches us the danger of becoming so conservative as to sit idly down and perish while contemplating the glories of the dead past.



### **Pictures of Northern Spain.**

John L. Stoddard gave the opening lecture of his course, at Mechanics Hall, last night, to a large audience. He commanded the closest attention as he gave with animation and great fluency an account of some of the chief objects of interest to the traveler in the northern portion of Spain. The accompanying views, which were thrown upon a very large screen, are uncommonly fine, followed one after another in rapid succession. One would fade into another exactly at the proper second and just as it was needed to illustrate the lecture, which was nowhere broken by waits or moments of hesitation. It followed that the entertainment was one of unalloyed pleasure. Mr. Stoddard's enthusiastic, oftentimes poetic descriptions, accorded well with the wild scenery or ancient monuments which stimulated them. Starting from the watering place of Biarritz the audience were taken from the Bay of Biscay over the Pyrenees to the city of Burgos, whose cathedral was very fully described. A very minute description was given of the Escorial, that leviathan of architecture built by the gloomy and cruel bigot Philip II. on a most desolate site. Madrid, with its magnificent royal palace and splendid art gallery, the ancient city of Toledo and the lonely river Tagus, with no sound or sign of commerce upon it, all furnished the lecturer ample scope for his eloquence and his life-like illustrations. Next week he will find in southern Spain a yet more fruitful field.

## THE STODDARD COURSE.

### An Evening in Northern Spain.

Mr. John L. Stoddard opened his course of illustrated lectures,—“From Madrid to Moscow,” at Mechanics Hall, last evening, and was greeted by a large and interested audience. Acting on the theory that a necessary preliminary to a journey from Madrid to Moscow is to get to Madrid, he began the trip at Biarritz, a fashionable watering-place on the Bay of Biscay, on the boundary between France and Spain. Here were shown some beautiful marine views and pictures of a palatial summer residence of the Empress Eugenie. Then followed numerous views in the Pyrenees, showing closely crowded mountains, perilous ravines, and engineering triumphs in the construction of bridges, viaducts and tunnels for the railway, by which the traveler approaches Burgos, whose distant and near aspects were shown, together with its magnificent cathedral, whose twin towers are wonderful illustrations of gothic architecture in its extreme efflorescence.

Next came the Escorial, a monster palace of hewn granite, built by Phillip II., as a memento of the gridiron on which St. Lawrence was broiled. Its massive proportions, and the chilling experiences of a visit to its interior, were recited, and the audience were then advanced to Madrid, where the most conspicuous object was the magnificent palace built by Phillip IV., at a cost of over five billions of dollars. This was the subject of numerous gorgeous views, presenting the Prado, the statue of Cervantes and various fountains, and fragments of architecture. The picture gallery here, filled with rare gems from the old masters, the throne room and the corridor leading to the queen's bath, with its wealth of statuary, were all shown and described.

The next city, and the end of last evening's journey, was Toledo, whose situation, on almost inaccessible cliffs, around which the Tagus forms a natural moat, was shown in a series of charming views. Its Alcazar, the palace successively occupied by Gothic, Moorish and Christian rulers, and its beautiful cathedral, were shown from various points of view, and the gloominess of the city and the loneliness of the river were pointed out as the results of the repression which has everywhere in Spain prevented internal development and the establishment of commerce and industry. The last view, of the city bathed in the gorgeous coloring of a Spanish sunset, was hailed with applause.

Next Thursday evening the journey will include Cordova, Seville, Granada, and Gibraltar, and will be even more rich in illustration and interest than last evening's trip.

### **The Stoddard Lectures.**

J. L. Stoddard delivered the second of his entertaining and instructing lectures before a large audience in Mechanics Hall last evening, again captivating his hearers by his pleasing descriptions, well told incidents of travel, and beautiful views, as he took them through southern Spain, making his principal stopping places Seville, Cordova and Grenada. These historically romantic cities, with their varied and irresistible attractions, were, by the aid of the beautiful views, placed before the audience, as they cannot be placed by a mind picture, no matter how brilliant it may be, and a lasting impression of their vastness and elaborateness left on the minds of those who heard the descriptions and saw the views of the places described. Mr. Stoddard opened the lecture by a brief reference to the natural beauties of the south of Spain, saying that in the month of May, when he saw them, the fields could only be compared to carpets of rubies and golden flowers. The discomforts to which the traveler by rail must submit were just touched upon in getting to Seville, where some little time was spent in visiting the Moorish mosque, after which Cordova and Grenada were visited, particular attention being paid to explaining the Alhambra. In the course of the journey the audience witnessed a Spanish bull fight, which was graphically described as its various features were presented. At the rock of Gibraltar the audience will rest till Dec. 4th, when they will gather, under Mr. Stoddard's guidance, "Souvenirs of Central Europe."

## THE STODDARD LECTURES.

### Souvenirs of Central Europe.

Mr. John L. Stoddard gave the third of his course of lectures on European travel in Mechanics Hall last evening before a large and well-pleased audience. His subject was "Souvenirs of Central Europe," and the evening's journey included a series of vignettes of foreign travel joined by a thread of description.

Beginning with Baden-Baden, the once famous gambling resort, the spectators of the excellent stereopticon views were taken in turn to the beautiful sights of Heidelberg, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Brussels and Fontainebleau. At Baden-Baden was shown first the railroad station and the surrounding village, as it lay in a picturesque position by the river and mountains. Among the many beautiful pictures that were presented of scenes in and around this fashionable Mecca of Europe was one which deserves something more than a casual reference. The speaker in describing "The cascades of Gerolstein," in the environs of the Black Forest, alluded to the beautiful legends of the fairy forms, which nightly peopled the cascade, that as seen upon the canvas came tumbling and laughing from the depths of the forest. At this point the picture slowly faded from view, the cascade changing gradually into one of the very mermaids of which the lecturer spoke.

The villa of the Empress, and the hotel of Mr. Mesmer, who is the host of royalty during its summer visit, were shown. The building with more historic associations than any other, was the old gaming-house, which is now transformed into a library and reading-room. At the entrance of one of the buildings of Baden-Baden, which was shown, was a bust of Emperor William, made from a block of marble which was sent from Paros to Rome nineteen hundred years ago for the purpose of making a bust for the Emperor Augustus. Not being used for that (or some reason, it remained to be sculptured into the likeness of the leader of the nation which in olden times proved the invincible foe of the Romans.

Heidelberg was the next objective point, and here was visited the famous castle bearing the name of the town, the German Alhambra, now fast going to ruin. The different interior and exterior views of the castle were described with the vividness of an eye-witness, and as almost every rock and ruin was invested with some historic importance, the lecturer found a broad book of interesting reminiscences. Passing through the canals of Amsterdam, overhung with quaint Dutch houses, and merely glancing at the dykes and windmills of Holland, the audience found themselves upon the quays of Antwerp, a city sacred to the memory of Rubens. Here visits were paid in rapid succession to "The House of Charles V," "The Home of Rubens," "The Cathedral," and the grand "Bourse." After a tour of Brussels, the miniature Paris, a halt was made at Fontainebleau, around whose park and palace cling memories of departed sovereigns, and with the views of the departments of Napoleon and Josephine came many historic details. The mention of Napoleon naturally suggested Waterloo, and a flying visit was made to the field of Wellington's triumph; here, again, the facts and data of history were rendered palatable by the photographer's art, and the falling fortunes of the conquered Emperor were followed back to the "Stajrens" and court yard of Aisle in the palace of Fontainebleau, where Napoleon bade a sad farewell to the shattered remnants of his Old Guard.

Mr. Stoddard delivered his fourth lecture before a large audience, at Mechanics Hall, last evening, confining himself to St. Petersburg. Beautiful views of the churches, streets, bridges, and palaces of the czar were shown, the lecturer not only showing his audience the exteriors, but in many cases the interiors, with their elaborate decorations and works of art to be found in the city, the plan of which Peter the Great conceived and executed at an enormous cost, both in money and human lives. Next week comes the last lecture in the course, in which Nihilism will be treated at some length, in connection with Moscow.

## THE STODDARD COURSE.

### A Brilliant and Interesting Closing Lecture.

The final lecture in the series which Mr. John L. Stoddard has been giving in Mechanics Hall, upon European travel, took place last evening. A very large audience was present, nearly filling the hall. The subject of this lecture was "Russia—Moscow."

Before presenting the stereopticon views, which form the basis of these lectures, the speaker mentioned briefly the causes and present aspect of Russian Nihilism. What, the speaker asked, does this word of ominous import mean? Throughout this great empire, which comprises one-tenth of "the terrestrial surface of the globe," one common feeling pervades the people—a feeling of discontent with existing affairs. The Nihilists represent this discontent; they hold that there is nothing in the present structure of society worth preserving. There is good reason for this discontent. Every department of the government is filled with corruption. The emancipated serfs are as badly off as the great landowners. Their emancipation has transferred them from one tyranny to another. They are placed in the communistic villages which are loaded with heavy debts, and pay exorbitant land taxes, and where everything they earn goes into the common stock. Almost nothing is paid by the government for education. Ninety-five per cent. of the population cannot read and write.

The oppressions still heaped upon the Poles were described. The government, according to the testimony of our Minister, Mr. Jewell, is striving to force a great religious sect, allied to the Roman Catholics, into the Greek Church. Terrible outrages are perpetrated. Thirty peasants were recently killed in one village. Merciless whippings are frequently resorted to, women and children being among the victims of the lash, while the fields are ravished by Cossacks and the hard working peasants reduced to penury.

No Russian can travel in a foreign country without the permission of his government. The exponents of the prevailing discontent are terribly punished. A Professor, a historical writer, was recently forbidden to continue his lectures on account of his liberal opinions, and more than 600 university students have been exiled to Siberia for the same reason. The mortality in Russian prisons on account of cruel treatment is extreme. The horrors of the journey of the exiles to the land of banishment were depicted. The great mass of these sufferers are political prisoners—students, professors, philosophers, poets, even fair young girls, merely suspected of hostility to the government, and who frequently have been accorded no fair trial.

Doubtless many violent and terrible deeds are committed by extreme Nihilists, but such deeds should be looked upon in the framework of their own dark surroundings. Six hundred of the privileged class of Russia have recently been sentenced to Siberia without trial. These banishments are four or five times as numerous under the present Czar as under his predecessor. There are two divisions of Nihilists—one moderate, seeking liberty without force or violence, the other ready to use pistol and dagger in the same cause. Nihilism is not dying out; it is growing. The time will come when Russia will be compelled into a course of justice and mercy.

After this prelude, a series of views of the city of Moscow were presented and described, including the general aspect of the city, and many of its churches, princely residences, and arched gateways. Three views of the church of St. Basil were especially beautiful. The close was a series of dissolving and changing views of the burning of Moscow, culminating in one in which the shade of Napoleon appeared in the smoke and flames of the doomed city.

### The Stoddard Lectures.

The closing lecture in the Stoddard course was given at Mechanics Hall last evening, the subject being Moscow, with a nihilist accompaniment. The course has been one of the most popular ever given in this city, and has combined instruction with entertainment. His account of the nihilists was quite interesting. Without attempting to theorize on the origin of a sect which is shrouded in mystery, he considered it as undoubtedly the outgrowth of the extended feeling of discontent which pervades all classes from the frozen harbor of Archangel to the shores of the Caspian sea. Among the causes of the prevailing discontent is the universal corruption of government officials, a state of things of which we have seen a miniature in New York under Tweed. The serfs were freed from the tyranny of one master only to be subject to the tyranny of many. In Russia no man can travel without a passport from the government, and one instance was narrated where the property of a Russian nobleman was confiscated because he happened to be sick and die in Italy a few weeks after his year's leave of absence had expired. The speaker described the cruelty practised upon the Siberian exiles who are compelled to work in the mines. The strongest do not survive more than ten years, and generally not more than four years. The nihilists are divided into two great parties—the conservative and the radical. The conservatives favor the gradual reformation of the government by peaceable means; the radicals are for revolution at any cost. Nihilism is the protest of a nation goaded to desperation by the tyranny of its rulers. Turning from nihilism and the political state of the country, Mr. Stoddard devoted the remainder of his lecture to Moscow, the ancient capital of Muscovy, which he described as standing on the border land between the Orient and the Occident, and partaking of the barbarism of the east and the civilization of the west. The audience was invited to inspect the churches, monasteries, and shrines of the city, and to visit the apartments in the royal palaces. An amusing account of a night in a Russian hotel was given, and the speaker won the sympathy of some of his hearers who have been unfortunate in their hotel accommodations. Views were given of the great bell, the Church of St. Basil, Ivan's Tower, and the various buildings included in the Kremlin. The views of the burning of Moscow were among the finest shown, and the descriptions were full of interest, the passages in which allusion was made to Napoleon's fall being received with marked attention.

### The Stoddard Lectures.

The third of the popular Stoddard lectures was given at Mechanics Hall last evening, the hall being crowded, and Mr. Stoddard again commanding the admiration of his hearers by the excellence of his descriptions, and his captivating flow of language. While "The Passion Play" was announced as the principal feature of the evening's lecture, the lecturer took time to speak of the charming lake scenery of Italy, and the many difficulties encountered in reaching Ober Ammergau. Considerable time was spent on the shores of Lake Como, among the charming villas and exquisite landscapes, brief descriptions being given of some of the more prominent scenes in Bellagio, and Serbelloni, after which Lake Maggiore and its majestic environment, views of which by daylight and moonlight were presented. The passage across the Alps was hurriedly made, only the snow capped peaks rising prominently near the pass being shown previous to a visit to the charmingly interesting surroundings of Lake Constance, the castle of Arenberg, the birthplace of Napoleon III, the apartments of Hortense, and the pavilion and garden of Eugenie, many interesting incidents being related in connection with the different localities and the personages who have made them famous equally with their beautiful surroundings. A brief account of the appearance of the village of Ober Ammergau, with its people and houses and every day scenes, led up to the "Passion Play" itself, which was described in a very interesting manner, the lecturer stating that it was the grandest and most inspiring representation he had ever seen upon the stage, and, contrary to the general belief, artistically as well as historically meritorious, the participants being among the most accomplished actors the lecturer had ever seen, and presenting the different characters in a thoroughly artistic manner. The lecturer stated that for the purpose of correcting a false impression, he would state that those participating in the play are wood carvers, who have also been trained all their lives to the stage—educated actors who, in addition to the "Passion Play," study the works of other writers, and enact their most celebrated plays. The village of Ober Ammergau is of itself a most interesting place, aside from the interest attaching to it from the "Passion Play," which has given the village a world wide celebrity. The condensation of the description of a 17-act play, lasting all day into about half the night, occupied by an evening's lecture, is no easy task, but Mr. Stoddard, by his entertaining running description, handsome illustrations, and personal reminiscences of those sustaining the principal characters, succeeds admirably in giving his audience an excellent general idea of the work and how it is presented.



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Mr. Stoddard took his audience through Sicily and along the Neapolitan shore last evening, showing them an excellent variety of every day scenes, and relating incidents of his experience with the hotels, cab drivers and macaroni eaters. His description of Vesuvius, *Ætna* and Pompeii were followed with the closest attention, the accompanying views showing very clearly many prominent points of interest. The closing lecture next week will be "From Mars' Hill to Mt. Olivet."

### THE STODDARD LECTURES.

The last of the series of lectures in the Stoddard course was given in Mechanics Hall last evening to a good-sized audience, the lecturer taking for his subject "European Mosaics." His descriptions were very interesting, and the views shown were those of the home of so many English sovereigns, the historical Windsor Castle and its surrounding grounds, where for many years have dwelt the kings of England. France was then visited, and the various resting places of the bones of the families of nobility of that country were shown. The famous and wonderful St. Gothard tunnel was next visited, and the traveler taken through the different portions of this great roadway from one country to another, a stop being made at the Devil's bridge, made famous by a terrible battle years ago, for a close examination of that battle field in the heart of the Alps. The audience were then taken through Switzerland, that land of wondrous scenery, and thence on to Germany, where the Cologne Cathedral and other places were visited. The views were excellent, and the lecture one of peculiar interest.

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## THE CRITERION COURSE.

### John L. Stoddard's Lecture on the Downfall of Napoleon.

The sixth entertainment of the Criterion course was given at Mechanics hall, last night, when John L. Stoddard, who has often before faced Worcester audiences, gave the second of his series of two lectures on Napoleon, giving the downfall of the emperor.

Mr. Stoddard's lecture was one of the finest ever given by him in this city, and vividly portrayed the last scenes in the life of the Corsican. The greater part of the lecture was spent on the life of Napoleon at St. Helena. The character and self-sacrificing qualities of Josephine were spoken of, and also her devotion to Napoleon. Views of the home of the emperor at St. Helena were given, and the pathetic story of his life there told.

## IN BERLIN.

### John L. Stoddard's Lecture in the Criterion Course.

"Berlin in Eighteen Hundred and Eighty-nine" was the subject of John L. Stoddard's lecture in the Criterion course, at Mechanics hall, last evening.

The lecturer, after a brief introduction, took his audience at once into the German capital and there kept them for almost an hour and a half, traveling through the magnificent streets, looking in upon the abodes of royalty and talking about the kaiser and the "iron chancellor."

The lecturer described effectively the manner in which the cabmen of Berlin are kept in control. He compared them with American hackmen, saying that they are to the latter as the domesticated dog is to the wolf. He also spoke of the horse cars and the manner of taking fares, all barbarous gongs, and pocket pistol bell punches being dispensed with.

The famous "Unter den Linden," one of the celebrated streets of the world, he described and illustrated interestingly. He referred to the statuary, of which this street has more than any other in the world, and noted the fact that all are military figures. Indeed, the great controlling sentiment of the Berliners pertains to the military and the war.

The buildings on Unter den Linden, the museum, the opera house, the royal theater, the kaiser's palace and other buildings, were described, then the lecturer had something to say about Kaiser William, Frederick the noble, the monarch of 90 days and the new kaiser. He drew an especially beautiful picture of the late Frederick's life and work, so soon cut off, and of his loving intimacy with and trust in his accomplished wife. The arrogant and cold-hearted Bismarck he also considered, and gave some of the details of his antagonism for Frederick the noble.

## HOLMES LECTURE

Continues Travelogs by Giving "Japan in Korea"

"Japan in Korea" was the title of a fine illustrated talk by Burton Holmes as a continuance of his travelogs in Worcester last night. The hall contained one of the largest audiences seen at the travelogs.

From Peking to Seoul by rail the travelers by the eye went viewing finely colored pictures, the color work by Miss Helen E. Stevenson, and the motion pictures and projecting being the work of Oscar B. Depue.

The modernizing of Manchuria, scenes at Manchurian railway stations, arrivals and departures at Mukden, Japanese railway enterprise in Manchuria, were seen with great interest, followed by views from Mukden across the Yalu to Korea. Approaching Korea from Japan came next with the amazing teamwork performance of the myriad Japanese coal passers coaling a giant liner in the harbor of Nagasaki.

Next views shown were scenes in Fusan, and overland by rail, singular city of Seoul, in the ocean capital, the city of Jeijo and Kee Ho. The Korean hat was described at length by Mr. Holmes and the various kinds worn by the people were looked upon as queer things in general.

The women in green claimed much attention by the women as well as the men, as did the ghostly dances which were far different than the up-to-date tango movements exhibited.

The little West Gate, the main street, depicting a moving tramorama from an electric car, passing through, came next in the series of moving pictures.

Japan, the bank of Korea, paving reform, the patient people, boys and men, marriage customs, all were shown and explained interestingly, as were the tragedies of the country, the lotus pond, the vacant throne, old superstitions and the life of today in part two.

Fanciful hat and footwear also were odd, as well as the stride and sports of the idle yangban and old-time archery, how the other half of the world works, and the queer labor customs of the Koreans, the steamless pile driver and the nine-man shovel, the chigiboy, human packhorses and paper houses, heating problems, Korean inventions, popular superstitions, royal and imperial tombs and the astounding funeral procession of the mother of the emperor.

The singing girls also claimed much attention, as did the curious dances, the old imperial corps de ballet and the remarkable motion picture taken from a height above Chemulpo harbor, showing the ebb and the flow of the tide.

The tidal movements of two days were made perceptible to the observer, who saw in less than four minutes the changes wrought in the aspect of the estuary and harbor by the coming and going of the tidal waves. This was called the tide of fortune in Korea.

## BURTON HOLMES HAS CAPACITY AUDIENCE

Mechanics hall seldom sees so large an audience as that gathered there last night for the fourth of the season's travels, by Burton Holmes, noted lecturer and globetrotter. Every chair was filled and there were even stragglers along the sides of the hall, eager to hear and to see with their own eyes what Mr. Holmes saw "With the Yanks at the front."

It was a splendid climax to the preceding three travels, and frequent and enthusiastic plaudits proved that Mr. Holmes' fellow travelers via the picture route, were thoroly interested in the entire subject. The lecture was an inclusive one for Mr. Holmes began logically at the very beginning of the front. This, from the viewpoint of America, he explained, was the well-riiled waves of Britannia, for it was thro' the splendid accomplishments of the British fleet that this country was saved from Hun invasion, even before the United States came into the war.

Splendid pictures of aerial activities, taken over and near Long Island and New York city, were shown preceding the scheduled program, and thoroly appealed to every American in the house.

After passing a day, condensed into a few minutes, with the United States submarines chasers, off the south coast of England, seeing the explosion of several depth bombs and the results on the fish in that section of the water, Mr. Holmes took his audience once again across the channel into France. Vimy ridge, that monument of British bravery, was the first part of the land front visited, but other interesting spots now of historical fame, came in quick succession. There was a glimpse also of the French celebration of July 11, fine pictures of Gen. John J. Pershing and of Marshal Joffre, and other heroes, both French and American.

Of much interest were some splendid pictures that Mr. Holmes had of the Salvation army workers in France, the busy Salvation army hussies, their canteens so close behind the front, and their making of pies by the hundreds and doughnuts by the thousands, and the enjoyment of the Sammies of all these culinary efforts.

While Mr. Holmes' insurance company required him to maintain the comparatively safe distance of 10 miles behind the front, he one day found himself in one of the front line trenches, and some of the interesting pictures of last night showed this portion of the front and many sections of the surrounding landscape; even a glimpse into the Rhine valley was vouchsafed from this spot overlooking Germany.

The value of these travels can hardly be overlooked, for they bring to the average American citizen a realization of the destruction worked by the Hun murderer, that could never be gained from mere words. The pictures are proof of what has been told and printed before, and impress the public better than anything could, with the fact that the peoples of these devastated areas still need all the sympathy and help that a more fortunate nation can offer. At the close of his lecture Mr. Holmes was approached in the green room of Mechanics hall and personally thanked for the message that he is instrumental in spreading throught America.

While none of the pictures showed the horrible or bloody phases of the war at the front, many of them showed the batteries in action, Mr. Holmes leaving the effects of the deadly explosives to the imagination of his audience.

The next travelog will take the public "With the Yanks in Italy" and this is said to be the most picturesque and spectacular of the entire series. One reason for this may be that the Italian censors were not so strict as those of England and France.

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## BURTON HOLMES STARTS SERIES OF TRAVELOGUES

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Burton Holmes opened his series of travelogues at Mechanics hall last night, before a filled house, with a lecture on Rome. He showed moving pictures and colored still views. It was Mr. Holmes' first lecture in Worcester after several years absence and his appearance was the signal for a burst of applause.

He carried his audience through the Eternal City, alluding at various times to the Holy Year celebration this year. Pictures of the ancient Roman ruins formed a part of the entertainment.

Other lectures, on Thursday nights, will include a trip through the Italian Alps, through the Riviera and one on Czecho-Slovakia.

# HOLMES GIVES PARIS LECTURE

## Famous Traveler's Audience In- cludes Many Legionnaires Who Recently Returned

Burton Holmes conducted a cruise through Paris last night to the edification and entertainment of a group of Worcester "tourists" in Mechanics hall. He was advertised to give an illustrated lecture combining "Dizzy Days and Nights in Paris," but his lecture last evening was confined to the "Dizzy Days," the night end of the lecture to be given during the first week in December, the exact date to be announced later.

Mr. Holmes has a graphic way of picking out the most picturesque and appealing in his travel talks and Paris was no exception. With the aid of color slides and moving pictures he took his audience overseas and unfolded page after page in the life of the historic French city in which so much of the grandeur and art of the world is found.

His audience last night included many American Legion members who recently visited Paris with the Second A. E. F. and others who have had the opportunity of traveling abroad and took this means of refreshing their memories on some of the less frequented parts of the world renowned city.



## **Appendix D: Possibilities for Expansion through Future IQPs**

The following are topics that could be further explored as future IQPs, or Sufficiencies.

All of these have further information available that could not be included in the scope of this IQP, and could effectively be developed into independent projects.

- Bayard Taylor.
- Burton Holmes.
- John Stoddard.
- Lecturers after Burton Holmes.
- Lecturers before Bayard Taylor.
- The Decline of Travelogues at Mechanics Hall.
- The New Travelogue (home slide shows and their difference from the great travel lecturers).
- The replacement of the travelogue (Internet? Renting travel tapes? Just traveling?).
- Many other subjects that are thinly covered in this IQP.