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SELECT READING.

FAMILY RELIGION.

ASTORAL LETTER OF BISHOPS OF THE PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

The following is a portion of the Pastoral Letter issued by the House of Bishops of the Protestant Episcopal Church at the close of the Triennial General Convention at Chicago. THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY.

DECAY OF HOUSEHOLD RELIGION-THE LAW OF MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.

In our warfare with the adversaries of the gospel and with the growing evils of our time, we have imperfectly used many instrumentalities within our reach , but among them all none has been so much neglected as the family. We have worked for and through the church. Our care has been for the individual or for society as an aggregate of individuals or for the state as representing the order of society. Meanwhile the fam-ily has been so loosely guarded that out hold upon it had been enfeebled and its Christian tone has degenerated. As the original mould in which all human life is east, and within which authority blending with love first touches the will and lays the foundation of character, the family, not the ndividual, is the true unit of society nd of the church. As such both reasand revelation require us to treat. Unfortunately for it and for the hurch and the nation, we have done o. Overmastered or beguiled by the pirit of the age we have drifted out assively on the current of individualm, until we are now called to face the consequence of a wrong theory and a worse practice touching the very source of the strongest formative ele nents of the church and of the state.

FALSE VIEWS OF MARRIAGE.

That household religion and moral-

ty have changed, and are still changng for the worse, is recognized by all Christian people as one of the dark omens of the time. The causes are not far to seek. Two theories starting rom opposite premises, but both alike he product of the anti-Christian and ecular tendency of the day, have been ating like moth and rost into the lomestic conscience, and thus sapping he very foundations of home life, The one theory declares the individual to be the supreme unit of society, and so demands for every individual com-plete and equal freedom. It affirms all discriminating legislation based upon differences of sex to be degradng and tyrannical. It teaches that, as the only ground of marriage is the con-sent of the contracting parties, so the continuance of marriage is rightfully pendent on the continuance of muial agreement. It declares that any bsolute control over her patrimony an lacquisitions, as well as over her person, it does not besitate to affirm s one of its ultimate dogmas that there "no more reason why the woman should take her hashand's name in marriage than why he should take Thus the Christian law of the household is not only disparaged, but denounced as a degradation of woman

and a social tyranny. FACILITY OF DIVORCE.

The other theory-an outgrowth of school of political economy rather han of any settled philosophy of social ife-starts from the radically opposite orinciple of the subordination of the dividual to the state and insists upon a modern equivalent to the old pagan doctrine formulated by the speculations of Plato, which place marriage absoutely under the sanction and supervision of the state. Both theories subtitute the idea of contract for that of moral law as embodied in a solem ovenant, the former turning upon the freedom of the contracting parties to define and limit obligation: the latter apon the inherent subject matter of e agreement as defining the duty and prescribing the duration of covenant. Both theories encourage an unlimited facility of divorce. Both this matter. Too long already both been held in abeyance. A obbing it of its religious sanction.

rupt the inmost fibres of home life by Separation in any form should be pourded, and is regarded by the church, as a last and dreadful expedent, only to be justified by the gravet considerations, and, as it were, con eded to the unfortunate beings whose osltion constrains the grant of such the right to seek another alliance; nor, except in one case, can a subquent marriage be permitted. After parties have been lawfully joined to-gether, according to the will of God, ivorce with permission to marry gain is not conceded by the church nless the ground of divorce be adultry, and in that case the guilty party absolutely excluded from marrying gain during the lifetime of the other, and to the innocent party only is perission conceded to contract another navriage

Another cause for domestic degenercy is to be found in that gross materalism of the time which rises to fever reat in the greed for riches and for the things that riches command. This "accursed hunger," this consuming fire has in countless homes burnt up the habit and burnt ont the heart of prayer, and with these even the inherited traditions of Christian living. Fathers have become too basy in the service of Mammon to serve God as priests in heir own households and mothers are learning to think more of a "social career" than of the divine beauty and tenderness and power of Christian motherhood. Parental authority stripord of its nobler attributes, with no Christ in it to guide, no worship to cares and duties of home discipline, and the children grow up obedient to no law but that of passion and caprice, devoted to no ends in life beyond the range of their own selfishness. With this drift of the family, this loosening to resist it. They seem to think that al scalper of its sacred bonds, this drying up of the thing which is, is that which shall prestige. the sources of its parent inspirations,

lations of wealth, the impoverished nissionary treasury of the church threatens a reduction of the already orders who shall recruit the wasting sacrifices inseparable from a true priesthood in the church of God, are like so many Demases, turned away from it by the love of the present world; nor further than the commandments of the law of righteousness are forgotten, or that the Lord's day is profaned, or that intemperance and icentiousness reap their harvest of death at the very heart of a civiliza-

tion, so many of whose homes, whose schools, whose riches and even so much of whose poverty knows not God. THE FAMILY THE SOCIAL UNIT. Verily there is a cry on the earth, in the sir, and from the heavens, to work while it is called to-day, before the night cometh wherein no man can lines we are to work in His name, and how we are to wield the power of His truth and the grace of His king- "I reckon I'm him,' he replied, la dom. Society at large, the state, the conically, church, are indeed to be the objects of our solicitude. In and through the church we are to leaven all life with the incarnate word. But just now bethe incarnate word. But just now bethe incarnate word. But just now beare of nest neglect of its claims and
"In we went, and I sat in a pew unbeyond it, whether society or the church, our first and most urgent call is to care for the family, and to build it up anew on the foundations originally built of God and consecrated by the Saviour of men. To this end these are the things we are to do. In opposition to the false theories concerning the relation of the sexes and the nature of the marriage bond, the people of God must be taught, as they have not been, that the family, not the indivi-inal, is the unit of society, and that the family creates the state, rather than the state the family. Without citizens here can be no state, and without family there can be no citizens. The law of the household must determine, not he family. The essentials of domestic life have been ordained and established by the will of God, and underlie the constitution of society. These it completed his task he dumped upon is the function of civil government to the table in front of the pulpit the conprotect and regulate, but not to change.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION. Again, parents are responsible to for you. I ain't ag God first, and to the state afterward, out for the lights. for their children There must be authority in the household commensurate with this responsibility, and neithe church nor state may rightly or safely interfere with that authority or with ther view of marriage converts it into the responsibility bound up with it, he worst bondage known to our law. How far the state has done so, and our duty to speak. It has been her purpose in all the agencies she has sanctioned for the religious training of her children to provide helps, not sub-stitutes, for fathers and mothers in the foremost task which God has laid upon them. That these helps have eased to be what they were intended to be and have become something else hereby devolving upon others outside he home the work which God means shall be done inside the home, very largely explains the widespread decay of domestic religion and morality now so pregnant with disaster to the church and to the nation. To stop this decay, to plant again in the old souls of home the germs of a healthier growth, to restore the family to the divine orbit of its power, to readjust on the old basis its relations to the church and to the state, is by every consideration the most pressing problem of the day.

THE CHURCH AND THE SCHOOLS. As one way of dealing with this problem, the time has come when the hurch of God must change her attitade, must take higher, stronger, more sage to deliver, a duty to discharge in At the close of this first century of her own and of the country's history, so full of solemn warnings, as well as of great achievements, let her voice go forth, declaring that, whatever others may do, she cannot, without protest and re sistance, allow the salt of Christ's Gospel to be cast out, little by little, from he education of the children of this elief. But no separation carries with land; that she cannot without utter disoyalty to her divine commission acquiesce in what has grown to be the olicy of the day on this subject, which, because of its inability to agree upon the fundamentals of religion to taught in the public schools, has lapsed into the perils of heresy of modern secularism, that these schools can best do their proper work when giving no religious teaching whatever. We are the friends of these schools, sustained by such liberal expenditure; and becate changes in the feeling and opinion of this generation as dangerous as they are profound; changes which strike at the church's hold upon the loyalty and love of the children now being nurtured in her bosom, and threaten to in flict an incurable wound upon the moral interests of the nation.

DRIFTING INTO APOSTACY. We are drifting into an apostacy from the eternal law of righteousness the supreme factor in the making of public and private character, which can hopes and franchises of a humanity onsecrate it, gradually abandons the redeemed by the precious blood of the Son of God. There are those who regard the pres-

ent widening divorce between education and religion as so general and pro-nounced as to render it a hopeless task nounced as to render it a nopeless task to resist it. They seem to think that all scalpers will detract even from his We do not accept this conclusion.

inevitable. The old forces in the training of mankind and the old proportion in which the forces must sooner or later meagre stipends of the pioneers of the combine, will reassert themselves. Man cross; we cannot wonder that we cannot live by bread alone. Any citicannot live by bread alone. Any citisearch in vain among our Christian zenship, however cunningly built upon households for candidates for holy its material and intellectual side, must topple over and go to pieces if it reranks of our clergy; not that our fuse to recognize the image of God in young men nurtured by such a parentage, instead of being attracted by the tion which God has rooted in that im-

SOME AMUSING EXPERIENCES OF THE POP ULAR ORATOR RELATED BY HIMSELP.

The late John B. Gough told a story as well in private as in public, says a writer in the Philadelphia Times. The following are remembered among at sea. some of the experiences he used to re-late: "On one occasion," he said, "I gotten nearly their whole crop into had made an appointment in a small market. night cometh wherein no man can work. Fellow laborers with Christ, it is well that we see clearly on what is well that we see clearly on what where I could find the president of the York last month.

"'Ah! well, my name is Gough,' I

said. " 'Wall, I calkilate it's about time to

"'Is there any one to offer prayer ?

asked.
"'No; the parson's away." "Is there no deacon ?" "'I 'spect I'm a deacon.'

"'Well, can't you pray?"
"'No; I reckon I speak in the meet-"As I passed into the pulpit he stood beneath it and called out to the audi-

ence: 'Mr. Gough is in de desk an' he's a-gwine to lectur'.'
"I proceeded to decture as well as could, and when I had finished and taken my seat at the back of the plat-form my agricultural friend called out from below: 'We will now purceed to take up a collection for the benefit of be determined by, legislation of the state which affects the well-being of pass his hat around among the people. pass his hat around among the people, who had begun to rapidly leave the church as soon as they heard the omin-ous word collection. When he had

> for you. I sin't a-gwine to take nothin' "The amount did not exceed \$1.50 "I do not want it, I said. "'Wall, I swow! Yer don't want all

tents of his tile and, shaking the lining

that money?' "No and suiting the action to the word he than formerly. Admitting no power or privileges or disability in one sex rot common to the other, and claiming for woman an absolute general over her patrimone the church's action in this regard it is

hearty laugh as the only recompense for my night's work.
"In one of the first towns of which I spoke outside of Worchester I laborhad not been paid on the occasion of his previous visit to that town, he sugthe purpose of remunerating him.

"I object to collections, said another

all come prepared.
"The third evening was very rainy and a collection amounting to \$1.80 counted: 'The amount is very small. definite ground in regard to the educa-tion of the young life in the broader of my own pocket, for the laborer is worthy of his hire, and he very emphatically laid down two silver dimes. I refused to take \$2 for six days' work, during which my personal expenses had been \$5, and departed. The next day I received from three liquor-sellers a they said that they thought I had worked hard enough to be better paid.

"Once after lecturing at considerable personal expense in a flown some dised a remuneration at least sufficient to reimburse me, I was merely tendered a vote of thanks. I arose and requested that the vote should be put in writing, as perhaps the conductor on the train would accept it for my fare. sommittee took the hint and a liberal sollection was then taken up for me.

Betting a Slave on a Pair of Duces.

A capital story is told of the slavery days of Ex Governor Pinchback. When a mere lad he belonged to a rich old by such liberal expenditure; and be Southerner who was very fond of cause we are so we desire all the more poker. His master was once traveling to see them placed on the only basis on a Mississippi river boat and had which will be at once enduring and played cards in the cabin all night, beneficent. It is not to be denied that | Luck went against him to such an exwe are confronted with tendencies in the training of the children of the person. Then he offered to play his church and of the nation which indicates, the Ex-Governor, against \$5,000. On this basis the cards were dealt. The young lad watched his master's hand eagerly. The old Southerner looked at his cards and raised the ante. He was met and promptly raised it again. At this moment a gentleman who had recently came up, attracted by the young negro's looks, called him aside. "Whose boy are you?" he asked. 'De dear Lord above only knows, sah," answered Pinehback, anx-"I use'ter belong to Mars' iously. -, but he done gone an' bet me on

> won. Geronimo will find in Florida hotel

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RATES OF ADVERTISING.

American literary women are flocking to Rome.

The tug is the only thing that has its tows behind. Thomas Moore began to write poems at the age of 14. There are 1510 inmates in the Georg-

is State Insane Asylum. The leading dentists in Russia and

Germany are Americans. Dickens had produced "Pickwick Papers" before he was 25. A will with a codicil is an old and

new testament, yet it isn't a bible. President Cleveland will please stuff his vacancy in Turkey before Thanksgiving.

town in Massachusetts and rode seven miles to fill it. On arriving at the to wear white gloves and carry canes

The convicts at Sing Sing made 5000 clear profit for the State of New

There are twenty negroes in South Carolina who are worth \$39,000 each,

and they are all Democrats. You would not, perhaps, expect it, but it is a fact, that well water will sometimes make people sick.

A physician says "if a child does of its safe-guards, as well as because of its inmost hold upon all that lies its time to begin.'

I we went, and I sat in a pew unpose of the period of the complete of the co Three-fourths of the members of the

Legislature recently elected in Arkansas are less than 39 years of age. Fastidious passengers have their own tea on transatlantic steamers and

have the stewards brew it for them. Bremen papers state that the new Lloyd steamers to come out in 1887 will be even faster than any now affoat. Ten thousand acres of undeveloped land in Mississippi will be put in culti-vation by Northern capital next year.

Homer Greene is writing a sequel to True love, it is said, never did run smooth; but then, most young men of Sophronia-What is retribution ! It is something that happens to a farmer when he gets caught in his own barbed

wire fence. Menu cards representing autumn tents of his tile and, shaking the lining leaves, with names written upon them said to me; 'Thar! That 'ere is all in gold letters, are fashionable fancies

of the season. Poems by Chaucer were known and read before the writer had reached his 12th year, and Leigh Hunt made a stir at the age of 13.

Feit slippers are to be worn considerably this Winter. Johnson's boy hopes "Wall, then, I reckon I'll take it, his mothers will not be felt any more

More Railroad Talk.

THE LEHIGH VALLEY'S NEW ROAD TO THE

Rumors to the effect that the Le ed for three evenings, and was told by high Valley Railroad company intendthe committee at the conclusion of my ed to build a line from Ashland to last address that they had no funds in Pittsburg have been revived again, and treasury and did not like to take up a this time seem to have some degree of collection, but that if I would come verification from railroad authorities. again and give three more lectures I The new route is chartered under the would be liberally paid. I consented name of the Seabroad and Atlantic and shortly afterward began my other railroad, and one of its advantages over course of three lectures. At the ter- all other routes is that it can be built mination of the second one a gentle-without a tunnel. The programme was man arose and said that as Mr. Gough that if the South Pennsylvania railroad were not to build those interested in that scheme would join the Lehigh gested that a collection be taken up for Valley in building the route from Ash land, but it is now stated that the Lehigh Valley people have found others gentleman: but if we must have one let it be to-morrow night, when we will will certainly be built, even without help from the South Pennsylvania cap-italists. A prominent railroad official states that the harmonious relations was taken up. A gentleman near the table remarked when the money was sylvania and Lehigh Valley railroad counted: 'The amount is very small companies have become strained, and I do not mind making it up to \$2 out that the Lehigh Valley does not like the idea of the former coming into its anthracite coal territory, and will build the line to Pittsburg to put the Pennsylvania upon its good behavior in the anthracite regions. Robert H. Sayre, second vice president of the Lehigh Valley, and who was also president of \$5 bill enclosed in a letter, in which the South Pennsylvania Railread company, is declared to be very aggressive, and has been determined for some time to have another route to Pittsburgh from Philadelphia. The officials of tance from Worcester, where I expect the Lehigh Valley Railroad company profess to know nothing of the plan The Lehigh Valley has excellent terminal facilities at Jersey City, who are now reached over the tracts of the Pennsylvania railroad. It is said to be the purpose of the company, should the plan go through, to reach Jersey City by building tracks

## of its own .- Easton Argus. Selecting a Horse.

A "professor of horse training," who has shown great skill in subduing and breaking the most obdurate animals, gives the following advice: The quesion may arise, for steady, hard work at moderate speed, will not a heavy framed, strong muscle animal, with slight intelligence, like the muie, return more work for the food than one with the higher mental faculties and more active nerves? Is there not a waste of force, of the power desired, from the nutriment consumed, in the horse, with a highly developed nervous constitution ? never to select a horse having long ears lined inside with long, straight hair Do not buy one that is narrow between the ears and between the eyes; or that has flat, round eyes, in sunken orbits, and whose nostrils are short and thick for he certainly will prove a beast of end only in the eclipse of the noblest a pair ob deuces." "Bet you on a pair small intelligence, hard to teach, incapwhose boy I is now. But de old massa obstinate, just as stupid persons are he's bluffin' like de mischief an' I And do not buy the horse that is nar obstinate, just as stupid persons are. reckon I's gwine ter stay. The bluff row at the top of the head, bulging be tween the eyes, and has a sunker, dish like face between them; for he is sore to be vicious and treacherous. But take the horse that has short ears, with short curly hair inside them; that is broad between the ears and eyes, with this matter-of course surrender of the life to the spirit of the world, the flesh and the devil, we cannot wonder that, in spite of all our stupendous accumulations. We do not accept this conclusion.

Already the secular spirit has gone far enough to disturb the equilibrium of the nation's life, to say nothing of the nation's life, to say nothing of the church's life. The day of reaction is