CHRISTMAS DISCOURSE.

Theme: The Significance of the Birth of Christ.

Brooklyn, N. Y .- Preaching at the Irving Square Presbyterian Church on the theme, "The Significance of the Birth of Christ," the Rev. Ira Wemmell Henderson, pastor, took as his text Luke 2:11: "For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." He said:

The coming of the Christ is the axis of Western chronology and the inspiration of uncounted souls. When, on that starry night amid the fertile fields of Judea, the angel of the Lord stood beside the watching shepherds and the multitude of the heavenly host sang hosanna to the living God, the sweetest, most entrancing soul among the sons of men began His earthly history. The wise men from afar, who laid at the feet of the manger babe the royal, costly gifts, were but the precursors of a giad, rejoicing host who, in every epoch and every clime, have rendered homage to the Christ. The sudden light that bathed the quiet plain that peaceful Christman eve beams to-day with undimmed radiance into multi-tudes of hearts. The voices that sang from herven to earth still sing to listening ears. The angel of the Lord still speaks. The babe whom Mary loved is with us. The Son of God is

The birth of Christ is historic. The presence of Christ yesterday and to-day is a fact. Nothing is more cer-tain than that Christ once lived. The Contemporaneous records recognize it. The Christian world around us is a consequential evidence of His reality and His in-Men may dispute concern ing the exact day and month and year of His coming into the affairs of men; they may speculate concerning the exact place of His birth; they may argue, as they will, over the manner of His coming; but they cannot, they have not and they will not deny His actuality. Jesus is a fact; the most momentous fact of history. Let us consider the significance of

The birth of Jesus is significant as we consider it to be the fulfillment of Hebrew prophecy, as we under-stand it to be the culmination of a divine self revelation, as we study its

the birth of Jesus in the light of the

effect on humanity. The birth of Jesus was the fulfillment of prophecy. Except we glance down the long record of the prophetic hopes of Israel we cannot understand the Christ. Christ, apart from Jew-ish history, is inexplicable. Jesus is not an isolated, but, rather, a result-ant fact. The Saviour is the fulfillment of a nation's hope, though so largely unaccepted. He is the consummation of the efforts of a na-tion's saintly men to lead their people near to God. The messages of Isaiah are the adumbrations of the Christ. The visions of the prophets the fore-gleams of the Galilean. Israel looked with expectancy and with hope unquenchable for immanuel—the presence of Je-hovah in the midst of His people. Having been led out of physical and carking bondage they looked forward with eagerness at a later day to 1 Jesus, a Saviour, who, clothed with divine power and enriched with a divine commission, should lead the sin-sick people of God out of the thralldom of spiritual slavery into the free-dom and the blessedness of an eternal and sufficient salvation from their sins. Jesus was the fulfillment of that hope and prophecy. What the fathers had declared, He was. The chosen people of God yearned for an earthly king, a Messiah anointed of God, set apart to a holy leadership divinely dedicated to the consummation of a national existence in rightwas this other hope fulfilled, and with a nobler purpose and with a larger scope. Within the spiritual kingdom that He came to institute lay the secret of a kingdom which should rule the world. Far grande than any prophecy and hope of Israel was the plan that, in Jesus Christ, God unfolded to His chosen What a pity it is that nine teen centuries ago Israel did not see the beauty of the plan of God, that she did not recognize that broader and that grander mission of a worldwide ministration and universal dominion to which God, in Jesus, called And how sad it is to-day that the race to whom the principles of Josus are most easily understandable is so opposed to the system of relicious truth that in our times is termed distinctively Christian. The appropriation by the Jew of those principles of pure and central Christianity that are the glory of the truth as it has been revealed of God in Jesus Christ would be the exceeding story

The birth of Jesus was the culmination of divine self-revelation. In personality and the message of Christ God gave the fullness of the divine self-explication. the objectifying of the Godhead before the very eyes of humanity. In Him Jehovah unfolds the personality of divinity. In His message is pro-claimed the mind of God for the welof divinity. fare and sanctifying of the world. Jesus is the declaration of the divinity, the humanity, the fatherho God. And in the person of the Christ is completed the long endeavor of a Himself upon the minds, the hearts the lives of His wayward, errant chil Throughout all the ages and in the lives of all His people God had been revealing God to man. Here as Israel heard the voice of Jehovah, there arose men of premen of insight, men of intense spiritual discernment to declare to the duller and less spiritually acute multitude the meaning and the import of God's self-revealment. Throughout all the history of the people of God Divinity strove diverse and incessant fashion to part to the consciousness of man kind a true understanding of Him-And as man, from time to tim has understood the truth that God has delivered to him by His Spirit and through the prophets, we have had varied interpretations of the character and of the personality of God. The changeless God has con-stantly revealed the truth concern-ing Himself, His plans. His purposes, to men. Men have oftentimes been heedless of the divine instruction, they have oftentimes been ignorant of the full import of the self-revela-yous of Jehovah, they have often-

of the coming ages and the fairest

ession of the chosen people of

times misinterpreted the messages that God has delivered to their lives. But whether or no men have been heedless, ignorant or dull. God has always revealed the truth concerning Himself. His has been a constant and cumulative effort to lead men to satisfying and correct vision of

Jesus is the finality of the divine self-revelation. The work of the Spirit before the days of Christ was preparative, in order to human com-prehanaion of the Christ. And the struggle of the Spirit since the ascension of our Lord has been to lead men to hear, to heed, to understand to accept the truth which, so richly. Christ communicates from God. Jesus is the consummation of the effort of the Spirit of the old dispensition; He is the inspiration of the labors of the Holy Spirit of the later covenant between God and men. photograph of God that Jesus livingly imparts to men is the ripest product of divine self-impartation. He is the culmination of divine self-

But it is in its effect on humanity that the birth of Christ is most significant and of widest and most ro-bust influence. The birthday of Jesus is the birthday of the larger liberty The coming of Jesus is the beginning of man's nobler age. nativity of Jesus is the nativity the transcendant inspiration of the human soul. Mary's child is the hope of all the children of men.

The birth of Christ is effectual for humanity individually, socially, eth-

religiously The birth of Christ marks the dawn of the most glorious epoch in the history of the human unit. In the face of a faith and of a civilization that too strongly emphasized the social aspect of human society Jesus de-clared the dignity, the integrity, the incalculable importance of the indi-He placed the comm on the plane upon which God in His providence intended him to move.

But while the Lord dignified the ndividual and proclaimed the eternal vorth of the human unit apart from the mass. He in no wise lowered the high position of the social system in scheme of God for the ordering of this world's affairs. Rather did He annoble society as a whole. Emphasizing the importance of the individual, He insisted on the value of that individual only as, representing an Integer in the sum of the social life, he reof the kingdom of God and labored unremittingly for the advancement and purifying of society as a whole. Jesus taught the eternal preciousness of the separate personality, with the one desire to indicate to the individual man his personal responsibility to God and society in the face of the limitless and unnumbered opportuni-ties that a loving Father placed within his reach. Profound philosopher as He was, Jesus perceived with unerring vision, that the secret of a reemed society lay in redeemed indi-And, although He had a lively interest in the single man, He was concerned with him in greatest measure because of his fundamental necessity to and central Importance in a redeemed and sanctified society. Jesus crowned individuality as none before Him had dared to but He invested individuality with a uliar and novel dignity in order that with the realization of its surpassing consequence individuality should strive hardest to be counted worthy of a place in a social order regenerated and redeemed of God.

The birth of Jesus was effective to the betterment of the ethics—that is to say-the laws of conduct-of hu-Preaching no Gospel of preclse and detailed rules and regula-tions, our Lord yet, with such insistency, taught the larger principles upon which all sound morals and social conduct are based that with two sentences He laid the emphasis where eternally it had belonged in the mind of God and from which it had, by casuistry and the insincerity of moral jugglers, been displaced. Jesus re-juvenated and invigorated the ethical judgments of His day and age. And He not only bettered the moral standards of His own time but He augmented the appeal and the scope

of moral law for all time. The birth of Jesus marks the dawn new and surpassing era in the religious career of humanity. Jesus eleased religion from the bondage of sheer legalism and infused it with a new purpose. He found religion, very largely, a matter of ecclesias-ticism and of legal regulation and of formality and cant. He left it with the inspiration of an enlarged mission and of an increased opportunity. found a system. He left a life fore His coming religion was largely anise, tithes, phylac mint, cummin, teries, burnt offerings, prayer in the market place. After Jesus religion was humility, righteousness, purity, acrifice-it was a life; dwelt, inspired, sanctified of God.

Unsatisfied, But Contented.

Contentment is a Christian duty; satisfaction is not. Being contented is accepting one's present assigned place of toil and influence as in the ordering of God's providence. Being sat-isfied is taking it for granted that God has nothing better in store for one in the opening future. It is proper to be contented for the moment, but not to be satisfied for all time to "Man's destiny is not to be dissatisfied, but forever unsatisfied." Let us, therefore, be ever unsatisfied while ever contented.—Henry C. Trumbull.

Moments That Stand Out.

You will find as you look back apon your life that the moments that stand out are the moments when you have done things in the spirit of love. -Henry Drummond.

Did the Dog Reason? The late Duke of Beaufort, who was an excellent observer, notes in his diary how (he was hunting the hounds himself) the pack drove down to a wall and flashed over-all but This hound missed the scent as he reached the top of the wall, and standing there waved his stern as if in thought. Then it seemed to flash across him, "If the fox has not crossed he must have turned short under the wall." Bachelor dropped back into the road, and racing along picked up the line. -The Outing Magazine.

"How was the proposal?" "Oh, it was a general turn-down." "That so?"

"Yes; when Dick started to tell the old, old story, Katharine turned down the parlor shade."

"And Dick turned down the gas."

Well? "Then the old gentleman rushed in and turned down Dick."—Chicago

CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR NOTES

DECEMBER TWENTY-THIRD.

How Can We Carry the Christmas Spirit Through 1907?-Luke 2: 8-20.

Christ's birth seen from afar.-Isa Its cheer foretold .- Ps. 98:1-9.

"Good tidings,"-Isa, 40:9-11, Out of Bethlehem.-Mic. 5:1-7. Son of David.—Ps. 89:20-37, Sweet story of old.—Matt. 1:18-25. The shepherds "were sore afraid.

Christ came to bring heaven's glories near, and take away our fear of them The Christmas joy would not be a

joy to any people if it were not "to all people" (v. 10). First comes "glory to God"; not until we seek that with all our hearts

may we expect "peace on earth" (v. The shepherds had the true Christmas idea. What they had seen, they

made a Christmas gift to all that would listen (v. 17). Our year will be a success if we

write on every day: Give! a failure, we write Get! If we can carry the Christmas spirit, it will carry us, over all obstacles

and to all happy goals. As it is not what you give at Christmas, so much as how you give it, so it is less what you do in life. than how you do it.

The Christmas spirit is greatly pro-moted by the merry greetings. With changed words, prolong them through the year.

The Christmas tree must have its roots in the heart, or it will bear no sound fruit on its branches. Christmas centres around the fire-

place because there the family gather. and no solitary enjoyment is Christ If Christmas gifts weighed accordfng to the love in them, some planos

would be light as feathers, and some pen-wipers would weigh tons. "I wish you a merry Christmas!" goes halfway to the goal; "I'll make you a merry Christmas!" touches the

goal-post. To Think About.

Have my past Christmasses been full of Christ? Do my Christmas thoughts centre about myself? Is giving the best part of my

EPWORTH LEAGUE LESSONS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23.

Lessons of the Manger.-Luke 2 7-20.

Daily Readings. The world's exclusion of Jesus .-

The lowly sign of the Christ-child.

The manifestation of the Child Christ.-v. 16. The recognition of the wise men .-

Matt. 2, 1-12. The recognition by two Bluminated. Bingering souls.—Luke 2, 25-38. Heavenly watch-care.-Matt. 2, 12-

14: 19-21. In view of the many precious "lessons of the manger," Christmas ought to be characterized by a kind of solemn merriment. Let our "A Merry Christmas to You" be charged with conceptions of the profound signifi-cance of the day. The early church seized upon many a heathen festival, and stamped it with ecclesinstical authority, seeking thus to make easy the crossing over from paganism to Christianity. So Christmas came to have, among our far-back ancestors, head feast and the drinking bouts of Scandinavia and Germany. Let there be festivity, but let there be also songs of gratitude, and the bestowment of gifts to the needy, in remembrance of God's unspeakable Gift to us. .

THE MIDDLE AGED MAN.

He Laments the Decay of the Old Time Chopping Knife and Bowl.

"It rejoices me, mildly," said the middle aged man, "to hear, as I do still, coming from a house in the neighborhood where I dwell, the sound of a chopping knife in a bowl. In these days so many things are done by machinery. Even in the household so many things that once we pored over with patient and loving care we do now without a thought except of the work involved. by the aid of mechanical appliances,

We make hash now in a machine, We put the ingredients into a recentacle attached and turn a crank monotonously, and there is the hash What a descent is this from the old

time ways! "The scrupulously clean chopping bowl and the equally trim knife. The materials, good materials, prepared with care, and placed with care in the bowl; something worth the added work that is now to be bestowed up-

"The muffled sound of the knife, at first, as it falls in the heaped up mound: its clear, really musical ring later, when it strikes with regular strokes on the wood. The momentary intervals, when the good housewife, with the flat of the knife, is sweeping the now somewhat spread out chopped up material together again, and then more regular chopping; with little chops now and then on the side, giving finishing touches to little capes or promontories that may jut out from the centre, here

and there around. "Musical sounds all, telling of proper and patient and loving care and labor. And the hash!

"Alas! for the hash of the days of old. Hall, and farewell, to the vanishing chopping knife and bowl!"-New York Sun.

PLUTO'S IRON CHEEK. Pluto was proudly stroking Cerberus.

"Yes," he remarked, "he is very tentie; he only bites with two of his

beads. Herewith he chuckled to see his daughter's beau decamp.—New York

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

INTERNATIONAL LESSON COM-MENTS FOR DECEMBER 28.

Subject: Jesus Ascends Into Heaven, Luke xxiv., 36-53-Golden Text, Luke xxiv., 51-Memory Verses, 46-48.

I. The risen Christ (vs. 36-43).
36. "As they thus spake." The disciples were assembled in an upper room in Jerusalem discussing the events of the day. The two who had walked with Jesus to Emmaus were giving an account of their interview with the risen Savior when suddenly Jesus Himself appeared. "In the midst." He evidently entered mirac-ulously. "Peace be unto you." The usual salutation of the Jews. 37. "Terrified and affrighted." No one knew how He entered and they were inclined to doubt their own sight and conclude that this was but a vision of their Master.

38. "Why—troubled." Jesus now calms their fears and proves to them that He is their risen Lord. "Thoughts Mark says (chapter 16:14) that He "upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart.' 39. "Hands-feet." The wounds were probably all perfectly healed, but the scars remained. Here was an appeal to their sense of sight. "Handle Me." This they probably did. "A spirit hath not." etc. We have here the clearcat possible assertion of the independent existence of spirit. 40. "He showed them." He showed them

"Believed not for joy." "Wondered. were terrified at first. There was still some anxiety lest this was an illusion. "Meat." Food. 42.
"Broiled fish," etc. Probably what was left from their evening meal.

Af-'Did eat before them.' terward the apostles called attention to what now occurred as a proof of their Lord's resurrection (Acts 10: 41). 1. That after His resurrection He had a spiritual body, similar to what our bodies will be after our resurrection. 2. That "He had a body same in substance as before the crucifixion, but endowed with new properties and powers." 3. That properties and powers." 3. That He had a body "the same in substance and attributes as He had before His crucifixion, and that this was changed into His glorious resurrection body at the ascension

The Scriptures opened (vs. 44-49). These verses record not the sayings uttered on this first Easter evening; but contain rather, a general outline of the teachings of the forty days between the resurrection and the ascension. 44. "These are the words." Now you will understand what seemed so dark to you when I told you about the Son of man being put to death and rising again (chapter 18:31-34). "The law prophets—the Psalms. three Jewish divisions of the Old Testament Scriptures, here mentioned as containing, each of them, things concerning Christ.

'Then opened He." Their understanding had been closed by prej-udice and ignorance. "Understand udice and ignorance. "Understand the Scriptures." They had a measure of light before; but not sufficient. 46. "Thus it is written," etc. Here are the two great essential facts: The atonement of Christ; His resurrection from the dead.

47. "Repentance." This implies that a measure of divine wisdom is communicated to the sinner, and that he thereby becomes wise to salvation. of sins." The forgive-"In His name." As ob-"Remission of sins." tained for sinful men by His atoning missioned officers, £12,974 10s. 3d.; sufferings. "Among all nations." God wills the salvation of all. "Beginning at Jerusalem." was thus written (Isa. 2:3). 48. teen petty officers, £1892 0s. 4d.; to

the church through Christ The coming of the Spirit was to be at the mext great feast after the crucifixion. This was the centre of Jewish some ashore and much upon the sea influence and at that time they would bed. Captain Kidd and his merry reach strangers from all parts of the world. They were not to depart, because they were not prepared to go world. until they were baptized with the Spirit. They tarried in prayer, conferring together and performing necessary duties (Acts 1:13, 14). "En-dued." Invested; clothed with. "With power." They were promised the power of the Holy Ghost in order to properly carry on God's work.
This included, 1. Power to lead men
to Christ. 2. Power to overcome all
enemies and obstacles. 3. Power to

work miracles. III. The ascension (vs. 50-53). "Led them out." This was forty days after the resurrection. "As far as to Bethany." Not to the village itself, but on the descent to it from Mount Olivet. "Lifted up His hands." Probably to lay them on their heads, for that was the ordinary way in which a blessing was given (Gen. 48: 8.20). 51. "Into Heaven." The 8.20). 51. "Into Heaven. disciples did not see Him rise out of the grave, because His resurrection the grave, because his resurrection the grave." Him afterward; but they saw Him return to Heaven, as there would be no other way to prove it. While they were looking "toward Heaven as He went up," two men-angels in the form of men-stood by them and said would come again (Acts 1:9-11).
"They worshiped Him." In gratitude for His blessing upon them. The cloud that received Him out of their sight did not put them or their services out of His sight. "With great joy." Every sorrow had been Every sorrow had been joy. They were full of turned into joy. They were fullove and joy in the Holy Spirit. "Continually in the temple." They went to the temple at the proper times, praying and waiting for the Spirit of power, truth and holiness.

UNARMED, KILLS A WILDCAT. Unarmed and all alone, Thomas Dyke, a prominent young man of Mt, Carmel, Pa., was attacked by a wildcat on the Locust Mountain.

Dyke had driven to Athland, and when he had come two miles toward home his horse tramped on a nail and was placed in a stable. He then decided to walk home, and was on the top of the mountain when the cries of a wildcat caused his hair to raise. Crouched on the side of the road, not ten feet from him, was the

The animal finally sprang at him, but he jumped aside, and as the body of the cat struck the road he jumped on it.

For several minutes the fight between the wild beast and the man went on, when, by a quick swing, the man broke the animal's back. balance of his journey home was uneventful. A physician dressed sev eral deep scratches on his face and hands.—Philadelphia Record.

SUNKEN TREASURE.

Rich Cargoes Recovered and Others That Defy the Wreckers. --

From Shipping Blustrated.

525252525252525252525252 The comparative ease with which funds can always be procured to prosecute the search after hypothetical sunken or buried treasures is the best evidence which could be adduced of the optimism of the world at large as regards the feasibility of bringing to light again the fabulous wealth which lies within the bosom of the earth. If the tradition is to be believed, the sunken galleons of the Spanish Armada must have literally strewn the western shores of Great Britain with stores of gold and silver. either in coin or plate. From Vigo to Cadiz lie numerous

treasure ships sunk by the prowess of the English seafighters. Much has been recovered from Vigo Bay, but the plate ships sunk by Blake near Cadiz have so far challenged the skill of the wreckers. The two riched the English Mint, in spite of a "leakage," to the extent of about three-quarters of a million sterling. It also forms part of the same tradition that Santa Cruz Bay is strewn with the treasure carried by the fleet of some ten Spanish plate ships which Blake compelled to seek shelter in the bay and which he subsequently sank. To form an accurate idea of the wealth there must lie sunken in the Spanish treasure ships one need but to refer to the wealth found in those captured affoat. In the year 1747 alone the English ships cap tured 644 prizes, among which the Vestal, a Spanish ship, alone yielded £140,000; the Hecta, another Spanish ship, £300,000, and the Concordia, £600,000. In 1745 three Spanish vessels returning from Peru. having been captured by some three privateersmen, the owners of the latter received as their share the sum of £700,000 and every common seaman £850. Another Spanish galleon was taken by a British man-of-war with a million sterling in bullion on board. In 1657 it took thirty-eight wagons to carry from Portsmouth to London the gold and jewels found in two Spanish galleons returning from Mexico. In 1702 the fifteen huge galleons captured in Vigo Bay yielded no less than £2,000,000, while the great galleon captured by Anson in 1743 contained treasure

worth £500,000. The most remarkable capture was that of the Hermione, off Cadiz, on May 17, 1762, by the English men-ofwar Active and Favorite. After all charges bad been deducted prize money was distributed as follows: To the Admiral and Commodore £64,963 3s.9d.; to the captain of the Active, £66,053 3s. 9d.; to each of the three commissioned officers, £13,-004 14s. 11d.; to each of the eight warrant officers, £4336 3s. 2d.; to each of the twenty petty officers, £1806 10s. 10d.; to each of the 150 seamen and marines, £485 5s. 4d.; total Active's share, £248,668 8s. to the captain of the Favorite, £64,-872 13s. 9d.; to each of the two comto each of the seven warrant officers, £4324 10s. 11d.; to each of the six-"Ye are witnesses." They had been each of the 100 seamen and marines, with Jesus throughout His ministry. £484 2s. 4d.; total Favorite's share, each of the 100 seamen and marines,

Jesus throughout His ministry.

"I send the promise." The growth was promised to thurch through Christ. "Tarry."

To come nearer home, it is stated the whole eastern seaboard of Central the whole eastern seaboard of the state compeers are all reputed to have hidden ill gotten wealth, both by land and sea, and many are the expeditions which have engaged in its attempted recovery. Most of the modern expeditions which enlisted capital to hunt these pirates' treasures belonged to the "fake" order. They were promoted by adventurers who aspired only to make an easy living for some time at the expense of the credulous, but there are records extant of expeditions of this nature which resulted in considerable profit. One of these was carried on more than 200 years ago by a youth named William Phipps, son of a New England carpenter, who had heard of a treasure ship sunk off Hispaniola. It is said in the more or less authentic story of Captain Kidd that not a few old pirates and buccaneers were retired comfortably in this part of the country, respected citizens and adored by the children. It is certain that Kidd was held in

high regard in New York; it was indeed his excellent reputation which induced the Covernment to give him a commission as Pirate Catcher to his Majesty. Therefore it may be considered quite probable that young Phipps, who was then a shepherd, heard of the prize from one of these veterans. It is not known by which means, though certain it appears, that he managed to visit Hispaniola, whence he proceeded to London Once there the carpenter's son mingled with very high flown personages, among whom the Duke of Albemarie, who not only subscribed himself to hundred yards, simply by continued the proposed venture, but persuaded a number of his friends to advance £100 each. This, it will be noted. bears a strong resemblance to the history of the Coilis Diamond Syndicate His Grace of Albemarle also secured the appointment of Governor, of Jamaica, in order to be near the scene of operations, and give assistance, if necessary, without further taxing his ened, by aiming at objects close at noble pocket. At all events, Phipps hand.—London Spectator. raised money enough to charter vessel and salled. The information upon which he was working must have been very precise, for the story goes that the wreck, then about fifty years old, was found among the reef. Divers were sent down who English Sunday has crossed the Chan-located big gues and at the same time nel; the craze for light French wines, the sought after treasure.

After paying expenses, Phipps gress in this country every m £300,000, of which £90,000 went to ery is protesting against an undrape the Duke of Albemarle as his share, and £10,000 was returned for every which seems immeasureably dispro-portionate. But it is not unlikely Opi

that, following the custom of the for the sum to which Phipps was sup-posed to have helped himself. As to the King, he was certainly "had" in proper fashion, if only £10,000 accrued to him as his share, but the writer to whom the story is due wrote before the facts were fully known. That his Britannic Majesty was fully satisfied with the results of the expedition is apparent from the ho which were subsequently bestowe upon young Phipps. The King made him a knight and presently Governor of the New England colonies, which are said never to have had a better down to the time they found it more fitting to govern themselves without the benevolent aid of the Defender of the Faith.

The foregoing shows the openings in store now for the successful searchers of buried or sunken treasures. Certain it is that the chances of success are far greater to-day than they were then, thanks to the mechanical appliances which can be profitably utilized nowadays as contrasted with the crude methods of 200 years ago. However, the Duke of Argyll appears vessels which Cromwell's Admiral to have had less success with the captured were wealthy ships and en- treasure hunting operations on his estate at Tobermory than the other peer who so profitably patronized young Phipps. It is announced that the divers employed by the Scottish Duke have suspended the operations for the season, but are confident that next year they will raise from the deep the treasures carried by the Spanish galleon Duque de Florencia.

HOW HE MISSED A BEAT.

A Reporter Tells an Interesting Story

About Henry Ward Beecher. Not long ago the writer, while exhanging experiences with a wellknown Brooklyn newspaper man, heard a very interesting story in connection with the last illness of the famous pastor of Plymouth Church, Henry Ward Beecher.

"I had a regular assignment," began my friend, "to cover the Friday night prayer meetings at Plymouth Church. They were of more than ordinary interest and many a good story I got for my paper.

"On the particular Friday in question, several men were sick or 'off' or something, a big story broke loose in the Eastern District and the city editor told me that he guessed I'd have to let the Plymouth, prayer meeting go and take the assignment referred to.

"Well, I took it, and by doing so missed the chance to score a beat for my paper that should have added at least \$10 'per' to my salary.

"That night Mr. Beecher did not appear at the prayer meeting, it being announced that he was ill. there were reporters there, but they failed to grasp the importance of this information and it was passed by practically unnoticed. "As a matter of fact the great

preacher had a paralytic stroke and it was not till late the following night that an outside newspaper man picked up the information, hustled himself into a cab and hurried to the office of one of the big New York papers and sold his story, the paper in question scoring a clean beat. Mr. Beecher never again left his

bed. It seemed to be the working of fate that I should cover that prayer meeting month after month without missing a session, and then wind up by being beaten by an outside reporter.

This simply goes to show that !! is a very risky thing to leave an assignment uncovered. Since I have given up the reporting act myself direct the work of others, I always keep in mind the chance I had for a big scoop and lost it.

"I could name other instances that have come under my observation, but they are of minor importance. It is not a safe thing, however, to pass up assignments because they do not look promising. We can never tell what is going to break loose in department work, and the only safe thing to do is to be always on the spot."

Rifle-Shooting. It is not only the muscles of the arm which are tested by properly organized rifle-shooting. It supplies an excellent exercise for the chest and lungs. One of the first things the young rifle-shot has to learn is how to take a deep breath, to fill the lungs with air, and then to hold the breath while the rifle is kept absolutely steady and the finger is gradually tightening on the trigger. A glance at any successful rifle-shot will show you a man with a deep chest and full powers of breathing.

Any form of recreation which trains the muscles of the arm and exercises the chest and lungs would seem likely to be beneficial to health; but if that is not enough, there is the unequalled training which rifleshooting gives to the eye and to the hand working with the eye. writer remembers hearing a musketry instructor boast that he had lengthened not only his own sight, but the sight of scores of boys whom he had taught how to use their eyes in aiming at a target, by two or three practice at long-distance shooting. It is astonishing what results can be obtained in this way by placing a rifle on a sandbag raised on a tripod and making the pupil aim as accurately as he can at any distant object. The eye can be trained, of course, equally well, though sight will not necessarily be length-

England Gallicized.

It is curious how, since the "entente cordiale" set in with severity. Franco and England have been exgrowing coral and seaweeds of the changing national qualities. The such as clarets, makes further pro managed to land in England with and while the Bishop of Castlenaudthe Duke of Albemarie as his share, statue in his diocese, we in London and £10,000 was returned for every have two music halls crowded night-£100 share. The Crown' received by by the exhibition of shapely wom-£10,000 and young Phipps £16,000, on clad in nothing but white paint which seems immeasureably dispre- and classical atmosphere. — London



For National Rock Roads.

'Why don't the States build trunk roads of macadam so solidly con-structed that trains of automobile freight wagons might be operated upon them?" said T. A. Witten. Mr. Witten is an attorney. He is interested in good roads, and has made a study of the subject. "A system of rock roads owned by

the State, and connecting the big cities, would do much toward solving the railroad rate problem," he continued. "These roads would be as straight and as level as possible, and broad, and would be kept in perfect repair. The State would build, own and maintain them, but any individunl would have the right to use them free for any purpose. Now suppose we had such a road from Kansas City to St. Louis. It would be used by private and public automobiles, some carrying passengers for pay. But its greatest use would be by freight automobiles. The day of the automobile is just dawning. In twenty years from now small family automobiles will be so low in price that any family of moderate means that can offord a horse and carriage can own one. And the freight automobile will be so developed within a few years that they will be used extensively for handling freight.

"In London a few weeks ago I saw many trains of motor cars upon the streets. They were composed of four or five heavy iron cars loaded with sand, rock, bricks and other buildings materials, hitched to a heavy motor car which hauled the train with ease and at a speed, I woud judge, of about ten miles an hour

"If we had a solid, level rock road between Kansas City and St. Louis you would see in a few years hundreds of these motor trains haulling slow freight between the two cites I believe it would go far toward the regulation of the freight rate upon a fair basis. The freighting business upon such a road would require no franchise and create no monopoly. You must bear in mind when thinking over this plan of mine that these motor freight trains upon macadam highways would travel almost as fast as the average local freight trains.

"If the Government wishes to enter into competition with the railroads in the carrying of interstate commerce why should it not construct national highways of macadam but instead of carrying the commerce it should allow any one to do so who wishes to operate his own vehicles upon these roads, the Government simply maintaining the road and keeping it in repair.

"Compare the cost of building a system of governmental rock roads with the cost of building all the railroads and their rolling stock, and you will see that for one-half the money it would take to buy the railroads the Government could build a system of rock roads that would reach almost every town and city in the land.

"The Government has a precedent for doing the very thing. 1820 and 1840 the United States built a national highway of macadam from Cumberland, Md., westward, terminating somewhere in Indiana. This road was fathered by Henry Clay.

"The automobile and the perfected public highway is the ultimate solution of the railway and rate question."-Kansas City Star.

Views of a "Globe Girdler." Charles J. Glidden, the "globe gird-

ling" automobilist, wrote to some Boston friends as follows concerning his impressions of the first part of his journey from Boston to Mexico by road and railroad tracks: "Six years ago I drove over the road from Boston to New York, and considerable improvement was noticed on this trip. but on the average the road can be considered only fair, in comparison with the good roads around Boston and the excellent roads of France. Closed roads necessitated detours in Connecticut, increasing the distance twenty miles, and the roads we were obliged to take were wretched. The trouble and expense we have been put to in arranging for our permits and numbers for New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Maryland give the impression that we are not in a united country, but driving through small countries in Europe. Special numbers, I am informed, are not required in other States. Motoring can be made ideal between New York and Boston by improving the roads in Connecticut and Massachusetts east of Palmer and south of Springfield to the State line."-New York Sun.

Could Take His Choice.

At a recent inquest in a Pennsylvania town, one of the jurors, after the ustal swearing in, arose and with much dignity protested against service, alleging that he was the general manager of an important concern and was wasting valuable time by sitting as a juror at an inquest. The coroner, turning to his clerk,

said: "Mr. Morgan, kindly hand me 'Jervie' (the authority on juries)." Then, after consulting the book, the coroner observed to the unwilling

"Upon reference to 'Jervis,' I find, sir, that no persons are exempt from service as jurors except idiots, imbeciles and lunatics. Now, under which heading do you claim exemption?"-Success.

Worked Other Way.

The City Federation of Women's Clubs, at Chicksha, I. T., recently gave a Wild West show considerable gave a Wild West show considerable and rather extensive advertising by filing a protest with the city council. The protest was turned down, and the "wild and woolly" aggregation showed to a paccked house.—Kansas City Journal.