

TALMAGE'S SERMON.

TIMELY DISCOURSE ON RELIGIOUS DOCTRINES.

We Would Free Humanity From the Gravelclothes of Old Ecclesiastical Dogmas—Faith in Christ the Test of True Christianity.

[Copyright, 1900, by Louis Klopfch.] Text is John xi, 44: "Loose him and let him go."

My Bible is at the place of this text written all over with lead pencil marks made at Bethany on the ruins of the house of Mary and Martha and Lazarus. We dismounted from our horses on the way up from Jordan to the Dead Sea. Bethany was the summer evening retreat of Jesus. After spending the day in the hot city of Jerusalem he would come out there almost every evening to the house of his three friends. I think the occupants of that house were orphans, for the father and mother are not mentioned. But the son and two daughters must have inherited property, for it must have been, judging from what I saw of the foundations and the size of the rooms, an opulent home. Lazarus, the brother, was now at the head of the household, and his sisters depended on him and were proud of him, for he was very popular, and everybody liked him, and these girls were splendid girls—Martha a first rate housekeeper and Mary a spirituelle, somewhat dreamy, but affectionate and as good a girl as could be found in all Palestine. But one day Lazarus got sick. The sisters were in consternation. Father gone, and mother gone, they feel very nervous lest they lose their brother also. Disease did its quick work. How the girls hung over his pillow! Not much sleep about that house—no sleep at all.

From the characteristics otherwise developed, I judge that Martha prepared the medicines and made tempting dishes of food for the poor appetite of the sufferer, but Mary prayed and sobbed. Worse and worse gets Lazarus until the doctor announces that he can do no more. The shriek that went up from that household when the last breath had been drawn and the two sisters were being led by sympathizers into the adjoining room all those of us can imagine who had had our own hearts broken. But why was not Jesus there as he so often had been? Far away in the country districts, preaching, healing other sick, how unfortunate that this omnipotent Doctor had not been at that domestic crisis in Bethany. When at last Jesus arrived in Bethany, Lazarus had been buried four days and dissolution had taken place. In that climate the breathless body disintegrates more rapidly than in ours. If, immediately after decease, the body had been awakened into life, unbelievers might have said he was only in a comatose state or in a sort of trance and by some vigorous manipulation or powerful stimulant vitality had been renewed. No! Four days dead.

The Sepulcher of Christ. At the door of the sepulcher is a crowd of people, but the three most memorable are Jesus, who was the family friend, and the two bereft sisters. We went into the traditional tomb on December day, and it is deep down and dark, and with torches we explored it. We found it all quiet that afternoon of our visit, but the day spoken of in the Bible there was present an excited multitude. I wonder what Jesus will do? He orders the door of the grave removed, and then he begins to descend the steps, Mary and Martha close after him, and the crowd after them. Deeper down into the shadows and deeper! The hot tears of Jesus roll over his cheeks and splash upon the back of his hands. Were ever so many sorrows compressed into so small a space as in that group pressing on down after Christ, all the time bemoaning that he had not come before?

Now all the whispering and all the crying and all the sounds of shuffling feet are stopped. It is the silence of expectancy. Death had conquered, but now the vanquisher of death confronted the scene. Amid the awful hush of the tomb, the familiar name which Christ had often had upon his lips in the hospitalities of the village home came back to his tongue, and with a pathos and an almightiness of which the resurrection of the last day shall only be an echo he cries "Lazarus, come forth!" The eyes of the slumberer open, and he rises and comes to the foot of the steps and with great difficulty begins to ascend, for the cement of the tomb are yet on him, and his feet are fast and his hands are fast and the impediments to all his movements are so great that Jesus commands: "Take off these graveclothes! Remove these hindrances! Unfasten these graveclothes! Loose him, and let him go!"

Oh, I am so glad that after the Lord raised Lazarus he went on and commanded the loosening of the cords that bound his feet so that he could walk and the breaking off of the cement that bound his hands so that he could stretch out his arms in salutation and the tearing off of the bandage from around his jaws so that he could speak. What would resurrected life have been to Lazarus if he had not been freed from all those cripplings of his body? I am glad that Christ commanded his complete emancipation, saying, "Loose him, and let him go."

Only Half Liberated. The unfortunate thing now is that so many Christians are only half liberated. They have been raised from the death and burial of sin into spiritual life, but they still have the graveclothes

on them. They are, like Lazarus, hobbling up the stairs of the tomb bound hand and foot, and the object of this sermon is to help free their body and free their souls, and I shall try to obey the Master's command that comes to me, and comes to every minister of religion, "Loose him, and let him go!"

Many are bound hand and foot by religious creeds. Let no man misinterpret me as antagonizing creeds. I have eight or ten of them—a creed about religion, a creed about art, a creed about social life, a creed about government, and so on. A creed is something that a man believes, whether it be written or unwritten. The Presbyterian church is now agitated about its creed. Some good men in it are for keeping it because it was framed from the belief of John Calvin. Other good men in it want revision. I am with neither party. Instead of revision I want substitution. I was sorry to have the question disturbed at all. The creed did not hinder us from offering the pardon and the comfort of the gospel to all men, and the Westminster Confession has not interfered with me one minute. But now that the electric lights have been turned on the imperfections of that creed—and everything that man fashions is imperfect—let us put the old creed respectfully aside and get a brand new one.

It is impossible that people who lived hundreds of years ago should fashion an appropriate creed for our times. John Calvin was a great and good man, but he died 336 years ago. The best centuries of Bible study have come since then, and explorers have done their work, and you might as well have the world go back and stick to what Robert Fulton knew about steamboats and reject the subsequent improvements in navigation, and go back to John Gutenberg, the inventor of the art of printing, and reject all modern newspaper presses, and go back to the time when telegraphy was the elevating of signals or the burning of bonfires on the hilltops and reject the magnetic wire which is the tongue of nations as to ignore all the exegetes and the philologists and the theologians of the last 336 years and put your head under the sleeve of the gown of a sixteenth century doctor. I could call the names of twenty living Presbyterian ministers of religion who could make a better creed than John Calvin. The nineteenth century ought not to be called to sit at the feet of the sixteenth.

Change in Conditions. "But," you say, "it is the same old Bible, and John Calvin had that as well as the present student of the Scriptures." Yes; so it is the same old sun in the heavens, but in our time it has gone to making daguerotypes and photographs. It is the same old water; but in our century it has gone to running steam engines. It is the same old electricity; but in our time it has become a lightning footed errand boy. So it is the old Bible, but new applications, new uses, new interpretations. You must remember that during the last 300 years words have changed their meaning, and some of them now mean more and some less. I do not think that John Calvin believed, as some say he did, in the damnation of infants, although some of the recent hot disputes would seem to imply that there is such a thing as the damnation of infants. A man who believes in the damnation of infants himself deserves to lose heaven. I do not think any good man could admit such a possibility. What Christ will do with all the babies in the next world I conclude from what he did with the babies in Palestine when he hugged them and kissed them. When some of you grown people go out of this world, your doubtful destiny will be an embarrassment to ministers officiating at your obsequies, who will have to be cautious so as not to hurt surviving friends. But when the darling children go there are no "ifs" or "buts" or guesses.

We must remember that good John Calvin was a logician and a metaphysician, and by the proclivities of his nature put some things in an unfortunate way. Logic has its use and metaphysics has its use, but they are not good at making creeds. A gardener hands you a blooming rose, dewy, fresh, but a severe botanist comes to you with a rose and says, "I will show you the structure of this rose," and he proceeds to take it apart and pulls off the leaves and he says, "There are the petals," and he takes out the anthers, and he says, "Just look at the wonderful structure of these floral pillars!" and then he cuts the stem to show you the juices of the plant. So logic or metaphysics takes the aromatic rose of the Christian religion and says, "I will just show you how this rose of religion was fashioned," and it pulls off of it a piece and says, "That is the human will," and another piece and says, "This is God's will," and another piece and says, "This is sovereignty," and another piece and says, "This is free agency," this is this, and that is that. And while I stand looking at the fragments of the rose pulled apart, one whom the Marys took for a gardener comes in and presents me with a crimson rose, red as blood, and says, "Inhale the sweetness of this: wear it on your heart, and wear it forever." I must confess that I prefer the rose in full bloom to the rose pulled apart.

Ours Not the Only World. Backed up by the teachings of your Bible, just look through the telescope some bright night and see how many worlds there are and reflect that all you have seen, compared with the number of worlds in existence, are but

than the fingers of your right hand as compared with all the fingers of the human race. How foolish, then, for us to think that ours is the only world fit for us to stay in. I think that all the stars are inhabited and by beings like the human race in feelings and sentiments, and the differences in lung respiration and heart beat and physical conformation, their physical conformation fit for the climate of their world and our physical conformation fit for the climate of our world. So we shall feel at home in any of the stellar neighborhoods, our physical limitations having ceased.

One of our first realizations in getting out of this world, I think, will be that in this world we were very much pent up and had cramped apartments and were kept on the limits. The most even of our small world, is water, and the water says to the human race, "Don't come here or you will drown." A few thousand feet up the atmosphere is uninhabitable, and the atmosphere says to the human race, "Don't come up here or you cannot breathe." A few miles down the earth is a furnace of fire, and the fire says, "Don't come here or you will burn." The caverns of the mountains are full of poisonous gases, and the gases say, "Don't come here or you will be asphyxiated." And, crossing a track, you must look out or you will be crushed. And, standing by a steam boiler, you must look out or you will be blown up. And pneumonias and pleurisies and consumptions and apoplexies go across this earth in flocks, in droves, in herds, and it is a world of equinoxes and cyclones and graves. Yet we are under the delusion that it is the only place fit to stay in. We want to stick to the wet plank in midocean while the great ship, the City of God, of the Celestial line, goes sailing past and would gladly take us up in a lifeboat. My Christian friends, let me tear off your dependencies and frights about dissolution. My Lord commands me regarding you, saying, "Loose him, and let him go!"

Getting into the Light. "But," you say, "I fear to go because the future is so full of mystery." Well, I will tell you how to treat the mysteries. The mysteries have ceased bothering me, for I do as the judges of your courts often do. They hear all the arguments in the case and they say, "I will take these papers and give you my decision next week." So I have heard all the arguments in regard to the next world, and some things are uncertain and full of mystery, and so I fold up the papers and reserve until the next world my decision about them. I can then study all the mysteries to better advantage, for the light will be better and my faculties stronger, and I will ask the Christian philosophers, who have had all the advantages of heaven for centuries, to help me, and I may be permitted myself humbly to ask the Lord, and I think there will be only one mystery left; that will be how one so unworthy as myself got into such an enraptured place. Come up out of the sepulchral shadows. If you are not Christians by faith in Christ, come up into the light; and if you are already like Lazarus, reanimated, but still have your grave clothes on, get rid of them. The command is, "Loose him, and let him go!"

The only part of the journey I made years ago to Palestine that I really dreaded was the landing at Joppa. That is the port of entrance for the Holy Land, and there are many rocks and in rough weather people cannot land at all. The boats taking the people from the steamer to the docks must run between reefs that looked to me to be about 50 feet apart, and one mistake of an oarsman or an unexpected wave has sometimes been fatal and hundreds have perished along those reefs. Besides that, as we left Port Said the evening before, an old traveler said: "The wind is just right to give you a rough landing at Joppa; indeed I think you will not be able to land at all." The fact was that when our Mediterranean steamer dropped anchor near Joppa and we put out for shore in the small boat, the water was as still as though it had been sound asleep a hundred years, and we landed as easily as I entered this pulpit. Well, your fears have pictured for you an appalling arrival at the end of your voyage of life, and they say that the seas will run high and that the breakers will swallow you up, or that if you reach Canaan at all, it will be a very rough landing. The very opposite will be true if you have the eternal God for your portion. Your disembarkation for the promised land will be as smooth as was ours at Palestine. Christ will meet you far out at sea and pilot you into complete safety, and you will land with a hosanna on one side of you and a hallelujah on the other.

"Land ahead!" Its fruits are waving O'er the hill of fadless green— And the living waters laving Shores where heavenly forms are seen.

Rocks and storms I'll fear no more When on that eternal shore. Drop the anchor, furl the sail! I am safe within the veil!

America Leads the World. The United States is now the world's greatest producer and exporter of meats, which form one of the most important features of the export trade. In 1887 the total exportation of provisions and live animals was \$102,774,910, and in 1899 their total value was \$207,105,637, having thus doubled meantime, and forming in 1899 17.2 per cent of the total exports of that year.

THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Proceedings of Six Days in National Congress.

NAVAL APPROPRIATION BILL.

Foreign Diplomats Will Not Join in Dwey Celebration at Chicago May 1—Turkish Relations Still Strained—Ingredients of Oleomargarine.

Wednesday April 18.

The senate passed a resolution introduced by Mr. Mason appropriating \$25,000 for bronze medals, to be distributed by the secretary of the navy among certain officers and men of the North Atlantic squadron who participated in naval engagements during the war with Spain. Devoted the rest of the day to consideration of the Alaskan civil code bill.

The house debated the naval appropriation bill under the five-minute rule. A motion to strike from the bill the contingent fund of \$500,000 for the navy department was defeated. Conference report on the urgent deficiency bill was adopted.

Thursday, April 19.

Fate of Cullom bill to increase powers of interstate commerce commission will be decided by senate committee. Senate decided to investigate methods of "committee on distribution" that is selling "The Messages of the Presidents." Miers (Ind.) introduced bill to pension ex-soldiers of the rebellion on reaching the age of 62. Turkish minister called at state department and discussed American demands. Senate committee favorably reported plan to survey Illinois and Desplaines rivers. Stamp books to be on sale May 1.

Friday, April 20.

The senate had under consideration the conference report of the Hawaiian civil government measure. Final action upon it was postponed until Saturday. The Alaskan civil-code bill was considered for a brief time. Mr. Foraker pronounced an eulogy on Lorenzo Danford, a former representative from Ohio, and the senate adopted resolutions expressive of sorrow.

The house, after protracted discussion of the naval appropriation bill, the provision enabling the secretary of the treasury to contract for Krupp armor for the battleships Maine, Ohio and Missouri, at \$545 a ton, was ruled out of the bill. Also the provision to repeat the \$300 limitation placed upon the price of armor by the current law. Two amendments to modify the provisions for the increase of the navy, which authorizes two battleships and six cruisers, were defeated. One proposed to add provision for six gunboats and the other to strike out the provision for the battleships.

April 21-22.

Eight-hour labor bill amended in house. The new Philippine commission must determine the ownership of the realty in the archipelago, much of which is in dispute. During the year 1899 exports from the United States to Asia and Oceania increased 44 per cent.

Sultan said to have declared he would compensate American missionaries only under same conditions as other foreign subjects. Minister at Washington may be given his passport. House added amendment limiting granting of franchises to bill to continue army officers temporarily in civil positions in Puerto Rico, and the senate refuses to approve change. Agricultural department circular urges the importance of good roads. Senate will consider Quay, Scott and Clark cases this week.

Monday, April 23.

Senator Quarles of Wisconsin delivered a strong address against the seating of Matthew Stanley Quay. The National Dairy association, the Federation of Labor, the railway mail clerks, the letter carriers and other organizations said to have planned to defeat several members of congress alleged to be unfriendly to them. Gen. Joseph Wheeler resigned his seat in congress. Majority of ways and means committee opposes requiring commissioner of internal revenue to tell ingredients of oleomargarine. Secretary Gage tells congress to establish a bureau to have charge of standard weights and measures. Sultan may refuse to permit Minister Strauss' return because he talked too much. Turkish reply to American demands received but not given out. Sultan acting on the American indemnity claim, orders rebuilt the church property destroyed during Armenian massacres. House discussed postoffice appropriation bill, pneumatic tube causing most debate. House set aside May 1 and 2 for consideration of Nicaraguan canal bill. Committee's report favoring unseating of Clark of Montana submitted to senate.

To Establish an Orphanage. A telegram says that Mrs. Leland Stanford has given the old Stanford home in this city to Bishop Mora of the Catholic church, together with a \$75,000 endowment to maintain it as an orphanage.

Schley to Rank Sampson.

It is reported that the long feud, between Rear Admiral William T. Sampson and Rear Admiral Winfield Scott Schley and their friends is ended officially, and Schley is the victor, according to the New York World. Schley will rank Sampson in the list of rear admirals and in a few months will be second only to George Dewey in the United States navy. Schley's adherents have kept on the defensive for eighteen months, but finally decided to assume the aggressive.

FLOODS IN THE SOUTH.

Seven Persons Dead as Result of High Water in Mississippi.

John Horton, a negro, his wife and five children were drowned in the backwaters of Pearl river at Jackson, Miss. Their cabin had been inundated by the high waters and the family was endeavoring to make its escape in a wagon when the vehicle fell through a broken bridge. Railroad traffic is still in a very bad condition owing to the floods.

One of the heaviest rainstorms flooded New Orleans. In the upper and rear sections of the city rafts had to be used to reach street cars. The Illinois Central railway is operating a partial service, but the Northeastern is still completely blocked by the floods in Mississippi. Additional rains have added gravity to the flood situation at Meridian, Miss. The temporary track work done will be damaged on all railroads entering the city and resumption of traffic will be longer delayed. The situation in cut-off towns is growing desperate. Foodstuffs are running short. The flood situation around Mobile shows a more desperate condition and every hour the loss is growing greater.

PLUNGES INTO A COKE OVEN.

Man Commits Suicide by Diving Into a Flery Furnace.

An unknown man committed suicide at the works of the Frick Coke company by diving into a coke oven at Connellsville, Pa. The coke workers saw him only for an instant as he prepared for the leap. He was well dressed. For the slightest possible space of time he seemed to pause on the sloping ground behind the ovens, then he ran down the steps. Eight feet from the oven tops the man shot into the air, his hands poised above his head in the fashion of a diver, and descending swiftly dropped head first into the head of an oven that had burned to the white heat of coke just before it is drawn. A rush was made for the oven by the oven drawers, but all there was to show of the man was a charred mass.

FAVOR ST. LOUIS FAIR PROJECT

Trans-Mississippi Congress Passes Many Resolutions.

The trans-Mississippi congress at Houston, Texas, adopted resolutions favoring the improvement of the consular service; the admission of territories as states; laws prohibiting adulteration of food; a governmental department of mines and minerals and a department of commerce and industry; the improvement of Galveston harbor, the Brazos river and the mouth of the Mississippi; the establishment of deep water at Houston; the building of a Pacific cable by congressional assistance; a school of mines; an appropriation for the St. Louis exposition and schools and asylums for Indian Territory. Cripple Creek was chosen as the next meeting place.

MORE JAPANESE REACH PORT.

Tramp Steamer with 1,000 Coolies Arrives.

Japanese coolies are still being rushed into Victoria, B. C. The majority afterwards drift through to different parts of the United States, a great many going to California, where it is said they have been engaged by contract to replace the Chinese on the farms and in the orange groves. Another thousand reached Victoria on the German tramp steamer Milos. The vessel is being held at Victoria by the customs officials and the coolies not allowed to land, for the vessel has no clearance from Kobe, her port of departure.

Portable Schoolhouses in St. Louis.

The progressive city of St. Louis inaugurated a novelty in the school building line Monday. One of the nine portable schoolhouses recently erected was dedicated and ready for use to accommodate the overflow pupils at the schools where they were needed. These buildings are so constructed that they may be moved from school to school as occasion requires, and were adopted by the school board as a better method than renting extra rooms in the neighborhood of the overcrowded schools. Each of the schoolhouses contains seats for eighty pupils. They are light and comfortable and provided with all the modern school-room appointments.

Jealous Maniac Kills Amock.

George Cowell, aged 47, ran amuck three miles east of Terre Haute, Ind., Monday. He shot and probably fatally wounded Anna Hartley, aged 11, and attempted to kill six other persons. Cowell was infuriated with Anna Hartley, and was insanely jealous of her. He shot at her four times, three of the bullets taking effect. The smoking pistol was leveled at Mrs. Catherine Hartley, mother of his victim, and Mrs. Edward Heine, a neighbor. After fleeing from the scene of the shooting, Cowell procured a shotgun and attempted to kill Lou Pierce, the special object of his hatred; Henry Hartley, jailer; Smith and his own daughter.

Statistics of Cuba.

The Cuban census reported to the United States government showed a population of 1,572,797, of whom 443,426 can read and write; 68 per cent are native whites and 32 per cent negroes. Havana's population is 235,981. The election in Cuba will be held June 16.

Glass Factory for Mexico.

W. F. Modes, a glass manufacturer of Indiana, has taken preliminary steps toward establishing a glass factory at Monterey, Mexico. He represents \$15,000,000 in gold to invest in the enterprise.

A WEEK IN ILLINOIS.

RECORD OF HAPPENINGS FOR SEVEN DAYS.

Report on the Fifteen State Charitable Institutions—Verdict in the Harbison Murder Case—Smallpox at Chicago and Joliet.

Report on State Charities.

Springfield—The quarterly statement of the conditions of the fifteen state charitable institutions issued by the state board of charities shows total receipts for the quarter ended March 31, were \$725,471 and the total expenses incurred \$515,547. The cash payments were \$529,105. The outstanding indebtedness at the close of the quarter was \$90,396, to meet which the institutions had in cash \$195,400 and in undrawn appropriations \$32,709, to which is added \$49,000 on account of appropriations due prior to the current quarter. The number of inmates at the beginning of the quarter was 10,187, and at the close 10,350, the average number being 10,175. The per capita cost of maintenance, gross, was \$39.45 and the net per capita cost to the state \$36.24. The amount of appropriations undrawn at the close of the quarter was \$2,790,576.

Seven for Penitentiary.

Belleville—The jury in the case of seven men charged with the murder of Sheriff Herman Barwick during an attempted wholesale jail delivery returned a verdict finding Charles Hastings guilty and fixing the punishment at eighteen years, in the penitentiary. James Allen, George Goffrey, James McGuchin, Michael Kennedy, alias Harry Wade, and Richard Franke were given fourteen years each. John Dugan, the eighth defendant, was found not guilty and immediately released. The jail delivery was frustrated by Sheriff Barwick shooting to death Benton Revelle, the leader of the jail breakers, after he had been fatally wounded by Revelle. James Bennett, a ninth prisoner under indictment, will be tried at Carlyle, Clinton county, having secured a change of venue.

Reform Agents Admit Guilt.

Charleston—As a sequel of the raiding of all the gambling rooms of this city, Isaac Ewers and Ed Salyer of Springfield, detectives for the Illinois Anti-Saloon league, were arrested on warrants charging gaming, sworn out by a local saloon-keeper. W. H. Anderson, also of Springfield, general attorney for the league, appeared to defend the detectives, who entered pleas of guilty, and, being fined, appealed the case to the circuit court. They were released on bond. Ewers and Salyer are said to have engaged in the games here in order to secure evidence to convict the gamekeepers. The former is a brother of Rev. M. H. Ewers of the Illinois M. E. conference.

Herefords Bring Big Prices.

Moweaqua—The sale from C. Ponting's herd of homestead Herefords aggregated \$15,000 for sixty head. Jesse C. Adams of Christian county paid \$1,010 for the heifer Blendress, 78,887; Henry Yeoman paid \$2,000 for fifteen bulls to go to Montana. T. F. B. Botham of Chillicothe and Mayor Thistlewood of Cairo were among the buyers. W. H. Jackson of Effingham paid \$1,800 for seven animals.

Smallpox Cases at Joliet.

Joliet—Joliet has a smallpox scare, two cases having appeared. Mrs. Mary Lankston, a widow, aged fifty years, and Jesse Johnson, twenty years old, are down with the disease, and their respective homes, both located in the northeast part of town, have been quarantined. Both cases are of a very mild order and Health Commissioner Casey does not anticipate any spread of the disease.

Smallpox at Chicago.

Chicago—Two cases of smallpox were discovered on the west side by Dr. Spalding of the health department. One victim was J. E. Woods, colored, residing at 289 1/2 West Randolph street. Woods is fifty years old and had been sick a week. The second case was that of Willie Jordan, colored, four years old, living at 228 Ogden avenue.

Huff Trice His Player.

Champaign—Coach Huff gave the Illinois baseball candidates a tryout. The battery for one team was composed of Captain Johnson and Landgren, while Sawyer, Miller and Falkenberg were the battery for the other aggregation. Sawyer's team won by the score of four to two. The Illinois Sigma fraternity team defeated the Sigma Chi nine on Illinois field 7 to 3.

Resents Leaves the Militia.

Springfield—Adjt.-Gen. Beck received and accepted the resignations of Louis E. Bennett as colonel and Seaman H. Owen as quartermaster of the Fourth Infantry, I. N. G. Both are residents of Greenville.

Shepherd in New Field.

Chicago—John Shepherd, special agent of the Magdeburg Insurance company, formerly in charge of Illinois and Wisconsin, left for his new field in Missouri, Kansas and Colorado.

Convict Charged with Forgery.

Virginia—H. A. Weldon, claiming to represent the Sprague Collecting agency of Chicago, has been convicted of forgery in the Cass county district court and sentenced to the penitentiary. He cashed a \$50 check on the First National bank at Beardstown, Ill.

Democratic Conventions.

Peoria—The Peoria county democratic central committee has called a delegate convention for June. The convention is to nominate officers for Aug. 1.