

THE POWER OF PRAYER.

Dr. Talmage Calls Upon the Whole Christian World to Exercise It.

Wars Have Been Averted by Its Use in the Past and the Future Prosperity of Our Nation May Depend Upon Its Influence.

Dr. Talmage in his latest Washington sermon made an eloquent appeal to the American nation to do all in its power to aid the suffering millions of the earth. His text was 1. Timothy, 2: 1: "I exhort, therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings, and for all that are in authority."

That which London is to England, Paris to France, Berlin to Germany, Rome to Italy, Vienna to Austria, St. Petersburg to Russia, Washington is to the United States republic. The people who live here see more of the chief men of the nation than any who live anywhere else between Atlantic and Pacific oceans. If a senator, or member of the house of representatives, or supreme court justice, or secretary of the cabinet, or representative of foreign nation enters a public assembly in any other city, his coming and going are remarked upon and unusual deference is paid to him. In this capital there are so many political chieftains in our churches, our streets, our halls, that their coming and going make no excitement. The Swiss seldom look up to the Matterhorn, or Jungfrau, or Mt. Blanc, because those people are used to the Alps. So we at this capital are so accustomed to walk among the mountains of official and political eminence that they are not to us a great novelty. Morning, noon and night we meet the giants. But there is no place on earth where the importance of the Pauline injunction to prayer for those in eminent place ought to be better appreciated. At this time, when our public men have before them the rescue of our national treasury from appalling deficits, and the Cuban question, and the arbitration question, and in many departments men are taking important positions which are to them new and untried, I would like to quote my text—words written by the scarred missionary to the young theologian Timothy: "I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; for kings and for all that are in authority."

If I have the time, and do not forget some of them, before I get through I will give you four or five reasons why the people of the United States ought to make earnest and continuous prayer for those in eminent place.

First, because that will put us in proper attitude toward the successful men of the nation. After you have prayed for a man you will do him justice. There is a bad streak in human nature that demands us to assail those that are more successful than ourselves. It shows itself in boyhood, when the lads, all running to get their ride on the back of a carriage, and one gets on, those falling to get on shout to the driver, "Cut behind!" Unsuccessful men seldom like those who in any department are successful. The cry is, "He is a political accident," or "He bought his way up," or "It just happened so," and there is an impatient waiting for him to come down more rapidly than he went up. The best cure for such cynicism is prayer. After we have risen from our knees we will be wishing the official good instead of evil. We will be hoping for his benediction rather than malediction. If he makes a mistake we will call it a mistake instead of a malfeasance in office. And, oh! how much happier we will be for wishing one evil is diabolic, but wishing one good is saintly, is angelic, is God-like.

When the Lord drops a man into depths beyond which there is no lower depth, He allows him to be put on an investigating committee with the one hope of finding something wrong. In general assemblies of the Presbyterian church, in conferences of the Methodist church, in conventions of the Episcopal church, in house of representatives, and in senate of the United States there are men always glad to be appointed on the committee of malodors, while there are those who are glad to be put on the committee of eulogiums. After you have prayed, in the words of my text, for all that are in authority, you will say: "Brethren, Gentlemen, Mr. Chairman, excuse me from serving on the committee of malodors, for last night, just before I prayed for those in eminent position, I read that chapter in Corinthians about charity which 'hath all things' and 'thinketh no evil.' The committee of malodors is an important committee, but I here now declare that those are incompetent for their work who have, not in spirit of conventionality, but in spirit of earnest importunity, prayed for those in high position. I cannot help it, but I do like a St. Bernard better than a bloodhound, and I would rather be a hummbird among honeysuckles than a crow swooping upon field carcasses."

Another reason why we should pray for those in eminent place is because they have such multiplied perplexities. This city at this time holds hundreds of men who are expertant of preferment, and United States mail-bags, as never before, are full of applications. Let me say, I have no sympathy with either the uttered or printed sneer at what are called "office-seekers." If I had not already received appointment as minister plenipotentiary from the high court of Heaven—as every minister of the gospel has—and I had at my back a family for whom I wished to achieve a livelihood, there is no employer whose service I would sooner seek than city, state, or United States government. Those governments are the promptest in their payments, paying just as well in hard times as in good times, and during summer vacation as during winter work. Beside that, many of us have been paying taxes to

city and state and nation for years, and while we are indebted for the protection of government, the government is indebted to us for the honest support we have rendered it. So I wish success to all earnest and competent men who appeal to city or state or nation for a place to work.

Then there are the vaster perplexities of our relations with foreign governments. For directions in such affairs the God of nations should be implored. The demand of the people is sometimes so heated, so unwise, that it must not be heeded. Hark to the boom of that gun which sends from the American steamer San Jacinto a shot across the bow of the British merchant steamer Trent, November 8, 1861. Two distinguished southerners, with their secretaries and families, are on the way to England and France to officially enlist them for the Southern Confederacy.

After much protest the commissioners, who had embarked for England and France, surrendered, and were taken to Fort Warren, near Boston. The capture was a plain invasion of the laws of nations, and antagonistic to a principle for the establishment of which the United States government had fought in other days. However, so great was the excitement that the secretary of the United States navy wrote an applaudatory letter to Capt. Wilkes, commander of the San Jacinto, for his "prompt and decisive action," and the house of representatives passed a resolution of thanks for "brave, adroit and patriotic conduct," and the millions of the north went wild with enthusiasm, and all the newspapers and churches joined in the huzzas. England and France protested, the former demanding that unless the distinguished prisoners should be surrendered and apology made for insult to the British flag within ten days, Lord Lyons must return to London, taking all the archives of the British legation. War with England and France seemed inevitable, and war with England and France at that time would have made a restored American nation impossible for a long while, if not forever. Then God came to the rescue and helped the president and his secretary of state. Against the almost unanimous sentiment of the people of the north the distinguished Confederates were surrendered, the law of nations was kept inviolate, the lion's paw was not lifted to strike the eagle's beak, and perhaps the worst disaster of centuries was avoided.

Then came another crisis within the last two years, when millions of people demanded that American war vessels sail into Turkish waters and stop the atrocities against the Armenians. The people at large have no idea of the pressure brought upon our government to do this rash thing. Missionaries and other prominent Americans in and around Constantinople assembled at the office of the American legation and demanded that our Minister plenipotentiary cable to Washington for United States ships of war, and they suggested the words of the cablegram. Had our ships gone into those waters the guns of foreign nations, everlastingly jealous of us, would have been turned against our shipping, and our navy, within a few years become respectable in power, would have crawled backward in disgrace. The proposition to do what could not be done was mercifully withdrawn.

I had two friends—as thorough friends as old men can be to a young man—Wendell Phillips and Robert Toombs. They were not among those who expected anything advantageous from the strife, but took their positions conscientiously. They both had as much to do with the starting of the war between the north and the south as any other two men.

A million brave northern and southern dead were put in the grave trenches, but the two illustrious and honest men I have mentioned were in good health long after the ending of things at Appomattox, and if those who advocated measures recently that would have brought on war between our country and Spain or England or Turkey, had been successful in bringing on the wholesale murder, they themselves would now have been above ground, as I hope they will be, to celebrate the birth of the twentieth century. If God had not interfered, we would have had three wars within the last two years—war with England, war with Spain, and war with Turkey. This last joined by other nations transatlantic. To preserve the peaceful equipoise which such men are disturbing, we need a divine balancing, for which all good men on both sides the sea ought to be every day praying.

There is not a good and intelligent man between the Gulf of Mexico and the St. Lawrence river who does not believe that God did the best thing possible when He stood this nation down in 1865 a glorious unity, never to be rent until the waters of the Ohio and the Savannah, the Hudson and the Alabama, are licked up by the long, red tongues of a world on fire. Yes, God sometimes answers prayers on a large scale.

What power put its hands upon astronomy in Joshua's time and made the sun and moon stand still? Joshua 10: 12: "Then spake Joshua unto the Lord: 'Prayer! As a giant will take two or four great globes, and in astounding way swing them at arm's length, so the Omnipotent does as He will with the great orbs of worlds, with wheeling constellations and circling galaxies, swinging easily star around star, star tossed after star, or sun and moon held out at arm's length, and perfectly still, as in answer to Joshua's prayer. To God the largest world is a pebble."

Another reason for obedience to my text is that the prosperity of this country is coming, and we want a hand in helping on its coming; at any rate I do. It is a matter of honest satisfaction to a soldier, after some great battle has been fought, and some great victory won, to be able to say: "Yes! I was there. I was in the brigade that stormed those heights. I was in that bayonet charge that put the enemy

into flight!" Well, the day will come when all the financial, political and moral foes of this republic will be driven back and driven down by the prosperities that are now on their way, but which come with slow tread and in "fatigue dress" when we want them to take "the double quick." By our prayers we may stand on the mountain top and beckon them on, and show them a shorter cut. Yea, in answer to our prayers the Lord God of hosts may from the high heavens command them forward swifter than mounted troops ever took the field at Eylau or Austerlitz. In 1672 Holland was assailed. Her people prayed mightily. The ships of her enemies waited for the high tides on which to come in. In answer to the prayers offered the tide, as never before, was detained 12 hours, and before the 12 hours had passed a hurricane swooped upon the enemies' ships and destroyed them, and Holland was saved. If God detained the high tide in answer to prayer, will He not listen in it answer to prayer? Surely it has been low tide long enough. May the Lord hasten the high tide of national welfare. American citizens! our best hold is on God. We have all seen families in prayer, and churches in prayer. What we want yet to see is this whole nation on its knees.

The most of them are dead; those who in 1851 moved in that procession that marched from the city hall of Washington down Louisiana avenue to Seventh street, and then through Pennsylvania avenue to the north gate of yonder Capitol, to lay the cornerstone of the extension of that Capitol. The president who that day presided, and solemnly struck the stone three times in dedication, long ago quit earthly scenes, and the lips of the great orator of that hour are dust, and the grand master of that occasion long ago put down the square and the level and the plumb with which, for the last time, he pronounced a cornerstone well laid. But what most interests me now is that inside that cornerstone, in a glass jar, hermetically sealed, is a document of national import, though in poor penmanship. It is the penmanship of Daniel Webster, which almost ruined the penmanship of this country for many years, because many thought if they had Daniel Webster's poor penmanship it might indicate they had Webster's genius. The document reads as follows:

"If it shall hereafter be the will of God that this structure shall fall from its base, that its foundation be upturned, and this deposit be brought to the eyes of men, be it then known that on this day the nation of the United States of America stands firm; that their Constitution still exists unimpaired and with all its original usefulness and glory, growing every day stronger and stronger in the affection of the great body of the American people, and attracting more and more the admiration of the world; and all here assembled, whether belonging to a public life or to private life, with hearts devoutly thankful to Almighty God for the preservation of the liberty and the happiness of the country, unite in sincere and fervent prayers that this deposit, and the walls and arches, the domes and towers, the columns and entablatures now to be erected over it, may endure forever. God save the United States of America.—Daniel Webster, Secretary of State of the United States."

That was beautiful and appropriate at the laying of the cornerstone of the extension of the Capitol, 53 years after the cornerstone of the old Capitol had been laid. Yet the cornerstone of our republic was first laid in 1776, and at the re-establishment of our national government was laid again in 1865. But are we not ready for the laying of the cornerstone of a broader and higher national life? We have as a nation received so much from God. Do we not owe new consecration? Are we not ready to become a better Sabbath-keeping, peace-loving, virtue-honoring, God-worshipping nation? Are we not ready for such a cornerstone laying? Why not now let it take place? With long procession of prayers, moving from the north and the south, the east and the west, let the scene be made august beyond comparison. The God of nations, who hath dealt with us as with no other people, will preside at the solemnization. By the square and the level and the plumb of the Everlasting Right let the cornerstone be adjusted. Let the cornerstone be the masonry together of the two granite tablets on which the law was written when Sinai shook with the earthquake, and inside that cornerstone put the sermon on the mount and a scroll containing the names of all the men and women who have fought and prayed and toiled for the good of this nation, from the first martyr of the American Revolution down to the last woman who bound up a soldier's wounds in the field hospital. And let someone, worthy to do so, strike the stone three times with the Gospel hammer, in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Ghost. Then let the building rise, one wall laid by the Pacific ocean, and the other washed of the Atlantic, until its capstone shall be laid amid the shouting of all nations, by that time as free as our own divinely founded, divinely constructed, and divinely protected republic, the last throne of oppression having fallen flat into the dust, and the last shackle of tyranny been hung up in museum as a relic of barbaric ages.

The prayer that the great expounder wrote to be put in the cornerstone at the extension of the Capitol, I ejaculate as our own supplication: "God save the United States of America!" adding the words with which Robert South was apt to close his sermons, which delivered before the court at Christ church chapel, or in Westminster Abbey, at anniversary of restoration of Charles the II., or on the death of Oliver Cromwell amid the worst tempest that ever swept over England: "To God be rendered and ascribed, as is most due, all praise, might, majesty, and dominion, both now and forever. Amen."

POMOLOGICAL ART.

TRYING TO PRODUCE SEEDLESS AND THORNLESS FRUIT.

Methods by Which Fruit Scientists Succeed in Improving Upon Nature—Results Have Shown That They Are on the Right Basis—Slight Success With Apples.

One of the most important objects pomologists are striving for is to produce thornless and seedless fruits, and from the results already obtained it is not unlikely that the end will soon be realized. Seeds are not relished by the consumers of fruits, and if they could be removed we would enjoy our grapes without experiencing a dread of appendicitis and kindred complaints. Thorns are not in good standing among fruit growers, because they are constantly puncturing the best fruits and, what is equally important, the skin of the pickers. The thorns and prickles of plants and trees were undoubtedly intended by nature to protect them from animals, but that is no reason why they should be continued for generation after generation on the cultivated varieties. The gardener has no need for them, and, for that matter, the trees and shrubs have none either.

Our domesticated pears and apples were all derived from the thorny, wild varieties, and pomologists have succeeded in ridding them of these spikes and prickles by careful culture and selection. Oranges and lemons have not been cultivated in this country as successfully as pears and apples, and many of them are very thorny. The wild and sour orange trees of Florida are bristling with thorns, as is also the high priced king orange, one of the best of the mandarins. The wild lemon trees of Florida are so thorny that growers question the advisability of grafting the fine La France lemons on them.

In Florida, however, the thorns of the orange and lemon trees have been greatly reduced by selecting buds from branches with the fewest thorns, and by continuing this process year after year the sharp spikes disappear. In California nearly all of the orange trees are thornless—not naturally, but as the result of cultivation and selection.

The thorns on blackberries, raspberries and rosebushes give the greatest bother to horticulturists in the north, and there is a determined effort to get rid of them. The thorns give endless trouble to the pickers, and their removal might save many a puncture to delicate hands. There is an improved variety of raspberry placed on the market today which is entirely thornless, but the trouble is that quality and quantity of fruit have been sacrificed to the gain made in destroying the thorns.

There is little doubt that perfect thornless blackberries and raspberries will soon be obtained, for there is a widespread movement among gardeners and seedsmen to accomplish this. The man who is fortunate enough to produce a variety that gives perfect fruit without the thorns will receive a pretty stiff price for his plants.

Seeds are also unnecessary plant products in these advanced days of horticulture, when gardeners propagate half their stock by cuttings, grafts and slips. Nature need no longer trouble herself about the fear of losing any of her types. The modern horticulturist is sure to preserve every one of any value without gathering a seed.

The California navel orange represents the best type of fruit grown without seeds. Nature produced this orange as a freak at first, and man has taken advantage of it to propagate fruit of a high order. Half the oranges of California are grafted with the navel, and it is the most important fruit of the Pacific coast. Nature tried to produce twins in the navel orange, and one survived only as a protuberance in the blossom end, while the other expanded into a well shaped fruit without seeds. These oranges are occasionally found with small seeds; but, as a rule, they are perfectly seedless.

Several varieties of seedless apples and pears have already been produced, but the quality of the fruit is generally poor and nearly worthless. They are called "bloomless" pears and apples and are exhibited more as curiosities than as the triumphs of pomological art. Nevertheless, they are the beginning of a new era of apple growing, and they represent the primary stock of seedless fruits which may produce in time the finest flavored apples and pears.

The grape industry would be benefited more than any other by the production of new varieties without seeds, and toward this end scores of fruit growers are working, especially in California. The idea is to produce not only table grapes, but grapes that will make fine raisins. Seedless raisins would prove such a boon to the whole civilized world that any other variety would be quickly run out of the market.

There is a seedless grape of Corinth, which commonly passes as a currant, and the Sultan raisins of southeastern Europe are also seedless. But these fruits are so small that they can never answer the purpose. What the trade wants is a large, seedless grape, with perfect color and flavor, and to get that it is necessary to experiment for years.—New York Journal.

The Austrian Dynasty.

The present emperor of Austria is Francis Joseph, who ascended the throne Dec. 2, 1848. He is of the royal house of Hapsburg, which has held the throne since 1282. Twenty-six sovereigns of this house have ruled over Austria. Rudolph I, the nobleman who founded this royal family, built a castle on the Habichtsburg, or Hawk's mountain, whence the name of the family.

An authority on deaf mutes says that the ratio of deaf mutes to hearing is about 1 to each 1,600, according to which there are about 40,000 such persons in the United States and about 1,000,000 in the world's entire population.

WEAK SPOTS.

Everybody Comes Into This World With a Predisposition to Disease.

A Talk With Mrs. Pinkham About the Cause of Anemia.

Everybody comes into this world with a predisposition to disease of some particular tissue; in other words, everybody has a weak spot. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred the weak spot in women is somewhere in the uterine system. The uterine organs have less resistance to disease than the vital organs; that's why they give out the soonest.

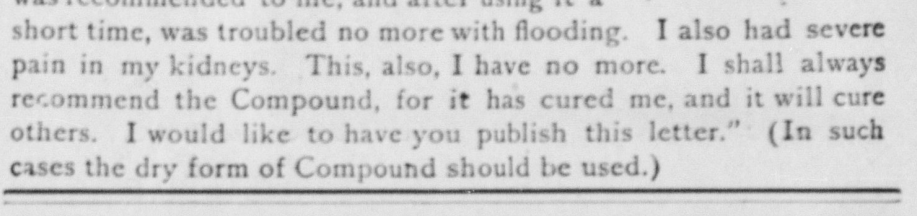
Not more than one woman in a hundred—nay, in five hundred—has perfectly healthy organs of generation. This points to the stern necessity of helping one's self just as soon as the life powers seem to be on the wane.

Excessive menstruation is a sign of physical weakness and want of tone in the uterine organs. It saps the strength away and produces anemia (blood turns to water).

If you become anemic, there is no knowing what will happen. If your gums and the inside of your lips and inside your eyelids look pale in color, you are in a dangerous way and must stop that drain on your powers. Why not build up on a generous, uplifting tonic, like Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound?

Mrs. EDWIN EHRIG, 413 Church St., Bethlehem, Pa., says: "I feel it my duty to write and tell you that I am better than I have been for four years. I used Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, one package of Sanative Wash, one box of Liver Pills, and can say that I am perfectly cured. Doctors did not help me any. I should have been in my grave by this time if it had not been for your medicine.

It was a godsend to me. I was troubled with excessive menstruation, which caused womb trouble, and I was obliged to remain in bed for six weeks. Mrs. Pinkham's medicine was recommended to me, and after using it a short time, was troubled no more with flooding. I also had severe pain in my kidneys. This, also, I have no more. I shall always recommend the Compound, for it has cured me, and it will cure others. I would like to have you publish this letter." (In such cases the dry form of Compound should be used.)



A BICYCLE TOUR

Three gentlemen for a European tour purchased new hundred dollar bicycles. One a Columbia—the others of well-known high grade manufacture. They had an agreeable trip—particularly the Columbia rider. Before returning to America, it being late in the year—and wishing to buy new machines in 1897—they sold their wheels to a London dealer. The Columbia bicycle brought \$65.00. The others \$40.00 and \$35.00 respectively. But one of the many proofs of Columbia superiority. If you look a year ahead there is wise economy in

Columbia Bicycles \$100 TO ALL ALIKE.

STANDARD OF THE WORLD.

HARTFORDS, \$60, \$50, \$45

Better than almost any other bicycles.

POPE MANUFACTURING CO., Hartford, Conn.

Greatest Bicycle Factory in the World. More than 17 Acres of Floor Space. Branches or dealers in almost every city and town. If Columbia is not properly represented in your vicinity, let us know.

A. L. SHEFFER, Agent,
Crider's Exchange Building BELLEFONTE, PA.

WANTED! Money to Invest

IN FIRST MORTGAGES on city or country real estate worth at least double the amount of loan. Interest at six per cent, payable quarterly or semi-annually. Borrowers pay all expenses and attorneys' fees. Can secure plenty of first-class investments at all times for any one who has money to lend. No risks to run. No uncertain speculation.

Write me for further information and I will get you safe investments.

E. H. FAULKENDER
Attorney-at-Law
Hollidaysburg, Pa.
8-1-ly

GARMAN HOUSE.
High Street, opposite the Court House. Entirely new. New Furniture, Steam Heat, Electric Light, and all the modern improvements.
A. S. & C. M. GARMAN
Proprietors.
1-33

PATENT'S

TRADE MARKS, DESIGNS, & COPYRIGHTS &c.
Anyone sending a sketch and description may quickly ascertain, free, whether an invention is probably patentable. Communications strictly confidential. Office situated for securing patents in America. We have a Washington office. Patents taken through Munn & Co. receive special notice in the

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN,
Beautifully illustrated, highest circulation of any scientific journal, weekly, terms \$3.00 a year; \$1.00 six months. Specimen copies and blank book of PATENTS sent free. Address
MUNN & CO.,
361 Broadway, New York.

BEEZER'S MEAT MARKET
ALLGHEV ST., BELLEFONTE.

We keep none but the best quality of Beef, Pork, Mutton, etc. All kinds of smoked meat, sliced ham, pork sausage, etc. If you want a nice juicy steak go to
PHILIP BEEZER.