AN ORIENTAL WELL.

DR. TALMAGE DRAWS A LESSON FROM A RUSTIC SCENE.

Work Is Honorable, and There Should Be No Idlers, Says the Great Preacher. How Moses Found His Bride.—Learn Usefulness From the Sheik's Daughter.

WASHINGTON, May 8.—From a rustic Bible scene Dr. Talmage in this sermon draws practical and inspiring lessons for all classes of people. The text is Exodus iii, 1, "Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, the priest of Midian."

In the southeastern part of Arabia a man is sitting by a well. It is an arid country and water is scarce, so that a well is of great value, and flocks and herds are driven vast distances to have their thirst slaked. Jethro, a Midianite sheik and priest, was so fortunate as to have seven daughters, and they are practical girls, and yonder they come driving the sheep and cattle and camels of their father to the watering. They lower the buckets and then pull them up, the water plashing on the stones and chilling their feet, and the troughs are filled. Who is that man out there sitting unconcerned and looking on? Why does he not come and help the women in this hard work of drawing water? But no sooner have the dry lips and panting nostrils of the flocks begun to cool a little in the brimming trough of the well than some rough Bedouin shepherds break in upon the scene, and with clubs and shouts drive back the animals that were drinking and affright these girls until they fly in retreat, and the flocks of these ill mannered shepherds are driven to the troughs, taking the places of the other flocks. Now that man sitting by the well begins to color up, and his eye flashes with indignation, and all the gallantry of his nature is aroused. It is Moses, who naturally had a quick temper anyhow, as he demonstrated on one occasion when he saw an Egyptian oppressing an Israelite and gave the Egyptian a sudden clip and buried him in the sand, and as he showed afterward when he broke all the Ten Commandments at once by shattering the two granite slabs on which the law was written. But the injustice of this treatment of the seven girls sets him on fire with wrath, and he takes this shepherd by the throat and pushes back another till he falls over the trough and aims a stunning blow between the eyes of another as he cries, "Begone, you villains!" and he hoots and roars at the sheep and cattle and camels of these invaders and drives them back, and, having cleared the place of the desperadoes, he told the seven girls of this Midianite sheik to gather their flocks together and bring them again to the watering.

Oh, you ought to see a fight between the shepherds at a well in the orient as I saw it in December, 1890. There were here a group of rough men who had driven the cattle many miles and here another group who had driven their cattle as many miles. Who should have precedence? Such clashing of buckets! Such hooking of horns! Such kicking of hoofs! Such vehemence in a language I fortunately could not understand! Now the sheep with a peculiar mark across their woolly backs were at the trough and now the sheep of another mark. It was one of the most exciting scenes I ever witnessed. An old book describes one of these contentions at an eastern well when it says: "One day the poor men, the widows and the orphans met together and were driving their camels and their flocks to drink and were all standing by the waterside. Daji came up and stopped them all and took possession of the water for his master's cattle. Just then an old woman belonging to the tribe of Abs came up and accosted him in a suppliant manner, saying: 'Be so good, Master Daji, as to let my cattle drink. They are all the property I possess, and I live by their milk. Pity my flock; have compassion on me. Grant my request and let them drink.' Then came another old woman and addressed him: 'Oh, Master Daji, I am a poor, weak old woman, as you see. Time has dealt hardly with me. It has aimed its arrows at me, and its daily and nightly calamities have destroyed all my men. I have lost my children and my husband, and since then I have been in great distress. These are all that I possess. Let them drink, for I live on the milk that they produce. Pity my forlorn state. I have no one to tend them. Therefore grant my supplication and of thy kindness let them drink.' But in this case the brutal slave, so far from granting this humble request, smote the woman to the ground."

A like scrimmage has taken place at the well in the triangle of Arabia between the Bedouin shepherds and Moses championing the cause of the seven daughters who had driven their father's flocks to the watering. One of these girls, Zipporah, her name meaning "little bird," was captured by this heroic behavior of Moses, for, however timid woman herself may be, she always admires courage in a man. Zipporah became the bride of Moses, one of the mightiest men of all the centuries. Zipporah little thought that that morning as she helped drive her father's flocks to the well she was splendidly deciding her own destiny. Had she staid in the house while the other six daughters of the sheik tended to their herds her life would probably have been a tame and uneventful life in the solitudes. But her industry, her fidelity to her father's interest, her spirit of helpfulness, brought her into league with one of the grandest characters of all history. They met at that famous well, and while she admired the courage of Moses he admired the filial behavior of Zipporah.

And you will have to go down before you go up. From the pit into which his brothers threw him and the prison in which his incarcerated him Joseph rose to be Egyptian prime minister. Elijah, who was to be the greatest of all the ancient prophets; Elijah, who made King Ahab's knees knock together with the prophecy that the dogs would be his only undertakers; Elijah, whose one prayer brought more than three years of drought, and whose other prayer brought drenching showers, the man who wrapped up his cape of sheepskin into a roll and with it cut a path through raging Jordan for just two men to pass over, the man who with wheel of fire rode over dead and escaped into the skies without mortuary disintegration, the man who thousands of years after was called out of the eternities to stand beside Jesaus Christ on Mount Tabor when it was ablaze with the splendors of transfiguration—this man could look back to the time when voracious and filthy ravens were his only caterers.

See also in this call of Moses that God has a great memory. Four hundred years before he had promised the the deliverance of the oppressed Israelites of Egypt. The clock of time has struck the hour, and now Moses is called to the work of rescue. Four hundred years is a very long time, but you see God can remember a promise 400 years as well as you can remember 400 minutes. Four hundred years includes all your ancestry that you know anything about and all the promises made to them, and we may expect fulfillment in our heart and life blessings that were predicted to our Christian ancestry centuries ago. You have a dim remembrance, if any remembrance at all, of your great grandfather, but God sees those who were on their knees in 1598 as well as those on their knees in 1898, and the blessings he promised the former and their descendants have arrived or will arrive. While piety is not hereditary it is a grand thing to have had a pious ancestry. So God in this chapter calls up the pedigree of the people whom Moses was to deliver, and Moses is ordered to say to them, "The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob hath sent me unto you." If that thought be divinely accurate, let me ask, what are we doing by prayer and by a holy life for the redemption of the next 400 years? Our work is not only with the people of the latter part of the nineteenth century, but with those in the closing of the twentieth century, and the closing of the twenty first century, the closing of the twenty second century, and the closing of the twenty-third century. For 400 years, if the world continues to swing until that time, or if it drops, then notwithstanding the influence will go on in other latitudes and longitudes of God's universe.

No one realizes how great he is for good or for evil. There are branchings out and rebounds and reverberations and elaborations of influence that cannot be estimated. The 50 or 100 years of our earthly stay is only a small part of our sphere. The flap of the wing of the destroying angel that smote the Egyptian oppressors, the wash of the Red sea over the heads of the drowned Egyptians, were all fulfillments of promises four centuries old. And things occur in your life and in mine that we cannot account for. They may be the echoes of what was promised in the sixteenth or seventeenth century. Or, the prolongation of the divine memory!

Notice also that Moses was 80 years of age when he got this call to become Israelitish deliverer. Forty years he had lived in palaces as a prince. Another 40 years he had lived in the wilderness of Arabia. I should not wonder if he had said: "Take a younger man for this work. Eighty winters have exposed my health. Eighty summers have poured their heats upon my head. There are 40 years that I spent among the enervating luxuries of a palace, and then follow the 40 years of wilderness hardship. I am too old. Let me off. Better call a man in the forties or fifties and not one who has entered upon the eighties." Nevertheless he undertook the work, and if we want to know whether he succeeded ask the abandoned brick kilns of Egyptian taskmasters, and the splintered chariot wheels strewn on the beach of the Red sea, and the timbrels which Miriam clapped for the Israelites passed over and the Egyptians gone under.

Do not retire too early. Like Moses you may have your chief work to do after 80. It may not be in the high places of the field. It may not be where a strong arm and an athletic foot and a clear vision are required but there is something for you yet to do. Perhaps it may be to round off the work you have already done, to demonstrate the patience you have been recommending all your lifetime. Perhaps to stand a lighthouse at the mouth of the bay to light others into harbor. Perhaps to show how glorious a sunset may come after a stormy day.

If aged men do not feel strong enough for anything else, let them sit around in our churches and pray, and perhaps in that way they may accomplish more good than they ever did in the meridan of their life. It makes us feel strong to see aged men and women all up and down the pews, their faces showing they have been on the mountain of transfiguration. We want in all our churches more men like Moses, men who have been through the deeps and climbed up the shelled beach on the other side. We want aged Jacobs, who have seen ladders which let down heaven into their dreams. We want aged Peters, who have been at Pentecosts, and aged Pauls, who have made Felix tremble. There are here and there those who feel like the woman of 90 years who said to Fontenelle, who was 85 years of age, "Death appears to have forgotten us." "Hush," said Fontenelle the wit, putting his finger to his lip. No, my friend, you have not been forgotten. You will be called at the right time. Meantime be holily occupied.

Let the aged remember that by increased longevity of the race men are not as old at 60 as they used to be at 50, not as old at 70 as they used to be 60, not as old at 80 as they used to be at 70. Sanitary precaution better understood; medical science further advanced; laws of health more thoroughly adopted; dentistry continuing for longer time successful mastication; homes and churches and court rooms and places of business better ventilated—all these have prolonged life, and men and women in the close of this century ought not to retire until at least 15 years later than in the opening of the century. Do not put the harness off until you have fought a few more battles. Think of Moses starting out for his chief work an octogenarian; 40 years of wilderness life after 40 years of palace life, yet just beginning.

There lies dying at Hawarden, England, one of the most wonderful men that ever lived since the ages of time began their roll. He is the chief citizen of the whole world. Three times has he practically been king of Great Britain. Again and again coming from the house of commons, which he had thrilled and overawed by his eloquence, on Saturday, on Sunday morning reading prayers for the people with illumined countenance and brimming eyes and resounding voice, saying: "I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord."

The world has no other such man to lose as Gladstone. The church has no other such champion to mourn over. I shall never cease to thank God that on Mr. Gladstone's invitation I visited him at Hawarden and heard from his own lips his belief in the authenticity of the Holy Scriptures, the divinity of Jesus Christ and the grandeurs of the world to come. At his table and in the walk through his grounds I was impressed as I was never before, and probably will never be again, with the majesty of a nature all consecrated to God and the world's betterment. In the presence of such a man what have those to say who profess to think that our religion is a pusillanimous and weak and cowardly and unreasonable affair? Matchless William E. Gladstone!

Still further watch this spectacle of genuine courage. No wonder when Moses scattered the rude shepherds he won Zipporah's heart. What mattered it to Moses whether the cattle or the seven daughters of Jethro were driven from the troughs by the rude herdsmen? A sense of justice fired his courage, and the world wants more of the spirit that will dare almost anything to see others righted. All the time at wells of comfort, at wells of joy, at wells of religion and at wells of literature there are outcasts practiced, the wrong herds getting the first water.

Those who have the previous right come in last, if they come in at all. Thank God we have here and there a strong man to set things right! I am so glad that when God has an especial work to do he has some one ready to accomplish it. Is there a Bible to translate, there is a Wycliff to translate it; if there is a literature to be energized, there is a Shakespeare to energize it; if there is an error to smite, there is a Luther to smite it; if there is to be a nation free, there is a Moses to free it. But courage is needed in religion, in literature, in statesmanship, in all spheres; heroics to defend Jethro's seven daughters and their flocks and put to flight the insolent invaders. And those who do the brave work will win somewhere high reward. The loudest cheer of heaven is to be given "to him that overcometh."

Still further see in this call of Moses that if God has any especial work for you to do he will find you. There was Egypt and Arabia and Palestine with their crowded population, but the man the Lord wanted was at the southern point of the triangle of Arabia, and he picks him right out, the shepherd who kept the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, the priest and shiek. So God will not find it hard to take you out from 1,600,000,000 of the human race if he wants for anything especial. There was only just one man qualified. Other men had courage like Moses, other men had some of the talents of Moses, other men had romance in their history, as had Moses; other men were impetuous like Moses; but no other man had there different qualities in the exact proportion as had Moses, and God, who makes no mistakes, found the right man for the right place. Do not fear you will be overlooked or that when you are wanted God cannot find you. He knows your name, your features, your temperament and your characteristics, and in what land or city or ward or neighborhood or house you live. He will not have to send out scouts or explorers to find your residence or place of stopping, and when he wants you he will make it as plain that he means you as he made it plain that he needed Moses. He called his name twice, as afterward when he called the great apostle to the gentiles he called twice, saying "Saul, Saul," and when he called the troubled housekeeper he called her twice, saying, "Martha, Martha," and when he called the prophet to his mission he call him twice, saying "Samuel, Samuel," and now when he wants a deliverer he calls twice, saying "Mosse, Moses." Yes, if God has anything for us to do he will call us twice by name. At the first announcement of our name we may think it possible that we misunderstood the sound, but after he calls us twice by name we know he means us as certainly as when he twice spoke the names of Saul or Martha or Samuel or Moses.

You see, religion is a tremendous personality. We all have the general call of salvation. We hear it in songs, in sermons, in prayers. We hear it year after year. But after awhile, through our own sudden and alarming illness, or the death of a playmate, or a schoolmate, or a college mate, or the decease of a business partner, or the demise of a next door neighbor, we get the especial call to repentence and a new life and eternal happiness, and we know that God means us. You have noticed the way in which God calls us twice? Two failures of investments, two sicknesses, two persecutions, two bereavements, two disasters. Moses! Moses!

Still further, notice that the call of Moses was written in letters of fire. On the Sinaitic peninsula there is a thorn bush called the acacia, dry and brittle, and it easily goes down at the touch of the flame. It crackles and turns to ashes very quickly. Moses, seeing one of these bushes on fire, goes to look at it. At first no doubt it seemed to be a botanical curiosity, burning, yet crumpling no leaf, parting no stem, scattering no ashes. It was a supernatural fire that did no damage to the vegetation. That burning bush was the call.

Your call will probably come in letters of fire. Ministers get their call to preach in letters on paper or parchment or typewritten, but it does not amount to much until they get their next call in letters of fire. You will not amount to much in usefulness until somewhere near you find a burning bush. It may be found burning in the hetic flush of your child's cheek. It may be found burning in business misfortune. It may be found burning in the fire of the world's scorn or hate or misrepresentation. But hark en to the crackling of the burning bush!

Oh, what a fascinating and inspiring character this Moses! How tame all other stories compared with the biography of Moses. From the lattice of her bathing house on the Nile, Thermutis, daughter of Pharoah, sees him in the floating cradle of papyrus leaves made water tight by bitumen; his infantile cry is heard among the marble palaces, and princesses hush him with their lullabies; workmen by the roadside drop their work to look on him when as a boy he passed, so beautiful was he; two bowls put before his infant eyes for choice to demonstrate his wisdom, the one bowl containing rubies and the other containing coals of fire, sufficiently wise was he to take the gems; but, divinely directed, he took the coals and put them to his mouth, and his tongue was burned, and he was left a stammerer all his days, so that he declared, in Exodus iv, 10, "I am slow of speech and of slow tongue;" on and on until he set firm foot among the crumbling basalt, and his ear was not deafened by thunderous "Thou shalt not" of Mount Sinai, the man who went to the relief of the Israelites who were scourged because without chopped straw they were required to make firm bricks, the story of their oppression found carved on the tomb of Rosphere at Thebes, and when his armies were impeded by venomous serpents sent crates of ibises, the snake destroying birds, to clear the way so that his host could march straight ahead, thus surprising the enemy, who thought they must take another route to avoid the reptiles; the whole sky an aquarium to drop quails for him and the hosts following; the only man in all ages whom Christ thinks of himself; the man of whom it is written, "Jehovah spoke unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh to his friend;" the man who had the most wondrous funeral of all time, the Lord coming down out of heaven to bury him. No human lips to read the service. No choir to chant a psalm. No organ to roll a requiem. No angel alighting upon the scene, but God laying him out for the last sleep, God upturning the earth to receive the saint, God smoothing or banking the dust above the sacred form, God with farewell and benediction, closing the sublime obsequies of law giver, poet and warrior. "And no man knoweth of his sepulcher unto this day." Get your eye on him instead of trying to imitate some smaller example.

SENATORS Tillman and McLaurin are urging the President to appoint Gen. M. C. Butler a Major General of Volunteers in the United States army. He would make a good one.

CONDITION OF CROPS.

What the Observers all Over the State Report to Headquarters.

The following weekly crop bulletin was issued Wednesday from Columbia by Director J. W. Bauer:

The warmest weather of the current season occurred during the week with a maximum temperature of 90 on the 4th at Gillisonville, while over the State generally the temperature rose above 90 on the 3d, 4th, 5th, with corresponding high night temperatures, but during the afternoon and night of the 6th the temperature fell rapidly, reaching a minimum of 30 on the morning of the 7th at Spartanburg. The rest of the week remained cool.

The average temperature deduced from 41 weekly means 70 and the normal for the same period is approximately 69. Light frost was noted on the morning of the 7th and 8th at various places in the northern and western counties, but in no instance was the frost heavy enough to destroy vegetation.

The rainfall for the week was confined to the 5th, on which date thunder showers occurred over the entire State, having been the heaviest to the northward of the Santee river. The rainfall was light, and in many places there was none, over the northern and western counties and in the southeastern group of counties. In the latter section the ground is very dry and rain would prove beneficial, while over the upper counties rain is needed to soften the surface, as the ground is badly crusted, making it difficult for sprouting plants to come up. Forty four places reported rainfall measurements of which 31 were less than half an inch. The average of all measurements was 0.42 and the normal for the same period is about 0.78 inch.

There was a large percentage of bright sunshine averaging 83 per cent. of the possible, and on two days only did any cloudiness prevail.

High winds, attaining to almost tornadic force in Orangeburg, Florence, Clarendon, Lexington and Horry counties, prevailed on the 6th, doing considerable injury to fruit trees, fences, and in some instances to buildings, and the cold, high winds on the following days had a damaging effect on cotton, corn and tobacco.

The first portion of the week with its high temperature, light winds and bright sunshine, was extremely favorable to crop growth and made a noticeable improvement in the appearance of field crops generally.

During this time farm work made rapid progress. The latter portion of the week, however, was below the active growing temperature for some of the principal crops cultivated in this State, for instance cotton which will not grow or thrive under 55 degrees.

Corn has improved generally although its condition is extremely varied and in out few places entirely satisfactory. Stands in many places are very irregular owing to replanting and cut worms have destroyed stands in many places. Early corn on sandy lands is doing fairly well. In the western counties a considerable area remains to be planted, while in York county fields planted in cotton and which failed to come up to satisfactory stands have been plowed over and planted in corn. Corn that is up has received its first and second cultivation. The cool weather recently has given it a yellow cast.

Cotton did fairly well during the first of the week, especially on sandy soils, where it is up to fine stands and in the more easterly counties is being cultivated and chopped out. On stiff lands the surface is so crusted and baked that cotton cannot come up readily. The recent cool weather gave cotton a severe set back and a number of correspondents reported plants dying. Fields are reported grassy in Edgefield and Kershaw. Probably more than the usual amount of replanting is necessary as whole fields are being replowed and replanted. Planting is not entirely finished but the area yet to plant is small and confined principally to the upper portions of the State, although planting Sea Island cotton still continues. The region devoted to this variety has been too dry for its best development.

Reports on wheat continue favorable except that rust has developed to a slight extent in Anderson, Greenville, Lexington, Newberry, Laurens and Spartanburg counties. Wheat is heading but the straw is short.

As oats near maturity the prospects for a full crop diminish in many sections, although over the northeastern, northern and western counties its condition continues very promising. In Bamberg and Barnwell counties a fly has attacked oats, while over the southeastern counties generally it has been too dry. Oats are heading with the straw short. Spring oats are looking fine.

Some rice is still being planted and the stand, color and general condition of this crop has shown marked improvement during the week.

Transplanting tobacco is being rushed to completion. The weather has, on the whole, been too cool for young plants to grow well, but this crop has received no serious set back, although in some places cut worms and grasshoppers damaged it more or less.

Sweet potato sets are being transplanted, but not as yet to any great extent. Draws are not very plentiful. Irish potatoes appear to be doing finely, except in Charleston and Beaufort counties, where they will not yield one fourth of a crop.

Melons have not shown much, if any, improvement and have made satisfactory growth, except in Williamsburg county, where the vines are growing nicely.

Fruit prospects vary greatly throughout the State, being exceedingly promising in places, while in other places there will be none. Pears appear to be dropping badly and doing poorly. Peaches give promise of a fair average crop generally, and up in Greenwood county the trees are overloaded. The winds of the week shook much fruit off the trees, although it is thought to the advantage of the fruit remaining on the trees. The crop of wild berries promise to be quite plentiful.

No Hard on Them.

The decision of the United States Supreme Court in the dispensary case gives great satisfaction in Columbia. The Governor gave the original package men until last Monday to get tags from the State dispensary and ship their liquors out of the State, which they have done, and now there is not an original package store doing business in the State. Gov. Ellerbe is much pleased with the decision, and says it is a glorious victory for the State.

A GLORIOUS victory was won in the South Pacific Ocean about 8,500 miles from America. Our fleet under Dewey met the Spanish fleet and destroyed it. The Spanish flag ship Reina Maria Christina was set on fire and destroyed and her commander killed. The three largest ships were destroyed, two more were crippled, six gunboats were sunk and the rest of the Spanish fleet sought safety in flight.

A DRAWN BATTLE.

Between American and Spaniards on Cuban Soil.

In an effort to land companies E and G, of the First United States infantry, on the shore of Pinar del Rio, Cuba, Thursday afternoon, with 500 rifles, 6,000 rounds of ammunition and some food supplies for the insurgents, the first land fight of the war took place. Each side may claim a victory, for if the Spaniards frustrated the efforts to connect with the insurgents, the Americans got decided the better of the battle, killing twelve or more of the enemy, and on their own part suffering not a wound. After dark Wednesday evening the old fashioned side wheel steamer Gussie, of the Morgan Line, with the troops and cargo mentioned, started for the Cuban coast. As surprise she fell in with the gunboat Vicksburg on the blockade off Havana. Other blockading vessels came up also. The converted revenue cutter Manning, Captain W. M. Munger, was detailed to convoy the Gussie, and, three abreast, the steamers moved along the coast. Just west of Port Cabanas harbor the Gussie anchored the Manning covering the landing place with her guns, and the torpedo boat Wasp came up, eager to assist. The first American soldier to step on the Cuban shore from this expedition was Lieut. Crofton—Captain O'Connor, with the first battery, having gone a longer route. A rush near the beach drew the men out, and they stumbled through the water up to their breasts. When they reached dry land they immediately went into the bush to form a picket line. Two horses had been led to swim to land, when suddenly a rifle shot followed by continuous sharp firing, warned the men that the enemy had been in waiting. The captain of the transport signalled the Wasp and the Manning, and sharpnel hissed through the air like hot iron plunged in water. The Wasp opened with her small guns. The cannonade began at 3.15 and lasted a quarter of an hour. Then our pickets appeared. The ships circled around, and being told by Captain O'Connor, who had come from shore with the clothing torn from one leg where the Spaniards were, 100 shots more were fired in that direction.

"Anybody hurt, captain?"

"None of our men, but we shot twelve Spaniards," he shouted back.

The soldiers on board the Gussie heard the news without a word, but hearing where the enemy was situated gathered all on the upper deck and sent several volleys into the spot.

The pickets returned to the bush. Several crept along the beach, but the Spaniards had drawn back.

It was decided that the soldiers should re-embark on the Gussie, and that the guides should take the horses and seek the insurgents and make a new appointment. They rode off to the Westward and disappeared around a point.

A CONFEDERATE CRUISER.

Amount Captured by Our Privateer in Six Months.

Just what one little privateer can do has been revealed by the short career of the Confederate cruiser Shenandoah. She was actually cruising for the destruction of United States property but eight months, and during that time she captured and destroyed vessels to the value of $1,200,000, and the United States had never been able to direct a blow against her. She had visited every ocean except the Antarctic, covering a distance of 58,000 statute miles. She destroyed many whalers in the Arctic Ocean. It was there that the last gun for the Southern cause was fired. It was fired from the deck of the privateer cruiser Shenandoah, by Commander James Iredell Waddell, on June 22, 1865, just seventy four days after the surrender of Lee at Appomattox. Commander Waddell could not persuade himself to enter an American port, and, for some time, aimlessly scoured the seas. In August, however, he spoke the English ship Barracouta, bound from San Francisco to Liverpool, and from her received conclusive evidence of the end of the war between the States. He resolved to seek an English port, and so, on November 5, the Shenandoah entered St. George's Channel, having sailed 22,000 miles without seeing land. On November 6 she steamed up the Mersey, and the Confederate flag having been hauled down by Commander Waddell, he sent a communication to Earl Russell, English Minister of Foreign Affairs, placing his ship at the disposal of the British government. Through Earl Russell the vessel was transferred to the jurisdiction of the American Minister, Charles Francis Adams, who caused her to be conveyed to this country to be dismantled.

NEWS FROM MANILA.

The City on Starvation—Capture of a Spanish Gunboat.

The Navy Department received a dispatch from Admiral Dewey Sunday. He reports that the Spanish gunboat Callao, from the Caroline Islands, recently entered the port of Manila, being ignorant of the outbreak of hostilities between Spain and the United States. An American warship fired across her bows and signalled her a demand for her surrender. The demand being disregarded, the American ship fired direct at the Spanish gunboat which then surrendered.

The populace of Manila is reduced to eating horseflesh, and the prospects of relief seems far distant. The telegrams indicate that Dewey has lost none of the prestige gained in his memorable fight of two weeks ago, and that while he refrains from taking the city of Manila, he has it practically at his mercy. The admiral expresses the belief that the rebels are hemming in the city by land, but the fact that he says explicitly that they have made no demonstrations seems to disprove thoroughly the published reports that they had already entered Manila and begun a career of bloodshed and rapine.

The Expedition Failed.

The steamer Gussie, which left Tampa, Fla., May 10, with two companies of the First infantry on board, in charge of seven thousand rifles and two hundred thousand rounds of ammunition intended for the insurgents in the province of Pinar del Rio, remained off the coast of Cuba Thursday, Friday and Saturday, convoyed by the Auxiliary gunboat Manning, in a vain attempt to land her cargo. Captain J. H. Dorst, of the staff of General Miles and formerly United States military attache at Vienna, headed the expedition, which returned here Sunday morning. He says the Gussie will go to Tampa, Fla.

A Flag of Truce.

Secretary Long made public Sunday a message which had been received from Key West, telling of the departure of the United States vessel Uncas, in command of Capt. Brainard. She is bound for some point in Cuba, with a view to securing the release of two American prisoners under a flag of truce, in exchange for Spanish prisoners held by this government.

A STUBBORN FIGHT.

The Spaniards Repulsed With Loss After a Desperate Battle.

The United States cruiser Marblehead, the gunboat Nashville and the auxiliary cruiser Windom steamed up to the harbor of Cienfuegas early Wednesday morning with orders to cut the cable connecting Havana with Santiago de Cuba. This task was accomplished, but only after a terrific fight between our warships and several thousand Spanish troops, which lined the shore and lay concealed behind improvised breastworks. One man, a seaman named Reagan, of the Marblehead, was killed in one of the working small boats, and six other men were severely wounded. In addition, a large number on board the ship received minor wounds.

Soon after the arrival of the warships off Cienfuegos, four boats were launched and proceeded in shore for the purpose of grappling for the cable in order to cut it. The warships lay-to about 1,000 yards or more off the harbor. It was observed that the Spanish troops had assembled ashore, but it was not known that heavy guns had been placed in a masked battery and that the old lighthouse, far out on a neck of land, had been transformed into a formidable fort. When the commanders of the Marblehead and the Nashville called for volunteers to man the boats and cut the cable, the men responded with a jump.

Lieut. C. McR. Winslow, of the Nashville, took command of the Nashville's boats. The shore surrounding the entrance of the harbor was first shelled and then the boats proceeded in. The work of finding the cable was slowly and cautiously proceeded with. The cable was deep in the channel and was found with difficulty. One of the relays of the cable had been severed when the Spaniards opened fire.

The marines in the boats replied at once, and a machine gun from the forward launch sent in a stream of bullets, while heavy shells from the warships drove the Spaniards from the rifle pits at the shore, many of them seeking refuge in the lighthouse fort, which was afterward torn to pieces by a shell from the Windom. As there were great numbers of Spaniards in and behind the fort at the time, there is no doubt that many of them were killed.

With desperate courage the American sailors remained calmly at their posts and succeeded in dragging up the second relay of the cable and severing it. Seven men badly wounded was the count, and one of them, Reagan, died while on the way back to the ship. Lieutenant Winslow was shot in the hand, a number of others were more or less injured.

On the Nashville Captain Maynard was standing forward, with an ensign, when a Spanish bullet passed through the ensign's shoulder and struck Maynard on the chest, near the heart, wounding him only slightly. The Marblehead was struck scores of times by bullets from machine guns, and the Nashville suffered to about the same extent. The Windom also had many marks of the fray. Her shell, blowing up the lighthouse and scattering the Spaniards in all directions, ended the battle.

GUNS FOR OUR SOLDIERS.

The Kind Uncle Sam Will Arm His Volunteers With.

It is stated by the officers of the quartermaster general's bureau that six weeks from now the government will be able to clothe and equip 100,000 men for the field. The most important difficulty lies in the matter of rifles. At present Uncle Sam has barely more than a sufficient number of modern rifles for the regular army. The militia of the states are armed with the old-fashioned Springfields and similar out of date weapons. When it is said that a Springfield rifle shoots 25 bullets a minute with a range of 4,000 yards, against 40 shots a minute at 6,000 yards for the new regulation Krag-Jorgensen a very imperfect notion is given of the difference of effectiveness between the two weapons. The difference lies mainly in the increased "danger space" where the Krag Jorgensen is used. The velocity of the projectile fired by the Krag-Jorgensen is so great that its course is through the air is nearly horizontal, so that it would kill a man who stood anywhere between the muzzle of the rifle and a distance of three miles. A Springfield bullet, on the other hand might kill at two miles, but if properly aimed for such a range, would go over the head of a man standing a mile away. The war department has already ordered 100,000—Krag-Jorgensens and it is believed that these weapons can be turned out at the rate of 1,000 a day when all the resources of the small arm factories are fully utilized. Time must elapse, however, before this rate of production is attained, and meanwhile a large part of our troops will have to get along with back number guns. Nearly all of the infantry of the militia are armed with Springfields of 45 caliber, while the cavalry are provided with Springfield Remington, Spencer, and Sharge carbines of 45 and 50 caliber. The supply of ammunition for the rifles will be plentiful, the Frankford arsenal in Philadelphia is now turning out 150,000 cartridges a day for the Krag Jorgensen and the output will presently reach 300,000 per diem. Many of the Springfield rifles and carbines, when replaced with Krag Jorgensens will probably pass into the hands of the Cuban auxiliaries.

The field artillery used by troops will consist mainly of 3.2 inch breech loading rifles, which throw projectiles weighing 16 pounds a distance of four miles. Most of the states possess some of these cannons and 31 states have one or more Gatling guns.

Killed by Lightning.

A lightning bolt dealt death to a crowd of negro gamblers Sunday afternoon at Columbia. Afterwards at the base of a large and handsome tree could be seen the bodies of two of the young negroes stretched out upon the ground cold and stiff. In the hand of one was tightly clasped a deck of playing cards. It was a dreadful picture to gaze upon and many negro women stood about and talked to each other, taking the position that it was a manifestation of Divine vengeance upon those who disregarded the Sabbath day and played cards on Sunday. The crowd, it was said, had been "shootin' craps" some distance away when the rain came up and they adjourned under the big tree to get shelter intending to play a game of cards while waiting.

CARDINAL Rampolla, the Papal secretary of state, declares the Vatican will observe strictest neutrality. The Pope desires prayers for the speedy conclusion of peace, but in the event of continued war he will ask the blessings of heaven on the Spanish arms.

THE glorious Commodore Dewey has utterly destroyed the Spanish fleet in the Pacific Ocean, and has taken the Philippine Islands from Spain. These islands over which the stars and stripes now float are richer than Cuba.

AN IMPORTANT CASE.

A Test Made of the Law in Reference to Lynching.

A case was tried at the recent term of the Court of Common Pleas for Orangeburg County that is of general interest. It was that of Isaac Brown, administrator of Lawrence Brown. It was a suit for damages against the county, since Lawrence Brown met death in January last year under circumstances which suggested lynching. Circumstantial evidence brought out at the trial went to show that he was lynched because he was believed to be a firebug and that the destruction of much valuable property was due to him. The following paper, picked up near the scene of the alleged lynching, was offered in evidence by the plaintiff, and was admitted, notwithstanding the objections of the defendant:

"Notice to all whom it may concern—Judge Lynch's court is in session tonight for the protection of our property. And by the help of God we will convict and execute any man, woman or child that tries to destroy our property with fire. We will protect our homes and our property, and our neighbors shall not suffer loss from the hellish 'firebugs.' Let this be a warning to others. Citizens."

The county submitted no testimony in its behalf; but asked the court to dismiss the case on the ground that the law under which the action was brought only contemplated an action where the person lynched was taken from the custody of public officers by the lynchers. Judge Aldrich said the question in his mind, was "whether the act and constitutional provision were designed to stop lynching in general more than to stop the connivance of officers of the law in permitting lynching or not preventing it." His construction was that both sections of the act should be taken together, and they referred only to the lynching of prisoners or persons in the hands of officers of the law. As the testimony did not bear out facts sufficient to base a verdict for the plaintiff in the face of the above ruling of the court, the jury was directed to find for the defendant.

Why Aunt Is Don't Like Us.

The Atlanta Journal says that in no other country outside of Spain is popular feeling so strong against the United States as it is in Austria. The extent and bitterness of this feeling is not by any means due wholly to the fact that the queen regent of Spain is an Austrian archduchess; Austria has an accumulation of grievances against our government which cause her to sympathize intensely with Spain in the present war.

The record goes back as far as 1823 when Russia, Austria, Prussia and France formed the Holy Alliance and appeared to move against the South American republics which had recently thrown off the Spanish yoke. While Austria was only one of the four powers which formed this league, Mettemich, for many years the master spirit of Austria, was more responsible for it than any one else and when President Monroe warned the Holy alliance that it must not interfere in the western world Austria took much greater offense than any of the other allies.

This feeling was still strong in 1848 when the rebellion in Hungary occurred and received so much sympathy and encouragement from the people of the United States. The ovations given to Kossuth when he came to this country in 1851 aroused Austrian ire to a still higher pitch, and in 1853 an event occurred which intensified even further the anti-American animosity in Austria. This was the rescue of Koszta by a United States man of war.

Koszta, one of the Hungarian rebels of 1849, escaped to the United States after the war, took the preliminary steps necessary to secure full citizenship in this country, but while in Smyrna, Turkey, in 1853, on business, was seized by order of the Austrian consul and put on board the Austrian frigate Huzzar, in that port. Captain Ingraham, commander of the American sloop-of-war St. Louis, learning of the affair, sailed to the place where the Austrian war vessel was stationed, demanded Koszta's release, and declared that if he were not given up by a certain hour that day he would be taken by force. The St. Louis was instantly cleared for a fight. This frightened the Austrians into surrendering Koszta to the French consul, and he was released and sailed for the United States.

Twelve years later when the United States refused to countenance the usurpation of Mexico by France, Austria had a fresh cause of complaint. Maximiliam, brother of Emperor Franz Joseph, whom Louis Napoleon had drawn into his Mexican scheme and placed on the throne, was captured and executed. Instead of charging his death to Napoleon the Austrian government and people held the United States responsible for it. So there has not been a time in seventy-five years when Austria has not had a quarrel with us. That she would be against us in this war, so far as her feelings and hopes go, was to be expected.

Murdered His Child.

Coroner Dukes and Dr. T. A. Jeffords were called on Sunday to hold an inquest upon a young child about fifteen months old on Mr. J. J. Quattlebaum's place, on Limestone, about eight miles from Orangeburg the result of which is that William Sheppard, colored, is now in jail charged with murder. The physician found horrible lash wounds on the body of the child, besides on the stomach, apparently made by violent pressure or stamping. Sheppard is the step father of the little victim and got into an ugly humor about some domestic matter and proceeded to avenge himself upon innocence, and when the mother and wife undertook to interfere turned his anger upon her also, giving her a severe beating. Notwithstanding this, however, she tried to shield Sheppard in her testimony before the inquest, but being warned gave all facts. The jury returned a verdict of murder against William Sheppard, and he was at once arrested and is now locked up.

Spanish Spy Satisfied.

George Downing, alias Rawlings, the man arrested last Sunday under suspicion of being a spy in the service of Spain, hanged himself at the Washington barracks Sunday, shortly after 3 o'clock. A towel and a silk handkerchief were used as the instruments of death.

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A Catholic Address.

The archbishops of the Catholic church in the United States have issued an address endorsed by Monsignor Martinelli, the papal legate in this country. The address breathes the spirit of the loftiest patriotism and is one of the most eloquent appeals that has been made to citizens of this country since war with Spain was declared. The archbishops say to the Catholics in the United States:

"We are not now engaged in a war of section against section, or state against state, but we are united as one man against a foreign enemy and a common foe. If, as we are taught by our holy church, love of country is next to love of God, a duty imposed on us by all laws human and divine, then is our duty to labor and to pray for the temporal and spiritual well-being of the brave who are battling for our beloved country. Let us faithfully beg the God of battles to crown their arms on land and sea with victory and triumph, and to stay unnecessary effusion of blood and speedily to restore peace to our beloved land and people."

This is a noble sentiment nobly expressed. We are at war with a Catholic county, but our flag will have no more devoted followers, no more valiant defenders than our fellow-citizens of the Catholic faith. At a great Catholic gathering in New York last week Bishop McQuaid made a stirring address, in which he said: "This nation is now at war, and with a Catholic country. This is our country, and we will stand with it, ready to shed our blood. The Catholics of the United States will be the first in the struggle." These words were applauded to the echo by the large assemblage of Catholics to which they were spoken. They express the feeling and determination of the millions of Catholic citizens of the United States