

# SERMON FROM SHAKESPEARE

The fat ribs of peace  
Must by the hungry now be fed upon  
—King John, Act III, Sc. 3.

King John, for the conduct of his wars in France, had ordered Faulconbridge to hasten to England to raise money and supplies by fair means or foul. In sending him forth he applied personified peace and war; the one is well-fed, prosperous, happy; the other is lean, hungry, insatiable. King John evidently had Pharaoh's dream in mind when he spoke.

There came up out of the river seven well-favored kings and princes, and they led in the meadow. And, behold, seven other kings came up after them out of the river, ill-favored and lean-fleshed; and stood by the other kings upon the brink of the river. And the ill-favored and lean-fleshed kings did eat up the seven well-favored and fat kings.

Under ordinary circumstances such a dream might have been interpreted to mean that a prosperous nation was about to be devastated by war. The history of the world presents a series of periods of peace and plenty followed by periods of war and depression. The specter of war that threatens the nations is ill-favored and lean-fleshed. It has a fierce hunger, and while devouring the enemy it devours the people that have resorted to its aid. Sometimes the conquering nation has had its resources so drawn upon in time of war that it has been a greater sufferer than the vanquished.

What is it that makes the North American continent so desirable? The Atlantic swarms with vessels continually carrying thousands of homeseekers to America. They are fleeing from lands where militarism holds sway; ill-favored war has been threatening their lives, lean-fleshed war has been devouring their substance. Instead of being armed camps, they have visions of wheat fields, instead of armaments, factories. War has been feeding on them; they are hard-voiced, dull-brained, timorous. America is to them a promised land. There lies liberty land, they inevitable accompaniment of peace and industry, plenty. But even America gives abundant illustration of hungry war feeding on the fat ribs of peace. The early colonists had bowed out homes in the forests. The revolutionary war laid waste the fields, destroyed the homesteads and slaughtered the toilers. It made heroes, but it made beggars too. It achieved great results, but there was nothing that it achieved that might not have been brought about by peaceful methods. By 1812 the nation had recovered from the results of revolutionary war. It was happy

and prosperous, so prosperous that it felt itself strong enough to contest at arms with the greatest sea power in the world. As a result of the struggle the resources of the country were wasted, the fruits of the toil of years destroyed. In New England in particular prosperous towns were ruined and never recovered from the blow struck at their commerce.

The memory of the civil war is still fresh, and its results are still felt. There are regions that yet feel the desolation wrought by the sword and torch of the invader. The nation is still taxed, nearly a half century after the events, to pay obligations incurred. So far as the United States was concerned the war with Spain apparently left no evil results at home. But even that war fed on the fat ribs of peace; fortunately, they were very fat, and could stand a little reducing. Indirectly the war is still feeding on the fat ribs of peace. The income tax in England and the corporation tax in the United States would never have been or better sound is heard the world around; all the nations save for some required but for war and the need of being prepared for battle. It costs money to keep the teeth and claws of the wild beast war sharpened. The money cost is the least. For war purposes men are drawn from productive industries. The thousands on board warships and in barracks are unfitted for ordinary vocations. They produce nothing and the life of selfishness is apt to make them despiteful.

Visit the wheat and corn fields of the west or the wharves and warehouses of the east and learn how fair are the works of peace. To understand how terrible are the effects of war let the eye of the imaginative view Georgia after Sherman's march to the sea, or Richmond at the close of the civil war, or the Niagara Peninsula during the war of 1812; desolated fields, smoking ruins, plague and death where peace and plenty formerly reigned. The great task of humanity is to put an end to wars or the possibilities of wars. War is ill-favored, lean-fleshed, grim and foreboding of aspect. Peace is well-favored, fat-fleshed, smiling and attractive.

sketched a family group raising glasses to the health of distant friends amid a seasonable environment of holly and mistletoe, while on each side of this focal scene he drew a picture of a deed of charity.

## CHRISTMAS CARD'S FATHER.

Artist Originated This Form in 1844.

Some day surely a grateful monument will be erected to the memory of W. A. Dobson, the parent of the Christmas card, for he was a true herald of peace and good will to the world and no small benefactor to commerce, says a writer in Tit-Bits.

In 1844, Mr. Dobson, who later became a famous member of the Royal Academy, was a young man earning a modest income as master of the government School of Design at Birmingham. One evening in December instead of writing his usual letter of Christmas good wishes to a friend it occurred to him to substitute a pictorial greeting, and, taking a piece of card about twice as large as a modern postcard, he began to draw on it. In the centre of the three panels into which he divided his design he

Deafness Cannot be Cured by local applications, as they cannot reach the diseased portion of the ear. There is only one way to cure deafness, and that is by constitutional remedies. Deafness is caused by an inflamed condition of the mucous lining of the Eustachian tube. When this tube is inflamed you have a rumbling sound or imperfect hearing, and when it is entirely closed, deafness is the result, and unless the inflammation can be taken out and this tube restored to its normal condition, hearing will be destroyed forever; nine cases out of ten are caused by Catarrh, which is nothing but an inflamed condition of the mucous surfaces.

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In a scene from "Hilly," at the Grand, on Monday, December 12th, Queen's Theatre night.

## INDIGESTION WILL VANISH.

Dyspepsia, Gas, Sourness and Other Stomach Misery Gone in Five Minutes.

Take your sour, out-of-order stomach—perhaps you call it indigestion, dyspepsia, gastritis or catarrh of stomach; it doesn't matter—take your stomach trouble right with you to your pharmacist and ask him to open a 50c. case of Pape's Diapensin and let you eat one 2-grain Triangles and see if within five minutes there is left any trace of your former misery.

The correct name for your trouble is food fermentation—food souring; the digestive organs become weak, there is lack of gastric juices, your food is only half digested, and you become affected with loss of appetite, pressure, nausea, heartburn, griping in bowels, tenderness in the pit of stomach, bad taste in mouth, constipation, pain in limbs, sleeplessness, belching or biliousness, sick headache, nervous symptoms.

Prove to yourself in five minutes that your stomach is as good as any; that there is nothing really wrong. Stop this fermentation and begin eating what you want without fear of discomfort or misery.

Almost instant relief is waiting for you. It is merely a matter of how soon you take a little Diapensin.

## AFRICAN WITCH DOCTORS.

Make Themselves, Like, Idols, as Hideous as Possible.

The most important period of the young African's life is that between youth and manhood (or womanhood). It is a time when the young man is extremely busy with his various mysterious rites. It is an important part of his calling to be hideous, as in most cases he undoubtedly is. A ridiculous mask covers his head, and wild cat or other skins are hung around his loins. Pigment of various colors is plentifully daubed over his body, and in this hideous state it is not to be wondered at that he strikes terror into the maidens' hearts as he dances wildly in the dim firelight, glaring at them with fiendish eyes. The timid young creatures are like the hare which trembles as the hovering bird of prey flutters over its head. Selfish and egotistical, the erstwhile playful, willful child is transformed in most cases into a frightened creature, with for the time being, no will of his own. It is a curious thing that notwithstanding what one may call the spiritual side of the black life is ever beautiful. Their carved figures are always, to say the least, grotesque and calculated to frighten rather than comfort the bereaved.—World Magazine.

## A Plucky Minister.

Rev. B. F. Fraser, of Atlanta, was on his way to Hartford to preach the funeral sermon of U. S. Senator A. S. Clay when the train was halted by a burning trestle. The clergyman crawled over the blazing timbers and rose to his destination on the fireman's seat of a locomotive sent to the other end of the trestle to meet him.

Some men never amount to anything until they get married—then they have a good fighting chance. It's always the bottom that counts.

## STOMACH TROUBLES.

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## THINGS THEATRICAL

NOTES ON PLAYS, PLAYERS AND PLAYHOUSES.

Carton's New Play Thrills London—"The Million," Which is Delighting Paris, Has Been Secured for America.

The famous German actor Ernst von Plessart is soon to make an American tour this season.

John Hare has contradicted the statement that he will make an American tour this season.

Edward Maczey as Lucius Verus will have the leading masculine role in Maeterlinck's "Mary Magdalene."

Edward Terry, who is to open in Halifax Christmas week will confine his ten weeks' tour solely to Canada. Sir Herbert Tree will still retain Arthur Boucher, and his wife, Violet Vanbrugh, for his production of "Mab."

Constance Collier is to play Imogen, Parnott in the revival of "Ireland of the Wells," and Nancy Sykes in "Oliver Twist."

Charles Grapewin and his clever wife, Anna Chance, play at the New York Victoria next week. This is Charles's first vaudeville appearance in five years.

John Edwin will assume the leading comedy role of Peter Wenzel with Lulu Glauer in "The Girl and Kaiser" at the Herald Square theatre, New York.

Belasco is said to have a new play for David Warfield, dealing with reincarnation in which the star will impersonate a man who dies and returns to life.

George Grossmith, jr., who is at present on a visit to New York to pick up some American artists for a Leslie Stuart opera, says "Arizona" was the best he ever saw.

Miss Muriel Martin Harvey, the talented daughter of Martin Harvey, made her professional debut last night in George Alexander's production of "The Green Lord" at the Lyric.

Henry Kolker will star shortly in "Savage" in a new comedy from the German entitled "The Great Name." Mr. Kolker is at present appearing in "Don" at the New Theatre, a role he played last year with success after it had been created on this side of the Atlantic by Matheson Lang.

London has a real thriller in R. C. Carton's "The Eccentric Lord Comberdene." The play is founded on a romance of the American revolution, and contains a plot and counterplot, a jewelry robbery with a band of crackmen, the pursuit of a Russian Duchess by nihilists and other hair-raising episodes.

According to Paris gossip Mrs. Waller Fearn, widow of the late United States minister to Greece and Roumania, is dramatizing the more important incidents in her book "The Dairy Maid." The play will have for its title General Grant's famous words, "Let Us Have Peace." The General, it is said, will be introduced on the stage with the consent of the Great Britain.

The Bessie Abbott Opera Company will give a southern tour shortly in "The Blue Bird" and thus fill up the time until January when Mascagni's "Ysobel" will be presented in New York. The illness of the composer made a postponement of the production necessary. The company will present "La Bobene" and "Madame Butterfly."

Robert D. Humiere has dramatized a Japanese legend and has presented it in Paris under the title, "L'Amour de Keas." The play is set to music by Moreau, and is being played by the Theatre de l'Opere company at the Helene Theatre. The plot has to do with a Samurai warrior and his love for the beautiful Keas, and is extremely dramatic.

From Monday, Dec. 26th, to Tuesday, Jan. 3rd, daily matinees of "The Blue Bird" will be given at the Majestic, New York. This arrangement was made to meet the enormous demand for matinee seats. The only time that daily matinees have been given by a dramatic company in New York, at least in recent years, was at the same house when "Babes in Toyland" was playing there.

"Eggsie Me," the new American light comedy, which is to be produced shortly by Henry W. Savage, is by Rupert Hughes, a playwright who is advancing with rapid strides to a commanding position, and whose writer has just produced, with what is said to be striking success, his drama entitled "Two Women," while his "The Bridge" last season won high critical praise in New York.

Reports from Paris, where "The Million" has just been produced, declare that it is the biggest laughing hit the French capital has known in many years. It is the general belief in this country that all French plays are over-funny, but "The Million," according to the critics, is absolutely free from suggestion. Henry W. Savage has secured the play for America.

"Woe-ing Josephine" is the odd title of the new Viennese comedy secured by W. Savage on his recent trip to Europe. It is the work of Julius Engel, author of a dozen other successful laugh-makers, among them "Gus," the play the late Clyde Fitch adapted for the American stage with such plebeian results. The lachrymose Josephine of the title is a sort of up-to-date Cinderella, who finds some sympathy in the brilliant sunshine to remind her of sad things of the past—until the events of the comedy bring about a revolutionary change in her views.

Aristophanes' farce "The Bird" is to be revived in the spring by the Chicago company presenting Margaret Mayo's modern farce "Rab Mine." The revival is in line with the restorations of the Greek plays which grace the new repertory, and William A. Brady, Ltd., is actuated by a desire to indicate a phase of Greek literature which has been neglected in the many revivals of the Greek tragedies. It is to eradicate the impression that only war legends were the theme of the Attic playwright that the proposed revival is undertaken. According to present plans, the revival is to be under the auspices of one of the larger Middle Western universities, which has shown much interest in the theatre and drama.

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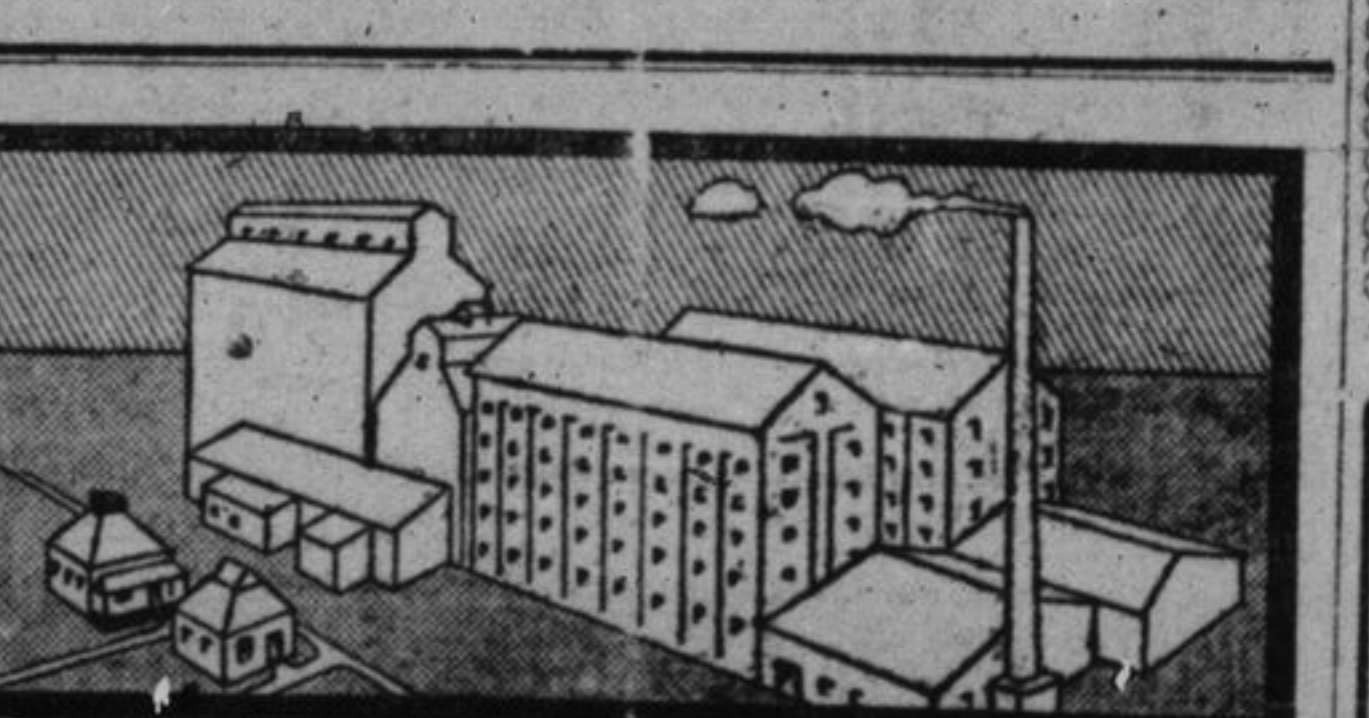
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