REV DR. TALMAGE. The Brooklyn Divine's Sunday Sermon.

Subject : "The Lessons of Winter."

TEXT: "Hast thou entered into the treas. ures of the snow?"-Job xxxviii., 22.

Grossly maligned is the season of winter. The spring and summer and autumn have had many admirers, but winter, hoary headed and white bearded winter, bath had more enemies than friends. Yet without winter the human race would be inane and effortless. You might speak of the winter as effortiess. You might speak of the winter as the mother of tempests. I take it as the father of a whole family of physical, mental and spiritual energies. The most people that I know are strong in proportion to the num-ber of snow banks they had to climb over or push through in childhood, while their fathers drove the sled loaded with logs through the crunching drifts high as the fences.

At this season of the year, when we are so familiar with the snow, those frozen vap-pors, those falling blossoms of the sky, those white angels of the atmosphere, those poems of the storm, those Iliads and Odysseys of the wintery tampest I turn over the leaves of the storm, those mains and Odysseys of the wintery tempest, I turn over the leaves of my Bible and—though most of it was written in a clime where snow seldom or never fell—I find many of these beautiful congelations. Though the writers may sel-dom or never have felt the cold touch of the snowflake on their cheak thay had in sight snowflake on their check, they had in sight two mountains, the tops of which were sug-gestive. Other kings sometimes take off their crowns, but Lebanon and Mount Hermon all the year round and through the ages never lift the coronets of crystal from their foreheads.

The first time we find a deep fall of snow in the Bible is where Samuel describes a fight between Benaiah and a lion in a pit. and though the snow may have crimsoned under the wounds of both man and brute, the shaggy monster rolled over dead, and the giant was victor. But the snow is not fully recognized in the Bible until God interrogates Job, the scientist, concerning its wonders, saying, "Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow?" I rather think that Job may have exam-

ed the snowflake with a microscope; for, ined the snowliake with a microscope; for, although it is supposed that the microscope was invented long after Job's time, there had been wonders of glass long before the microscope and telescope of later day were thought of. So long ago as when the Col-iseum was in its full splendor, Nero sat in the emperor's box of that great theatre, which held a hundred thousand people, and looked at the combatants through a gem in his finger ring which brought everything close up to his eye. close up to his eve.

Four hundred years before Christ, in the stores at Athens, were sold powerful glasses called "burning spheres," and Layard, the explorer, found a magnifying glass amid the runs of Nineveh and in the palace of Nim-rod. Whether through magnifying instru-ment or with unaided eye I cannot say, but I am sure that Job somehow went through the galleries of the snowflake and counted its pillars and found wonders, raptures, mys-teries, theologies, majesties, infinities walking up and down its corridors, as a result of the question which the Lord had asked him, "Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow?

Oh, it is a wonderous meteor! Memboldt studied it in the Andes, twelve thousand feet above the level of the sea. De Saussure re-veled among these meteors in the Alps, and Dr. Scoresby counted ninety-six varieties of snowflake amid the arctics. They are in shape of stars, in shape of coronets, in shape of cylinders; are globular, are hexagonal, are pyramidal, are castellated. After a fresh fall of snow, in one walk you grush under your feet, Tuilleries, Windsor castles. St.

And it is high time that we find this nighty realm of God close by and under our own little finger. To drop you out of His memory would be to resign His omniscience. To refuse you his protection of the residence of a soul whom you never heard of. "When she gave her charity her left hand

To refuse you His protection would be to ab-dicate His omnipotence. When you tell me that He is the God of Jupiter, and the God of Mercury, and the God of Saturn, you tell me more trouble than anybody in all the land something so vast that I cannot comprehend it. But if you tell me He is the God of the snowflake, you tell me something I can hold and measure and realize. Thus the smallest

and measure and realize. Thus the smallest snowflake contains a jewel case of comfort. Here is an opal, an amethyist, a diamond. Here is one of the treasures of snow. Take it for your present and everlasting comfort. Behold, also, in the snow the treasure of accumulated power. During a snow storm let an apothecary, accustomed to weigh most delicate quantities, hold his weighing scales out of the window and let one flake fail on the surface of the scales, and it will not even make it tremble. When you want to exthe surface of the scales, and it will not even make it tremble. When you want to ex-press extreme triviality of weight you say, "Light as a feather," but a snowflake is much lighter. It is just twenty-four times lighter than water. And yet the accumula-tion of these flakes broke down, a few days ago, in sight of my house, six telegraph poles, made helpless police and fire departments and halted rail trains with two thundering locomotives. We have already learned so much of the

We have already learned so much of the shall reign for ever and ever?" We have already learned so much of the power of electricity that we have become careful how we touch the electric wire, and in many a case a touch has been death. But a few days ago the snow put its hand on most of these wires, and tore them down as though they were cobwebs. The snow said: "You seem afraid of the thunderbolt: I will catch it and hurl it to the ground. Your boasted electric lights adorning your cities with bub-bles of fire, I will put out as easily as your ancestors snuffed out a tallow candle." The snow put its finger on the lip of our cities that were talking with each other and they snow put its finger on the lip of our cities that were talking with each other and they went into silence, uttering nota word. The snow mightier than the lightning.

snow mightier than the lightning. In March, 1888, the snow stopped Amer-ica. It said to Brooklyn, "Stay home!" to New York, "Stay home!" to Philadelphia, "Stay home!" to Washington, "Stay home!" to Richmond, "Stay home!" It put into a white sepulcher most of this nation. Commerce, whose wheels never stopped before, stopped then. What was the matter? Power of accumulated snowflakes. On the top of the Apennines one flake falls, and others fall, and they pile up, and they make a mountain of fleece on the top of a mountain of rock, until one day a gust of wind, or even the voice of a mountaineer, sets the frozen vapors into action, and by awful descent they sweep smalls into that one mighty is another treaseverything in their course-trees, rosks, villages-as when in 1827 the town of Briel, in Valais, was buried, and in 1624 in Switzerand, three hundred soldiers were entombed. These avalanches were made up of single mowflakes.

What tragedies of the snow have been witnessed by the monks of St. Bernard, who for ages have with the dogs been busy in ex-tricating bewildered and overwhelmad travelers in Alpine storms, the dogs with blankets fastened to their backs and flasks of spirits fastened to their necks to resuscitate helpless travelers, one of these dogs decorated with a medal for having saved the lives o twenty-two persons, the brave beast himself slain of the snow on that day when accom panying a Piedmontese courier on the way to his anxious household down the mountain, the wife and children of the Piedmontese surier coming up the mountain in search of him, an avalanche covered all under pyramids higher than those under which the Egyptian monarchs sleep their sleep of the

What an illustration of the tragedies of the snow is found in that scene between Glencoe and Glencreran one February in Scotland, where Ronald Cameron comes forth to bring to his father's house his cousin Flora McDonald for the celebration

soul in melted snow he would still be cov-ered with mud, like a man down in a ditch (Job ix., 30). "If I wash myself in snow water, and make my hands ever so clean, more trouble than anybody in all the land where she lived, and without complaining yet shalt thou plunge me in the ditch and mine own clothes shall abhor me." she bore it, and though her talents were never great, what she had was all conse-crated to God and helping others, and the Lord is making up for her earthly privation We must be washed in the fountain of God's mercy before we can be whiter than snow. "Without holiness, no man shall see the Lord." Oh, for the cleansing

If there be in all this audience one man or woman whose thoughts have always been right, and whose actions are always right, let such a one rise, or if already standing, lift the right hand. Not one! All we like sheep, have gone astry. Unclean! unclean! And yet we may be made whiter than snow whiter than that which, on a cold winter's morning, after a night of storm, clothes the tree from bottom of trunk to top of highest branch, whiter than that which this hour

makes the Adirondacks, and the Sierra Nevada and Mount Washington heights of pomp and splendor fit to enthrone an archang In the time of Graham, the essayist, in one mountain district of Scotland an average of mountain district of Scotland an average of ten shepbards perished every winter in the snow drifts, and so he proposed that at the distance of every mile a pole fifteen feet high and with two cross pieces be erected, show-ing the points of the compass, and a bell hung at the top, so that every breeze would ring it, and so the lost one on the mountains would hear the sound and take the direction given by this pole with the cross pieces and given by this pole with the cross pieces and get safely home. Whether that proposed plan was adopted or not I do not know, but I declare to all you who are in the heavy and blinding drifts of sin and sorrow that there is a cross near by that can direct you to home and peace and God; and hear you not the ringing of the gospel bell hanging to that cross, saying, "This is the way; walk ye in theory would make a snowflake that falls cheerfully and in the right place, and does all the work assigned it, as honorable as a whole Mont Blanc of snowflakes."

Electricity Exorcises Thieves.

foreheads of the rightcous, and many of the gems in the jewel case of princes and princess, are only the petrified snowflakes of earthly tempest, for God does not forget the promise The fact that the electric light has inflicted a severe blow at the occupation made in regard to them. 'They shall be Mine, said the Lord of hosta, in the day when I make up My jewels.'" Accumulated power! All the prayers and charities and kindnesses of the "midnight marauder" is now a familiar one, and a recent expression of opinion on the subject of protecting houses against the depredations of houseand talents of all the good concentered and breakers has called special attention to compacted will be the world's evangelization. the means which are now available for that purpose. The task of the cracks-Another treasure of the snow is the sugman is becoming a weary and comparagestion of the usefulness of sorrow. Absence of snow last winter made all nations sick. tively profitless one, and it is easy to believe that the lament which is occasion-That snowless winter has not yet ended its ally wafted from his lips into the disasters. Within a few weeks it put tens columns of the daily paper, that "there of thousands into the grave, and left others in homes and hospitals gradually to go down. Called by a trivial name, the Rusis now nothing in it," is uttered with the utmost sincerity. At one time it was sian "grip," it was an international plague. Plenty of snow means public health. There a very easy matter for a burglar to saw There is no medicine that so soon cures the world's malarias as these white pellets that the through a bar or cut a pane of glass, but with the electrical appliances now being clouds administer—pellets small enough to be homeopathic, but in such large doses as to used in many houses, and which are so be allopathic, and melting soon enough to be hydropathic. Like a sponge, every flake ab-orbs unhealthy gases. The tables of mor-allty in New York and Brooklyn immeeasily adjusted and so reliable in operation, it is only a question of time when all houses will be provided with them. The slightest movement of door or window liately lessened when the snows of last De-ember began to fall. The snow is one of after the alarm has been set will form a he grandest and best of the world's doctors. Yes, it is necessary for the land's producconnection and start a gong in a distant part of the house. The alarm is thus veness. Great snows in winter are generalgiven to the inmates, while the man, uny followed by great harvests next summer. If followed by great harvests next summer. Scientific analysis has shown that snow con-tains a larger percentage of ammonia than the rain, and hence its greater power of en-richment. And besides that, it is a white blanket to keep the earth warm. An ex-may convey the alarm to the nearest may convey the alarm to the merest amination of snow in Siberia showed that it uninvited visitor .- Chicago News.

police station, so that by the time the burglar gets through with his engrossing work he may find a couple of policemen outside patiently waiting his pleasure. Not long ago an enthusiastic merchant in Paris was so delighted with the working of this form of burglar alarm that he became enamored of thief-catching as a sport. He cleverly spread stories of the hoards of jewelry and valuable bric-abrac that were to be found in certain rooms of his house, and the bait was an irresistable one for the master cracksmen of the city. The merchant bagged his game very neatly several times, but at ast the story crept out, and his unique sporting career came to a sudden end. Sercen doors as well as windows can be provided with the alarm fittings so that the least attempt to make a hole will close the circuit and let the inmates of the house know of the advent of their

would make them clean. Well, Job had SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON. great admiration for snow, but he declares in substance that if he should wash his SUNDAY, FEBRUARY, 22, 1891. Elijah's Successor. LESSON TEXT.

(1 Kings 2 : 12-22. Memory verses: 12-14.)

LESSON PLAN.

TOPIC OF THE QUARTER: Sinning and Serving.

GOLDEN TEXT FOR THE QUARTER: Godliness is profitable unto all things. 1 Tim. 4 : 8.

LESSON TOPIC: God's Servant Impowered. LESSON OUTLINE: COLDENT IN COLDENT IN LESSON OUTLINE: 1. 106 Successor of Elijah, vs. 12-14. 2. The Chief of the Proph ets, vs. 15-18. 2. The Benefactor of Men, vs. 19-22. GOLDEN TEXT: Not by might, nor

by power but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of hosts.-Zech. 4:6.

DAILY HOME READINGS :

M.-2 Kings 2 : 12-22. God's servant empowered. T .-- John 16 : 1-15. The source of power. W.-John 20 : 1-23. Power imparted. T.-1 Cor. 1 : 12-31. Power defined. trated. S .-- Acts 2 : 1-21. Power at Pentecost. S .- Acts 2 : 22-47. Power at Pentecost, LESSON ANALYSIS. L THE SUCCESSOR OF ELLIAH.

Separation:

And he saw him no more (12). The Lord would take up Elijah into heaven (2 Kings 2 : 1). The Lord will take away thy master

to-day (2 Kings 2 : 3). Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken (2 Kings 2:9). A chariot of fire ... which parted them both asunder (2 Kings 2 : 11).

II. Sorrow:

He took hold of his own clothes, and rent them in two (12).

Jacob rent his garments....and mourned for his son (Gen. 37:34). When I heard this thing, I rent my

garment (Ezra 9:3). Mordecai rent his clothes, and put on sackeloth (Es her 4 : 1).

(Job 1 : 20).

III. Success:

they were divided (14).

I will rain bread from heaven for you (Exod. 16: 4). The quails came up, and covered the camp (Exod. 16, 13). Water came forth abundantly (Num. 20: 11). He saved them out of their distresses (Psa. 107: 13). 1. "The men of the city said unto Elisha." (1) Jericho's advantages; (2) Jericho's disadvantages; (3) The citizen's appeal; (4) The prophet's assistance. 2. "Thus saith the Lord, I have healed these waters." (1) An evil condition; (2) A competent helper; (3) A complete cure.—(1) The waters; (2) The salt; (3) The Lord; (4) The cure.

Moses cried unto the Lord (Exod. 17:

Then they cried unto the Lord in

Oh that men would praise the Lord for

Having given thanks, he distributed

So the waters were healed unto this

their trouble (Fea. 107: 13).

his goodness (Psa: 107: 15).

41.1

day (22).

(John 6: 11).

III. Relief Secured:

8. "So the waters were healed." (1) By divine power; (2) Through hu-man intercession; (3) By appointed means.

LESSON BIBLE READING.

THE PROPHETS OF OLD.

God's spokesmen (Hos. 12 : 10; Heb. F.-1 Cor. 2:1-16. Power illus- God's messengers (2 Chron. 36:15; Iss. 44 : 26). God's servants (Jer. 35 : 15 ; Rev. 22:9).God's watchmen (Ezek. 3 : 17; 33 : 7). Were numerous (1 Sam. 10 : 5; 1 Kings 18:4). Gathered in schoo's (1 Sam. 19:20:2 Kings 2 : 3, 5) Spake by the Holy Ghost (2 Sam. 23 : 2; 2 Pet. 1: 20, 21). Persecuted (Matt. 23: 29-33 ; Luke 11: 47, 4%). Avenged (Matt. 23:34-36; Luke 11: 49.51).

Mighty through faith (Heb. 11: 32-34).

LESSON SURBOUNDINGS.

INTERVENING EVENTS. - There are

PLACES .- The east bank of the Jordan, then the west bank, then Jericho, and the fountain supplying it with water, identified from the earliest times with "the Fountain of Elisha," now known as 'Ayn es Sultan. This is near the site of ancient Jericho, which is north-west of the Jericho of the Gos-Then Job rose, and rent his mantle pels, and some miles from the modern village Eriha.

TIME .- Immediately after the last When he also had smitten the waters, others give B. C. 898, and some place lesson; B. C. 896 (usual chronology); it as late as B. C. 853. The length of Elisha's stay at Jericho is not indicated. PERSONS .- Elisha; the fifty men on the west bank of the Jordan; fifty sent out to look for Elijah; the people of Jericho; probably the rulers and e ders. INCIDENTS .- Elisha. seeing Elijah in his ascent, cries out and rends his 1. "He saw him no more." (1) Elijah's clothes; taking the fallen mantle of removal; (2) Elisha's bereavement. Elijah, he also divides the waters. The -(1) Companionship; Separation; sons of the prophets, waiting for him, recognize and honor him as the suc-2. "He took up also the mantle of cessor of Elijah. They desire to search Elijah that fell from him. (1) The for the vanished prophet; Elisha fortranslated prophet; (2) The fallen bids, but at last gives way to their immautle; (3) The qualified successor. portunity, and an unsuccessful search of three days occurs. The men of Jericho complain ng of the water, Elisha casts salt into the spring, announcing the Lord's healing of the waters, which thence-forward remained healed. There is no parallel to the account of the ministry of Elisha.

your feet, Tuilleries, Windsor castles, St. Pauls, St. Peters, St. Marks, cathedrals, Albambras and Sydenham palaces innumerable.) I know it depends much on our own condition what impression these flying meteors of the snow make.

I shall not forget two rough and unpre-tending wood cuts which I saw in my boy-hood side by side; one a picture of a prosperous farmhouse, with all signs of comfort, and a lad warmly clothed looking out of the door upon the first flurry of snow, and his mind no doubt filled with the sound of jingling sleigh bells and the frolic with playfel-lows in the deep banks, and he, clapping his hands and shouting, "It snows! it snows!" The other sketch was of a boy, haggard and hollow eyed with hunger, looking from the broken door of a wretched home, and seeing broken door of a wretched home, and seeing in the falling flakes prophecy of more cold and less bread and greater privation, wring-ing his hands and with tears rolling down his wan cheeks crying, "Oh, my Godl it snows! it snows!" Out of the abundance that characterizes most of our homes may there he snows uplief to all whom this win there be speedy relief to all whom this win-ter finds in want and exposure.

And now I propose, for your spiritual and, everlasting profit, if you will accept my guid ance, to take you through some of the ders of crystallization. And notice first God in the littles. You may take alpenstock and cross the Mer de Glace, the sea of ice, and nd Mont Blanc, which rises into the clouds like a pillar of the great white Throns, or with arctic explorer ascend the mountains or with arctic explorer ascent the glaciers a around the north pole, and see glaciers a thousand feet high grinding against glaciers three thousand feet high. But I will take you on a less pretentious journey and show you God in the snowflake. There is room ugh between its pillars for the great Jehovah to stand. In that one frozen drop on the tip of your finger you may find the throne room of the Almighty. I take up the snow in my hand and see the coursers of celestial

dominion pawing these crystal pavements. The telescope is grand, but I must confess that I am quite as much interested in the microscope. The one reveals the universe microscope. The one reveals the universe above us; the other just as great a universe beneath us. But the telescope overwheims-me, while the microscope comforts me. What you want and I want especially is a God in littles. If we were scraphic or archangelic in our natures we would want to study God in the great; but mob scenal weak short. in the great; but such small, weak, short-lived beings as you and I are want to find-God in the littles

When I see the Maker of the universe giving Himself to the architecture of a snow-flake, and making its shafts, its domes, its curves, its walls, its irradiations so perfect I conclude He will look after our insignificant conclude He will look after our insignificant affairs. And if we are of more value than a sparrow, most certainly we are of more value than an inanimate snowflake. So the Bible would chiefly impress us with God in the littles. It does not say, "Consider the clouds," but it says, "Consider the lilies." It does not say, "Behold the tempests" but "Behold the fowls." ...d it applauds a cup of cold water and the widow's two mites, and says the hairs of your head are all numbered. Do not fear, therefore, that you are going to Do not fear, therefore, that you are going to be lost in the crowd. Do not think that because you estimate yourself as only one snowflake among a three days' January snow

snowflake among a three days' January snow storm that you will be forgotten. The birth and death of a drop of chilled vapor is as certainly regarded by the Lor as the crea-tion and demolition of a planet. Nothing is big to God and nothing is small. What makes the honey industries of South Carolina such a source of livelihood and wealth? It is because God teaches the lady-bug to make an opening in the rind of the apricot for the bee, who cannot otherwise get at the juices of the fruit. So God sends the ladybug ahead to prepare the way for the honey bee. He teaches the ant to bite each grain of corn that she puts in the ground for winter food in order that it may not take root and so ruin the little granary. ground for winter food in order that it may not take root and so ruin the little granary. He teaches the raven in dry weather to throw pobles into a hollow tree, that the water far down and out of reach may come up within the reach of the bird's beak. What a com-fort that He is a God in littles! The aperator of all the Russias in olden time was looking at a map that spread before him his vast dominions, and he could not find Great Brit-ain on the map, and he called in his secretary and said: "Where is Great Britain, that I and said: "Where is Great Britain, that I hear so much about?" "It is under your thumb," said the secretary; and the em-peror raised his hand from the map and saw the country he was looking for.

the celebration | of a birthday, and the calm day turns into a hurricane of white fury that leaves Ronald and Flora as dead, to be resuscitated by the shepherds! What an exciting struggle had Bayard Taylor among the wintry

In the winter of 1812, by a similar force, the destiny of Europe was decided. The French army marched up toward Moscow five hundred thousand men. What can re-sist them? Not bayonets, but the dumb ele-ments overwhelm that host. Napoleon retreats from Moscow with about two hundred thousand men, a mighty nucleus for another campaign after be gets back to Paris. The morning of October 19, when they start for home, is bright and beautiful. The air is tonic, and although this Russian campaign has been a failure Napoleon will try again in some other direction with his host of brave surviving Frenchmen.

But a cloud comes on the sky and the air gets chill, and one of the sol tiers feels on his heek a snowflake, and then there is a multilication of these wintry messages, and soon he plumes of the officers are decked with an her style of plume, and then all the skies ist loose upon the warriors a hurricane of snow, and the march becomes difficult, and the horses find it hard to pull the supply train, and the men begin to fall under the fatigue, and many not able to take another step lie down in the drifts never to rise, and the cavalry horses stumble and fall, and one thousand of the army fall, and ten thousand perish, and twenty thousand go down, and lifty thousand, and a hundred thousand, and s hundred and twenty thousand and a hun-dred and thirty-two thousand die, and the victor of Jena and bridge of Lodi and Eylau and Austerlitz, where three great armies, commanded by three emperors, surrendered to him; now himself surrenders to the snow-

Historians do not seem to recognize that the tide in that man's life turned from Dec. 16, 1809, when he banished by hideous divorce his wife Josephine from the palace, and so challenged the Almighty, and the Lord charged upon him from the fortress of the iky with ammunition of crystal. Snowed ander! Billions, trillions, quadrillions, quin-trillions of flakes did the work. And what a suggestion of accumulative power, and what a rebuke to all of us who get discouraged be-sause we cannot do much, and therefore do aothing

' says some one, ''I would like to stop "Oh," says some one, "I would like to stop the forces of sin and crime that are marching for the conquests of the nations, but I am aobody; I have neither wealth nor eloquence for social power. What can I do?" My brother, how much do you weigh? As much is a snowflake! "Oh, yes." Then do your thare. It is an aggregation of small influ-mces that will yet put this lost world back into the bosom of a pardoning God. Alas that there are so many men and women who will act use the one talent because they have not there are so many men and women who will aot use the one talent because they have not ten, and will not give a penny because they cannot give a dollar, and will not speak as well as they can because they are not elo-quent, and will not be a snowflake because they cannot bean avalanche! In earthly wars the generals get about all the credit, but in the war for God and right ousness and heaven all the private soldiers will ret errows of all the private soldiers will get crowns of

victory unfailing. When we reach heaven-by the grace of God may we all arrive there-I do not think we will be able to begin the new song right away because of the surprise we shall feel at

<text>

was a hundred degrees warmer under the snow than above the snow. Alpine plants perished in the mild winter of England for lack of enough snow to keep them warm. Snow strikes back the rich gases which otherwise would escape in the air and be lost. Thank God for the mows, and may those of February be as plentiful as those of Decem-ber and January have been, high and deep oer and sanuary have been, high and deep and wide and enriching; then the harvests next July will embroider with gold this en-tire American continent. But who with any analogical faculty can notice that out of such chill as the snow comes the wheat, without realizing that chilling sorrows produce harests of grace!

"Yes, yes," says the celestial dragoman, "many of these pearls that you find on the

ure of the snow.

The strongest Christians, without any ex-eption, are those who were by bereavements r sickness or poverty or persecution, or all f them together, snowed under, and again and again snowed under. These snow storms of trouble! They kill the malarias of the soul. They drive us out of worldly dependence to God. Call the roll of all the eminently plous of all the ages and you will find them the sons and daughters of sorrow. The Marconites say that one characteristic of the cedar tree is that when the air is full of snow and it begins to de-scend the tree lifts its branches in a way better to receive the snow and bear up under it, and I know by much observation that the grandest cedars of Christian character lift higher their branches toward God when the ws of trouble are coming.

snows of trouble are coming. Lord Nelson's coffin was made out of the masts of the ship L'Orient in which he had fought so bravely, and your throne in heaven, O suffering child of God, will be built out of conquered earthly disasters. What gave John Bunyan such a wondrous draam of the celestial city? The Bodferd Iream of the celestial city? The Bedford penitentiary. What gave Richard Baxter such power to tell of the "Saints' Everlasting Rest," and to give his immortal "Call to the Unconverted?" Physical disease which racked every nerve of his body. What made George Whitefield so mighty in saving souls, bringing ten thousand to God when others brought a hundrad? Persecution that cariatured and assailed him all up and down England, and dead vermin thrown in his when he was preaching. What mellowed and glorifled Wilberforce's

Christian character? A financial misfortune that led him to write, "I know not why my fe is spared so long, except it be to she that a man can be as happy without a forthat a man can be as happy without a for-tune as with one." What gave John Milton such keen spiritual eyesight that he could see the battle of the angels? Extinguishment of physical eyesight. What is the highest observatory for studying the stars of hope and faith and spiritual promise? The be-lieuror's side heat. What unrealed in the sub-act iever's sick bed. What proclaims the richest and most golden harvests that wave on all the hills of heavenly rapture? The snows, the deep snows, the awful snows of earthly calamity. And that comforting thought is one of the treasures of the snow.

Another treasure of the snow is the sugge Another treasure of the snow is the sugges-tion that this mantle covering the earth is like the soul after it is forgiven. "Wash me," said the Psalmist, "and I shall be whiter than snow." My dear friend Gash-erie De Witt went over to Geneva, Switzer-iand, for the recovery of his health, but the Lord had something better for him than earthly recovery. Little did I think when I bade him good-by one lovely afternoon on the other side of the sea to return to America, that we would not meet again till we meet in heaven. As he lay one Sabbath morning

The Sap-Sucker.

A great many useful birds have been destroyed on the erroneous charge that they are in some way wholly detrimental to the farmers' interests with no compensating habits, and twice as many more that are admttted to be useful in some degree, in the mistaken belief that on the whole they are the authors of more harm than good. In the first category may be named the sap-sucker that is commonly considered a fair target for everybody's gun, on the plea that he is continually injuring young fruit trees for the purpose of feeding on the tender bark or sucking the sap, as popularly supposed. This is the head and front of

his offending, for it is never pretended that he seriously injures fruit or grains. Close observers, however, are fully convinced, that the little bird in question does not make original holes in the bark of the tree at which it is pecking, but that all its efforts are directed to destroying and devouring the borers that are concealed in holes already existing, which the birds have not made. At the very worst the bird does no more than in some cases to widen the hole enough to allow its beak to reach the worm. As good an authority as Cassius M.

Clay is on record as saying, from his own study of its habits, that the sapsucker is the deadliest foe of the vermin which destroy cur trees, and that everyone should encourage the multiplication of sap-suckers. - St. Louis Republic.

Wigg's Apple.

Thomas Wigg, of Wood County, W. Va., picked an apple the other day which had the figures "1890" on its side as plain as if they had been print ed. Wigg thinks it is a warning that

he will die next year.

William Graw, who died a year ago in Pittsburg, was thought to be worth \$9,000,000, and yet his estate has cleared up \$20,000,000,

The Shah of Persia has a passion for photography, and wherever he goes is accompanied by a court photographer with a camera always ready.

Six thousand different species of birds are known, and of these Europe po es 503, and North America, 471.

Moses stretched out his hand .th waters were divided (Exod. 14: 21). The waters....stood, and rose up in

one heap (Josh. 3: 16). Elijah smote the waters, and they were divided (2 Kings 2: 8).

He made the waters to stand as an heap (Psa. 78, 13).

(3) Loneliness.

3. "When he also had smitten the waters, they were divided." (1) Smitten by Elijah; (2) Smitten by Elisha.-(1) The river's flow; (2) The prophets' blows; (3) The Lord's response.

II. THE CHIEF OF THE PROPHETS.

I. Authority Acknowledged: Ehe spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha (15).

Now I know that thou art a man of God (1 Kings 17: 24).

Elisha. . anoint to be prophet in thy room (1 Kings 19: 16). Let a double portion of thy spirit be

upon me (2 Kings 2: 9). perceive that this is an holy man of God (2 Kings 4: 9).

II. Reverence Shown:

They....bowed down themselves to him to the earth (Gen. 43: 26). I fell down before the Lord (Deut. 9: 18

She fell on her face, and bowed herself to the ground (Ruth 2: 10).

They fell down and worshipped him Matt. 2: 11).

III. Petitions Asked:

Let them go, we pray thee, and seek thy master (16).

Now 1 ask one petition of thee, deny me not (1 Kings 2: 16).

Let me, I pray thee, kiss my father and my mother (1 Kings 19: 20).

Elijah said, Ask what I shall do for thee (2 Kings 2: 9).

Ye....know how to give good gifts unto your children (Matt. 7: 11).

1. "The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha." (1) The spirit of the de-

2. "Let them go, we pray thee, and seek thy master." (1) The departed master; (2) The importunate prophets; (3) The authorized suc-

Elisha's complete vindication.

The water is naught, and the land miscarrieth (19).

Ye have brought us forth.... to kill ... with hunger (Exod. 16: 3),

The people thirsted there for water (Exed. 17: 3).

They fell down, and there was none to help (Psa, 107: 12).

Whence are we to buy bread, that these may eat (John 6: 5).

II. God Honored:

Thus saith the Lord, I have healed hese waters (21).

Weight of Ice on Tree Branches.

A gentleman of Brookiine has sent to the Listener an account of a very interesting experiment in taking the weight of the ice upon tree branches during an ice-storm, when the ice on the trees was at its maximum. This gentleman thus describes the result of his experiment: "A branch of the syringa which weighed one pound had five pounds of ice on it, and a branch of pine needles weighing They....bowed themselves to the one pound had twelve pounds of ice on ground before him (15). it. I got these weights by taking the wood with the ice on it at first, and then taking weight of wood after the ice had melted. This does not represent correctly the enormous strain or actual pressure exerted on the branches of trees. by these ice-storms, but will easily account for the sad breakage of trees so common the past few days, and the dangers from these ice-storms on both trees and wires." It was surely a most fortunate thing that, during the days when the ice remained on the trees, we had no high winds. There must have been in that case, much more damage than was inflicted .- Boston Transcript.

By Accident.

The term "tweeds," which is used for a well-known kind of woollen parted prophet; (2) The spirit of cloth, is said to be a corruption of the incoming prophet. --(1) Elijah's "tweels." The latter word was blotted qualifications; (2) Elisha's request; or imperfectly written on an invoice, and so gave rise to the now familiar name of these goods. "Tweel" was read as "tweed" by the late James Locke, of London, a pioneer of the trade, and it was thought so appropri-3. "Did not I say unto you, Go not?" ate, from the goods being mads on the (1) Elisha's first report; (2) The banks of the Tweed, that it was at young men's persistent doubt; (3) once adopted, and has been continued ever since. Tweed cloth is woven diagonally.

Well-Paid Archbishops.

The Austrian Archbishops are probably the most highly paid in the world. The Cardinal Archbishop of Vienna has only about £6,000 a year, but the Cardinal Archbishop of Olmutz has 243,000, the Cardinal Archbishop of Prague has £35,000, and the Archbish op of Eriru has £60,000. And the primate of Hungary, the Cardinal Archbishop of Grau, has £80,000 a year.

III. THE BENEFACTOR OF MEN. I. Help Needed:

