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SILENCE IN HEAVEN

A THIRTY MINUTES' RECESS ALL THAT IT COULD AFFORD.

POWER OF SILENCE HONORED

Say Nothing and Do Nothing-Stronger rengeful Answer to Wrong Is the

told that when Christ was arraigned. The answered not a word." That silence was louder than any thunder that ever shook the world. Oftentimes when we are assailed and misrepresented the mightiest thing to say is to say nothing and the mightiest thing to do is to do nothing. Those people who are always rushing into print to get themselves set right accomplish nothing but their own chagrin. Silence! Doright and leave the results with God. Among the grandest lessons the world has ever learned are the lessons of patience taught by those who endured uncomplainingly personal or domestic or political injustice. Stronger than any bitter or sarcastic or revengeful answer is the patient silence.

ven must be an eventful and active place from the fact that it could afford only thirty minutes of recess. There have been events on earth and in heaven that seemed to demand a whole days on the country of the countr

place from the fact that it could air ford only thirty minutes of recess. There have been events on earth and in heaven that seemed to demand a whole day or whole week or whole year for celestial consideration. If Grotius was right and this silence occurred at the time of the destruction of Jerusalem, that scene was so awful and so prolonged that the inhabitants of heaven could not have done justice to it in many weeks. After fearful besiegement of the two fortresses of Jerusalem, Antonia and Hippicus had been going on for a long while, a Roman soldier, mounted on the shoulder of another soldier, hurled into the window of the temple a firebrand, and the temple was all aflame, and after covering many sacrifices to the holiness of God, the building itself became a sacrifice to the rage of man. The hunger of the people in that city during the besiegement was so great that as some outlaws were passing a doorway and inhaled the odors of food they burst open the door, threatening the mother of the household with death unless she gave them some food, and she took them aside and showed them that it was her own child she was cooking for the ghastly repast. Six hundred priests were destroyed on Mount Zion because the temple being gone, there was nothing for them to do. Six thousand people in one cloister were consumed. There was 1,100,000 dead according to Josephus, Grotius thinks that this was the cause of silence for half an hour. If Mr. Lord was right, and this silence was during the Diocletian persecu-

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In every town and village may be had. ages to come not one is especially measured off in the Bible. But the half hour of my text is made immortal. The only part of eternity that was ever measured by earthly time-piece was measured by the minute hand of my text. Oh! the half hours! They decide everything. I am not asking what you will do with the years or months or days of your life, but what of the half hours? Tell me the history of your half hours and I will tell you the story of your whole life in eternity. The right or wrong things you can think in thirty minutes, the right or wrong things you can say in thirty minutes. Axle **Grease** 

heart talk with your uncle about your future?"

"O, no, there was nothing in the least disagreeable about it."



BURIED BY BROWN.

ECCENTRICITIES OF NEW YORK'S

It used to be said that a stranger who was visiting New York for time and asked his hotel clerk for adrice as to what he should do on Sunday morning would find his doubts quickly reduced to the alternative, "Go over to Brooklyn and hear Beecher" or "Go to Grace church and see Brown." No prelate of the Episcopal church was so widely known either in or beyond his New York diocese as this valiant guardian of old Grace, whose income, it was estimated, was greater than that of any man in the cloth and whose power in society was even more feared

He received his appointment as sexton from the Rev. Dr. Thomas House Taylor, and, while Dr. Taylor has been long forgotten, Sexton Brown is still almost as much remembered in the great city as Jim Fisk, A. T. Stewart or Charles Delmonico.

Brown would cultivate the acquaintance of head waiters and cooks, securing the latest information as to the social plans of their masters and mistresses, and whenever he learned that a party or a ball was under considera-

a party or a ball was under consideration he would offer his services to deliver the invitations or look after the
comfort of the guests or superintend
their arrival and departure in their
carriages. Beginning in this humble
way, it was not long before he gained
the good will of distinguished patrons.
His authoritative manner, too, was
admirable for such occasions. Indeed
the host himself could hardly issue a
command to his menials with the
suavely peremptory emphasis which suavely peremptory emphasis which Brown employed. Such was his deportment and such his trustworthy zeal that it was said that no one in Grace church could be properly feasted or buried or could even say his prayer without the assistance of Brown, and eventually it became something like a dictum in a large portion of society that nobody could be married in New York in truly first class style unless Brown's presence blessed the brida

Nor did any detail that might be wanting for the personal comfort of the congregation escape his vigilant eye. It was a habit of old Peter Stuyeye. It was a habit of old Peter Stuyvesant, for example, to keep in his pew
a thermometer. As soon as he had taken his seat he would consult it. One
winter morning when the temperature
was extremely low the furnaces of the
church got out of order, and Brown's
assistants were able to force through
them only enough heat to lessen the
chill a little. It occurred to Brown that
the condition of the atmosphere would chill a little. It occurred to Brown that the condition of the atmosphere would not be conductive to either the plety or the comfort of the aged Stuyvesant. When the old gentleman arrived with-in the porch of the church, be was shivering with the cold, but without attracting his attention Brown, who knew that the first thing he would do would be to sten into his new and exknew that the first thing he would do would be to step into his pow and examine the thermometer, slipped in ahead, pressed one of his fat fingers to the little glass bulb and chuckled as he saw the mercury ascend to 72. When Stuyvesant reached the pew, he consulted the thermometer as usual, looked around wonderingly, but evidently concluded that the church must be warm enough and that therefore it must be himself who was cold.

Brown's funeral was marked by

Brown's funeral was marked by much of the pomp and circumstance which he himself had so often provided for the rich and the great. The wits said that it was the first in forty years that had been a perfectly correct per-formance without his individual guid-ance. He had died in the little town of Brandford one August night in 1880. There he had been in the habit of tak-There he had been in the habit of taking his summer rest. He had been
overcome by the heat while attending
a wedding at Brandford, and that summer he complained, probably for the
first time in his life, of ill health. One
of his orders was that his body should be placed in a casket of polished Spanish cedar.

A more ponderous casket had never been carried up the aisle of Grace church. It was rich with silver and church. It was rich with silver and velvet. It was so heavy—its interior being large enough for two ordinary corpses—that the eight Knights Templars who bore it into the church almost staggered with their burden. Upon it lay their cocked hats with waving ostrich plumes. Within the chancel stood four of the clergy, in the pews

ing ostrich plumes. Within the chancel stood four of the clergy, in the pews were the representatives of some of the proudest families of the city, and a long line of men and women filed into the church showing all the signs of sorrow for an old friend and nelighbor.

On the left hand side of Grace church as one turns after entering the porch under the bell tower and near where Brown was wont for more than a generation to take his station every Sunday is a shining brass tablet. It was there placed by members of the congregation in token of him who is described upon it as "The Faithful Sexton" and whom they "gladly recall for his fidelity, his generosity and his stainless integrity." It is next to the bas-relief which commemorates the virtues of the fillustrious Cadwallader D. Colden, once mayor of New York—what greater posthumous glory would Brown have craved?—and is not less conspicuous than the old tablet on the opposite side which was erected to the memory of Henry Brevoort, whose family was derived in "unbroken descent from the colonists of New Netherlands."—Ladies' Home Journal.

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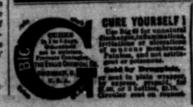
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