DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON

THE WORTH OF THINGS TEMPORAL

The Sunday Sermon as Delivered by the Brooklyn Divine.

TEXT: "*Ye are bought with a price.*"—1 Cor. vi., 20.

Your friend takes you through his valuable house. You examine the arches, the frescoes, the grassplots, the fishponds, the conservatories, the parks of deer, and you say within yourself or you say aloud, "What did all this cost?" You see a costly diamond flashing in an earring, or you hear a costly dress rustling across the drawing room, or you see a high mettled span of horses harnessed with silver and gold, and you begin to make an estimate of the value.

The man who owns a large estate cannot instantly tell you all it is worth. He says, "I will estimate so much for the house, so much for the furniture, so much for laying out the grounds, so much for the stock, so much for the barn, so much for the equipage—adding up in all making this aggregate."

Well, my friends, I hear so much about our mansion in heaven, about its furniture and the grand surroundings, that I want to know how much it is all worth, and what has actually been paid for it. I cannot complete in a month nor a year the magnificent calculation, but before I get through to-day I hope to give you the figures. "Ye are bought with a price."

With some friends I went to your Tower to look at the crown jewels. We walked around, caught one glimpse of them, and being in the procession were compelled to pass out. I wish that I could take this audience into the tower of God's mercy and strength that you might walk around just once, at least, and see the crown jewels of eternity, behold their brilliancy and estimate their value. "Ye are bought with a price."

Now if you have a large amount of money to pay, you do not pay it all at once, but you pay it by installments—so much the first of January, so much the first of April, so much the first of July, so much the first of October, until the entire amount is paid, and I have to tell this audience that "you have been bought with a price," and that that price was paid in different installments.

The first installment paid for the clearance of our souls was the ignominious birth of Christ in Bethlehem. Though we may never be carefully looked after afterward, our advent into the world is carefully guarded. We come into the world amid kindly attentions. Privacy and silence are afforded when God launches an immortal soul into the world. Even the roughest of men know enough to stand back. But I have to tell you that in the village on the side of the hill there was a very bedlam of uproar when Jesus was born.

In a village capable of accommodating only a few hundred people many thousand people were crowded, and amid hostlers and muleteers and camel drivers yelling at stupid beasts of burden the Messiah appeared. No silence; no privacy. A better adapted place hath the eaglet in the eyrie—hath the whelp in the lion's lair. The exile of Heaven lieth down upon straw. The first night out from the palace of heaven spent in an outhouse! One hour after laying aside the robes of heaven, dressed in a wrapper of coarse linen. One would have supposed that Christ would have made a more gradual descent, coming from heaven first to a half way world of great magnitude, then to Cæsar's palace, then to a merchant's castle in Galilee, then to a private home in Bethany, then to a fisherman's hut, and last of all to a stable. No! It was one leap from the top to the bottom.

Let us open the door of the caravansary in Bethlehem and drive away the camels. Press on through the group of idlers and loungers. What, O Mary! no light? "No light," she says, "save that which comes through the door." What, Mary! no food? "None," she says, "only that which was brought in the sack on the journey." Let the Bethlehem woman who has come in here with kindly attentions put back the covering from the babe that we may look upon it. Look! Look! Uncover your head. Let us kneel. Let all voices be hushed. Son of Mary! Son of God! Child of a day—monarch of eternity! In that eye the glance of a God. Omnipotence sheathed in that babe's arm. That voice to be changed from the feeble plaint to the tone that shall wake the dead. Hosanna! Hosanna!

The second installment paid for our soul's clearance was the scene in Quarantania, a mountainous region, full of caravans, where there are to this day panthers and wild beasts of all sorts, so that you must now go there armed with knife or gun or pistol. It was there that Jesus went to think and to pray, and it was there that this monster of hell—more sly, more terrific than anything that prowled in the country—satan himself, met Christ.

The rose in the cheek of Christ—that Publius Lentullus, in his letter to the Roman senate, ascribed to Jesus—that rose had scattered its petals. Abstinence from food had thrown Him into emaciation. A long abstinence from food recorded in profane history is that of the crew of the ship Juno; for twenty-three days they had nothing to eat. But this sufferer had fasted a month and ten days before He broke fast. Hunger must have agonized every fiber of the body and gnawed on the stomach with teeth of death. The thought of a morsel of bread or meat must have thrilled the body with something like ferocity. Turn out a pack of men hungry as Christ was a-hungered, and if they had strength, with one yell they would devour you as a lion a kid.

It was in that pang of hunger that Jesus was accosted, and satan said, "Now change these stones, which look like bread, into an actual supply of bread." Had the temptation come to you and me under these circumstances, we would have cried, "Bread it shall be!" and been almost impatient at the time taken for mastication. But Christ with one hand beat back the hunger, and with the other hand beat back the monarch of darkness. Oh, ye tempted ones! Christ was tempted. We are told that Napoleon ordered a coat of mail made, but he was not quite certain that it was impenetrable, so he said to the manufacturer of the coat of mail, "Put it on now yourself, and let us try it," and with shot after shot from his own pistol the Emperor found out that it was just what it pretended to be—a good coat of mail. Then the man received a large reward.

I bless God that the same coat of mail that struck back the weapons of temptation from the head of Christ we may now all wear; for Jesus comes and says: "I have been tempted, and I know what it is to be tempted. Take this robe that defended me and wear it for yourselves. I shall see through all trials and I shall see you through all temptations."

"But," says satan still further to Jesus, "come and I will show you something worth looking at; and after a half day's journey they came to Jerusalem and to the top of the temple. Just as one might go up in the tower of Antwerp and look off upon Belgium, so satan brought Christ to the top of the temple. Some people at a great height feel dizzy, and a strange disposition to jump; so satan comes to Christ in that very crisis. Standing there at the top of the temple they look off. A magnificent reach of country. Grain fields, vineyards, olive groves, forests and streams, cattle in the valley, flocks on the hills and villages and cities and realms.

"Now," says satan, "I'll make a bargain. Just jump off. I know it is a great way from the top of the temple to the valley, but if you are divine you can fly. Jump off. It won't hurt you. Angels will catch you. Your Father will hold you. Besides, I'll make you a large fortune if you will. I'll give you Asia Minor, I'll give you China, I'll give you Ethiopia, I'll give you Italy, I'll give you Spain, I'll give you Germany, I'll give you all the world." What a temptation it must have been!

Go to-morrow morning and get in an altercation with some wretch crawling up from a gin cellar in the lowest part of your city. "No," you say, "I would not demean myself by getting into such a contest." Then think what the King of heaven and earth endured when He came down and fought the great wretch of hell, and fought him in the wilderness and on top of the temple. But I bless God that in the triumph over temptation Christ gives us the assurance that we too shall triumph. Having Himself been tempted, He is able to succor all those who are tempted.

I care not how great the height or how vast the depth, with Christ within us and Christ beneath us and Christ above us and Christ all around us nothing can befall us in the way of harm. Christ Himself having been in the tempest will deliver all those who put their trust in Him. Blessed be His glorious name forever.

The third installment paid for our redemption was the Saviour's sham trial. I call it a sham trial—there has never been anything so indecent or unfair in any criminal court as was witnessed at the trial of Christ. Why, they hustled Him into the courtroom at 2 o'clock in the morning. They gave Him no time for counsel. They gave Him no opportunity for subpœnaing witnesses. The ruffians who were wandering around through the midnight, of course they saw the arrest and went into the courtroom. But Jesus's friends were sober men, were respectable men, and at that hour, 2 o'clock in the morning, of course they were at home asleep. Consequently Christ entered the courtroom with the ruffians.

Oh, look at Him! No one to speak a word for Him. I lift the lantern until I can look into His face, and as my heart beats in sympathy for this, the best friend the world ever had, Himself now utterly friendless, an officer of the courtroom comes up and smites Him on the mouth, and I see the blood stealing from gum and lip. Oh! it was a farce of a trial, lasting only perhaps an hour, and then the judge rises for sentence. Stop! It is against the law to give sentence unless there has been an adjournment of the court between condemnation and sentence; but what cares the judge for the law? "The man has no friends—let Him die," says the judge; and the ruffians outside the rail cry: "Aha! aha! that's what we want. Pass Him out here to us! Away with Him! Away with Him!"

Oh! I bless God that amid all the injustice that may have been inflicted upon us in this world we have a divine sympathizer. The world cannot lie about you nor abuse you as much as they did Christ, and Jesus stands today in every court-room, in every house, in every store, and says: "Courage! By all my hours of maltreatment and abuse, I will protect those who are trampled upon." And when Christ forgets that two o'clock morning scene, and the stroke of the ruffian on the mouth, and the howling of the unwashed crowd, then He will forget you and me in the injustices of life that may be inflicted upon us.

Further, I remark: The last great installment paid for our redemption was the demise of Christ. The world has seen many dark days. Many summers ago there was a very dark day when the sun was eclipsed. The fowl at noonday went to their perch, and we felt a gloom as we looked at the astronomical wonder. It was a dark day in London when the plague was at its height, and the dead with uncovered faces were taken in open carts and dumped in the trenches. It was a dark day when the earth opened and Lisbon sank, but the darkest day since the creation of the world was when the carnage of Calvary was enacted.

It was about noon when the curtain began to be drawn. It was not the coming on of a night that soothes and refreshes; it was the swinging of a great gloom all around the heavens. God hung it. As when there is a dead one in the house you bow the shutters or turn the lattice, so God in the afternoon shut the windows of the world. As it is appropriate to throw a black pall upon the coffin as it passes along, so it was appropriate that everything should be somber that day as the great hearse of the earth rolled on, bearing the corpe of the King.

The waves of a man's hatred and of hell's vengeance dash up against the mangled feet, and the hands of sin and pain and torture clutch for His holy heart. Had He not been thoroughly fastened to the cross they would have torn Him down and trampled Him with both feet. How the cavalry horses arched their necks and champed their bits, and reared and snuffed at the blood! Had a Roman officer called out for a light his voice would not have been heard in the tumult; but louder than the clash of spears, and the wailing of womanhood, and the neighing of the chargers, and the bellowing of the crucifiers there came a voice crashing through—loud, clear, overwhelming, terrific. It is the groaning of the dying Son of God! Look! what a scene! Look, world, at what you have done!

I lift the covering from the maltreated Christ to let you count the wounds and estimate the cost. Oh, when the nails went through Christ's right hand and through Christ's left hand, that bought both our hands with all their power to work and lift and write! When the nails went through Christ's right foot and Christ's left foot, that bought your feet, with all their power to walk or run or climb. When the thorn went into Christ's temple, that bought your brain, with all its power to think and plan. When the spear cleft Christ's side, that bought your heart, with all its power to love and repent and pray.

Oh, sinner, come, come back! If a man is in no pain, if he is prospered, if he is well, and he asks you to come, you take your time and you say: "I can't come now. I'll come after a while. There is no haste." But if he is in want and trouble you say: "I must go right away. I must go now." To-day Jesus stretches out before you two wounded hands and He begs you to come. Go and you live. Stay away and you die.

When the Atlantic cable was lost, in 1865, do you remember that the Great Eastern, and the Medway, and the Albany went out to find it! Thirty times they sank the grapnel two and a half miles deep in water. After awhile they found the cable and brought it to the surface. No sooner had it been brought to the surface than they lifted a shout of exultation, but the cable slipped back again into the water and was lost. Then for two weeks more they swept the sea with the grappling hooks, and at last they found the cable, and they brought it up in silence. They fastened it this time. Then, with great excitement, they took one end of the cable to the electrician's room to see if there were really any life in it, and when they saw a spark and knew that a message could be sent, then every hat was lifted, and the rockets flew and the guns sounded until all the vessels on the expedition knew the work was done, and the continents were lashed together.

Well, my friends, Sabbath after Sabbath Gospel messengers have come searching down for your souls. We have swept the sea with the grappling hook of Christ's Gospel. Again and again we have thought that you were at the surface, and we began to rejoice over your redemption; but at the moment of our gladness you sank back again into the world and back again into sin. To-day we come with this Gospel searching for your soul. We apply the cross of Christ first to see whether there is any life left in you, while all around the people stand, looking to see whether the work will be done and the angels of God bend down and witness, and oh! if now we could see only one spark of love and hope and faith, we would send up a shout that would be heard on the battlements of heaven, and two worlds would keep jubilee because communication is open between Christ and the soul, and your nature that has been sunken in sin has been lifted into the light and the joy of the Gospel.

OFFICIAL reports as to the Russian harvest prospects show that the general outlook is much worse than it was in the early summer of 1891. Locusts have destroyed the crops in the Caucasus, the stores of grain in which district saved the situation last autumn.

SOLDIERS' COLUMN.

CHICKAMAUGA.

The Rather Tough Experience of Battery A, 1st Mich. L. A., in that Battle.

I was one of the Fourteenth Corps, Baird's Division, Scribner's Brigade. Of our march over the three mountains I shall not write much, as I have to depend entirely on memory, and cannot name dates with any certainty. The comrades will remember we had a varied experience of climbing mountains in the daytime and descending them in the night. I think it was in the night we completed the march over the mountains, and joined our advance division (Gen. Negley's) in the Valley, he having command of the forces then present; and, if I remember right, it was about 48 hours before the Union army was united.

During this time Gen. Negley displayed great ability in manuvering the two divisions against Gen. Bragg's army, advancing out from the mountain to engage the enemy, yet carefully falling back in good time. As I remember, we were wakeful and busy, both day and night, and then came the all-night march of the 18th, vieing with Gen. Bragg's army which should first reach Chattanooga. We remember kindly that rail fence, which gave us light and warmth as we moved along, or, if halting, to warm from the frosty air. We remember the diligence required on the part of Sergeants and Corporals to keep the men awake and in ranks, many soldiers sleeping while walking or riding on horseback.

And so the long night went by, bringing the morning of the 19th with further hardship for all and death to so very many brave boys. We were halted a short time in the early morning to partake of a cold lunch, then received orders to advance and engage the enemy (although they were not then in sight or hearing). Making our advance eastward over and open timberland we soon found the rebel skirmishers, they falling back without great delay. Our brigade was then placed in battle-line. After a short time we advanced farther, then halted again for a time, and again advanced, forming our third battle-line (single-line), with Col. Starkweather's Brigade in support.

While remaining here all seemed quiet on our front (even the skirmishers remaining quiet) for perhaps 10 or 15 minutes, when Col. Scribner was informed of a very considerable force lying close on our right. The enemy was fronting north, while our line faced to the east. On learning this fact Col. Scribner changed front with the left half of the brigade, forming it on the right fronting the enemy, the infantry lying down and the artillery two or three rods in the rear.

About this time a strong division arose from where they had been lying down, not more than 10 or 12 rods away, their line appearing to extend past ours on either flank about the same distance, bringing our brigade to their division center, just where they could use us to the best advantage. The enemy immediately opened fire along our front, while the wings circled around us on double quick, and kept in very good line, too. Our men, both infantry and artillery, returned the fire as best they could. Our infantry line being in front of the artillery was a sad mistake, as it kept us from using canister, as every artilleryman knows that shell at short range are no good; but we kept sending them along the best we could. In fact, we paid such close attention to our own piece that we saw nothing of the trouble the others were having, and did not see our Capt. Vanpelt shot down, nor any others, except those at our side, nor did we stop our work until our line had disappeared from our front and that of the enemy moved up to take our gun, while the encircling lines had completed their work and firing had ceased; for the opposing lines were not now divided, all being en masse, with numbers in favor of the Johnnies, three or four to one and we heard much of the usual greetingsused on these occasions.

Well, we found three men yet remaining with our gun, Corp'l Sol Mann lead rider Starr and myself. Leading the wheel-team, we managed to limber up our piece, though our horses were badly shot, and we moved out of there with the rebels at our elbows calling a halt, Starr leading the lead-team, myself leading the wheel-team and encouraging the swing-team with my lead-string. We succeeded in getting away a few rods, when the enemy began firing on us, and many men were falling. When about 30 or 40 rods away our off wheeler caught a ball in the head, which laid him down across the tongue. We at once looked about to see how we might get loose from that horse and go on, but discovered that the rebs were again upon us. Lieutenant Bachmann then told us that we would have to leave the gun and run. Up to this time I for one had not thought of this, having been disciplined to stay by my gun, and but for this kind advice perhaps we would have stayed too late; but that gun was not moved by the enemy, the Union forces soon driving the enemy back.

One other gun of our battery was saved, the other four being captured. After leaving the piece we had to run quite a distance, and many of the comrades were shot. After Col. Scribner placed his brigade in the last battle-line, and the enemy had shown up, he did no more for us, making no effort to save his brigade, as did Col. Starkweather. Yet, when the army was reoganized he was promoted. Men in the ranks supposed it was because they had found him a safe commander.—J. C. VORHES, in National Tribune.

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

JAY GOULD has a liking for flowers.

POPE LEO still writes Latin poetry, though eighty-two years old.

BENJAMIN HARRISON and Whitelaw Reid were both born in Ohio.

DR. NEWMAN HALL, the famous London divine, is seventy-six years old.

THE King of Siam, who is thirty-nine, is the eldest of eighty-four children.

A SON of the late President Arthur is prominent among gentlemen coach drivers in Paris.

JUSTICE STEPHEN J. FIELD, of the United States Supreme Court, has taken a cottage at Newport, R. I.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER'S latest benefaction is a gift of $35,000 to complete the building fund of Vassar College.

QUEEN VICTORIA is having some carpets made from patterns designed by her deeply-lamented husband, the Prince Consort.

THOMAS A. EDISON says that his deafness is caused by the fact that a porter lifted him by the ears when he was a newsboy on a train.

EDWIN GOULD, son of the great financier, is a crack shot, and practices on a 500 yards range on the family place in Irvington, N. Y.

THERE are two William J. Stones in the present Congress and both are natives of Kentucky, though one represents a Missouri district.

THE sale of the German Kaiser's photographs, taken when he wore a beard has been forbidden, and all the negatives ordered destroyed.

EDWARD ATKINSON, the Boston publicist and political economist, is going to write the libretto for an opera that his son, a bright fellow now in Munich, is composing.

DR. VAUGHAN, the successor to Cardinal Manning as Archbishop of Westminster, has had five brothers in the Roman Catholic priesthood, while several of his sisters are nuns.

JACOB GOULD SCHURMAN, Cornell's new President, is yet a few years under forty, but a noted scholar. Twenty odd years ago he was a clerk in a grocery store on Prince Edward Island.

THE young King of Spain is already beginning to exhibit some very royal—and human—traits. When he can't get what he wants he flies into a rage, just like the dead and gone royalties that history tells us of. And though he is only six years of age, he is trying hard to raise a mustache.

THE NATIONAL GAME.

"MEADOW LANDERS" is the latest for outfielders.

THE Chicagos miss Pfeffer, Louisville's second baseman, very much.

BROUTHERS, of Brooklyn, was the first League batsman to make fifty hits.

SINCE Boyle has been laid up New York's chief weakness has been behind the bat.

RICHARDSON, of Washington, leads all the League second baseman in fielding, with an average of .967.

MURPHY'S wonderful catching has much to do with the remarkable success of the Cincinnati pitchers.

PERHAPS the cause of Rusie, of New York, losing so many games may be attributed to the loss of Buckley. He misses his old catcher.

DUFFY, of the Bostons, says that Sexton, the Brown University pitcher, is the making of a great strategetic twirler. He is second to no college pitcher to-day.

WARD may make errors, but the fact is the Brooklyn Captain is playing a star game. He goes after everything in sight, and wins many games by his great headwork.

THE impossibility of getting new men is bringing gray hairs to the heads of some of the League team managers. The scarceness of players is shown in the way released men catch on again.

THE greatest disappointments in this season's Cleveland team are Burkett and Davies. The Cleveland management did not hesitate to invest a great deal of money to secure good pitching talent. To-day the pitchers are losing the games.

ANSON is quoted as saying that in his opinion Craver, who was blacklisted in '79 for crookedness, was the best catcher that ever stood behind the plate. Besides being a fine catcher and great batsman he was original, tricky and wonderfully fertile in resources.

CLARENCE BAYNE, the crack pitcher of the University of Pennsylvania nine, is said to have made a better record on the diamond field than any other college freshman before him. Besides pitching marvelously, he is strong at the bat, is a splendid runner of bases, and makes an excellent coach.

PITCHER WELCH, of the New Yorks, will finish the season with the Troy (N. Y.) team. He has an irenclad contract which does not expire until the end of the season, but President Day has consented to Mickey's transfer. So Mickey goes back to the city from which New York got him nearly ten years ago.

THE LABOR WORLD.

THE typewriter girls have formed a union.

THE manufacturers of machinery are, as a rule, very busy.

THE textile manufacturers report activity in nearly all lines.

A BENT position (like that of bootmakers) leads to cardiac affections.

A NEW machine shop and foundry is to be established at Birmingham, Ala.

NEARLY all the iron and steel establishments are increasing their machinery.

A WAR is being waged against the "sweator" shops in Chicago by Health Commissioner Ware.

ABOUT 200 Japanese laborers have lately been put at work as track repairers on the Union Pacific in Idaho.

CIGARMAKERS' INTERNATIONAL UNION has a membership of 24,221. Last year's receipts were $423,588,84.

PARIS cabmen continue in a chronic state of discontent which breaks out in brief strikes every few weeks.

SEVERAL labor organizations have formulated plans for the creation of an International Labor Bureau in this country.

THE labor and farmers' organizations of Warren County, New Jersey, have formed a People's Industrial Union and elected officers.

THE policemen of Switzerland have formed a National organization for the purpose of raising their pay and reducing their hours.

THE Archduke Francis Ferdinand, of Austria, is a proficient amateur railroad man. He knows how to run a locomotive and to make up a train of cars.

D. G. RAMSAY, Grand Chief of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers, controls 27,000 men and is only twenty-seven years of age. He lives in East St. Louis and has served in the Illinois Legislature.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON FOR SUNDAY, JULY 3.

'The Ascension of Christ,' Acts i-12. Golden Text. Acts i., 9. Commentary.

1. "The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach." As the Gospels are a record of all that Jesus began to do and teach by the Holy Spirit, so this book and the epistles are a record of all that Jesus continued to do and teach by the same Holy Spirit through the apostles. The daily life of every true believer should be a further continuance of the same doing and teaching by the same power in us (John xvi., 7, 8; Math. x., 20). As to the former treatis see Luke i., 1-4. Observe that doing comes before teaching, and compare Math. v., 19.

2. "Until the day in which He was taken up, after that He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments unto the apostles whom He had chosen." He wrought and taught until the day He was received up. So should it be with us, all the moments filled for Him until "absent from the body present with the Lord," or possibly "until he come" for body and soul.

3. "To whom also He showeth Himself alive after His passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God." See the record of eleven appearances during the forty days after His resurrection in Mark xvi., 9; Math. xxviii., 9, 10; Luke xxiv., 16, 34, 36; John xx., 26; xxi, 1; Math xxviii., 16, 17; I. Cor. xv., 6, 7; Luke xxiv., 50,51. In all His preaching the kingdom was very prominent, see Math. iv., 25; ix., 35.

4. "And being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the father, which, saith He, ye have heard of Me." Whenever it was that He met them at this time the great thing to be observed is that they were not to go forth until qualified by special power from on high. His presence with them for two or three years was not a sufficient qualification; they must receive in fullness the same power which wrought in Himself, and this could not be till He was glorified (John vii., 39).

5. "For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence." As to the Spirit's connection with Christ see Mark i., 18; Acts x., 38; Luke iv., 1; Math. xii., 28; Heb. ix., 14; Rom. viii., 11. And if Christ Himself was powerless, apart from the Spirit, how much more are we? See the difference between an ordinary believer and one filled with the Spirit, in Peter before and after Pentecost; observe also that it is as much disobedience not to be filled with the Spirit as it is to be drunk with wine (Eph. v., 18).

6. "When they therefore were come together, they asked of Him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?" He had told them that they were foolish not to believe all that the prophets had spoken, and He had also opened their understanding that they might understand the Scriptures (Luke xxiv., 25, 45), so that this question was not from blind and carnal men, as many think. The kingdom of which the prophets are full is a kingdom to be restored to Israel, and such great promises as Isa. ix., 7; xxiv., 23; xxxv., 10; lx, 21; Jer. iii., 17, 18; xxiii., 5, 6; xxxi., 35, 36; Ezek. xxxvii., 21, 22, and a host of others, have no reference to the church, but to the kingdom for which the apostles rightly looked.

7. "And He said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in His own power." He did not say that their question was a wrong one, nor that they misunderstood the nature of His kingdom; He spoke only of the knowledge of the time being withheld; He had taught them that it was to be postponed till His return (Luke xix., 11, 12), but they had not received it. In chapter iii., 20, 21, the Spirit through Peter very plainly teaches that when Jesus comes again He will restore all things of which the prophets have spoken.

8. "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me unto the uttermost part of the earth." The kingdom promised at Horeb upon condition of obedience (Ex. xix., 5, 6; Deut. vv. 2, 3) having been finally forfeited by Israel (Math. xxi., 43) that other nation (I Pet. ii., 9), the church gathered out of all nations, must now be completed by the preaching of the Gospel as a witness unto all nations, and then shall the end come (Math. xxiv., 14). The end of this age and the beginning of the next, when Jesus will return to fulfill to Israel the unconditional promises which were made to Abraham and David, and then will He restore the kingdom the apostles sought.

9. "And when He had spoken these things, while they beheld, He was taken up; and a cloud received Him out of their sight." In the Gospel it is said (Luke xxiv., 51) that while He was blessing them He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.

10. "And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold two men stood by them in white apparel." Angels at His birth, at His death and at His ascension; angels with Him in the wilderness and in the garden, angels that excel in strength, that do His commandments, hearkening unto the voice of His word (Ps. ciii., 20). Ministering spirits sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation (Heb. i., 14).

11. "Which also said, this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, the earth" (Isa. xii., 4-5). Why not antedate that day and let many willing hearts determine to speak and sing henceforth "always, only of our King." Then shall we know the Spirit's power as never before.

12. "And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?" The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness unto him (I Cor. ii., 14), so some mockingly said that these men were drunken; but Peter called there attention to the words of one of their prophets with which they ought to have been familiar, and adding some other quotations from the law and the Psalms, He preached unto them Jesus and the resurrection. With what result we shall see in our next lesson. Meantime lay it to heart that if it is wrong to be drunken with wine, it is also wrong not to be filled with the Spirit. See Eph. v., 18, and remember the promise in Luke xi., 13.—Lesson Helper.

THE RUM POWER IN CHICAGO.

The city council of Chicago took its own measure the other day and put it on record. An ordinance had been introduced providing that a saloon should not be opened in a residence block without the consent of a majority of the property owners. Every reputable daily of the city had strongly approved the proposed ordinance as being every way right and reasonable. The right of people in a residence block to such protection from the intrusion of a liquor saloon was declared to be one which ought to be respected. When, however, it came to a vote, out of sixty-eight aldermen only seventeen voted for it. That is the moral attitude of the Chicago council. The grog shop dominates everything. Citizens have no rights which the rum power need respect. Is this the kind of council that is to rule Chicago during the World's Fair? Here is a tremendously ominous fact which the Christian forces of the city will have to look square in the face. A considerable number of the councilmen are themselves saloon keepers, but all of them—the seventeen excepted—have snapped the finger in the face of the public defiantly. That there is any necessity that this state of things should always continue, no one believes. The better and decenter order of things will come in when "good citizens" show by what they propose to do that they really are good citizens.—Advance.

THERE are so many temperance men who take their blue ribbons off when they go away from home.

HOUSEHOLD MATTERS.

HOW TO SET A TABLE.

Breakfast being the plainest meal of the day, the arrangement of the table should always be simple. The cloth should be spotless. At each person's seat place a knife, fork, teaspoon or dessert-spoon, tumbler and napkin, and if fresh fruit is to be served, a finger-bowl, if there be no servant. If you have a waitress, she will place the finger-bowls on as you finish with the fruit. If fresh fruit be served there must also be placed at each seat a fruit knife and plate. The knives and spoons should be placed at the right and the forks and napkins at the left, the tumblers to be at the point of the knives. There should be space between the knife and fork for a breakfast plate. Have the dish of fruit in the centre of the table. Have a tray-cloth at each end of the table. Spread little butter-plates at the top of each plate. If individual salt and pepper bottles be used, place them at the side of each plate. If large ones place them at the corners of the table. Put four tablespoons on the table, either in two corners, or beside the dishes that they will be used in serving. Put the carving knife and fork at the head of the table and the cups and saucers, sugar and cream, coffee-pot, hot-water bowl, etc., and the mush dishes at the other end.—St. Louis Republic.

AN EASY WAY TO CLEAN SILVER.

"The housekeeper who wears out her patience and muscle in cleaning silver with whiting and a brush or any of the pastes and powders with which the market is full, has my sincere sympathy," is the opinion of a woman who is always on the lookout for the easiest way to do things. "I long ago learned that the expert, the dealer and the chemist have nice little ways, which we of the household brigade would do well to find out, and one day one of these people gave me a point which I have ever since found to be a great advantage. By one of these simple and manageable processes, I can, with the help of an ordinary assistant, clean my entire household silver in half an hour, and this is the way I do it:

"I put eight quarts of water into a kettle and add half a pound of sal soda, and let this come to a boil. Have also a kettle containing about the same quantity of clean, hot, rather strong soapsuds. Dip each piece quickly into the soda water, and immediately remove to the suds, rinsing very thoroughly, then dry as quickly as possible with a soft linen cloth. No injury to the silver need be apprehended unless the pieces are permitted to remain for an unnecessary length of time in the soda. If articles are very much blackened and discolored, they may be redipped after thoroughly rinsing and drying. I have done my silver in this way for years; some of it is sterling and the remainder plate. I never fail in the most excellent results. Of course, in this as well as everything else, a little practice will make the task easier and more expeditious, but there is none of the wearisome, vexatious rubbing, which attended the old ways of polishing these necessary articles."

A HOT WEATHER VEGETABLE.

The possibilities of the cucumber, except for picking or salads, are little understood. It is excellent in soup, as well as fried, stewed, stuffed, and many other ways.

Cucumber Soup—Cut one large, or two medium-sized cucumbers into thin slices, strew salt over them, and place between two plates to drain. Put them into a saucepan, with a quart and half a pint of some white stock, either chicken or veal, and simmer gently, without reducing the quantity, for forty minutes. Season with salt and a little cayenne; thicken with ground rice, or arrow-root, wet with milk, and, as soon as it has boiled up, draw to the side of the fire; add half a pint of hot milk and the beaten yolks of two eggs. Serve at once. The safest way to add eggs to any hot liquid is to turn a little of the latter slowly into the bowl containing the yolks, beating the white. When the bowl is full, turn it all into the vessel containing the rest, still beating, and when thoroughly hot pour into the tureen.

Stuffed Cucumbers—There are several ways of preparing these. Peel two large ones, and with a sharp knife cut out a piece from the side. With a small teaspoon remove the seeds and fill with nice forcemeat of any kind; replace the piece and tie securely with stout white thread. Line the bottom of a saucepan with thin slices of bacon and veal, lay on the cucumbers, then another layer of veal and bacon, three new carrots, scraped, three small onions, and as many turnips; cover with stock or water and simmer until all are tender. Thicken the gravy and pour it around the meat and vegetables after they are neatly dished. Season, when about half done, with salt and pepper. Another way is to cut them in halves, take out the seeds and fill with a forcemeat made of equal parts of bread crumbs and chopped marrow, well seasoned with salt and pepper. Tie the halves together, lay on a baking dish, nearly cover with meat gravy, and bake until tender. A good substitute for meat gravy is a brown drawn butter.

Cucumbers Stewed—Peel and cut into quarters lengthwise, dredge with flour, season, and fry lightly in hot butter; put them in a saucepan, with some good brown gravy and stew slowly until tender. Add the least trifle of sugar and a teaspoonful of vinegar to the sauce; thicken slightly and pour around the cucumbers. Sometimes an equal amount of small button onions are stewed with the quarters of cucumbers.—American Agriculturist.

Not only have the Peninsular and Oriental steamers ceased going to Southampton, England, but other companies owning large steamers are now threatening to go elsewhere and abandon the use of the Southampton docks.

There are nearly 2000 known species of orchids.