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CHARTER SMITH,

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The Chronicle is the most widely read newspaper published in the County of Grey.

A model of the human heart, working as in life and pumping blood through artificial arteries, is the work of a Continental physician.

THE SOUL IN BATTLE.

Rev. Dr. Talmage Says Christ Will Conquer at Last.

A despatch from Washington says:—Rev. Dr. Talmage chose for his text the following: "A troop shall overcome him, but he shall overcome at the last."—Genesis xlix 19.

My text speaks of a tribe who were often victorious in battle, yet were at last victorious. But the words may be used as graphically descriptive of the defeat of Christ, to be followed by his successes.

When Christ's chin dropped upon his breast in death, the world shouted in triumph. Driven as he has been from the heart, from the social circle, from literature, from places of influence, the world gazes now upon what seems to be a vanquished Redeemer. But he shall yet rally his forces, and though now overcome by other troops, he shall overcome at the last.

When a city is about to be besieged, lines of circumvallation are run out; in half circles the fortifications sweep around; the first line fifteen miles out; the second, ten miles; the next, five; the next, one mile out. The attacking host first takes the outworks, then a line nearer, coming nearer until the embankment nearest the city is captured.

Now, the human heart is defending itself against Christ, and it has run out four or five lines of circumvallation, and they must one by one be taken, so that Christ may overcome at the last and the heart surrender. You know how men fight when they contend in battle for their wives and children. There are lightnings in their eye, and every finger is a spear, and their shout is like the voice of a whirlwind.

But the fiercest battle ever fought is between the unregenerated heart and Christ. Before I get through with the sermon, I will illustrate my meaning.

Forward, ye troops of God, and take the line of fortification farthest out which is—prejudice against ministers and churches. There are men who, for various reasons, do not believe in these things, and from that outward intrenchment contend against Christ. My reply to this is, seek out a Church and a minister that you do like. That is the religious advantage that men have in towns that they have nowhere else; they may have their pick—high churches and low churches, rich churches and poor churches, aristocratic churches and democratic churches, pew-renting churches and free churches, Calvinistic churches and Arminian churches, ministers white and black, learned and ignorant, fantastic and plain, old and young, manuscript-reading and extemporaneous, some wearing fine gowns and others a very poor coat, ministers argumentative or poetical, ministers statistical or figurative.

Forward, ye troops of God, to the next intrenchment! It is a circumvallation of social influences. There are hundreds of people here to-night whose surroundings in the world are adverse to the Christian religion. The first step that yonder man makes towards heaven will call forth a volley of criticism and caricature. Many of their friends in the world would as soon be shot as be seen on their knees praying. The whole atmosphere is an uncongenial to religion as a northern clime is to pine-apples and bananas. If that young man should become a Christian and go back to the store, they would accost him with "John how is your soul? come, now, give us a prayer. Suppose you will have nothing to do with such sinners as we. What is the news from heaven? What's getting red in the face? Not mad, I hope? Christians ought not to get mad. What a saint you are! I suppose you are almost ready for translation!"

The long, high, mighty breastwork of social influences—how shall grace ever take it? For which one of these ungodly friends will you send when you are dying? They could sit up with you, and pour out the medicines, and shake up your hot pillow, but could they administer any comfort for the soul? As the waves of Jordan begin to lick your feet, will they be able to say anything to strengthen? If, in some awful spasm of physical suffering, you should ask them to pray, do you think they would know how to do it? Will they crowd the room, and keep out the last enemy? What single thing can they do for you when heart and flesh shall fail? When the trumpet sounds, do you want to rise with them in their resurrection? Do you think they will put on the coronations of heaven? If not, do not let them hinder you now. If they do nothing for you in death, judgment or eternity, it is high time you looked for help in some other direction.

Evil companionship has destroyed innumerable men. Through this high battlement no human force can break,

but, oh! that the Lord Jesus might storm to-night. Give up your scoffing associates, or give up God and heaven. Forward, ye troops of God, to the third line of intrenchment, namely, the intellectual difficulties about religion. A hundred perplexities about the parables; a hundred questions about the ninth chapter of Romans; passage set against passage in seeming contradiction. You pile up a battlement of Colenso on the Pentateuch, and Tom Paine's Age of Reason, and Renan's Life of Christ; and some parts of the wall are so high that it would be folly to attempt to take them. But there is a hole in the wall of fortification, and through that hole in the wall I put my right hand, and take your own, and say, "My brother, do you want to be saved?" And you say "Yes." Well; Jesus Christ came to seek and to save that which is lost. Wilt thou let him in—the bruised One of the Cross? He will take away all thy sins and all thy sorrows. In one half hour he will give thee more peace than thou hast had in all the twenty-years of thy questioning and doubting! Let the great guns of Colenso and Renan blaze away. Christ comes not to the gate of your head, but to the door of your heart, and tapping gently against it, he says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. Whosoever will open to me, I will come in to him, and sup with him, and he with me."

Scepticism seems to do quite well in prosperity, but it fails in adversity. A celebrated infidel, on shipboard, in the sunshine, caricatured the Christian religion, and scoffed at its professors. But the sea arose, and the waves dashed across the hurricane-deck, and the man cried out, "O my God, what shall I do? what shall I do?" Scepticism does tolerably well to live by, but it is a poor thing to die by. The fortification of your soul this hour gives way; and the Christ, who seemed to have been overcome by argument, and by profound questions, and elaborate analysis, now, by the force of love, overcomes at the last!

Forward, ye troops of light, to the next circumvallation of the heart, namely, pernicious habit. I do not believe that it is necessary to be a teetotaler in order to be a Christian, although I wish all were teetotalers, but I do say that a man who is excessive in the use of strong drink cannot love Christ. He will not dispute with you the supremacy of the bottle. The appetite is to-day the mightiest barrier against God. There are men who would rather brave eternity, unpardoned, than give up their bondage. They have been throwing up this embankment of evil habit for five, ten, or twenty years, until it is very high and very great. Christ, the Son of God, alone can take the fortification.

Whatever be the form of evil habit, Christ is able fully and finally to deliver that man. Though he be eaten up with dissipation; though he be sunk to the lowest depths of shame; though every physical, mental, and spiritual force be crippled, Christ will make him a whole man, and lift him to usefulness and respectability here, and to glory hereafter.

I have heard men spoken of as so far gone that they could not be rescued. I denounce the horrible infidelity. The Lord's arm is omnipotent, and the worst wretch that ever crawled into the ditch would no more puzzle or confound God than the case of the most elegant and polished sinner that ever came to Him.

Lay hold of that Almighty arm, oh ye dying captives! Notwithstanding all your past misdoings, there is no need that you miss heaven; there is grace enough to save every one of you, not merely letting you escape by the skin of your teeth but giving you an abundant entrance into the kingdom of our Lord. The feet of God's hosts are already at the foot of the wall. They come on with the blood-stained flag on the cross. They mount the steep. Under their drawn sword thy evil passions go down. Where sin abounded grace does much more abound. Victory over thy sin! Victory through the Lord Jesus Christ! Through many a long year thy appetites overcame him, but he has overcome at the last!

Forward, ye troops of light, to the last and the mightiest line of fortification—the pride and the rebellion of the natural heart. This intrenchment must be taken, or all the rest of the contest is lost. This is the crisis of the battle.

Sometimes the besieging army, finding the intrenchments high and strong, swing around in the rear, escape the fortifications, and flank the city, taking it with but little resistance. So God's grace, leaving all the long embankments of prejudice, and social influence, and intellectual perplexities, and bad habits, comes around and falls upon the heart first,

and that captured by a flank movement, all the fortifications surrender. Your heart taken for Christ, your bad habits fall, your mental difficulties fly, and in one struggle your entire nature is redeemed. To-night God's grace goes around all the other embankments, and for the present lets them stand, and with its stout fist pounds against your heart's castle. You say that the locks have been so long fast, and the bolts are so rusty, and the hinges so unused that you cannot open the door. Then stand back for a moment, while, taking the Cross for a battering ram, we try with it to drive down the door and let Christ come in.

Oh! yours is a sinning heart, and Christ alone can cleanse it. Yours is a proud heart, and Christ alone can humble it. Yours is a rebellious heart, and Christ alone can subdue it.

The captain of our salvation calls up before your soul all his troops of mercy and grace. Hold out no longer against the forces that would take thee in the name of thy King. By thy hard-heartedness, and rebellion, and sin, thou hast ten thousand times overcome thy best Friend, but shall it not be told in heaven to-night that he has overcome at the last? But the day of thy grace is almost past. The sun is dipping below the mountains. The fiery sky foretells the storm. The chill in the air prophesies a night of blackness and darkness. What you do you had better do quickly.

The tides of eternity are rising. Those only will be saved who get on to the Rock of Ages; yet men saunter along in their sin and play in the sand. We come out and shout, "Hallelu! hallelu! the tide is rising." They laugh at our excitement, and say that there is no danger. After a while they resolve to return, but it is too late. The waters of eternal destruction gather about their feet; they try to climb, but get no farther than the foot of the rock, and, with eyes rolling in horror, and hands flung up, and a shriek of despair that rolls among the mountains of death, with long-reverberating echo, they drop forever.

Lord God, keep us from such a catastrophe! A surgeon, wounded at Gettysburg, told me that he lay helpless upon the heights, looking down upon the battle. He saw the fate of the nation wavering backward and forward—now one army seeming to conquer, now the other. The scene was grand and overwhelming.

I stand on the heights of Zion to-night, and I see your eternal destinies being decided in battle. Some of you have charged upon Christ with all the sins and prejudices of your lifetime. He is falling back, and falling back; you have wounded him in the brow; you have wounded him in the hands; you have wounded him in the feet; you have wounded him in the heart. He falls in his own blood, while your iniquities stamp upon him and cry, "We will not have this man to reign over us!" In the words of the text, you have overcome him. But now I see him rising up. In the strength of his almighty loves he comes at you. Armed by memories of Bethlehem and Golgotha, he passes on toward you. With weapons of sacrifice and invitations of glory he attacks thy soul, and it falls back and falls back until, able to retreat no longer, it throws out its arms to receive him, and all the spectators on the sky battlements clap their hands and rejoice that Jesus, who was before overcome by a troop, has overcome at the last!

The full ration of the British prisoners at Nooitgedacht, per man is 1 lb. of meat, and 3 lb. of mealies, rice or flour, weekly; but fuel for cooking is almost unobtainable. Until lately the men were without shelter from the weather, until a few tin huts were erected. But they are quite inadequate for their purpose, and the majority of men have to live in mud hovels of their own construction, with blankets stretched over the top for a roof.

It is a singular fact that the name of one of the first Australians to be awarded the V. C. is Trooper A. Kruger, of the West Australian Mounted Rifles. Kruger, with four other men, was cut off on a kopje. One of the party, Lieut. Hensman, who was some yards away from the rest, dropped with an explosive bullet in both thighs. Forsaking his cover, Kruger scrambled over the rocks in the face of a withering fire, and managed to dress the fallen officer's injuries.

Some of the prisoners captured by General Hunter at Fouriesburg have made a statement which explains to a certain extent De Wet's "slimness." When he was driven into the hills each man had a led horse to carry stores, while a number of very light carts were also taken well-horsed to enable them to keep up with the rapid marches. During the past four months De Wet has covered and recovered nearly 1,000 miles in dodging our generals.

When a man's love grows cold, his wife can usually be depended upon to make it hot for him.

HINTS FOR THE FARMER.

KILLING POULTRY.

Ducks and geese should be killed by bleeding in the mouth or opening the veins of the neck. Hang by the feet until properly bled. Never pick just before killing in order to save the feathers. The feathers should be taken off after they are killed, before they get cold, in other words, while they are bleeding, as at that time they come out very easily, but if they are picked before they are killed, it leaves the skin so inflamed that the stock will not bring a good price. After the feathers which are to be saved are taken off, the geese and ducks should be scalded in water as near the boiling point as possible without boiling.

Pick the legs dry before scalding; hold the fowl by the head and legs and immerse; then lift up and down three times; if the head is immersed it turns the color of the comb and gives the eyes a shrunken appearance, which lead buyers to think the fowl has been sick. The feathers and pin-feathers should be removed immediately, very cleanly and without breaking the skin.

If the feathers do not come off easily after the birds are scalded, wrap the bodies in blankets for the purpose of steaming them, but they must not be left in this condition long enough to cook the flesh. Another good way to remove the down is to rub the feathers with powdered resin before the bird is scalded and then the down comes off with the resin, which makes a very good way of dressing ducks and geese, especially geese. After they are picked clean they should be held in scalding water about 10 seconds for the purpose of plumping them, and then rinsed in clean, cold water.

Do not pick the feathers off the head, and it is well to leave them on the neck, close to the head, for a space or two or three inches. The feet should not be skinned, nor the bodies singed for the purpose of removing any down or hair as the heat from the flame will cause them to look oily and bald.

The process of plumping and cooling is the same as with turkeys and chickens. There is no kind of poultry harder to sell in this market at satisfactory prices than poor, slovenly dressed geese and ducks and those who send in such must not be disappointed at low prices. No poultry of any kind sent to this market should be drawn.

Dry-picked chickens and turkeys sell best, and we advise this way of dressing, as they sell better to shippers; scalded chickens and turkeys generally are sold to the local trade. As we have said, to dry-pick chickens and turkeys properly the work should be done while the bird is bleeding; do not wait and let the bodies get cold; dry-picking is more easily done while the bodies are warm. Be careful and do not break and tear the skin.

Pack in boxes or barrels, boxes holding 100 or 200 pounds are preferable, and pack snugly; straighten out the body and legs so that they will not arrive very much bent and twisted out of shape; fill the package as full as possible.

GRAFTING FRUIT TREES.

Grafting at one time was almost exclusively the art of nurserymen, men who raised trees by the thousand for sale. But this no longer is a trade "patent." The active gardener, with his eyes open, and who follows the signs of the times perceives it to his advantage to prune back many a good old orchard tree and to place a young head, of new variety probably upon the old shoulders. By grafting, old and hitherto useless trees have been made good bearers by the judicious selection, and affixing of a newer or probably tried variety, the old tree being merely pruned back and used as a stock. As soon as growth begins to be apparent, and sap has started to rise and descend, grafting should be commenced. Apple and pear trees are mostly grafted, while cherry and plum are more generally budded. Some varieties of pears are peculiar in this that one graft or working is not enough; they refuse to grow satisfactorily unless a previous graft has been made between the stock and a scion, they themselves being then grafted on to the first scion once it has taken hold of the primary stock. There are thus two grafts, the top graft, the intermediate scion, and the fundamental stock. What calls up such complexity is a matter of great interest, but puzzling to the ordinary practical man.

TURNIPS FOR MANURE.

If flat turnips are sown among the growing crops of corn or other crops at the last hoeing in July or August they will get a foothold so as to grow rapidly when the shading crops are removed. Before frost comes many of them will have grown large enough to have become fit for table use, while the others may be plowed under as green manure, or they may even be left to freeze and rot where

they are. In this last case they serve as a partial cover crop to keep the soil from washing. Or they might be plowed under early enough to allow of sowing rye as a cover crop. We do not think they enrich the soil as much where they freeze and rot in the ground as when plowed in, but the difference is not very great. Nor are they as valuable as clover for green manuring, but they have considerable value, the seed costs but a trifle and the labor is not much. If this is done, corn may be planted again where corn has grown this year if desirable, as corn is of the grass family and may be grown many years in succession upon the same soil if the fertility is kept up.

DRYING EGGS.

There is a process of drying eggs which is done by beating them into a uniform consistency, and then spreading the mass on a polished iron plate and drying rapidly in currents of hot air. The dried substance is packed and salted, and when required for use can be dissolved in cold water and beaten up like fresh eggs. But this process, I do not deem practical for general use, but may answer well where long journeys are to be taken, for in this way they can be preserved for years and carried without risk. The mode of keeping eggs in Russia is to pack them in crocks small end down, and pour melted tallow over them. For transportation this process may do, but is not necessary for home use. The French rub eggs with fresh butter until the pores are all filled, which answers about the same purpose as coating with lard.

AN ADVANTAGE.

One advantage with dairying is that all things considered, it is not as exhaustive of fertility as some other lines of farming. This is especially the case when the cream only is sold and the skim milk is fed upon the farm. But even when the whole milk is sold there is not as great a loss as many suppose. In 2,000 quarts—or 4,300 pounds of milk sold only 22 pounds of nitrogen, 11 pounds of phosphoric acid and 9 pounds of phosphoric acid are removed from the farm, but even in this a considerable amount of good fertilizing material is returned to the soil in the shape of manure, so that the actual loss is much less than the amount given.

FEED OAT MEAL.

Oat meal is a splendid food for growing chickens, as it supplies the elements needed for the growth and development of bone and flesh. One of the best ways of feeding is to wet up with sweet milk, taking care only to avoid the risk of souring. With little fowl especially it is very important that the food supplied be sweet, sound and nutritious.

An ingenious German has devised a method of plucking fowls. The dead bird is placed in a receptacle and subjected to several cross currents of air from electric fans turning at the rate of 5,000 revolutions a minute. The bird has every feather and quill blown off in an incredibly short space of time.

The "Chronicle" is the only 12-page Local Newspaper in Western Ontario.

IS BABY CUTTING TEETH?

Watch him carefully.—On the first indication of Diarrhoea give Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry.



Hot weather comes hard on babies, especially those cutting teeth. The little form soon wastes and fades away when diarrhoea or cholera infantum seizes upon it. As you love your child, mother, and wish to save his life, give him Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry. There is no other remedy so safe to give to children and none so effectual. Mrs. Chas. Smith, Shoal Lake, Man., says: "I think Dr. Fowler's Extract of Wild Strawberry is the best medicine that was ever made for diarrhoea, dysentery and summer complaint. It is the best thing to give children when they are teething. I have always used it in our own family and it has never yet failed."

JOTTINGS OF THE WAR.

Interesting Items From the Field of Battle.

The British Legation in the largest in Pekin. All the buildings are inclosed by a boundary wall about 2 ft. in thickness, and 12 ft. in height.

Of the 6,000 horses which General Hunter captured from the Boers at Fouriesburg, 2,000 of them, which were in capital condition, are now being used by our troops.

Evidently serious trouble is still anticipated in China by the authorities at home. Woolwich Arsenal have received instructions to dispatch 30,000,000 rounds of .303-inch ammunition, together with a large quantity of tents and hospital equipment, as early as possible.

Drummer H. Lloyd, of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, is the smallest boy in the British Army, and the youngest but one. He has been invalided home from South Africa with a bullet wound in his foot received while taking part in a skirmish near Bloemfontein. He also took part in the battles of Paardeberg and Driefontein.

A new magazine rifle has just been tested near Manchester. It is the only magazine weapon which without mechanism of any kind feeds cartridges into the breech and chamber by gravitation only. The total cost of the new rifle is 35 per cent. less than that of the Lee-Metford. It is also one and a quarter pounds lighter, and can fire thirty shots a minute.

Colonel Hore, who was besieged by the Boers at Elands River, was chief of the Staff to Major-General Baden-Powell while shut up in Mafeking. The Elands River garrison, which held the line between Zeerust and Rustenburg, was composed of about 140 bushmen and 160 Rhodesians. The strength of Commandant Delarey's force is not known exactly, but it is estimated that he had between 3,000 and 4,000 Boers with him. Colonel Hore's casualties amounted to sixty-seven.

Cash System

Adopted by

N., G. & J. McKechnie.

We beg to inform our customers and the public generally that we have adopted the Cash System, which means Cash or its Equivalent, and that our motto will be "Large Sales and Small Profits."

We take this opportunity of thanking our customers for past patronage, and we are convinced that the new system will merit a continuance of the same.

N., G. & J. McKECHNIE.