

SCIENCE

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FRIDAY, MAY 8, 1903.

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THE ENDOWMENT OF ASTRONOMICAL RESEARCH.

THE unexampled prosperity of the United States, during the past few years, has given it the industrial supremacy of the world in many departments. A similar advance is to be expected in its scientific progress, especially in astronomy, if equal skill is shown in organization and development. The vast fortunes now being accumulated must, during the next few years, lead to gifts and endowments on a scale unparalleled in the past. It is not an easy matter to make large gifts wisely, and probably many of the most brilliant men in the country, having amassed large fortunes, are now trying to decide how they can bestow them to the best advantage. To establish a university of the highest grade a large sum of money is required. For instance, Harvard for many years has had an annual income exceeding a million dollars. To duplicate