

CHRIST'S TEACHINGS.

Dr. Talmage Depicts Triumphs of the Gospel.

Victories of the Christian Religion—Drunkards Are Reclaimed and Thieves Made Righteous.

(Copyright, 1899, by Louis Klopfch.) Washington, Aug. 6.

The antagonists of the Christian religion are in this sermon of Dr. Talmage met in a very unusual way, and the triumphs of the Gospel are depicted. The text is Ezekiel 21:21: "He made his arrows bright, he consulted with images, he looked in the liver."

Two modes of divination by which the king of Babylon proposed to find out the will of God. He took a bundle of arrows, put them together, mixed them up, then pulled forth one, and by the inscription on it decided what city he should first assault.

The Delphic oracle deceived vast multitudes of people; the Pythoness seated in the temple of Apollo uttering a crazy jargon from which the people guessed their individual or national fortunes or misfortunes.

So the ancient auguries deceived the people. The priests of those auguries by the flight of birds or by the intonation of slain animals told the fortunes or misfortunes of individuals and of nations.

much difference between what he is now and what he once was as between a rose and a nettle, as between a dove and a vulture, as between day and night. Tremendous delusion!

Another captive of this great Christian delusion. There goes Saul of Tarsus on horseback at full gallop. Where is he going? To destroy Christians. He wants no better play spell than to stand and watch the hats and coats of the murderers who are massacring God's children.

Ah, that is the remarkable thing about this delusion of Christianity! It overpowers the strongest intellects. Gather the critics, secular and religious, of this century together and put a vote to them as to which is the greatest book ever written, and by a large majority they will say "Paradise Lost."

And, in the first place, I remark that this delusion of the Christian religion has made wonderful transformations of human character. I will go down the aisle of any church in Christendom, and I will find on either side that aisle those who were once profligate, profane, unclean of speech and unclean of action, drunken and lost.

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tury—one would have thought he could have been depended upon for steadfastness in the advocacy of infidelity and in the war against this terrible chimera, this delusion of the Gospel. But no; in his last hour he asks for Christian burial and asks that they give him the sacrament of the Lord Jesus Christ.

But no. In his dying hour he begs the Lord Jesus Christ for mercy. Powerful delusion, all conquering delusion, earthshaking delusion of the Christian religion. Yes, it goes on. It is so impertinent, and it is so overbearing, this chimera of the Gospel, that, having conquered the great picture galleries of the world, the old masters and the young masters, it is not satisfied until it has conquered the music of the world.

These cars are nine feet two inches wide. Side by side they would reach from New York to Baltimore; or if an arc of this radius (182 miles) were inscribed, with New York as a center, it would include Harrisburg, Pa., and Providence, R. I.

These cars are about 12 feet in height. Combined one on top of another they would reach 211 miles into the ether—one-fortieth of the diameter of the earth.

Each car will average a carrying capacity of 60,000 pounds. Wheat weighs 60 pounds per bushel. Each car, therefore, could carry 1,000 bushels. And the total amount they could all carry would be 88,088,000 bushels, the yield of between 8,000 and 9,000 square miles.

The asparagus should be left tied and boiled in a kettle large enough to keep the tender heads from breaking off. Then it should be quickly drained and the colander covered and set in the oven.

"I suppose you want a piece of pie?" said the young housekeeper. "No, lady, I don't," replied the tramp, "but I'd be thankful for a ole suit of black clo'es, if yer got 'em. De poor feller wot yer gev a piece o' pie ter yee-ld'y wuz a brudder o' mine."

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The population of Alaska includes 17,000 Eskimos. Iron mining gives employment to more than 17,000 persons in England.

A woman who wears a stuffed bird on her hat is liable to a fine of from \$25 to \$50 by a law recently passed by the legislature of Arkansas.

Orange blossoms were first used for bridal wreaths by the Arabs. The orange branch bears fruit and flowers at the same time, and is therefore considered an emblem of prosperity.

One of the fashions established in Paris in recent years is to leave bicycles in pawn for the winter at the Mont de Piets. Experts estimate their value, and those who bring the wheel are obliged to take the sum offered, though most of them would like to take much less with a view to escaping the charges.

A fatal letter was received at the government training school, Carlisle, Pa., by Thomas Marshall, a full-blooded Sioux Indian. It was from the Pine Ridge Indian agency, South Dakota, and informed him that his brother and sister had just died there of black measles.

The past six months have seen another record broken. More freight cars have been ordered than ever before in a like period; the number, 85,088.

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