

SUNDAY'S SERMON.

ONE OF REV. DR. TALMAGE'S STERLING DISCOURSES.

Subject: "The Philippian Jailer."

Text: "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" Acts xvi, 30.

Incarcerated in a Philippian penitentiary place cold and dark and damp and gloomy and hideous, unillumined save by torch of the official candles to see if you are alive...

I stand now among those who are asking the same question with more or less earnestness, and I address you in this crisis of your soul with a message from heaven. There are those in this audience who might more skillfully argue the question...

I shall proceed to characterize the question of the agitated jail keeper. And first I characterize the question as courteous. He sits you vagabonds, are you tearing down this prison? Aren't you satisfied with disturbing the peace of the city by your infamous doctrines?

Again, I characterize this question of the agitated jail keeper by saying that it was a practical question. He did not ask God to let him into the world; he did not ask how Christ could be God and man in the same person...

Again, I characterize this question of the agitated jail keeper as one personal to himself. I have no doubt he had many friends, and he was interested in their welfare. I have no doubt he found that there were persons in the prison who were suffering and who had destroyed them, would have found these cases desperate...

Again, I characterize this question of the agitated jail keeper as one of importance. I have no doubt he had many friends, and he was interested in their welfare. I have no doubt he found that there were persons in the prison who were suffering and who had destroyed them...

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every insurance company that will not... about you, Oh, how I should like to see this side of the grave with business on the other side...

I saw one hanging on a tree In agony and blood, Who fixed His languid eyes on me, As near His cross I stood.

Oh, never till my latest breath Will I forget that look, It seemed to charge me with His death, Though not a word He spoke.

In the troubled times of Scotland Sir John Cochrane was condemned to death by the King. The death warrant was on the way. Sir John Cochrane was bidding farewell to his daughter Gretel at the prison door.

The second time the death warrant is on its way. The disguised wayfarer comes alone and asks for a little bread and a little wine, starts on across the moors, and they say, "Poor man, to have to go out on such a stormy night, it is dark and you will lose yourself on the moors."

And the wayfarer pulled aside and pulled out the Jerkin and the cloak and the hat, and lo! it was Grisel, the daughter of Sir John Cochrane. "Gracious heaven!" he cried. "My child, my daughter, my own Grisel! But a more thrilling story. The death warrant had come forth from the King of heaven and earth."

PEACE ASSURED IN SICILY. Duties of the Military Commander at Palermo Reduced. Rome, Dec. 30.—Prime Minister Crispien has issued an order revoking the decree giving the military commander at Palermo direction of both the police and military forces of the island of Sicily.

Science and Longevity. A list of the losses which the Royal Society has suffered by death during the past year shows that the pursuit of science is not unfavorable to longevity. The list comprises nineteen fellows and seven foreign members, and the average life-time of these twenty-six men was a fraction over seventy-six years and a half.

Justice Brewer Denies the Report. St. Louis, Dec. 30.—Justice David J. Brewer of the United States supreme court, was in this city yesterday when he has been at the bedside of a sick daughter, to Washington. He denies the report that he had been asked to accept a place on the Venezuelan commission.

100,000 TONS GO UP.

Biggest Blast Ever Attempted in a Quarry.

The stupendous blast at Long Cove, on Penobscot Bay, went off with great scenic effects at precisely 1.58 P. M. and 5,000 saw the upheaval, says the Lewiston (Me.) Journal. The excavation of the mine was a long and judicious job, begun December, 1894.

At the end of each a small cavern was constructed as a receptacle for the explosive, the object of this T shape being to lift the mass back into the quarry. Five hundred and fifty kegs of powder and four pounds of dynamite were used, and in total darkness—for to work by the aid of artificial light meant taking dangerous chances—this explosive was poured, one bag at a time, into the compartments.

Nothing of the sort had ever been attempted east of the Mississippi River, and just what might happen nobody could guess. At 1 o'clock precisely every road and avenue of approach was closed to the public by a mounted horseman, who departed on his errand with something of the thrill pervading him that Paul Revere must have felt on his famous ride.

Whole families of Russian Finns were seen hastily seeking seclusion from danger, mothers carrying little babes and followed by animal pets, the two forming the most precious treasures of their households. Anxiety was written on every countenance and a babel of voices arose; but this was gradually hushed as the hour drew nearer, and when it lacked but five minutes of the appointed time, a quiet entirely new to the thriving village pervaded.

The ensuing moments were fraught with the deepest suspense, and watches indicated just two minutes of two o'clock when the superintendent's son, from his station of safety a thousand feet away, pressed the button that operated the battery.

The first intimation that came to the people assembled on the hillside was the rocking of the ground beneath their feet. All eyes turned at once upon the quarry, where a puff of smoke suddenly became visible, and even at the distance of a half mile, which was not considered too far for safety, the immense bluff was seen to rise from its foundations, and 100,000 tons or more of the best Maine granite thundered back into the quarry, its echoes reverberating for several moments among the hills.

But for an acre in the rear, where the powder found opportunity to vent itself on weak seams, there was every appearance of visitation from an earthquake. Cracks varying in width from six inches to two feet were caused, some extending back into the woods 200 feet. From these gigantic cracks, which seemed to be utterly bottomless, came the sickening odor of burnt powder.

OPIMUM. The opium trade in the Philippines is reported to be increasing. The opium trade in the Philippines is reported to be increasing. The opium trade in the Philippines is reported to be increasing.

FIRING A SNAKE'S DEN.

Plan to Destroy an Army of Rattlesnakes.

On the headwaters of Bushy Creek, in the ruins of Old Hampshire Furnace, is a depression between the hills known as Rattlesnake Hollow, and it is that it bears out the idea of its cognomen, as a greater number of these poisonous reptiles are not to be found in a similar area elsewhere on the face of the earth.

Rabbi I. M. Wise, of Cincinnati, who officiated at 10,000 Jewish weddings and only three couples whom he had married have ever applied for a divorce.

Wall paper has been in use in China for over 700 years.

During the present season several persons have been bitten, and the snakes became so numerous and bold that the inhabitants decided that something must be done to thin out the pests or they would be forced to abandon the country to the serpents.

Everything being in readiness last Tuesday was decided upon as the time for the great round-up. A dozen men, each with a pocketful of matches, dispersed themselves around the crest of the mountains, at intervals of a few hundred yards, and at a given signal the process of firing the leaves began.

A good stiff breeze was blowing directly down the hollow, and the roaring, crackling wall of fire rapidly advanced, the circle gradually narrowing on all sides as it approached the mouth.

Presently a shout was raised, and all turned their eyes in the direction of the fire, when a sight met their gaze that caused their hearts to leap and their feet to stand on end. A few yards in front of the fire came an army of giant rattlers, apparently gliding long upon their tails, with their heads elevated three feet above the earth, and looking back at the advancing fire, from which they seemed loath to flee.

General Lee told an amusing story of a Charlottesville Chronicle reporter. When he was about to deliver his address at the Confederate reunion in Fauquier county, recently, some one came to him and asked him if he would speak to an old colored man who insisted, and the old man whose name was "Sam," and who had fought throughout the war, came and received the proffered hand. General Lee at once began to put questions to the old fellow, who answered with wonderful skill. The General then asked him where he had seen the heat during the war.

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