

THE PULPIT.

A BRILLIANT SUNDAY SERMON BY DR. J. LEWIS PARKS.

Theme: A Sermon to Churchmen.

Brooklyn, N. Y.—The third annual union service of the Men's Parish Clubs of the P. E. Church in Brooklyn was held Sunday in St. Ann's Church. The Rev. J. Lewis Parks, D. D., of Calvary P. E. Church, Manhattan, preached the sermon. His text was the vision of the prophet Ezekiel and his discourse was an earnest exhortation to the men of the church to stand fast by the faith as it is in Jesus, and to Scripture study. It received close attention from the congregation. Dr. Parks said:

In captivity Ezekiel sees the glorious God, the Almighty, in the likeness of a man, seated upon His throne, borne upon His chariot. Strange living creatures sustain it at each corner. Four faces there are: The face of a man, the face of a lion, the face of an eagle and the face of an ox. And we are warned that the human element is the one upon which we should fix our attention, for the symbol is of the ideal man, with all his rich variety of gifts: Courage and force, like the king of beasts; patient in toil, like the ox; the eagle's eye, to pierce into the hidden things of nature and scan the mysteries of God. This kind of man, with his reason and his conscience and his heart, this ideal man, is the representative of all humanity in all his generations; and his business is to serve the Lord God Almighty and to show forth His glory. But, as the beasts in the Revelation of St. John have their place in heaven, these have theirs on earth, and the chariot hath its wheels, wheels in the middle of its wheels, so that they go whithersoever they will without turning, and they go and return as the flame of lightning, and the sword of the living God is in the wheels. And all this represents our humanity as organized. It has a vital mechanism—men bound together for the service of God. The Spirit moves the wheels and moves the whole chariot; moves the entire humanity.

In very truth the Holy Ghost is imminent in man, in very deed the body of Christ is the temple of the Spirit of God in every age just as the needs of the time demand. He blows, as it were, the breath of man upon the hearts and minds of men, quickening, reviving, energizing; throwing them actively and unthinkingly into the work of the day. It is one of the most potent and one of the most consolatory of historical phenomena, and you are in the midst of one such great revival of the Spirit now. Not that I forget the wickedness of the world. That is the very reason that I perceive this hour of God; the Holy Ghost fighting against anti-Christ; and the spiritual revival shows itself in some very visible, unmistakable signs. First, there is the marvelous revival of the missionary spirit to carry the Gospel to the four quarters of the globe. Then there is the yearning for the unity of Christendom. Then there is the calling of the multitude of workers into the field, not clerical, alas, but lay. Not women only; but the Spirit of God has made man somewhat see that he must serve and work for God. And finally, more strange still to anyone who has pondered human nature, there has taken possession of our time a passionate desire to serve mankind, to better human life, to make happier human conditions, to plead for justice as between man and man, to teach mercy and rejoice against judgment, that the intolerable and individual and unseen suffering of the day might little by little be done away.

But, alas, my brethren, strangely error and disruption balk the steps of man. Every light has its shadow; every virtue its corresponding vice; every movement of the Spirit tempts men to perversity and misunderstanding. His work, and I think most of you will bear me out when I say that the very spiritual movements of the day in each and all of the tendencies which I have pointed out tempt the present age to deny the faith and to belittle the body of Christ. It is easy to see how it should be so. Here are men worried with sectarian dogmologies, worn out spiritually but alive still. Men forget, in their impatience and desire for unity, that all these creeds, as we call them (and falsely called), are merely ephemeral efforts to express the fundamental truth of Jesus, and, putting aside these transient expressions, they forget the truth as it is in Jesus. And men, consumed as men are to-day to work for their brethren, are ready to say that social service is the gospel, that it is not only the fruit of the gospel but exclusively the whole of it, declaring that the Spirit of Christ is social service; that any man that hath this spirit is a Christian, let him call himself Jew or Agnostic or Mohammedan or Buddhist, it matters not, he is a Christian. Is it not easy to see how such a condition of things may presently lead to the perversion of conduct? And men in their zeal for men, and desire to co-operate with all good men for all good things, may come to think of little importance the body of Christ. And yet not possibly could the social aim of the day be more injured and jeopardized than by anything that should forget the faith or weaken the Church of God.

I will not say that modern civilization is the product only of Christianity; I will not say there are not other factors that have made for the present state; but I am bold to maintain that modern civilization never could have come to pass without the faith of the Church of Jesus Christ. Look at it. Did not the great doctrine of the incarnation bring into the world personality, fraternity, equality, charity? Is it not the doctrine of democracy? The Lord took human nature, not of any class, not of any race. In Him there is neither Jew nor Greek, barbarian, bond or free; but Christ is all and in all. How naturally slave and master went to the altar side by side! How naturally, since the days of Philemon, the Christian spirit set itself to break down slavery! How naturally woman was elevated and honored for blessed Mary's sake! A wise man of

the East says that according to the status of the women of a nation, so is its civilization; that the reason that Mohammedanism, the most progressive effort of the human race, came to nought, is the harem. Naturally Christianity made the hospital the normal appendage of every civic state. It sought to break down the terrors of privilege before the light of the work of the man in civic liberty and democracy. Naturally, too, because of the infinite pity of Jesus Christ men are pitiful and loving to-day toward their brethren. And mark you, only in Christian lands has this thing come to pass. There have been great civilizations of old, in Nineveh and Babylon and Rome and Greece. Sennacherib was no puny, petty sovereign. Rome governed and administered the world, but the care of man for man and self-sacrifice for a brother were never taught as the duty of man until Jesus came. I believe these things concern the men of the church.

I have ventured, with some boldness no doubt, to invite the attention of an assembly of lay churchmen to what I believe to be a most serious danger. Never, believe me, will the selfishness of men be moved to altruism, and what the Gospel calls the love of our brother, if you break down the church that carries the Gospel, the teaching of God's love to man, and your duty in this regard is very simple. But if you will perform it, it is potent for good. You have church clubs. You have been organized for some special service or other, but you are a church organization. Never forget that nothing that you can do in this world that ennobles the Church of God, or obscures the truth of the Gospel, will count for man for long, nor between you and God for much. Your duty is to maintain the Church of Christ, to reverence her Sabbath conscientiously as in the fear of God, not for your own pleasure disregarding the great commandment. Your duty is reverently to feed upon the Word of Life, and never to forsake the assembling of yourselves together, as the manner of many is. As for your duty toward the State, it is equally simple and briefly to be stated: "If any man will do My will, he shall know," and if any man will seek to know God's will, he will be sufficiently instructed in the truth as it is in Jesus. When the largest of all our lay organizations for men (St. Andrew's Society) was initiated, always the Bible class was thought to be a natural and inseparable adjunct. I know not how it is now, but I am certain that the study of the Word of God is the very best foundation of the faith. I do not care for geographies and archaeologies, but bring your common sense to bear on the Holy Scripture, and ask what it has to say to you for your own life; how you can follow out the teaching of the blessed work; what its application to the problems of the day; what comfort it has for your sorrows; what hope for your reward. Believe me, no man who reads and prays over and tries to live the Word of God is in any danger of forgetting his faith.

How to Be Encouraged. "David encouraged himself in the Lord"—Sam. 30:6. These words concerning him reveal to us the secret of his joy and success. Like Abraham, he believed in God. Trusting people are a happy people. They are contented and satisfied whatever their lot may be. They encourage themselves in the Lord and therefore have a continual feast. Their joy does not depend upon what people think or say about them, neither do they depend upon friends for comfort and encouragement, but they lean hard upon God and stand upon the promises.

Those who encourage themselves in the Lord are a great blessing and stimulant to others in many ways, but they carry sunshine with them wherever they go. Such people will always be needed. They never need to seek a place or position, but places, positions and people, both friends and enemies, will seek them. They have no troubles and sorrows to burden other people with, but they become real burden-bearers for others, and like Paul are able to comfort them that are in any trouble by the comfort wherewith they are comforted of God.

Friend, if you have not yet learned to encourage yourself in the Lord, begin to-day and the result will be glorious. (Read Phil. 4:4-7.)—G. W. S. Herald.

Unhesitating Obedience. Peter was the man of impulse, the man of action, with a swift-beating heart and an every-ready hand. To his forward-stepping mind, decision was easy and immediate; and so, almost before the command was completed, his swift lips had made answer: "I will let down the nets." It was the language of a prompt and full obedience. It showed that his nature was responsive and genuine. He had learned to obey, the first lesson of discipleship; and having learned to obey, he was therefore fit to rule, qualified for leadership, and worthy of being intrusted with the keys of the kingdom.

And how much is missed in life through feebleness of resolve, lack of resolve! How many are the invertebrate souls, lacking in will and void of purpose, who, instead of surmounting waves and conquering the flow of adverse tides, like the medusae an only drift, all limp and languid, in the current of circumstance! Such men do not make apostles; they are but eiphers of flesh and blood, of no value by themselves, and only of any worth as they are attached to the unit of some strong will.

Time Enough For Every Duty. No man has any more duties to do than he has time to do well. God assigns all duties, and all time, and all strength for the doing of duties; God expects good work from all His children, and God never expects more than is reasonable. Therefore when we think that we have not time enough to do all our duties as well as we ought, we are either wasting our time, or borrowing trouble, or trying to do what we ought to let alone. The honey-bee has a heavy burden of work to do, and he gets it done, and well done; and he gives no evidence of worrying over it. We ought to do at least as well.—Sunday-School Times.

OF INTEREST TO WOMEN

New York City.—The fancy waist with long draped sleeves that are still close fitting in effect is one that is



greatly in demand and suits a variety of occasions. This model can be used both for the gown and for the odd blouse and is susceptible of treat-



ment of various sorts. In the illustration it is made of satin with the under portions of the sleeves and the blouse of all-over lace and the yoke, or chemise, of tulle net. It is distinctly novel in design, however, and the under portions, which in this case are of all-over lace, can be utilized for contrasting material of any sort or for the material of the blouse, braided or embroidered, or treated in any similar manner. If a very handsome gown were wanted these under portions would be extremely handsome made from mandarin embroidery while for a simple gown the material itself with a design of soutache would be effective and in every way satisfactory.

The blouse is made with a fitted lining and this lining is faced to form the yoke. Over it is arranged the under portions of the blouse, while the blouse proper is laid in pleats over the shoulders and cut out on individual linings for coats.

MODERN BANQUET WOULD AMAZE NERO.

Signor Ferrero Says Luxury of His Time Not Comparable With That of To-Day.

"Corruption and Progress in the Ancient and Modern World" was the subject of the lecture in which Signor Ferrero, the Italian historian, shattered all the popular ideas of Roman corruption when he spoke before a large audience at Columbia University. After having stripped the romantic garb from the history of Cleopatra on Wednesday, Signor Ferrero attacked ideas regarding the vices of ancient Rome in an equally forceful manner.

"If we read the ancient sources we can see that the idea of Roman corruption has been exaggerated," he said; "that we have made for ourselves out of this much famed Roman luxury a notion highly romantic. But we need not delude ourselves. Rome even at the height of its splendor was poor in comparison with the modern world. Even when Rome stood as a metropolis for an immense empire it was less wealthy and less imposing than a great city of present Europe or America.

"We have pictured the imperial banquets of ancient Rome as functions of unheard of splendor; but if Nero could come to life and see the dining room of a great hotel of Paris or New York he would admire it far more than the hall in which he gave his feasts.

"In the modern world every increase of consumption, every waste, every vice seems permissible; indeed, almost meritorious, because men of industry, gain by the diffusion of luxury, by the spread of vice. If, for example, the beer makers and distillers of alcohol were not more powerful in the electoral field than the philosophers and academicians, the governments would have more easily recognized that the popular classes cannot be allowed to poison themselves or future generations with chronic drunkenness.

"Fabulous wealth is wasted by men and women to-day in luxury that is not to satisfy some reasonable need, but to show others of their kind how rich they are, or, further, to make others believe them richer than they are."—New York Herald.

Sea Gives Up Its Wealth.

"Californians have solved the problems of the alchemists and are making gold out of sea water," says William Briggs, writing in the Technical World Magazine. "The Golden State has taken golden treasure out of her mountains, has made her valleys yield millions of dollars' worth of golden fruit, has amassed tourist gold in exchange for her sunshine, and now turns to the great lazy Pacific and ransacks its coffers.

"There is no rush of prospectors to the new field, however, as the gold is coming out of the sea in the form of salts of potassium, magnesium and bromide, which would elude the pan and the rocker of the prospector.

"Of several 'diggings' of this nature, one at least is active and prosperous and one is approaching activity. The San Pedro Salt Company, which recently entered the field, has succeeded in manufacturing a quantity and quality of salt which has found a ready market and has already assumed a place among the exports of the port of San Pedro. The fact that San Pedro is a lively and thriving port, with almost no outgoing cargoes, makes the development of this trade both easy and important.

The first of last year the coasting schooners returning to the northern coast have taken away over a thousand tons of this sea salt."

Languages Revived.

This century is witnessing a revival of neglected languages. A writer says: "There are no fewer than nine tongues which since the beginning of the nineteenth century have retaken their places, politically and in literature, among the languages of modern Europe. The nine are Greek, Rumanian, Bulgarian, Servian, Magyar, Czech, Finnish, Norsk and Flemish. This list does not include Gaelic, which is now experiencing resuscitation in some parts of Ireland and the Polish, which achieved a political and literary revival in Galicia. The nine languages first named are now used by 50,000,000 people—a fact which does not suggest much likelihood of the approach of a universal language.

An Order For Blueberries.

The fame of those Surry blueberries has reached to the Far West. J. A. Haines, of Ellsworth, recently advertised the Surry blueberries in the Ellsworth American. Last week he received an order for twelve cans to be shipped to Ogden, Utah. The order came from Dr. A. S. Condon, of that city, and was accompanied by a copy of the advertisement and a letter in which Dr. Condon said he wished to taste again the blueberries which as a boy he picked about his home in Penobscot and Orland. Doubtless some of the berries he will get from the Surry factory came from the same plains in Orland which the doctor wandered over in his youthful days.—Kennebec Journal.

To Enjoy

the full confidence of the Well-Informed of the World and the Commendation of the most eminent physicians it was essential that the component parts of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna should be known to and approved by them; therefore, the California Fig Syrup Co. publishes a full statement with every package. The perfect purity and uniformity of product, which they demand in a laxative remedy of an ethical character, are assured by the Company's original method of manufacture known to the Company only.

The figs of California are used in the production of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna to promote the pleasant taste, but the medicinal principles are obtained from plants known to act most beneficially. To get its beneficial effects always buy the genuine—manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co. only, and for sale by all leading druggists.

Peculiar Spanish Custom. It is customary in Spain when an infant first begins to notice things to place before it a silver coin, a sword, a silver cross, a book and some fruit. The object to which the child stretches his hand indicates, according to accepted belief, his future vocation. The coin is for commerce, the sword for the army, the cross and the book respectively point to the Church and the law or learning, while the fruit denotes a farmer or landowner.

Lame Back Prescription.

Considerable discussion is being caused among the medical fraternity by the increased use of whiskey for lame back and rheumatism. It is an almost infallible cure when mixed with certain other ingredients and taken properly. The following is the formula: "To one ounce of Toris compound and one ounce syrup Sarsaparilla compound add one-half pint of good whiskey. Take in tablespoonful doses before each meal and before retiring."

It is surely worth trying by any one who may be afflicted.

Still Bigger Hats.

We are greatly surprised to learn from credible inner source that the feminine big hat is to remain in vogue. Not only is it to remain, but the understanding appears to be that it will show a still greater circumference—to say nothing of an extended diameter. Of course, the masculine mind can't understand this. He has seen the big hat lampooned, satirized, mocked, and even reviled. He has seen it caught in doorways, and banged against partitions, and bent in collisions. How it can survive both the shafts of sarcasm and the ruder materialistic bumps is something no fellow can find out—including a lot of fellows much wiser than Dunderbary.

But, of course, there is no use piping forth any further objections. The hat of lovely woman is as sacred a part of headgear as the hat of the Austrian Gessler. And both, more or less, are the emblems of tyranny—the tyranny of power and the tyranny of fashion.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

New Monroe Doctrine Needed.

The president and retiring secretary of state recommended that congress authorize the appointment of a commission to visit Liberia to study the difficulties in which that weakling state finds itself. A commission of Liberians recently visited this country—may be here yet—to ask that this government assume a sort of unofficial protectorate over the African republic, in order to guarantee her territorial integrity and keep the neighboring dependencies of European nations from aggression that threatens her existence. The United States, having encouraged the establishment of Liberia, would seem to have some responsibility to help her in the present crisis.

NO MEDICINE But a Change of Food Gave Relief.

Many persons are learning that drugs are not the thing to rebuild worn out nerves, but proper food is required. There is a certain element in the cereals, wheat, barley, etc., which is grown there by nature for food to brain and nerve tissue. This is the phosphate of potash, of which Grape-Nuts food contains a large proportion. In making this food all the food elements in the two cereals, wheat and barley, are retained. That is why so many heretofore nervous and run down people find in Grape-Nuts a true nerve and brain food.

"I can say that Grape-Nuts food has done much for me as a nerve renewer," writes a Wis. bride. "A few years ago, before my marriage, I was a bookkeeper in a large firm. I became so nervous toward the end of each week that it seemed I must give up my position, which I could not afford to do.

"Mother purchased some Grape-Nuts, and we found it not only delicious, but I noticed from day to day that I was improving until I finally realized I was not nervous any more. "I have recommended it to friends as a brain and nerve food, never having found its equal. I owe much to Grape-Nuts, as it saved me from a nervous collapse, and enabled me to retain my position."

Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich. Read, "The Road to Wellville," in pkgs. "There's a Reason."

Ever read the above letter? A new one appears from time to time. They are genuine, true, and full of human interest.