

REV. DR. TALMAGE.

The Eminent Brooklyn Divine's Sunday Sermon.

Subject: "The Nativity."

TEXT: "And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger."—Luke ii, 16.

The black window shutters of a December night were thrown open, and some of the best singers of a world were all singing, and putting back the drapery of cloud, chanted a peace anthem, until all the echoes of hill and valley applauded and endured the Hallelujah chorus.

Behold, in the first place, that on the first night of Christ's life God honored the heavens by the creation of the star that led the wise men.

Behold, also, that on that Christmas night God honored the earth by the birth of the Son of Man.

Behold, also, in this Bible story, how on that Christmas night God honored the child.

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HOW BISMARCK RESIGNED.

Another and Dramatic Version of the Historic Scene.

A Swiss paper receives the following interesting particulars on the subject of Prince Bismarck's resignation from a man who is alleged to be initiated into Berlin Court secrets as no other has been, and whose information has always proved correct:

"On Saturday, March 15, 1890, toward 8 o'clock in the morning, while the Prince was still in bed, he was informed that the Emperor was waiting to see him in Count Herbert Bismarck's apartments in the office of the Secretary of State.

"The history of the duck in question, the Labrador duck or the pied duck, is made the subject of an article by Mr. William Dutcher in a recent number of the Auk.

Unlike the great auk, the Labrador duck was a good flier, and was especially persecuted by gunners.

It is not improbable, as suggested by Mr. Dutcher, that other mounted specimens may yet be discovered in out-of-the-way places.

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The Labrador Duck.

It will surprise many readers to be told that a large and strikingly marked duck, which within fifty years was moderately common upon the Northern Atlantic coast, is believed now to have become extinct.

The last one known to have been seen before that time was killed at Grand Manan in April, 1871.

One of our older ornithologists, Mr. George N. Lawrence, of New York, writing in January, 1891, says: "About forty or more years ago it was not uncommon to see them in Fulton Market."

Another ornithologist, Mr. G. A. Boardman, of Calais, Maine, says that fifty years ago, when he began to collect birds, he had no difficulty in getting a pair of Labrador ducks, which was all he wanted, but that thirty years afterward, when he tried to procure specimens for some New York friends, his collectors all along the coast reported that the birds were gone.

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A Professor's Dilemma.

A college professor and his daughter sat at a hotel table with the narrator of the story.

"Father," said the daughter, energetically, "you shouldn't say 'hope'; you should say 'no.'"

"I suppose so, my dear," acquiesced the father. "It is the force of habit makes me say 'hope.'"

"Why, father, have you always said 'hope?'" inquired the young lady.

"The father reflected for a moment. A dreamy smile lit up his features, and he gently and peacefully murmured, "Yep."—St. Louis Republic.

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Daguerrotype's Endurance.

A remarkable example of the enduring qualities of the daguerrotype is to be found in the old graveyard at Waterford, Conn.

In the headstone that marks the grave of a woman who died more than forty years ago her portrait is inlaid, covered with a movable shield. The picture is almost as perfect as when it was taken.

A GOOD man is one who lives right whether he believes in religion or not.

A LIAR is a man who knows all the facts about something that never occurred.

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"How do I look?" That depends, madam, upon how you feel. If you're suffering from functional disturbances, irregularities or weaknesses, you're sure to "look it."

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