"CORN HUSKING TIME," SUN-DAY'S SUBJECT.

From the Following Text; Job, Chapter V. Verse 26: "As a Shock of Cora Cometh In in His Season."-- The Harvest Waiting for the Lord.



OING at the rate of forty miles the hour a few days ago I caught this sermon. If you have recently been in the fields of Pennsylvania, or New Jersey, or New York, or New England, or any of the country districts, aha!" you know that corn

is nearly all cut. The sharp knife struck through the stalks and left them all along the fields until a man came with a bundle of straw and twisted a few of these wisps of straw into a band, and then gathering up as much of the corn as he could compass with his arms, he bound it with this wisp of straw, and then stood it in the field in what is called a sbock.

It is estimated that there are now several billion bushels of corn standing in the shock, waiting to be husked. Sometime during the latter part of next month, the farmers will gather, one day on one farm, another day on another farm, and they will put on their rough husking apron, and they will take the husking peg, which is a piece of iron hand, and with it unsheath the corn from the husk and toss it into the golden heap. Then the wagons will in his season." . . . come along and take it to the corn crib.

How vividly to all those of us who were born in the country comes the remembrance of husking time. We waited for it as for a gala day in the year. It was called a frolic. The trees having for the most part shed their foliage, the farmers waded through the fallen leaves and came through the keen morning air to the gleefu! company. The frosts which had silvered everything during the night began to melt off of the top of the corn shocks. While the farmers were waiting for others, they stood blowing their breath through their fingers, or threshing their arms arounds their body to keep up warmth of circulation.

Roaring mirth greeted the late farmer as he crawled over the fence. Joke and repartee and rustic salutation abounded. All ready, now! The men take hold the shock of corn and hurl it prostrate, while the moles and mice which have secreted themselves there for warmth attempt escape. The withe of straw is unwound from the corn shock, and the stalks, heavy with the wealth of grain, are rolled into two bundles, between which the husker sits down. The husking peg is thrust in until it strikes the corn, and then the Angers rip off the sheathing of the ear. and there is a crack as the root of the corn is snapped off from the husk, and the grain, disimprisoned, is hurled up into the stulight.

The air is so tonic, the work is so very exhibitating, the company is so blithe, that rome laugh, and some shout and some sing, and some binter, and some tease a neighbor for a remantle ride along the edge of the words in an eventide, in a carriage that holds but two, and some prophesy as to the numher of bushels to the field, and others go into competition as to which shall rifle the most corn shocks before sun-

After a while, the dinner horn sounds from the farmbouse, and the table is surrounded by a group of jolly and hungry men. From all the pantries and the cellars and the perches of fowl on the place the richesi da ties come, and there is carnival and neighborhood reunion, and a scene which fills our memory, part with smiles but more with tears as we remember that the farm belongs now to other owners, and other hands gather in the fields, and many of those who mingled in that merry husking scene have themselves been reaped "like as a shock of corn cometh in in his season."

There is a difference of opinion as to whether the Orientals knew anything about the corn as it stands in our fields: but recent discoveries have found out that the Hebrew keew all about Indian maize, for there have been grains of the corn picked up out of ancient crypts and exhumed from hiding places where they were put down many centuries ago, and they have been planted in our time and have come up just such Indian maize as we raise in New York and Ohio; so I am right when I say that my text may refer to a shock of corn just as you and I bound it, just as you and I threw it, just as you and I husked it. There may come some practical and useful and comforting lessons to all our souls, while we think of coming in at last "like a shock of corn coming in in his season."

It is high time that the King of Terrors were thrown out of the Christian vocabulary. A vast multitude of people talk of death as though it were the disaster of disasters instead of being to a good man the blessing of blessings. It is moving out of a cold vestibule into a warm temple. It is migrating into groves of redolence and perpetual frhitage. It is a change from bleak | whispering about a clique in another | ter appeared in the shape of a friend March to roseate June. It is a change of manacles for garlands. It is the transmuting of the iron handcuffs of earthly incarceration into the diamonded wristlets of a bridal party; or to use the suggestion of my text, it is only husking time. It is the tearing off of the rough sheath of the body that the bright and the beautiful soul may go free. Coming in "like a shock of corn cometh in in his season." Christ broke up a funeral procession at the gate of Nain by making a resurrection | meanest house a palace. The shortest | his letters.

day for a young man and his mother. And I would that I could break up your sadness, and halt the long funeral procession of the world's grief by some cheering and cheerful view of the last transition.

We all know that husking time was a time of frost. Frost on the fence. Frost on the stubble. Frost on the ground. Frost on the bare branches of the trees. Frost in the air. Frost on the hands of the buskers. You remember we used to hide behind the corn stacks so as to keep off the wind, but still you remember how shivering was the body and how painful was the cheek, and how benumbed were the hands. But after awhile the sun was high up, and all the frosts went out of the air, and hilarities awakened the echoes and joy from one corn shock went up, "Aha, aha!" and was answered by joy from another corn shock, "Aha,

So we realize that the death of our friends is the nipping of many expectations, the freezing, the chilling, the frosting of many of our hopes. It is far from being a south wind. It comes from the frigid north, and when they go away from us we stand benumbed in body and benumbed in mind and benumbed in soul. We stand among our dead neighbors, our dead families, and we say, "Will we ever get over it?" Yes, we will get over it amid the shoutings of heavenly reunion, and we will look back to all these distresses of bereavement only as the temporary distresses of husking time. "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morning." "Light, and but for a moment," said the apostle as he clapped his hands, "light, and but for with a leather loop fastened to the a moment." The chill of the frosts followed by the gladness that cometh in "like as a shock of corn cometh in

> Perhaps now this may be an answer to a question which I asked one Sabbath morning, but did not answer: Why is it that so many really good people have so dreadfully to suffer? You often find a good man with enough pains and aches and distresses, . you would think, to discipline a whole colony, while you find a man who is perfectly useless going about with easy digestion and steady nerves and shining health, and his exit from the world is comparatively painless. How do you explain that? Well, I noticed in the husking time that the husking peg was thrust into the corn and then there must be a stout pull before the swathing was taken off of the ear, and the full, round, healthy, luxuriant corn was developed; while on the other hand there was corn that hardly seemed worth husking. We threw that into a place all by itself and we called it ".aniddua."

> Some of it was mildewed, and some of it was mice nibbled, and some of it was great promise and no fulfilment. All cobs and no corn. Nubbins! After the good corn had been driven up to the barn we came around with the corn basket and we picked up these nubbins. They were worth saving, but not worth much. So all around us there are people who amount to nothing. They develop into no kind of usefulness. They are nibbled on one side by the world, and nibbled on the other side by the devil, and mildewed all over. Great promise and no fulfilment. All cobs and no corn. Nubbins,

> in the same day with those who went through great tribulation into the kingrather be torn, and wounded, and lanot worth husking at all? Nubbins! In other words, I want to say to you people who have distress of body, and distress in business and distress of all sorts, the Lord has not any grudge against you. It is not derogatory, it is complimentary. "Whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth," and it is proof positive that there is something valuable in you, or the Lord would not have

husked you, Now in heaven all their offensiveness has been husked off. Each one is as happy as he can be. Every one he meets as happy as he can be. Heaven one great neighborhood rennion. All kings and queens, all songsters, all millionaires, all banqueters. God, the Father, with his children all around him. No "good by" in all the air. No grave cut in all the hills. River of crystal rolling over bed of pearl, under arch of chrysoprasus, into the sea of glass mingled with fire. Stand at the gate of the granary and see the grain come in; out of the frosts into the sunshine, out of the darkness into the light, out of the tearing and the ripping and the twisting and the wrenching and the lacerating and the husking time of earth into the wide open door of the king's granary, "like as a shock of corn cometh in in his

Yes, beaven, a great sociable, with joy like the joy of the husking time. No one there feeling so big he declines to speak to some one who is not so large. Archangel willing to listen to smallest cherub. No bolting of the door of caste at one heavenly mansion to keep out the citizen of a smaller mansion. No clique in one corner, corner. David taking none of the airs offering to secure him a seat in parliaof a giant killer. Joshua making no ment for the borough of Liskeard. one halt until he passes, because he Gibbon represented the borough for ten made the sun and moon halt. Paul years (1774-1783) without ever opening making no assumptions over the most | his mouth; and once when moved to do ordinary preacher of righteousness. so he lacked the confidence to carry Naaman, captain of the Syrian host, no him through. The great speakers more honored than the captive maid filled him with despair, and the bad who told him where he should get a ones with terror. He grew heart tired good doctor. O! my soul, what a of "this parliamentary prattle" and of country! The humblest man a king. "the noise and nonsense of the Pande-The poorest woman a queen. The monium," as he terms parliament in

life time eternity. And what is more strange about it all is, we may all get there. "Not I," says some one standing back under the galleries. Yes, you, "Not I," says some one who has not been in church in fifteen years before. Yes, you. "Not I," says some one who has been for fifty years filling up his life with all kinds of wickedness. Yes,

There are monopolies on earth, monopolistic railroads and monopolistic telegraph companies, and monopolistic grain dealers, but no monopoly in religion. All who want to be saved may be saved, "without money and without price." Salvation by the Lord Jesus Christ for all the people. Of course, use common sense in this matter. You cannot expect to get to Charleston by taking ship for Portland, and you can not expect to get to heaven by going in an opposite direction. Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be Through that one gate of pardon and peace all the race may go

"But," says some one, "do you really think I would be at home in that supernal society if I should reach it?" I think you would. I know you would. I remember that in the husking time there was a great equality of feeling among the neighbors. There at one corn shock a farmer would be at work who owned two hundred acres of ground. The man whom he was talkwith at the next corn shock owned but thirty acres of ground, and perhaps all covered by a mortgage. That evening, at the close of the husking day, one man drove home a roan span, so frisky, so full of life, they got their feet over the traces. The other man walked home. Great difference in education, great difference in worldly means; but I noticed at the husking time they all seemed to enjoy each other's society. They did not ask any man how much property he owned or what his education had been. They all seemed to be happy together in

those good times. And so it will be in heaven. Our Father will gather his children around him, and the neighbors will come in, and the past will be rehearsed. And some one will tell of victory, and we will all celebrate it. And some one will tell of great struggle, and we will all praise the grace that fetched him out of it. And some one will say, Here is my old father, that I put away with heartbreak. Just look at him, he is as young as any of us." And some one will say, "Here is my darling child, that I buried in Greenwood, and all the after years of my life were shadowed with desolation. Just look at her! She doesn't seem as if she had been sick a minute." Great sociality. Great neighborhood kindness.

What though John Milton sit down on one side, and John Howard sit down on the other side. No embarrasement. What though Charlotte Elizabeth sit down on one side, and Hannah More sit down on the other side? No embarrassment. A monarch yourself, why be embarrassed among monarchs? A songster yourself, why be embarrassed amid glorified songsters? Go in and

RAISES MINT.

This Is the Queer Business of a Woman in Michigan.

Buffalo Express: A little woman up They are worth saving. I suppose in Michigan carries on a very remunermany of them will get to heaven, but ative business raising mint. She is they are not worthy to be mentioned Mrs. Mary Weber, and she inherited the business from her father. Some of the mint is raised in hot beds, and dom of our God. Who would not rath- these are the objects of constant care er have the pains of this life, the mis- by the family, which consists of the fortunes of this life-who would not | widow and a grown-up son and daughter of 16 years. The profitable season cerated, and wrenched, and husked and is between the months of May and Ocat last go in amid the very best grain | tober, and June, the best month of all. of the granary, than to be pronounced | The mint roots are set out in May, and the proprietress time is given to them from that date until late in the autumn. She clips and bunches the mint in the afternoon and evening, and the morning is given to sales. She drives to the leading hotels and makes the sales herself. It is not necessary to golicit custom. Most of it has been inherited with the mint bed. The men who patronized her father give their patronage to the daughter. She is not without competitors, but they are all of the male sex and are not as gallant as might be expected. Mrs. Weber, like the wise business woman she is, refuses to say how much the prolific bed yields, but it is safe to say that she keeps the big house "going," and puts aside the desired sum in provision for a "rainy day." She has supplanted her income by dealing in lemonade straws. Every summer she drives into the country for a radius of twenty miles in search of rye straw that will serve that purpose. If she finds the kind she desires she buys it in the field. But she is very hard to please in the matter of the quality of the straw, and has finally settled to the patronage of a farmer named Black Jack, who has a yearly contract with her. Womanlike, she cannot tell what is most desirable in the straw, but she "knows when she sees it," and after all that is quite sufficient,

Gibbon in Parliament.

Edward Gibbon, the great historian, sat in parliament for many years, but achieved no success in the house. One morning, he tells us, "as he was destroying an army of barbarians," a knock came to the door, and the temp-

Another Cabinet Council Is Held at Madrid.

WILL NOT SAGASTA

He Says the Government Has Not Yet Decided Upon Its Answer to the United States-Will Walt Until Proposed Cuban Reforms Are Published.

After a cabinet council Senor Sagusta announced to the newspaper men that no final decision had been taken in regard to the reply which Spain will make to the note of the United States handed to the Duke of Tetuan, when he was minister for foreign affairs, by the United States minister, Gen. Stewart L. Woodford. The Imparcial, however, says it learns that the reply of Spain will satisfy Spanish susceptibilities in making clear to President McKinley the resolute attitude which Spain maintains in regard to Cuba.

Premier Sagasta in agreement with Senor Gullon, the minister for foreign affairs, proposes to send a moderate reply, declaring the policy of Spain is to await events and to take such measures as consideration and prudence dictate until the change of policy in Cuba smooths the relations between the two governments. The answer of Spain will not be drawn up until the program for the reforms in Cuba has been published.

Murdered Fifteen Wives. A man named Gustave Muller has surrendered to the police at Rotterdam, confessing the murder of his wife and child. Muller subsequently confessed that he had also killed his parents, and then he made the astonishing statement that he had similarly disposed of fourteen wives whom he had married in various parts of the world.

Lynching Threatened in Kentucky, The jail at Newport, Ky., where Jackson and Walling were hanged last May for the murder of Pearl Bryan was surrounded by a mob Thursday which threatened to lynch eleven men charged with criminally assaulting Mrs. Thomas Gleason. The prisoners were safely got out of town.

President Crespo Is Well-In view of the published reports that President Crespo of Venezuela was dangerously III, Minister Andrade cabled to Caracas, and received an answer saying: "President Crespo had a slight indisposition, but is already well."

Big Fire in an Ohlo Village.

Fire broke out at Gibsonburg, Ohio, Friday night. Twenty-one buildings were burned, including that in which the postoffice was located. The estimated loss is \$20,000. The insurance is light.

ELECT THEIR OFFICERS.

Christian Endeavorers Close

Their State Convention. The annual rally of the Illinois Junior Christian Endeavor society was held at Chicago Saturday morning, afternoon and evening. The following officers were elected: President, Dr. S. A. Wilson, Chicago; vice president, A. E. Turner, Lincoln; secretary, Miss Jessie Williams, Carthage; treasurer, John M. Rinewalt, Mount Carroll.

In the last hour of the convention of Christian Endeavor the Rev. Francis E. Clark of Boston, president of the united society and founder of the movement, preached to 6,000 members of the society at the Auditorium.

India Will Not Reopen Mints. It is said the Indian government, in reply to a further pressing invitation by the British cabinet to consider Senator Wolcott's proposals, has answered that it cannot reopen the question of the Indian currency and it will not be a party to the reopening of the mints for the free coinage of silver.

Wants Agricultural Attaches. Secretary Wilson in his report will recommend to congress the creation of a new office in connection with the diplomatic service. He believes that this government should have attaches to a number of the most important foreign legations who shall represent the agricuttural department.

For the Old Form of Faith. The Universalist convention of Michigan recommended that the constitution be amended so as to make the essential principles of faith simply the fatherhood of God, the spiritual leadership of Jesus Christ and the final harmony of all souls with God.

Canada Wants a Loan.

W. S. Fielding, Canadian minister of finance, is in London to negotiate a lean of £2,000,600 to take up outstanding obligations of Canada and to assist in the railroad and canal developments of the Dominion.

Royal Arch Masons at Maltimore. The General Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons assembled at Boston Monday in triennial conclave. Prominent masons from all parts of the world were present.

Switzerland to Purchase Battroads. The national council of Switzerland adopted a bill providing for the purchase of the five principal railroads of Switzerland at a cost approximating 1,-000,000,000 francs, or \$200,000,000, which

Gold Coming Our Way.

is a loan projected.

Gold is coming our way in large quantities, and it is expected that before the end of the week not less than \$25,000,000 will have been imported.

Charged with the Murder of His Son. Fred Hicken, over whose head hangs the charge of murder of his five-yearold son at Fond du Lac, Wis., has been

NEW MINISTER TO DENMARK.



terward he was graduated from Luther gaard in 1887.

Laurita S. Swenson of Minnesota has College in Iowa. Then he went to Johns been appointed by President McKinley Hopkins University and there took a envoy extraordinary and minister plen- post-graduate course. In 1889 he was ipotentiary to Denmark. Mr. Swenson given the degree of master of arts. is principal of Luther Academy of Al- As soon as he had completed his studbert Lea, Minnesota, to which position ies at the big Baltimore school he was he was elected in 1889 and which he tendered the principalship of Luther has filled ever since. The new minis- Academy of Albert Lea and accepted. ter to Copenhagen was born in New Professor Swenson has been a leader Sweden, Nicollet county, Minn. His in educational affairs and has been ancestors were natives of Norway. His deeply interested in politics. He has father and grandfather emigrated from the friendship of Secretary of State Norway to Minnesota in 1887 and set- Brown and also of Senator Nelson, for tled on a farm. Swen Swenson rose to whose nomination as governor he voted be a rich man and a member of the in the state convention of 1892. He was legislature, to which he was elected in quite active in the last presidential 1887. Professor Swenson entered St. campaign. He is scholarly, refined and Olaf College at 14, and seven years af- able. He was married to Ingeborg Ode-

Rnights to Meet at Elkhart.

The convention of the Knights of Pythias of Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan is to be held at Elkhart, Ind., October 29. Many prominent knights from abroad are expected to be present.

Whisky Trust in Formation. A whisky trust of tremendous proportions is about to be formed. all the whisky distillers who have been asked to join it do so it will represent more than \$50,000,000 capital.

Iowa Miners End the Strike. At the meeting of the miners at Des Moines, Iowa, Friday, the following resolution was adopted: "Resolved, That we allow all mines to resume work that will pay 85 cents a ton from now until April 1, on condition that they will stop off 10 cents on the dollar and turn the same over to at authoried committee; second, that all men get their work back again." This practically ends the strike on the miners' terms, as the operators have agreed to these terms.

NEWSLETS. ILLINOIS

RECORD OF MINOR DOINGS OF THE WEEK.

Seven Days' Happenings Condensed - Cocial, Rollgious, Political, Criminal, Obituary and Miscellancous Mounts from Every Section of the State.

Springfield Telegram.—The secretary of state has licensed the incorporation of the following companies:

The Morden Frog and Crossing works, Ch.c.go, certified to a decrease in capital steek from \$500,000 to \$175,-

Assumption.—Twelve weeks have passed without rain and the country is burning up. Streams have dried up and fish are dying in large numbers. Stock wells are giving out and pastures are dry. Fall wheat sowing has been stopped. Wheat that was sown and came up is dying from drouth.

Princeton Telegram: The drought of six weeks has greatly damaged the winter wheat and rye, and tue acreage of these will be cut down to less than one third the usual amount. Prairie fires have started in several town. ships, creating considerable alarm. The pastures have nearly all given out,

Denver, Col.-Governor John R, Tanner and wife of Illinois arrived in Denver as guests of President J. W. Gates of the Illinois Steel Rail company, in his private car. They will remain in Denver after the carnivil, and will then visit Leadville and Breckincidge to examine mines owned by Mr. Gates.

Springfield telegram .- The state superintendent of insurance has issued a license to the Home Mutual Life Insurance Company of Detroit, Mich., to transact a life insurance business in this state on the assessment plan. A certificate has also been issued to the American Home Circle of Champagne, Ill., to transact a fraternal insurance business.

Carlyle Telegram: Fire was discov. ered in a pile of sawdust beneath the large sawmill at Zachary switch, seven miles south of this city. The building was entirely destroyed, and the machinery is a total loss. Several thousand fret of lumber were also burned. The mill was the property of Charles Higgins of this city. Thirty

men are thrown out of employment. Rockford Telegram: The drought still continues in this section, not a drop of rain having falten in over a month. The ground is too dry to at, tempt to put in winter crops. Many small fires have occurred in the past week. Several hundred acres of land, with many tons of hay, were burned over in the northwest part of the county. Costly farm fires have been numerous,

Medora.-A fire that broke out at 3 a. m. in the rear of Robing's hardware store spread rapidly, and in two hours had destroyed the building and seventeen others adjoining, practically wiping out the business portion of this town and causing an estimated loss of \$100,000; insurance one-half. The principal losses are as follows: J. Lax. \$10,000; J. Robings, \$6,000; bank of Medora, \$8,000; T. L. Loper & Co., \$3,-500; T. A. Loomis, \$6,000; A. Steed,

\$7,000. Jacksonville,-A total wresk occurred on the Wahash read near Naples yesterday evening, and Charles Anderson, an engineer, is dead, and other trainmen more or less severely injured. Anderson was an engineer on a westbound stock express, running light, and had orders to meet the east-bound, which was coming with two engines, at Valley City, the other side of the Illinois river. The dispatcher altered his orders and told Arderson to stop for the other train at Naples, but the engineer forgot, and just the other side of Naples he met the other train on a curve.

Lincoln telegram .- Parental Interference, with the assistance of a policeman, spoiled an elopement tonight, Neither Leslie Shilling nor Eunice Russell is of age, but they wanted to get married, and so planned to eleps to St. Louis, Mo. The girl's father in John J. Russell, an old citizen of Lincoln, and he objected. The girl's brother and a policeman fastened the door of the depot waiting room, where the roung people were expecting the arrival of the train. The girl was then returned to her father's home by the police and her would-be husband is not given a chance to be in that neighborhood.

Daniel B. Hubbard, one of Chicago's early settlers, died last week at his home, No. 6356 Monroe avenue, from heart failure. Mr. Hubbard had been ill several days, but his ailment was not thought to be necessarily dangers. ous. For nearly thirty years Mr. Hubbard was connected with the First National bank, having had charge of the mailing department. He was 55 years old and came to Chicago from the east when quite young. Mr. Hubbard was a member of George H Thomas Post, G. A. R., and was promnent in Grand Army affairs. During the year 1896 he was assistant com mander for the state of Illinois, He leaves a widow and one son, Lyman J. Hubbard, who is also connected with the bank.

Quincy, Telegram,-The announce ment that the Chicago, Burlington at Quincy will within the next eights months spend \$500,000 in im ments here was received by with great delight. The Q.'s plans i clude a new passenger depot, a frei depot, enlarged switch yards, a route to and from the bridge sp the river, and a new bridge fre stone plers up. Work has bee