ed are those who conduct a busine

than satisfaction. I know it means

much sympathy as those who toil with the hand. All business life is struck through with suspicion, and

panics are the result of want of con-

To feel right and to do right under

all this pressure requires martyr

grace, requires divine support, re-

quires celestial re-enforcement. Yet

there are tens of thousands of such

nen getting splendidly through. They

see others going up and themselves going down, but they keep their pa-

tience and their courage and their Christian consistency, and after awhile their success will come. There

is generally retribution in some form

for greediness. The owners of the

big business will die, and their boys

will get possession of the business, and with a cigar in their mouths,

and full to the chins with the best

liquor, and behind a pair of spank-

ing bays, they will pass everything on the turnpike road to temporal

and eternal perdition. Then the business will break up and the smal-

ler dealers will have fair opportun-

and right feeling will take possession

of the large firm, as recently with a famous business house, and the firm will say: "We have enough

money for all our needs and the needs

of our children. Now let us dissolve

business and make way for other men in the same line." Instead of being startled at a solitary instance

their opportunity of vast accumulation, and who ought to quit. But

perhaps for all the days of this gen-

eration the struggle of small houses

ing pressure of great houses will con-

the counters and shelves and casks

the measuring line of divine right.

'And the Lord said unto me, Amos,

Some have a spiritualistic religion,

and their chief work is with ghosts, and others a religion of political

economy, proposing to put an end to

human misery by a new style of tax-ation, and there is a humanitarian

religion that looks after the bodies of men and lets the soul look after

itself, and there is a legislative re-ligion that proposes to rectify all

wrongs by enactment of better laws,

and there is an aesthetic religion

that by rules of exquisite taste would lift the heart out of its de-

formities, and religions of all sorts, religions by the peck, religions by the square foot and religions by the

ton-all of them devices of the devil

that would take the heart away

from the only religion that will ever

effect anything for the human race,

down religion written in the book

which begins with Genesis and ends

with Revelation, the religion of the

skies, the old religion, the God given religion, the everlasting religion, which says, "Love God above all and your neighbor as yourself." All

religions but one begin at the wrong

end and in the wrong place. The

Bible religion demands that we first get right with God. It begins at

the other religions begin at the bot-

stand at the foot of the wall, up to

theory and speculation, and have a

plummet and a string tied fast to it,

way and break a head here and

throw the plummet another way and

break a head there, and then they

throw it up, and it comes down up-

I want you to notice this fact, that

when a man gives up the straight up and down religion of the Bible

generally to suit his sins. You first hear of his change of religion, and

then you hear of some swindle he

has practiced in a special mining

stock, telling some one if he will put

in \$10,000 he can take out \$100,000;

or he has sacrificed his integrity or

plunged into irremediable worldli-

to broaden his religion, and he be-

broad as the soul's darkness, as

broad as hell. They want a religion

Well done, good and faithful serv-

and Robespierre, the feeder of the

French guillotine, and all the liars,

and when they chant they sing, "Thanksgiving and honor and glory

and power to the broad religion that

lets us all into heaven without re-

pentance and without faith in those

humiliating dogmas of ecclesiasti-

My text gives me a grand oppor

tunity of saying a useful word to all

young men who are now forming

habits for a lifetime. Of what use

ness. His sins are so broad he has

as broad as temptation, as

There are Charles Guiteau

any new fangled religion, it is

on their own pate.

top and measures down, while

and try to measure up. They

knees in the mud of human

they throw the plummet this

and

and

that is the straight up and

to keep alive under the overshadow

Or the spirit of contentment

bankruptcy and defalcation of men in many departments. The men who toil with the brain need full as



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Rev. Dr. Talmage Discourses on the Only True Religion.

Are Useless When Measured by God's Piumb Line-Religious Made to Suit Conditions.

Washington, Aug. 5. - From frondingem, Norway, where Dr. Talfollowing discourse, in which he shows that the world can never be bene ced by a religion of human manufacture, which easily yields to one's surroundings, but must have a religion let down from heaven; text, Amos vii, 8: "And the Lord said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumb line."

The solid masonry of the world has for me a fascination. Walk about some of the triumphal arches and the cathedrals 400 or 600 years old, and see them stand as erect as when they were built, walls of great height, for centuries not bending a quarter of an inch this way or that so greatly honored were the masons who builded these walls that they were free from taxation and called "free" masons. The trowel gets most of the credit for these buildings, and its clear ringing on stone and brick has sounded across the ages. But there is another implement of just as much importance as the trowel, and my text recognizes it. Bricklayers and stonemasons and carpenters, in the building of walls use an instrument made of a cord, at the end of which a lump, of lead is fastened. They drop it over the side of the wall, and, as the plummet naturally seeks the centre of gravity in the earth, the workman iscovers where the wall recedes and where it bulges out and just what is the perpendicular. Our text represents God as standing on the wall of character which the Isrealites had built and in that way testing it. "And the Lord said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumb line."

What the world wants is straight up and down religion. Much of the so called piety of the day bends this way and that to suit the times. It is oblique, with a low state of sentiment and morals. We have all been building a wall of character, and it is glaringly imperfect and needs reconstruction. How shall it be brought into perpendicular? Only the divine measurement. "And the Lord said unto me, Amos, what seest thou? And I said, A plumb

The whole tendency of the times is to make us act by the standard of what others do. We throw over the wall of our character the tangled plumb line of other lives and reject the infallible test which Amos saw. The question for me should not be what you think is right, but what God thinks is right. This perpetual reference to the behavior of others; as though it decided anything but human fallibility, is a mistake wide as the world. There are 10,000 plumb lines in use, but only one is true and exact, and that is the line of God's eternal right. There is a bty attempt being made to reconstruct and fix up the Ten Commandments. To many they seem too rigid. The tower of Pisa leans over about 13 feet from the perpendicular, and people go thousands of miles to see its graceful inclination and to learn how, by extra braces and various architectural contrivances, it is kept leaning from century to century. The divine plumb line needs to be thrown over all merchandise. Thousands of years ago Solomon discovered the tendency of buyers to depreciate goods. He saw a man beating down an article lower and lower and saying it was not worth the price asked, and when he had purchased at the lowest point he told everybody what a sharp bargain he had struck and how he outwitted the merchant. "It is naught, saith the buyer, but when he is gone his way, then he boasteth" (Proverbs xx, 14). Society is so utterly askew in this matter that you seldom find a seller asking the price that he expects to get; he puts on a higher value than he expects to receive, knowing that he will have to drop. And if he wants \$50, he asks \$75. And if he wants \$2,000, he asks \$2,500. It is naught, saith the buyer. The fa-bric is defective; the style of goods is poor; I can get elsewhere a better article at a smaller price. It is out of fashion; it is damaged; it will fade: it will not wear well." After a while the merchant, from overper suasion or from desire to dispose of that particular stock of goods, says, Well, take it at your own frice, and the purchaser goes home with light step and calls into his private office his confidential friends and chuckles while he tells how for half price he got the goods. In other words, he lied and was proud of it. Nothing would make times as good and the earning of a livelihood easy as the universal adoption of the law of right. Suspicion strikes through all bargain making. Men who sell know not whether they will ever get the money. Purchasers know not whether the goods shipped

that will allow them to keep their sins and then at death say to them, ant," and that tells them, "All is well, for there is no hell." What a glorious heaven they hold before us! Come, let us go in and see it. There are Herod and all the babes he masthieves, house burners, garroters, pickpockets and libertines of all the will be according to the sample. And centuries. They have all got crowns and thrones and harps and scepters, what, with the large number of clerks who are making false entries and then absconding and the explos-ion of firms that fail for millions of dollars, honest men are at their wits' end to make a living. He who stands up amid all the pressure and does right is accomplishing something toward the establishment of a high commercial prosperity. I have deep sympathy for the laboring claswho toil with hand and foot. But we must not forget the business to a stonemason or a bricklayer is a plumb line? Why not build men who, without any complaint or

because if there be a deflection in the wall it cannot further on be correct-ed. Because by the law of gravita-tion a wall must be straight in orreceiving daily wages or regular sal-aries. And the men most are to be aries. And the men most to be pitition a wall must be straight in order to be symmetrical and safe. A young man is in danger of getting a lefect in his wall of character that while prices are failing and yet try to pay their cieras and employes and are in such fearful straits that they may never be corrected.

Remember that the wall may be would quit business to-morrow if it 160 feet high, and yet a deflection one foot from the foundation affects the entire structure. And if you live one hundred years and do right the last were not for the wreck and ruin of others. When people tell at what a ruinously low price they purchased an article, it gives me more dismay

eighty years you may nevertheless do something at twenty years of age that will damage all your earthly existence. All you who have built houses for yourselves or for others, am I not right in saying to these young men, you cannot build a wall so high as to be Independent of the character of its foundation? A man before 30 years of age may commit Now John or George or Henry or whatever be your Christian name surname, say here and bow: "No wild oats for me, no cigars or cigarettes for me, no wine or beer for me, no fasty stories for me, no Sunday sprees for me. I am going to start right and keep on right. God help me, for I am very weak. From the throne of eternal righteousness let down to me the principles by which I can be guided in building every-thing from foundation to capstone. Lord God, by the wounded hand of Christ throw me a plumb line.

"But," you say, "you shut us young folks out from all fun." Oh, no! I like fun. I have had lots of it in my time. But I have not had to go into paths of sin to find it. No credit to me, because of an extraordinary parental example and influence I was kept from outward transgressions, though my heart was bad enough and desperately wicked. I have had fun illimitable, though I never swore one oath and never gambled for so much as the value of a pin and never saw the inside of a haunt of sin save as when many years ago, with a commissioner of police and a detective, and two elders of my church, I explored New York and Brooklyn by midnight, not of magnanimity, it will become a common thing. I know of scores of great business houses that have had York and Brooklyn by midnight, not out of curjosity, but that I might in pulpit discourse set before the people the poverty and the horrors of underground city life. Yet, though I was never intoxicated for an instant and never committed one act of discounts. never committed one act of dissoluteness-restrained only by the grace of God, without which restraint I would have gone headlong to the bottom of infamy—I have had so much fun that tinue; therefore, taking things as they are, you will be wise to pre-serve your faith and throw over all I don't believe there is a man on the planet at the present time who has had more. Hear it, men and boys, women and girls, all the fun is on the side of right. Sin may seem at tractive, but it is deathful and like what seest thou? And I said, A the manchineel, a tree whose dews are poisonous. The only genuine hap-In the same way we need to rectify our theologies. All sorts of religions are putting forth their pretensions.

ore poisonous. The only genuine hap-piness is in a Christian life.

Oh, this plumb line of the everlast-ing right! God will throw it over all our moral deflections. God will throw it over all churches to show whether they are doing useful work or are instances of idleness and pretense. He will throw that plumb line over all nations to demonstrate whether their laws are just or cruel, their rulers good or bad, their ambitions holy or infamous. He threw that plumb line over the Spanish monarchy of other days, and what became of her? Ask the splintered hulks of her overthrown armada. He threw that plumb line over French imperialism, and what was the result? Ask the ruins of the Tuileries and the fallen column of the Place Vendome and the grave trenches of Sedan and the blood of revolutions ferent times rolling through the Champs Elysees. He threw the plumb line over ancient Rome, and what be came of the realm of the ancient Caesars. Ask her war eagles, with beak dulled and wings broken, flung helpless into the Tiber. God is now throwing that plumb line over this republic, and it is a solemn time with this nation, and whether we keep his Sabbaths or dishonor them, whether righteousness or iniquity dominate, whether we are Christian or infidel, whether we fulfill our mission or refuse, whether we are for God or against him, will decide whether we shall as a nation go on in higher and higher career or go down in the same grave where Babylon and Nineveh and Thebes are sepulchered.

"But," say you, "if there be no thing but a plumb line what can any of us do, for there is an old provert which truthfully declares 'If the pest man's faults were written on his forehead, it would make him pull his hat over his eyes.' What shall we when, according to Isaiah, 'God shall lay judgment to the line and righteousness the plummet?" Ah, here is where the Gospel comes in with a Saviour's righteousness make up for our deficits. And while see hanging on the wall a plumb line, I see also hanging there a cross. And while the one condemns us the other saves us, if only we will hold to it. And here and now you may set free with a more glorious liberty than Hampden or Sidney or Kosciu-sko ever fought for. Not out yonder or down there or up here, but just

where you are you may get it.

The invalid proprietress of a wealthy estate in Scotland visited the continent of Europe to get rid of the maladies, and she went to Baden Ba-den and tried those waters and went den and tried those waters and week to Carlsbad and tried those waters, and instead of getting better she got worse, and in despair she said to a physician, "What shall I do?" His reply was: "Medicine can do nothing for you. You have only on chance and that is in the waters of the Pit-Keathly, Scotland." "Is it possible." she replied. "Why, those waters are on my own estate." She returned, and drank of the fountain at her own gate, and in two months completely recovered. Oh, sick and diseased and sinning and dying, why go trudging all the world over and seeking here and there relief for your discouraged spirit when close by and at your very feet and at the door of your heart, nye, within the very estate of your own consciousness, the healing waters of eternal life may be had and had this very hour, this very minute? Blessed be God that over against the plumb line that Amos saw is the cross, through the eman-cipating power of which you and I may live and live forever !

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There are unprincipalled agents who will make all kinds of statements to the farmer to induce him to purchase their goods. We sold the Columbia Corn Harvester last sesson and are selling it this year again and the opposition agents have stated that we sold one last season to John Little, of Raleigh Township, and after he tried it he refused to keep it, but was compelled to do so, as we threatened to sue him if he did not settle. Rather than have a law suit he paid for it and in consequence we lost his custom. This is what the opposition is saying, now read what Mr. John Little says and after reading it the farmer can form some estimate of what to think of such disreputable methods as are being practiced by our opposition.

GEO. STEPHENS & CO., DEAR SIRS :

Replying to your enquiries about the Columbia Corn Harvester we purchased rom you, would say: We are well pleased with it and have no desire for anything better, and anything that may be said to the contrary by any agents of other Corn Harvesters we most emphatically deny. We were quite willing to settle and pay for it after it had been tried and do not nor never did re-

gret buying it. JOHN LITTLE. GEO. STEPHENS & CO., DEAR SIRS

The Columbia Corn Harvester I purchased from you last season I started in a very irregular field of corn, some being long and some short, and I experienced no difficulty whatever in handling nor placing the band in proper place. The team used in cutting did not weigh more than twenty-three hundred pounds and did the work with apparent case, having no side draught or neck weight. I have seen other Harvesters work, but believe this to be the best in the market. Yours truly,

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