

MERCIES OF THE LORD.

SERMON BY THE REV. T. DE WITT TALMAGE, SUNDAY, NOV. 29.

God Has Been Good to the People During the Year Closed by Thanksgiving Day—Let All the Creatures of the Earth Praise the Lord.

BROOKLYN, Nov. 29.—Dr. Talmage's sermon this morning had a distinctly Thanksgiving character. The appearance of the "Tabernacle" was in keeping with it. The doctor's text was taken from Psalm cxlviii, 10, 12 and 13.

What a scene it was when last Thursday, at the call of the president and governors, this nation assembled to chant the praises of God. But the day was too short to celebrate the divine goodness of such a year. The sun did not rise over Brooklyn until one minute before seven o'clock that morning, and it set four o'clock and thirty-five minutes that evening.

By a sublime egotism man has come to appropriate this world to himself, when the fact is that our race is in a small minority. The instances of human life, as compared with the instances of animal life, are not one to a million.

Although nature is out of joint, yet even in its disruption I am surprised to find the almost universal happiness of the animal creation. On a summer day, when the air and the grass are most populous with life, you will not hear a sound of distress unless, perchance, a heartless schoolboy has robbed a bird's nest, or a hunter has broken a bird's wing, or a postman has been robbed of a lamb and there goes up a bleating from the rocks.

The whole earth is filled with animal delight—joy feathered and scaled and horned and hooped. The squirrel chatters; the frog croaks; the squirrel chatters; the quail whistles; the lark carols; the whale spouts it. The snail, the rhinoceros, the grizzly bear, the toad, the wisp, the spider, the shellfish have their homely delights—joy as great to them as our own.

The worm squirming through the sod turned up plowshare, and the ants racking up and down the hillock are happy by day and happy by night.

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the field. The wild asses quench their thirst.

Amid the thunders of Sinai God uttered the rights of cattle and said that they should have a Sabbath. "Thou shalt not do any work, thou nor thy cattle." He declared with infinite emphasis that the ox on the threshing floor should have the privilege of eating some of the grain as he trod it out, and muzzling was forbidden. If young birds were taken from the nest for food, the despoiler's life depended on the mother going free. God would not let the mother bird suffer in one day the loss of her young and her own liberty.

Why did God make all these, and why make them so happy? How account for all this singing and dancing and frisking amid the irrational creation? Why this heaven for the animalcule in a dewdrop? Why for the condor a throne on Chimborazo? Why the glitter of the phosphorus in the ship's wake on the sea, which is said to be only the frolic of millions of insects. Why perpetual chanting of so many voices from the irradiated creases in earth and air and ocean—beasts and all things creeping things and flying fowl, permitted to join in the praise that goes up from seraph and archangel? Only one solution, one explanation, one answer—God is good.

I take a step higher, and notice the adaptation of the world to the comfort and happiness of man. The sixth day of creation had arrived. The palace of the world was made, but there was no king to live in it. Leviathan ruled the deep; the eagle the air; the lion the field; but where was the scepter which should rule all? A new style of being was created. Heaven and earth were represented in his nature. His body from the earth beneath; his soul from the heaven above. The one reminding him of his origin, the other speaking of his destiny—himself the connecting link between the animal creation and angelic intelligence.

In him a strange commingling of the temporal and eternal, the finite and the infinite, dust and glory. The earth for his floor and heaven for his roof; God for his father, eternally his life-giver.

The Christian saint, gazing upon the conformation of the human body, exclaims, "Fearfully and wonderfully made." No embroidery so elaborate, no gauze so delicate, no color so exquisite, no mechanism so graceful, no handiwork so divine. So quietly and mysteriously does the human body perform its functions that it was not until five thousand years after the creation of the race that the circulation of the blood was discovered; and though anatomists of all creeds and ages have been so long exploring this mode of life, they have only begun to understand it.

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up in the incomprehensible and lost in God.

In reason and understanding, man is alone. The ox surpasses him in strength, the antelope in speed, the bound in keenness of nostril, the eagle in far reaching sight, the rabbit in quickness of hearing, the honey bee in delicacy of tongue, the spider in fineness of touch. Man's power, therefore, consisteth not in what he can lift, or how fast he can run, or how strong a wrestler he can throw—for in these respects the ox, the ostrich and the hyena are his superiors—but by his reason he comes forth to rule all; through his ingenious contrivance to outrun, outlive, outwrestle, outswim, outsoar, outdo.

At his all conquering deers the forest that had stood for ages steps aside to let him build his cabin and cultivate his farm. The sea, which raged and foamed upon the race has become a crystal pathway for commerce to march on. The thunder cloud that slept lazily above the mountain is made to come down and carry mail bags. Man, dissatisfied with his slowness of advancement, shouted out the "Come and draw." "Come and help!" And the answer, "Come, we come," and they joined hands—the fire and the water—and the shuttles fly, and the rail train rattles on, and the steamship comes coughing, panting, flaming across the deep.

I take a step higher and look at man's moral nature. Made in the image of God, Vast capacity for enjoyment, capable at first of eternal joy, and the recuperative force of his original felicity; faculties that may blossom and bear fruit inexhaustibly. Immortality written upon every capacity; a soul destined to range in unlimited spheres of activity long after the world has passed on ash and dust. The solar system shall have snapped its axle, and the stars shall, in their courses, fought against Sisera, shall have been slain and buried amid the toiling thunders of the last day.

You see that God has adapted everything to our comfort and advantage. Pleasant things for the palate; music for the ear; beauty for the eye; strength for the arm; kindred for our affection; poetry for our taste; religion for our soul. We are put in a garden, and told that from all the trees we may eat except here and there one. He gives the sun to shine on, and the waters to refresh us, and food to sustain us, and the herbs and vegetables to us; and the sick, and the forests lumber when we would build a house or cross the water in a ship.

The rocks are transported for our foundation, and metals returned for our currency, and wild beasts must give us food, and the mountains must be tunneled to let us pass, and the stars come up in our net, and the birds of the air drop at the flash of our guns, and the cattle on a thousand hills come down to give us meat. For us the peach orchards bend down their fruit and the vines of the vineyard cluster to give us refreshment. To feed us, and refresh our intellect, the fish of the sea come up in our net, and the birds of the air drop at the flash of our guns, and the cattle on a thousand hills come down to give us meat.

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heart would be stout, and blood would be free, and the right of men to worship God according to the dictates of their consciences would be contested at the point of the bayonet, and with blood flowing up the bits of the horse's bridles.

For mercies temporal and spiritual let consecrated lives be offered. Wherever God's light shines and God's rain descends, and God's mercy broods let the thanksgiving arise!

WIND AND RAIN STORM.

Damage and Loss of Life Reported from Different Places.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—A terrific wind and rain storm amounting to almost a hurricane, passed over this city about 12:30 o'clock, doing a great deal of damage to buildings, in the ruins of ten of which several people were buried and completely prostrating the telegraph wires. The storm seems to have been quite general. The worst damage was done to the fine Metzgerott music store. One of these stores was occupied by George White, ladies' tailor, and the second by Gude & Brother, florists.

Four persons were in the rear of White's establishment, and were buried in the ruins. Three persons were taken out not very seriously injured, but the life in Proprietor White's body was extinct when he was reached.

A number of persons had narrow escapes, but the accident occurring at the noon hour, workmen and others were, fortunately, at lunch at the time of the storm.

A section of stone balustrade around the white house roof was blown down and crashed through the roof of the portico at the eastern entrance of the basement.

The east portico was also wrecked by falling stone. The accident caused commotion in the president's household, but it was soon found that no one was injured. The president was receiving a Minnesota delegation at the time, and his first action was to hasten to the private part of the house to reassure the ladies of his family. Lightning struck one of the large gas reservoirs of the Washington Gas company, in Georgetown, near the water front, snapping one of the tall iron columns surrounding the tank; the gas was ignited and 500,000 feet, stored in the reservoir, was consumed before the fire had spent itself. The gas company's loss is about \$50,000; no insurance.

Many buildings were unroofed and a number were partly blown in. The total loss will considerably exceed \$100,000.

A Human Holocaust.

DETROIT, Mich., Dec. 2.—The most appalling catastrophe that has visited Detroit since the burning of the "Tilden school," two years ago, took place about 2 o'clock this morning. Fire broke out in the grocery store of George J. Reis, 332 Orleans street, and communicating to the dwelling house overhead, smothered to death Charles Reis, aged 22, and his brothers Josie and Eddie, aged 11 and 7 years. The latter children were found in their bed and the older boy was discovered by the firemen lying upon the floor before a window as if he, realizing the danger, had attempted to escape by that egress.

The father and mother were found locked in each other's arms at the head of the stairs leading out into the yard. They were burned to a crisp. Why they took the rear steps may never be known, for if they had taken the front way they would undoubtedly have been saved. As it was they rushed into a fiery furnace, for the conflagration did the most damage where their bodies were found.

Two other children—Max, aged 15, and Tony, aged 12, and a hired girl, whose name could not be ascertained, escaped by jumping out of the windows in the arms of the police and firemen. There was no means of climbing out just how the fire started. When it was ascertained that the fire was in the front windows, the firemen were called in to examine the grocery store showed an overturned stove, and the damage done to the lower story would indicate that the fire started in the store.

The Revolution in China. SHANGHAI, Nov. 26.—The special correspondent in China of the United Press is able, on the best authority, to state that the rebellion (it is really a rebellion) is spreading rapidly in the northern provinces, so that there is considerable alarm felt at Peking and its neighborhood. The rebels are advancing in masses upon Peking, and are being joined en route by reinforcements from the people and from the army. Several squadrons of the so-called regular cavalry have already joined the rebels, in addition to bands of deserters from the troops classed as regular infantry. Finally, the rebels have been joined by a number of mandarins, and each day strength and audacity have been increasing. All the Christians at Kinchow have been massacred.

Dying of Starvation.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 26.—A number of deaths from starvation have occurred among the famine stricken people in the province of Samaria. Rev. Mr. Francis, pastor of the Anglo-American Church in this city, has just received from Col. Chas. J. Murphy, over 300 pounds of Indian corn meal as a contribution for relief of the famine sufferers. Col. Murphy, who is specially commissioned by the United States Agricultural Department to call attention in Europe to the value of Indian corn as an article of food, promises more contributions of corn meal for famine relief if the use of that received is proved.

THE LEGISLATURE.

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY GOES TO WORK WITH A WILL.

What Has Been Done in Both Houses—Several Important Bills Introduced and Referred and Others Voted Upon and Killed.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Nov. 24.—Both branches of the Legislature assembled today at twelve o'clock. In the House a multitude of new bills has been introduced, but up to this time decisive action has been taken on very few of them.

The first debate in the House was brought about by Mr. Ficken's bill to provide for marriage licenses in this State. The measure had been discussed in a measure at the last session and would probably have gone through but for the tinkering that almost invariably follows the passage of a bill which has a few vigorous opponents. After some discussion the bill was indefinitely postponed.

The next bill to get a black eye was the bill to authorize the Governor to remove sheriffs from office in certain contingencies. This was generally credited with being an Administration measure, but it does not appear that the Governor or his friends made much of an effort to get it through. It was killed without discussion. In the Senate there was nothing of special importance in this opening day.

Among the bills introduced was one to permit the construction of a private road from Grovers in this county to the Ashpen River.

By Senator Evans, to provide for the reapportionment of the House of Representatives under the census of 1890.

By Senator Stokes, to incorporate the town of Prewitt, Orangeburg County.

Senator Stokes gave notice that he would ask for the bill on the subject of Calhoun County confirm to the lines of survey on the map before the Senate.

On Wednesday in the House the marriage license bill was reconsidered and passed to a third reading, and the measure was passed. It provides for a license fee of fifty cents.

Bills requiring railroads to provide separate coaches for the races and for the prohibition of trains on Sunday has been introduced.

An invitation from President Walsh, of the State Exposition Company, for the Legislature to be present at the Carolina Day was, on motion of Mr. Evans, accepted.

The bill to provide a fee of fifty cents per diem for coroners' jurors was indefinitely postponed on motion of Mr. Evans. The bill probably will have been a lively light over it if Mr. Laurin had not stated there was in course of preparation a bill to reorganize county matters and that this would be treated there.

The following were introduced. Joint resolution to extend the time for the payment of taxes for the fire for 1891, commencing November 1, 1890, to the 1st day of February, 1892.

Bill to license persons or corporations to sell clocks or patent medicines through the State, declaring them peddling and imposing a fine of \$500.

Bill to amend the act providing for a license for the sale of pistols and pistol cartridges so as to include rifle cartridges.

Bill to amend section 1003 of the General Statutes relating to the commission of county school commissioners, so that they shall receive no salary, in addition, such sums as may be necessary to pay the actual expenses incurred by him in attending meetings called for the purpose of advancing educational interests and in visiting schools.

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Governor shall fill the same by an appointment for the unexpired term only; that for the purpose of conforming to the administration of the Lunatic Asylum for the foregoing Section, as soon as practicable after the approval of this Act, the incumbent region shall be divided by lot on four of the number, who shall thereupon cease to be regents, and the remaining five shall for the present constitute the board; that of the remaining five, two shall be selected by lot to serve for two years, two to serve for four years, and one to serve for six years, their successors to be appointed by the Governor as above.

The House bill to authorize and require the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Treasurer and Superintendent of Education to designate annually in each County a newspaper in which all official advertisements in that county must be inserted was indefinitely postponed.

The Senate, like the House, held no session on Thursday, but was hard at work on Friday.

The following new business was introduced: A bill to establish a bureau of geological and mineral resources for an agricultural, geological, mineralogical and physical survey of the State and for other purposes.

A bill to amend section 517 of the General Statutes of this State and to provide for the appointment of an examiner for banks of the State and banking institutions.

A bill to repeal the tax on fertilizers and a bill to incorporate the Orangeburg Railroad Company.

In the House on Saturday the following bills were introduced: Bill to provide salaries for sheriffs and clerks of court, in lieu of nulla bona costs in criminal cases. The bill provides annual salaries of \$700 for sheriffs and \$550 for clerks of court, in place of nulla bona costs in criminal cases, except sheriffs' accounts for detaining persons, which shall be paid as heretofore.

Bill to require court stenographers to furnish free of charge certified copies of proceedings and evidence taken in appeal cases.

Bill to amend section 1,636 of the General Statutes, relative to legal holidays. The amendment adds September 1 to the list of holidays.

Bill to amend the moving, destroying or leaving down of fences, barns, gates or drawers, providing a penalty of from \$10 to \$50 or imprisonment for thirty days. This bill does not apply to the owner.

Bill to amend the report on the interest certificate and the report on the bill to establish the new county of Calhoun. There were two bills before the Senate to establish this new county, and one, the old bill, was rejected. The other one goes on the calendar with the unfavorable report of the judiciary committee.

Senator Woodward, of Fairfield, has introduced a bill to prohibit State officers and members of the Legislature accepting free passes on railroads.

Mistake Morphine for Quinine. GREENVILLE, S. C., Dec. 4.—W. B. Anderson, a well known and highly respected young man of the Cedar Grove section of Laurens County, died Monday morning from a mistake in taking medicine. He had not been well, and Monday morning got up out of bed to take some quinine. He found in a bottle containing morphine near the other containing quinine, and the two bottles were much alike. After taking what he supposed was quinine Mr. Anderson started for home, about half a mile from his home. He suddenly fell and was taken into a neighbor's house. Before anything could be done for him the morphine had done its work. He was about 26 years old.

Mr. Anderson was given the dose of quinine he needed, and he recovered. He had been left several years ago by his mother, who had been left several years ago by her husband, the late Dr. Anderson. She supposed it to be quinine.

Twelve Instantly Killed. TACOMA, Washington, Nov. 25.—One of the worst accidents in the history of the Northern Pacific Railroad occurred at noon to-day at Canon station, on Green River, about 100 miles east of Tacoma. About sixty workmen were sent to the locality of a branch line to repair washouts on a branch of the main line, and while thus employed at the base of a high cliff several thousand yards of shell rock suddenly tumbled on those beneath, instantly killing twelve, wrecking about 30 yards of coaches, carrying two men into the river and burying several others, some of whom it will be impossible to rescue alive.

Famine in Mexico. DURANGO, Mexico, Nov. 25.—The total failure of the corn and bean crops in this state, owing to the drought, is causing intense suffering among the poor. The price of corn has risen to an immense figure, selling in some parts of the state at over one dollar per bushel. The laboring element of Durango have neither work nor food. The better classes, who are so fortunate as to have food, are compelled to guard their supplies closely to prevent the famished horde from robbing them. Only the severest measures of the government's soldiers keep the people in subjection.

Sensation in Charleston. CHARLESTON, S. C., Nov. 20.—There was something of a sensation in the Sessions Court to-day. The grand jury in their presentment charged specifically warrant of law. Solicitor Jervey Witherspoon to put on record a statement showing that there was absolutely no truth in the charges and claiming that he had proven to a committee of the grand jury that the statements of long before they handed in their presentment.