ONE OF DR. T. DEWITT TALMAGE'S STERLING DISCOURSES.

Subject: "God Among the Birds."

TENT: "Rehold the fowls of the air?"-Matthew vi., 26.

Matthew vi., 20.

Matthew vi., 20.

There is silence now in all and January favests, except as the winds whistle through the base branches. Our northern woods are deserted concert halls. The organ lofts in the tennle of nature are hymnles. Trees which were full of carol and chirp and chant are now waiting for the coming back of rich plumes and warbling voices, solos, duets, quartetes, cautatas and To beams. But the Bible is full of birds at all seasons, and prophets and partiots and apostles, and Christ Himself, employ them for moral and religious purposes. My text is an extract from the sermon on the mount, and perhaps it was at a moment when a flock of birds diew past that Christ waved His hand soward them and said, "Behold the fowls of the air." And so in this course of sermons on foot everywhere I preach to you this third sermon concerning the Ornithology of the Bible; or, God Among the Birds.

Most of the other sciences you may study or not study as you please. Use your own judgment, exercise your own taste. But about this science of ornithology we have ne option. The divine command is positive when it says in my text, "Behold the fowls of the air." That is, study their habits. Examine their colors. Notice their speed. See the hand of God in their construction. It is easy for me to obey the command of the text, for I was brought up among the race of wings and from boyhood heard their matins at sunrise and their vespers at sunset.

matine at sunrise and their vespers at sunset.

Their nests have been to me a fascination,
and my satisfaction is that I never robbed
one of them any a ore than I would steal a
child from a cradie, for a bird is a child of
the sky, and its nest is the cradle. They are
almost human, for they have their loves and
hate, affinities and antipathies, understand
joy and grief, have conjugal and maternal
instinct, wage wars and entertain jealousies,
have a language of their own and powers of
association. Thank God for birds and skies
full of them! It is useless to excect to understand the Bible unless we study untural
history.

association. Thank God for birds and skies as constituted them It is useless to excect to understand the Bible unless we study natural history.

Five hundred and ninety-three times does the Bible allude to the facts of natural history, and I do not wender that it makes so many allusions or mithological. The skies and the caverns of reliable to the vinged creaters, and so many fly and roost and nest and hatch in that region that the winged creaters, and so many fly and roost and nest and hatch in that region that inspired writers do not have far to go to get ornithological illustration of divine truth. There are often grey species of birds recognized in the Scriptures.

Oh, what of robust is supported by the cornorant or plunging bird, hurling itself from sky to wave and with long beak clutching that prey, the thrush, which especially dislikes a crew; the partridges; the saw, the hard walle watching for prey; the swan, at become the ward while watching for prey; the swan at become among the marshes and with feet so constructed it can wask on the leaves of ward walle watching for prey; the swan at become the same of the marshes and with feet so constructed it can wask on the leaves of ward while watching for prey; the saw, the partridges; that always had a habit of dropping on a stone the turtle it had lifted and so killing it for food, and on one occasion mistoot the bald head of Exchyluz, the Greek poet, for a white stone, and dropped a turtle upon it, killing the famous Greek; the cucko, with crested head and crimson throat and wings snow tipped, but too lazy to build its own nest, and so having his habit of depositing its eggs in nests belonging to other birds; the poliding, the bittern, the harrier, the bulley, the grouse, the plower, the magpie, the kingisher, the pelican, which is the carricature of all the feathered creation; the ow, the kingisher, the pelican, which is the carricature of all the feathered creation; the ow, the bulley, the spond habit, all architecture of nests, leaving nothing wanting in

Moses, the greatest lawyer of all time and a great man for facts, had enough sentia great man for facts, had enough sentiment and poetry and musical tasts to welcome the illuminated wings and the voices divinely drilled into the first chapter of Genises. How should Noah, the old ship-carpenter, 600 years of age, find out when the world was fit again for human residence after the universal freshelt. A bird will tell, and nothing else can. No man can come down-from the mountain to invite Noch and his family out to terra firma, for the mountains were submerged. As a bird first heraided the human race into the world, now a bird will help the human race back to the world that had shipped a sea that whelmed everything.

Noah stands on Sunday morning at the window of the ark, in his hand a cooing dove, so gentle, so innoceast, so affectionate, and he said: "Now, my little dove, dy sway."

dove, so gentie, so innoceat, so afrectionate, and he said: "Now, my little dove, fly away over these waters, explore and come bace and tell us whether it is safe to land." After a long flight it returned hungry and weary and well us whether it is safe to land." After a long flight it returned hungry and weary and well as the long of the lo

to take possession of the resuscitated planet. So the human race were saved by a bird's wing, for, attempting to land too soon, they would have perished.

Aye, here comes a whole flock of doves—rock doves, ring doves, stock doves—and they make issain think 'O' great revivals and great-nawletening when souls fly for shelter like a flock of pigeons swooping to the opening of a pigeon coon, and he cries out, "Who are these that fly as doves to their windows?" David, with Saul after him, and flying from cavera to cavera, compares himself to a descripatridge, a bird-which especially haunts rocky places, and boys and hunters to this day take after it with stick, for the partridge runs rather than files.

boys and hunters to this day search with stoke, for the partridge runs rather than flee.

David, chased and clubbed and Barried of Jursier, says, "I am hunted as a partridge on the mountains." Speaking of his forlora condition, he says, "I am like a pelican in the wilderness." Desorthing his loneliness, he says, "I am as swallow alone on the house-ton". Herekiab, in the emaciation of his sickness, compares himself to a crane, thin and wasted. Job had so much trouble he could not skeep nights, and he desorthes his incomina by saying, "I am a companion to owls." Isaiah compares the desolations of banished Israel to an owl and bittern and cormorant among a city's ruins.

Jeremiah, describing the cruelty of parents toward children, compares them to the ostrich, who leaves its eggs in the sand uncared for, crying, "The daughter of my people is become like the ostriches of the wilderness." Among the provisions piled on Solomon's bountful table he speaks of "fatted lowl." The Jaraelites in the desert got tired

mon's bountiful table he speaks of "fatted fown!," The Israelites in the desert got tired of manna and they had quails—quails for supper, and they died of quails. The Bible refers to the migratory habits of the birds and time and they died of quails. The Bible refers to the migratory habits of the birds and time and the turtle and the crane and the swallow the time of their going, but my people know not the judgments of the Lord." Would the prophet illustrate the fate of fraud, he points to a failure at incubation and says. "As a partridge sitteth on eggs riches and the try not, so he that getteth in the midst of his days and at his end shall be a loo!" The partridge, the most careless of all birds in choice of its blace of nest, building it on the ground and often near a frequented road or in a sight depression of ground, without reference to safety, and all. So says the prophet of an and will back out of them no peace, no satisfaction, no happiness, no security.

What vivid similitude! The quickest way to amass a fortune is by toiquity, but the trouble is soon such partridge, is diven off the nest. So such partridge, it is too done way, and if a man can by one falsehood make as much as both teeping it. Every hour of the nest. So such partridge, it is too done way, and if a man can by one falsehood make as much as by tan years of hard labor, why not tell it? Had build your house on a volcano's crater; go to sleep on the boson of an avalancha. The volcano will base, and the avalancha will tunned; and the same and

that you might hear it ring. Invite them to Christ and they will call you a fasailc. Let there be coatection among Christians, and they will say: "Hurrah! The church is in decadence."

Let there be coatesition among Christians, and they will say: "Hurrah! The church is in decadence."

Christ intended that His church should always remains a specked bird. Let sirds of another feather pior a proper cannot rob her of a single plume. Like the albatros, who can sleep on the bosom of a churpest. She has gone through the fires of Nebuchadnezzar's furnace and not goe through the fires of Nebuchadnezzar's furnace and not goe and not been drowned; through the ship wheek on the beakees, of Mellits and not been foundered. Let all sarth and hell try to hunt down this specified bird, but far above human scorn and infernal assault it shall sing over every montain top and fly over every mation, and her triumphant song shall be: "The church of God! The pillar and ground of the truth. The gates of hell shall not prevail against her."

Bit we cannot stop here. From a tal. cliff hanging over the sea I hear the eagle calling unto the tempest and lifting its wings to smite the whirtwind. Mess, Jeremiah, Hoese and Habatkuk at times in their writings take their pen from the eagle's wing. It is a bird with flerceness in its eye, its set armed with claws of iron and the head with a dreadul beak. Two or three of incenden fall the heavens with clangor. But generally this monafer of the air is alone and unexcompanied, for the reason that it habits are so predacious it requires the or ten miles of aeriai or earthly dominion all for itself.

The black brown of its back, and the white of its lower feathers, and the fire of the white of its lower feathers.

the miles of aerial or earthly dominion all for itself.

The black brown of its back, and the white of its lower feathers, and the fire of its eye, and the long flap of its wing makeglimpse of it as it swings down into the valley to pick up a rabbit, or a lamb, or a child and them swings back to the throne on that cook somethic up as a lamb, or a child and them swings back to the throne on that the swings back to the throne on that the swings back to the throne on the terror of all the swings back to the throne on the terror of all the laws of the eagle are the bones of its conquests. But while the back and the claws of the eagle are the terror of all the travelers of the air, the mother eagle is most kind and gentle to her young. God compares His treatment of His people to the eagle's care of the eagle's care of the eagle's the eagle's returned to the most, flutterath over her young, spreading abroad her wings, taketh them, beareth them on her wings, so the Lord alone did lead.

The old eagle first shoves the young one out of the nest in order to make it fir, and then takes it on her back and flies with it and shakes it off in the air, and it it seems like falling quickly flies under it and takes it on her wing again. So God does with us. Disaster, failure in business, disappountment, bereavement, is only God's way of shaking us out of our comfortable nest in order that we may learn how to fly. You who are complaining that you have no faith or courage of Christian zeal have had it to easy. You never will learn to fly in that comfortable nest.

Like an eagle, Christ has carried us on His back. At times we have been shaken off, and when we were about to fall He came and a sout of our charge of the sunny mountain. Never an eagle brooded with such love and care over her young as God's wings have, been over us. Across what cosans of trouble been over us.

gloomy valley to the sunny mountain. Never an eagle brooded with such love and care over her young as God's wings have, been over us. Across what oceans of trouble; we have gone in safety upon the Almighty wings! From what mountains of sin we have been carried and at times have been borne up far above the gusshot of the world and the arrow of the devil!

When our time on earth is closed on these great wings of God we shall speed with infinite quickness from earth's mountains to heaven's hills, and as from the eagle's circuit under the sun men on the ground seem small and insignificant as lizards on a rook, so all earthly things shall dwindle into a speck, and the raging river of death so far beneath will seem smooth and glassy as a Swiss lake.

It was thought in ancient times that an eagle could not only molt its feathers in old age, but that after arriving to great uge it would renew its strength and become entirely young again. To this Issiah alludes when he says; "They that watt on the Lorn shall renew their strength." They shall wall renew their strength.

agle could not only moit its feathers in old age, but that after arriving to great age it would renew ite strength and become entraly young again. To this Isaiah alludes when he says: "They that wat on the Lord shall renew their strength. They shall mount up with wings of eagles." Even so the Christian in old age will renew his spiritual strength. He shall be young in ardor and enthusiasm for Christ, and as the body fails the soul will grow in elasticity till at death it will spring up like a gladdenei child into the bosom of God.

Yes, in this ornithological study I see that Job says, "His days fly as an eagle that hasteth to his prey." The speed of a hungry eagle when it saw its pray a score of miles distant was unimaginable. It went like a thunderbolt for speed and power. So fly our days. Sixty minutes, each worth a heaven, since we assembled in this place have shot like lightning into eternity. The old earth is rent and cracked under the swift rush of days and months and years and ages. "Swift as an eagle that hateth to his pray." Bahold the flowls of the air! Have you considered that they have, as you and I have not, the power to change their syees ot that one minute they may be telescopic and the next microscopic, now seeing something a mile away and by telescopic and the next microscopic, now seeing something a mile away and by telescopic and the next microscopic, now seeing something a mile away and by telescopic and the next microscopic, now seeing something a mile away and by telescopic and the next microscopic, now seeing something a mile away and by telescopic and the next microscopic, now seeing something a mile sway and by telescopic and the next microscopic, now seeing something a mile sway and by telescopic and the next microscopic, on we see his something and his day and the fact, which says, and they young, even thine altar. O Lord of Marka as seeing something a mile away and by telescopic and the next microscopic openight, and then dropped and his and the prices were offering and fold." What

Out of mosses, out of sticks, out of lichens, out of horsehair, out of spiders' web, out of threads swept from the door by the house-wife, out of the wood of the shear from the pasture field. Uphoistered by leaves actually sewed together by its own sharp bill. Cushioned with feathers from its own breast. Mortared together with the gum of trees and the saliva of its own tiny bill. Suchioned with feathers from its own breast. Mortared together with the gum of trees and the saliva of its own tiny bill. Suchioned with feathers with the saliva of its own tiny bill. Suchioned with the saliva of its own tiny bill. Suchioned such geometry of structure.

Surely these nests were built by some plan. They did not happen just so. Who charted the plan for the bird. It beat? God! And do you not think that if plans such a house for a chaffinch, for an order to boolink, for a sparrow, He will see to it that you always have a house? "Ye are of more value than many sparrows," Winthis billing of the feathers of the Almighty." Just think of a nest like that, the warmin of its, the safety of its—"this feathers of the Almighty," Just think of a nest like that, the warmin of its, the safety of its alminge outlassing the troolcal sun-

SCIENTIFIC SCRAPS.

A new nickel mine has been discovered at Keckuk, Iowa

Hard coal loses 8 per cent. In bulk, per amum, when exposed to the weather; soft coal losse 12 per cent,

Platinum can now be drawn into wire strands so fine that 27 twisted together can be inserted into the hollow of a hair.

An air brake instruction car has just been finished at the Cleveland shops of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern.

There are volcanoes in Africa, in the Mediterranean, the West Indies, and even amid the eternal ice and snows that surround the Southern Pole.

A further discovery of plumbage has been made at Buddegama, in the Galle district, Cevlon, the vein being four feet thick and lying close to the

M Trouve, a Parisian electrician, first introduced electric jewels to be worn in the hair or as pins and brooches, and also invented small portable batteries for lighting the

In accordance with the wishes of the Consul-General of France, the Prefect of Seine-et-Marne has ordered the destruction of the barberry in this department, as it is thought to cause rust upon wheat, and thus injures agriculture.

The blackening of incandescent bulbs, and the consequent deterioation of the quantity of light, is pronounced by a leading electrical journal to be one of the most practical questions with which electric-light engineer have to deal.

Mining along the footbills of the Sierra in Merced County, California, is not profitable, except in very wet winters. There is plenty of course gold in the hills above Dry Creek, but water is only obtainable for a short period in the season.

Electricity, where unretarded by atmospheric influences, travels at the rate of 288,000 miles a second. Along a wire, it is, of course, vastly slower; a perceptible period of time is occupied by the electric current in sending telegrams over long distances.

A "lawn and parlor bicycle" has been invented. This new machine is a regular bicycle fastened to the floor by a rod and revolving in any sized circle suited to a room. It is propelled by means of levers which, taken one ineach hand, can be handled by a child without inconvenience.

It is stated on good authority that the Thomson-Houston Company has obtained possession of a practical storage battery system for street railways. The system, it is asserted, reduces the cost to a minimum far less than any other storage battery system. The invention is that of a young New York man, formerly of Peabody, and the price paid is reported to have been about \$50,000.

On a clear night an ordinary human eye can discover about 1000 stars in the northern hemisphere, most of which send their light from distances which we cannot measure. How large they must be! Round these 1000 stars circle 50,000 other stars of various sizes. Beside single stars we know of systems of stars moving round one another. Still we are but a short way into space as yet! Outside our limits of vision and imaginstion there are, no doubt, still larger spaces.

More Likely to Find It.

Weekwit-What ridiculous advice is printed in the newspapers. Look at this: "Don't go into the water after a hearty meal. "What is there ridiculous about

Weekwit-Well, you may go in the hearty meal, but I go in after a bath. — [Puck.

Unselfish.

Sweet Girl-Is you love for me absolutely unselfish?"

Adorer Absolutely.

Sweet Girl-Then I wish vou'd go somewhere else tonight. Jack Hansom promised to call New York Weekly.

. It is a New Yorker who says that the old complaint that there is no good public or semi-public library in New York is particularly true.

set ever had such brilliancy of philes robin redbreast ever had plumas with seas orman and purple and and gold—"the feathers of the Alam Do you not feel the touch of the and provided and other and spirit, and small foresteed and other and spirit, and small feathers of the Almagary of the presenting us with the anatomy of a beauting.

presents us with the automy of a best wings.

Over fifty times does the old Book slast to the wing—"Wings of the does in the best of the morning," Wing of the seasons of righteousees with healing to the morning," What does it wings," "Wings of the Almighty," fowl of every wing." What does it means It suggests tipliting, it talls to flight upward, to means to remid rot the top of the wings, but the wings of the wings, but the wings of the wings

Rise, my soul and stretch thy wing. Thy better portion trace.

Up out of these lowlands into the harms of higher experience and wider propes. But how shall we rise? Only as God's king spirit gives us strength. But that is only now. Not as a condor the third shall we rise the spirit gives us strength. But that is only now. Not as a condor that the condormal collinors, awooping upon the dischard valle, but at a dove like that which put is all brown wings over the wet locks of Cortis at the baptism in the Jordon. Dove of geals, ness! Dove of peace:

Come, holy spirit, heavenly dovs, With all thy quickening more With all thy quickening powers: Come shed abroad a Saviour slove, And that shall kindle outs.

The Crown Prince of Roumana to Harque Princess Marie of Edinburgh.

SIGMARINGEN, Jan. 9.—This towa is a feet in honor of the marriage to-morror of Princess Marie of Edinburg to Prince Feedinand, Crown Prince of Romania.

Princess Marie, accompanied by he father and mother, the Duke and Buchen of Edinburgh, arrived here from China.

of Edinburgh, arrived here from Cobarg yesterday afternoon.

yesterday afternoon.

The railway station and platform were tastefully decorated in their hone. There were many royal quests and officials about the train.

The party, as it started from the station for the castle, was school by a regiment of troops drawn up in front of tail station, while all the bolts in the toyal needed forth a welcome.

ment of troops drawn up in front of the station, while all the belts in the toyal peaked forth a welcome. There will be two religious services. Protestant and Roman Catholic, Princes Martie being a member of the Church of England and Prince Ferdinand being a Catholic. The first ceremony will be full choral and will take place in the large Roman Catholic chaped, high Catholic dignitaries officiating.

The second ceremony will take place in the small Protestant Church. Emperor William, as head of both branches of the House of Hohenzollem will be present to witness the maringa while the Duke and Puche-cost Comanghi will represent Queen Victoria.

Berlin, Jan. 9. Emperor William, started for Sigmaringen last evening to attend the wedding of Princess Marie of Edinburgh and the Crowa Prince of Romania.

EXPLOSION IN A CONDUIT.

Escaping Gas Blows Up the Street in Front of the Blaine Residence. Washinoton, Jan. 3.—An explosion, followed quickly by the rattling sound of falling iron, occurred at an early moraing hour in front of the residence of ex-

Secretary Blaine on Lafayette square.

Secretary Blaine on Lafayette square.
The report could be heard in the bose, but only faintly, and did not disturb Mr. Blaine, who was asleep at the time,
The explosion was caused by leafy gas mains, which filled the electric conduit with illuminating gas, and coming is contact with an imperfectly insulated wire, set the gas afire.
The heavy iron mantrap was blown up a distance of fifteen feet and fell, breaking the inch-thick castiron into a dozen pieces. The conduit for a distance of several squares was cracked. Other man eral squares was cracked. ()ther man-holes along the conduit were also blown

OR.

Aside from the loss to the company,
which is trifling, no damage was done,
and no alarm was created.

MR. BLAINE'S CONDITION. Quite so Favorable But the Change Not Considered Serious,

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.-Mr. Blaine's condition has taken a backward turn, but dition has taken a backward turn, but the change is probably not of a character to excite serious apprehension, for the physicians of the distinguished patient were not summoned in haste, as has been the custom when Mr. Blaine became

worse.

For the past two days Mr. Blaine has suffered from constitution, and restering his condition was not so favorable as it had been for several days preceding.

World's Fair Staff Frozen Out.

World's Fair Staff Frozen unter Chicago, Jan. 7.—The continuance of the extreme-cold spell has frozen out the World's Fair staff from Jackson Park. Work on the buildings has also been largely suspended. Several worknes were overcome yesterday by the cold. Nebraska's Deadlock Broken.

Lincoln, Neu., Jan. 7.—The deadlost in the State Senate was broken yesterday in the State Senate was broken yesterday by the election of Correll, by the election of Correll, by the election of Correll, but of five president, four Democrats out of five giving him their support. The Senate has adjourned until next Thesday.

German Mine Strike Spreading. German Mine Strike Spreading-Bealin, Jan. 7.—The miners at Gelsen-kirolpen, Westphalia, have decided at a mass meeting, to join the miners of the Saar District in their strike. The most-ment is spreading extensively throughout the mining regions, notwithstanding the afforce of the enthesition.

the mining regions, notwi-efforts of the authorities. Want the Fair Open Suntary.

Springstring, Iit., Jan. 7. — resolution has been introduced in the State Sensite requesting Illinois Congressmen to secure a modification of the present law requires the closing of the World's Fair or ling the closing of the World's Fair or Suntary. Want the Fair Open Su

ein be hap Control with BATTLES thoughte sisted upon. Every lie truth on

Lord borroy ood interest. E are not pleasing God whe unhappy.

HE more God's truth is opp more it spreads. WHERE the morals are wrong igion is not right. my will not give us any favor de play at religion. . MAN can tell how much it v

to make him rich. a smile THE right kind of rts a prayer meeting.
The Christian who winks a
11 soon be stone blind. you want the Lord to use wearing a long face.

PEOPLE who are always givin e seldom like to take it. STONING the preacher will also hell any the less real. (ion wants every man to live mon before he preaches it. It is not the biggest pipes in You know the character of a en you know what he loves. The only way to plow a str row is, to stop looking back.

uts.

Where the giants are the biggrapes of Canaan are the swee

feeman who runs from tr

never find time to stop and

No man will ever lose his sou

WHERE ER the gospel is faith eached, somebody is going t A HANDSOME Bible on the pole will not keep the devil on

THE Lord is never able to do a

o head. THE troubles we talk about to

A Small Order.

Toole's fondness for pracking is well known. Not very to the celebrated actor enter c the celebrated actor enter iry shop in London, and assu-solemn demeanor addressed hin the man behind the counter: li take a boy," said Mr. T avely looking round at the she avey 100king round at the she A boy, sirt" asked the dairymp pazzled tone. "And a girl," a t. Toole. The man gazed outhed at his customer, evidence the impression a lunation diversing him. over the impression a lunation differesting him. "This is a so." said the dairyman in an batic tone. "Come outside," wered Mr. Toole in a sepuil, blee, and taking the man by the led him to the door and polyward to the sign. "I'll takes digir," repeated the hume the not a whost of a suble." inot a ghost of a smile. "

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ene Year Berrows Anot