

MIRROR

"OH, WAD SOME POWER THE GIFTIE GIE US, TAE SEE OORSELS AS IOTHERS SEE US."

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THE USE OF TROUBLE

THE BEAUTY OF FRIENDSHIP WHEN IT IS SORE NEEDED.

The Enduring Attachment of Ruth and Boaz a Topic of Interest to the Church in All Ages — A Sermon Full of the Breath of the Fields.

Rev. Dr. Talmage preached on Sunday from the text: Ruth II, 3. "And she went and came and gleaned in the field after the reapers, and her hap was to light on a part of the field belonging unto Boaz, who was of the kindred of Eliimelech."

The time that Ruth and Naomi arrive at Bethlehem is harvest time. It was the custom when a sheaf fell from a load in the harvest field for the reapers to gather it up. That was to be left for the poor who might happen to come along that way. If there were handfuls of grain scattered across the field after the main harvest had been reaped, instead of raking it, as farmers do now, it was by the custom of the land left in its place, so that the poor coming along that way might glean it and get their bread. But you say: "What is the use of all these harvest fields to Ruth and Naomi? Naomi is too old and feeble to go out and toil in the sun, and can you expect that Ruth, the young and the beautiful, should tan her cheeks and blister her hands in the harvest field?"

Boaz owns a large farm and he goes out to see the reapers gather in the grain. Coming there right behind the swarthy, sun-browned reaper, he beholds a beautiful woman gleaning a woman more fit to tend to a harp or sit upon a throne than to stoop among the sheaves. Ah, that was an eventful day.

It was love at first sight. Boaz forms an attachment for the womanly gleaner—an attachment full of undying interest to the church of God, in all ages, while Ruth, when an Ephraimite, nearly a bushel of barley, goes home to Naomi to tell her the successes and adventures of the day. That Ruth who left her native land of Moab in darkness and traveled through an undying affection for her mother-in-law, is in the harvest field of Boaz, is affianced to one of the best families in Judah and becomes, in aftertime, the ancestress of Jesus Christ, the Lord of Glory. Out of so dark a night did there ever dawn so bright a morning?

I learn in the first place, from this subject how trouble develops character. It was bereavement, poverty and exile that developed, illustrated and announced to all ages the sublimity of Ruth's character. That is a very unfortunate man who has no trouble. It was sorrow that made John Bunyan the better dreamer, and Dr. Young the better poet, and O'Connor the better orator, and Bishop Hall the better preacher, and Havelock the better soldier, and Kitto the better encyclopedist, and Ruth the better daughter-in-law.

I once asked an aged man in regard to his pastor, who was a very brilliant man. "Why is that your pastor, so very brilliant, seems to have so little heart and tenderness in his sermons?" "Well," he replied, "the reason is our pastor has never had any trouble. When misfortunes come, upon him, his style will be like that of the great man. The Lord took a child out of that pastor's house, and though the preacher was just as brilliant as he was before, oh, the warmth, the tenderness of his discourse! That trouble is a great blessing." You see sometimes a minister sit down at an invalid's bed, and his execution is cold and informal and unfeeling. The reason is that all his life he has been " prosperous." But misfortune or bereavement come to this man, and he sits down at the invalid's bed, and discourses the pathos in the first sweep of the key-note.

Misfortunes and trials are great educators. A young doctor comes into a sick room where there is a dying child. Perhaps he is very rough in his prescription and in his answer to the patient's anxious questions. But years later, and there has been one dead in his own house, and now he comes into the sickroom, and with a tearful eye he looks at the dying child and says: "Oh, how this reminds me of my Charlie. Charlie, the great sinner." So now I see its touch in the greatest paintings; I hear its tremor in the sweetest song; I feel its power in the mightiest argument.

Grecian mythology said that the fountain of Hippocrene was struck out by the foot of the winged horse Pegasus. I have often noticed in life that the brightest and most beautiful fountains of Christian comfort and spiritual life have sprung out of the iron-shod hoof of disaster and calamity. I see Daniel's courage best by the flash of Nebuchadnezzar's furnace. I see Paul's prowess best when I find him on the foundering ship under the glare of the lightning in the breakers of Malta. Great crowns His children amid the tempest, and the storm, and the chopping of blood splashed grapevine, and the crackling fires of martyrdom. It took the persecutions of Marcus Aurelius to develop Polycarp and Justin Martyr. It took all the hostilities against the Scottish Covenanters and the many a long, laborious toil of James Renwick and Andrew Melville and Hugh Mackay, the glorious martyrs of Scotch history. It took the stormy sea, and the December blast and the desolate New England coast and the warhouse of savages to show forth the prowess of the pilgrim fathers. When amid the storms they sang, And the stars heard and the sea, And the sounding aisles of the dim wood,

Rang to the anthems of the free.

It took all our past national dis-

resses, and it takes all our present

national sorrows to lift up our nation

on that high career where it will

THE NEWS IN A NUTSHELL

THE VERY LATEST FROM ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Interesting Items About Our Own Country, Great Britain, the United States, and All Parts of the Globe, Condensed and Assorted for Easy Reading.

CANADA.

A big demand for lumber is reported in Manitoba.

Guelph is to have a new pork packing company.

The new directory of Ottawa gives the population as 63,480.

Galt's town hall is to have a Jubilee clock to cost \$1,000.

Heavy cattle shipments to England are reported from Winnipeg.

It is rumored that the C. P. R. is to be extended from Reston to the Pipestone country.

The shipment of cheese from the port of Montreal this season far exceeds the quantity sent for the corresponding period last year.

A private telegram from Sir William Laurier announces that he will sail from Liverpool for home on August 19.

The Grand Trunk car works at Brantford have been closed and notices posted instructing the employees to apply for work at London.

Mr. W. W. Buchanan of Hamilton has resigned the offices of General Manager of the Royal Templars of Temperance and editor of *The Templar*.

J. Roland, a sword-swallowing of the Turkish forces, in Thessaly, was severely wounded by the explosion of an infernal machine sent to him, according to a report from Budapest.

Large quantities of arms and ammunition are stored on the French border of Spain at the Carlistas, and in the event of a conflict over the Cuban question spreading Don Carlos may try his luck again.

A detachment of the Northwest Mounted Police has been ordered to the Crow's Nest Pass to maintain order upon the railway construction works.

Mrs. Shortiss, mother of Valentine Shortiss, mother of Valentine Shortiss, whose death sentence was commuted to imprisonment for life, has returned to Canada and it is believed an effort will be made to obtain his pardon.

It is estimated that there are between three and four thousand unemployed men in Montreal, and efforts are being made to get some of them work on the Crow's Nest Pass railway.

Once more I turn from my subject

of Ruth to that of indecision how many men of whom have marched useless on earth to a destroyed eternity. Spinola said to Sir Horace Vere: "Of what did your brother die?" "Of having nothing to do," was the answer.

Abdul Hamid said Spinola: "that's enough for us to do."

The High Court of justice of Montreal will shortly visit Ottawa for the purpose of being inspected by the Governor-General and Dr. Borden, Minister of Militia.

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Mounted Police has been ordered to the Crow's Nest Pass to maintain order upon the railway construction works.

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One hundred and eighty-five immigrants from Galicia left Montreal Friday for western points. They are all in splendid health, are open to comparative means, agriculturists by calling, and are bound to make good settlers.

John Tanner, of Lunenburg, late of the schooner Ida, of Halifax, who was unlawfully imprisoned by the Spanish authorities at Puerto Rico, has returned to Canada and is preferred a claim through the British Government for \$300 damages.

The Archbishop of St. Boniface is making a determined effort to secure an increase of the French-Canadian population of Manitoba, and with that object in view has commissioned the Rev. Father Corbel to act as an immigration and repatriation agent in eastern Canada and the United States

GREAT BRITAIN.

Miss Jean Ingelow, the English

novelist, died on Monday night. She was seventy years of age.

Sir John Pownall, one of the founders of the railway movement in 1859, died at his home at eighty years of age.

Sir John Stetson, a Scotch writer, who used the nom de plume of Shirley, is dead. He was sixty-six years of age.

The British Postmaster General will make a personal investigation of the grievances of the "overworked" post office clerks.

Inquiries in England have resulted

in the discovery that Roland G. I. Barnett, of Montreal, is no relative to Barnaby Barnato, the deceased African millionaire.

The order of the British Admiralty

for the battleship known, the most powerful vessel in the navy, to proceed to Bosphorus, is regarded as Lord Salisbury's reply to Secretary Sherman.

An anonymous writer in the London Daily Mail urges the British Govern-

ment to come to the rescue of the

unemployed in the United States by adding Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, and part of New York State to Canadian territory.

It is known in London that, while

Lord Salisbury is by no means pleased

with the tone of Secretary Sherman's letter on the seal question, he is not disposed to take the matter too seriously, and his reply, while firm, will be polite and couched in diplomatic language.

Mr. Labouchere, who was one of the

members of the Parliamentary Com-

mission appointed to inquire into the

Transvaal raid, has given notice that

he will make a motion in the House of

Commons that the name of Cecil Rhodes

be removed from the list of Privy

Councilors.

UNITED STATES.

At New York bar silver has declin-

ed to the lowest price in two years.

It is thought at Washington that

England may participate in the bi-

annual conference to be held in the

American capital next fall.

The Pittsburgh council of the coal

miners has passed a resolution call-

ing on President McKinley to use his

good offices in the settlement of the

coal miners strike.

Twenty prisoners in the King's

Prison, New York, penitentiary have

come insane since the beginning of the

year owing to enforced idleness, the

creature takes in being thus com-

ed and sponged is really enjoyable to

the observer.

HIS MEANS OF LIVELIHOOD.

My work is very trying, he replied,

in answer to a question as to his oc-

cupation.

You are a judge, I suppose?

No, sir. I am a lard renderer.

INFORMATION.

Papa, what is a ground hog?

Why — er — sausage, my son.

POISONOUS PERSPIRATION.

Human perspiration which injected into

dogs or rabbits, acts like a deadly

poison, according to M. Arloring's ex-

periments. Perspiration secreted dur-

ing hard muscular work is much

power than the ordinary kind, while

that obtained from subjects whose se-

cretion has been checked by cold

water.

FIREPROOF BABIES.

A doctor residing in the East End of

London, has discovered a remedy which

renders clothing absolutely fireproof.

By using lacquer, he says, "the ap-

pealing force of life" in babies by being

coated will be minimized. The formu-

la represents a prescription of 5 per-

cent alum and 5 per cent phosphoric

acid, ammonia, which renders the sub-

ject absolutely noninflammable. It is

necessary to wash the clothin-

g before applying this solution, and the tissues so

soaked will resist the flames, even

when previously been rubbed with

powder.

AN AWFUL CLOUD-BURST.

MANY LIVES BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN LOST IN THE FLOOD.

Terrible Effect of a Storm in Ohio — Great Damage to Property — Houses Awry.

A despatch from Youngstown, Ohio, says:—A terrific cloud-burst struck this town on Thursday night, flooding the entire valley and causing great damage to property, both in the city and along the railway lines. Many persons are supposed to be drowned. The entire country east and west for 20 miles was flooded and the damage is enormous the railroads bring the heaviest losses. The Erie Railroad west of Warren suffered miles, and north of Sharon for the same distance, was entirely flooded.

The Catholic Church at Niles was struck by lightning and nearly destroyed

by fire, while business houses and manufacturing concerns were flooded.

Henry Myers, a tailor, while standing at his residence on Hill street, was struck by lightning and instantly killed.

The best scientific opinion in Berlin is not sanguine of the success of Herr Andre's attempt to reach the North Pole.