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A Land of Promise.

Rev. Joseph Parker, the eminent English preacher, confesses that in his youth the sound of the name Van Diemen's Land—now known as Tasmania—powerfully affected his imagination. It was to him, as it has been to many youngsters, an a pallingly suggestion, and he tells how this came about in his recent book, "A Preacher's Life."

At a Methodist meeting in the north of England, the people had been singing a hymn in which the line, "We are marching through Emmanuel's ground," occurs, and whose emotion was in excess of his intelligence, fervently prayed:

"Grant that when this life is over every one of us may have a cottage in Van Diemen's Land."

The poor man somehow got it into his head, by some law of mental association which no one can fully explain, that Emmanuel's grounds and Van Diemen's Land were practically one and the same.

A Good Story.

Concerning the eminent railroad builder and financier, John I. Blair, of New Jersey, who died a few days ago, the following keen story is told:

In 1868 the Republicans persuaded him to run for Governor. The campaign is said to have cost him \$91,000, and the Democratic candidate was elected. Some of his Republican friends, after the election, were talking to him about it and endeavored to console him for his defeat. They told him it was a shame and a disgrace and all that kind of thing, and that Republican politicians had simply sold him out.

"Oh, don't worry about that," said Mr. Blair, "I'm not worrying a bit. I have had the benefit of a lot of experience. I would not begin to part with that experience for what it cost me."

You see, I was like the fellow down in Missouri who raised hogs. He had always marketed in St. Louis. Somebody told him he could get a good deal more money for his hogs in Chicago. So he set out to drive the lot to Chicago. When he got there he found the market had just switched around and hogs were worth more in St. Louis. When he found this out he remarked:

"Well, if I haven't got any money, I've had the society of the hogs." I wasn't elected Governor, it is true, but I've had the society of the finest lot of hogs you ever saw."

Judge and Lawyer.

The resounding and effusive court oratory of the past, says an observing lawyer, is not much in fashion nowadays, especially in cases which are not tried by juries, and in which the judges are so well conversant with the law that they seek little more than a concrete presentation of the facts. A story is told of the late Mr. Justice Miller, of the United States Supreme Court, which illustrates the demand of the courts nowadays.

Mr. Justice Miller was always courteous, but in his last years on the Supreme Bench he acquired an aversion to what some of the lawyers at the bar of the court took to be oratory. A lawyer, who may be called a long, rambling speech.

Justice Miller listened, uneasily fanning himself for some time. Then he leaned over the desk and said in an audible whisper:

"O Brown, come to the point!"

"Wh-what point, your honor?" said the visibly astonished lawyer.

"Any point!" answered the Judge. The rest of the address was a condensation of the whole matter was evident from the celebrity with which Mr. Brown concluded his remarks.

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