

T. De Witt Talmage

Recives a Rebuke.

Capt W. G. Chaffee of Aiken Criticizes the Divine.

Aiken, S. C., Dec 11, 1899. To the Editor of The State: I beg that you will give me space for the enclosed article, which explains itself. I offered it to the New York World gratis but they refused to allow me to criticize one of their contributors through their columns.

Augusta, Ga., Oct 17th, 1899. Editor New York World: In your issue of Sunday, Oct 15, on page 20, under the general head of "Editorial Forum," there appears an article entitled as follows: "My Fall Blooded Cow, by T. De Witt Talmage, the most popular orator in America," in which that world renowned divine has contributed a humorous account of the ludicrous actions of a cow purchased by him at a public sale.

Do you know, Doctor, that sermons and lectures are read in every hamlet, as well as great city, in America; that, in the remotest and quietest rural districts, many an honest old farmer, when his day's work is done, sits on his iron rimmed "stump" and reads to his faithful old wife, from his little county newspaper, one of your sermons, filled with lofty appeals to charity, bright pictures of the love of God and good will to men?

If so, I beg you to say to the several millions who have read your article, if you really were, as you write, a spectator of the scene you describe as follows:

"The man had not been able to pay his debts. The mortgage on the farm had been foreclosed. The day of sale had come. The sheriff stood on a box reading the terms of vendue. All payments to be made in six months. The auctioneer took his place. The old man and his wife and children all cried, and the piano and the chairs, and the pictures, and the carpets, and the bedsteads went at half their worth. When the piano went it seemed to the old people as if the sheriff were selling all the fingers that had ever played on it, and when the carpets were struck off I think the father and mother thought of the little feet that had tramped it."

"But to us the auction reached its climax of interest when we (himself and wife) went to the bar. We were spending our summers in the country and must have a cow. There were 10 or 15 to be sold. We marked for our own a cow that was said to be full blooded, whether Alderney or Durham, or Galloway or Ayrshire I will not tell, least some cattle fancier feel insulted by what I say, and if there is any grace that I pride myself on it is prudence and a determination to say smooth things."

"How much is bid for this magnificent, full blooded cow?" cried the auctioneer. "Seventy five dollars," shouted some one. I made it eighty. He made it ninety. Somebody else quickly made it a hundred. After the bid had risen to \$125 I got animated and resolved that I would have the cow if it took my last cent."

"One hundred and forty dollars!" shrieked my opponent. "The auctioneer said it was the finest cow he had ever sold, and, not knowing much about vendues, I believed him. It was a good deal of money for a minister to pay, but then I could get the whole matter off my hands by giving 'a note' in utter defiance of every-bing, I cried out, 'One hundred and fifty dollars!' 'Going at that! once, twice, three times; gone! Mr Talmage has it,'" etc.

"Do you realize, doctor, that your pride to say 'smooth things' has for once, at least, led you astray, and that, instead of producing a humorous story, you have indulged in a piece of heartless facetiousness, which is a stab direct at the faith you teach; that it has caused some to doubt the sincerity of the clergy, many more to doubt your individual sincerity?"

Do you really believe in the great truths you so ably expound, or are you but dispensing spiritual pap in exchange for a large salary and beautiful home? Is it possible that you have stood in the sanctuary preaching love to all mankind and did not weep with that poor man, his wife and children, whom the hard hand of the money lender had stricken with ruin?

In the name of Holy charity, tell us, when you saw the piano, the chairs and his other small household possessions going at half their worth, why did you not, out of your abundance, come to the rescue of that unfortunate fellow man like the good Samaritan, instead of standing aloof like the Levite and not even reaching your "climax of interest" until the time came for the sale of the wretched man's cow, for which you glibly gave your note at six months for one hundred and fifty dollars?

If you did not feel able personally to aid old age in misery, why did you not give your note for all the creditor demanded and tell the good women of your congregation what you had done and enlist the tender charity of women to bring to one broken family "the oil of joy for weeping?"

Did you for one moment consider that the pitiful "Lares and Penates" of these old people, whose frail barks of life were fast sailing down into the regions of the setting sun, were as dear to them as any of the rich "articles of vertu" in your own luxurious home; that their tears welled up from broken hearts at the sacrifice of the scanty accumulations of a life of toil; that those cheap, tawdry pictures, through long years, had grown into their hearts; that those chairs and dining table, though of too common stuff to enter your kitchen, were a portion of their lives; that perchance one of those chairs was daily placed at that humble board to plead for memory of some dear one who had passed "the waves of this troublesome world"; that the dingy piano was a loving gift from the husband to that old wife in better days, and with it was going the smell of apple blossoms, the song of birds and hum of bees, the sunshine of dim, distant days, when fortune smiled serene without one disturbing presage of that dark day when, old and friendless, with the white frosts of age fallen thick on hair and beard, they should see that dear old piano pass from them like the hopes of youth, while the foremost minister of God in America would look on unmoved, intent only on possessing their cow?

I once read in one of your sermons such a soul-stirring denunciation of Ahas because, in his covetous heart, he sought to become possessed of the vineyard of the humble Naboth, that I have always thought less of Ahas than ever before. Did not feeble recollection of that story return to you when, with the rains of a man's little fortune crushing his very soul, you went to his barn and picked out which one of his cows you desired to become your own?

Do you know, my dear doctor, that mad-bedraggled anti-semitic men in the trenches around Santiago emptied their haversacks into the laps of starving women from the city, and themselves went hungry until more supplies could be brought to the front?

I wonder if it occurred to you that, while your "so called" funny story was on the eve of publication, two men—Patrick Coffey and Samuel Joyner—officers on a burning steamer in Long Island sound, bravely yielded up their lives in their endeavor to save the lives of passengers who were strangers to them?

Do you think if these two rough—probably profane—steamboat men had been on hand with your means and influence, they would have seen an aged couple turned into the highway by an auctioneer? You know they would not.

Do you believe that even old Russell Sage, who, in the course of nature, must soon folioitate with Dives on the amount that worthy has saved in coal bills in the past two thousand years or more, would have scored as you did? a million or more of your admirers have given one year longer and doubled the rate of interest? Do you imagine that you have served to more deeply implant the grace of God in the hearts of that family?

Is it probable that they will raise hosannas each time they see one of your sermons in print? Doubtless, my dear doctor, you will deem it the height of impudence in my venturing to ask you questions. I am emboldened by the fact that I once read one of your sermons in which you exhorted your hearers to "despise not the day of small things," eloquently portraying the serious consequences resulting to the Philistine—Goliath—because he had no respect for David's sling.

I assure you that I speak earnestly and that in the past few days there are few who do not mentally ask you the same questions I do. I hope you can say that the whole story is a work of fiction, but even in that event you have written the most discreditable fiction ever penned. Respectfully, Wm G Chaffee, 105 Lincoln street, Augusta, Ga

Paper novels, new paper novels at H G Oates & Co's Remarkable Rescue. Mrs. Michael Curtin, Plainfield, Ill., makes the statement, that she caught cold, which settled on her lungs; she was treated for a month by her family physician, but grew worse. He told her she was a hopeless victim of consumption and that no medicine could cure her. Her druggist suggested Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption; she bought a bottle and to her delight found herself benefited from first dose. She continued its use and after taking six bottles found herself sound and well; now does her own housework, and is as well as she ever was. Free trial bottles of this Great Discovery at J. F. W. DeLoorme's Drug Store. Large bottles 50c and \$1.

Gen Otis' Description of Military Situation.

Troops Chasing "Robber Bands"—Organized Resistance Ended.

Washington, Dec 12—The war department has received the following cablegram from Gen Otis, descriptive of the military situation in Luzon:

Manila, Dec 12. Bulacan province the insurgents have been scattered and driven east to the mountain. Our casualties in that section in the few days were 10. The insurgent casualties in killed, wounded and prisoners aggregated 100. Considerable insurgent property with records, arms and ammunition have been captured. Our troops are now in the mountains in pursuit. The insurgents have been driven from Subig bay and the marines now occupy a naval station there. Our column moving west from Tarlac is now on the west coast of Luzon, where it has been supplied. It encountered little resistance. A column is now moving west and south from Dagupan along the coast. There is no concentrated insurgent force of importance in Luzon north of Manila. Southern Luzon will not offer any serious resistance. Troops are cooperating in that section. Organized rebellion no longer exists and our troops are actively pursuing robber bands. All important and threatened centres of population in the north have been occupied.

Also the following: Manila, Dec 12. Two thousand additional Spanish prisoners secured in Northern Luzon, making over 3,000 released within a month; 700 now enroute from Vigan and transports will be sent for remainder.

FILIPINO DICTIONSHIP TO WAGE GUERRILLA WAR

London, Dec 12—Reuter's Telegram company received the following dispatch from Kong Kong: "The insurgent government so called, of the Philippines, will be changed to a dictatorship, to continue hostilities against the Americans exclusively by the methods of guerrilla warfare. The Filipino army is being split up into small bands, the troops taking an oath before separation that they will fight until their country's rights are recognized. "A force of United States marines who landed at Vigan, South Ilocos province, from the battleship Oregon, was defeated by the Filipinos under Gen Finio (Tino?) on Dec 4. The Manila newspapers, despite the censorship, admit that Gen Lawton is missing." The foregoing dispatch was evidently sent by the Filipino junta in Hong Kong

Story of a Slave. To be bound hand and foot for years by the chains of disease is the worst form of slavery. George D. Williams, of Manchester, Mich., tells how such a slave was made free. He says: "My wife has been so helpless for five years that she could not turn over in bed alone. After using two bottles of Electric Bitters, she is wonderfully improved and able to do her own work." This supreme remedy for female diseases quickly cures nervousness, sleeplessness, melancholy, headache, backache, fainting and dizzy spells. This miracle working medicine is a godsend to weak, sickly, run down people. Every bottle guaranteed. Only 50c. Sold by J. F. W. DeLoorme, Druggist.

Bulacan Province Cleared of Insurgents, MacArthur's Operations.

Washington, Dec 14—Gen Otis has cabled the war department that Lieut Bateson, who organized and commanded the Macabebe scouts, has been seriously wounded in the foot. Amputation is probable. Gen Otis' dispatch follows:

Manila, Dec 14. Lieut Bateson, Fourth cavalry, or organized four large companies Macabebe scouts, had advance of Lawton's troops and attended Young's cavalry north-western Luzon, Bateson leading with conspicuous gallantry in several hard fought engagements. On Nov 19 seriously wounded on foot; amputation probably necessary. Can he not receive majority in some staff corps as reward for efficient services? Gen Otis today cabled the war department as follows:

Manila, Dec 14. Gen Lawton reports Bulacan province freed of insurgents yesterday. Troops Fourth cavalry captured strong mountain position Biacnabato, with food supplies, clothing, cartridge factory and barracks. MacArthur's troops occupied Ibband, town south of western coast Luzon; slight opposition and few light casualties. Eighth instant Bates reported from Zamboanga that he has garrisoned Basilian and is sending troops to Cottobato and Davao; that condition of affairs satisfactory. Eighteen hundred Spanish prisoners received in Manila; over two thousand more enroute; thirteen hundred shipped to Spain 16th instant. These prisoners much better physical condition than Spanish troops surrendered when Manila capitulated.

Bryan on the Bill.

Austin, Tex, Dec 12—In an interview today Wm Jennings Bryan expressed himself upon the financial bill now before the house. He said: "Following in the line of the president's message, congress is at present considering a bill that is an extremely bad measure. I refer to the financial bill now under discussion in the house. This bill is a very bad one indeed. It is a part of the gold standard people's plan and I hope that it will be defeated. It should certainly never be permitted to pass the house because it is not in the interest of democracy."

Atlanta, Ga., Dec 12—A general order has been circulated by the Southern railway applicable only to the South Carolina division, that all employees of the company must stop smoking cigarettes or resign their positions, and that in future no one will be employed who smokes cigarettes. Assistant General Passenger Agent S H Hardwick says it may soon be made applicable to all the different branches of the road. The order issued by the South Carolina department is an iron clad rule and applies to all the departments of the line throughout the State.

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SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

Condensed Schedule in Effect Dec. 10, 1899.

Table with columns: No. 1 No. 3 Daily, No. 4 No. 12 Daily, No. 5 No. 11 Daily, No. 6 No. 10 Daily. Rows list stations like Charleston, Summerville, Branchville, Orangeburg, Kingville, Sumter, Camden, Columbia.

NOTE: In addition to the above services trains Nos. 15 and 16 run daily between Charleston and Columbia, carrying elegant Pullman sleeping cars. No. 15 leave Charleston 11:30 p. m.; arrive Columbia 6:40 a. m. No. 16 leave Columbia 1:30 a. m.; arrive Charleston 7:30 a. m. Sleeping cars ready for occupancy at 9:00 p. m. both at Charleston and Columbia. These trains make close connections at Columbia with through trains between Florida points and Washington and the east.

Table with columns: Lv., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex. Rows list stations like Augusta, Savannah, Athens, Brunswick, Blacksville, Batesburg, Columbia, Batesburg, Columbia, Blacksville, Batesburg, Savannah.

Atlanta and Beyond.

Table with columns: Lv., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex. Rows list stations like Charleston, Augusta, Atlanta, Atlanta, Chattanooga.

To Asheville-Cincinnati-Louisville.

Table with columns: Lv., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex. Rows list stations like Augusta, Charleston, Columbia, Spartanburg, Asheville, Knoxville, Louisville.

To Washington and the East.

Table with columns: Lv., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex., Sun., Ex. Rows list stations like Augusta, Batesburg, Columbia, Charleston, Danville, Richmond, Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York.

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