

TALMAGE'S SERMON.

DEPLORES PREVAILING SPIRIT OF UNREST.

The True Source of Usefulness and Happiness is a Christian Life—The Cause of Discontent—Fixed Spiritual Condition.

(Copyright, 1906, Louis Klopsch, N. Y.) Washington, Nov. 25.—From an unusual text Dr. Talmage in this discourse rebukes the spirit of unrest which characterizes so many people and shows them the happiness and usefulness to be found in stability; text, Jeremiah ii, 36, "Why gaddest thou about so much to change thy way?"

Home is the illustration by which this prophet of tears deplores the vacillation of the nation to whom he wrote. Now they wanted alliance with Egypt, and now with Assyria, and now with Babylon, and now they did not know what they wanted, and the behavior of the nation reminded the prophet of a man or woman who, not satisfied with home life, goes from place to place gadding about, as we say, never settled anywhere or in anything, and he cries out to them, "Why gaddest thou about so much to change thy way?"

Well, the world has now as many gad-about as it had in Bible times, and I think that that race of people is more numerous now than it ever was. Gad-about among occupations, among religious theories, among churches, among neighborhoods, and one of the greatest wants of the church and the world is more steadfastness and more fixedness of purpose.

Examine Your Temperament.

While seeking divine guidance in your selection of a lifetime sphere examine your own temperament. The phrenologist will tell you your mental proclivities. The physiologist will tell you your physical temperament. Your enemies will tell you your weakness. If you are, as we say, nervous, do not become a surgeon. If you are cowardly do not become an engineer. If you are hoping for a large and permanent income, do not seek a governmental position. If you are naturally quick tempered, do not become a minister of the gospel, for while any one is disadvantaged by ungovernable disposition there is hardly any one who enacts such an incongruous part as a mad minister. Can you make a fine sketch of a ship, or a rock or house or face? Be an artist. Do you find yourself humming cadences, and do the treble clef and the musical bars drop from your pen easily, and can you make a tune that charms those that hear it? Be a musician. Are you born with a fondness for argument? Be an attorney. Are you naturally a good nurse and especially interested in the relief of pain? Be a physician. Are you interested in all questions of traffic and in bargain making? Are you apt to be successful on a small or large scale? Be a merchant. Do you prefer country life, and do you like the plow, and do you hear music in the rustle of a harvest field? Be a farmer. Are you fond of machinery, and are turning wheels to you a fascination, and can you follow with absorbing interest a new kind of thrashing machine hour after hour? Be a mechanic. If you enjoy analyzing the natural elements and a laboratory could entertain you all day and all night, be a chemist. If you are inquisitive about other worlds and interested in all instruments that would bring them nearer for inspection, be an astronomer. If the grass under your feet and the foliage over your head and the flowers which shake their incense on the summer air are to you the bellies letters of the field, be a botanist.

Following God's Call.

Last summer a man of great genius died. He had the talents of twenty men in surgical directions, but he did not like surgery, and he wanted to be a preacher. He could not preach. I told him so. He tried it on both sides of the sea, but he failed, because he turned his back on that magnificent profession of surgery, which has in our time made such wonderful achievement that it now heals a broken neck and by the X ray explores the temple of the human body as if it were a lighted room. For forty years he was gadding about among the professions. Do not imitate him. Ask God what you ought to be, and he will tell you. It may not be as elegant a style of work as you would prefer. It may callous and begrime your hands and put you in suffocating atmosphere and stand you shoulder to shoulder with the unrefined and may leave you overalls the opposite of aromatic, but remember that if God calls you to do one thing you will never be happy in doing something else.

All the great successes have been gained through opposition and struggle. Charles Goodyear, the inventor, whose name is now a synonym all the world over for fortune added to fortune, waded many years chin deep through the world's scorn and was thrust in debtor's prison and came with his family to the verge of starvation, but continued his experiments with vulcanized rubber until he added more than can be estimated to the world's health and comfort, as well as to his own advantage. Columbus and John Fitch and Stephenson and Robert Bruce and Cyrus W. Field and 500 others were illustrations of what tenacity and pluck can do. "Hard pounding," said Wellington at Waterloo, "hard pounding, gentlemen, but we will see who can pound the longest." Yes, my friends, that is the secret, not flight from obstacles in the way, but "who can pound the longest." The

chick had it right when attempting to carry a ton of coal, a shovelful at a time, from the sidewalk to the cellar, and some one asked her, "Do you ever expect to get all that coal in with that little shovel?" And she replied, "Yes, sir, if I work long enough." By the help of God choose your calling and stick to it. The gadabouts are failures for this life, to say nothing of the next.

Fixed Spiritual Condition.

So also many are unfixed in regard to their spiritual condition and day after day and year after year go gadding about among hopes and fears and anxieties. They sing with great emphasis that old hymn which we have all sung:

'Tis a point I long to know; O'er it causes anxious thought; Do I love the Lord or not? Am I his, or am I not?

Why do you not find out whether you are his or not? There are all the broad invitations of the gospel. Accept them. There are all the assurances. Apply them. There are all the hopes of pardon and heaven. Adopt them. There is the King's highway. Start on it. Traveling any road, you are not satisfied until you have found out whether it is the right or the wrong road, and you climb up in the darkness to read the words on the finger board at the roadside to see if it be the right road, and if it be the wrong road you cross over to the right road. If you are on the sea, you want to know into what port you will run or upon what rocks you are in danger of crashing. This moment you have all the information pointing to the road that terminates at the gate of the Golden City and the voyage that anchors in the haven of eternal rest. Why go on guessing when you have all the facts before you? You ought to know by examination of chart and compass and thermometer in what latitude and longitude you are sailing, whether in the arctic or the tropics. A man who does not know whether or not he is a Christian is like a man who does not know whether he is a millionaire or a pauper. Better go to the records and find out. The Scriptures are the records. If you cannot there read your title, it is because you have no title, and you ought to begin anew. Start a new prayer, sing a new song, open a new experience.

No, alas, there are those who gad about among particular churches. No pastor can depend on them for a single service. At some time when he has prepared a sermon, after all prayer and all research, putting nerve and muscle and brain and soul into its every paragraph, these intermittent attendants are not there to hear it. While an occasional absence is excusable for the gratification of some wish to hear that which is consecrated or religiously oratorical in some other pulpit, when the pastor of a church with his eye calls the roll of attendance, by your presence in the old place practically answer, saying: "I am here to get the benefit of all the useful thoughts you may utter and of all the hymns that you may give out and of all the prayers you may offer. I, a soldier of Jesus Christ, am in my own place in the company, in the battalion, in the regiment, and when you command 'March!' I will march, and when you command 'Halt!' I will halt, and when you order 'Ground arms!' I will ground arms."

Neglecting One's Home.

Among the race of gadabouts are those who neglect their homes in order that they may attend to institutions that are really excellent and do not so much ask for help as demand it. I am acquainted, as you are, with women who are members of so many boards of direction of benevolent institutions and have to stand at a booth in so many fairs, and must collect funds for so many orphanages and preside at so many philanthropic meetings, and are expected to be in so many different places at the same time that their children are left to the care of irresponsible servants, and if the little ones waited to say their prayers at their mother's knee they would never say their evening prayers at all. Such a woman makes her own home so unattractive that the husband spends his evenings at the clubhouse or the tavern. The children of that house are as thoroughly orphan as any of the fatherless and motherless little ones gathered in the orphanage for which that gadabout woman is toiling so industriously. By all means let Christian women foster charitable institutions and give them as much of their time as they can spare, but the first duty of that mother is the duty she owes to her home.

Hired help is a great advantage to the homestead that can afford it, and we have all had in our homes a fidelity on the part of such employes as will stir our gratitude as long as life shall last. How they watched in time of sickness and always gave the medicine at the right time, and but for their vigilance there are members of our families now living who would long ago have disappeared from the home circle. Blessed the ships that brought those employes to our shores! And who will ever do justice to those who were affectionately called and I believe are still called the "mammies" of the south? I have had governors and senators of the United States with tears in their eyes talk to me about those old, colored women of the south who rocked them in their cradles and bound up their wounds when they got hurt, and wept with them at graves, and looked in from the hall door at the weddings, and greeted them home from college or from the wars with motherly endearment. Ask those who know them best about those old "mammies." We have all had in our employment those so near and dear

to us that we went to them in childhood and told them all our griefs and all our joys, and they sympathized with copious tears and resounding laughter.

The Mistake of Mothers.

But no one can take a mother's place, and it is an awful mistake that that mother makes who sacrifices home duties for any church meeting, however important, or any hospital, however merciful, or any outside beneficence, however glorious and grand. Not understanding this, we mistake when we try to give statistics as to how many Christians there are in our churches in the world. We underestimate the facts. We look over our church audiences on the Sabbath or our weekly service and conclude that they represent the amount of piety in that neighborhood. Oh, no! There are many most consecrated souls that are not found in churches. Look into those houses with large families of children and little or no hired help. For much of the year there is some one ill, and a special guardian care is requisite. How much time can that mother give to churches and prayer meetings when most of the family are down with scarlet fever or have colds that threaten now one kind of disease and now another? That mother watching at home as much pleases the Lord as the mother who at church takes the sacrament or in the mission school tells the waifs of the street how they may become sons and daughters of the Lord Almighty. That mother at home is deciding the destiny of the state by the way she leads that boy into right thinking and acting and is deciding the welfare of some future home by the example she is setting that girl, and though the world does not appreciate the unobserved work heaven watches and rewards. On the other hand, you have known women who are off at meetings humanitarian and philanthropic, planning for the destitute and the outcast, while their own children went unwashed and unkempt, their garments needing repairs, their manners impudent and themselves a general nuisance to the community in which they live.

The Distribution of Scandal.

One bad habit these gadabouts, masculine or feminine, are sure to get, and that is of scandal distribution. They hear so many deleterious things about others and see so much of wrong behavior that they are loaded up and loaded down with the faults of others, and they have their eyes full, and their ears full, and their hands full, and their mouths full of defamation. The woman who is endowed of gossip can so easily untie her bonnet strings and sit down to spend the afternoon. A man can afford you a cigar as a retainer if you will patiently hear all he has to say about those who cannot pay their debts, or are about to fail, or are guilty of moral mishap, or have aroused suspicion of embezzlement. All gadabouts are peddlers, who unpack in your presence their large store of nux vomica and nightshade. Such gadabouts have little prospect of heaven. If they got there, they would try to create jealousy among the different ranks of celestials, and make trouble among the heavenly neighbors, and start quarrels seraphic, and would be on perpetual run, now down this street and now up that, now in the house of many mansions, and now in the choir of the temple, and now on the walls, and now in the gates, until they would be chased down and pushed out into the pandemonium of backbiters and slanderers after Jeremiah had addressed them in the words, "Why gaddest thou about so much to change thy way?"

Practical Suggestions.

Now, what is the practical use of the present discourse? This: Whereas, so many have ruined themselves and ruined others by becoming gadabouts among occupations, among religious theories, among churches, among neighborhoods; therefore, resolved that we will concentrate upon what is right thought and right behavior and waste no time in vacillations and indecisions and uncertainties, running about in places where we have no business to be. Life is so short we have no time to play with it the spendthrift. Find out whether the Bible is true and whether your nature is immortal, and whether Christ is the divine and only Savior, and whether you must have him or be discomfited, and whether there will probably ever be a more auspicious moment for your becoming his adherent, and then make this 12 o'clock at noon of November 25, 1906, the most illustrious minute that you will ever have passed since the day of your birth until the ten millionth cycle of the coming eternity, because by complete surrender of thought and will and affection and life to God through Jesus Christ you became a new man, a new woman, a new soul, and God the Father, and God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost, and all angeldom, cherubim and seraphim, and archangel became your allies.

Chinese Belles Well Painted.

A Chinese belle on special occasions will entirely bedaub her face with white paint, adding rouge to the lips and cheeks in such profusion that she looks more like a painted mask than anything human. Her eyebrows are blackened with charred sticks and arched or narrowed in accordance with her idea of beauty.

Open Public Schools for Girls.

Andorra, a little republic in the Pyrenees, has marked the end of the century by opening its public schools to girls for the first time. The French government contributes \$300 to the school's support.

ABOUT PERSONS AND PLACES

Dewey Arch Chopped Down



The Dewey arch is gone. It was demolished last week under the direction of the department of streets and highways, and Madison Square, New York, is bereft of this noble reminder of American victory in Manila bay. Crowds gathered about the wreckers and all kinds of citizens were turned at once into relic hunters. The staff coating of the woodwork came away rapidly in response to the blows of the workmen. Spectators fought good-naturedly for bits of the sculptured figure of victory and of other ornamental parts of the columns. In a trice the skeleton of the monument was exposed. This was now hurriedly disjunctly hacked and torn, and the material was piled upon the sidewalk. In a few minutes the beautiful work of art was reduced to an ugly mass of plaster and a few loads of kindling wood. Then the traffic in Madison Square hummed as before.

The Loco Weed.

Advantages accruing from a recent heavy rainfall in western Texas have been largely offset by the fact that the unusual supply of moisture has greatly increased the growth of the loco weed. Many horses and cattle have died from eating this insidiously poisonous weed. Exactly what the element of poison in this weed is has never been fully determined.

The rush of immigrants is greater just now than at any time since 1892, over 450,000 having been registered already this year in New York. The present increase comes from southern Europe, especially Italy. A railroad official says the immigrant traffic on western lines is double what it was a year ago. There is less tendency to herd in the large cities.

Attempts will soon be made by California merchants to put fresh asparagus on the market in London and other places in Great Britain. The California navel oranges are growing in favor in England and are being much appreciated. It is expected that California asparagus will compete with French asparagus, which is sent to England in large quantities.

In Australia a novel idea has been introduced for wedding out the "man who doesn't dance." Each lady has a slip of paper perforated in squares, one square for each dance on the program; she gives one of these coupons to her partner at the end of each dance, and any man who cannot produce a fair percentage of coupons is refused admission to the supper room.

Immense Trade Balance.

In a second reference to the subject within a week, "Holland," the New York economic writer, tells us that the British and continental customers of our manufacturers, who desire so much to have their American purchases kept secret, will find little consolation in the annual report of our export trade. He predicts that the official exhibit to be made public on Jan. 1, 1907, will show that the exports of the United States for 1906 will exceed those of 1905 by about \$200,000,000, and that the total value of our exports for the present year will be not less than \$1,500,000,000. Furthermore, he adds, experts now figure for 1906 an apparent trade balance of about \$650,000,000 in our favor.

Rat Leads to Discovery.

The action of a rat led N. R. Ingoldby to the discovery of a rich gold mine in Arizona. Mr. Ingoldby, who was on a hunting trip near the San Pedro river, was for a long time puzzled to explain the disappearance of small articles from his camp. Investigation showed that the thief was a rat. One morning a piece of gold quartz was found after the rodent's visit, and, tracing his visitor to its hole, Mr. Ingoldby found a rich gold deposit.

Governor Pingree of Michigan is not much averse to celebrity, but looks with marked indignation on the fact that a cigarette has been named after him. Cigarettes are his pet aversion anyhow, and the starchy waiter's assistance would not greatly surprise his friends if he took legal steps to end the disagreeable notoriety which has been thrust upon him.

That portion of civilized humanity which lives in large cities is awaiting the coming of a benefactor to whom it will erect statues and sing psalms of praise. This benefactor will be a man who shall devise a cheap and effective method of ventilating office buildings. No such method has yet been devised. There is no ventilation of the class of buildings named. The unhappy tenant may choose between suffocation and pneumonia. He can either keep his windows open and stifle or he can raise them and create a draft which shall be his undoing. He occupies a steam-heated box in which no provision has been made for fresh air. He breathes over and over again an atmosphere charged with carbonic acid gas. He may pay \$5 per month or he may pay \$100, but he will get no ventilation.

Interior Cities and Forecasts.

In a recent address by Lyman E. Cooley before the engineering class in the University of Michigan he said: "Eventually the interior cities of the country will be sapped of their trade unless the sea can be brought to their doors." This is a confused statement and unexpected as coming from one of the most distinguished experts in the exact science of engineering.

The interior cities cannot be "sapped of their trade." They are near the sources of production in every article of commerce and consumption. They are the centers at which are collected for shipment by rail or water the products of the farms, the factories, the forests and the mines. They are the half-way houses of commerce between all the sources of production and the seaports.

The widow of Supreme Justice Stephen J. Field has presented to the United States circuit court of appeals in San Francisco a finely executed oil portrait of the jurist.

Sir William Lyne has offered a price of \$2,500 for the best ode in commemoration of the new commonwealth of Australia.

Land Richest in Minerals.

According to a report published by the home office in London, showing the mineral productions for the world for the last year, the United States easily leads all its rivals in this form of wealth. Great Britain ranks second, but far behind the leader, the total product of the United States having been about \$720,000,000, while that of Great Britain was \$400,000,000. Germany stands third, with nearly 300,000,000.

Isabella, the former queen of Spain, who for years has been living in Paris, is now making efforts to be allowed to return to her native country, from which she was banished twenty-three years ago.

Manchester-Zimmerman.



The Duke of Manchester and Miss Helena Zimmerman were married the other afternoon in the parish church of Marylebone, London, by the Very Rev. Canon Baker. Miss Zimmerman is the daughter of Eugene Zimmerman of Cincinnati, and, owing to the opposition to the marriage by the relatives of both bride and groom, the ceremony was so quiet as to have been almost secret. The duke and duchess at once left for Tanderage Castle, the groom's Irish estate. The marriage was by special license, no banns being published, for that would have betrayed the secret.

Italy's Kitchen Cabinet.

King Victor Emmanuel of Italy desires to introduce the American cabinet system into his government, in addition to the European system of responsible ministers, and is determined to have a privy council which shall be answerable to him alone, in order not to violate the Italian constitution, which makes the minister's responsibility solely official. King Victor will make his cabinet of Italians.

Eugene Zimmerman of Cincinnati is vice-president of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton railroad.

His wealth is estimated at from \$3,000,000 to \$15,000,000, which the young duchess, the only child, will inherit if she marries him, and she is the apple of his eye.

Improve the White House.

During the coming winter it is expected extensive changes will be made in the historical white house, which has been for so long the official residence of the presidents of the United States. The number of rooms in the old building is to be more than doubled, and the whole general effect of the extensive mansion is to be altered by an expenditure of about \$2,000,000. The commission to which the plans for the work were submitted has concluded its labor, and constructive work will begin shortly. The plan that has been agreed on is substantially the same as was drawn at the suggestion of Mrs. Sherman when she was mistress of the white house.