

THE BOOK OF LIFE.

In It Are Written the Names of the Redeemed.

The Chirography of the Recording Angel is So Plain that All Can Read—The Blots Are the Work of Christ.

In his latest Washington sermon Dr. Talmage comments upon the penmanship in the "Lamb's Book of Life" and urges his hearers to see that their names are inscribed on its pages.

Chirography, or the art of handwriting, like the science of acoustics, is in very unsatisfactory state. While constructing a church, and told by some architects that the voice would not be heard in a building shaped like that proposed, I came in much anxiety to this city and consulted with Prof. Joseph Henry, of the Smithsonian Institution, about the law of acoustics.

ent and more euphonious. That will not be the first time you saw the mark of a quivering pen, for you did not. O man, years ago see your name so written on the back of a letter, and you opened it, saying: "Why, here is a letter from mother," or "Here is a letter from father," and after you opened it you found all the words because of old age were traced irregularly and uncertain, so that you could hardly read it at all.

Again, in examination of your name in the Heavenly archives, if you find it there at all, you will find it written with a bold hand. You have seen many a signature that because of sickness or old age had a tremor in it, yet it was as bold as the man who wrote it. Many an order written on the battlefield and amid the thunder of the cannonade, has had evidence of excitement in every word and every letter and in the speed with which it was folded and handed to the officer as he put his foot in the swift stirrups and yet that commander, notwithstanding his trembling hand, gives a boldness of order that shows itself in every word written. You do not need to be told that a trembling hand does not always mean a cowardly hand.

Again, if according to the promise of the text you are permitted to look into the volumes of eternity and shall see your name there, you will find it written in lines, in words, in letters unmistakable. Some people have come to consider indistinct and almost unreadable penmanship a mark of genius, and so they affect it.

all the millenniums of Heaven cannot dim it. After you have been so long in glory that, did you not possess imperishable memory you would have forgotten the day of your entrance, your name on that page will glow as vividly as the instant it was traced there by the finger of the Great Atoner.

The recording angel did the writing, but our Saviour put in the blots; for did He not promise, "I will blot out their transgressions!" And if someone in Heaven should remember some of our earthly iniquities and ask God about them, the Lord would say: "Oh, I forgot them. I completely forgot those sins, for I promised, 'Their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.'" In the fires that burn up our world all the safety deposits, and all the title deeds, and all the halls of record, and all the libraries will disappear, worse than when the 200,000 volumes and the 700,000 manuscripts of the Alexandrian library went down under the torch of Omar, and not a leaf or word will escape the flame in that last conflagration, which I think will be witnessed by other planets, whose inhabitants will exclaim: "Look! There is a world on fire." But there will be only one conflagration in Heaven, and that will not destroy, but irradiate! I mean the conflagration of splendors that blazes on the towers and domes, and temples and thrones, and rubied and diamonded walls in the light of the sun that never sets.

But there is only one word on all this subject of divine chirography in Heaven that confuses me, and that is the small adverb which St. John adds when he quotes the text in Revelation and speaks of some "whose names are not written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain." Oh, that awful adverb "not!" By full submission to Christ the Lord, have the way all cleared between you and the sublime registration of your name this moment. Why not look up and see that they are all ready to put your name among the blissful immortals? There is the mighty volume; it is wide open. There is the pen; it is from the wing of the "Angel of the New Covenant." There is the ink; it is red ink from Calvarian sacrifice.

And if there be in this assembly a hopeless case, so called helplessly yourself and others, I take the responsibility of saying that there is a place in that Book where your name would exactly fit in, and look beautiful, and you can, quicker than I can clap my hands together, have it there. A religious meeting was thrown open, and all those who could testify of the converting grace of God were asked to speak. Silence reigned a moment, and then a man covered with the marks of disipation arose and said: "You can see from my looks what I have been, but I am now a saved man. When I left home, a thousand miles from here, I had so disgraced my father's name that he said, 'As you are going away I have only two things to ask of you, first that you will never come home again, and next you will change your name.' I promised. I have not heard my real name for years. I went the whole round of sin, until there was no lower depths to fathom. But I am by the grace of God a changed man. I wrote home asking forgiveness for my waywardness, and here are two letters, one from father and another from my sister. My mother died of a broken heart. But these two letters ask me to come home, and boys, I start tomorrow morning." The fact was that his name was written in Heaven, where I pray God all of our names may be written, though so unworthy are the best of us, and all of us.

It is said that when Tennyson received his degree of D. C. L. from Oxford the decorum of the occasion was greatly marred by a sprig of an undergraduate. The boy sat up in the gallery to see the ceremony, and when he beheld Tennyson, with dishevelled hair, rioting in luxuriant locks about his forehead, and dangling in his eyes, the youth's piping voice broke the solemn silence with the inquiry: "Did your mother call you early, dose?"

New York has 115,000 houses only, with an average of 18 residents to each, which is the highest average of any city of importance in the world. The average number of residents to a house in Brooklyn is only about ten.

THE YEAR 7,249.

CHINAMEN CELEBRATED ITS COMING FEBRUARY 9.

They Pay Their Debts, Take a Bath, and Greet Their Queen and Rally Out to Say "Ching a Ya Toi" to Their Many Friends.

Almost six weeks after Christian nations celebrated the New Year's Day of 1896 the Chinese celebrated the anniversary of their year which is said to have begun February 9, 7,249 years ago.

They celebrate in their own way, and it is an extremely rigid and peculiar way, but one in some respects highly commendable. First of all John makes himself clean—very clean. Several perfumes—a recent fashion among the Chinese—brushes and soft and thick towels serve to attain this end. Then the queen is carefully prepared, but the method of this is a secret which no white man may understand. A short beauty nap serves to make the eyes bright and superinduce a feeling of general fitness.

Previous to this John has paid up and collected all debts and dues wherever that was possible; but if any remain over, he now goes out to settle them up, for it is his purpose to begin the new year clean of dirt and debt. This is one new year's duty; the second is hospitality; the third is inebriety. Or, to translate a Chinese maxim, "Cleanliness is next to drunkenness and a man's house is his neighbor's castle on the first day of the year."

So John puts his house in order with plenty of rice and whiskey, nuts, preserved fruits, sugared pressed flowers, watermelon seeds, and other dainties ready for the delectation of his friends, and starts out, with his sleeves full of red visiting cards, on his rounds. It is not until afternoon that the streets of Chinatown take on a really festive appearance, as the morning is consumed in preparation. By 2 o'clock every one of any pretensions to social position is out, dressed in his best. Calls are exchanged, varying in quality from the very ceremonious, which consist in seven bows and one drink to the warm and friendly, consisting in one bow and seventeen drinks. In general that house is most frequented which sets forth the greatest array of refreshments. To any one who knows the ropes Chinatown hospitality is boundless on this day. The proper thing to do is to enter the house slowly and with a dignified mien, and, approaching the host with many bows, trill out: "Ching a fa toi."

It is essential that this little ditty be chanted with the proper tonal emphasis, for if the notes are mixed it becomes a very insulting epithet, which the Western man said to the Coroner's jury that "any man what got called that would saoot, even if he was one," whereupon they absolved him of blame without leaving their seats. Properly rendered this selection expresses pleasant new year's wishes, and the host having heard it waves his guest toward the refreshment counter after bowing to the verge of standing on his head. Unless the visitor is an intimate friend he is not expected to spend more than an hour or so at the eating place. Ordinary acquaintances bid their host farewell in a succession of obeisances and depart to the next place. Intimates, however, may invite him to drink with them. As he has been abstaining from alcoholic beverages for weeks in anticipation of the event, and has, moreover, prepared himself by gargles of hot water, he is quite ready for anything in the line of a drink, and compliments fly over the liquor jars. When at length the friend departs he makes a low bow, saying: "May the spirit of your ancestors abide ever with you, and the noble mansion which is honored by your august presence shelter your descendants for ten thousand years."

To which the other, performing a courtesy that makes him look like a Crooke's tube, says: "I call down upon you the peaceful blessings of a prosperous existence. May your queue be hung in a Joss house and your bones be preserved as holy relics in golden boxes."

This was usually enough for any visitor and he went. Some of the swell Chinamen this year prepared selections from the poets and philosophers, which they rung in upon their host, so the afternoon wore away in feasting and exchanging courtesies. In the evening all the Chinamen went to the Joss house, and laying gifts at the feet of the Joss, prayed for prosperity and wisdom. Having performed this, they went back and had some more to drink.

The Irrepressible Undergraduate. It is said that when Tennyson received his degree of D. C. L. from Oxford the decorum of the occasion was greatly marred by a sprig of an undergraduate. The boy sat up in the gallery to see the ceremony, and when he beheld Tennyson, with dishevelled hair, rioting in luxuriant locks about his forehead, and dangling in his eyes, the youth's piping voice broke the solemn silence with the inquiry: "Did your mother call you early, dose?"

His Lead. "Sir," began the high-browed man with the rolled manuscript, "in me you behold a man who is in advance of the age." "Yes," said the editor, "you are situated somewhere along about next summer, I presume." "Next summer?" "Yes, I notice that you have left the door open."—Indianapolis Journal.

"All I demand for my client," shouted the attorney in a voice of a man who was paid for it, "is justice."

"I am very sorry I can't accommodate you," replied the Judge, "but the law won't allow me to give him more than fourteen years."—Indianapolis Journal.

WANTED—SEVERAL FAITHFUL MEN or women to travel for responsible established house in Pennsylvania. Salary \$750 payable \$15 weekly and expenses. Position permanent. Reference. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope. The National, Star Building, Chicago.

THE CHANGE OF LIFE.

Some Valuable Statistics in Regard to This Period.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound

Found To Be Then of Great Assistance—Mrs. N. E. Kriner's Personal Experience Told for the Benefit of Women in Similar Condition.

It is said that the turn of life is the most important period in a woman's existence, and owing to modern methods of living not more than one woman out of a thousand approaches this perfectly natural change without experiencing a train of very annoying and sometimes painful symptoms.

Those dreadful hot flashes, sending the blood surging to the head until it seems ready to burst, and the faint feeling that follows, as if the heart were going to stop, are symptoms of a dangerous nervous trouble.

The hot flashes are just so many calls from nature for help. At this time Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound will be of great value, as the following letter from Mrs. Kriner indicates. The Vegetable Compound is a tonic especially prepared to act upon the female generative organs. It invigorates and strengthens those organs in such a manner as to build up the weakened nervous system, and enables a woman to pass that troublesome period triumphantly.

Mrs. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., is always glad to answer any personal letters, and it is well for any woman who is in doubt about her condition to write to Mrs. Pinkham and get a thorough analysis of her case, and advice about what to do.

Mrs. N. E. Kriner, Kingstown, Ind., says:—My trouble was Change of Life. I suffered for eight years and could find no permanent relief until one year ago. I tried Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and relief came almost immediately. I have taken two bottles of the Vegetable Compound, three boxes of Pills, and have also used the Sanative Wash, and must say I never had anything help me so much. I have better health than I ever had in my life. I feel like a new person, perfectly strong. I give your Compound all the credit. I have recommended it to several of my friends, who are using it with like results. It has cured me of several female diseases. I would not do without Mrs. Pinkham's remedies for anything. There is no need of so much female suffering. Her remedies are a sure cure. I hope all my lady friends will do as I did.

A STANDING INVITATION. Women suffering from any form of female weakness are invited to promptly communicate with Mrs. Pinkham at Lynn, Mass. All letters are received, opened, read and answered by women only. A woman can freely talk of her private illness to a woman; thus has been established the eternal confidence between Mrs. Pinkham and the women of America which has never been broken. Out of the vast volume of experience which she has to draw from it is more than possible that she has gained the very knowledge that will help your case. She asks nothing in return except your good will, and her advice has relieved thousands. Surely, any woman, rich or poor, is very foolish if she does not take advantage of this generous offer of assistance.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS

ORVIS, BOWER & ORVIS, Attorneys-at-law.—Offices in Pruner's New Block. German and English. All forms of legal business given prompt attention

FORTNEY & WALKER (D. F. Fortney and W. Harry Walker,) Attorneys-at-law.—Office in Woodring building, opposite court house. Prompt attention to all legal business.

IRA C. MITCHELL, Attorney-at-law.—Office in Crider's Exchange. Prompt service and careful attention to all legal business.

J. H. WETZEL, Attorney-at-law.—Office in Crider's Exchange. Special attention given to surveying.

N. B. SPANGLER, Attorney-at-law.—Office in Eagle Building. Consultations in German and English. Collections a specialty.

H. S. TAYLOR, Attorney-at-law.—Office in Temple Court. Taxcollector of Bellefonte boro. Collections promptly attended to.

S. D. GETTIG, Attorney-at-law.—Office in Crider's Exchange. English and German. Legal business promptly attended to.

WM. G. RUNKLE, Attorney-at-law.—Office in Crider's Exchange. German and English. Practices in all the courts.

WM. J. SINGER, Attorney-at-law.—District attorney. Office in court house.

SPANGLER & HEWES (J. L. Spangler-C. F. Hewes), Attorneys-at-law.—Office in First building, opposite the court house. All legal business promptly attended to.

W. C. HEINLE, Attorney-at-law.—Office in Woodring building, opposite the court house. Consultations in German and English.

J. C. MEYER, Attorney-at-law.—Office in Crider's Exchange. Ex-district attorney. German and English. Prompt attention to all business.

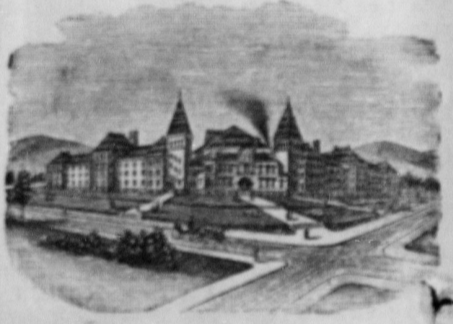
JOHN M. KEICHLIN, Attorney-at-law and Justice of the Peace. Office in Opera House block, opposite the court house.

JAMES W. ALEXANDER, attorney-at-law—office, High street, near Court House. Practices in all the Courts.

WANTED—SEVERAL FAITHFUL MEN or women to travel for responsible established house in Pennsylvania. Salary \$750 payable \$15 weekly and expenses. Position permanent. Reference. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope. The National, Star Building, Chicago.

CENTRAL

STATE :: NORMAL :: SCHOOL



LOCK HAVEN, CLINTON CO., PA

Expenses low. To those who intend to teach the State gives 50 cents a week as aid, and 50 dollars at graduation. Tuition, \$1.25 per week; (State aid deducted 75 cents per week.)

Heat, light, washing, furnished room and good board, only \$3 per week.

The net cost for tuition, board, heat and furnished room for the fall term of 16 weeks is only \$60; for the winter term of 12 weeks, only \$45, and for the spring term of 14 weeks, only \$52.50. The net cost of the whole Senior year of 42 weeks is only \$107.40.

The Faculty of the Central State Normal School is composed of specialists in their several departments. Five leading colleges are represented.

A well conducted Model School furnishes superior training to professional students. Graduates command good positions and meet with excellent success.

The handsome new building, erected at a cost of one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars, is now finished and occupied. Accommodations first class. Electric light in every room, carpets, spring beds, wardrobes, new furniture, fourteen bath rooms. Hot and cold water on every floor. Fan system steam heat. Smead system of ventilation. Everything is new and convenient. Students may enter at any time. Lock Haven is accessible by rail from all directions.

We shall be glad to correspond with any who are interested. Send for free catalogue and secure rooms for next term.

JAMES ELDON, A. M., Ph. D., Principal.

Campaign Rates

The Centre Democrat will be sent to any new address in Centre county for

5 Cts a Month

N. B.—No subscription will be accepted for less than THREE months—15 cents; or for more than SIX months—30 cents.