

South Park Chautauqua

GROUNDS AND OFFICES:
CORNER GARFIELD BOULEVARD AND WASHINGTON PARK.

REFERENCE:
ATLAS NATIONAL BANK,
CHICAGO.

Chicago, June 5, 1893. 189

Rev. W. K. Beans, Superintendent.

Judge Albion W. Tourgee,

Dear Sir,--

In my telegram of yesterday I stated very briefly the condition of things with us. In the inauguration of our enterprise, we had every encouragement and promise of success, but the failure of fulfillment proves that one cannot always go by precedent, or govern one's self by promising indications.

Our opening speaker, Dr. T. De Witt Talmage, was exceedingly expensive, and we spent a large amount of money in advertising him, and our enterprise and its opening was certainly put before the people in the very best possible manner. The result was that he talked to empty seats. The succeeding attractions, all of them strong enough to draw overflowing houses at any other place than Chicago, proved dismal failures, and we have lost so much money on the promotion, the opening and the progress of our enterprise as far as it went, that we are compelled to shut down, being unable to meet our obligations. We sincerely regret the turn affairs have taken, not only for the great pecuniary loss we have suffered, but as well on account of the disappointment we feel in having an institution fail which intended presenting a program with speakers so well known and so talented.

We are satisfied from Chicagoans' lack of interest in Talmage, that as great inattention would be shown to succeeding speakers. Talmage spoke to the smallest crowd that he has addressed in twenty-five years, and the only conclusion is that the World's Fair has so completely absorbed the people's interest as to leave none for outside

J. L. TAIT, PRESIDENT.
V. H. BURGHOR, VICE-PRESIDENT.

SEASON 1893.

J. H. ALDEN, TREASURER.
GALEN L. TAIT, SECRETARY.

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attractions, however worthy they may be. I will return at the earliest opportunity the cut ^{to enter account} you so kindly loaned us. We had gone to the expense of getting up a thirty-two page program, and had printed 20,000 copies, all of which are now on our hands.

With deep regrets in the abandonment of a program, on which we felt honored to have your name appear, and hoping that it will not seriously inconvenience you, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Galen L. Tait
Secretary.