

SERMON.

Discontent; Curse and Cure, By Rev. Dr. Reese F. Alsop, Rector of St. Ann's Church, Brooklyn, N. Y.

"Dr. Reese F. Alsop, rector of St. Ann's church, New York, recently preached on 'Discontent; Curse and Cure.' The text was from Matthew xx: 11 and 12: 'And when they had received it, they murmured against the good man of the house, saying, these last have wrought but equal labor, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day.' Dr. Alsop said: 'The revised version says they murmured against the householder; that is, against their employer. The echo of that murmur has been heard through the centuries. It is here to-day, and the reverberation is louder than the first utterance. This is indeed one of the symptoms of the unrest. When we think of it there is something remarkable about it. It is not fair to say that never was the workman better paid than he is, and has been in these days. Taking the class as a whole, skilled labor as well as unskilled, it may be fairly claimed that the rewards of labor are today greater than they have been for many years. In these statements nearly all informed writers on economics agree. The saying that the rich are growing richer and the poor poorer is not borne out by the facts. It is true that there are in these days enormous fortunes, accumulations of wealth so great as to be startling, and perhaps dangerous, certainly so great as to be dazzling. It may be true that some limit should be set to such large accumulations, but it is equally true that in the vast increase of modern productiveness all classes have had a share. Whether the distribution has not been altogether equitable will not stop to discuss. I only wish to assert that in the unprecedented productiveness of these days, the whole, all classes, have had a better lot than they used to be. To all these statements indeed there are many exceptions. There are those, perhaps, many, who are discontented with the lot who toll well without hope, for scant wages amid hard conditions. For these our sympathy and our help should be ready, and we should overlook them, never forget them, never be content until we can do what we can to better their condition and to brighten their lives. The laborer's lot, however, is that, in spite of such exceptions, the workman today is better fed, better clothed, better housed, better educated, that were his forefathers. For himself, his wife, his children, his surroundings, his life, he has not only more, but he has more of something of music and art and literature. He has leisure to cultivate himself. He has, and ought to have, a larger share of the things of life than formerly fell to his lot. Yet, in spite of all this, it may be said that never was there more unrest and dissatisfaction among the workmen in the community than there is today. The daily papers furnish a sufficient proof of this statement. Day after day we read of signs of this unrest, of signs of this discontent, of signs of this feeling as if all society were rearing upon the shaly, unsteady crater of a volcano that may any day break into an eruption. Not long ago there was in Sweden a universal strike of all organized laborers. There was something in the air. We are suffering today from the coal strike, our anthracite regions—a strike the consequences of which have reached into almost every home. There is a threat today of a strike of thousands of bituminous miners. That would mean in the way of disturbance of industry, stoppage of mills, throwing workmen out of employment, it is difficult to describe, impossible even to imagine. There have been strikes in the city, in the motormen and conductors on trolley lines which have disorganized travel. So really ourselves, we are afraid we understand that the soil on which we stand that contractors are afraid to undertake any great works lest all their calculations should be overturned by strikes of all those engaged in the building trades here in the city. Now, all this unrest is the token and sign of a state of feeling. It is the bottom of discontent. It is the murmur that comes up like the rolling of thunder from millions who are doing the work of society, and are not satisfied with what comes to them.

HERE IS SOMETHING STRANGE. The workers are better off than they were, and yet they show signs of greater discontent. How are we to account for this? I think we can find the answer in the parable which constitutes the gospel for the day. We see in it the prototype of the feeling which now prevails, and we find in it some explanation of the restlessness of which we have been speaking. The text tells us that certain men murmured against their own employer. Why were they men disgruntled? We seem to see them gathered into a sullen group, thrown by their wages overboard the regular day's work, that for which they agreed to work, that which seemed to them to be a fair equivalent for their work; that, than which they expected nothing greater. They have it in their hand or their pocket. The day's work has been done, it is not unusually trying. The sun has not been hot beyond his wont. The toil has not been heavy. Vineyard work is called to do. One would suppose that they would return home with the feeling which a workman usually has when the day's work is over—a little bit tired, perhaps, but on the whole happy and contented. He has done his work, he has got his wage, he goes home with his family and to rest. He is thankful, perchance, that he has been fortunate enough to get the job, and yet these men did not feel this. Their trouble was they were thinking not of what they had earned, but of what other men had got. There were the men that came in at five o'clock in

comparing our lot with others and grudging them their good fortune, even though it do seem to be more easily won than ours. Through my wage in life he had earned, though he was modest, though grudging, and yet he was not the less prize what falls to me. Because the organizer of a vast trust crosses the ocean in his splendidly appointed yacht, I will not the less appreciate the cabin for which I may be glad to pay. Because some multi-millionaire lives in a palace and dines in a room whose ceiling cost \$30,000, I will not regret because I must live in an ordinary brick and dirt under an ordinary ceiling. Because my neighbor is strong and healthy to do it, it is religion. This is philosophy. It is also religion. 'Be thankful' is a needed precept. To think of what we have rather than of what we have not—to count our mercies—that is our wisdom, as it is our duty. It is the way to contentment and a fitness with contentment is great gain.

What shrank your woollen? Why did holes wear so soon? You used common soap. SUNLIGHT SOAP REDUCES SOAP EXPENSE. Add this to the Soapbox, etc.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 9.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 10 days.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 10.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 11 days.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 11.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 12 days.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 12.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 13 days.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 13.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 14 days.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 14.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 15 days.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 15.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 16 days.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 16.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 17 days.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 17.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 18 days.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 18.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 19 days.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 19.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 20 days.

SHIP NEWS. PORT OF ST. JOHN. Arrived. April 20.—St. John, from London, via Halifax, N.S., and Boston, N.Y., by the ship 'St. John', Capt. J. H. Smith, 21 days.

P. E. ISLAND. The Tussle Between McGready and Government. Recent Deaths on the Islands—Students Won High Financial Honors in Montreal—Bits of News.

NOTICE TO MARINERS. PORTLAND, N.B., April 10.—Notice to Mariners. The vessel 'St. John' is expected to arrive at St. John, N.B., on the 11th inst.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., April 10.—The committee of privileges to investigate the Guardian charges in connection with the Dominion Packing Co., met here this morning. These charges in effect are that the Dominion Packing Co. is using its position in the government to further the company's interests.

SHAMROCK III. WEXMOUTH, P. E. I., April 9.—A steamer named Shamrock III, 1000 tons, was launched at Wexmouth, P. E. I., on the 9th inst. The vessel is owned by the Dominion Packing Co.

THE POLICEMAN'S EVIDENCE. Toronto, April 10.—The police officer who testified at the trial of the late Frank Stetson, has been called to the stand to give evidence in the case of the late Frank Stetson.

FRESHET AT SUSSEX. SUSSEX, April 9.—The heavy rain of last night caused a very high freshet here today. Considerable damage has been done to the embankment at the west end of the bridge at Sussex.

MARRIAGES. BARLE-MORRISON.—On Wednesday, April 8, by Rev. G. R. Macdonald, Mr. Barle Morrison and Miss M. L. Morrison were united in holy matrimony.

DEATHS. JOHNSTON.—Died suddenly at Lower Bridge, N. B., on the 10th inst. of a heart ailment, Handford Johnston, aged 1 year and 2 days.

THE HORSE MARKET. Demands Bound Horses Only. Last week's market was a quiet one, and no outside dealers were on the scene.

Edward Island were superior to those grown in any part of Canada, except perhaps in British Columbia. But if a seed fair were held here every year, the quality of the seed would be improved.

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FAIRVILLE NOTES. April 9.—Mr. Finnis has returned to his home from the provincial hospital, able to move around once again.

CHARLOTTETOWN, April 11.—A young man named Carver, who was committed last night at Macdonald's, was shot and killed by a young man named Carver, who was committed last night at Macdonald's.

THE LATE FRANKLIN STETSON. BANGOR, April 9.—The funeral services of the late Franklin Stetson of St. John were held at the family home on Broadway this forenoon at 10:30 o'clock.

DEATHS IN YARMOUTH. YARMOUTH, April 8.—Two old and infirm men, Mr. and Mrs. John H. Croby, died at their home in Yarmouth on the 8th inst.

THE HORSE MARKET. Demands Bound Horses Only. Last week's market was a quiet one, and no outside dealers were on the scene.

FUR SCARF FREE. Soft, warm, glass black, 4 1/2 x 10 inches long, 1 1/2 inch wide, made of pure fur, with a handsome, stylish pattern, each only 25 cents.

W. H. THORNTON. And today we are selling to the same people who patronized us then. Could we possibly write a stronger recommendation for Union Blend Tea?

Over fifteen years ago we sold the first lot of

W. H. THORNTON. 42, 44, 46 Prince Wm. Street