

A SERMON FOR SUNDAY

AN ELOQUENT DISCOURSE ENTITLED:
WHO ARE SONS OF GOD?

The Rev. Robert A. MacFadden Declares
That the Four Sources of Success Are
Blood, Will of the Flesh, Will of Man
and God.

BROOKLYN, N. Y.—The Rev. Robert A. MacFadden, of Danvers, Mass., preached Sunday in the Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church. His subject was "Who Are the Sons of God?" He said:

My subject is "Who Are the Sons of God?" and my text is "Which were born not of blood, or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man but of God." At first sight they are equal; but a second sight reveals the warfare that ever goes on between heredity and environment on the one hand and faith in God on the other. This contrast, implicit, though does not state, that the one true success is spiritual success, and for this a secret power is to be furnished. Power in life means all the way through to the final, a victory over difficulties, and difficulties cannot be ultimately overcome except through this secret power.

Every life and every work done has somewhere its sufficient explanation. God has never yet permitted an accident in His world. Every deed has its pedigree. So much producing energy in the cause means so much energy in the effect. There is no such thing as luck. Every life has its pedigree. Young men are so apt to think chance plays the great part in life, so they wait on their chance. They are some one doing the thing he undertakes, and they leap to the belief that there is some trick about it. If they only had the trick they could do it, also. Such a young man need to be informed. The man who succeeds to-day in business, scholarship or politics succeeds because he knows how, and he knows how because he has learned how. He who does not know how is foredoomed to failure. There is no more important question the young man can ask himself than how he can prepare for life as now to be a cavalry, not lost in the next world, but shipwrecked in this.

For the ratio between what a man is and what he can do is a constant ratio. Every man will have all the power he earns, and the power that he has will tell, not because people like it or like him, but because it is power, and as such can keep itself erect without being propped up by a labor union or held in its place because it is somebody's son.

It follows, then, that the most important thing a boy can do is to get ready. It is inspiration that every ounce of energy put into work in the early years is so much distinct guarantee of usefulness in the adult years. And next to getting ready, the father should tell his boy that he must get ready for rough weather. The boy must learn to handle the boat of his own experience if he is not to be driven upon the shallows or into the breakers. As he meets and masters the difficulties that beset him getting out of the harbor of the high school or the college, he is equipping himself for the enemies that will assail him on the high seas.

John, then, here points out the possible ways of getting ready. He asserts that permanent success does not depend upon blood, will of the flesh, or will of man, but solely upon God. Let me translate this into the four F's: Family, force, furnishings, faith.

John says first a man's success does not depend upon his family. Dr. Lyman Abbott has developed this thought rationally. That no people are great or good simply because of their ancestry. The greatness of America does not depend primarily upon its Pilgrim history. No one would for a moment dispute this with him. But I desire to emphasize this from the domestic viewpoint. The man of the future, says John, does not depend upon his family. Then it makes no difference what the family, the Bible lays no stress upon heredity. He who is a man of the future, the Bible lays great stress upon heredity. When it writes the life of a great man it begins with his parents. The foundations of his education are laid, and respect is laid in the antecedent generation. In an important sense the boy begins to live when his father begins to live. The child is the parent continued down in a new generation of science, and it is good science. But this is Scripture, and it is good Scripture. Scripture emphasized heredity long before science was born. Hannah, the mother of Moses, Elizabeth, Mary, Louis and Eunice are all magnificent monuments. The Christian women who would duplicate these glorious sons must first duplicate the matches mothers.

As believers in the Bible we have an interest in heredity. It is the Gospel expectation that the children grow up bearing the physical features of their parents, and in time they will come to embrace and exemplify the parents' faith. That's what Timothy did, in whom the great apostle rejoiced so much. Heredity is mighty, but let us not think it is mighty. Heredity gives us tendency, but it gives us nothing else. The children of good parents take in goodness more easily than the children of bad parents. The children of educated parents acquire ideas more easily than those of ignorant parents. The father, who for five and twenty years has been saying, "Two times two are four. I guess I'll make it five," gives to his baby child the tendency to make the same multiplication, but the child must make the choice before it becomes a habit. In the "Heredity" sermon of Henry Ward Beecher on "Heredity Influence," could be printed as a supplement to our courses in ethics. That sermon makes men tremble at what they may bequeath to their children. But after all, the grace of God is stronger than the sin of man. What a man is he chooses to be. Weakness, tendency are handed down, but the choice is made by the individual himself. Your spiritual success, young man, does not depend upon your ancestry, your heredity, your father's habits, or your family. John says no man is safe simply because of his family.

But it does not depend upon your personal force, which is a free translation for the New Testament word "strength." It stands for the animal man, not necessarily the bad animal man. It means a strong, vigorous force in the man himself. Now, John says this strong, vigorous force will never give a man his spiritual supremacy. Let me illustrate, rather than debate, the proposition. Noah must have had a strong and vigorous will, but it did not insure him against the man-stealing serpent. He might have will, but it was no match for the dark eyes of Delilah. David, what a glorious career in overcoming obstacles! What vigor! What power! He was weak and wretched. The Rev. Arthur Dimmerdale, in that greatest American novel, "The Scarlet Letter," had a mighty will, but he was lost in the presence of Hester Prynne. That great Irishman, greater than any other, who ruled with a rod of iron, who took the miserably misunderstood profane of home rule and lifted it into a central place in the world's thought; who thrashed the London Times; who wrought miracles in the House of Commons, and who lifted William E. Gladstone into the office of Prime Minister for the fourth time; that man, at the zenith of his power, was discovered to have invaded another man's home and was living in a hidden and illicit way. The people of Great Britain tore him from his throne, trampled his name in the dust, and within three months he was laid away in his grave with a broken heart. As the traveler to-day walks by

A WAY THE JAPS HAVE

SHOWN IN THE MATTER OF MAKING ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.

Why American Manufacturers Are Not Likely to Profit by the Russo-Japanese War—American Artificial Limbs Still the Best in the World.

"Will the Russo-Japanese war cause any increase in the demand for American artificial limbs?" was asked of a New York maker of such appliances. "Not a bit," was the reply, "or not in Japan, anyway. Whatever artificial limbs the Japanese may require they will buy of their own makers."

"We have sold some artificial limbs in Japan," the New York manufacturer continued; "I guess about fifty altogether. The first one we ever sold there was supplied to a Japanese nobleman, who was also of high rank as a state official, and who lost a leg by the explosion of a bomb thrown at him by an assassin at the time of the Chino-Japanese war."

"This leg gave its wearer great satisfaction, and subsequently we sold to him duplicates of it; the first and last we have sold to various purchasers in Japan, as I said, about fifty artificial limbs altogether, but now the demand for them has wholly ceased, for the Japanese are now making their own. We print a catalogue, which is really a book of several hundred pages, and which contains, besides a catalogue of our productions, a treatise on artificial limbs and their uses and information concerning them. It is illustrated with cuts of artificial limbs and of various other appliances which we produce. We send these catalogues all over the world."

"Some time ago we received from Japan a reprint of our catalogue, done in Japanese, put out there by a Japanese manufacturer of artificial limbs. He sent a number of copies of this book and offered to send us more if we desired them."

This Japanese reprint of the American catalogue is, like the original, a book of some hundreds of pages, and it is bound in boards. It is printed on thin Japanese paper, and in Japanese characters.

In this Japanese reprint many of the drawings of the original are also reproduced, the work on these, however, not being so well done as it might be. But the book contains, bound into it, a number of leaves of plate paper, on which are printed half-tone portraits, these including pictures of some Japanese wearers of artificial limbs, and including also a portrait of the founder of the American concern whose catalogue is thus reprinted.

"In fact," said the New York manufacturer, "they gave us in the book the very fullest credit in every way, but at the same time they wrote us that they considered the making of artificial limbs a humane enterprise, and that if they required further information concerning the making of them it might be that they would write to us for it. And if they do, I dare say that we shall send it to them."

"For their example in reprinting our catalogue is one not likely to be followed, and the Japanese trade is lost to us, anyway. American artificial limbs are the best that are made in the world anywhere. In lightness, in the ingenuity of their construction and in adaptability to their uses they excel all others, just as, in their respective ways, do so many other American inventions in the construction of which ingenuity and skill are involved."

"But now, with artificial limbs made in their own country, the Japanese will buy no other. For they are an intensely patriotic people, and however good ours may be, and whether their own may be good or bad, the Japanese require an artificial limb will buy one only of Japanese make."

"But this does not apply everywhere. There are other patriotic peoples who patronize their own, as, for example, the Germans. And in other countries they may, so to speak, dissect our limbs, take them apart to discover and reproduce their excellences, but they are not likely to go to the extent of the Japanese. And, after all, ours remain the best, and we will sell them all over the world."

"In many far countries, when anybody has need for an artificial limb, he sends for it to where he can get the best, and so he is likely to send to the United States; or, if he was of European birth or descent, and so with natural inclinations in that direction, it might be that he would send to France. So we get orders from everywhere, only yesterday, for example, we received an order for an artificial leg from an interior city of British India. And, with these sales added to the business done in our own country, we have all the business we can conveniently do, and so, when we take into account all the circumstances, we are not disturbed by the reproduction of our catalogue in Japan."

"You spoke of the Japanese nobleman subsequently ordering additional limbs—duplicates. Do people that have occasion to wear an artificial limb commonly own more than one?"

"Some men have a dozen, and it would not be remarkable for a man to have two or three or half a dozen legs. The stump of the natural leg is liable to change more or less with time, requiring a corresponding readjustment of the artificial leg to insure perfect comfort in the wearing of it. So a man would be likely to have two artificial legs, the second one to be worn when the first was undergoing refitting or repairs."

"And some men have a number of legs, as they would have a number of suits of clothes and wear them as they would the clothes at different times. And an artificial leg is liable to mishap, just as a natural leg is; it may be run over, just as, perhaps, the or-

FOR THE HOUSEWIFE

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There is a new way to care for ferns that has been found very successful. Once a week they must have a Turkish bath. Put them in a bathroom, shut the windows and doors to exclude every particle of air. Then fill the bathtub with scalding water and allow the plants to steam for three or four hours.

The room should be gradually cooled off before the plants are removed to a cooler atmosphere. This process does away entirely with the laborious work of washing and spraying the leaves, and is much more satisfactory.—Pictorial Review.

Serving Melons. As soon as muskmelons are delivered wipe with damp cloth or wash to be sure melons are perfectly clean. Then place in refrigerator.

For Breakfast—Cut the small ones in two; very large ones should be quartered, and put chopped ice in center of each. Salt should be on hand, and some tastes require sugar.

For Luncheon—Prepare as above, but serve each piece on a bed of grape leaves or nasturtium leaves; if the latter are used place one flower on side of each place. The yellow blossom on the green nest is very attractive. And always select perfect leaves, have them washed, dried and chilled.

For Dessert—A delicious dessert is made by cutting melons in two, chilling and filling each half with ice cream. Serve on leaves. Icees could be used instead of ice cream, if preferred.

To Rid Pussy of Fleas. Pussy, also, has trials of her own in hot weather, and the fleas that trouble her are far more ravenous than dog fleas. If left unchecked, they soon reduce a sleek, healthy cat to a veritable skeleton. To get rid of her tormentors give her a good bath with warm water and sulphur soap, work in rapidly and with consideration for the sensitive ears, eyes and nose. While the hair is still wet comb with a fine tooth comb, rinse in tepid water, dry with soft cloths and give her after her bath a saucer of warm milk. When the hair is quite dry blow in along the backbone very fine insect powder and rub behind the ears with sulphur ointment. The next day the powder can be all brushed out and the backbone rubbed with the ointment. A bath of wood alcohol is also said to be a sure remedy for fleas, though pussy objects so strenuously that it requires two to administer it. This, too, should be followed with a saucer of warm milk, as alcohol reduces the temperature and might give a chill.

How to Keep Cool. With the advent of extreme hot weather the problem in every house is how to keep as cool and comfortable as possible. Heat is always trying, energy and spirits flag, children grow cross, while older people develop bad cases of "nerves."

With care and thought the house can be kept comparatively cool by throwing open every blind and window after sunset when the air is cooler, leaving as many as possible open all night, then closing them as the air grows hot and stifling in the morning. If this is systematically attended to the burden of midsummer heat can be perceptibly lessened. The cellar, particularly should be subjected to this daily treatment, but when left open at night should have strong coarse wire gratings in the windows. The cooking should be done as much as possible in the cool of the day. An oil or gas stove is far more convenient on this account, as the heat can be turned off when not in use. Where the laundry work is done at home and fire has to be kept all day for the ironing, it is the part of prudence to take advantage of the strong fire to roast enough meat to last several days, bake cookies, or pies, or make some dish en casserole.

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