DR. TALMAGE'S SUNDAY SERMON

A GOSPEL MESSAGE.

Subject: Christ Our Refuge — A Message of Comfort, Commending the Behavior of the Disciples to Those Who Are Burdened With Sorrow.

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WASHINGTON, D. C.—Dr. Talmage, in the following discourse, which he has sent for publication this week, gives a prescription for all anxiety and worriment, and illustrates the divine sympathy for all who are in any kind of struggle. The text is Matthew xiv, 12, "And His disciples went and told Jesus."

An outrageous assassination had just taken place. To appease a revengeful woman King Herod ordered the death of that noble, self-sacrificing prophet, John the Baptist. The group of the disciples were thrown into grief and dismay. They felt themselves utterly defenseless. There was no authority to which they could appeal, and yet grief must always find expression. If there be no human ear to hear it, then the agonized soul will cry it aloud to the winds and the woods and the waters. But here was an ear that was willing to listen. There is a tender pathos and at the same time a most admirable picture in the words of my text, "They went and told Jesus." He could understand all their grief, and He immediately soothed it. Our burdens are not more than half so heavy to carry if another shoulder is put under the other end of them. Here we find Christ, His brow shadowed with grief, standing amid the group of disciples, who, with tears and violent gesticulations and wringing of hands and outcry of bereavement, are expressing their woe. Raphael, with his skillful brush, putting upon the wall of a palace some scene of sacred story, gave not so skillful a stroke as when the plain hand of the evangelist writes, "They went and told Jesus."

The old Goths and Vandals once came down upon Italy from the north. Europe, and they upset the gardens, and they broke down the statues and swept away everything that was good and beautiful. So there is ever and anon in the history of all the sons and daughters of our race an incursion of rough handed troubles that come to plunder and ransack and put to the torch all that men highly prize. There is no cave so deeply cleft into the mountains as to afford us shelter, and the foot of fleetest courser cannot bear us beyond the quick pursuit. The arrows they put to the string fly with unerring dart until we fall pierced and stunned.

I feel that I bring to you a most appropriate message. I mean to bind up all your griefs into a bundle and set them on fire with a spark from God's altar. The prescription that cured the sorrow of the disciples will cure all your heartaches. I have read that when Godfrey and his army marched out to capture Jerusalem, as they came over the hills, at the first flash of the pinnacles of that beautiful city, the army that had marched in silence lifted a shout that made the earth tremble. Oh, you soldiers of Jesus Christ, marching on toward heaven, I would that to-day, by some glam from the palace of God's mercy and God's strength, you might be lifted into great rejoicing and that as the prospect of its peace breaks upon your enraptured gaze you might raise one glad hosanna to the Lord!

In the first place I commend the behavior of those disciples to all burdened souls who are unpardoned. There comes a time in almost every man's history when he feels from some source that he has an erring nature. The thought may not have such heft as to fell him. It may be only like the flash in an evening cloud just after a very hot summer day. One man to get rid of that impression will go to prayer, another will stimulate himself by ardent spirits, and another man will dive deeper in secularities. But sometimes a man cannot get rid of these impressions. The fact is, when a man finds out that his eternity is poised upon a perfect uncertainty, and that the next moment his foot may slip, he must do something violent to make himself forget where he stands or else fly for refuge.

Some of you crouch under a yoke, and you bite the dust when this moment you might rise up a crowned conqueror. Driven and perplexed as you have been by sin go and tell Jesus. To relax the grip of death from your soul and plant your unshackled feet upon the golden throne Christ let the tortures of the bloody mount transfix Him. With the beam of His own cross He will break down the door of your dungeon. From the thorns of His own crown He will pick enough gems to make your brow blaze with eternal victory. In every tear on His wet cheek, in every gash of His side, in every long, blackening mark of laceration from shoulder to shoulder, in the grave shattering, heaven storming death groan I hear Him say, "He that cometh unto Me I will in nowise cast out."

"Oh," but you say, "instead of curing my wound you want to make another wound—namely, that of conviction." Have you never known a surgeon to come and find a chronic disease and then with sharp caustic burn it all out? So the grace of God comes to the old sore of sin. It has long been rankling there, but, by divine grace, it is burned out through these fires of conviction, "the flesh coming again as the flesh of a little child;" "where sin abounded, grace much more abounded." With the ten thousand unpardonable sins of your life, go and tell Jesus.

You will never get rid of your sins in any other way, and remember that the broad invitation which I extend to you will not always be extended. King Alfred, before modern timepieces were invented, used to divide the day into three parts, eight hours each, and then had three wax candles. By the time the first candle had burned to the socket eight hours had gone, and when the second candle had burned to the socket another eight hours had gone, and when all the three candles were gone out then the day had passed. Oh, that some of us, instead of calculating our days and nights and years by any earthly timepiece, might calculate them by the numbers of opportunities and mercies which are burning down and burning out, never to be relighted, lest at last we be amid the foolish virgins who cried, "Our lamps have gone out!"

Again, I commend the behavior of the disciples to all who are tempted. I have heard men in mid-life say they had never been led into temptation. If you have not felt temptation, it is because you have not tried to do right. A man hopbled and handcuffed, as long as he lies quietly, does not test the power of the chain, but when he rises up and with determination resolves to snap the handcuff or break the hopple then he finds the power of the iron. And there are men who have been for ten and twenty and thirty years bound hand and foot by evil habits who have never felt the power of the chain because they have never tried to break it. It is very easy to go on down with the stream and with the wind lying on your oars, but just turn around and try to go against the wind and the tide, and you will find it is a different matter. As long as we go down the current of our evil habit we seem to get along quite smoothly, but if after a while we turn around and head up the other way, toward Christ and pardon and heaven, oh, then how we have to lay to the oars! You will have your temptations. You have one kind, you another, you another, not one person escaping.

Again, I commend the behavior of the disciples to all those who are abused and the slandered and persecuted. When Herod put John to death, the disciples knew that their own heads were not safe. And do you know that every John has a Herod? There are persons in life who do not wish you very well. Your misfortunes are honeycomb to them. Through their teeth they hiss at you, misinterpret your motives, and would be glad to see you upset. No man gets through life without having a pommeling. Some slander comes after you horned and hushed and hoofed to gore and trample you, and what are you to do? I tell you plainly that all who serve Christ must suffer persecution. It is the worst sign in the world for you to be be able to say, "I have not an enemy in the world." A woe is pronounced in the Bible against the one of whom everybody speaks well. If you are at peace with all the world and everybody likes you and approves your work, it is because you are an idler in the Lord's vineyard and are not doing your duty. All those who have served Christ, however eminent, all have been maltreated at some stage of their experience. You know it was so in the time of George Whitefield when he stood and invited men into the kingdom of God. What did the learned Dr. Johnson say of him? He pronounced him a miserable mountebank. How was it when Robert Hall stood and spoke as scarcely any uninspired man ever did speak of the glories of heaven? And as he stood Sabbath after Sabbath preaching on these themes his face kindled with the glory. John Foster, a Christian man, said of this man, "Robert Hall is only acting, and the smile on his face is a reflection of his own vanity." John Wesley turned all England upside down with Christian reform, and yet the punsters were after him, and the meanest jokes in England were perpetrated about John Wesley. What is true of the pulpit is true of the pew; it is true of the street; it is true of the shop and the store. All who live godly in Christ Jesus must suffer persecution.

And I set it down as the very worst sign in all your Christian experience if you are any of you at peace with all the world. The religion of Christ is war. It is a challenge to "the world, the flesh and the devil," and if you will buckle on the whole armor of God you will find a great host disputing your path between this and heaven.

Again, I commend the behavior of the disciples to all the bereaved. How many in garb of mourning! How many emblems of sorrow you behold everywhere! God has His own way of taking apart a family. We must get out of the way for coming generations. We must get off the stage that others may come on, and for this reason there is a long procession reaching down all the time into the valley of shadows. This emigration from time into eternity is so vast an enterprise that we cannot understand it. Every hour we hear the clang of the sepulchral gate. The sod must be broken. The ground must be plowed for resurrection harvest. Eternity must be peopled. The dust must press our eyelids. "It is appointed unto all men once to die." This emigration from time into eternity keeps three-fourths of the families of the earth in desolation. The air is rent with farewells, and the black tasseled vehicles of death rumble through every street. The body of the child that was folded so closely to the mother's heart is put away in the cold and the darkness. The laughter freezes to the girl's lip, and the rose scatters. The boy in the harvest field of Shunem says, "My head, my head!" and they carry him home to die on the lap of his mother. Widowhood stands with tragedies of woe struck into the pallor of the cheek. Orphanage cries in vain for father and mother. Oh, the grave is cruel! With teeth of stone it clutches for its prey. Between the closing gates of the sepulcher our hearts are mangled and crushed.

But Christ is always near—before you, behind you, within you. No mother ever threw her arms around her child with such warmth and ecstacy of affection as Christ has shown toward you.

Close at hand, nearer than the staff upon which you lean, nearer than the cup you put to your lip, nearer than the handkerchief with which you wipe away your tears, I preach Him an ever present, all sympathizing, compassionate Jesus. How can you stay away one moment from Him with your griefs? Go now. Go and tell Jesus.

It is often that friends have no power to relieve us. They would very much like to do it, but they cannot disentangle our finances, they cannot cure our sickness and raise our dead, but glory be to God that He to whom the disciples went has all power in heaven and on earth, and at our call He will balk our calamities and at just the right time, in the presence of an applauding earth and a resounding heaven, will raise our dead. He is mightier than Herod. He is swifter than the storm. He is grander than the sea. He is vaster than eternity. And every sword of God's omnipotence will leap from its scabbard and the resources of infinity be exhausted rather than that God's child shall not be delivered when he cries to Him for rescue. Suppose your child was in trouble. How much would you endure to get him out? You would say, "I don't care what it will cost. I must get him out of that trouble." Do you think God is not so good to you as you? Seeing you are in trouble and having all power, will He not stretch out His arm and deliver you? He will. He is mighty to save. He can level the mountains and divide the sea, and can quench the fire and save the soul. Not dim of eye, not weak of arm, not feeble of resources, but with all eternity and the universe at His feet. Go and tell Jesus. Will you?

Ye whose cheeks are wet with the night dew of the grave, ye who cannot look up, ye whose hearts are dried with the breath of sirocco, in the name of the religion of Jesus Christ, which lifts every burden and wipes away every tear and delivers every captive and lightens every darkness, I implore you now go and tell Jesus.

A little child went with her father, a sea captain, to sea, and when the first storm came the little child was very much frightened, and in the night rushed out of the cabin and said, "Where is father, where is father?" Then they told her, "Father is on deck guiding the vessel and watching the storm." The little child immediately returned to her berth and said, "It's all right, for father's on deck."

O ye who are tossed and driven in this world, up by the mountains and down by the valleys and at your wits' ends, want you to know the Lord God is guiding the ship. Your Father is on deck. He will bring you through the darkness into the harbor. Trust in the Lord. Go and tell Jesus.

If you go to Him for pardon and sympathy, all is well. Everything will brighten up, and joy will come to the heart, and sorrow will depart, your sins will be forgiven, and your foot will touch the upward path, and the shining messengers that report above what is done here will tell it until the great arches of God resound with the glad tidings if now with contrition and full trustfulness of soul you will only go and tell Jesus.

But I am oppressed as I think of those who may not take this counsel and may remain unblessed. I cannot help asking what will be the destiny of these people Xerxes looked off on his army. There were 2,000,000, perhaps the finest army ever marshaled. Xerxes rode along the lines, reviewed them, came back, and stood on some high point, looked off upon the 2,000,000 men and burst into tears. At that moment, when every one supposed he would be in the greatest exultation, he broke down in grief. They asked him why he wept. "Ah," he said, "I weep at the thought that so soon all this host will be dead." So I think of these vast populations of immortal men and women and realize the fact that soon the places which know them now will know them no more, and they will be gone—whither, whither? There is a stirring idea which the poet put in very peculiar verse when he said:

'Tis not for man to trifle; life is brief,
And sin is here;
Our age is but the falling of a leaf,
A dropping tear.
Not many lives, but only one have we—
One, only one;
How sacred should that one life ever be—
That narrow span!

PROMINENT PEOPLE.

The King of Spain will visit Paris the guest of the French government.

Major General O. O. Howard has been elected president of the Congregational Home Missionary Society.

Wu Tung Fang, the Chinese minister at Washington, prefers the bicycle to any other means of getting about.

Sir Thomas Lipton has joined the Royal Cork Yacht Club and says he will challenge for the America's Cup under its auspices.

Fearing assassination in Eastern Servia, King Alexandria has given up his proposed tour of conciliation throughout that country.

Secretary of State and Mrs. Hay will spend the summer at their country place on the shores of Lake Sunapee, New Hampshire.

Senator Wolcott has introduced a new fashion in dress. His waistcoats, shirts, collars and ties are made of the same material and pattern.

General Cronje and his wife appear to be conducted at St. Helena. The general amuses himself by playing quoits, and his wife with laundry work.

President McKinley has accepted an invitation to attend the reunion and banquet of the "Iron Brigade of the Army of the Potomac," to be held in Chicago, August 27.

General Roberts has made several engagements for himself in London during September, and has ordered his town house to be ready for him on the first day of the month.

Richard Yates, the Republican nominee for governor of Illinois, is a man of considerable literary tastes, and for several years has been collecting a library of rare books, until now he owns one of the best in that State.

Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles is the seventh officer of the army to hold that rank, his predecessors being Washington, Scott, Grant, Sherman, Sheridan and Schofield, the last named now being on the retired list.

Democrats For McKinley.

Judge Allen B. Morse and Hon. R. A. Montgomery, two of Michigan's most prominent Democrats, have announced their intention of supporting the Republican ticket this year. They stuck to the party, hoping it would purge itself of Populism, but now realize that the present Democratic managers are bent on going to the extremes. The exits of the Democratic party are going to be busy places this year.

EXPANSION'S BENEFITS.

SENATOR LODGE ON THE GROWTH OF OUR HAWAIIAN TRADE.

Has Increased Threefold Within Five Years and Largely Since Annexation—Of More Value Than Our Business With Many European Nations.

"One reason why I am an expansionist," said Senator Lodge in Washington the other day, while discussing the possibilities of our trade with our island possessions, "is because I have watched the growth of our commerce with the Hawaiian Islands.

"Five years ago, in 1895, the total Hawaiian trade with the United States amounted to only $11,500,000. Last year it reached $33,500,000, having increased almost taree-fold within five years, and most of this increase has occurred within the past eighteen months or so.

"We may not think that a business of $33,500,000 amounts to very much when our foreign trade is now running up into the billions, but compare our trade with the Hawaiian Islands, with their handful of people, with some of the larger countries of the world, and it gives a better idea of the value of colonies to the United States which ship their products to us and buy their food, provisions and clothing from this country.

"Let us begin with Europe.

"Our trade with the Hawaiian Islands is over 150 per cent. larger than our total trade with Austria-Hungary.

"It is 75 per cent. larger than our trade with Denmark.

"It is 60 per cent. as large as our total trade with Italy.

"It is nearly four times as large as our trade with Portugal.

"It is over 150 per cent. larger than our total trade with Russia.

"It is almost double our trade with Spain.

"It is 125 per cent. greater than our trade with Sweden and Norway combined.

"It is more than double our trade with Switzerland.

"It is ten times as large as our trade with Turkey.

"It is nearly thirty times larger than our trade with Greece.

"These comparisons are with the thickly peopled countries of Europe. Now we will take the American continent.

"Hawaiian trade with the United States is equal to 30 per cent. of our trade with the whole Dominion of Canada.

"It is nearly 150 per cent. greater than our trade with all the Central American States.

"It is 60 per cent. as large as our trade with Mexico.

"It is 50 per cent. larger than our trade with the British West Indies.

"It is nearly five times as large as our trade with Porto Rico.

"It is three times as large as our trade with the Danish, Dutch and French West Indies, with Hayti and San Domingo included.

"It is almost twice as large as our trade with Argentine.

"It is almost half as large as our trade with Brazil, whence we import most of our coffee.

"It is nearly 400 per cent. larger than our trade with Chile.

"It is nearly 400 per cent. larger than our trade with the United States of Colombia.

"It is nearly fifteen times larger than our trade with Ecquador.

"It is more than six times larger than our trade with British, Dutch and French Guiana.

"It is ten times larger than our trade with Peru.

"It is ten times larger than our trade with Uruguay.

"It is more than five times larger than our trade with Venezuela.

"Now let us make some comparison with countries across the Pacific, and we find that our trade with Hawaii is within six million dollars of being as large as our trade with the Empire of China.

"It is more than three times as large as our trade with Hong Kong.

"It is nearly half as large as our total trade with all the British, Dutch and French colonies, which send us such large supplies of sugar.

"It is equal to 65 per cent. of our total trade with Japan.

"It is more than five times larger than our last year's trade with the Philippines.

"It is nearly twenty times larger than our trade with Asiatic Russia.

"It was larger by four million dollars than our trade with the whole of the Australian colonies last year, with their five millions of people.

"It was larger last year by more than three million dollars than our trade with the entire continent of Africa.

"As I said, the increase of our trade with Hawaii has been very marked since its annexation by the United States, and I look for equally rapid improvement in our trade with Porto Rico and the Philippines. These colonies will absorb some of our surplus manufactures, and they will also draw upon this country for their provisions, thus increasing the demand for the products of the American farms."

Farm Values.

It was under the last Democratic administration and the last free trade tariff that the farmer could exchange his pound of wool for a pound and a half of sugar. But under the McKinley administration his wool was worth more, while sugar was cheaper, and the pound of wool brings four pounds of sugar.

A Matter of Interests.

The foreign shipping interests are represented at Washington by an active lobby. The American shipping interests should be represented by the American legislators.

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Sending Eggs Abroad.

Supplying our colonies with eggs is one of the benefits to farmers of the expansion policy. Last year we exported 3,700,000 dozen eggs, as compared with only 151,000 dozen in 1895. Lay on, Oh, hen!

Southern Exports.

The export trade of the South for the past twelve months amounted to over $400,000,000, more than one-third of that of the entire country. These are figures which speak more eloquently than the narrow Southern politicians who contribute so liberally to the Congressional Record.

EDWIN HURD CONGER.

The trouble with the Boxers in China has attracted world wide attention, and will probably continue to do so. One of the most important figures in the attempts to control these Boxers and other thug societies sworn to exterminate "foreign devils," has been Edwin H. Conger, the United States minister at Peking. Mr. Conger is fifty-seven years old, and was born in Knox county, Ill. He was educated at Lombard University, where he graduated in 1862. He immediately entered the army as a private, and was made a captain at nineteen. For bravery in service he was brevetted a major. After the war he studied law and located at Galesburg, but in 1868 he removed to Iowa. President Harrison appointed him United States minister to Brazil, and President McKinley gave him the same distinguished position. He was later, however, transferred to China, where he has been doing good work.

TRANS-PACIFIC TREAD

Will Exceed One Hundred Million Dollars This Fiscal Year.

Exports to Asia and Oceanica, in the fiscal year which ends June 30, will for the first time in our history exceed $100,000,000. In no part of the world has our export trade grown with such amazing rapidity, with the single exception of Africa. In 1893 our total exports to all Asia and Oceanica amounted to only $27,421,831, so that in the fiscal year now about to end they will be about four times as great as those of eight years earlier.

The growth in exports to Asia and Oceanica is chiefly in cotton, breadstuffs, provisions and manufactures. Exports of agricultural machinery to British Australasia in the nine months ending with March, 1900, were $699,323, against $349,550 in the corresponding months of 1898. Exports of flour to China in the nine months ending with March, 1900, was 46,961 barrels, against 14,616 barrels in the same months of 1898; to Japan, 417,430 barrels, against 107,401 barrels in 1898; and to Hong Kong, 1,009,248 barrels, against 647,688 barrels in the same months of 1898. Carriages and cars to Australia amounted to $412,254, against $251,802 in the corresponding months of 1898; cotton cloth to China in the same period, 156,830,255 yards, against 77,990,676 yards in 1898. Raw cotton exported to Japan amounted in the nine months ending with March, 1900, to $11,517,968, as against $5,843,071 in the same months of 1898. Builders' hardware exported to Asia and Oceanica in the nine months ending with March, 1900, amounted to $1,254,000, an increase of 50 per cent. over the same months of 1898; while boots and shoes sent to Asia and Oceanica in the nine months ending with March, 1900, reached nearly one million dollars, against a quarter of a million in the same months of 1898.

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The Boer Envoys.

Secretary Hay quickly made it clear to the Boer envoys that the administration could do no more than it already has done to bring about peace in South Africa. The United States Government acted promptly when an opportunity offered, through the appeal made to the representatives of the various nations at Pretoria, and was the only nation which did act. As its offer of mediation was then courteously declined by England, no further opportunity is now afforded.

Democratic Frauds.

Democratic papers are making a great outcry about the Cuban postal frauds. But they forgot to point out that the record of defalcations of Government funds shows stealings of $5.17 in every $1000 under Democratic administrations, as compared with only 46 cents in every $1000 under Republican administrations.

WORTH LITTLE.

Are Contracts with Employers, Says This Man.

"I wouldn't give a cent for a contract with an employer," said an advertising man. "Contracts are useless. If a man hires you for a certain sum to do certain work, he pays you that sum because you are worth it to him and he'll keep you without a contract just as long as he will keep you with one. If he agrees to pay you more than you are worth he'll find it out sooner or later and then your contract isn't worth a fig. I know it shouldn't be so, but it is so. I've got in mind now a case in which a New York merchant who boasts of forty years of business integrity figured. He employs a buyer in one of his departments at a yearly salary and contracted with him for five years. This buyer was one of the best in the business. He worked along for about a year and then something happened that made the merchant dissatisfied. Of course the buyer was under a contract and the merchant could not get rid of him without violating it. What did he do? Why he sent for this man and said to him: Mr. ———, you have done splendid work for us, and we are more than satisfied. We feel that you deserve some reward and we have determined to increase your salary $1,000 a year.' Well the buyer said he was very grateful and all that and went out and put in some of his best licks. He got the increased salary for two weeks and signed a receipt for it. Then the merchant sent for him and said: 'Mr. ———, we are mistaken in our estimate of you and we have determined to let you go. We don't need you any longer.' 'Well, I don't want to stay where I'm not wanted,' said the buyer, 'but I've a contract, you know.' 'Contract?' said the merchant. 'What contract? Oh, no, you have no contract. You consented to the abrogation of the contract two weeks ago.' 'Well, I don't think that'— the buyer began. 'It doesn't make any difference what you think,' said the merchant with forty years of business integrity, 'you did abrogate it. We don't need you any longer. Good day, sir.'"—New York Sun.

VISITOR KICKS ON CLOCKS.

He Calls All Public Timepieces Public Liars.

"A public clock is a public liar, at least in Chicago," said a countryman to the hotel clerk yesterday. "By comparing the clock across the street with the clock in the store on the next block, where I went to make some purchases, I arrived at the hotel door fifteen minutes before I started from the store, and, according to your clock, it took me twelve minutes to walk aross the rotunda to your desk." "How does your watch compare with our clock?" asked the clerk. "I don't know. It stopped awhile ago of its own accord. Got disgusted, I guess, trying to conform to the way your city clocks do business. No self-respecting watch would try to run along with your public clocks. But your clocks are no more uncertain, no more untruthful than some men I have had dealings with in this town. However, I should not complain of the ways and customs of your city folk, for I lived here five years a long time ago and made enough money to buy as good a farm as you will find in Wisconsin." "I did not suppose you had ever lived in a city a whole week at a time in your life," observed the parted-his-hair-in-the-middle clerk. "No? Well, I have and they used to say I had the sharpest private detective agency that this town ever had. And, say, Mr. Clerk, the next time I come to town you needn't bother to tell the house watchman to see that none of the boys 'work that old hayseed.'"—Chicago Chronicle.

A Big Fee for One Word.

William M. Evarts, one of the most honored men in the legal profession was paid a fee of $250,000 for giving a legal opinion which is expressed in just one little word of three letters. "Yes" was the word, and the opinion was rendered upon the request of a great corporation which had a difficulty on hand involving millions and threatening the existence of the corporate body. The question was wholly one of the correct interpretation of the law, and when the regular attorney for the corporation put this vitally important question to the great lawyer, with the previous understanding that the interested parties would abide by his decision, win or lose, Mr. Evarts sat buried in thought for a minute, and then answered in one word, "Yes." His bill for that one word was $250,000, and the corporation paid it without a murmur. His answer proved to be entirely correct.

MINES AND MINERS.

To Reopen Rich Gold and Copper Mines. Germany to Celebrate the Anniversary of First Mining Operations.

The value of Transvaal mining machinery is not far from $47,000,000. Most of the machinery (about $40,000,000 worth) is on the Witwatersrand.

The czar is said to have granted to a British syndicate a concession to work the gold deposits on his majesty's private estate in the Nertchinsk region in Siberia. Overtures by French and German applicants for this concession have been repeatedly refused.

Until the discovery of deposits of lime in the Calico mountains borax had been a product of the marsh and of methods the simplest, admitting no improvement in mechanical appliances. An entirely new era opened with the discovery of borate of lime in stratified rock-formation. Thenceforward the industry was transformed into a proposition akin to that of quartz mining.

The Pennsylvania railroad is the largest carrier of coal in the State of Pennsylvnia, and its traffic reports for last year show a total of coal of all kinds of about 33,000,000 tons. The next road of importance is the Reading, which shows a total of all kinds of about 14,000,000 tons; while the amount sent out by water down the Ohio during last year amounted to something like 10,000,000 tons.

The mineral development of Rowan county, North Carolina, will receive another impetus by the reopening of the gold and copper mines at Gold Hill. This property was first opened for development in 1842, and was for many years a large producer of gold. Preparations are said to be under way for active operations, including the erection of considerable machinery.

The German emperor has commanded the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the first mining operations in Germany. These were begun in the Harz mountains, the principal minerals being silver and copper. The emperor himself will attend the celebrations, which will take place at Hettstedt, in Saxony, where the first mine is said to have been opened, and will also visit Eisleben, a large copper mining center, where Martin Luther, whose father was a miner there, was born.

James E. Roderick, chief of the State bureau of mines, has submitted to Gov. W. A. Stone a report of the mining operations in Pennsylvania for 1899. The report shows that bituminous coal is mined in 28 counties in Pennsylvania and anthracite in 10 counties, and in the 38 there was mined the aggregate of 127,101,167 tons, of this 54,034,224 tons were produced from 366 mines in the anthracite region and 73,066,943 tons from 776 mines in the bituminous region. The average number of days worked in the mines of the anthracite region last year was about 120; the average quantity produced per day was about 300,000 tons. The average number of days worked in the bituminous mines were 296; the average daily production was 246,848 tons.

Rev. Father Gendron, of Dawson City, in the Klondike, rector of the Roman Catholic Mission in that town, has been presented with a rosary by his parishioners, the beads of which are of Klondike gold nuggets united by a solid gold chain, and having a gold cross attached. The nuggets are very uneven and rough, and there are embedded in them gold little pieces of rock. Its actual weight is about 25 ounces, and its value is estimated at $500. The rosary is now on its way to the Paris Exposition.

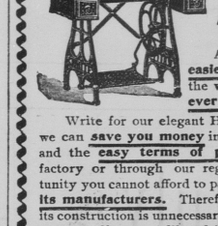
An engineer employed by an American company, who recently visited the Cerro del Mercado in Durango, says that the iron in sight on this mountain is sufficient to furnish all the smelters of England with ore for a period of 330 years.

A Woman's Reason.

A lady who was very much fatigued with the responsibilities of her home and family, yielded to the insistence of a friend and went away from home for a rest of three days, but at the end of that time, being still earnestly solicited to stay, she telegraphed home: "Is every one well?" Her husband promptly replied: "Yes. Why?" She was in a household where late hours were the rule, so she sat up till midnight, and then went to a telegraph station near-by, and sent this truly feminine message: "Because." It was "collect" and it reached the gentleman at two a. m., and acted as a restraint upon future telegraphic witticisms on his part.—Youths' Companion.

The Leader Among Copper Producers.

There has recently been published in Germany an interesting book entitled "A Century of Copper," which shows that the United States now furnishes more than half of all the copper used in the world. While the production has increased with great rapidity in other countries, in none has the copper industry developed so rapidly as in the United States. In 1890 the total value of copper manufactured was only $2,349,392; in 1899 it had increased to $35,083,529. In 1890 we exported 20,237,409 pounds to foreign countries. In 1899 we exported 254,987,164 pounds.



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KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED

PENSIONS GRANTED.

Largest Deed Ever Recorded in Greene County—Taking Up Thirteen Miles of Pipe Line—Other Notes.

Pensions granted last week:—Lewis F. McCroy, California, $10; Henry Chase, West Alexander, $10; Robert A. McDonald, Homestead, $12; John Jacoby, Indiana, $10; George E. Stailey, Everett, $24; Abraham Irvin, Coalport, $10; Jacob Gwinner, Steelton, $12; James Black, Canonsburg, $10; Robert Q. Warneck, Larimer, $10; Frederick Yockey, Kittanning, $8; William Putnam, Stoney Fork, $8; Charles McMannis, Blairsville, $10; Chill W. Hazard Monongahela, $50; Joseph E. Shomo, Manorville, $12; Joseph Royer, Philipsburg, $8; James Kenyean, Verona, $8; John D. Neff, Lindsey, $8; Clark Rannells, Oakdale, $6; Matthew McClure, Duquesne, $6; Frederick Dessenberger, New Cumberland, $8; Peter Hartz, Carnegie, $10; Andrew J. Bollman, Freeport, $8; George Ulsh, Lewistown, $8; John Gleason, dead, California, $4; William H. Rhodes, Martinsburg, $10; William R. Wilkins, Coal Center, $8; John Tate, Bellefonte, $10; John Yoder, Lewistown, $30; Solomon W. Fry, Bellefonte, $10; Madison A. Timblin, Penfield, $8; Henry Schnelburg, Indiana, $12.

The largest deed ever recorded in Greene county has been filed in the prothonotary's office at Waynesburg. It covers 62 tracts of coal land situated in Dunkard, Whitely and Cumberland townships, in the eastern end of the county, and the deed is from Joseph E. Barnes to J. V. Thompson and others, of Uniontown. The consideration is $170,077.50, and $170.50 worth of revenue stamps was required for the deed. It will take 15 days to place it on the deed book; it will occupy 65 pages and the recorder's fees will be $40.

While fishing in the Ohio river the 11-year-old son of W. H. Breitenstein fell in the river. His father, sitting near, plunged into the water after the boy. Neither could swim. Two hours later their bodies were found a few rods below the point where they disappeared. Mr. Breitenstein was 42 years of age, and had been a resident of Economy since he was 12 years old. He came direct from Germany.

Work has been commenced taking up the old pipe line of the Philadelphia Gas Company from Murrysville and East Liberty. The entire line will be taken up and shipped to the Elizabeth gas field near Washington, Pa. The line is 13 miles long. Mr. Murryman, of the Philadelphia Company, is looking after the work. The contract price for the job is $286,000 and it will require at least seven months to complete the work.

The Gordon Coal and Coke Company is being organized under a charter to be applied for at Harrisburg, to operate mines and coke ovens near Riverton, on the Allegheny Valley railroad. The men back of the company own a tract of coal land three miles in length and two miles wide, having a frontage on the river, as well as on the railroad. The head offices of the company will be in Pittsburg, and the capital will be $300,000.

Gas has been struck on the Wilhelm farm, in Menallen township, Fayette county, at a depth of 22 feet. At that depth a rock was encountered, which proved so hard that the drills were broken to pieces. The well already has 50 pounds pressure, and it is believed it will be a "hummer" if put down deeper. The product of the new well will be utilized at the Thompson glass works, which is being put in order for operations.

Gen. James A. Beaver, chairman of the Center county soldiers' monument and Curtin memorial committee reports that since the last meeting, held in April, soliciting committees have been placed in every election precinct in the county, who have gone to work raising the necessary funds. At present there is virtually a fund of close to $12,000, with promises and pledges for an additional large amount.

While chopping down a gigantic oak tree on the Cheat river along where the soldiers under Georger Washington trailed, going east and west, a hard substance was encountered, and when the trunk was split open an old-time flintlock musket was found imbedded near the heart of the tree. It is thought the gun was placed against the tree by a soldier and the wood grew around it.

Five thousand acres of coal on the east side of the Monongahela river, above Elizabeth, have been sold to the River Coal Company, the fuel department of the new Union Steel Company, of Pittsburg. The coal was owned by the Thompson-Barnes syndicate, of Uniontown, and the price was $350,000. Ovens will be built for coking.

A new rival to the kissing bug is doing a lively business at Pottsville. The insect resembles the kissing bee in form, but is only about as large as a honey bee. A score of persons have been bitten within the past few days. The bite produces excessive itching and inflammation, followed by a great swelling of the injured part.

A tract of 4,000 acres of timber land near New Florence, Cambria county, has been secured by the new firm of Pershing & Horrell, who will employ about 100 men in taking out logs, ties and bark. A large sawmill is nearly ready for operation. It is estimated that five years will be required to market all the lumber of this extensive tract.

Hon. Lewis Emery, Jr., has been nominated for Congress by the Independent Republicans of the Twenty-seventh district. He will oppose Joseph C. Sibley. Emery has already secured the nomination of the Democrats of the district, and the fusion, it is thought, will result in a bitter contest.

A herd of 27 cattle on the farm of Joseph Elliott, in Jefferson township, Fayette county, took shelter from a storm under a big tree. A bolt of lightning struck the tree and killed 11 of the finest of the herd.

The long established banking house of P. Bentel & Co., at Freedom, and the Freedom National bank, which was recently organized, have consolidated and the new organization will be known as the Freedom National bank.

Dennis Crowley, a farmer of Vienna, near Sharon, has received notice that by the death of a relative in England he inherits an estate worth $50,000. Crowley is poor and his farm is mortgaged.

Sixteen parks are maintained by the City of Mexico.

THE NATIONAL GAME.

The Cincinnatis are using black bats.

Forty-eight pitchers have been worked in the League this year.

Pitcher Cogan has been released by the Chicago team to New York.

Nine errorless games have been played by the Brooklyns this season.

Boston is playing the best all-round game just now of any of the League teams.

Chicago's new first baseman, Ganzell, is a splendid fielder and very good batsman.

Jerry Denny has released Mike Tiernan from the Derby Club, of the Connecticut League.

Tomaney of Chicago, has a more varied assortment of curves than perhaps any other pitcher in the League.

Three old League umpires—John W. Gaffney, Tom Connolly and W. J. Smith—are officiating in college games.

The plan to restore the double umpire system has been dropped by the magnates, because of the extra expense.

The Cincinnati team is very weak in batting and almost any pitcher can keep its score down in a very low figure.

Flynn, of the Indianapolis team, has played in no less than four different positions so far this season and his fielding average is over .900.

Crawford, the fine young outfielder of the Cincinnati team, hails from Wahoo, Neb., and was a barber before he became a League ball player.

Lajoie, of Philadelphia, will be laid up for a month, owing to a broken thumb, sustained in a fist fight with Flick, which Lajoie started over a trifle.

Boston critics say that "both the Cincinnati and Boston outfields are weak on ground balls, and none too strong in throwing or playing for the batsman."

RAILROAD PASSES

Proved the Ruin of This Once Prosperous Kansas Farmer.

Wichita (Kan.) Cor. Chicago Inter Ocean: This is the true story of the undoing of a Kansas farmer, and his particular case has many a duplicate in the Sunflower state. Politics was his Nemesis, and his love for a railroad pass led him into all the trouble. John Butternew was a prosperous German farmer of the Third district. He had a fine farm, and it was well stocked with blooded cattle and good horses. He worked