

PAY OF THE FAITHFUL.

Rev. Dr. Talmage Discourses on Their Reward.

A despatch from Washington says:—
Rev. Dr. Talmage preached from the following text:—"They that turn many to righteousness shall shine as the stars for ever and ever."—Daniel xii. 3.

It would be absurd for me to stand here, and, by elaborate argument, prove, that the world is off the track. You might as well stand at the foot of an embankment, amid the wreck of a capsize rail-train, proving by elaborate argument that something is out of order. Adam tumbled over the embankment six centuries ago, and the whole race, in one long train, has gone on tumbling in the same direction. Crash! crash! The only question now is, By what leverage can the crushed thing be lifted? By what hammer may the fragments be reconstructed?

First: We may turn them by the charm of a right example. A child, coming from a filthy home, was taught at school to wash its face. It went home so much improved in appearance that its mother washed her face. And when the father of the household came home, and saw the improvement in domestic appearance, he washed his face. The neighbours coming in, saw the change, and tired the same experiment, until all that street was purified, and the next street copied its example, and the whole city felt the result of one school-boy washing his face. That is a fable, by which we set forth that the best way to get the world washed of its sins and pollution is to have our own heart and life cleansed and purified. A man with grace in his heart, and Christian cheerfulness in his face, and holy consistency in his behaviour, is a perpetual sermon; and the sermon differs from others in that it has but one head and the longer it runs, the better. There are honest men who walk down Wall Street, making the teeth of iniquity chatter. There are happy men who go into a sick-room, and by a look, break the broken bones to knit, and the excited nerves drop to calm beating. They are pure men whose presence silences the tongue of uncleanliness. The mightiest agent of good on earth is a consistent Christian. I like the Bible folded between lids of cloth, of calfskin, or of morocco, but I like it better when, in the shape of a man, it goes out into the world.

A BIBLE ILLUSTRATED.

Courage is beautiful to read about; but rather would I see a man with all the world against him confident as though all the world were for him. Patience is beautiful to read about; but rather would I see a buffeted soul calmly waiting for the time of deliverance. Faith is beautiful to read about; but rather would I find a man in the midnight walking straight on as though he saw everything. Oh, how many souls have been turned to God by the charm of a right example!

Again: We may turn many to righteousness by prayer. There is no such detective as prayer, for no one can hide away from it. It puts its hand on the shoulder of a man ten thousand miles off. It alights on a ship mid-Atlantic. The little child cannot understand the law of electricity, or how the telegraphic operator, by touching the instrument here, may dart a message under the sea to another continent; nor can we, with our small intellect, understand how the touch of a Christian's prayer shall instantly strike a soul on the other side of the earth. You take ship and go to some other country, and get there at eleven o'clock in the morning. You telegraph to New York, and the message gets here at six o'clock the same morning. In other words, it seems to arrive here five hours before it started. Like that is prayer. God says, "Before they call, I will hear." To overtake a loved one on the road, you may spur up a lathered steed until he shall outrace the one that brought the news to Ghent; but a prayer shall catch it at one gallop. A boy running away from home may take the midnight train from the country village, and reach the sea-port in time to gain the ship that sails on the morrow; but a mother's prayer will be on the deck to meet him, and in the hammock before he swings into it, and at the captain before he winds the rope around it, and on the sea, against the sky, as the vessel ploughs on toward it. There is a mightiness in prayer. The breath of Elijah's prayer blew all the clouds off the sky, and it was dry weather. The breath of Elijah's prayer blew all the clouds together, and it was wet weather. Prayers, in Daniel's time, walked the cave as a lion-tam. It reached up, and took the sun by its golden bit, and stopped it. We have all yet to try the full

POWER OF PRAYER.

The time will come when the American Church will pray with its face toward the west, and all the prairies

and inland cities will surrender to God; and will pray with face toward the sea, and all the islands and ships will become Christian. Parents who have wayward sons will get down on their knees and say, "Lord, send my boy home," and the boy in Canton shall get right up from the gaming-table, and go down to the wharf to find out which ship starts first for America.

As stars, the redeemed have a borrowed light. What makes Mars, and Venus, and Jupiter so luminous? When the sun throws down his torch in the heavens, the stars pick up the scattered brands, and hold them in procession as the queen of the night advances; so all Christian workers, standing around the throne, will shine in the light borrowed from the Sun of Righteousness, Jesus in their faces, Jesus in their songs, Jesus in their triumph. Christ left heaven once for a tour of redemption on earth, yet the glorified ones knew he would come back again. But let him abdicate his throne, and go away to stay for ever, the music would stop; the congregation disperse; the temples of God be darkened; the rivers of light stagnate; and every chariot would become a hearse, and every bell would toll, and there would not be a room on the hill sides to bury the dead of the great metropolis, for there would be pestilence in heaven. But Jesus lives, and so all the redeemed live with him. He shall recognize them as his comrades in earthly toil, and remember what they did for the honor of his name, and for the spread of his kingdom. All their prayers, and tears, and work will rise before him as he looks into their faces, and he will divide his kingdom with them; his peace—their peace; his holiness—their holiness; his joy—their joy. The glory of the central throne reflected from the surrounding thrones, the last spot of sin struck from the Christian orb, and the entire nature a tremble and a flash with light, they shall shine as the stars

FOR EVER AND EVER.

Again: Christian workers shall be like the stars in the fact that they have a light independent of each other. Look up at night, and see each world show its distinct glory. It is not like the conflagration, in which you cannot tell where one flame stops and another begins. Neptune, Herschel, and Mercury are as distinct as if each one of them were the only star; so our individualism will not be lost in heaven. A great multitude—yet each one as observable, as distinctly recognized, as greatly celebrated, as if in all the space, from gate to gate, from hill to hill, he were the only inhabitant; no mixing up—no mob—no indiscriminate rush; each Christian worker standing out illustrious—all the story of earthly achievement adhering to each one; his self-denials, and pains, and services, and victories published.

Again: Christian workers will shine like the stars in swiftness of motion. The worlds do not stop to shine. There are no fixed stars save as to relative position. The star most thoroughly fixed flies thousands of miles a minute. The astronomer, using his telescope for an Alpine stock, leaps from world-crag to world-crag, and finds no star standing still. The chamois hunter has to fly to catch his prey, but not so swift is his game, as that which the scientist tries to shoot through the tower of the observatory. Like petrels mid-Atlantic, that seem to come from no shore, and be bound to no landing place—flying, flying—so these great flocks of worlds rest not as they go—wing and wing—age after age—forever and ever. The eagle hastes to prey, but we shall in speed beat the eagles. You have noticed the velocity of the swift horse under whose feet the miles slip like a smooth ribbon, and as he passes, the four hoofs strike the earth in such quick beat your pulses take the same vibration. But all these things are not swift in comparison with the motion of which I speak. The moon moves fifty-four thousand miles in a day. Yonder, Neptune flashes on eleven thousand miles in an hour. Yonder, Mercury goes one hundred and nine thousand miles an hour. So like the stars, the Christian worker shall shine in swiftness of motion. You hear now of father, or mother, or child sick one thousand miles away, and it takes you two days to get to them. You hear of someone suffering that demands your immediate attention, but it takes you an hour to get there. Oh the joy when you shall, in fulfillment of the text, take starry speed, and be equal to one hundred thousand miles an hour. Having on earth got used to Christian work, you will not quit

WHEN DEATH STRIKES YOU.

You will only take on more velocity. There is a dying child in London, and its spirit must be taken up to

God; you are there in an instant to do it. There is a young man in New York to be arrested from going into that gate of sin; you are there in an instant to arrest him. Whether with spring of foot, or stroke of wing, by the force of some new law, that shall hurl you to the spot where you would go. I know not; but my text suggests velocity. All spies open before you, with nothing to hinder you in mission of light, and love, and joy, you shall shine in swiftness of motion as the stars for ever and ever.

Again: Christian workers, like the stars, shall shine in magnitude. The most illiterate man knows that these things in the sky, looking like gilt buttons, are great masses of matter. To weigh them, one would think that it would require scales with a pillar hundreds of thousands of miles high, and chains hundreds of thousands of miles wide, and that Omnipotence alone could put the mountains into the scales, and the hills into the balance. But puny man has been equal to the undertaking, and has set a little balance on his geometry, and weighed world against world. Yea, he has pulled out the measuring-line, and announced that Herschel is thirty-six thousand miles in diameter, Saturn seventy-nine thousand miles in diameter, and Jupiter eighty-nine thousand miles in diameter, and that the smallest pearl on the beach of heaven is immense beyond all imagination. So all they who have toiled for Christ on earth shall rise up to a magnitude of privilege, and a magnitude of strength, and a magnitude of holiness, and a magnitude of joy; and the weakest saint in glory become greater than all that we can now imagine of an archangel.

Lastly, and coming to this point my mind almost breaks down under the contemplation—like the stars, all Christian workers shall shine

IN DURATION.

The same stars that look down upon us looked down upon the Chaldean shepherds.

The meteor that I saw flashing across the sky the other night, I wonder if it was not the same one that pointed down to where Jesus lay in a manger, and if, having pointed in his birthplace, it has ever since been wandering through the heavens, watching to see how the world would treat him. When Adam awoke in the garden in the cool of the day, he saw the stars in the cool of the day, he saw coming out through the dusk of the evening the same worlds that greeted us on our way to church to-night.

Safe for ever—all Christian workers. No toil shall fatigue them; no hostility overcome them; no pain pierce them; no night shadow them; for ever the river of joy flows on; for ever the jubilee progresses. The Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall lead them to living fountains of water, and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes.

But none of these things for the idlers, the drones, the stumbling-blocks. They who have, by prayer and example, and Christian work, turned many to righteousness, and only they "shall shine as the stars for ever."

ST. HELENA'S TRADE.

The Opening of the Suez Canal Has Seriously Impaired It.

Since the opening of the Suez canal, St. Helena, that little island in the Atlantic, 1,140 miles from Africa and 1,800 from America, has had absolutely no luck at all. Its population and its trade have both declined, the former from 6,500 to 5,000 and the latter from £15,000 to £10,000, according to the London Daily Mail.

As a port of call it used to flourish amazingly in the days of the old East India route, round by the Cape of Good Hope, but nowadays, save for an occasional tramp steamer and the periodical mail boats, there is practically no development at all connected with its shipping trade.

St. Helena is a great place for caves and hills. Both abound, particularly the latter. Geographically speaking, the island is largely, if not wholly, volcanic, and a lot of extinct craters are apparent. Some of the pinnacles have queer names, such as Asee's Ears, Holdfast Tom, Old Joan Point, Stone Top, etc.

The only inhabited place is Jamestown, which has a population of about 2,500. It lies in a deep valley surrounded by very high hills. It is not a particularly healthy place. Ladder hill is where the Government house is situated. It is so called because of the almost precipitous ladder-like wooden stairs by which its acclivity of 600 feet has to be scaled.

Nearly four miles inland from Jamestown is an isolated farm house on an elevated plateau about 2,000 feet above the sea. This is Longwood, where Napoleon lived from 1815 until he died there, in 1821. The house is a long, low, whitewashed, fairly trim building, with extensive outhouses, some rather fine old trees and a good bit of recent farm land.

Guilt has very quick ears to an accusation.—Fielding.

"SPHERES OF INFLUENCE"

THE VERY ELASTIC TERM USED BY THE GREAT POWERS.

Thirteen-Eighths of the Middle Kingdom Divided Among Imperial Nations, Who Are Still Grasping for More and Wondering at War.

The rather vague term, "sphere of influence," which we have heard so frequently in connection with China, has one distinctive peculiarity—its elasticity. This, be it said, has endeared it to the hearts of international politicians, for it may mean much or nothing at all, according to the will or strength of the Power for whose territorial ambitions it serves as a convenient cloak. Literally, however, it may be taken to indicate either certain advantages or privileges accorded by the Chinese Government to one particular Power in some definite part of the empire, or else it is merely an engagement from the Chinese Government to a foreign Power not to alienate a certain region without reference to that Power. Such an engagement is the charter of British rights in the Yangtze Valley. Japan attempted to obtain a similar sphere on the mainland facing Formosa. Another form in which foreign influence has established itself in China is by the leasing of ports and coaling stations to various Powers, instances of which are too well known to be given here.

The whole of this movement began no further back than two and a half years ago, after the Japanese War had left China prostrate. It will be remembered how the fruits of her victory were snatched from Japan and she was compelled to look on while the European Powers took the first steps toward what was practically the partition of China.

FOLLOWING THE WEDGE.

These Powers had already many commercial and other interests in China, which were difficult to defend in the state of anarchy prevailing throughout the empire. There were, too, missionaries of all nationalities, whose frequent murder called for redress, but, above all, the mutual jealousy of the Powers afforded a stimulus to their anxiety as to the fate of China, and the immediate neighborhood of a powerful and growing nation precipitated matters.

Germany is usually credited with having been first in the field, but, as a matter of fact, Russia, although the fact was not announced till later in the day, obtained the lease of Tientsin and Port Arthur for 25 years prior to the move of Germany. The lease was officially confirmed in March, 1898, and in May Manchuria became practically a Russian sphere through privileges granted in connection with the extension of the Trans-Siberian Railway to those ports. The concession to Russia debarred other Powers from making lines north of Port Arthur and Tientsin, and prohibited the opening of other ports in the neighborhood.

Toward the end of 1897, Germany, as a retaliation for the murder of German missionaries in Shantung, established her influence by the military occupation of that province, and in March, 1898, she obtained recognition by China of her claims, the lease for 999 years of Kiaochow Bay, and the extension of her "sphere" over the whole province of Shantung. Like Russia in Manchuria, Germany demanded and acquired certain exclusive economic privileges, including the sole right of railway construction and preferential rights in connection with all works for development of the province and provision of materials for the same. All these claims are in contravention of the existing treaties between China and other Powers, but are, nevertheless, in active operation and bear witness to the reality of the carving up of China.

GREAT BRITAIN, TOO.

The action taken by Russia in occupying Port Arthur and Tientsin naturally aroused the apprehension of Great Britain, whose commercial desires, if not her interests, in China have always been larger than those of any other Power. The closing of any part of China, which would naturally follow in the wake of Russian influence, would be a serious matter to England. Unfortunately for her, however, the acquisition of these ports was not prevented, no remedy remained to Britain, save to make counter claims, and, after considerable pressure, the lease was obtained of Wei-hai-Wei on July 1, 1898. The Yangtze Valley had already been claimed by Britain as her "sphere of influence," specially suited for exploitation by a commercial maritime nation, and the Chinese Government yielded so far as to give the celebrated, if vague, assurance which, as already said, is the charter of British rights in the Yangtze Valley. This assurance contained no concessions as to exclusive rights for Great Britain, for these were not demanded, the one stipulation being for the "open door" and the promise not to alienate the provinces adjoining the Yangtze. Thus a British sphere was estab-

lished over six of the eighteen provinces of the Celestial Empire, with about 120,000,000 people, and between 3,000 and 4,000 miles of navigable waterway.

Next came France, whose claims were based on the possession of an important colony immediately to the south of China. Soon after the acquisition of Wei-hai-Wei she demanded a coaling station at Kwang-Chou-Wan, facing the Island of Hainan. She had already stipulated for the nonalienation of that island, on account of its position dominating the Gulf of Tongking, and now, stimulated by the successes of other Powers, she obtained a similar promise with regard to the three provinces neighboring Tongking. Although at the time not stipulating for exclusive rights and privileges in the "sphere" so obtained, France had previously managed to arrange for various monopolies.

NOTHING LEFT BUT WAR.

This acquisition, close to her own recently granted and loosely defined sphere, caused further anxiety in ever watchful England, and the Chinese Government was pressed for more concessions to counterbalance those obtained by France. Britain was successful in obtaining an extension of her limits, which brought within her sphere two of the provinces already half promised to France, China, presumably, was anxious to satisfy every one as cheaply as possible. The matter was settled by an arrangement of mutual benefit and privileges in the province of Yunnan, while in Kwangtung, which faces the important port of Hongkong, Britain's stake was too large to be disappointed.

Hitherto Japan had not sought any lesshold on the mainland, but has secured a promise of nonalienation of the province of Fokien, and has since extended her demands to the two neighboring provinces.

In this struggle for spheres even a minor Power like Italy has tried to win something from the Chinese Government, but her demand for the lease of the Bay of Sanmu, with a pledge not to alienate Chekiang, though supported by Great Britain, was flatly refused.

Thus, it will be seen, 13 out of the 18 provinces of China are parcelled out, left off, as it were, to other Powers, who, while only lodgers, may very easily regard themselves on the "might is right" principle as landlords. Besides the "spheres" many concessions for mining and railways have been granted. A Belgian syndicate has a line from Peking to Hankow, a German railway is to run from Tientsin to Chinkiang, and an American line from Canton to Hankow. So far Austria and Belgium have refrained from any attempt to acquire territory, but a new era is dawning. All these nations have vested interests which have suffered in the recent disturbances, and their missionaries have lost their lives probably, their homes certainly, in the Boxer rising. When the time arrives for settling up there will be a long list of claims for damage against the Chinese Government.

MORE DEADLY THAN WAR.

Killed and Injured on the Railroads of the United States for the Year.

Those who were in the habit of dilating upon the fearful carnage of the Spanish-American war and the Anglo-Boer war will be interested to know that the railroads of the United States killed or injured more people during the year ending June 30th, 1899, than the combined losses of the Americans in the former war and of the British in the latter war says the Chicago Times-Herald.

The British casualties in the Boer war, according to figures issued by the British War Office on July 3rd, last, were as follows:

	Officers.	Men.
Killed in action.	254	2,403
Died of wounds.	79	401
Missing and prisoners.	65	2,624
Died of disease.	80	2,485
Invalided home.	844	18,433
Total.	1,366	28,571

The total losses from all causes in the Spanish-American war from April 21st to October 1st, 1898, were:

	Officers.	Men.
Killed.	33	257
Wounded.	4	61
Died of disease.	133	4,304
Total.	170	2,803

This is an aggregate loss of 2,910 out of a total of 274,717 officers and men. According to the recent report of the Interstate Commerce Commission the casualties of railroad travel for the year ending June 30th, 1899, were as follows:

Persons killed.	7,123
Persons injured.	44,620
Total casualties.	51,743

Unfortunately the Interstate Commerce Commission has no means of ascertaining how many of the 44,620 persons finally died from the effects of injuries. With this information the comparison would be much more complete. But the figures suffice to show that 4,176 more persons were "killed in action" on the railroads in one year than were killed in two years.

COL. GORDON'S PROPHECY.

TWENTY YEARS' FORECAST OF CURRENT EVENTS IN CHINA.

Chinese Do Not Fear Death—Fearful Consequences of a General Risting—The Mandarins Can Not Be Trusted.

There was probably no European more qualified to express an opinion of the Chinese than Colonel Gordon, more commonly called Chinese Gordon, whose strange career closed at Khartoum in January, 1885. His military association with them during the two years, from 1863 to 1865, when he commanded the Ever Victorious Army, as it was styled, gave him a unique experience of the Chinese and an insight into their somewhat complex character.

With the crudest of material and in spite of the strongest opposition, an opposition that would have been fatal but for the loyal support he received throughout his short term of service under the Emperor of China from Li-Hung-Chang, he organized a force that every nationality, including some Americans suppressed the Taeping rebellion then threatening the existence of China and the dynasty. The opinions he expressed therefore have at the present moment

EXCEPTIONAL VALUE.

One which he gave confidentially to a friend in 1880 when he was just on the point of leaving for India, when he had accepted the post of Secretary to the Viceroy, Lord Ripon, is just now of particular interest. Speaking of the Taeping rebellion, and of the courage of the Chinese troops, he denied that they were cowards in his sense. He held that they did not fear death, though he had seen them stand up bravely sometimes and then flee like sheep afterward. But what Europeans would have to consider was, he said, the awful consequences of a general movement, when least expected, in the vast inert mass of hundreds of million of men to overwhelm the foreign devils whom they hate like poison.

The danger of such an outburst, Gordon said, became greater every year on account of the way the Chinese were being continually harassed by the European States with demands for compensations, in some cases just, in others quite frivolous. When they saw that their only means of meeting the aggressions was to organize an army with improved weapons, then they would buy guns and rifles and ships, and with the aid of Europeans, who would always be found ready to drill and organize them, they would create

A FORMIDABLE ARMY.

Of one thing Gordon felt quite sure. The days when Europeans could march up to Chinese troops in position, or in defence of a position, and sweep them away like flies, would soon be over. There would be no more military promenades by a few hundred British and French troops through the country, driving thousands of Chinese before them.

Speaking of the authorities, Gordon said a mandarin was never to be trusted, and he was only too glad when he left their service. The English, in his opinion, made the mistake of thinking they were welcome wherever they went, but in fifteen or twenty years they would find proof to the contrary. With all their superstitions, their vices, and their ignorance, the Chinese were, in Gordon's estimation, far too good to be ruled by the class that governed them. The Governments of France, Russia, and England, he emphatically declared, had for the forty years before the time he spoke treated the Chinese most scandalously.

Current events are proving how accurately Chinese Gordon judged the situation, and the regret is that certain defects of character and temperament should have caused him to abandon a position in which he could have rendered great service to China and civilization. In the light of what is passing in China to-day Gordon's words of 20 years ago have a prophetic ring.

A FAMOUS INDUSTRY.

The manufacture of silk has for several centuries been the chief business of Lyons, France. The Romans established works there in the third century A. D. for the manufacture of cloth of gold and silver, but every vestige of these was swept away by northern invasions. The present silk industry was taken there from Italy and Spain and the Levant about the year 1466 under the fostering care of Louis XI. He imported machinery and weavers, with the expressed purpose of diminishing the stream of gold then flowing into foreign countries. It is recorded that five aunes of silk at that time cost from 300 to 400 francs, or from 48 to 60, francs, \$9.26 to \$11.58 a yard, money then being worth about four times its present value.

IMPERVIOUS TO ABSURDITY.

Edith—Professor, I've discovered why poets and scientific men wear long hair.
Professor—Ah, Miss Edith, that is indeed a discovery. Why is it?
Edith—It is because they haven't any sense of humor.

Dyspepsia and

AN ELDERLY LADY CURE THROUGH THE WILLIAMS' PINK SCORE OF OTHER R

Dyspepsia causes more distress than most diseases of mankind. In this case or another, it is caused by the humors and those afflicted taken. But more than that, it is a disease without apparent cause that the human body forms its functions, nourished, and this when the food is impure. Those who suffer should exercise care, only easily digested taken. But more than the blood needs that the stomach makes and the secretion of properly carried other medicine offered will act so promptly. Dr. Williams' Pink is given in the Dorrbridge, St. S conversation with Dorrbridge said:—"of years I have been from dyspepsia, a sick headache that come with this terrible from pain bloating and belching seemed to disagree result of the trouble run down, and at to do even lightness sure I tried a score of cures, but without an sixty years believe that it was a cure. A friend Williams' Pink Purged me to try my husband brown boxes. Before that felt much better, other half dozen completely restored not only feel better for years, but I very cheerful Williams' Pink ers.

If your dealer pills, they will be a box, or six dressing the D Co., Brockville,

Mr. Walter parents at press Mr. James M from a flying Mr. J. H. C evening from show hogs to M ton.

Mr. Warren ancient order day last by Griffel, daughter The happy couple short honeymoon Springfield, r day amidst th etc., to their The following gathered together and bells to g made. Whe groom with th quiet Village but, alact, th and mice af struck the tra at bay at M place, where promised tre secured, with

"Take He Be sure to indigestion, a blood, and th nervous prostrat dueed by bad is your safe stomach right nerves, purif blood and kee All liver ill 25c.

Census Tak Mrs. Neigh give her ag Mrs. Neigh younger than A Lately at could not di King's New him. They digestion, appetite, I not satisfied druggist.