REV. DR. TALMAGE.

THE BROOKLYN DIVINE'S SUN-DAY SERMON.

Subject: "God Among the Shells,"

TEXT: "And the Lord said unto Moses, Take unto thee sweet spices, stacte and onycha."—Exodus xxx., 34.

You may not have noticed the shells of the Bible, although in this early part of the sacred book God calls you to consider and employ them as He called Moses to consider and employ them. The onycha of my text is a shell found on the banks of the Red Sea. is a shell found on the banks of the Red Sea, and Moses and his army must have crushed many of them under foot as they crossed the bisected waters, onycha on the beach and onycha in the unfolded bed of the deep. and onycha in the unfolded bed of the deep. I shall speak of this shell as a beautiful and practical revelation of God, and as true as the first chapter of Genesis and the last chapter of Revelation or everything be-

Not only is this shell, the onycha, found at the Red Sea, but in the waters of India. It not only delectates the eye with its convolutions of beauty, white and lustrous and serrated, but blesses the nostril with a pungent aroma. This shellfish, accustomed to feed on spikenard, is redolent with that odorous plant—redolent when alive and redolent when dead. Its shells when burned bewitch the air with fragrance.

bewitch the air with fragrance.

In my text God commands Moses to mix this onchya with the perfumes of the altarin the ancient tabernacle, and I propose to mix some of its perfumes at the altar of Brooklyn Tabernacle, for having subsequently and the second seco Brooklyn Tabernacle, for, having spoken to you on the "Astronomy of the Bible; or, God Among the Stars;" the "Chronology of the Bible; or, God Among the Centuries," the "Ornithology of the Bible, er, God Among the Birds;" the "Mineralogy of the Bible; or, God Among the Amethysts;"
the "Ichthyology of the Bible; or, God
Among the Fishes," I now come to speak of
the "Conchology of the Bible; or, God
Among the Snells."

It is a secret that you may keep for me, for I have never before told it to any one, that in all the realms of the natural world there is nothing to me so fascinating, so completely absorbing, so full of suggestive-ness, as a shell. What? More entertaining than a bird white than a bird, which can sing, when a shell cannot sing? Well, there you have made a great mistake. Pick up the onycha from the banks of the Red Sea or pick up a bivalve from the beach of the Atlantic Ocean and listen. listen, and you hear a whole choir of marine voices—bass, alto, soprano—in an unknown tongue, but seeming to chant, as I put them to my ear, "The sea is His and He made it;" others singing, "Thy way. O God, is in the sea;" others hymning, "He ruleth the raging of the arm."

"What," says some one else, "does the shell impress you more than the star!" some respects, yes, because I can handle the shell and closely study the shell, while I cannot handle the star, and if I study it must study it at a distance of millions and millions of miles.

"What," says some one else, "are you more impressed by the shell than the flower?" Yes, for it has far greater varieties and far greater richness of color, as I could show you in thousands of specimens, and because the shell does not fade, as does the resalent but maintains its beauty conthe rose leaf, but maintains its beauty contury after century, so that the onycha which the hoof of Pharaoh's horse knocked aside in the chase of the Israelites across the Red Sea may have kept its luster to this hour. Yes, they are so particolored and many colored that you might pile them up until you would have a wall with all the colors of the wall of heaven, from the ja per at the bottom to the amethyst at the top.

Oh, the shells! The petrified foam of the of the deep. Oh, the shells, which are the diadems thrown by the ocean to the feet of the continents. How the shells are ribbed, grooved, cylindered, mottled, iridescent! They were used as coin by some of the Nations. They were fastened in belts by others, and made in handles of wooden implements by still others. Mollivia not only plements by still others. Mollusks not only of the sea, but mollusks of the land. Do you know how much they have had to do with the world's history? They saved the church

the world's history? They saved the church of God from extinguishment.

The Israelites marched out of Egypt 2,000,000 strong, besides flocks and herds, The Bible says "the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneading troughs being bound up in the clothes on their shoulders. They were thrust forth out of Egypt and could not tarry; neither had they prepared for themseves any victuals." Just think of it? Forty years in the wilderness. Infidelity triumphantly asks, How Just think of it? Forty years in the wilderness. Infidelity triumphantly asks, How could they live forty years in the wilderness without food? You say manna fell. Oh, that was after a long while. They would have starved fifty times before the manna fell. The fact is, they were chiefly kept alive by the meliusks of the land or shelled creatures. Mr. Fronton and Mr. Sicard took the same route from Egypt toward Canaan that the Israelites took, and they give this as their testimony.

give this as their testimony.

"Although the children of Israel must have consisted of about 2,000,000 souls, with baggage and innumerable flocks and herds. they were not likely to experience any in-convenience in their march. Several thou-sand persons might walk abreast with the

convenience in their march. Several thousand persons might walk abreast with the greatest ease in the very narrowest part of the valley in which they first began to file off. It soon afterward expands to above three leagues in width. With respect to forage they would be at no loss. The ground is covered with tamarisk, broom, clover and saint foin, of which latter especially camels are passionately foot, besides almost every variety of odoriferous plant and herb proper for pasturage.

"The whole sides of the valley through which the children of Israel marched are still tufted with brushwood, which doubtless afforded tood for their beasts, together with many drier sorts for lighting fire, on which the Israelites could with the greatest case bake the dough they brought with them on small iron plates, which form a constant appendage to the baggage of an oriental traveler. Lastly, the herbage underneath these trees and shrubs is completely covered with snails of a prodigious see and of the best sort, and, however uninviting such a repast ought appear to us, they are benefit repast ought appear to us, they are here esteemed a great delicacy. They are so plentiful in this valley that it may be literally said that it is difficult to take one step without treading on them."

So the shelled creatures saved the host of Israelites on the march to the previous

Israelites on the march to the promised land, and the attack of infidelity at this point is defeated by the facts, as infidelity is always defeated by facts, since it is founded on ignorance. In writing and printing our interrogation point has at the bottom a mark like a period and over it as flowigh like the interrogation point has at the bottoma mark like a period and over it a flourish like the swing of a teamster's whip, and we put this interrogation point at the end of a question, but in the Spanish language the interrogation point is twice usel for each question. At the beginning of the question too interrogation point is presented upside down, and at the close of the question right side up. When infidelity puts a question about the Scriptures, as it always indicates ignorance, the question ought to be printed with two interrogation points, one at the beginning and one at the close, but both upside down.

Thank God for the wealth of mollusks all up and down the earth, whether feeding the Israelites on their way to the land flowing with milk and honey, or, as we are better acquainted with the mollusks, when flung to the beach of lake or sea. There are three great families of them. If I should ask you to name three of the great royal families of the earth, perhaps you would respond, the house of Stewart, the house of Hapsburg, the house of Bourbon, but the three royal families of mollusks are the univalve, or shell in one part, the bivalve, or shell in many parts, and muitivalve, or shell in many parts, and fisee God in their every lings, in their every tooth, in their every cartilage, in their every lingsment, in their every spiral ridge, and in their every Thank God for the wealth of mollucks all

color, prism on prism, and their adaptation of thin shells for still ponds and thick coating for boisterous seas. They all dash upon me the thought of the providential care of God.

What is the use of all this architecture of the shell, and why is it pictured from the outside lip clear down into its labvrinths of construction? Why the influity of skill and radiance in a shell? What is the use of the color and exquisite curve of a thing so insignificant as a shellfish? Why, when the conchologist by dredge or rake fetches the crustaceous specimens to the shore, does he find at his feet whole alhambras and colisions and parthernous and crustal palaces of seums and parthenous and crystal palaces of beauty in miniature, and these bring tolight only an infinitesmal part of the opulence in the great subaqueous world. Liennæus counted 2500 species of shells, but conchology

had then only begun its achievements.
While exploring the bed of the Atlantic While exploying the bed of the Atlantic Ocean in preparation for laying the cable shelled animals were brought up from depths of 1000 fathoms. When lifting the telegraph wire from the Mediterranean and Rei Seas, shelled creatures were brought up from depths of 2000 fathoms. The English admiralty, exploring in behalf of science, found mollusks at a depth of 2435 fathoms, or 14,216 feet deep. What a realm awful for vastness!

awful for vastness!

As the shell is only the house and the wardrobe of insignificant animals of the deep, why all that wonder and beauty of construction. God's care for them is the only reason. And if God provide so munificently for them, will He not see that you have wardrobe and shelter? Wardrobe and shelter for a periwinkle! Shall there not be wardrobe and shelter for a man? Would God give a coat of mail for the defense of a nautilus and leave you no defense against the storm? Does He build a stone house for a creature that lasts a season and leave without home a soul that takes hold on containing out home a soul that takes hold on centuries

Hugh Miller found "the Footprints of the Creator in the old red sandstone," and I hear the harmonies of God in the tinkle of the sea shells when the tides come in. The Then, as if to punish the world for that same Christ who drew a lesson of providen-tial care from the fact that God clothes with grass the field instructs me to draw the same lesson from the shells.

In almost every man's life, however well born and prosperous for years, and in al-most every woman's life, there comes a very dark time, at least once. A conjunction of circumstances will threaten bankruptcy and these words will threaten bankruptcy and homelessness and starvation. It may be that these words will meet the ear or will meet the eye of those who are in such a state of foreboding. Come, then, and see how God gives an ivory palace to a water animal that you could cover with a ten-cent piecs and clothes in armor against all attack a coral

clothes in armor against all attack a coral no bigger than a snowflake. I do not think that God will take better care of a bivalve than of one of His own children.

I rake to your feet with the gospel rake the most thorough evidences of God's care for His creatures. I pile around you great mounds of shells that they may teach you a most comforting theology. Oh, ye of little faith, walk among these arbors of coraline and look at these bouquets of shell, fit to be handed a queen on her coronation day, and see these fallen rainbows of color, and examina these lilies in stone, these primroses amine these lilies in stone, these primroses in stone, these heliotropes in stone, these cowslips in stone, these geraniums in stone, these japonicas in stone.

O ye who have your telescopes ready looking out on clear nights, trying to see what is transpiring in Mars, Jupiter and Mercury, know that within a few hours' walk or ride of where you now are there are whole worlds that you might explore, but of which you are unconscious, and among the most beautiful and suggestive of these worlds is the conchological world. Take this lesson of a providential care. How does that old

We may, like shipe, by tempests be tossed On perilous deeps, out cannot be lost. Though satan enrages the wind and the tide, The promise assures us the Lord will provide

But while you get this pointed lesson of rovidential care from the shelled creatures of the deep, notice in their construction that God heips them to help themselves. This house of stone in which they live is not dropped on them and is not built around them. The material for it exudes from their own bodies and is adorned with a colored fluid from the pores of their own neck. It | into is a most interesting thing to see these crustacean animals fashion their own komes out carbonate of lime and membrane.

And all of this is a mighty lesson to those who are waiting for others to build their fortunes when they ought to go to work and, like the mollusks, build their own fortunes out of their own brain, out of their own sweat, out of their own industries.

Not a mollusk on all the beaches of all the seas would have a house of shell if it had not itself built one. Do not wait for others to shelter you or prosper you. All the crustaceous creatures of the earth from every flake of their covering and from every ridge of their tiny castles on Atlantic and Pacific and Mediterranean coasts say, 'Help yourself, while Go'l helps you to help

yourself."
Those people who are waiting for their father or richold uncle to die and leave them a fortune are as silly as a moliusk would be to wait for some other mollusk to drop on it a shell equipment. It would kill the mol-lusk as in most cases it destroys a man. Not one person out of a hundred ever was strong enough to stand a large estate by inherit-

enough to stand a large estate by inheritance dropped on him in a chunk. Have great expectations from only two persons—God and yourself. Let the onycha of my text become your preceptor.

But the more I examine the shells the more I am impressed that God is a God of emotion. Many scoff at emotion and seem to think that God is a God of cold geometry and iron laws and eternal apartity and are and iron laws and eternal apathy and en-throned stoicism. No! No! The shells with overpowering emphasis deny it. While law and order reign in the universe, you have but to see the lavishness of color on the crustacea, all shades of crimson from faint-est blush to blood of battlefield, all shades of green, all shades of all colors from deepest block to whitest light just called out on the black to whitest light just called out on the shells with no more order than a mother premeditates or calculates how many kisses and hugs she shall give her babe waking up

in the morning sunlight.

Yes, my God is an emotional God, and He says, "We must have colors and let the sun paint all of them on the scroil of that shelt, paint all of them on the scroll of that shelt, and we must have music, and here is a carol for the robin, and a psalm for man, and a doxology for the seraphim, and a resurrection call for the archangel." Aye, He showed Himself a God of sublime cunction when He flung Himself on this world in the personality of Christ to save it, without regard to the tears it would take, or the blood it would exhaust, or the agonies it would crash out.

When I see the Louvres and the Luxembourgs and the Vaticans of Divine painting strewn along the 8000 miles of coast, and I hear in a forest on a summer morning mus-ical academies and Handel societies of full orchestras, I say God is a God of emotion, and if He observes mathematics it is mathe-matics set to music, and His figures are writ-ten not in white chalk on blackboards, but written has a finess of sunlight on walls of

ten not in white chalk on blackboards, but written by a finger of sunlight on wails of jasmine and trumpet creeper.

In my study of the conchology of the Bible this onycha of the text also impresses me with the fact, that religion is perfumed. What else could God have meant when He said to Moses, "Take unto thee sweet spices, stacte and onycha?" Moses took that shell of the onycha, put it over the fire, and as it crumbled into ashes it exhaled an odor that hung in every curtain and filled the ancient tabernacle, and its sweet smoke escaped from the sacred precincts and saturated the outside air.

from the sacred precincts and saturate 1 the outside air.

Perfume! That is what religion is. But instead of that some make it a malodor. They serve God in a rough and acerb way. They box their child's ears because he does not properly keep Sunday instead of making Sunday so attractive the child could not help but keep it. They make him learn by heart a difficult chapter in the book of Exodus, with all the hard names, because he has been naughty. How many disagreeable good people there are! No one doubts their piety, and they will reach heaven, but they

will have to get fixed up before they go there or they will make trouble by calling out to us: "Keep off that grass?" "What do you mean by plucking that flower?"
"Show your tickets!"

Oh, how many Christian people need to obey my text and take into their worship and their behavior and their consociations and their behavior and their consociations and presbyteries and general assemblies and conferences more onycha! I have sometimes gone in a very gala of spirit into the presence of some disarreable Christians and in five minutes felt wretched, and at some other time I have gone depressed into the company of suave and genial souls, and in a few moments I felt exhilarant. What was the difference? It was the difference in what they burned on their censers. The one

what they burned on their censers. The one burned onycha; the other burned asafetida, In this conchological study of the Bible I also notice that the molusks or shelled animals furnish the purple that you see richly darkening so many Scripture chapters. The purple stuff in the ancient tabernacle, the purple girdle of the priests, the purple mantle of Roman Emperors, the apparel of Dives in purple and fine linen—aye, the purple robe which in mockery was thrown upon Christ—were colored by the purple of the shells on the shores of the Mediterranean. It was discovered by a shepherd's also notice that the molusks or shelled aninean. It was discovered by a shepherd's dog having stained his mouth by breaking one of the shells, and the purple aroused admiration.

Costly purple! Six pounds of the purple iquor extracted from the shellfishes were liquor extracted from the shellfishes were used to prepare one pound of wool. Purple was also used on the pages of books. Bibles and prayer books appeared in purple veilum, which may still be found in some of the national libraries of Europe. Plutarch speaks of the purple which kept his beauty for 190 years. But after awhile the purple became easier to get, and that which had been a sign of imperial authority when worn in robes was adopted by many people, and so robes was adopted by many people, and so an emperor, jealous of this appropriation of the purple, made a law that any one except

Then, as if to punish the world for that outrage of exclusiveness, God obliterated the color from the earth, as much as to say. "If all cannot have it, none shall have it." But though God has deprived the race of that shellfish which afforded the purple there are shells enough left to make us glad and worship." Oh the entrancement of and worshipful. Ob, the entrancement of hue and shape still left all up and down the beaches of all the continents! These creatures of the sea have what roofs of enameled portains. or the sea have what roofs of enameled por-celain! They dwell under what pavilions blue as the sky and fiery as a sunset and mysterious as an aurora! And am I not right in leading you for a few moments through this mighty realm of God so neg-lected by human eye and human footstep? It is said that the harp and lute were in-vented from the fact that in Egypt the Nile overflowed its banks, and when the waters retreated tortoises were left by the million on all the lands, and these tortoises died

on all the lands, and these tortoises died, and soon nothing was left but the cartilages and gristle of these creatures, which tight-ened under the heat into musical strings that when touched by the wind or foot of man vibrated, making sweet sounds, and so the world took the hint and fashioned the barp, and am I not right in trying to make music out of the shells and lifting them as a harn from which to them the invident harp, from which to thrum the jubilant praises of the Lord and the pathetic strains of human condolence?

But I find the climax of this conchology of But I find the climax of this conchology of the Bible in the pearl, which has this distinc-tion above all other gems—that it requires no human hand to bring out its beauties. Job speaks of it, and its sheen is in Christ's sermon, and the Bible, which opens with the onycha of my text, closes with the pearl. Of such value is this crustaceous product!! do not wender that for the exclusive right of fishing for it on the shares of Cevilana of fishing for it on the shores of Ceylen a man paid to the English Government \$600,-

So exquisive is the pearl I do not wonder that Piny thought it was made out of a drop of dew, the creature rising to the surface to take it and the chemistry of nature turning the liquid into a solid. You will see why the Bible makes so much of the pearl in its similitudes if you know how much it costs to get it. Boats with divers sail out from the island of Ceylon, ten divers to each boat. Thirteen men 006 for one season divers to each boat. Thirteen men guide and manage the boat. Down into the dangerous depths, amid sharks that whirl around them, plunge the diver/, while 60,000 people anxiously gaze on. After three or four minutes' absence from the air three or lour minutes' absence from the air the diver ascends, nine-tenths strangulated and blood rushing from ears and nostrils, and flinging his pearly treasure on the sand falls into unconsciousness.

on the sand falls into unconsciousness.

Ob, it is an awful exposure and strain and peril to fish for pearls, and yet they do so, and is it not a wonder that to get that which the Bible calls the pearl of great price, worth more than all other pearls put together, there should be so little auxiety, so little struggle, so little enthusiasm? Would God that we were all as wise as the merchantman Christ commended, "who, when he had found one pearl of great price, went and sold all that he had and bought it."

sold all that he had and bought it."

But what thrills me with suggestiveness is the material out of which all pearls are made. They are fashioned from the wound of the shellish. The exulation from that wound is fixed and hardened and enlarged into a pearl. The ruptured vessels of the water animals fashioned the gem that now adorns finger or earring, or sword hilt or king's crown.

king's crown.
So out of the wounds of earth will come the pearls of heaven. Out of the wound of bereavement the pearl of solace. Out of the wound of loss the pearl of gain. Out of the deep wound of the grave the pearl of resur-rection joy. Out of the wounds of a Saviour's life and a Saviour's death the rich, the radiant, the everlasting pearl of heaven-

ly giadness.

"And the 12 gates were 12 pearls." Take
the consolation, all ye who have been hurt,
the consolation are been burt, whether hurt in body, or hurt in mind, or hurt in soul. Get your troubles sanctified. If you suffer with Christ on earth, you will reign with Him in glory. The tears of earth are the crystals of heaven. "Every several gate was of one pearl."

Gaye Maria a Lesson.

Evidently there is no Servant Girls' Protective Union in London, or if there is the young woman mentioned below did not belong to it. Think of such a thing happening to one of our own toplofty servant girls! A German merchant in London has a servant who at first was very forgetful. This fault was especially annoying at meal times, when something esential was sure to be lacking from the table. One day the family were seated at the table, and the bell was rung as usual. The girl hurried to the dining

"Maria," said Herr B-, "just run and fetch the big step ladder down from the attic and bring it here."

Maria who had been disturbed at her dinner, gave a grunt of dissatisfaction, but ran up three flights of stairs to fetch the ladder. In about five .ninutes she returned to the room, panting with her exertion.

"Now," said Herr B --- "put it up at the other end of the room and climb to

Maria did as she was told, and when she was at the top Herr B --- quietly observed: "Maria, you have now a better view

than we have; just look around and tell us if you can see any salt on the table. My wife and I could not find it." This settled the business. Maria has never forgotten the lesson .- Epworth

A tax on street organ grinders is pro-posed by two London vestries.

She Dresses Dogs.

A dog tailor flourishes in Paris. This tailor is a woman, and her reception rooms cunningly cater to both mistress and pet. Here Prince Bow-wow has rugs, water bowls and biscuit jars, to refresh him during the trying-on processes. Here are the daintiest water-color pattern books to choose from, and anything from sealskin to chamois is provided. A green broadcloth lined and edged with seal, is a blanket that especially becomes milady's greyhound; but scarlet, edged with silver cordings and lined with quilted satin, is a gay coat for the toy terrier. A tailor-made doggie, with a gold clasp under his chin and a monogram well toward his tail, is a sign of the times in France.-Detroit Free

Found Petrified Palm Trees.

W. C. Hart, the Colorado geologist who been employed to assist in collecting the Wyoming mineral display for the World's Fair, has made a notable discovery near Rawlings, Wyoming. He has uncovered a bed of petrified palm trees, and yesterday shipped 4000 pounds of the find to Cheyenne. The specimens are rare and beautiful. Pieces for the display found near here will include flat rocks carrying prehistoric skeletons of birds and animals .- Chicago Herald.

Hood's Cures



Son of John L. McMurray

Father's Gratitude

Impels Him to Tell How His Son Was Saved

White Swelling and Scrofula Cured, "I write this simply because I feel it a duty to humanity, so that others affected as my son was may know how to be cured. When he was 7 years old a white swelling came on his right leg below the knee, drawing his leg up at right angles, and causing him intenso suffering. He could not walk and I considered

A Confirmed Cripple.

The swelling was lanced and discharged freely. At length we decided to take him to Cincinnati for a surgical operation. He was so weak and poor we gave him Hood's Sarsaparilla to build up his strength. To our great surprise. Hood's Sarsaparilla not only gave strength but caused the sore, after discharging

HOOD'S Sarsaparilla CURES

leg straightened out, and he now runs everywhere, as lively as any boy." J. L. McMus-EAV, Notary Public, Ravenswood, W. Va.

several pieces of bone, to entirely heal up. His

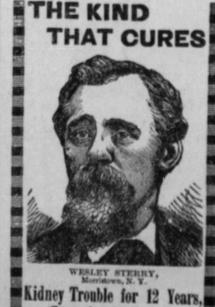
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I had "La Garlppe." which settled in
back. At times it was hard work for me to get
und. Last Feb. I had another stack of "La
rippe," which left me so bad I could
ardly get neroes the room. Our merant savised me to try a botile of

DANA'S SARSAPARILLA did ab, and have taken three bottles of SAR-APARILLA and one bottle of DANA'S PILAS, and I am COMPLETELY CURED. You trouble with Kidneys; no back-sche; good appetite, and I never full better in my life. You may publish that if you wish, every word is true.

Morrisown, N. Y. WESLEY STERRY.

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"August Flower"

My wife suffered with indigestion

end dyspepsia for years. Life be-

came a burden to her. Physicians

failed to give relief. After reading one of your books, I purchased a

bottle of August Flower. It worked

like a charm. My wife received im-

mediate relief after taking the first

Gose. She was completely cured-

now weighs 165 pounds, and can eat

anything she desires without any

deleterious results as was formerly

the case. C. H. Dear, Prop'r Wash-

ington House, Washington, Va. @

BORROWERS!!!

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PISO'S CURE FOR соивиметюм уон a ready

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