

edge. Among his papers are found exhaustive scientific discussions of the Mississippi River and the redemption of the alluvial lands of the great delta from inundations. He gave careful attention to hydraulic engineering, and in the South-west was one of the most intelligent and attractive writers upon that science. Embracing what is known as the "out-let theory," he advocated it with singular ability and persistency.

He had a genius for invention. Had his life been devoted to architecture, his fame would have been sung in the "frozen music" of some St. Paul's or St. Peter's, or other product of his brain. If to engineering, some Suez Canal or St. Louis Bridge would have connected his name with the eternities. Possibly a half-dozen or more models of his are in the Patent Office at Washington. He invented a cotton-press which is regarded as among the best, and a cotton delinter, which he was perfecting at the time of his death, and which might have given him large wealth.

In his earlier ministry he prepared an Astronomical Atlas and wrote an accompanying volume of nearly two hundred pages, which bore the modest title of "Key to Marshall's Astronomical Atlas." The atlas was ingenious and attractive, and his book evidences accurate acquaintance with the latest developments and discoveries of the beautiful science. Scientific professors commended it as a valuable contribution. Prof. Maury, Superintendent of the Observatory at Washington, D. C., wrote to the author: "I have placed it in the library of the Observatory as a valuable acquisition and elegant ornament, and hope the deserved success will reward your enterprise." Prof. Mitchell, a distinguished astronomer, said: "For popular purposes we have seen nothing better calculated to attract, to interest, and instruct. Great ingenuity and taste have been displayed by the author of the design."

The following concluding paragraphs from the "Key" disclose the reverent purpose of the author and give a fair specimen of his glowing eloquence:

“The heavens deserve our regard: their undecaying urns of fire were not kindled merely to light our pathway to the grave. Nor do the spheres sound their rich tones of music as the funeral marches of death. Every star shines with luster pathetic of the riches of glory which await us in a future state. They betoken the exhaustless affluence of God, and impart immense emphasis to the words of revelation, which inform us that ‘Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.’ Go, look upon the heavens, the parchment on which the King Eternal has recorded his glorious name in characters of undying beauty; pause before the high chancel of the universe—let your heart feel the inspiring influence of the awful ministry of its light—and bid your spirit join in the general tribute of homage to its invisible Sovereign and Author.”

Dr. Marshall’s “hobby”—if so versatile and fertile a genius can be said to have a “hobby,” was a large, endowed weekly newspaper for the whole Church at a nominal price. In its behalf he addressed memorials to the General Conference, wrote articles and pamphlets, and made many an able argument. As part of this plan he was an earnest advocate of tract writing and distribution, and thereby did the Church invaluable service.

Though a native of Maine, Dr. Marshall was an intense Southerner in his convictions and attachments. To every political principle contended for by Southern statesmen he subscribed most honestly and ardently. And no half-hearted loyalty did he manifest in their support. Long before the argument issued in the conflict of arms, he delivered addresses and published articles in favor of Southern school-books, home education, and, as far as possible, agricultural and commercial independence. As sincerely as he believed in the doctrines of the Bible did he have faith in the righteousness of the Southern cause. His confidence in its final triumph partook of the sublime. Writing from