# ...ghter ...the Vanquished.

...ay to men that you ...ty, and two or three of them are very successful, three or four more are thoroly successful and the balance have not sold at all. The reason why this is so, we confess we don't know, but we are going to sell the balance of these suits. We never carry stock long enough to be shelf-worn. Therefore

**The Balance of these Particular $12 Suits are now on Sale at**

# $8.75.

There are lots of you who will think them the prettiest suits you ever saw, and you will see at a glance that they are well worth their original price of $12.00.

**SCHAUL & ROOSA,**
230 Main St. Hornellsville

## AMONG OUR NEIGHBORS.

### GREENWOOD.

A nice rain.

Vegetation is stretching upward.

Wesley Reynolds of Hornellsville and Densel Freeland have treated the residence of W. E. Coston to a new coat of paint.

Mrs. D. Ferris and granddaughter are spending a few days in Hornellsville.

Mrs. S. Mitchell and two daughters of Hornellsville passed Wednesday last with Mr. and Mrs. J. S. O'Conner.

The Methodists came up in force from Canisteo Friday and entrenched themselves in Leroy Smith's grove. They held their position until their commissary stores showed signs of exhaustion, when they took the three o'clock train and returned to their base of supplies at Canisteo.

Miss Jennie Rugar returned Monday from a three weeks visit in Hornellsville.

Mr. and Mrs. G. E. B. Williams of Mount Vernon spent a few days of last week with Mr. and Mrs. F. D Young.

Mrs. Mary Phillips of South Main street is ill with the grip.

Asa and Nate Baker of Canisteo and Mrs. A. W. Richardson of Springfield, Mass., were entertained at J. S. O'Conners Friday.

Miss Lura Reynolds of Hornellsville is visiting relatives in town.

Mrs. Edwards and two children of West Hill are visiting her mother, Mrs. Cary Davenport.

Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Woodward and daughter, Mrs. Addie Smith and Miss Jacklin were in Canisteo Saturday.

Mrs. Margaret Burger spent Sunday with her sister, Mrs. Byron Rugar.

Miss Lottie Appar of Hornellsville is spending a few days at Leroy Smith's.

Miss Marie Woodward is visiting friends in Canisteo and Canaseraga.

Mr. and Mrs. Alden and daughter of Canisteo called at Byron Rugar's Thursday.

Churchill Cobb of Spring Mills was in Greenwood Friday.

M. F. Smith of Hornellsville was called in town Monday, by the death of his nephew, A. Turner.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones of Elmira spent Sunday with her sister, Mrs. John Rugar.

Misses Blanche and Mabel Smith of Canisteo visited at Leroy Smith's Friday.

### YOUNG HICKORY.

The most of the farmers in this section are thru haying.

The sick are improving.

Frank Short and Henry Chilson are drawing lumber for Price and Strait from the mill near L. House's to Rexville.

Mr. Haskins and wife of Potter county, Pa., were visiting at Leon Plaisted's one day last week.

Miss Bessie Potter is visiting for a few days near Westfield, Pa.

Mrs. A. L. Lewis was a caller at A. H. Lewis' on Friday and at J. O. Potter's on Saturday last.

Bert Hardy is at home and expects to help his father in his fallow this fall.

Impossible to fore see an accident Not impossible to be prepared for it. Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. Monarch over pain

### JASPER.

Haying is nearly done. This week will finish about all and the crop is about three-fourths of what it was last year. Usually a good load to the acre.

George Hardy and wife of Cuba were visiting here and at Troupsburg for a few days, returning on Saturday last.

The ball game between Jasper and Woodhull was a complete fizzle on both sides, on account of the mismanagement of Umpire Hamblin. The Woodhull boys quit on the 8th inning and went home.

Democrat caucus called on Thursday afternoon at 2 o'clock at Jasper.

The Dennis reunion will be held at the home of A. H. Dennis on Sept. 6th. Come on all you Dennises, a good time is sure.

Myron Beabout and wife of Woodhull visited Jerome White Saturday and at W. B. Miller's and W. Hales' Sunday.

Children's day was observed at the Dowley church Sunday night.

George W. Dennis has gone to Oswayo to look for a job.

Dick Banks is happy. It's a boy.

By some unknown trouble the Canaseraga boys are not hauling lumber for Slawson Bros.

Cecil has a new buggy, and very often a new girl, but he should not wade in too deep, but keep close to the Banks.

Mrs. N. P. Hunter is taking a two weeks vacation at Canisteo.

C. V. House and wife are spending two weeks in Jasper.

The rain of last Wednesday was a great help to all crops, but we need more, and unless it comes potatoes and buckwheat will be a light crop.

Some of the girls at the Gulley church are getting very rude, and unless they quiet down during service some one will have a fine to pay. Some of the boys will get in the soup too.

George, the oldest son of Wm. Banks, has returned home from a summer stay in Albany.

Rev. Cole and wife are spending a few days in Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Augusta Quigley was in Hornellsville Saturday.

C. Dibbles and wife were in Canisteo Saturday.

W. B. Miller made a flying trip to Greenwood, Canisteo and Jasper Saturday.

J. D. Dennis has purchased a new binder.

The law holds both maker and circulator of a counterfeit equally guilty. The dealer who sells you a dangerous counterfeit of DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve risks your life to make a little larger profit. You cannot trust him. DeWitt's is the old genuine and original Witch Hazel Salve, a well known cure for piles and all skin diseases. See that your dealer gives you DeWitt's Salve. Benedict & Van Noy, Andover; E. Breeze, Elm Valley.

### SAUNDERS.

The proceeds of the donation held at Albert Saunders' last Wednesday evening were $20.

The huckleberry pickers returned with one bushel apiece.

Dr. Comstock and wife and Miss Archie Hanks of Wellsville were guests of Mrs. Joshua Saunders last week.

Edith Howard returned Monday from her visit at Chautauqua.

The young people are planning a Sunday-school picnic for Aug. 28.

Theron Grantier and Miss Emma Smith of Whitesville visited in this neighborhood last week.

Mrs. Sheon returned Monday from a two weeks visit in Belo and Wellsville.

A gentleman recently cured of dyspepsia gave the following appropriate rendering of Burns' famous blessing: "Some have meat and cannot eat and some have none that want it; but we have meat and we can eat.—Kodol Dyspepsia Cure be thankful." This preparation will digest what you eat. It instantly relieves and radically cures indigestion and all stomach disorders. Benedict & Van Noy, Andover; E. Breeze, Elm Valley.

### Rexville.

Mrs. Benedict of Andover and Mrs. Phillips of Wilkes Barre, Pa., spent Saturday and Sunday with Mrs. Williamson.

Frances Harden of Toledo, Ohio arrived here Saturday for a few weeks stay.

Agnes McCormick of Elmira is visiting in town.

Miss Cynthia Brasted of Canisteo is spending the week with Mary Williamson.

Mrs. Kelly has moved to Canisteo recently.

Mrs. Luke Maxwell is entertaining her father and sisters from Brooklyn.

John Kernan, who has been quite ill, is seen on the street again.

All are invited to an ice cream social at the home of E. P. Daily Wednesday evening.

Rev. Mr. Trowbridge of Whitesville filled the pulpit of the M. E. church very acceptably Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Conn, Mrs. Pease and Miss Hincher of Andover visited Mrs. Williamson on Saturday.

Joe McKean has freshened his store with a coat of paint and paper. The job was done by Greenwood workmen and looks very nice.

Bertha Sage of South Canisteo is visiting his sister, Mrs. Skillman.

**Prevented a Tragedy.**

Timely information given Mrs. Geo. Long, of New Straitsville, Ohio, saved two lives. A frightful cough had long kept her awake every night. She had tried many remedies and doctors but steadily grew worse and urged to try Dr. King's New Discovery. One bottle wholly cured her; and she writes, this marvelous medicine also cured Mr. Long of a severe attack of pneumonia. Such cures are positive proof of its power to cure all throat, chest and lung troubles. Only 50c. and $1.00. Guaranteed. Trial bottles free at L. A. Burrows' and all other drug stores.

### INDEPENDENCE.

Most of the farmers up this way have finished their haying, with a light crop. As a general thing other crops are looking fine at the present time.

The second annual reunion of the Clarke family will be held in Wm. R. Crandall's grove on Wednesday, Aug. 8th. All descendants of the Clarke family are invited to attend and have a good visit and a good time generally.

Mrs. Carrie Forcyth is visiting her daughter, Mrs. George Alvord, this week.

J. M. Green is having a water well drilled by L. Burdick from Hebron, Pa. Rev. J. Kenyon has also had a well drilled.

A surprise was given Mrs. Jesse Briggs by some of her relatives last Monday, it being her 70th birthday. A good time is reported.

A surprise party was given Miss Olie Potter last Tuesday evening.

A. W. Stone and J. M. Green made a business trip to Alfred Monday.

Mrs. Vangelder from Bradford is visiting friends in this place this week.

Mrs. Henry Palmer and Miss Myrtie Stebbins from Almond visited at J. P. Remington's last week.

Ray L. is looking pleasant. Miss Lottie Perry of Nichols, N. Y., is spending her summer vacation in this place and Andover.

For burns, injuries, piles and skin diseases use DeWitt's Witch Hazel Salve. It is the original. Counterfeits may be offered. Use only DeWitt's. Benedict & Van Noy, Andover; E. Breeze, Elm Valley.

**Sense of a Sheep.**

To be bound hoof and foot for years by the shackles of disease is the worst form of bondage. Thus writes D. Williams of Manchester, Mich., says: "My wife has been so helpless for five years that she could not turn over in bed alone. After using two bottles of Electric Bitters she is wonderfully improved and able to do her own work." This set people to thinking, for female diseases quickly cures nervousness, sleeplessness melancholy, headache, backache, fainting spells and all female weakness. It is a medicine for weak, sickly, run-down people. Cure guaranteed. Only 50c. Sold by L. A. Burrows, Andover, and all other druggists.

**Silver Lake Assembly.**

SILVER LAKE ASSEMBLY, July 25, 1900.

The Silver Lake Camp Meeting which opened here on July 15, closed on Sunday, the 22d. There was a somewhat larger attendance than ordinary during the week, and the meeting was very interesting and profitable. About forty ministers in all were present.

The Assembly season opened last evening. Rev. H. C. Woods presided at the opening exercises. There was good music, prayer by Rev. E. H. Lattimer and addresses by Revs. H. C. Woods, A. F. Colkburn, J. E. Williams and Chas. Eddy, followed by an entertainment by Prof. and Mrs. Losey, the elocutionists.

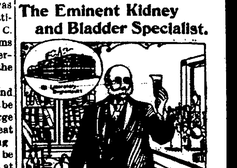
To-morrow is Grand Army Day and 30 Posts have reported that they will be present. The prospect is for a large attendance. The next of the great days will be Pioneer Picnic Day, Aug 2d. The regular pioneer picnic will be held on the grounds at Walker's, but at the Silver Lake Assembly grounds it will be Sons of Veterans Day, and large numbers of the members of that order are expected to be present. Dr. Ralph Sheldon of Albany, Division Commander, will preside, and will be attended by Col. Oberdorf, Lieut. Col. Moynihan, Captain Bontecue, Captain Coons, Captain MacWhorter and Lieutenants Schofield and Whitcomb. Addresses will be given by Gen. O. O. Howard of New York and Hon. J. L. Burnett of Canandaigua. The management of the Assembly offer a prize of $20 to the Camp of the Sons of Veterans having the largest number present, the best uniform and exhibiting the best drill, and the competitive drill will be held on the athletic ground at 1 o'clock p. m. Committee to make the award are Major General Howard, Dr. Ralph Sheldon of Albany and Col. A. D. Lawrence of Warsaw. It is expected that a number of ships will participate.

The season promises to be a successful one. T. F. PARKER.

**A Ministerial Good Work.**

"I had a severe attack of bilious colic, got a bottle of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy, took two doses and was entirely cured," says Rev. A. J. Power, of Emporia, Kan. "My neighbor across the street was sick for over a week, had two or three bottles of medicine from the doctor, was no better—for three or four days without relief, then called in another doctor who treated him for some days and gave him no relief, so he discharged him. I went over to see him the next morning. He said his bowels were in a terrible fix, that they had been running off so long that it was almost bloody flux. I asked him if he had tried Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhœa Remedy, and he said, 'No.' I went home and brought him a bottle and gave him one dose; told him to take another dose in fifteen or twenty minutes if he did not find relief, but he took no more and was entirely cured." For sale by Benedict & Van Noy, Andover, and N. E. Coston, Greenwood

## The Eminent Kidney and Bladder Specialist.



The Discovery of Swamp-Root at Work in His Laboratory.

There is a disease prevailing in this country most dangerous because so deceptive. Many sudden deaths are caused by it—heart disease, pneumonia, heart failure or apoplexy are often the result of kidney trouble. If kidney trouble is allowed to advance the kidney-poisoned blood will attack the vital organs, or the kidneys themselves break down and waste away cell by cell. Then the rich one of the blood—the albumen—leaks out and the sufferer has Bright's Disease, the worst form of kidney trouble.

Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root is the new discovery is the true specific for kidney, bladder and urinary troubles. It has cured thousands of apparently hopeless cases, after all other efforts have failed. At druggists in fifty-cent and dollar sizes. A sample bottle sent free by mail, also a book telling about Swamp-Root and its wonderful cures. Address Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y. and mention this paper.

# The Big Wellsville Fair and Races

## August 20-24, 1900.

## The Biggest, Brightest and Best First Fair of the Season

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|---|---|---|---|
| $5000 | Race Purses | $5000 |
| $4000 | Premiums | $4000 |
| $200 | Special Attractions | $2000 |

Special Vaudeville acts free each day, on a specially constructed open air stage in front of the Grand Stand that would cost at any theatre from 50 to 75 cents. These are all free for one single admission of

## 25 Cents

Automobile and Locomobile races by themselves and with horses

The grand Midway in all its splendor with its many special features, including the Crystal Maze, Working Wonders, Electric Theatre, Australian Wonder, and other unique features too numerous to mention.

*A Grand Gala Week for Everybody.*

*Special Rates on all Railroads.*

## The One Big Fair

**Wellsville, N. Y., August 20 to 24th, 1900.**

# EDISON'S PHONOGRAPH

Better than a Piano, Organ, or Music Box, for it sings and talks as well as plays, and don't cost as much. It reproduces the music of any instrument and combines all the stories and songs—the old familiar hymns as well as the popular songs—it is always ready.

See that Mr. Edison's signature is on every genuine machine. Catalogue of all dealers, or NATIONAL PHONOGRAPH CO., 135 Fifth Ave., New York.


Old Age Postponed.

TRADE MARK. Palmo Tablets

CURE NERVOUS DEBILITY.

The seat of Nervous Disease is at base of brain. When the nerve cells at this point wane, a terrible decline of the system occurs. Nervous Debility, Atrophy, Vanjacocle, Falling Memory, Pain in Back, Dyspepsia, Insomnia, Piles are symptoms of this condition. Neglected, it results in Paresis, Insanity, or Consumption. Palmo Tablets cure these ills by restoring the starved cells, checking all drains and replacing weakness with strength and ambition. 50c a box; 3 boxes (with iron-clad guarantee) $2.00. Sent free book. HALSEY DRUG CO., CLEVELAND, O.

50c.

For Sale by Benedict and Van Noy, Andover, N. Y.


## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

**Lesson in the International Series for August 5, 1900—Jesus and the Children.**

Prepared by H. C. Lenington.]

THIRTEENTH LESSON—TEXT.

(Matthew 18:1-14.)

1. At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?

2. And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,

3. And said, Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven.

4. Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of Heaven.

5. And whoso shall receive one such little child in My name receiveth Me.

6. But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in Me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea.

7. Woe unto the world because of offenses! for it must needs be that offenses come; but woe to that man by whom the offense cometh!

8. Wherefore if thy hand or thy foot offend thee, cut them off, and cast them from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed, rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire.

9. And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee: it is better for thee to enter into life with one eye, rather than having two eyes to be cast into hell fire.

10. Take heed that ye despise not one of these little ones; for I say unto you, that in Heaven their angels do always behold the face of My Father, which is in Heaven.

11. For the Son of Man is come to save that which is lost.

12. How think ye? If a man have an hundred sheep, and one of them be gone astray, doth he not leave the ninety and nine, and goeth into the mountains, and seeketh that which is gone astray?

13. And if so be that he find it, verily I say unto you, he rejoiceth more of that sheep, than of the ninety and nine which went not astray.

14. Even so it is not the will of your Father which is in Heaven, that one of these little ones should perish.

GOLDEN TEXT—Suffer the little children to come unto Me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God.—Mark 10:14.

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Strange as it may appear to us, the transfiguration scene and the healing of the demoniac boy was followed by a more or less friendly wrangle concerning who should be greatest in the kingdom of Heaven. Still, considering the materialistic views of the disciples of the kingdom Christ was to found, it is not so very strange. We had yet to learn that greatness in the Heavenly kingdom depended upon things other than those that often make for prominence of position in earthly relations.

An Object Lesson—Jesus called which His disciples some of the qualities of superior Christian character that He places a child in their midst. "Except," He says, "ye become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of Heaven," and the emphasis is put upon the humility of the child nature. "Whosoever therefore humbleth himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of Heaven." Emphasis is upon the "humility." To many a mind humility has been given a false meaning. Dickens' "Humble Uriah Heep" is but a parody on humility, not the genuine article. Webster defines "humble" as being "near the ground; not proud or assuming." The trouble is that the word has been commonly confounded with some of the synonyms of the word. To abase, lower, humiliate, mortify, degrade, are synonyms of humble. We remember that no two English words mean exactly the same thing. So humility is not abasement or self-lowering, but putting oneself in his rightful place, and thinking neither higher of himself than he ought to think. It is preeminently a Christian virtue and should be studiously cultivated.

Stanchion—Stone—this thought gives rise to another in the mind of Jesus. The child can easily be turned toward the right or the wrong, therefore, "whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in Me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea." Then Jesus goes on to say that offenses must needs come to every life, young or old. The heart carries in itself the seeds of temptation and sin, but "woe to that man by whom the offense cometh," or to that man who causes a temptation for another to yield to temptation or commit sin.

Drastic Measures Suggested.—Returning to the thought of disciplining oneself, Jesus says, "If thy hand or thy foot offend thee (or are a means of sin and temptation), cut them off. . . . It is better for thee to enter into life halt or maimed rather than having two hands or two feet to be cast into everlasting fire." It is an illustration of the principle He had just enunciated, and the further thought that absolute sacrifice of self may be necessary to the inheritance of eternal life.

Parable of the Lost Sheep.—This parable becomes the point of the lesson. Earlier Christ has said: "Cultivate the spirit of humility." Then follows the injunction to help others, especially the little children who are easily led into the right way. Now He says, in effect: Strive to do in your sphere of influence what I am doing, "for the Son of Man is come to save that which is lost."

**Make Them Into Character.**

Only those truths which have become ourselves become spontaneous and involuntary, instinctive and unconscious, are really our life; that is to say, something more than our property.—Amiel's Journal.

**God's Will.**

God or joy and or grief, do with me what Thou will; grief is good and joy is good also. Thou art leading me now through joy. I take it from Thy hands, and I give Thee thanks for it.—Amiel.


Two million Americans suffer the torturing pangs of dyspepsia. No need to. Burdock Blood Bitters cures. At any drug store.

**Summer Colds**

are noted for hanging on. They weaken your throat and lungs, and lead to serious trouble.

Don't trifle with them. Take Scott's Emulsion at once. It soothes, heals, and cures.

50c. and $1. All druggists.

**Uniform Examination—1900.**

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January 11th and 12th, Alfred
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SECOND AND THIRD GRADES.

January 11th and 12th, Alfred.
April 12th and 13th, Cuba.
August 9th and 10th, Wellsville
November 8th and 9th, Friendship

Normal school entrance examinations will be held in January, April and August at the same time and place of holding uniform examinations.

Teachers desiring to be ready to teach at the next school year, whose certificates expire July 31st, 1900, should take the first examination of the year. O. M. BURDICK, Com.

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**Kodol Dyspepsia Cure**

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It artificially digests the food and aids Nature in strengthening and reconstructing the exhausted digestive organs. It is the latest discovered digestant and tonic. No other preparation can approach it in efficiency. It instantly relieves and permanently cures Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Heartburn, Flatulence, Sour Stomach, Nausea, Sick Headache, Gastralgia, Cramps and all other results of imperfect digestion. Price 50c. and $1. Large size contains 2½ times small size. Book all about dyspepsia mailed free. Prepared by E. C. DEWITT & CO., Chicago.

Benedict & Van Noy, Andover
E. Breeze, Elm Valley.


## ON WHAT TO READ.

**For the sake of our present and everlasting welfare we must make an intelligent and Christian choice.**

**Standing as we do, akin deep in fictitious literature, the question that young people are asking is: "Shall we read novels?" I reply: There are novels that are pure, good, Christian, elevating to the heart and ennobling to the life. But I still have further to say that I believe that 75 out of the 100 novels of the day are positively injurious and vitiative to the last degree. A pure work of fiction is history and poetry combined. It is a history of things around us with the licenses and the assumed names of poetry. The world can never pay the debt which it owes to the great works of fiction as Hawthorne and McKenzie and Landon and Hunt and Arthur and others whose names are familiar to all. The follies of high life were never better exposed than by Miss Edgeworth. The memories of the past were never more faithfully embalmed than in the writings of Walter Scott. Cooper's novels are healthfully redolent with the breath of the seaweed and the air of the American forest. Charles Kingsley has amitred the morbidity of the world and led a great many to appreciate the poetry of sound health, strong muscles and fresh air. Thackeray did a grand work in exposing the pretenders to gentility and high blood. Dickens has built his own monument in his books, which are a plea for the poor and the anathema of injustice. And there are a score of novelists who are to-day doing mighty work for God and righteousness.**

**Now, I say, books like these, read at right times and read in right proportion with other books, cannot help but be ennobling and purifying; but, alas, for the loathsome and impure literature that has come in the shape of novels, like a freshet overflowing all the banks of decency and common sense! They are coming from some of the most celebrated publishing houses. They are coming with recommendations of some of our religious newspapers. They lie on your center table to curse your children and blast with their infernal fires generations unborn. You find these books in the desk of the school miss, in the trunk of the young man, in the steamboat cabin, on the table of the hotel reception-room. You see a light in your child's room late at night. You suddenly go in and say: "What are you doing?" "I am reading." "What are you reading?" "A book." You look at it and say: "This is bad book. "Where did you get it?" "I borrowed it." Alas, there are always those abroad who like to loan to your son or daughter a bad book! Everywhere, everywhere, an unclean literature. I charge upon it the destruction of 10,000 immortal souls, and I bid you wake up to the magnitude of the evil.**

**I charge you in the first place to stand aloof from all books that give false pictures of life. Life is neither a tragedy nor a farce. Men are not all either knaves or heroes. Women are neither angels nor furies. And yet if you depended upon much of the literature of the day you would get the idea that life, instead of being something earnest, something practical, is a fitful and fantastic and extravagant thing. How poorly prepared are the young man and woman for the duties of to-day who spent last night wading through brilliant passages descriptive of magnificent knavery and wickedness! The man will be looking all day long for his heroine in the office, by the forge, in the factory, in the counting room, and he will not find her, and he will be dissatisfied. A man who gives himself up to the indiscriminate reading of novels will be nerveless, inane and a nuisance. He will be fit neither for the store, nor the shop nor the field. A woman who gives herself up to the indiscriminate reading of novels will be unfitted for the duties of wife, mother, sister, daughter. Were she is, hair disheveled, countenance vacant, cheeks pale, hands trembling, bursting into tears at midnight over the fate of some unfortunate lover; in the daytime, when she ought to be busy, staring by the half hour at nothing biting her finger nails into the quick. The carpet that was plain before will be plainer after having wandered through a romance all night long in tessellated halls of castles. And your industrious companion will be more unattractive than ever, now that you have waded in the romance through parks with plumed princesses or lounged in the arbor with the polished desperado. Oh, these confirmed novel readers! They are unfitted for this life, which is a tremendous discipline. They know not how to go through the furnace of trial through which they must pass, and they are unfitted for a world where everything we gain we achieve by hard and long continued work.**

**Again, I charge you to stand off from all those books which corrupt the imagination and inflame the passions. I do not refer now to that kind of book which the villain has under his coat, waiting for the school to get out, and then, looking both ways to see that there is no policeman around the block, offers the book to your son or his way home. I do not speak of that kind of literature, but that which evades the law and comes out in polished style, and with acute plot sounds the tocsin that rouses up all the baser passions of the soul. To-day, under the nostrils of the people, there is a fetid, reeking, unwashed literature, poison all the fountains of purity, and the angel of God is stirring the waters as with the wing of a destroying angel, and it is time that the ministers of the Gospel blow the trumpet and rallied the forces of righteousness, all armed to the teeth, to battle against a depraved literature.**

**Again, abstain from those books which are apologetic of crime. It is a fact that the world has read the most beautiful bookbindery and some of the finest rhetoric have been brought to make sin attractive. Vice is a horrible thing anyhow. It is born in sin and shaped in iniquity and it dies howling in the darkness. In this world it is scourged with a whip of scorpions, but afterward the thunders of God's wrath pursue it across a boundless desert, beating it with ruin and woe. When you come to paint carnality, do not paint it as looking from behind embroidered curtains or through lattice of royal seraglio, but as writhing in the agonies of a city hospital. Cursed be the books that try to make impurities decent and crime attractive. Let the poisoned cup of Circe be in books that swarm with libertines and desperadoes, who make the brain of the young people whirl with vile thoughts. Do not patronize the pretenders to gentility and high blood. Dickens has built his own monument in his books, which are a plea for the poor and the anathema of injustice. Let the pen of Dante, with its pens to-day doing mighty work for God and righteousness.**

**Now, I say, books like these, read at right times and read in right proportion with other books, cannot help but be ennobling and purifying; but, alas, for the loathsome and impure literature that has come in the shape of novels, like a freshet overflowing all the banks of decency and common sense! They are coming from some of the most celebrated publishing houses. They are coming with recommendations of some of our religious newspapers. They lie on your center table to curse your children and blast with their infernal fires generations unborn. You find these books in the desk of the school miss, in the trunk of the young man, in the steamboat cabin, on the table of the hotel reception-room. You see a light in your child's room late at night. You suddenly go in and say: "What are you doing?" "I am reading." "What are you reading?" "A book." You look at it and say: "This is bad book. "Where did you get it?" "I borrowed it." Alas, there are always those abroad who like to loan to your son or daughter a bad book! Everywhere, everywhere, an unclean literature. I charge upon it the destruction of 10,000 immortal souls, and I bid you wake up to the magnitude of the evil.**

**I charge you in the first place to stand aloof from all books that give false pictures of life. Life is neither a tragedy nor a farce. Men are not all either knaves or heroes. Women are neither angels nor furies. And yet if you depended upon much of the literature of the day you would get the idea that life, instead of being something earnest, something practical, is a fitful and fantastic and extravagant thing. How poorly prepared are the young man and woman for the duties of to-day who spent last night wading through brilliant passages descriptive of magnificent knavery and wickedness! The man will be looking all day long for his heroine in the office, by the forge, in the factory, in the counting room, and he will not find her, and he will be dissatisfied. A man who gives himself up to the indiscriminate reading of novels will be nerveless, inane and a nuisance. He will be fit neither for the store, nor the shop nor the field. A woman who gives herself up to the indiscriminate reading of novels will be unfitted for the duties of wife, mother, sister, daughter. Were she is, hair disheveled, countenance vacant, cheeks pale, hands trembling, bursting into tears at midnight over the fate of some unfortunate lover; in the daytime, when she ought to be busy, staring by the half hour at nothing biting her finger nails into the quick. The carpet that was plain before will be plainer after having wandered through a romance all night long in tessellated halls of castles. And your industrious companion will be more unattractive than ever, now that you have waded in the romance through parks with plumed princesses or lounged in the arbor with the polished desperado. Oh, these confirmed novel readers! They are unfitted for this life, which is a tremendous discipline. They know not how to go through the furnace of trial through which they must pass, and they are unfitted for a world where everything we gain we achieve by hard and long continued work.**

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**Talmage, the Noted Divine, Gives Some Timely Suggestions.**

**The Greatest Blessing of a Nation Is an Elevated Literature, Its Greatest Curse, an Impure Literature.**

(Copyright, 1900, by Louis Klopsch.)

Washington, July 22.

Dr. Talmage, who has been spending a few days in St. Petersburg, sends the following report of a discourse which will be helpful to those who have an appetite for literature and would like some rules to guide them in the selection of books and newspapers: Text, Acts 19:19: "Many of them also which used curious arts brought their books together and burned them before all men, and they counted the price of them and found it 50,000 pieces of silver."

Paul had been stirring up Ephesus with some lively sermons about the sins of that place. Among the more important results was the fact that the citizens brought out their bad books and in a public place made a bonfire of them. I see the people coming out with their arms full of Ephesian literature and tossing it into the flames. I hear an economist who is standing by saying: "Stop this waste. Here are $7,500 worth of books. Do you propose to burn them all up? If you don't want to read them yourselves, sell them and let somebody else read them." "No," said the people; "if these books are not good for us, they are not good for anybody else, and we shall stand and watch until the last leaf has burned to ashes. They have done us a world of harm, and they shall never do others harm." Hear the flames crackle and roar!

Well, my friends, one of the wants of the cities is a great bonfire of bad books and newspapers. We have enough fuel to make a blaze 200 feet high. Many of the publishing houses would do well to throw into the blaze their entire stock of goods. Bring forth the insufferable trash and put it into the fire and let it be known in the presence of God and angels and men that you are going to rid your homes of the overpowering and underlying curse of profligate literature.

The printing press is the mightiest agency on earth for good and for evil. The minister of the Gospel, standing in a pulpit, has a responsible position, but I do not think it is as responsible as the position of an editor or a publisher. At what distant point of time, at what far-out cycle of eternity, will cease the influence of a Henry J. Raymond, or a Horace Greeley, or a James Gordon Bennett, or a Watson Webb, or an Erastus Brooks, or a Thomas Kinsella? Take the overwhelming statistics of the circulation of the daily and weekly newspapers and then cipher if you can how far up and how far down and how far out reach the influences of the American printing press.

What is to be the issue of all this? I believe the Lord intends the printing press to be the chief means for the world's rescue and evangelization, and I think that the great last battle of the world will not be fought with swords and guns, but with types and presses, a purified and Gospel literature triumphing over, trampling down and crushing out forever that which is depraved. The only way to overcome unclean literature is by scattering abroad that which is healthful. May God speed the cylinders of an honest, intelligent, aggressive, Christian printing press.

I have to tell you that the greatest blessing that ever came to the nations is that of an elevated literature, and the greatest scourge has been that of unclean literature. This last has its victims in all occupations and departments. It has helped to fill insane asylums and penitentiaries and almshouses and dens of shame. The bodies of this infection lie in the hospitals and in the graves, while their souls are being tossed over into a lost eternity, an avalanche of horror and despair! The London plague was nothing to it. That pounced its victims by thousands, but this modern pest has already shoveled its millions into the charnel house of the morally dead. The longest railroad train that ever ran over the tracks was not long enough or large enough to carry the beastliness and the putrefaction which have been gathered up in bad books and newspapers in the last 20 years.

Now, it is amid such circumstances that I put a question of overmastering importance to you and your families. What books and newspapers shall we read? You see I group them together. A newspaper is only a book in a swifter and more portable shape, and the same rules which will apply to book reading will apply to newspaper reading. What shall we read? Shall our minds be the receptacle of everything that an author has a mind to write? Shall there be no distinction between the tree of life and the tree of death? Shall we stoop down and drink out of the trough which is the wickedness of men has filled with pollution and shame? Shall we mire in impurity and chase fantastic will-o'the-wisps across the swamps, when we might walk in the blooming gardens of God? Oh, no!

**For the sake of our present and everlasting welfare we must make an intelligent and Christian choice.**

**Standing as we do, akin deep in fictitious literature, the question that young people are asking is: "Shall we read novels?" I reply: There are novels that are pure, good, Christian, elevating to the heart and ennobling to the life. But I still have further to say that I believe that 75 out of the 100 novels of the day are positively injurious and vitiative to the last degree. A pure work of fiction is history and poetry combined. It is a history of things around us with the licenses and the assumed names of poetry. The world can never pay the debt which it owes to the great works of fiction as Hawthorne and McKenzie and Landon and Hunt and Arthur and others whose names are familiar to all. The follies of high life were never better exposed than by Miss Edgeworth. The memories of the past were never more faithfully embalmed than in the writings of Walter Scott. Cooper's novels are healthfully redolent with the breath of the seaweed and the air of the American forest. Charles Kingsley has amitred the morbidity of the world and led a great many to appreciate the poetry of sound health, strong muscles and fresh air. Thackeray did a grand work in exposing the pretenders to gentility and high blood. Dickens has built his own monument in his books, which are a plea for the poor and the anathema of injustice. And there are a score of novelists who are to-day doing mighty work for God and righteousness.**

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