

PHARISEES REPROVED.

LUKE 2:13-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.—"But do not go after their works: for they say, and do not."

Central Truth.—True religion brings fidelity not in words only, but in acts.

The Pharisees were always opposed to Jesus. They were jealous of his influence with the people, and lost no opportunity to throw contempt on his person and on his teaching. They even accused him of being in league with Satan, and in many ways endeavored to turn against him the tide of popular indignation. Even the instances of their hospitality, of which one is recorded in this lesson, were hypocritical in character, and in the hope of inducing him to commit himself, so that they might find something of which to accuse him.

Jesus was especially severe in his denunciation of this famous sect for their bigoted devotion to mere forms and ceremonies, while they neglected doctrines and practices of far greater importance and more spiritual value. Their long and formal prayers, their ostentatious charities, their frequent ablutions, were often the object of his animadversion, while they themselves prided themselves on these as evidences of their own superior sanctity. On this occasion our Lord took occasion of the invitation of a certain Pharisee to dine with him, purposely to omit the customary washing before meals, which was insisted on by the purists and formalists of the day. Our Lord was never guilty of rudeness or a failure to observe the proper courtesies of society, but in this case he wished to teach the people that there was no vital religion in mere ceremonial forms and rites, and that excessive devotion to these was a very different thing from true spiritual religion. So he took his place at the table without performing the usual ablution, which omission was probably remarked upon by his host and the company in a critical and offensive manner. This led to the stern and uncompromising rebuke which followed from our Lord. His language seems harsh; the term "fools" which he applied to the Pharisees means rather "thoughtless ones," and Christ was warranted in plain speaking to such barefaced hypocrites as were, who laid so much stress on outward purity while so thoroughly defiled within. His pure and honest soul revolted from the impious cant of the whole tribe of sanctimonious, self-righteous purists, and he poured out upon them the lava of his anathemas with the holy indignation which every sincere soul must instinctively feel for shameless hypocrisy such as theirs.

To the humble, penitent sinner Jesus was always tender, compassionate and forgiving, but to the proud, self-righteous and censorious he was a stern re-prover, not sparing the "whip of small cords," or the biting reproaches of a holy law, which vindicated the purity of his Divine Author, who cannot look upon sin without the greatest abhorrence.

The Pharisees, Lawyers and Scribes professed to be the teachers and guides of the people. But they loaded them down with grievous burdens of soulless ceremonies and vain observances, which brought them no comfort or help, but only aggravated the troubled souls whom they should have endeavored to lead into the way of peace.

It was no wonder that these men were especially odious to the pure and loving Saviour who came to preach the Gospel to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted, to bring deliverance to the captives, and of whom and whose teaching it was said as a noble eulogium, "The common people heard him gladly."

PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS.

1. There is only one washing which can cleanse the soul. It is the "washing of regeneration and the renewing of the Holy Ghost."

Jesus, my God! thy blood alone Hath power sufficient to atone; Thy blood can make me whiter than snow; No Jewish types could cleanse me so.

2. No amount of outward lustration can insure purity of heart.

The tombs around Jerusalem were whitewashed every year, and made thus prominent, so that the people, as they traveled towards the city, might not even accidentally come into contact with them, and thus be made ceremonially unclean. The whitewash was indeed an outside improvement, but it was in all the more offensive contrast with the foul corruption within.

Such is a hypocrite in religion. He is only a whitewashed tomb.

3. The Pharisees "for a pretence made long prayers," and received damnation. One true prayer can insure salvation: "God be merciful to me a sinner."

4. The religion of self-righteousness multiplies the burdens of the soul.

Jesus alone says: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy-laden, and I will give you rest."

5. Infinite purity abhors the self-righteous Pharisee, but stoops to welcome even the very chief of sinners, who repents and trusts to the imputed righteousness of Christ.

6. Sin is not extenuated by the high position of the sinner.

No class received such scathing rebukes from our Lord as the Scribes and Pharisees, who were the most respectable class in Jewish society.

Sin in the "Fifth Avenue" is as odious to a holy God as sin at the "Five Points."

The sinner may be clad in purple or in rags, but is equally naked without the robe of Christ's righteousness.

7. The hypocrite serves the devil faithfully, and is despised even by his own master.

CONGRESSIONAL TALK.

PECULIARITIES OF SOME NOTED MEMBERS. J. S. C. in Philadelphia Record.

There are few really good talkers in Congress—that is, men who are distinguished for their oratory and rhetoric. Senator Conkling heads the list as the best. He begins his speeches oftentimes with a question, and then follows with the thunder. Each sentence is clear cut. He speaks deliberately and in well chosen words, which impress one with an idea of preparation. He even follows out this in impromptu remarks during a running debate. Conkling's speeches never need revision. Senator Edmunds makes his speeches and then he is done with them. He is so careful of what he says and does that he can never be picked up on an utterance. The brilliant Matt Carpenter was always in a peck of trouble when he made a speech. Carpenter was averse to study, and relied upon his memory, which grew to be faulty. He always revised his speeches, tore them to pieces and rebuilt, interlined, crossed out and made a frightful looking proof sheet. Then he always insisted upon getting the messenger from the printing office "full" when the latter was sent for his copy. Carpenter always demoralized the Congressional Record office upon the night when he would make a great effort in the Senate. Judge Thurman's speeches never needed revision, except to see if the quoted authorities were correct. Senator Bayard is one of the most pleasing speakers on the Democratic side, and he generally glances over the proofs to see that no mistakes creep in. General Burnside repeats himself in about every ten sentences, and is apt to become nervous. Ben Hill fires away in a sledge-hammer style of oratory, and, no matter how trivial the topic may be, will work himself up to a fever heat and expend as much earnestness as if great things were to be accomplished. Morgan, of Alabama, is another Democratic orator possessing the distinctive peculiarities of the talkers of the South. A gallery lounger can tell in a second from what section of the country a speaker comes. The peculiarities of dialect are marked in these representative men the same as in the lower classes of society in their vicinity. Over in the House Sunset Cox causes trouble to the printers. He always prepares his speeches, and revises them. He writes on all sorts of paper. One page may be yellow, another white, a third a leaf from a book. Then his hand writing is not letter press; so Cox is drenched. Randall revises every speech he makes. General Harry White had a habit of sending for books during debates until his desk was littered and he could scarcely be seen. By the time he found the authority desired, debate would be exhausted, and he would produce a scare, nothing more. This was an old trick of White's. The most remarkable instance of the effect of talking is that which Mr. Blount's voice has upon a journalist who is well known here. Blount has the pure, unadulterated Southern accent, and is inclined to be harsh without meaning it. A few years ago a young man who was a student at the Annapolis academy was detected in a hazing scrape. The matter came before Congress, and Mr. Blount made a violent speech against the naval cadets. One of the young men occupied a seat in the gallery, and the effect of Blount's speech, coupled with the thought of being dismissed from the academy, was such that he became violently ill and had to be carried from the capitol. Later on in his career he branched out as a journalist, and was assigned to duty in the House gallery. Blount arose to speak, and the recollections of past events came so vividly to the young man's mind that he again became ill. He tried in vain, day after day, to conquer the feeling, but it was found to be impossible. Every time Blount spoke he became sick. At last he was compelled to relinquish his position on this account. Even to this day that gentleman never appears in the House gallery for fear of Blount. There is no distinctively great orator in the House whom the crowds rush in to hear speak. The talking is done by some seven or eight, or rather was during the last session, and there is no promise that the order of things will be changed in the future. The great debaters are confined to the Senate, and the crop is being fast thinned out there. The retirement of Wallace, Thurman and Blaine and the death of Carpenter took away four of the most brilliant men at a swoop.

It costs \$50,000 per year for the mere jotting down the remarks of the congressmen. The corps of official stenographers, both in the Senate and the House, is probably the best in the United States. What is more, the chief of these are Philadelphians who were educated at the Central High School. Few there are who do not know D. F. Murphy, the Senate reporter. For years his brother was his principal assistant, but now a young man named Shuey occupies that position. The plan pursued in the Senate differs from that of other bodies. Mr. Murphy reports the proceedings himself and sends his stenographic notes to the transcribing room, where they are read off to usually about a dozen young men, who write out the copy for the printer. Long years of practice have been required to attain a degree of proficiency

which would enable one writer to read the hurried notes of another. Mr. Murphy has held his position for a number of years, and has the reputation so admirably systematized that there is never any trouble with the stenographers' speeches. He receives \$25,000 per year for the work, and out of this pays his assistants. In the end the chief of the bureau receives more salary than a Senator, but he must always be on hand, and earns it. The head of the House corps is Mr. John J. McElhone. There are five reporters here who receive a salary of \$5,000 each—the same pay as a Congressman. Each reporter takes "a hitch" at the debates, spending fifteen minutes upon the floor, when he retires to the transcribing room, reads his notes to the assistants and then resumes his place at the desk until his turn comes around again. The stenographers are appointed by the speaker, and are seldom changed unless for good cause. Singular as it may seem, I am told that the Senate is the more difficult body to report. There is always more or less confusion in the House, but even with this drawback reporters prefer it to the Senate. The reason is this: In the Senate much of the debate is carried on in a conversational manner, and a reporter must needs keep a sharp eye or ear or he will miss some of the talking that is carried on in a low tone. It is for this reason that Murphy trusts the reporting to himself or his most valued assistant only. Every word uttered is recorded, and many a congressman is surprised the next morning to find in the Congressional Record some remark which was hardly intended for publication. It requires a resolution to expunge the annoying paragraph, a fact which causes members to be careful what they say.

Industrial Instruction Abroad.

From the Newark Advertiser.

Governor McClellan, in his last and most worthy message, is very emphatic in his recommendation of industrial schools, and if his words of wisdom are heeded as they should be his administration if it had no other redeeming point, would thereby shine illustriously. There is no State in the Union that can so easily devote all the necessary means to establish industrial education, as there is no State where it would prove more profitable. It is the one thing that is lacking to round out the enterprises of our people, and to still further draw hither the capital and enterprise of the world. Newark, as we have said before, should take a lively interest in the matter, for it has a larger interest in manufactures than all the rest of the State together, and it is strange that it has shown so little activity when it would add so largely to its future wealth and population.

Europe takes the lead of the United States in applying special education to the advancement of manufactures. It will surprise many to learn that even in Italy, which is popularly supposed to cultivate only beggars and fruit, there are technical schools, each school or community where one is located providing three-fifths and the government two-fifths of the cost. This would seem to be a proper division, as the State is sure to receive a benefit from the promotion of any local industry. It is in Belgium and Saxony, however, where the advantages of these schools have been most apparent, and some of the facts are so singular and suggestive that a reference to the report of an English investigating committee cannot be other than interesting. It is well to note that no State in Europe so much resembles New Jersey as Belgium. It depends wholly on its manufactures for its wealth, and in this it has been obliged to compete with France, Germany and England, and it has met that competition successfully by applying education as the motive power.

There is one town in Belgium—Seraing—that in 1817 contained but 2,000 souls, all peasants; it now has a population of over 40,000, nearly all engaged in the production of iron and steel. It has an industrial and mining school sustained by the company, with nearly 400 scholars, while the common schools contain about 5,000 children. Education is compulsory on all who wish to enter the employ of the company. The technical schools turn out excellent foremen, mining experts, and scientific engineers, and the company is therefore sure that all its employes can be trusted in important situations that may be filled. At Ghent there is an industrial school containing 900 scholars, and this large attendance is easily explained; preferences being given in the manufactories there and elsewhere to the pupils, and thus, incompetence being at a discount, the ambitious naturally turn to the school as an avenue of preferment. It may be remarked in passing that we have never heard of the explosion of a boiler in Belgium through the mistake or ignorance of an engineer, or in the misplacement of a safety valve.

The direct effect of science applied to industry is still more marked at Verviers, famous for its wollen machinery and yarns. The yarns spun here are exported to Great Britain at the rate of over £14,000,000 annually, and this has been accomplished solely through the scientific and economical processes, the result of education. In Saxony the spinners of Angola yarns absolutely buy their cotton in England, pay the transportation both ways, and undersell England in her own

markets. Education, technical education, is at the root of it all. It is not to be wondered at that England and Scotland are sending over committees of their boards of trade to find out what the matter is. A Scotchman from Perth says it is not done by cheap labor—the invariable excuse on this side—but by a thorough knowledge of the business that the people are working in. Every man in his own line is a skilled expert. Who would credit the fact that the chemists of Germany buy theirs in the crude state from London, Hull and Leith, and return it to England in the shape of aniline and other dye stuffs? Two establishments supply between them 2,500 hands, and they have sixty trained chemists and suits of laboratories superior to any college.

It will not be wondered at that England is waking up to the importance of learning wisdom from the experience of others. The cloth makers of London have erected a weaving and dyeing school at an expense of £15,000, with an endowment for its maintenance, and that is exactly what Newark and the State combined should have done long ago here, only covering a large scope of operations. Education is as essential to our manufactures as it is to the pulpit or the bar. It is essential to the preservation of life to have educated engineers; it is education that lifts labor out of the common-place and gives it dignity and power. It is education that presents us fine china instead of white pottery, that adorns the home and fills the mind with beauty, and more than all, by widening the distinction between ignorance and skill, it increases the rewards of toil and implants ambition in the humblest heart. Will our legislature and board of trade think of these things, and our people lay them to heart? The door to fortune stands invitingly open; will we shut it in our faces?

A ROYAL MATCH.

HOW QUEEN VICTORIA PROVIDED ONE OF HER OWN MINISTER'S WITH A WIFE.

Lord Palmerston had been a poor man in his younger days; had learned some bitter lessons and lost many illusions. A friend called upon him by appointment and found he was out, a sudden summons to the palace being the reason of his inability to keep his engagement. A servant explained that my lord would probably be back in an hour. "Very well," said the visitor, who was on intimate terms with Palmerston, I'll wait. Meanwhile—it was about luncheon time—"I'll take a glass of sherry and a biscuit." The servant looked rather confused, and ended by stammering out that neither sherry nor biscuits were to be had in the house. The fact was, his lordship kept the key of the cupboard. Cellar there was evidently none. Palmerston came back by and by, and was laughingly informed of the incident. He observed in a rather dry tone, "I should think I did keep the key of my cupboard." Ultimately his fortunes mended, and he was already comparatively rich when the queen politely but firmly commanded him to get married. Lord Melbourne was a confirmed widower, and if the foreign secretary continued a bachelor there would soon be a serious difficulty about the reception of the embassades. "May it please your majesty," said Lord Palmerston, "I should only be to happy too marry if I knew any one who would have me." The queen graciously replied that there would be no difficulty on that head, and that if it were necessary she would take upon herself to find a lady both ready and willing. So Lady Cowper was sent for from Rome to reign for thirty years over London society. It is said, by the way, that this lady decided that her husband was to be prime minister long before the idea occurred to himself. It was a very happy match—indeed, a love match. Those who knew Lord Palmerston best sometimes fancied that they detected the traces of a great sorrow carefully concealed from all men. As his coffin was lowered into its last resting place in Westminster Abbey on that cold autumn day of 1865 a gentleman stepped forward and flung a ring, with two or three other trinkets, into the open grave.

Decent Man.

Two French savants have for the last twelve months been keeping nine pigs in a state of habitual drunkenness, with a view to testing the effects of different kinds of alcoholic liquors: the Prefect of the Seine having kindly put up some stiles in the yard of the municipal slaughter-houses at the disposal of the savants, in order that they might conduct their interesting experiments at the smallest cost to themselves. Pigs were chosen for the experiment because of the close resemblance of their digestive apparatus to that of man. The pig who takes acitubhe is first gay, then excitable, irritable, combative, and finally drowsy; the pig who has brandy mixed with his food is cheerful all through till he falls asleep; the rum swilling pig becomes sad and somnolent almost at once; while the pig who drinks gin conducts himself in eccentric ways; grinding, squealing, tilting his head against the sty door, and raising on his hind legs as if to snuff the wind. Dr. De-caisne, describing these experiments with intoxicated swine, remarks in the

Francs that they are none the worse for their year's tipping.

These experiments taken in conjunction with the pig's well known personal peculiarities in feeding and his obstinate refusal to travel in the correct path, go far to show that man has evoked from the hog, rather than from the monkey, as some have surmised.

Andrew Johnson's Old Home.

THE HOUSE WHERE HE LIVED AND THE TAILOR SHOP IN WHICH HE WORKED.

Driving through Greenville we came to a small two-story brick residence, built in the severest style of architecture. The door opens on the street. The one small yard on either side and in the rear of the house, though scrupulously neat, is devoid of shrub or flower. The entire premises are painfully destitute of ornamentalations, but in perfect keeping with the original mind of its former occupant. Contiguous to the dwelling stands a small frame building, weather-beaten and old, that is dignified by the title of "office." Here during his life, when not hurled in a political vortex, or engaged in some active pursuit, Mr. Johnson spent his leisure hours. This was his "sanctum sanctorum," and here still is his library, of valuable books. A copy of the Constitution of the United States, the margins of its leaves filled by comments in the peculiar chirography of the ex-President, constituting a curiosity of the collection. On a parallel back street is the famous tailor shop, with the sign—"A Johnson"—still preserved. We were informed that the family cherish a pride in this tiny building, and the beholder cannot fail to view with reverence a character occupying a position so humble exalting himself by force of will to the lofty sphere of Chief Magistrate of this grand Republic. Nearly one mile from the dwelling, we drove through an arch gateway into a broad field, in the centre of which is a very high hill on which is reared the "Johnson Monument." The base is of granite, containing two arches, from which rises a magnificent marble shaft twenty-five feet in height, draped in the American flag, surmounted by an eagle with outspread wings, which seemingly keeps perpetual vigil o'er the ashes of him who in life clung so tenaciously to these symbols. Aside from the date of his birth in 1808 and his death in 1875, no inscription adorns the tomb, save the simple sentence, "His faith in the people never wavered." Just to the right is the name of Mrs. Johnson with the usual dates and words, "Sacred to the memory of our mother." To the left of the monument rest, side by side, two sons who only attained the age of twenty-three years; and directly in front is a handsome monument designating the last resting place of Andrew Johnson, Jr. Life's fitful fever over, he slept with his father at twenty-five. At the death of this son the name became extinct. A vacancy to the right for the graves of two daughters, the sole remaining members of the family, complete the inclosure. We turned at the gate of the iron railing and viewed the beautiful grounds within, and searched in vain for some word of comfort to his friends, some happy hope chisled in the purity of the marble; but no word of inspiration meets the eye. Sad commentary upon the life of a man who occupied places of trust and honor, a man who was ever of the people.

Corn for Fuel.

THE TERRIBLE STRAITS OF SNOW BOUND COMMUNITIES IN THE NORTHWEST.

From the Chyenne (W. T.) Leader.

A gentleman who left Sioux City, Iowa, a week ago, reports that two-thirds of the people in Sioux City are burning corn at thirty cents per bushel, while the railroads are blockaded to Yankton, Sioux Falls, St. Paul and Chicago direct. A party who had just arrived from Sioux Falls on the first train down in four weeks (the track being now blockaded again) brought tidings of an even more desperate state of affairs. The people have burned everything from the lumber yards, and that source of fuel being exhausted they were tearing down and consuming sheds and barns. Further up, and especially on the prairies, the suffering was terrible. The hay gathered for stock was all used up for fuel, and much stock had been killed to keep it from freezing and starving. Railroad ties were torn up and even telegraph poles cut down in places, and families were clubbing together to spare a house or two for fuel, in a neighborhood, after their coal and wood had been used up and their available furniture was gone.

A train that started out with shovellers from Pierre had to be abandoned, and the men walked a few miles distant east and left for Huron to escape being snowed in. Just to give you an idea of the drifts that are blockading the road I will give you one illustration. The mail carrier who brought the mail through from Sleepy Eye to Huron, making the trip on snow-shoes, measured one drift. It was five hundred feet long and averaged forty-seven feet deep. At Pierre there is plenty of food and fuel to last until the sun raises the snow blockade, but from Huron to Sleepy Eye, a distance of two hundred and sixty miles, there is a famine both of fuel and of food, and the suffering and loss of life to the unfortunate settlers who have taken up homesteads will be simply awful. There is no way to reach them with aid and heaven only knows what the result will be. Many of these people located between these points moved in last fall, built a small house and did not lay in a winter's supply of provisions, thinking they could get all the supplies they needed by going to the railroad. Everything that will turn is being made use of by these wretched

people to keep from freezing—clothing not absolutely necessary, lumber yards, railroad ties, joists and partitions in houses, hay and grain, everything that will burn is seized upon by those wretched people. The mail carrier before spoken of said that on his trip he heard of eight people frozen to death, and in his opinion there must be many more that have already perished. It is impossible to form any idea of the number that must perish of starvation and cold if the blockade continues much longer.

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