

Notes and Comments.

To the philosopher who ruminates over the efforts men make to have their ideas carried out after death...

A very unusual provision is made for the wife. The use of the home and a modest yearly income are left to her...

The purpose seems clearly to be to hold the family together and in the station in life it held during the father's life...

MARCHING WHILE ASLEEP.

"Two days after the battle of Gettysburg we were suddenly told to get what things we had, as we were going to march to Ladysmith..."

HIGHER EDUCATION.

Boston Matron—My love, you should study domestic as well as political economy...

Small Daughter—I know, mother, but the money was all in new coins, and the designs are so intricate that I disliked to retain them in my possession.

HOME LIFE OF THE PEOPLE.

Rev. Dr. Talmage Speaks on Our Domestic Affairs.

Different Temperaments and Tastes in the Family—Advice to Those Who Are About to Establish New Homes—The Dr. Advocates the Law of Forbearance and a Religious Life.

A despatch from Washington says:—Rev. Dr. Talmage preached from the following text:—"Let them learn first to show piety at home."

A church within a church, a world within a world is spelled by four letters—Home! If things go right there, they go right everywhere...

As individuals, we are fragments. God makes the race in parts, and then He gradually puts us together. What I lack you make up...

My second advice to you in your home is, to exercise to the very last possibility of your nature the law of forbearance. Prayers in the household will not make up for everything...

This institution of marriage has been defamed in our day. Socialism, and polygamy, and monism, and the most cursed of all things, free-loveliness, have been trying to turn love into a Turkish harem or a great Salt Lake City...

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first course in that banquet of hell; and I tell you what you know as well as I do, that wrong notions on the subject of Christian marriage are the cause at this day of more moral outrage before God and man than any other cause.

There are some things that I want to bring before you. I know there are those of you who have had homes for a great many years, and notwithstanding the hardships and trials that come to them you would not surrender them...

My first counsel to you is: have Jesus in your new home, if it is a new home; and let Him who was a guest at Bethany be in your household; let the Divine blessing drop upon your every hope, and plan, and expectation. Those young people who begin with God and end with heaven, have on your right hand the engagement ring of the Divine affections...

My second advice to you in your home is, to exercise to the very last possibility of your nature the law of forbearance. Prayers in the household will not make up for everything. Some of the people in the world are the brutes of the animal kingdom...

I have one more word of advice to give to those who would have a happy home, and that is: let love preside in it. When your behaviour in the domestic circle becomes a mere matter of calculation—when the mere give and take of the result of deliberate action is the position you occupy...

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wild terror, grasped a coiling serpent with her right hand. No tears! Comrades of the little one were kept over the roof; neighbors came in, and at the moment they saw the still face of the child the shiver broke. No tears for her. God gives tears as the summer rain to the parched soul; but in all the universe the driest, the hottest, the most scorched, and consuming thing is a mother's heart if she has neglected her child when once dead.

I advise you also to cultivate sympathy of occupation. Sir James McIntosh, one of the most eminent and elegant men that ever lived, while standing at the very height of his eminence said to his young son-in-law:—"My life made me."

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queen; live for ever!" But the guests depart, the flutes are breathless, the last clank of the impatient hoofs are heard in the distance, and the twain of the household come back to see the queen of Happiness on the throne amid the parlor floor. But, alas, as they come back, the flowers have faded, the sweet odours have become the smell of a charnel-house, and instead of the queen of Happiness there sits there the gaunt form of Anguish, with bitter lip and sunken eye, and ashes in her hair.

That very night, a clerk with a salary of a thousand dollars a year—only one thousand—goes to his home, set up three months ago, just after the marriage-day. Love meets him at the door; love sits with him at the table; love talks over the work of the day; love takes down the Bible, and reads of Him who came our souls to save; and they kneel, and while they are kneeling—right in that plain room, on that plain carpet—the angels of God build a throne, not out of flowers that perish and fade away, but out of garlands of heaven, wreath on top of the throne is done.

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VENEZUELA'S LOSSES IN WAR. Estimated at 2,000,000 Lives in Ninety Years—Increase of Germans. A statistician has just made public an interesting fact regarding the population of that country.

To-day Venezuela has a population of about three millions. Beginning with the war for independence in 1810, it is figured that more than 100,000 Venezuelans met their death in that struggle.

STRUCK BY BULLETS. Nearly Every Soldier Has a Different Way to Show It. If you take a dozen soldiers as like each other as peas, so far as height, weight, strength, age, courage and general appearance, and wound them all in precisely the same way, you will find that scarcely any two of them are affected alike.

One man, on receiving a bullet in his leg, will go on fighting as if nothing had happened. He does not know, in fact, that he now contains a bullet. But perhaps in two or three minutes he will grow faint and fall.

SHADES AND DEGREES. Are your new neighbors nice? Mrs. Skinner. Well, they're not exactly nice, but they are pretty near nice.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, MAR. 4. "Jesus Healing in Capernaum." Mark 1: 21-34. Golden Text, Mark 1: 34. PRACTICAL NOTES.

Verse 21. They went into Capernaum. "They" stands for Jesus, Peter, Andrew, James and John. Having made Capernaum his home, Jesus promptly made it the centre of his work.

Verse 22. They were astonished at his doctrine. "At his teaching." He spoke not of the puerile themes of the scribes as "how far one might walk on Sabbath" or "what vessels might be used for cooking" but living truths which penetrated the heart and conscience; he proclaimed the kingdom for which all Jews looked as having come; and he spoke as one that had authority.

Verse 23. A man with an unclean spirit. The word "unclean" was used by the Jew to describe things which were unclean, and persons with whom he must not associate. In those days no kindly provision was made for the seclusion of lunatics and irresponsible persons, and this poor creature, seeing the crowd enter the synagogue, followed it. There there are evil spirits, and that in our Lord's day they took possession of human bodies, is the plain teaching of Scripture.

Verse 24. Let us alone; what have we to do with thee. "Why should you interfere?" The person that speaks is evidently not the afflicted man; but the demon inside him; and this demon knows well that Jesus is his enemy, and destruction is his destiny. Our Lord had not uttered a word respecting the demon, or punishment, but guilt accuses and condemns itself. The Holy One of God, The Messiah, Spirits even of evil recognize the holiness of Jesus.

Verse 25. Jesus rebuked him. Jesus never accepted the testimony of demons though he welcomes that of saved men. He said, "Be thou dumb, and be not muzzled." Come out of him, Jesus does not speak to the man, but to the invisible spirit.

Verse 26. Had torn him. "Convulsed him." Cried with a loud voice. "A cry of rage, despair and fear." Whedon. He came out. Against his will, and because of the power of our Lord, the evil spirit dashed his victim violently to the ground.

Verse 27. They were all amazed. They had wonder on top of wonder. Here was a rabbi against whom the demons had power to expel demons; and, without effort, yet, the demons recognized him as God's Holy One. They questioned among themselves. Talked over the matter by themselves, in groups and apart. What thing is this? Note the exclamation of wonder at Christ's word and work, as in the Revised Version. With authority he commanded even the unclean spirits. He does not resort to incantations and ceremonies such as ordinary Jewish exorcists used.

Verse 28. Immediately. "Straightway." His fame spread abroad. The miracle called attention to the new teacher and excited the people to accept his utterance. Neither of the evangelists who record this miracle says that it was the first, but they imply that it was the first which excited general attention. All the region round about Galilee. "All the region of Galilee round about."

THE RETIRED BURGLAR.

A Disturbing Experience With a Restless and Nervous Blind Man.

"I have told you," said the retired burglar, "of one little experience with a blind man—this is another. I had gone into a very big but comfortable looking farmhouse and looked around below without finding anything, and got upstairs. I hadn't more'n struck the upper floor before I realized that there wasn't many people in the house; funny about that, but when there's a lot of people it fills it up with a kind of electricity that you can feel, and when there isn't it feels dull and dead."

"Well, I got into a front room on one side of this house and found nobody there, and I might remark, nothing besides; in the back room on that side, a big room, with a big bed, I found a small boy, fast asleep. I didn't dare put the bullseye on him, but I could see well enough by a dim light that was burning on a table in a little alcove in one side of this room to guess that he was, maybe, 9 or 10 years old, and of course I could see that he was sleeping in his mother's bed; mother away somewhere, and he sleeping there because she'd feel easier and safer there while she was gone."

"Nothing in that room, and I went out and across the hall into a room on the other side opposite the room into the room made the floor creak, just the least little bit in the world, but I halted, right where I stood; and the next instant I heard a bed in this room snap a little and I knew there was somebody sitting up in it and listening. It was still for half a minute and then I heard whoever it was get into bed, and it was a man's voice, saying: "Willie!"

"Of course there wasn't any answer to this, because Willie was fast asleep; I'd just seen him in bed a minute before myself; but the man that was sitting up in bed and listening called again: "Willie!"

"When he got no answer this time, he started to get up, as I expected he would, and when he made the bed creak in getting out of it I stepped back a step and around the door jamb in a minute the man came through the doorway. He was as blind as a bat. I couldn't see that, in that light in his eyes, but I could see it in his manner and way of moving, in the way he carried his head and his hands, toward where the blind man was going to look after Willie."

"And he got in there all right and found the boy all right—I don't know how he told it. I couldn't see from where I was, but maybe he touched the boy's head, or stood by him, or breathed, but anything he did he satisfied himself that the boy was all right—and then he started back for his own room. I suppose I might have got out when he was in the youngster's room, but it would have been a sort of clumsy thing to do, he'd have been almost certain to hear me, and, though I could have got that bungling way, and thought I'd let him come out and get back into his own room and go to sleep before I started; but he gave me a great shake-up before he did that."

"The door to his own room was most directly opposite the door of the room where the boy was. A light toward the front of the house from his own door was the head of the stairs leading to the floor below. When he came out of the boy's room he didn't make straight across to his own door, but he took a diagonal course toward the head of the stairs and then he'd lost his way, but the distance was short and he was there before I could realize it."

"I made my heart go down to think of being found there in the house with a blind man with a broken neck, or a broken leg, or something of the sort; but he didn't go over. He went plumb there as though it had been broad daylight and he could see, and stood there for a minute and listened. It wasn't Willie—what could it have been? He didn't hear anything; and he turned and went back into his own room and got into bed and sat up one more before he got up, and then lay down."

Do you believe you will succeed in having your man acquitted? asked one lawyer. I haven't given much thought to that phase of the question, answered the other. But I am absolutely confident that we can have the trial postponed often enough to prevent a conviction.

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