PEOPLE'S PULPIT...

Sermon by CHARLES T. RUSSELL. Pastor Brooklyn Tabernacle.

FEDERATION VALUE

The Church Militant's Surrender to the Church Triumphant.

"Say ye not, A Federation, to all them to whom this people shall say, A Federation; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid" (Isaiah viii, 12).

Brooklyn, Feb. 6.—The fourth and final meeting for the consideration of doctrinal surrenders necessary to Church Federation was held today. Brooklyn's largest auditorium, the Academy of Music, being crowded. Pastor C. T. Russell, of the Brooklyn Tabernacle, delivered the address as follows:—

Having viewed during the past three Sundays what the leading denominations would need to sacrifice in the interest of Federation, we come today to the final discussion of this series—The Church Militant and Triumphant and her interest in the Federation movement. Let us endeavor to take so broad a view of this subject that there will be no room for disagreement on the part of true Christians of any denomination.

Unnecessary as it may be to explain to this large and intelligent audience the significance of our topic, The Church Militant and The Church Triumphant, I must think beyond the thousands present of the millions who to-morrow will receive reports of this discourse from that great channel of the world's progress, the secular Press. Hence I explain that the term Church Militant signifies the Church in warfare, struggling with the powers of evil, while the Church Triumphant signifies the Church victorious, glorious, joined with her Lord, the Heavenly Bridegroom, as his Bride and Queen in the great Millennial Kingdom soon to bless and uplift the world of mankind. I should further add that while in this discussion we have considered the various denominations of Christendom and their creeds, we must today ignore all human systems and creeds. We must take the broad, general ground of the Scriptures and recognize only one Church.

Nor may we make the mistake of saying that the one Church is one Sect. No sect, no denomination, however great and influential and numerous and rich, either in sordid or historic wealth, can be conceded the right to appropriate the name which our Lord gave to all truly his disciples. Surely none of us is sectarian enough to dispute this premise. We must learn to recognize the Church of Christ from the same viewpoint as does the Head of the Church. We must learn the force of St. Peter's words to Cornelius, "Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons; but in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness is accepted with him" (Acts x, 34, 35).

Taking, therefore, the Scriptural view of the Church, we recognize it as the "Body of Christ" of many members, over which he is the Head. It is composed of consecrated followers of Christ irrespective of all denominational lines—those who, turning from sin, accept Jesus as their Redeemer, through whom they have forgiveness of sins and reconciliation to the Father—those who have become disciples of Christ, taking up their cross to follow him and who have received the begetting of the holy Spirit. Who could dispute that these are the Church of Christ? Who shall say that they must belong to this Communion or that, or lose their relationship to the Head, Christ Jesus? The apostles never referred to Baptist Christians, Methodist Christians, Catholic Christians, Presbyterian Christians, etc., but merely to these whom we have described and whom they styled saints—"the Church of the living God, whose names are written in heaven" (Hebrews xii, 23; I Timothy iii, 15). Let us keep strictly within the lines of God's Word and avoid the errors of the past. Let us today consider this Church as the Church Militant and prospectively the Church Triumphant.

The Church Militant.

If we all agree that we have before our minds the real Church, the Church of the New Testament, let us notice that there is a nominal Church also and that we are not competent to fully determine which are the real and which are the nominal Christians except by the test which our Lord has given—"by their fruits ye shall know them." While the real Church of fully consecrated believers, faithful to the Lord and his Word and the principles of righteousness, is represented by a very small number, there is a nominal Church related thereto as is a shell to the kernel of a nut. The nominal Church includes those whose manner or whose attendance on worship implies a relationship to Christ without having gone the length of a full faith-acceptance of him in sacrifice, perhaps without having fully turned from sin even in their hearts, and without having made a full consecration to serve the Lord. This nominal class may be subdivided into believers who are favorably disposed toward Christ and righteousness; others who regard the Church as merely a moral club designed for social and moral benefit or influence upon the world, by counteracting sinful influences; still others, bitter at heart, sinful and selfish, having no faith whatever in Jesus and no care whatever for morality and using the name of Christ hypocritically, merely as a garment to deceive, that they may the better gain their ends. Thus we find the nominal Church to consist of:—

(1) Hypocrites; (2) Moralists; (3) Indifferents; (4) Seekers after godliness; (5) The true Church, "the sanctified in Christ Jesus" (I Corinthians, i, 2)—"members of the Body of Christ"—prospective members of the Church Triumphant.

Fightings Without and Within.

Every member of "the Church of the first-born" was called "to suffer with Christ" that he may be also later glorified with him in the Millennial Kingdom. Only those who will stand the test of faithfulness under sufferings, trials, crosses, self-sacrifices, have the promise of sharing with Christ the glories of the Church Triumphant. "If we be dead with him, we shall also live with him; if we suffer with him, we shall also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us" (II Timothy ii, 11, 12).

But why should the Church fight? Is she not commended to live peaceably with all? Are not Christians exhorted to war not with carnal weapons and to be smitten on both cheeks, rather than to return evil for evil? Where, then, comes in the fight? Who are the foes? Surely none would assail a non-resistant!

We reply that the facts do not bear out that suggestion. Our Lord and his apostles were peaceable and non-resistant, obedient to kings and laws, and yet they suffered violent deaths, as well as stripes and imprisonment. They had their names cast out as evil. And those who persecuted and maligned them verily thought that they did God service. All who follow in the Lord's footsteps must expect similar treatment, because, as Jesus said, "The servant is not greater than his Lord." "Marvel not, if the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own; but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you" (John xviii, 18, 19). The Master said, "The darkness hateth the light," which explains why the chief religionists of his time, being of wrong condition of heart, instigated his crucifixion. They were of the darkness, living outwardly holy, while in heart they were far from consecrated to God. The very holding up of the torch of Truth was painful to them, reproved them and excited their animosity. Human nature is the same today. Notwithstanding the fact that heretic-roasting has become unpopular and intolerable to the world, there are methods of privately and symbolically roasting, slashing, wounding and killing practised by those estranged from God, though sometimes highly esteemed of men and wearing vestments only slightly less glorious than those worn by Caiaphas and Pilate.

"Who Scourgeth Every Son."

The Scriptures explain that there is a two-fold reason why Jesus and all of his followers are required to suffer for righteousness' sake.

(1) It is requisite to their own character-development that they should not only profess absolute loyalty to God and to Truth, but that this loyalty should be put to the test. Thus we read of our Lord that though "holy, harmless, undefiled," he was proved perfect in his loyalty by the things which he endured—by his obedience even unto death, even the ignominious death of the cross. The same principle, the Scriptures assure us, operates in connection with all whom God is now calling to be Emmanuel's associates in the Millennial Kingdom. They must suffer with him if they would reign with him. They must walk in his steps (Galatians v, 11; vi, 12; II Thessalonians i, 5; II Timothy i, 12; ii, 9, 12; iii, 12).

(2) These experiences are designed of God to qualify us to be judges of the world during the Millennial Age—that the Christ, Head and Body, may be merciful and faithful towards the people of earth. Likewise it is proper that the world should know that its judges have thus been tempted and tried, and are able to sympathize with them in their weaknesses and in their endeavors for righteousness—and more willing to help them up, up, up to human perfection than to consign them to the Second Death.

Although this conflict has lasted for more than eighteen centuries it has not been long for any single individual. With the Master himself the trial period was only three and a half years. On the whole, as compared with eternity, the entire Gospel Age of Sacrifice, as the Master said, is but "a little while." And as for the afflictions and testings themselves, St. Paul gives the proper thought, saying, that at most they are "light afflictions but for a moment and not worthy to be compared with the glory that shall be revealed in us," the overcomers (Romans viii, 18).

The Church Triumphant.

The Church in glory and in power will contain no hypocrites and no merely nominal Christians—only the true, the saintly, the "sanctified in Christ Jesus." Nevertheless it will be composed of two classes, as illustrated by the Priests and the Levites in the type. (1) Jesus glorified, the antitypical High Priest, and his faithful footstep followers, the antitypical under-priesthood—otherwise his "Bride." Together these are styled a Royal Priesthood or a Kingdom of Priests. St. Paul tells us that Melchizedek, who was a priest upon his throne, merely typified the Church Triumphant—Head and Body—The Christ, "A priest forever after the order of Melchizedek"—a priest upon his throne. During the Millennial Age that glorious Priest, Head and Members, will bless and uplift, rule and judge, the world of mankind, with a view to recovering as many as possible, as many as will obey him, from the ruin of sin and death. During the thousand years of the Melchizedek reign all the families of the earth will be blessed with opportunities of return to human perfection and to earthly Paradise. The willing and obedient will be destroyed in the Second Death. At the close of the Millennium, Christ's Mediatorial Kingdom will terminate.

As the Levites were much more numerous than their brethren, the priests, so there is another class in the Church corresponding—styled "a great company, whose number no man knoweth," in that they were not specially predestinated. These less earnest, less zealous than the faithful "little flock," will reach a plane of glory through tribulation also, but with less joy. These, we are told, will be with the Bride as her companions. As Levites they will serve God in his temple, but not be members of the temple class, the Priesthood. These will have palm branches and be before the Throne, while the Royal Priesthood will have crowns and be in the throne as members of the Body of Christ.

The Church Militant's Surrender.

All the soldiers of the cross, experiencing fightings without and within against the powers of sin and darkness and their own weaknesses, surely long for the time of their "change" in the "First Resurrection." They long for the time when this mortal shall put on immortality; when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption; when we shall be like our Redeemer and see him as he is and share his glory. Gladly, therefore, do all of God's consecrated people wait for the blessed change promised at our Lord's Second Coming, when that which is sown in weakness shall be raised in power; when that which is sown in dishonor shall be raised in glory; when that which is sown an animal body shall be raised a spiritual body (I Corinthians, xv, 42-44, 53-54). Surely such, having prayed, "Thy Kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as in heaven," are waiting for the King and God's time for establishing his Kingdom for the blessing of the world. No wonder the Apostle wrote of these, "Ourselves also, which have the first-fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting for the adoption, to wit, the redemption of our Body"—the Body of Christ, the Church, through the power of the "First Resurrection" change. This will be our *glad surrender* to the Church Triumphant, when we shall hear the Master's voice saying, "Well done, good and faithful servants; enter ye into the joys of your Lord. You have been faithful over a few things. I will make you ruler over many things"—participants in the Millennial Kingdom glory and its dominion of earth for the uplifting of mankind (I Corinthians vi, 2; Revelation ii, 26).

Union or Federation—Which?

I ask you, my hearers, and indirectly I ask the millions of my larger congregation whom I address weekly through the public prints,—What advantage will accrue to the Church Militant through the on-coming Federation? I reply that great advantage will come to the saintly few, not in the manner expected, but along the lines of the Divine promise that "All things shall work together for good to them that love God—to the called according to his purpose." The Church Federation, which the Scriptures distinctly show us will be effected, will include the various classes already indicated:—(1) Hypocrites; (2) Moralists; (3) Followers afar off; (4) Saints.

But in the Federation the Moralists and Higher Critics will be dominant forces. The saintly will less than ever be in evidence and appreciated. The outward and apparent success of the Federation will seem wonderful for a moment, but the results will be disastrous.

The saintly few, guided by God's Word and holy Spirit, will awaken to the true situation and become separated from the nominal mass. Their misguided hopes as respects the bringing about of a spiritual Kingdom on earth will be thoroughly shattered, and, more than ever, they will look to the Lord as the source of help and wait for his Kingdom to come through the Redeemer's advent and the Resurrection "change."

In a word, God's saintly people need no outward Federation, even as they need no credal fences. So far as these are concerned, the sooner all barriers between them are leaped and they come together as members of one body, joined to the one Heavenly Head and Lord, the better. Let Churchianity produce its Federation and see its folly and failure, as outlined in our text. But let the saints of God draw near to him and to each other in a spiritual Union and realize to the full the meaning of the Apostle's words "One faith; one Lord; one baptism"—one "Church of the Living God whose names are written in heaven." This condition cannot be attained through outward bonds, but can be attained only through drinking into the one Spirit obtainable through the proper understanding of the Word of God.

Public Sale

The undersigned will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at the Ray Chrisweisser farm, two and one-half miles west and one and one-quarter miles south of Murray, and five miles north of Nehawka, on

MONDAY, FEB. 14, 1910

the following described property, to-wit:

HORSES AND CATTLE.

Two brown mares, weight 2800, eight and nine years old, two bay mares, weight 2300, three and four years old, one roan horse and one bay horse, weight 2400, seven years old, Two bay mares, weight 2000, eight and nine years old, two bay horses, weight 1800, seven years old, four milk cows, two yearling heifers, one Whiteface bull calf.

FARM IMPLEMENTS.

One top buggy, rubber tire, two farm wagons, nearly new, one spring wagon, one McCormick mower, one John Deere gang plow, one riding cultivator, one walking cultivator, one John Deere corn planter, one disc harrow, one John Deere lister, three sets of work harness, one set of buggy harness, three sets of fly nets, one riding saddle,

All this farm machinery is practically new, been used but very little.

TERMS OF SALE.

All sums of $10 and under, cash in hand; over $10, a credit of from six to twelve months will be given, the purchaser giving good bankable paper bearing eight per cent interest from date. All property must be settled for before being removed

LUNCH SERVED ON THE GROUNDS AT NOON.

Sale to Commerce at 10:00 o'clock A. M. Sharp.

This property must and will be sold without reserve to the highest bidder on the date of the sale.

James W. Sage, Owner.
Rob't Wilkinson, Auctioneer.
W. G. Boedeker, Clerk.

Greenwood.

C. A. Mathis was among those who visited Lincoln Saturday.

Mrs. Sam Jones was a passenger Saturday for Lincoln on No. 15.

Mrs. Joseph Kyles was one of those who journeyed to the capitol on Saturday

Robert Graham went to Lincoln on the morning train Saturday.

J. W. Barr was among the visitors in Lincoln Saturday.

Mrs. H. E. Milligan departed for Morrow, Kansas, Saturday morning on No. 15.

Miss Janette Smith was among the passengers for Lincoln Saturday morning.

E. A. Keetle was a passenger for the capitol city Saturday.

Arthur Stevenson had business in Lincoln last Saturday.

Miss Mary Linger was among those who went to Lincoln Saturday.

Earl Highshoe was a passenger for Lincoln Saturday morning on No. 15.

Mrs. Richard Schmelke was among those who went to Lincoln last Saturday morning.

While in Greenwood Saturday the Journal representative made the acquaintance of F. D. Clymer, and found him a most pleasant and affable gentleman. Mr. Clymer is one of Cass county's sterling young farmers, who spent several years in the new Idaho country about Twin Falls, which is at present being so thoroughly exploited in the east and south. Mr. Clymer lived near Twin Falls for three years and while he thinks it a good country, he believes Cass county is better and that it would pay those who become victims of the "Wanderlust" to hang on to their Nebraska land till they know they don't want it.

L. E. Meyers of Cedar Creek is in the city today looking after business matters and meeting old friends.

From Perkins County, Nebraska.

W. R. Davis, a former resident of Cass county but now located at Grant, Neb., is in the city today and while here took occasion to call at the Journal office and pay the editor a friendly visit. Mr. Davis is one of the best citizens of his locality and has long been a Journal reader. He states that he has found that section of the country much to his liking and that last year there was the best crops in many years raised out there. Wheat made 23 bushels to the acre while the production of corn was also much above the average There was an abundant rainfall and if the present year holds up to the record of the past, that country has even old Cass beaten. Mr. Davis, however, is figuring on moving to another locality very shortly although he has not fully determined just where he will go.

Oldest Man in Cass County.

H. F. Swanback, one of the early Cass county pioneers and almost a centenarian, was in the city today looking after some business matters. Although ninety-five years old, Mr. Swanback does not seem to be near so old as most people twenty-five years his junior and his activity is a matter of wonderment to all who have come in contact with him. The aged gentleman stated that he has been in the habit of using tobacco for the past eighty-five years and he cannot see where any ill effects have come of it. His examples makes one believe that the doctrine that the use of narcotics shortens a man's life, is an error. He met many old friends in the city today and all were amazed to find him so youthful and active. He returned home this afternoon on the Schuyler train. Mr. Swanback was a welcome visitor at the Journal office during his stay in the city.

PUBLIC SALE

The undersigned will sell at Public Auction to the highest bidder at his farm, five and one-half miles south west of Plattsmouth, two and three-fourths northwest of Mynard, on

Wednesday, Feb. 16th

the following described property, to-wit:

THIRTEEN HEAD OF HORSES.

One span bay geldings, coming 4 and 5 years, weight 2600, one span bay mares, twelve years old, weight 2500, one span bay geldings, eleven years old, weight 2200, two bay horses, eight years old, weight 1400 and 1300, one black mare with foal, twelve years old, weight 1250, one black horse, nine years old, weight 800, one bay horse, weight 1200, one black colt, eight months old; one buckskin colt, six months old, four head of milk cows and one bull.

FARM MACHINERY.

One Deering binder, one stalk rake, three cultivators, one Bradley riding lister, one John Deere walking lister, one three-section harrow, two 16-inch Bradley riding plows, one Marseilles cylinder sheller with patent feed complete, three lumber wagons, two good top buggies, three sets of fly nets, one Flying Swede 2-row machine, one Buckeye mower, one disc harrow, one hay rack, one 50-foot corn elevator, one 2-horse Foos gasoline engine, one Peerless cream separator, six sets of work harness, two sets of buggy harness, one set of single harness.

Many other articles too numerous to mention.

Sale to Commence at 10:00 o'clock A. M. Sharp.

TERMS OF SALE.

All sums of $10 and under, cash in hand; over $10, a credit of from six to twelve months will be given, the purchaser giving good bankable paper bearing eight per cent interest from date. All property must be settled for before being removed

LUNCH SERVED ON THE GROUNDS AT NOON.

P. J. Vallery
Rob't Wilkinson, Auctioneer
H. N. Dovey Clerk.

Elmwood Postmaster Dead.

Word has been received in this city of the sudden death last Friday of Spicer D. Eills for many years2post master at Elmwood. Heart trouble was the cause of death, which was very sudden, as he had seemed to be in usual health a few moments prior to his demise. Deceased had been a resident of Elmwood for many years and was a most popular man. He is survived by a widow and one daughter, a Mrs. Alpha Bicknell of Minnesota.

The funeral was held last Sunday from the Christian church in Elmwood with which deceased had been affiliated for many years. The services were conducted by Rev. L. A. Chapman assisted by Rev. Cyrus Alton, an old friend of deceased. Rev. Alton delivered a sermon marked with much tender sympathy for the deceased, and paid his many good qualities a rare tribute. The floral offerings were many and very handsome, one especially fine piece being sent by the citizens of Elmwood as an expression of their great love and esteem for this good man. Interment was made at Elmwood cemetery.

In County Court.

In county court yesterday the final hearing in the matter of the estate of Christina Kunz was had. The accounts of the executor, Fred Kunz, were examined and allowed and he and the sureties on his official bond were discharged from further liability.

Mrs. Dan Kiser was appointed as guardian of Vernie Kiser, insane, at a hearing this morning before Judge Beeson. Mrs. Kiser is the mother of the unfortunate young man.