

SUNDAY'S SERMON.

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

Subject: "The Resurrection."

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved." Acts xv. 1.
Jails are dark, dull, damp, loathsome places even now, but they were worse in the apostolic times. I imagine to-day we are standing in the Philippian dungeon. Do you not feel the chill? Do you not hear the groans of those incarcerated ones who for ten years have not seen the sunlight and the dew-sight of women who remember their father's house and mourn over their wasted estates? Listen again. It is the cough of a consumptive or the struggle of one in the nightmare of a great horror. You listen again, and hear a whisper, his chains rattling as he rolls over in his dream, and you say, "God, pity the prisoner!" But there is another sound in that prison. It is the song of joy and gladness. What a place to sing in! The music comes wafting through the corridors of the prison, and in all the dark wards the prisoner is heard: "What's that? What's that?" It is the song of Paul and Silas. They cannot sleep. They have been whipped very badly. The long lashes on the cold ground, their feet fast in wooden sockets, and of course they cannot sleep. But they can sing. Jailers, what are you doing with these people? Why have they been put in here? Oh, they have been trying to make the world better. Is that all? That is all. A bit for Joseph, a bit for Daniel, a bit for Joseph, a bit for Shadrach, a bit for John Wesley, an anathema for Philip Melancthon, a dungeon for Paul and Silas.

"I think there are many under the influence of the Spirit of God who are saying, 'I will trust Him if you will only tell me how.' And the great question asked by many is, 'How, how?' And while I answer your question I look up and utter the prayer which Rowland Hill so often uttered in the midst of his sermons, 'Master, help! How are you to trust in Christ?'
Just as you trust any one. You trust your partner in business with important things. If a commercial house gives you a note payable three months, hence, you expect the man who signs the note at the end of three months. You have never seen him, but in their word and in their ability. Or, again, you go home to-day. You expect there will be food on the table. You have confidence in that. Now, I ask you to have the same confidence in the Lord Jesus Christ. He says you believe. 'I take away your sins,' and you say, 'before I pray any more? Before I read my Bible any more? Before I love my sins any more?' Yes, this moment, believe with your heart, and you are saved. Why Christ only waiting to get from you what you give to scores of people every day. What is that? Confidence. If these people whom you trust day by day are more worthy than Christ, if they are more faithful than Christ, if they have done more than Christ ever did, then give them the preference, but if you really think that Christ is as trustworthy as they are then deal with Him as fairly.

Of Christ. You know when Jesus was upon the earth how happy He made every house. He went into, and when He belated us up to His home in heaven how great shall be our grief! His voice has more music in it than is to be heard in all the oratorios of eternity. Talk not about banks dashed with effluence. Jesus is the chief bloom of heaven. We shall see the very face that beamed sympathy in Bethany and take the very hand that dropped the blood from the short beam that dropped the blood from the short beam with Him. Toward that harbor I steer, toward that goal I run. I shall be satisfied when I awake in His likeness.
Oh, broken hearted men and women, how sweet it will be in that goodly land to point all the while and have Him point to you as the woman there. "You seem to be lonely." "Yes, she said, 'I am lonely.'" "How many in the family?" "Only myself." "Have you had any children?" "Had seven children." "Where are they?" "Gone." "All gone?" "All." "All dead?" "All." Then she breathed a long sigh into the loneliness and said, "Oh, sir, I have been a good mother to the grave."
And so there are hearts here that are utterly broken down by the bereavement of life. I point you to-day to the eternal balm of heaven, and I agree, and I agree, and I agree, who have been at the throne of grace for these score years and ten will not your desperate change for the leap of a heart when you come to look face to face upon Him whom having not seen you love? Oh, that will be the Good Shepherd, not one of our night-watching, keening, keening of the wolves, but with the lamb reclining on the sunlit hill. That will be the Captain of our salvation, not amid the roar and crash and boom of battle, but amid His disbanded troops keeping victorious festival. That will be the Bridegroom of the church coming from afar, the bride leaning upon His arm while He looks down into her face and says: "Behold, thou art fair, my love! Behold, thou art fair!"

NOTES AND COMMENTS.
Ever beggars may ride in these times. A horse was sold not long ago, at Carrollton, Mo., for sixty-five cents.
In 1898 the United States imported potatoes to the amount of \$1,998,708, and beans to the value of \$1,025,154.
SIR JOHN LUBBOCK is the one man of the present age who won distinction both as a man of letters, a scientist, a politician and a business man.
SPORTING interests in the South-west are booming. Two thousand five hundred dollars changed hands recently on a race between a Texas coyote and a jack rabbit.
Just before his election the President of the French republic was learning to ride the bicycle. He has had no time to give to it of late, but Mme. Casimir-Perier and her children are good riders.
AFTER all the declarations on the part of scientists that the people on the planet Mars were trying to signal to the earth, Director E. S. Halden, of the Lick observatory, knocks the whole story over by announcing that a spectroscopic examination shows Mars to have no atmosphere, and hence to be uninhabitable.
The railroad mileage of the United States at the close of the year 1898 was 177,758 miles, an increase for the year of 2,549. The companies owning 175,441 miles of line have a capital stock of \$5,080,092,904, and floating debts of nearly \$800,000,000, so that their total liabilities are \$11,448,888,892, which is \$12,097,274 less than their assets.
ACCORDING to the Republique Francaise there is in Paris a theatre for every 32,000 inhabitants; in Berlin, for every 81,000; in Bordeaux, for every 84,000; in Budapest, for every 85,000; in Hamburg, 113,000; in Vienna, 138,000, and in London, despite the large number of theatres, only one for every 145,000. In proportion to the population there are more theatres in Italy than any other country.
EVERY railroad station in France has a big register, wherein travelers are expected to enter any and all complaints they may have to make against the road or its management. This register must be visited and countersigned once a week by the mayor of the place, and a certified copy of it forwarded weekly to the government department having oversight of the roads. It is said that the register is very well patronized by the traveling public, except on Sundays, many of the complaints being of the most trivial and absurd nature.
The construction of ocean cables has grown wonderfully. At present there are 289 lines owned by private corporations and 86 under government administration. One hundred and twenty-five thousand one hundred and fifteen miles belong to private corporations and 14,474 are under government control. Altogether thirty-seven ships are employed, with a gross tonnage of 59,000 and 7,320 horse-power. The largest concern is the Eastern-Cable Company, which has seventy-six cables spanning 25,376 miles. The smallest is the New Caledonia Company, with one mile of cable.
The Land office at Guthrie, Oklahoma, has just rendered an important decision, and one entirely with precedent. The land laws require that a settler taking up Government land must make improvement thereon, and in the case in question a Sac and Fox Indian, who had become a citizen and settled upon Government land, was contested, on the ground of not having made proper improvements. But the office holds that, as he had erected a wigwam upon the land, and that being all the improvement he considered necessary for comfortable living, he was entitled to the land.
REPORTS brought by vessels from Greenland bear to the effect that there had been no summer in that Arctic land up to July 11. The bark Iodine sailed on that day from Iqfuit for Philadelphia; and on the previous day there had been a curious snow-storm on the west coast which made even the Esquimaux shiver. Snow was piled high in many places, and the mountains were as white as in midwinter. It is believed that this state of affairs will interfere seriously with the plans of the Perry and other Arctic exploring parties in their attempts to penetrate northward.
In an interview in the New York World, Nikola Tesla, in speaking of the possibilities of electricity in the near future, is reported to have said among other things: "You would think me a dreamer and very far gone if I should tell you what I really hope for. But I can tell you that I look forward with absolute confidence to sending messages through the earth without any wires. I have also hopes of transmitting electric force in the same way without waste. Consequently, the transmission of messages through the earth, I have no

hesitation of predicting success. I must first ascertain how many vibrations to the second are caused by dialing the earth contains. My machine for transmitting must vibrate as often as to put itself in accord with the electricity of the earth."
WHAT is called the Outhwaite law has been signed by the President, making some important changes in the conditions of enlistment in the United States army. Hereafter no soldier of the United States; the recruit must be a native American or have taken out full citizenship before the term of enlistment hereafter is two years, and there is no provision, as at present, for "buying out" before the term of enlistment has expired. The provision of the present law that no soldier shall enlist after ten years' service is repealed; the soldier must stay two years, and he may stay thereafter until retired under the veteran act. "Young able-bodied American citizens who wish to learn the life and opportunity than ever before," observes the Kansas City Star.
THE bright scintillation of light now visible on Mars, and which, it is suggested, indicates that the inhabitants of that planet are signaling to us, is susceptible of a different and far more plausible explanation. Mars has an atmosphere similar to our own, but slightly cooler, and his time around the sun is 686 days. His distance from the earth varies, so that he is five times brighter when he is nearest to us. Since both of his poles are capped with ice, the sun, casting its light on that surface, reflects with intense brilliancy—a phenomenon noted even by the ancients; and as those periods of brighter opposition occur at intervals of thirty-three years, it is no wonder that this fiery orb became the god of war and forbode strife; and it is also singular that this planet should thus portend it every thirty-three years, as it is the common belief that each generation has its war.
If you feel semi-idiotic attend to it at once, is the advice of the Atlanta Constitution. Possibly your typhoid gland is affected. Scientific Englishmen have been making discoveries about that little organ, and London, having heard of the fact, is interested in locating it in its anatomy in the front of the throat. It is now fashionable to be afraid that something is the matter with this misunderstood and, until lately, unmentioned organ. While it was left to itself in retirement, like the intestinal duct now so familiar, it seems to get along all right, but now that prying specialists have dragged it into publicity it will be heard from "many a time and oft." Those who like to be up to date, and have been wondering, now that they had had their canalling repaired, what would be the next thing, may go ahead and have their typhoid gland attended to; but they cannot have it cut out as they did that appendix, for it is useful and of vital importance.
If ever two men suffered for an injudicious choice of given names, says Kate Field's Washington, they were the late General A. J. Pleasonton and the still living General Alfred Pleasonton. Their surname was sufficiently uncommon to excuse the blunder of the multitude in confusing the two initial A's. The result of this confusion was that General A. J. Pleasonton was constantly asked by interested strangers whom he met to relate his adventures as a cavalry leader in the civil war—in which character he never figured—while every second person, on being introduced to General Alfred Pleasonton, begins his conversation with a query about "his blue-glass theory." The obituary paragraphs were the last two to mix these Pleasontons up. They buried both the cavalry leader and his blue-glass brother as one and the same person, and the cavalry leader had to come out a few days ago with an interview in the newspapers to establish his own identity and show that he was still as well as ever.
The North China Daily News, which is one of the ablest English newspapers in the Orient, ascribes China's lack of preparation for the boundless conceit of the leaders in the strength of the nation. The Viceroy Li is about the only man in China who recognizes the weakness of the nation, and he has done what he could, in the face of the army opposition, to strengthen the province navy. Many governors of provinces actually believed that China could have whipped France had the war over Tonquin been carried on. The follows now affect to look with contempt on the Japanese, who, they say, are descended from monkeys. Meanwhile Japan is taking every trick in the Korean game, and China, despite her vastly superior resources, is placed at an enormous disadvantage. Whatever may be the outcome, it cannot fail to be of service to China, as it will go far to shatter this childish self-confidence which is founded on utter misconception of the strength and spirit of other nations.

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