

POWER OF ONE WORD

Dr. Talmage Points the Way to a Life of Usefulness.

Destiny May Be Changed by a Fily Spoken Sentence—Apples of Gold in Baskets of Silver—A Great Crisis in Every Man's Life.

Washington, Dec. 30.—In this discourse Dr. Talmage shows an open door for any one who desires to be useful and illustrates how a little thing may decide one's destiny. The text is Proverbs xxv 11 (revised version), "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in baskets of silver."

A filgree basket loader, with fruit is put before us in the text. What is ordinarily translated "pictures" ought to be "baskets." Here is a silver network basket containing ripe and golden apples, pippins or rennets. You know of such apples glow through the openings of a basket of silver network. You have seen such a basket of fruit on many a table. It whets the appetite as well as regales the vision. Solomon was evidently fond of apples, because he so often speaks of them. While he writes in glowing terms of pomegranates and figs and grapes and mandrakes, he seems to find solace as well as lusciousness in apples, calling out for a supply of them when he says in another place, "Comfort me with apples."

Now you see the meaning of my text. "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in baskets of silver." You see the wise man enigmatically just one word. Plenty of recognition has been there for great orations. Cicero's arraignment of Catiline, the philippics of Demosthenes, the five days' argument of Edmund Burke against Warren Hastings, Edward Irving's discourses on the Bible and Moraries full of prolonged utterance, but my text extols the power of one word when it refers to a word fitly spoken.

I tell you what is a great crisis in every man's history. It is the time when he is entering an occupation or profession. He is opposed by men in middle life, because they do not want any more rivals, and by some of the aged, because they fear being crowded off and their places being taken by younger men. Hear the often severe and unfair examinations of young lawyers by old lawyers, of young doctors by old doctors, of young ministers by old ministers. Hear some of the old merchants talk about the young merchants. Trowels and hammers and scales often are jealous of new trowels and new hammers and new scales. Then it is difficult to get introduced. How long a time has many a physician had his sign put out before he got a call for his services and the attorney before he got a case. Who wants to risk the life of his family to a young physician who got his diploma only last spring and who may not know much of medicine, or to risk the obtaining of a verdict for \$20,000 to an attorney who only three years ago read the first page of Blackstone?

How is the young merchant to compete with a stout door hargin maker who can afford to undersell something because he can more than make it up by the profit on other things, or has failed three times and had more money after each failure than he had before, and how long a time has many a physician had his sign put out before he got a call for his services and the attorney before he got a case. Who wants to risk the life of his family to a young physician who got his diploma only last spring and who may not know much of medicine, or to risk the obtaining of a verdict for \$20,000 to an attorney who only three years ago read the first page of Blackstone?

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Why does not that old merchant, who has been 40 years in business, go into that young merchant's store and say "Courage!" He needs only that one word, although, of course, you will illustrate it by telling him how you broke down in one of your first cases and he laughed at by counsel and bar and how Russell broke down at the start, and how hundreds of the most successful lawyers at the start broke down. Why do not the successful men go right away and tell those who are starting what they went through, and how their notes got protested, and what unfortunate purchases they made, and how they were swindled, but kept right on until they reached the golden milestone? Even some who pretend to favor the new beginner and say they wish him well put obstacles in his way.

There are so many men who have all the elements of usefulness and power except one—courage. If you can only under God give them that, you give them everything. In illustrating that one word show them that every man that ever amounted to anything had terrific struggles. Show him what ships Deccatur had to fight, and what a mountain Hamish had to climb, and what a lame foot Walter Scott had to walk on, and that the greatest poet who ever lived, Milton, was blind, that one of the greatest musicians of all the ages—Beethoven—was deaf, and that Stewart, in some respects the greatest merchant that America ever saw, began in his small store, dining on bread and cheese behind the counter in a smothered interregnum between customers, he opening the store and doing it, sweeping it out with his broom and being his own errand boy. Show them that Pitkin too

minutes' walk there are stores, shops, and factories, and homes where as brave deeds have been done as those of Leonidas at Thermopylae, as that of Horatius at the bridge, as that of Colon Campbell at Balaklava. Tell them what Napoleon said to his staff officer that officer declared a certain military attempt to be impossible. "Impossible!" said the great commander. "Impossible is the adjective of fools."

Show them also that what's true in worldly directions is more true in spiritual directions. Call the roll of prophets, apostles and martyrs, and private Christians from the time the world began and ask them to mention one man or woman greatly good or useful who was not depreciated and failed and made a laughing stock. Racks and prisons and whips and shipwrecks and axes of beheading did their worst, yet the heroes were more than conquerors. With such things you will illustrate that word "courage," and they will go out from your presence to start anew and right, challenging all earth and hell to the combat.

That word "courage" fitly spoken with compressed lips and stout grip of the hand and an intelligent flash of the eye—well, the finest apples that ever thumped on the ground in an autumn orchard and were placed in the most beautiful basket of silver network before keen appetites could not be more attractive.

Furthermore, a comforting word fitly spoken is a beautiful thing. No one but God could give the inventory of sick beds and bereft homes and broken hearts. We ought not to let a day pass without a visit or a letter or a message or a prayer consolatory. You could call five minutes on your way to the factory, you could leave a half hour earlier in the afternoon and fill a million of solace. You could brighten a sick room with one chrysanthemum. You could send your carriage and give an afternoon airing to an invalid on a neighboring street. There are four or five words which, fitly spoken, might soothe and emancipate and rescue. Go to those from whose homes Christ has taken to himself a loved one and try the word "reunion." Not under wintry sky, but in everlasting springtime; not a land where they can be struck with disease, but where the inhabitants never say, "I am sick," not a reunion that can be followed by separation, but in a place "from which they shall go no more out forever." For emancipation and sighing, immortal health. Reunion, or, if you like the word better, anticipation. There is nothing left for them in this world. Try them with heaven. With a chapter from the great book open one of the 12 gates. Give them one note of scarping harp, one flash from the sea of glass, one dilaier of the hour of the horses, on which victors ride.

That word reunion, or anticipation, fitly spoken—well, no fruit heaped up in silver baskets could equal it. Of the 2,000 kinds of apples that have blessed the world not one is so mellow or so rich or so aromatic, but we take the suggestion of the text and compare that word of comfort, fitly spoken, to apples of gold in baskets of silver.

So also is a word of warning. A ship may sail out of harbor when the sea has not so much as a ripple, but what a foolhardy ship company would they be that made no provision for high winds and great waves. However smoothly the voyage of life may begin we will get rough weather before we harbor on the other side, and we need ever and anon have some one uttering in most decided tones of warning. There are all the temptations to make this life everything and to forget that an inch of ground is larger as compared with the whole earth than this life as compared with our existence. There are all the temptations of the wine cup and the demijohn, which have taken down as grand men as this or any other century has heard of. There are all the temptations of pride and avarice and base indulgence and ungovernable temper. There is no word we all need often to hear than the word "beware."

The trouble is that the warning word is apt to be late. We have to let our friends to be overcome in a fight with some evil habit before we sound an alarm. After a man is all on fire with an evil habit your word of warning will have no more effect than a word of address to a house on fire asking it to stop burning, no more use than a steam tug going out to help a ship after it has sunk to the bottom of the ocean. What use is a word of warning to that inebriate whose wife was dying from wounds inflicted by his own hand? As he held the hand of his dying wife he made this vow. "Mary, I will never take another glass of strong drink until I take it from this hand which I now hold." In an awful way he kept the vow, for when the wife was in her coffin he filled a glass with brandy, put the glass into the dead hand, then took the glass out of her hand and drank the liquid. Too late does any warning come to such a one. But many a man now high up in usefulness and honor was stopped on the wrong road by a kindly hand put upon the shoulder and a word fitly spoken. Ah, yes, fitly spoken—that is, at the right time, with the right accentuation, with the right emphasis. A dictatorial way, a condemnatory manner, a fault finding tone of voice, a manner which seems to say, "Look at me, and do as I do," will only make matters worse. From such a reproval the inebriate will go out to take a drink sooner than he would have taken it, and the dissolute man a worse plunge into sin. The word of warning must be charged and surcharged with sympathy. You will practically say to the man, "I suppose you got into your present habit through overwork, and you took stimulus to keep up and the work you must do," or, "I suppose it was through illness, and you took an intoxicant first as a medicine," or, "You are a bad fellow well met."

And you took the liquid in sociability," or, "You were the representative of a commercial house that expected you to treat customers. I understand it all. If I had been in the same circumstances, I would probably be fast in the same thrall." By some such alleviating introduction prepare the way for a "Beware!" that will halt your friend on the wrong road as suddenly as any platoon of soldiers was ever halted. Swing the red lantern across the track, and stop that train before it reaches the chasm.

Besides that, you had better be merciful in your word of warning, for the day may come when you may need some one to be lenient and excusatory to you. There are some somewhere ahead of you a temptation so mighty that unless you have sympathetic treatment you may go under. "Oh, no," says some one. "I am too old for that." How old are you? "Oh," you say, "I have been so long in active business life that I am clear past the latitude of danger." There is a man in Sing Sing penitentiary who was considered the soul of honor. He was 50 years of age and then committed a dishonesty that startled the entire commercial world. I was on a ship crossing the Atlantic, and all went well from the time we left Liverpool until within a few hours of New York, when, because of some defect of compass or some lack of fidelity on the part of those responsible, the Nantucket lighthouse suddenly warned us that we were driving straight for the rocks, and the vessel turned in time to save the ship and the hundreds of passengers and crew. And many a man has got nearly through the voyage of life in safety and then gone into the breakers. So you had better not hold your chin too high, as though you were forever independent of all moral disaster. Better, in the way you pronounce your word of warning to those astray, indicate that you yourself have weaknesses that may yet fling you down unless God help you and that you realize there may be temptations ahead with which you will find it as hard to grapple as the tempestuous sea with which that man is grappling.

The chief baker in prison in Pharaoh's time saw in dream something quite different from apples of gold in baskets of silver, for he said to Joseph, "I also have a dream. I beheld, I had three white baskets on my head, and in the uppermost basket there was all manner of baked meats for Pharaoh, and the birds did eat them out of the basket upon my head." Joseph interpreted the dream and said it meant that the chief baker should be beheaded and the birds would eat his flesh. So many a man has in his own bad habits omened evil, that point at him an awful doom, and death. But, oh, the power of that word "Come" when aright uttered! We do well when we send young men to schools and colleges and theological seminaries and by nine years of instruction and drill hope to prepare them to sound aright that sweet and enrapturing and heaven descended word "Come." The gospel we believe in is a gospel of "Come." That word is now building thrones for conquerors and burnished coronets for kings and queens. That word is to sound so clearly and impressively and divinely that the devil is advancing when all nations will respond, "We come!" "We come!" And while the upper steps toward God and heaven will be thronged with redeemed souls ascending there will be one solitary traveler on the road of sin and death.

In the Kremlin at Moscow, Russia, is what is called the "king of bells," but it is a ruined bell, and it has rung no sound for more than 200 years. It is 47 feet in circumference, and in height it is more than ten times the height of the average man, and it took a score of men to swing its brazen tongue. It weighs 300 tons. On the 19th of June, 1700, in a great fire it fell and broke. On it are figures in relief representing czar and empress and Christ and Mary and the evangelists.

The jewels of religion throw into its casting by ransomed souls of earth and heaven have not weakened it, but made it stronger and more glorious. Evangelists and apostles rang it, and martyrs lifted their heads to the flames to give it another sounding. It will ring on until all nations hear it and accept its invitation, "Come!" "Come!" It will not fall, as did that of Moscow. No storm can stop it. No earthquake can rock it down. When the fires of the last day blaze into the heavens, amid the crash of mountains and the groan of dying seas, its clear, resounding voice will be heard calling to the last inhabitant of the burning planet, "Come! Come!"

But it requires now no great strength to ring the bell. With this weak hand, yesterday formed and tomorrow turned to dust, I lay hold that gospel bell in invitation to all to whom these words shall come, on whatever land or whatever sea, in high places or low. I ring out the word, "Come, come! Come and have your sorrows soled. Come and have your wounds healed. Come and have your blindness illumined. Come and have your fatigues rested. Come and have your soul saved. Do you not hear the very last proclamation from the heavens which the seer of Patmos was commissioned to make: "The Spirit and the bride say come, and let him that heareth say come, and let him that is athirst come, and whosoever will let him take the water of life freely?" Come and sit down at the king's banquet. There was ever such a brilliant feast or so many royal guests? Here are the chalices filled out from the breweries of earth, but with the "new wine of the kingdom." And there are the ripe, purple clusters of Eschol, and pass them around to all the banqueters—"apples of gold in baskets of silver."

Would Ward Off Water. The Physician—You have a coat on your tongue. The Colonel—I sincerely hope it is a mistake.

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NO LACK OF TRIAL HORSES

British Sportsmen Determined to Give Lipton Every Assistance in Testing Shamrock II.

LONDON, January 4.—British sportsmen are preparing to give Sir Thomas Lipton every assistance in thoroughly testing the Shamrock II. Mr. Kenneth M. Clark, of Paisley, has purchased Mr. G. D. Rose's Distant Shore, principally for the purpose of using her as a trial boat with the new challenger. Captain Hogarth will be the skipper of this cutter designed by Watson and built in 1900, but not launched. Mr. James Costa, with similar intent, has practically completed negotiations for the purchase of the Valyrie III. With these two and with the additions of the Shamrock I, the Sybarite and the Meteor, the new cup challenger will be tested with a class of yachts such as no previous British competitor ever met.

AFTER FIFTEEN YEARS.

Eczema Cured After Many Years of the Greatest Torture.

Editor of THE GLEANER, Sir,—At the request of the makers I gladly write a line to tell what Dr. Clarke's Little Red Pills did for me. For over 15 years I was a sufferer from eczema and although treated by the best doctors in the country, I got no relief. After taking 9 boxes of the pills I am, thank God, entirely well. They cured me when every known remedy failed. Jas. Britain, G. T. R., Brantford.

Samuel Collins, Oakville, writes,—Six boxes of Dr. Clarke's Little Red Pills saved my life. I was at death's door from kidney and liver trouble. They are the greatest remedy on earth.

Dr. Clarke's Little Red Pills are a positive and certain cure for rheumatism, asthma, paralysis, catarrh, eczema, coughs, lame back, indigestion, all stomach and liver troubles, female complaints, even when the diseases have been standing for many years, the most stubborn cases will yield. For sale by R. T. Mack, G. Y. Dibley, W. H. Carten, Hunt & McDonald and C. A. Burdell, or sent direct by mail, by addressing Canada Chemical Co., Peterborough, Ont. 50 cents per box, or 3 boxes for \$1.00.

Dr. Clarke's Sure Cure for Catarrh same price, \$1.00 will be paid for any case that it will not permanently cure.

PENNIAC

PENNIAC, Jan. 3.—The Penniac Methodist church was crowded on New Year's night with happy children and parents. The following programme was well executed:

Recitation—Mildred Buber, Grand-ma.
Recitation—Verna Allen, Christ-mas Carol.
Recitation—May Christy, Mamma's Rhyme.
Recitation—Beatrice Love, Grand-ma's Angel.
Recitation—Harold Allen, Christ-mas's Death.
Recitation—Nina Moore, The News-boy's Death.
Recitation—Arabella Gilmour, The Christmas Gift.
Recitation—Stanley Gilmour, The Boys We Are.
Recitation—Miriam Cadwallader, The Star.
Recitation—Lottie Lawson, Laphia's Gift.
Recitation—Mayme Robinson.

The recitations were interspersed by choruses, a duet by Rev. W. Lawson and Mrs. Lawson, and addresses, and by other good things, in the way of candy, fruit, etc. This very pleasant, also profitable, gathering was brought to a close by God Save the Queen.

ODDS AND ENDS

At this time of the year when sore throat, pain in the chest, rheumatic aches and so prevalent, it would be wise to keep on hand a bottle of Hagar's Yellow Oil. It is a perfect medicine chest. Price 25.

Vast coal deposits have been discovered in Upper Alaska.

Sick Headache. Mrs. Joseph Wordworth, Ohio, U. S., says: "I have been troubled with sick headache for over a year. I started taking Laxa Liver Pills and they did me a world of good acting without pain or griping."

England's 35 sovereigns have reigned on an average of 23 years.

Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago, Neuralgia and Gout are all completely cured by Milburn's Rheumatism Pills, the great specific rheumatic remedy. Price 50c. a box at all dealers.

California is the only State in the union that taxes church property.

Hoarseness. Helen Decker, Jordan Ferry, N. S., writes: "A few months ago I had a severe cold in my throat and chest and became quite hoarse. A bottle of Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup soon relieved the hoarseness and cured the cold."

Canada expects a population of 6,000,000 in its census returns next year.

Castor Oil or other Cathartic is not needed after giving Dr. Low's Pleasant Worm Syrup. This remedy contains its own purgative and not only destroys but carries off the worms. Price 25c.

There are upwards of 80,000 inhabitants on the slopes and skirts of Vesuvius.

Grippe Headache. Mrs. C. Appleton, Whitewood, N. W. T., writes: "Milburn's Sterling Headache Powders have given me great relief from the terrible pains of La Grippe in my head and through my back." Price 10c. and 25c. all dealers.

The secret of keeping winter apples is low temperature and thorough ventilation.

Piles

To prove to you that Dr. Chase's Ointment is a certain and absolute cure for such and every form of itching, bleeding and protruding piles, I send you in the daily press and ask your neighbors what they think of it. You can use it and get your money back if not cured. 50c a box, at all dealers or KIDMANSON, BATES & Co., Toronto.

Dr. Chase's Ointment.

For pure blood,
A bright eye and
A clear complexion,
A keen appetite,
An easy digestion
And refreshing sleep.

TAKE
Bristol's Sarsaparilla

It cures the Liver,
Quickens the circulation,
Brightens the spirits and
Generally, makes life worth living.

Sixty seven years trial have proved it to be beyond question,
the most reliable BLOOD purifier known.

All the leading Druggists sell BRISTOL'S SARSAPARILLA.

COLONIAL HOUSE,

GREAT DISCOUNT SALE.

During the month of January we will offer our entire stock (with the exception of Standard Patterns, which we are under contract to sell at fixed prices) at discounts unprecedented in the annals of this establishment.

Lists of discounts will appear daily in the Montreal papers, and parties corresponding with us will receive the same treatment as city customers.

Prices will be so low that it will pay housekeepers to lay in supplies for the year.

Write for particulars.

Mail Orders Promptly Attended To.

HENRY MORGAN & CO, MONTREAL.

WELL HARNESSSED!

Your horse will be if you get a set of Harness here. We have just received 100 sets of harness—a good variety and a fine showing. We buy harness in such large quantities that we buy to exceptional advantage

We let our customers share in the advantage we have in buying harness, and we are quoting very low prices on both single and double harness

SPECIAL—A few Sleigh Robes left to sell at a reduced price.

J. CLARK & SON, The Farm Machinery People.

Corner King and York Sts., Fredericton, N. B.

ANOTHER FREEZE UP?

What, another freeze up? There's only one thing to do. Send for Limerick, who is an expert and makes a specialty of repairing frozen water pipes; and all kinds of plumbing jobs. You can get Limerick at any hour of day or night—telephones at store and residence.

A. Limerick & Son
Plumbers and Tinmiths,
York St., Fredericton.

CHEAPEST AND BEST

The Caskets and Coffins which I make at my undertaking establishment are made better and cost less than those which other dealers have to import. This is worth remembering when in need of an undertaker's services. I give prompt and satisfactory attention to all out of town orders.

Pictures Framed. J. G. ADAMS. Furniture Repaired.

JUST ARRIVED

4000 rolls Room Paper. Gilt and Ingrains. Ash, Walnut, Oak and Mahogany Curtain Poles. 23c. Also, 2 cases Window Shades, prices way down.

R. S. APLES ST. MARY'S FERRY.
neches Brick Block.