ANCESTRAL POWERS.

THE PHYSICAL PROCLIVITIES WHICH ARE DUE TO HEREDITY.

How They May be Overcome That Our

mage chose as his text I. Samuel xvil, 58, "Whose son art thou, thou young

Never was there a more unequal fight than that between David and Goliath; David 5 feet high, Goliath 10; David a shepherd boy brought up amid rural scenes, Goliath a warrior by profession; Goliath a mountain of braggadocio, David a marvel of humility; Goliath armed with an iron spear, David armed with a sling with smooth stones from the brook. But you are not to despise these latter weapons.

There was a regiment of slingers in the Assyrian army and a regiment of slingers in the Egyptian army, and they made terrible execution, and they could cast a stone with as much accuracy and force as now can be sent shot or shell. The Greeks in their army had slingers who would throw leaden plummets inscribed with the irritating words. "Take this!" so it was a mighty weapon David employed in that famous combat. A Jewish rabbi says in such contempt for David that in a paroxysm of laughter he threw his head back and his helmet fell off, and David saw the uncovered forehead, and his opportunity had come, and taking his sling and swinging it a fund his head two or three times and aiming it at that uncovered forehead crashed it like an eggshell. The battle over, behold the tableau: King Saul sitting; little David standing, his fingers clutched into the hair of the decapitared Goliath. As Saul sees David standing there holding in his hand the ghastly, reeking, staring trophy, evidence of the complete victory over God's enemies, the king wonders what parentage was honored by such heroism, and in my text he asks David his pedigree, "Whose son art thou, thou

The king saw what you and I see, more I believe in blood-good blood, bad blood, proud blood, humble blood. honest blood, threving blood, heroic blood, cowardly blood. The tendency may skip a generation or two, but it is sure to come out, as in a little child you sometimes see a similarity to a itable is patent to any one who keeps A thousand years have no power to obliterate the difference. The large lip of the house of Austria is seen in all the generations and is called the Hapsburg lip. The house of Stuart always means in all generations cruelty and bigotry and sensuality. Witness Queen of Scots, witness Charles I. and Charles IL, witness James I. and James II. and all the other scoundrels of that ine: Scottish blood means persistence, English blood means reverence for the ancient, Welsh blood means religiosity, Danish blood means fondness for the sea, Indian blood means roaming dis-Roman blood means conquest. The characteristics. Some families are share alike." characterized by longevity, and they have a tenacity of life positively Methuselish. Others are characterized Goliathian stature, and you can see it for one generation, two generations, five generations—in all the genera-

line of the Alexanders. Tragedy runs on in the family of the Kembles. Littrature runs on in the line of the Trollopes. Philanthropy runs on in the line Wilberforces. Statesmanship ns on in the line of the Adamses. ou can see these peculiarities in all varre religious, all their families re-The celebrated family of the rated family of the Medici, grandither, son and Catherine, all remarkself without reference to social or political condition, for you sometmes find the ignoble in high place and the honorable in obscure place. A descendant of Edward I. a tollgatherer. A decendant of Edward III. a doorkeeper. descendant of the Duke of Northrland a trunkmaker. Some of the est families of England are exanct, while some of those most honored in the peerage go back to an anestry of hard knuckles and rough ex-

e all

king

aper

This law of heredity is entirely independent of social or political condilons. Then you find avarice and jealusy and sensuality and fraud having swing in some families. The vioent temper of Frederick William is inheritance of Frederick the Great is not a theory founded by worldly osophy, but by divine authority, to you not remember how the Bible speaks of a chosen generation, of the seneration of the righteous, of the genration of vipers, of an untoward genration, of a stubborn generation, of he iniquity of the fathers visited upon children unto the third and fourth So that the text comes do-day, with the force of a projectile from mightiest catapult, son art thou, thou young "Well," says some one, "that ry discharges me from all respon-Born of sanctified parents, we bound to be good, and we cannot ourselves. Born of unrighteous age, we are bound to be evil, we cannot help ourselves." Two

uracies. As much as if you should The centripetal force in nature a tendency to bring every thing he centre, and therefore all come the center. The centrifugal force in hature has a tendency to throw everything to the periphery, and therefore everything will go out to the peri-

You know as well as I know that you I seemed to be walled in by sin and can make the centripetal force overcome the centrifugal, and you can make the centrifugal overcome the centripetal, as when there is a mighty tide of good in a family that may be overcome by determination to evilas in the case of Aaron Burr, the libertine, who had for father President Spiritual Birthright May Be Won, and Burr, the consecrated; as in the case How We May Become Sons and Daugh-ters of Immortality.

Burr, the consecrated, as in the case of Pierrepont Edwards, the scourge of New York society 80 years ago, who had a Christian ancestry—while, on Washington, Aug. 2.—Rev. Dr. Tal-the other hand, some of the best men and women of this day are those who have come of an ancestry of which it would not be courteous to speak in their presence. The practical and useful object of this sermon is to show you that, if you have come of a Christian ancestry, then you are solemnly bound to preserve and develop the glorious inheritance, or, if you have come of a depraved ancestry, then it is your duty to brace yourself against the evil tendency by all prayer, and Christian determination. And you are to find out the family frailties, and in arming the castle put the strongest guard at the weakest gate. With these smooth stones from the brook I hope to strike you, not where David struck Goliath, in the head, but where Nathan struck David, in the heart. "Whose son art thou, thou young man?' the money I ever made and all the houses I own, but I disinherit them, I

There is something in all winter holidays to bring up the old folks. I think many of our thoughts at such times are set to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne." The old folks were so busy at that the probability is that Goliath was such times in making us happy and perhaps on less resource made their sons and daughters happier than you on larger resources are able to make your sons and daughters. The snow lay two feet above their graves, but they shook off the white blankets and mingled in the holiday festivities—the same wrinkles, the same stoop of shoulder under the weight of age, the same old style of dress or coat, the same smile, the same tone of voice. I hope you remember them before they went away. If not, I hope there are those who have recited to you what they were, and that there may be in your house some article of dress or furniture with which you associate their memories. I want to arouse the most sacred memories of your heart while I make the impassioned interrogatory in regard to your pedigree, "Whose son art thou, thou young man?"

that this question of heredity is a scended of a Christian ancestry. I do not ask if your parents were perfect. There are no perfect people now, and I do not suppose there were any perfect people then. Perhaps there was sometimes too much blood in their eye when they chastised you. But from what I know of you, you got no more great-grandfather whose picture hangs the more chastisement would have been on the wall. That the physical and salutary. But you are willing to acknowledge, I think, that they wanted his eyes open. The similarity is so heard in conversations, and from what striking sometimes as to be amusing. you saw at the family altar and at neighborhod obsequies, you know that to have the characteristics all down they had invited God into their heart through the generations, and what is and their life. There was something more perceptible in such families may that sustained those old people supernaturally. You have no doubt about their destiny. You expect if you ever get to heaven to meet them as you expect to meet the Lord Jesus Christ. That early association has been a charm for you. There was a time when you got right up from a house of iniquity and walked out in to the fresh air because you thought your mother was looking at you. You have never been very happy in sin because of a sweet old face that would present itself. Tremulous voices from the past accosted you until they were seemingly audible, and you looked around to see who spoke. There was an estate not position, Celtic blood means fervidity, mentioned in the last will and testament, a vast estate of prayer and Jewish facility for accumulation you holy example and Christian entreaty may trace clear back to Abraham, of and glorious memory. The survivors whom the Bible says, "he was rich in of the family gathered to hear the will silver and gold and cattle," and to Is- read, and this was to be kept and that aac and Jacob, who had the same was to be sold, and it was "share and

But there was an unwritten will that read somthing like this: "In the name of God, amen. I, being of sound mind, them all the results of a lifetime's toil. I bequeath to them the Christian religion, which has been so much comfort to me, and I hope may be solace for them. I bequeath to them a hope of reunion, when the partings of life are over. 'Share and share alike' may they inherit eternal riches. I bequeath to them the wish that they may avoid my errors and copy anything that may have been worthy. In the name of God, who made me, and the Christ, who redeemed me, and the Holy Ghost, who sanctifies me, I make this my last will and testament. Witness all you hosts of heaven. Witness time, witness eter-Signed, sealed and delivered in this our dying hour. Father and Mother." You did not get that will proved at the surrogate's office, but I take it out to-day and I read it to you. I take it out of the alcoves of your heart. I shake the dust off it. I ask if you will accept that inheritance, or

will you break the will? Oh. ye of Christian ancestry! You hav a responsibility vast beyond all measurement. God will not let you off with just being as good as ordinary people when you had such extraordinary advantage. Ought not a flower planted in a hothouse be more thrifty than a flower planted outside in the storm? Ought not a factory turned by the Housatonic do more work than a factory turned by a thin and shallow mountain stream? Ought not you of great, early opportunity be better than those who had a cradle unblessed? A father sets his son up in business. He keeps an account of all the expenditures so much for store fixtures, so must for rent, so much for this so much for that, and all the items aggregated—and the father expects the son to give an account. Your heavenly Mather charges against you all the advantage of a pious ancestry—so many prayers, so much Christian example, so many kind entreaties-all these gracious influences, one tremendous ag-gregate, and he asks you for an account of it. Ought not you to be better than those who had no such advantage? Better have been a foundling picked up off the city commons than, with such magnificent inheritance of consecration, to turn out in-

different not you, my brother, to be hetter, having had Christian nurture, than the usen who can truly say this morning, "The first word I remember morning, to me was an oath; my father speaking to me was an outh; first time I remember my father taking hold of me was in wrath; never saw a Bible tili I was 10 years of age, and then I was told it was a pack of lies; the first 20 years of my life I was associated with the vicious,

Now, my brother, ought you not-I leave it as a matter of fairness with you—ought you not to be better than those who had no early Christian influence? Standing as you do between the generation that is past and the generation that is to come, are you going to pass the blessing on, or are you going to have your life the gulf in which that tide of blessing shall drop out of sight forever? You are the trustee of plety in that ancestral line, and are you going to augment or squander that solemn trust fund? Are you going to disinherit your sons and daughters of the heirloom which your parents left you? Ah, that cannot be possible—it cannot be possible that you are going to take such a position as that! You are very careful about the life insurance, and careful about the deeds, and careful about the mortgage, and careful about the title of your property, because when you step off the stage you want your children to get it all. Are you making no provision that they shall get grandfather's or grandmother's religion? Oh, what a last will and testament you are making, my brother! "In the name of God, amen. I, being of sound mind, make this my last will and testament. I bequeath to my children all

everlasting outrage. Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of God and men and angels and devils, and all the generations of earth and heaven and hell, July, 1896." Oh, ye of highly favored ancestry, wake up this morning to a sense of your opportunity and responsibility I think there must be an old cradle or a fragment of a cradle somewhere that could tell a story of midnight supplication in your behalf. Where is the old rocking chair in which you were sung to sleep with the holy nursery rhyme? Where is the old clock that ticked away the moments of that sickness on that awful night when there were but three of you awake-you and God and mother? Is there not an old staff in some closet? We beg you to turn over a new leaf this very day.

rob them of the ancestral grace and

the Christian influence that I inherit-

ed. I have squandered that on my

own worldiness. Share and share alike

must they in the misfortune and the

Oh, the power of ancestral piety, well illustrated by a young man of New !York who attended a prayer meeting one night and asked for prayer and then went home and wrote down these words: "Twenty-five years ago to-night my mother went to heaven, my beautiful, blessed mother, and I have been alone, tossed up and down upon the billows of life's tempestuous ocean. Shall I ever go to heaven? She told me I must meet her in heaven. When she took my hand in hers and turned her gentle, loving eyes on me, and gazed earnestly and long into my face, and then lifted them to heaven that last prayer, she prayed that might meet her in heaven. I wonder if I ever shall? My mother's prayers! Oh, my sweet, blessed mother's prayers! Did ever a boy have such a not heard her pray until to-night. I and pure and happy was her life! She was a cheerful and happy Christian. There is my mother's Bible. I have not opened it for years. Did she believe I could ever neglect her precious Bible? She surely thought I would read it much and often. How often has she read it to me! How did she cause me to kneel by my little bed and put my little hands up in the attitude of prayer! How has she knelt by me and over me, and I have felt her warm tears, raining down upon my hands and face!

"Blessed mother, did you pray in vain for your boy? It shall not be in vain. Ah, no, no; it shall not be in vain! I will pray for myself. Who has sinned against so much instruction as I have—against so many precious prayers put up to heaven for me by one of the most lovely tender, pious, confiding, trusting of mothers in her heavenly Father's care and grace? She never doubted. She believed. She always prayed as if she did. My Bible, my mother's Bible and my conscience teach what I am and what I have made myself Oh, the bitter pangs of an accusing conscience! I need a Saviour mighty to save. I must seek Him, I will. I am on the sea of existence, and I can never get off from it. I am afloat. No anchor, no rudder, no compass, no book of instructions, for I have put them away from Saviour of the perishing, save or I perish!" Do you wonder that the next day he arose in prayer meeting and said: "My brethren, I stand before you a monument of God's amazing mercy and goodness. Forever blessed be His holy name! All I have and all I am I consecrate to Jesus, my Saviour, and my God." Oh, the power of ancestral prayer. Hear it! hear it! But I turn for a moment to those who had evil parentage, and I want to tell you that the highest thrones in heaven and the mightiest triumphs and the brightest crowns will be for those who had evil parentage, but who by the grace of God conquered-conquered. As good, as useful, as splendid a gentleman as I ever knew had for

father a man who died blaspheming God until the neighbors had to put their fingers to their ears to shut out the horror. One of the most consecrated and useful Christian ministers of to-day was the son of a drunken horse jockey. Tide of evil is tremendous in some families. It is like Niagara rapids, and yet men have clung to a rock and been rescued. There is a family in New York,

whose wealth has rolled up into many millions, that was founded by a man who, after he had vast estate, sent back a paper of tacks because they were 2 cents more than he expected. Grip and grind and gouge in the fourth generation, I suppose it will be grip and grind and gouge in the twentieth generation. The thirst of intoxicants has burned down through the arteries of a hundred and fifty years. Pugnacity on comlativeness characterizes other families. Sometimes one form of evil, sometimes another form of evil. But it may be resisted; it has been resisted. If the family frailty be avarice, cultivate unseifishness and charity and teach your children never to eat an without offering somebody else half of it. Is the family frailty com-bativeness, keep out of the company of quick tempered people and never you have counted a hundred ways, and after you have written an angry letter keep it a week before you send it, and then burn it up. Is the family frailty timidity and cowardice, Will. cultivate backbone. Read the bio-

mind and soul in battle array. Conquer your will. I think the genealogical table was put in the first chapter of the New Testament not only to show our Lord's pedigree, but to show that a man may rise up in an ancestral line and beat back successfully all the influences of bad heredity. See in that genealogical table that good King Asa was born of vile King Abia. See in that genealogical table that Joseph and Mary and the most illustrious Being that ever touched our world, or ever will touch it, had in their ancestral line scandalous Rehoboam and Rahab and Thamar and Bathsheba. If this world is ever to be Edenizedand it will be-all the infected families of the earth are to be regenerated and there will some one arise in each family line and open a new genealogical table.

There will be some Joseph to arise in the line and reverse the evil influence of Rehoboam, and there will be some Mary to arise in the line and reverse the evil influence of Bathsheba. Perhaps the star of hope may point down to your manger. Perhaps you are to be the hero or the hardine that is to put down the brakes and stop that long line of genealogical tendencles and switch it off on another track from that on which it has been running for a century. You do that, and I will promise you as fine a palace as the architects of heaven can build, the archway inscribed with the words, "More than conqueror." But whatever your heredity, let me say you may be sons and daughters of the Lord God Almighty. Estranged children from the homestead, come back through the open gate of adoption. There is royal blood in our veins. There are crowns on our escutcheon. Our Father is king; our Brother is king; we may be kings and queens unto God forever. Come and sit down on the ivory bench of the palace. Come and wash in the fountains that fall into the basins of crystal and alabaster. Come and look out of the upholstered window upon gardens of azalea and amaranth. Hear the full burst of the orchestra while you banquet with potentates and victors. Oh, when the text sweeps backward; let it not stop at the cradle that rocked your infancy, but at cradle that rocked the And when the world! text sweeps forward let it not stop at your grave, but at the throne on which you may reign forever and ever. Whose son art thou, thou young man?" Son of God, heir of immor-

tality, take your inheritance! The World's Newspapers. A statistician has learned that the annual aggregate circulation of the papers of the world is calculated to be 12,000,000,000 copies. To grasp any idea of this magnitude we may state that it would cover no fewer than 10,450 square miles of surface; that it is printed on 781,250 tons of paper, and, further, that if the number (12,000,000,-000) represented, instead of copies, secmother as I had? For 25 years I have onds, it would take over 333 years for them to elapse. In lieu of this ar- names as cuckoo, pewit, whippoorwill They have had, in fact, a terrible re- them vertically upward to gradually surrection. Oh, how she was wont to reach our highest mountains. Topping pray! She prayed as they prayed to- all these, and even the highest Alps, night—so earnest, so importunate, so the pile would reach the magnificent believing. Shall I ever be a Chirstian? altitude of 490, or, in round numbers, She was a Christian. Oh, how bright 500 miles. Calculating that the average man spends five minutes reading his paper in the day (this is a very low estimate), we find that the people of the world altogether annually occupy time equivalent to 100,000 years reading the papers.—Buffalo Commer-

> How He Strikes Back. The editor of the St. Augustine, (Fla.) News, who presumably has had his pet corn stepped on, tells the truth after the following fashion: "Suppose a newspaper man, every time he hears of a man who severely criticises him or his paper in public, should retaliate by holding up to the puble gaze the faults and shortcomings of said fault-finder, what would be the result? Why, the criticiser would think himself terribly outraged and would thirst for gore. Then the poor quill driver would get shot or shoot somebody. The patient beast of burden, the country journalist, never does this except under great provocation. It isn't because afraid to do it, but because he isn't mean enough. He allows men to go around trying to destroy his business. He hears his paper called a worthless sheet because the editor in doing his duty has stepped on somebody's toes. Such worthless scoundrels should receive no mercy at the hands of the

Women will take go part in races controlled by the League of American Wheelmen. That national organization has issued its prohibition in the matter, and notifies track managers who permit women to race that they will be promptly blacklisted. The Canadian wheelman's Association has followed suit. The wisdom of this move can scarcely be questioned.

I suppose it was never a question of respecting or approving of the summer girl. The artists, who have mainly created her, have sometimes made her very chic, very pretty, very fetching; but there has always been a taint of vulgarity in her charm, and the people who have joked the artists designs—that is invented some bit of dialogue to go with them-have instinctively felt this. As soon as they open the poor thing's lips for her, you hear how shallow and false and common she is. She has only wit enough to make some cruel speech, only sensibility enough to feel some disappoint-ment that affects herself.

The conception of the summer girl is essentially a cheap one, and so far as it has eventuated in fact. it has been cheap. Undoubtedly the talk about her has tended to create a type and the type is not one that we need care to have perpetuated. Her excess has been an abuse of the freedom which Amrican girlhood has not often abused, but which such as the sum-mer girl has helped to doom. She is going; it is a pity that a good and peautiful thing seems to be going with

sure, but I am not patriot enough to regret her evanescence on that ac-count. There are a number of American traits that we could spare from American civilization, and be the more civilized without them. Was the summer girl, after all, anything but the frontier come eastward, anything at the best but a pretty barbarian ?-Dean Howells, in Harper's

SOME INTERESTING FACTS AND FIGURES CONCERNING THEM.

Collection of Paragraphs About Languages That Puts the Reader in Possession of Information That Is at Once Handy and Useful.

The Sanskrit language is said to have about 500 root-words. The Chinese language has 40,000 simple words and only 450 roots. Philologists agree that all languages are developed from one root. The word "language" comes from the 2008-tf. Latin "lingua," the tongue.

The rabbis taught that the language spoken by Adam was Hebrew. Geiger says that "all words are developed from a few simple sounds." Jager, Bleek, Muller and many others assume language to be an evolution. The speech of the aborigines of Africa changes with almost every generation. Very rapid speakers enunciate about

two words per second, or from 120 to 150 per minute. Elihu Burritt, the learned black

in Asia, 587 in Europe, 276 in Africa and 1624 in America. In ninety years the Spanish-speaking

people of the world have increased from 26,690,000 to 42,800,000. There were, in 1801, 230,000 persons in the United States who spoke French; there are now over 1,000,000. The German and Spanish languages

are remarkable for one fact, that every letter has a uniform sound. It is estimated by Grove that the idea of the pipe organ was borrowed from the human chest, mouth and

Within the limits of the United States, in 1801, there were 5,250,000 English-speaking people; now there are At the beginning of this century the Portuguese language was in use by

7,480,000; in 1890 it was spoken by 13,-At the beginning of the century there were only 5000 Spanish-speaking people in the United States; now there are 650,000.

At the beginning of the century the German language was used by 30,320,-000 people, while in 1890 it was employed by 75,200,000. In 1801 it was estimated that the English language was spoken by 20,-520,000 people; in 1890 the number had

increased to 111,100,000. The alphebets of the various languages have, usually, from twenty to twenty-six letters, this number being far from equal to that of the sounds. In Wales the people claim that Welsh is the most ancient language on the earth, and that Adam, Eve and the serpent chatted Welsh together in Paradise.

Every known language contains such press and pile and others, in which the sounds emitted by the animal are utilized as the The Etruscan, so far as known, was

the first language spoken in Italy, and it is suspected by some philologists that the Latin was a dialect of the Etruscan. At the beginning of this century there were 31,450,000 persons in the world using French as a spoken langu-

age, and in 1890 the number had increased to 51,200,000. Since the beginning of this century the use of the Italian language has greatly increased; in 1801 it was spoken by 15.070,000 people, and in 1890 it was

ages and dialects, fifty of them with such ease and fluency that he was cometimes mistaken for a native of the lands where they were used. The German language has a greater power of combination of words than any other European tongue. By the liberal use of the hyphen almost any According to the best authorities, combination may be formed.

there are 3424 known languages and leading dialects not worthy to be classed as languages bring up the number Max Muller teaches the imitative theory of language, that all language is an imitation of natural sounds, a

theory which, in derision, has somebeen called the "bow-wow Only about a dozen words of genuine English origin end with the letter "a," two dozen with the letter "o," and nearly 5000 with "y," ough has eight sounds, as up, ou, o, off, uff, co, and

The language of Greece to day, allowing for the changes which would naturally be brought about during the centuries is substantian; the same as the language used by Demosthenes

The Turkish language is said by scholars to be the softest and most musical language of modern times, being better adapted to the purposes of musical notion and recitative than even the Italian. The great linguists have never been great, save in their specialty. No great

linguist was also great as an author. The ability to learn languages does not seem to co-exist with talent in It is said by philologists that there are thirteen original European languages, the Greek, Latin, German, Sla-Welsh, Biscayan, Irish, Al-

banian, Tartarian, Illylian, Jazygian, Chaucin and Finnic. In 1801 there were only 280,000 persons in the limits of the United States who spoke German as a mother tongue: now over 1,000,000 of our people, Germans, or descendants of Germans, read and speak that language.

During the reign of Queen Elizabeth

the extension of English commerce resulted in a remarkable development of the English language and by association with foreign nations thousands of words unknown before in English were brought into common use. The Chinese dictionary authorized by the Imperial Government contains 214 classe of words of which 150 include the more important. This famous distionary, the most ancient of any recorded in literary history, was ar-ranged by Pa-out-she, who lived about

Not Natural. "That's a lifelike picture, of your little boy. "I don't think so. The photographer made him sit still."-Puck.

Her Sacrifice. "Did Mrs. Jones give up her bloomers to please her husband? "No; but her pug dog wouldn't come near her when she had them on."

1100 years, B.C.

graphy of brave men like Joshua or Paul and see if you cannot get a little tron in your blood. Find out what the

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really increased; in 1801 it was spoken by 15.070,000 people, and in 1890 it was used by 33,400,000. Cardinal Mezzofanti spoke 114 langues and dialects, fifty of them with

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