

TALMAGE'S SERMON.

"JUDGING OTHERS" THE SUBJECT LAST SUNDAY

From the Following Bible Text: "The Lord Weigheth the Spirits"—Prov. XVI 2

Washington, May 26.—In this discourse, from a symbol of the Bible, Dr. Talmage urges the adoption of an unusual mode of estimating character and shows how different is the divine way from the human way; text, Proverbs xvi. 2, "The Lord weigheth the spirits."

The subject of weights and measures is discussed among all nations, is the subject of legislation, and has much to do with the world's prosperity. A system of weights and measures was invented by Phidon, ruler of Argos, about 800 years before Christ. An ounce, a pound, a ton, were different in different lands. Henry the III. decided that an ounce should be the weight of 640 dried grains of wheat from the middle of the ear. From the reign of William the Conqueror to Henry VIII. the English pound was the weight of 7,680 grains of wheat. Queen Elizabeth decreed that a pound should be 7,000 grains of wheat taken from the middle of the ear. The piece of platinum kept at the office of the exchequer in England in an atmosphere of 62 F. decides for all Great Britain what a pound must be. Scientific representatives from all lands met in 1889 in Paris and established international standards of weights and measures.

Two Kinds of Truth.

There are Christian people who had faith that China would be redeemed and for thirty years have been contributing toward that object, but they changed their minds and now despair of the Flowery Kingdom since the Boxers began their massacres. There are those who were busy in New York missions and expected the salvation of our American cities until recent developments showed that the police were in complicity with crime, and now these Christian workers are despairful, as though all were lost. Of what worth is such a man's faith? When weighed, will they have what the chemists call atomic weight—the weight of an atom? No. Such faith is no faith at all.

But there is a man who by repentance and prayer has put himself into alliance with the Almighty God. Made all right by the Savior's grace, this man goes to work to make the world right. He says to himself: "God launched this world, and he never launched a failure. The garden of Eden was a useless morass compared with what the whole world will be when it blossoms and leaves and fashes and reounds with its coming glory. God will save it anyhow, with me or without me, but I want to do my share. I have some equipment—not as much as some others but what I have I will use. I have power to frown, and I will frown upon iniquity. I have power to smile, and I will smile encouragement upon all the struggling. I have a vocabulary not so opulent as the vocabulary of some others, but I have a storehouse of good words, and I mean to scatter them in helpfulness. I will ascribe right motives to others when it is possible. If I can say anything good about others, I will say it. If I can say nothing but vile of them, I will keep my lips shut as tight as the lips of the sphinx, which for 3,000 years has looked off upon the sands of the desert and uttered not one word about the desolation. The scheme of reconstructing this world is too great for me to manage, but I am not expected to boss this job. I have faith to believe that the plan is well laid out and will be well executed. Give me a brick and a trowel and I will begin now to help build the wall. I am not a soloist, but I can sing Rock of Ages to a sick pauper. I cannot write a great book but I can pick a splinter out of a child's eye or a splinter from under his thumb nail. I now enlist in this army that is going to take the world for God, and I defy all the evil powers, human and satanic, to discourage me. Count me into the service. I cannot play upon a musical instrument, but I can polish a cornet or string a harp or applaud the orchestra."

A Cheerful Faith.

All through that man's experience there runs a faith that will keep him cheerful and busy and triumphant. I like the watchword of Cromwell's Ironsides, the men who feared nothing and dared everything, going into battle with the shout: "The Lord of hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge! Selah!" No balance that human brain ever planned or human hand ever constructed is worthy of weighing such a spirit. Gold and precious stones are measured by the carat, which is four grains. The dealer puts the diamond or the pearl on one side of the scales and the carat on the other side and tells you the weight. But we need something more delicately constructed to weigh that wonderful quality of faith which I am glad to know will be recognized and rewarded for all time and all eternity. The earthly weighman counterpoises on metallic balances the iron, the coal, the articles of human food, the solids of earthly merchandise, but he cannot test or announce the amount of things spiritual. Here is something which the Attic and Babylonian weighing systems of the past and the metric weighing system of the present cannot manage. "The Lord weigheth the spirits."

God's Discipline.

But look into the dream of that schoolboy who, without saying any-

thing about it, is planning his lifetime career. From an old book partly written in Hebrew and partly written in Greek, but both Hebrew and Greek translated into good English, he reads of a great farmer like Amos, a great mechanic like Ahobab, a great lawyer like Moses, a great soldier like Joshua, a great king like Hezekiah, a great poet, like David, a great gleaner like Ruth, a great physician like Luke, a great preacher like Paul, a great Christ like no one on earth or in heaven because the superior of all beings terrestrial or celestial. He has learned by heart the Ten Commandments and the sermon on the mount and has splendid theories about everything. Between that fair haired boy and the achievement of what he wants and expects there are obstacles and hindrances known only to the God who is going to discipline him for heroic magnificence. I have no power to prophesy that different experiences of his encouragement and disappointment, of his struggle or his triumph, but as sure as God lives to make his his word come true that boy who will sleep tonight nine hours without waking will be final victor. I do not know the intermediate chapters of the volume of that young man's life, but I know the first chapter and the last chapter. The first chapter is made of high resolves in the strength of God, and the last chapter is filled with the rewards of a noble ambition. As his obsequies pass out to the cemetery the poor will weep because they will lose their best friend. Many in whose temporal welfare and eternal salvation he bore a part will hear of it in various places and eulogize his memory, and God will say to the ascending spirit, "To him that overcometh will I give to eat of the tree of life which is in the midst of the paradise of God." In the hour of that soul's release and enthronement there will be heavenly acclamation, as in the royal balances "the Lord weigheth the spirits."

Other balances may lack precision and fall in counterpoise. Scales are affected by conditions of atmosphere and acid vapors. After all that the nations have done to establish an invariable standard, perfection has never yet been reached, and never will be reached. But the royal balances of which I speak are the same in heat and cold, in all weathers, in all lands and in all the heavens—just and true to the last point of justice and truth. The same balance that weighed the tempted spirit of Adam, under the fruit tree, and the spirit of Cain in the first assassination, and the spirit of courage in Joshua during the prolonged daylight, and the spirit of cruelty of Jezebel, and the spirit of grief in Jeremiah's lamentation, and the spirit of evangelism in Paul between the road to Damascus, where he first saw the light, and the road to Ostia, the place of his beheading, is weighing still and never yet has varied from the right one milligram, which is the one six-thousandth part of a grain. The only perfect standard of weights and measures ever established was established in the heavens before the world was made and will continue to do its work after the world is burned up. To measure the time we have calendars. To measure the lighting we have the electrometers. To measure the heat we have the thermometers. To measure the atmospheric pressure we have the barometers. To measure souls we have the royal balance. "The Lord weigheth the spirits."

Weighed in Divine Scales.

In the same divine scales the spirit of nations and civilizations is weighed. Egyptian civilization did its work, but it was cruel and superstitious and idolatrous and defiant of the Almighty. It was cast out and cast down. The tourist finds his chief interest not in the generation that now inhabits the regions watered by the Nile and sprinkled by her cascades, but in the temples that are the skeletons of ancient pride and pomp and power—her obelisks, her catacombs, her mosques, the colossus of Rameses, the dead cities of Memphis and Thebes, the temples of Luxor and Karnak, the museum containing the mummified forms of the pharaohs. It is not the Egypt of today that we go to see, but the Egypt of many centuries ago. Her spirit has departed. Her doom was sealed. The Lord weighed her spirit.

Now cross over the Dardanelles or Hellespont and see Grecian civilization put in the royal balances. Surely that is an imperishable spirit. A land that produced a Pindar and a Homer in poetry, a Sophocles and an Aeschylus in tragedy, a Herodotus and Thucydides in history, a Socrates and Plato in philosophy, a Strabo in geography, a Hippocrates in medicine, a Xenophon in literature, a Plutarch in biography, a Miltiades and an Alexander in battle and could build a temple of Diana at Ephesus and the acro-Corinthus at Corinth and could crown the Acropolis with a Parthenon—surely such a land, with more genius compressed in small space than in any of the nations of all the ages, will stand forever triumphant among surrounding nations. No. Her pride of heroes, her pride of literature, her pride of architecture, must be brought down lower and lower, and humiliation must follow humiliation until in the latter part of the nineteenth century she is compelled to submit to the outrages of a sultan whose hands are red with the blood of 50,000 Armenians. Had Athens prayerfully listened to Paul's sermon on Mars hill and adopted his precepts of brotherhood and divine worship she would have stood in her old power today, and all Greece would have stood with her, and that civilization so long dead under the carved pillars of her shrines and under the marble of her pentel-

icain mountains would have been, perhaps for all Asia and for much of Europe, a living civilization. But for her arrogance she was cast out and cast down. The Lord weighed her spirit.

The Weighing of Nations.

And so the spirit of our American nation is put into the royal balance, and it will be weighed as certainly as all the nations of the past were weighed and as all the nations of the present are being weighed. When we go to estimate the wealth of this nation, we weigh its gold and silver and coal and iron and copper and lead, and all the steel yards and all the balances are kept busy. So many tons of this and so many tons of that, a mountainful of this metal and another mountainful of another metal. That is well. We want to know our mining wealth, our manufacturing wealth, our agricultural wealth, and the bushel measure and the scales have an important work. But know right well there is a divine weighing in this country all the time going on, and I can tell you our country's destiny if you will tell me whether it shall be a God honoring nation, reverential to the only book of his authorship, observing the "shall nots" of the law of right given on Mount Sinai and the law of love given on the Mount of Beatitudes, one day out of the week observed not in revelry, but in holy convocation, marriage honored in ceremony and in fact, blasphemy silenced in all the streets, high toned systems of morals in all parts of our land, then our institutions will live and all the wondrous prosperities of the present are only a faint hint of the greater prosperities to come.

Keep the National Life Pure.

But if our character and behavior as a nation are reversed and good morals give place to loose living and God is put away from our hearts and our schools and our homes and our people and our literature be debauched and anarchism and atheism have full sway and the marriage relation becomes a joke instead of a sanctity and the God whom Columbus prayed to on the day of his landing from stormy seas and whom Benjamin Franklin publicly revered when he moved amid derisive cries the regular opening of the American congress with prayer shall in our national future be insulted and blasphemed, then it will not be long before we will need another Edward Gibbons to write the decline and fall of the United States republic.

Pyrrhus was king and had largedominion, but was determined to make war against the Romans, and Cineas, the friend of the king, said to him, "Sir, when you have conquered them, what will you do next?" "Then Sicily is near at hand and easy to master." "And what when you have conquered Sicily?" "Then we will pass over to Africa and take Carthage, which cannot long withstand us." "When these are conquered, what will you next attempt?" "Then we will fall in upon Greece and Macedonia and recover what we have lost there." "Well, when all are subdued, what fruit do you expect from all your victories?" "Then," said the king, "we will sit down and enjoy ourselves." "Sir," said Cineas, "may we not do it now? Have you not already a kingdom of your own, and he that cannot enjoy himself with a kingdom cannot with the whole world." I say to you who love the Lord, the kingdom is within you; make more of the invisible conquests. Study a peace which the world has no bushel to measure, no steel-yards to weigh. As far as possible we should make our balances like to the divine balances.

The Uniform Standard.

By joint resolution of congress, in 1826, the treasurer of the United States was ordered to send a complete set of the standard weights and measures adopted by the national government to the governors of all the states, so that there might be uniformity and accuracy, and that distribution was made. So, now, the Ruler of the earth and heaven, having established forever the right standard, sends to us all and to all people a copy of that standard—the standard by which "the Lord weigheth the spirits."

What a world this will be when it is weighed after its regeneration shall have taken place! Scientists now guess at the number of tons our world weighs and they put the Apennines and the Sierra Nevada and Chimborazo and the Himalayas in the scales. But if weighed as to its morals at the present time in the royal balance the heaviest things would be the wars, the international hatreds, the crimes mountain high, the moral disasters that stagger the hemispheres on their way through immensity. But when the gospel has gardenized the earth, as it will yet gardenize it, and the atmosphere shall be universal balm and the soil will produce universal harvest and fruitage and the last cavalry horse shall be unsaddled and the last gun carriage unwhoeled and the last fortress turned into a museum to show nations in peace what a horrid thing war once was, then the world will be weighed, and as the opposite side of the scales lifts as though it was light as a feather the right side of the scales will come down, weighing more than all else those tremendous values that St. Peter enumerated—faith, virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, brotherly kindness, charity.

Big Gift for Tullam.

George Cadbury, the English chocolate manufacturer, has presented to the city of Birmingham an estate of 416 acres, valued at \$900,000, upon which to build houses for working people.



Passing of a Noted Preacher.

Rev. Dr. Edwin B. Webb, the aged and widely known missionary worker of the Congregational church, died at Wellesley, Mass., last week of senile debility. His most prominent offices in the work of the church were chairman of the prudential committee of the American board of commissioners for foreign missions, president of the



REV. DR. E. B. WEBB.

trustees of the Hartford Theological Seminary and member of the executive committee of the Congregational Home Missionary Society. Dr. Webb was born in Newcastle, Me., in 1820. His father was a farmer, and the future missionary labored as a farm boy and afterward as a helper in a country store. His tastes were intellectual, however, and he passed through Lincoln Academy and Bowdoin College, from which last named institution he was graduated with a degree in 1844. In 1847 he entered Bangor Seminary and was called to a pastorate before his graduation. He insisted, however, on a few months' study at Princeton, and thence went to Augusta, Me., to begin his ministry. He was called by a congregation in Boston in 1860, and became pastor of Shawmut Church in 1863. In that year he was elected a member of the executive committee of the Massachusetts Home Missionary Society, a post which he held until his death. In 1876 Dr. Webb's usefulness in the missionary field took on a wide expansion. He had already visited Egypt, Palestine, Syria, Asia Minor and other biblical lands, and he entered into his larger labors with spirit and devotion. Dr. Webb, in his prime, was an eloquent and a powerful preacher. His sermons were always interesting. His flock loved him in all of his capacities, and when he resigned from his pulpit in 1885 he was made pastor emeritus. He was a clever and vigorous writer, although never a controversialist, and he was tolerant and gentle in his doctrines and his life.

The S. G. C.



She Will Soon be in Evidence Once More.

Green Lions at Buffalo.

The Buffalo Express grieves because the lions in the sunken garden of the exposition have been painted green. But surely a green lion is a most interesting animal and well worth the price of admission. It may be that there are no green lions in nature, but why should anybody be sure about that? We have seen red lions on tavern signs. Is a green lion any more brilliant and surprising than a red one? Take a bronze lion with a good patina on him. There is a green lion for you and nobody kicha. A green lion in a green garden is of the right hue. His color protects him from the hunter. The green lions of Buffalo

would have given great pleasure to Mr. Darwin and will give it to everybody who visits the Erie reservation next summer.

Leniency to Criminals.

The act recently passed by the Pennsylvania legislature and approved by the governor increasing the commutation or reduction of sentence now allowed to convicts for good behavior in prison was not enacted in response to any public demand for further leniency to the criminal classes. Confidence men, defaulters and ballot-box stuffers, who richly deserve the heavy sentences usually given them, are likely to be the most exemplary prisoners. It may readily be believed that such convicts will be the chief beneficiaries of the new law.

Prof. Scott Relieves the Women.

Not the women, but the men, are responsible for the destruction of birds for millinery decoration. At least that is the opinion of William E. D. Scott, curator of ornithology at Princeton university. In an address before the recent conference of eastern public education associations, held in Newark, N. J., Curator Scott declared his belief that every woman who has ever yet worn a feather in her hat has done so to please some man rather than herself. He holds that the destruction of birds will cease when men no longer admire these slaughtered ornaments and recommends this argument to the Audubon society.

Wants to Wear Mason's Ugg.

Charles Gale Dawes of Evanston, whose candidacy for the United States



CHARLES G. DAWES.

Senate to succeed William E. Mason is formally announced, has been viewed for some time as a Senatorial possibility. Mr. Dawes' prominence in national politics dates from the Presidential campaign of 1896, when he was the executive head of the McKinley forces in Illinois. The energy and ability displayed secured for him the office of Controller of the Currency. Mr. Dawes was born in 1865 at Marietta, O. He is a son of General R. R. Dawes, one of the commanders of the old Iron Brigade of Wisconsin, and a lineal descendant of William Dawes, who made a ride in the revolutionary war similar to that of Paul Revere, and was rendered famous by the pen of Longfellow. He was graduated from the Cincinnati Law School in 1886. He was a resident of Lincoln, Neb., for seven years, and came from there to Evanston to assume the Presidency of the Northwestern Gaslight and Coke company.

Troubles of a Queen.

Troubles of Queen Draga of Servia have driven Her Majesty to desperation. A dispatch asserts that the Queen was foiled in an attempt to kill herself. Some of her servants are reported as having found her on Sunday with a pistol pointed toward herself. A lady in waiting wrenched the revolver from Her Majesty's hand and prevented her from self destruction. As a result the Queen is being subjected to the closest scrutiny to protect her from another attempt.

Penner—I have just completed an effusion that I will call "The Biography of an Automobile." Alwice—Why don't you just call it an "autobiography" and be done with it?—Philadelphia Record.

A WEEK IN ILLINOIS.

RECORD OF HAPPENINGS FOR SEVEN DAYS.

Mrs. Annie Barnes held by the Grand Jury at Jacksonville on the charge of assisting in the poisoning of Dr. J. L. Barnes.

Held for Murder of Barnes.—William Webb Ferguson and Mrs. Annie Barnes were held jointly by the grand jury at Jacksonville, charged with the poisoning of Dr. J. L. Barnes by means of strychnine, administered in apples, oranges and candy. The case will be tried at the November term of court, and Ferguson will be defended by J. Marshall Miller of Jacksonville, and the interests of Mrs. Barnes will be in the hands of Attorney Govett of Quincy. The only witness examined by the grand jury was Harry Gage, a Wabash ticket clerk from Springfield, who is supposed to have sold the ticket upon which Ferguson came here. The published alleged confession of Ferguson is purely a fabrication. While there may be points of truth in it, they were not given out by Ferguson, but by friends of Mrs. Barnes in Quincy, where the story originated. The negro said that when he talked it would be through his attorney, and he said he did not see his advantage in talking prior to his trial.

Horsewhipped Over Child's Grave.

Mrs. James Moran of Momence was beaten with a horsewhip at the grave of her little grand-daughter in Momence Cemetery. Her assailants were the dead child's mother, Mrs. Bert Moran, and her sister, Miss Rosanna Hasney. Mrs. Moran threatened her mother-in-law with a club while Miss Hasney beat her with the whip. Mrs. James Moran had gone to the grave with flowers. She and her daughter-in-law had differed on religious questions. The younger woman, being a Catholic, said that the mother-in-law several days previous had removed from the grave flowers that had been placed there by her. Mrs. Bert Moran and Miss Hasney were arrested today on complaint of Mrs. James Moran.

Rich's Majority 8,960.

Practically complete returns received by James B. Hicks of Taylorville indicate that his majority over George R. Cooper for Supreme Judge in the Second Judicial District, will be about 8,960. Mr. Hicks carried every county in the district except Bond by majorities ranging from 59 to 1,287. The latter majority was given Mr. Hicks by this county. Mr. Hicks carried every township in this county except Rossmore, which gave Mr. Cooper a majority of 1. Mr. Hicks' majority in the district is about 1,500 above the normal Democratic majority.

Dr. McAnnally Is President.

The annual session at Peoria of the Illinois Medical Association proved one of the most successful that has been held. A number of papers were read and discussed, and Quincy was selected as the next place of meeting. Officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows: President, Dr. J. T. McAnnally, Carbondale; first vice president, Dr. L. M. Harris, Chicago; second vice president, Dr. J. W. Hensley, Peoria; permanent secretary, Dr. E. W. Wells, Ottawa; treasurer, Dr. E. J. Brown, Decatur; assistant secretary, Dr. C. D. Center, Quincy.

The Grand Bridge at Thebes.

The bridge across the Mississippi river at Thebes will be located just below the village. The Chicago and Eastern Illinois railroad has purchased 25 acres of land upon the bluff there, upon which the eastern end will rest. The land was purchased from Isaac Dexter. The bridge will cross the river squarely, and the channel span will be 650 feet long. The bridge will be used jointly by the Chicago and Eastern Illinois, the Illinois Central, the Cotton Belt and the Iron Mountain railroads.

Saline County Doctors' Election.

A preliminary meeting of the Saline County Medical Association was held in the office of Drs. Baker and Turner, in Harrisburg. Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, Dr. S. L. Cheaney; vice president, Dr. M. D. Empson; secretary and treasurer, Dr. J. R. Baker. The date of a regular meeting was fixed to be held in the city hall June 5, at which time a number of important subjects will be discussed.

Refunding Proposition Defeated.

At the special election held at the various voting places in Perry county, called by the county board of commissioners, on the question of refunding the indebtedness of the county upon the bonds issued to the Chester and Tamara Coal and Railroad Company, 605 votes were cast against the bond proposition and 590 for the proposition, a majority of six against refunding the county indebtedness.

The Commissioners' Convention.

Between fifty and seventy-five members of the railroad and warehouse commissions of the eastern and middle western states will depart from Chicago Tuesday in a special train for San Francisco, where they go to attend the thirtieth annual convention of the National Association of Railroad Commissioners. Many of the delegates will be accompanied by their wives and other members of their families, and the party will occupy six Pullman cars.