

THE SIN OF GAMBLING.

It Has the Strength of a Cart-Rope.

Little Threads Compose the Rope, But Once Made It is Strong Enough to Hold a Ship—How the Game Ends.

Dr. Talmage draws some vivid pictures of the gambling dens of our large cities and shows how the evil habit grows if allowed to take root. His text was Isaiah 5: 18: "Woe unto them that sin as it were with a cart-rope."

There are some iniquities that only nibble at the heart. After a lifetime of their work the man still stands upright, respected, and honored. These remain have not strength enough to gnaw through a man's character.

You step a little way out of Broadway, New York. You go up the marble stairs. You ring the bell. The liveried servant introduces you. The walls are lavender tinted. The mantels are of Vermont marble.

Now you acknowledge that is a cart-rope of evil, but you want to know what are the small threads out of which it is made. There is, in many, a disposition to hazard. They feel a delight in walking near a precipice because of the sense of danger.

Then there are others who go into this sin through sheer desire for gain. It is especially so with professional gamblers. They always keep cool. They never drink enough to unbalance their judgment.

store, office or shop. I ought to have finer apartments. I ought to have better wines. I ought to have more richly flavored cigars.

When a man makes \$1,000 a year and spends \$1,200 dollars; when a young man makes \$1,500, and spends \$1,700, all the harpies of darkness cry out: "Hail, hail we have him."

This sin works very insidiously. Other sins sound the drum and flaunt the flag, and gather their recruits with wild huzza, but this marches its procession of pale victims in dead of night, in silence, and when they drop into the grave there is not so much sound as the click of a die.

Generally the money leaks silently from the merchant's till into the gambler's wallet. I believe that one of the main pipes leading to this sewer of iniquity is the excitement of business life. Is it not a significant fact that the majority of the day gambling houses in New York are in proximity to Wall street?

Many years ago for sermonic purposes, and in company with the chief of police of New York, I visited one of the most brilliant gambling houses in that city. It was night, and as we came up front all seemed dark.

There are 48 varieties of the common fly.

LINCOLN'S FRIEND.

STORIES OF THE EARLY LIFE OF THE MARTYRED PRESIDENT.

Philip Clark of Mattoon Told Some Things About Abe That Other Historians Overlooked—Additional Testimony to the Big Heart of Lincoln.

The late Philip Clark of Mattoon, Ill., was a lifelong friend of Abraham Lincoln. A short time before his death Uncle Philip said in conversation with a correspondent of the Chicago Times-Herald:

"I do not believe the tailor ever lived who was skillful enough to make clothes to fit Lincoln. He was the roughest and most irregular man in outline I ever saw. But no child was afraid of him, and no woman would declare him to be ugly. Yet any description of his appearance you would write down would warrant the conclusion that he was anything but good looking.

"We turned our hogs in the fields, driving them in droves to the same. When weighing time came, Abe assisted us again. I can see him now standing by the old stowaways. They are nearly all gone now. We would tie the hog's legs together and swing him up, and then Abe would sing out the weight, take a pair of scales and cut a bunch of bristles off the neck to show the animal had longer bristles than the breeds of today, and the clipping could be seen by any drover.

"I have accomplished my object if I put you on the look-out. It is a great deal easier to fall than it is to get up again. The trouble is that when men begin to go astray from the path of duty, they are apt to say: 'There's no use of my trying to get back. I've sacrificed my respectability; I can't return; and they go on until they are utterly destroyed. I tell you, my friends, that God this moment, by His Holy Spirit, can change your entire nature, so that you will be a different man in a minute. Your great want—what is it? More salary? Higher social position? No, no. I will tell you the great want of every man, if he has not already obtained it. It is the grace of God. Are there any who have fallen victims to the sin that I have been representing? You are in a prison. You rush against the wall of this prison, and try to get out, and fall; and you turn around and dash against the gates, and blood on your soul. You will never get out in this way. There is only one way of getting out. There is a key that can unlock this prison house. It is the key that Christ wears at his girdle. If you will allow him to put that key to the lock the bolt will shoot back, and the door will swing open, and you will be a free man in Christ Jesus."

DOCTORS MYSTIFIED.

Why So Many Regular Physicians Fail to Cure Female Ills.

Some True Reasons Why Mrs. Pinkham is More Successful Than the Family Doctors.

A woman is sick; some disease peculiar to her sex is fast developing in her system. She goes to her family physician and tells him a story, but not the whole story. She holds something back, loses her head, becomes agitated, forgets what she wants to say, and finally conceals what she ought to have told, and thus completely mystifies the doctor.

Is it any wonder, therefore, that the doctor fails to cure the disease? Still, we cannot blame the woman, for it is very embarrassing to detail some of the symptoms of her suffering, even to her family physician. It was for this reason that years ago Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, at Lynn, Mass., determined to step in and help her sex. Having had considerable experience in treating female ill with her Vegetable Compound, she encouraged the women of America to write to her for advice in regard to their complaints, and being a woman, it was easy for her ailing sisters to pour into her ears every detail of their suffering.

This, therefore, is the reason why Mrs. Pinkham, in her laboratory at Lynn, Mass., is able to do more for the ailing women of America than the family physician. Any woman, therefore, is responsible for her own suffering who will not take the trouble to write to Mrs. Pinkham for advice.

The testimonials which we are constantly publishing from grateful women establish beyond a doubt the power of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound to conquer female diseases.

NEW PRICES ON COLUMBIA BICYCLES

THE STANDARD OF THE WORLD.

Table listing bicycle models and prices: 1897 COLUMBIAS (Reduced to \$75), 1896 COLUMBIAS (Reduced to 60), 1897 HARTFORDS (Reduced to 50), HARTFORDS Pattern 2 (Reduced to 45), HARTFORDS Pattern 1 (Reduced to 40), HARTFORDS Patterns 5 and 6 (Reduced to 30).

Nothing in the market approached the value of these bicycles at the former prices; what are they now?

POPE MFG. CO., HARTFORD, CONN. Catalogue free from any Columbia dealer; by mail for a 2-c. stamp.

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

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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.

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Educate Your Bowels With Cascarets. Candy Cathartic, cure constipation forever. 10c, 25c. If C. C. C. fail, druggists refund money.

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Packed Without Glass. TEN FOR FIVE CENTS. This special form of Ripans Tablets is prepared from the original prescription, but more economically put up for the purpose of meeting the universal demand for a low price.

Directions:—Take one at meal or bed time or whenever you feel poorly. Swallow it whole, with or without a mouthful of water. They cure all stomach troubles: indigestion, flatulency, gas, biliousness, constipation, headache, neuralgia, etc. No matter what the matter, one will do you good. One given regularly will result in a permanent cure.

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

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