The Lessons of Christ's Advent and Misten on Earth-A Christmas Merry with Gropel Gladness and Pardoned Sia.

Reyrous came on the programme as the Christmas stopping place of Rev. T. De Witt Talmage, and while there he delivered the following discourse, from

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.—Luke ii., 14. At last I have what I longed for-a Christmas eve in the Holy Land. This in the time of the year that Christ landed. He was a December Christ. This in the chill air through which He descended. I look up through these Christmas skies, and I see no loosened star hastening southward to halt above Bethlehem, but all the stars suggest the Star of Bethlehem. No more need that any of them run along the sky to point downward. In quietude they kneel at the feet of Him who, though once an exile, is now enthroned forever. Fresh up from Bethlehem, I am full of the scenes suggested by a visit to that village. You know that whole region of Bethlehem is famous in Hible story. There were the waving harvests of Boaz, in which Ruth gleaned for herself and weeping Naomi. There David the warrior was thirsty, and three men of unheard of self-denial broke through the Philistine army to get him a drink. It was to that region that Joseph and Mary came to have their names enrolled

days rush after the assessors of tax any

more than they now do.

The village inn was crowded with the strangers who had come up by the command of government to have their names in the census, so that Joseph and Mary were obliged to lodge in the stables. You have seen some of those must have trouble; but in the darkest large stone buildings, in the center of night the heavens part with angelic which the camels were kept, while running out from this center in all directions there were rooms, in one of which cheer, for you shall all escape safe to Jesus was born. Had His parents been the land. Religion does not show itself more showily appareled I have no doubt they would have found more comfortable entertainment. That night in the fields the shepherds, with crook and kindled fires, were watching their flocks, when bark! to the sound of voices strangely sweet. Can it be that the maidens of Bethlehem have come out to serenade the weary shepherds? But now a light stoops upon them like the morning, so that the flocks arise, shaking their snowy fleece and bleating to their drowsy young. The heavens is just as much at home on the playare filled with armies of light, and the ground as it is in the church. It is just earth quakes under the harmony as, echoed back from cloud to cloud, it rings over the midnight hills: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men!" It seems that the crown of royalty and dominion and power which Christ left behind Him was bung on the sky in sight of Bethlehem. Who knows but that that crown may have been mistaken by the wise men for the star running and pointing down-

My subject, in the first place, impresses me with the fact that indigence When Princes are born, heralds an nounce it, and cannon thunder it, and flags wave it, and illuminations set cities on fire with the tidings. Some of as in England or America remember the time of rejoicing when the Prince of Wales was born. You can remember the gladness throughout Christendom at the nativity in the palace at Madrid. But when our glorious Prince was born there was no rejoicing on earth. Poor. and growing poorer, yet the heavenly recognition that Christmas night shows the truth of the proposition that indigence is not always significant of degradation.

in the quarts, Parian marble in the quarry, and in every stable of privation wonders of excelence that have been the joy of the heavenly host. All the great deliverers of literature and of nations were born in homes without affluence, and from their own privation learned to cock and fight for the oppressed. Many from the wilderness until all nations and generations have seen it, and off of starring millions of the race. Poetry, and science, and literature, and commerce, and laws, and constitutions, and liberty, like Christ, were born in a

All the great thoughts which have decided the destiny of nations started in obscure corners, and had Herods who wanted to slay them, and Iscariots who only, only Son, they saw something that they had never thought of before. rection. Strong character, like the shododendron, is an Alpine plant, that grows fastest in the storm. Men are like wheat, worth all the more for being fixiled. Some of the most useful people would never have come to positions of usofulness had they not been ground and pounded and hammered in the foundry of disaster. When I see Moses coming up from the ark of bulrushes to be the greatest lawgiver of ages, and Amos from tending the herds to make largel tremble with his propheries, and Dovid from the absence to sway the most's pen and the King's scepter, and Peter from the fishing net to be the group the fishing the fishing net to be the group that the fishing net to be the group that the fishing the fishing net to be the group that the group that the fishing net to be the group that the group that

the thought that it is while at our useful occupations that we have the diving manifestations. Had those shepherds gone that night into liethichem and risked their focks among the wolves.

of duty, and standing there Gul an We are all shepherds or shopto us. We are all shepherds or shep-herdesses, and we have our flocks of cares and annoyances and anxieties, and we must attend them.

We sometimes hear very good people say: "If I had a month or a year or two to do nothing but attend to religious things, I would be a great deal better than I am now." You are mistaken. Generally the best people are the busy people. Elisha was plowing in the field when the prophetic mantle fell on him. Matthew was attending to his customhouse duties when Christ commanded him to follow. James and John were mending their nets when Christ called them to be fishers of men. Had they been snoring in the sun Christ would not have called their indolence into the apostleship. Gideon was at work with the fail on the threshing-floor when he and wanted to have returned to his father's house if he had not first gone into business, though it was swine-feeding. Not once out of a hundred times will a lazy man become a Christian. Those who have nothing to do are in very unfavorable circumstances for the receiving of divine manifestations. It is not when you are in idleness, but when you scends and there is joy among the angels of God over your soul penitent and forgven. My subject also strikes at the delu-

sion that the religion of Christ is dolorous and grief infusing. The music which broke through the midnight of a Saviour's righteousness is not black. The Christian life is not made up of weeping and cross-bearing and war waging. Through the revelation of that Christmas night I find that religion is not a grean, but a song. In a world of sin and sick bed and sepulchers, we song. You may, like Paul, be shipwrecked, but I exhort you to be of goal in the elongation of the face and the cut of the garb. The Pharisee who puts his religion into his phylactery has none left for his heart. Fretfulness and complaining do not belong to the family of hristian graces which move into the heart when the devil moves out. Christianity does not frown upon amusements and recreations. It is not a cynic, it is not a shrew, it chokes no laughter, it queaches no light, it defaces no art. Among the happy, it is the happiest. It as graceful in the charade as it is in the psalm book. It sings just as well in Surrey Gardens as it prays in St. Paul's. Christ died that we might live. Christ walked that we might ride. Christ wept that we might laugh.

Again, my subject impresses me with the fact that glorious endings sometimes have very humble beginnings. The straw pallet was the starting point, but the shout in the midnight sky revealed what would be the glorious consummation. Christ on Mary's lap. Christ on the throne of universal dominion. What an humble starting! What a gloriou ending! Grace begins on a small scale in the heart. You see only men as trees walking. The grace of God in the heart is a feeble spark, and Christ has to keep both hands over it lest it be blown out. What an humble beginning! But look at the same man when he has entered Heaven. No crown able to express his royalty. No palace able to ex-press his wealth. No sceptor able to express his power and his dominion. Drinking from the fountain that drips from the everlasting rock. Among the barpers harping on their harps. On a sea of glass mingled with fire. Hefore the throne of God, to go nomore out forever. In all ages there have been great The spark of grace that Christ had to hearts throbbing under rags, tender keep both hands over lest it come to ex-sympathies under rough exterior, gold tinction, having flamed up into honor. and glory, and immortality. What humble starting! What glorious con

summation. My subject also impresses me with the effect of Christ's mission upward and downward. Glory to God, peace to man. When God sent His Son into the world. angels discovered something new in God, something they had never seen hefore. Not power, not wisdom, not love. They knew all that before. But when his hard crust of penury has broken the God sent His Son into this world then bread of knowledge and religion for the the angels saw the spirit of self-denial in God, the spirit of self-sacrifice in God. It is easier to love an angel on His throne than a thief on the cross, a scraph in his worship than an adulteress in her crime. When the angels saw God—the God who would not allow the decided the destiny of nations started in most insignificant angel in Heaven to until they burst forth in glorious resur- started out on that pilgrimage the angels in Heaven clapped their wings in triumph and called on all the hosts of Heaven to help them celebrate it, and sang so loud that the Bethlehem shepherds heard it: "Glory to God in the

highest." But it was also to be a mission of prace toman. Infinite boilness-accumulated depravity. How could they ever come together? The Gospel bridges over the distance. It brings God to us. It takes us to God. God in us, and we in God. Atonement! Atonement! Justice mataled, sine forgiven, eternal life secured. Heaven built on a manger. But it was also to be the pacification of all individual and international animosities, What a sound this word of peace had in the Roman empire that bonated of the number of people it had massacred, that prided itself on the number of the siain, that rejoiced at the trembling provinces Sicily and Cornics and Sarbywed to her sword and crouched at the

nations. There never was a place on earth where that word peace sounded so offensively to the ears of the multitude as in the Roman empire. They did not want peace. The greatest music they ever heard was the clanking chains of their captives. If all the blood that has been shed in battle could be gathered together it would upbear a navy. The club that struck Abel to the earth has its echoes in the butcheries of all ages. Edwind Burke, who gave on wild statistics, said that there had been spent in battle thirty-five thousand millions of dollars, or what would be equal to that; but he had not seen into our times, when in our own day, in America, we expended three thousand million of dollars in civil war.

Oh, if we could now take our position on some high point and see the world's saw the angel. Saul was with great armies many past! What a spectacle it fatigue bunting up the lost axes when he found the crown of livest. The proligal sen would never have referred to the crown of the proligal sen would never have referred to the crown of blood. There go Cyrus, and his army, with infuriate yell, rejoicing over the fall of the gates of Babyion. There goes Alexander, leading forth his hosts and conquering all the world but himself, the earth reeling with the battle gash of Arbels and Persepolis There goes Ferdinand Cortes, ing of divine manifestations. It is not bearing his butchered enemies on the when you are in idleness, but when you are, like the Bothlehem shepherds, and overed over with groves of flower-watching your flocks, that the glory deman, leading his army down through Egypt like one of its plagues, and up through Russia like one of its own ley blasts. Yonder is the grave trench under the shadow of Sebastopol. There are the ruins of Delhi and Allahabad, and yonder are the inhuman Sepoys and heavens was not a dirge, but an authem. the brave regiments under Havelock in the census. That is what the Script- It shook joy over the hills. It not only averging the insulted flag of Britain; are means when it says they came "to dropped upon the shopherds, basit sprang while cut right through the heart of my spward among the thrones. The robe native land is a trench in which there lie one million Northern and Southern

Oh, the tears! Oh, the blood! Oh, the long marches! Oh, the hospital wounds! Oh, the martyrdom! Oh, the death! But brighter than the light which flashed on all these swords and shields and mueketry is the light that fell on Betalehem, and louder than the bray of the trumpets, and the neighing of the chargers, and the crash of the walla, is the song that unrolls this moment from the sky, sweet as though all the bells of Heaven rung a jubilee: "Peace on earth, good will toward men." Oh.

when will the day come-God hasten it! when the swords shall be turned into plow shares, and the fortresses shall be remodeled into churches, and the men of blood battling for renown shall become good soldiers of Jesus Christ, and the cannon now striking down whole columns of death shall thunder the vietories of the truth? When we think of the whole world

saved we are apt to think of the few people that now inhabit it. Only a very lew, compared with the population to come. And what a small part cultivated. Do you know it has been authentically estimated that three-fourths of Europe is yet all barrenness, and that nine hundred and ninety one one thousandth part of the entire globe is uncultivated? This is all to be culti-vated, all inhabited and all pospelized. Oh, what team of repeatance when nations begin to weep! Oh, what sup plications when continents begin to pheres begin to sing! Churches will worship on the places where this very hour smokes the blood of human sacrifice, and wandering through the snakeinfected jungles of Africa Christ's beel will bruise the acroent's head. Oh. when the trumpet of salvation shall be sounded everywhere and the nations are redeemed, a light will fall upon every town brighter than that which fell upon Hethlehem, and more overwheiming then the song which fell on the pasture Seids where the flocks fed, there will be a song louder than the storm-lifted oceans: "Glory to God in the highest." and from all nations and kindred and people and tongues will come the response: "And on earth peace, good will toward men!" On this Christmas eve ! bring you good tidings of great joy. Pardon for all sin, comfort for all trouble and life for the dead. Shall we now take this Christ into our hearts The time is possing. This is the closing of the year. How the time appede by. Put your hand on your heart-one. two, three. Three times less it will best. Life is passing like gazelles over the plain. Sorrows hover like petrels over the sea. Death swoops like a vuit ure from the mountains. Misery rolls

songs fall to us like stars. I wish you a merry Christmas, not with worldly dissipation, but merry with Gospei gladness, merry with par doned sin, merry with hope of reunion in the skies with all your loved ones who have proceeded you. In that grand-

up to our care like waves. Hraven'y

And God grant that in our final mement we may have as bright a vision as did the dying girl when she said:
"Mother,"-pointing with her this
white hand through the window-

"Mother, what is that beautiful land out yonder beyond the mountains, the high mountaine?"

"Ob," said the mother, "my darling, there are no mountains within night of out bome."

"Oh. yea," she said. "don't you see them—that beautiful land beyond the mountains out there, just beyond the The mother lauked down into the face of her dying child and mid "My dear, I think that must be Henren that you

come, and with your strong arms carry me over those mountains into that beautiful land beyond the high mount-

"No." said the trooping father, "my darling. I can't go with you."
"Well," she said, clapping her hands. "never mind, never mind; I are youder a shining one coming. He is coming rished their flocks among the voives, cryof her war engles. She gave herehinf a shining one coming. He is coming they would not have heard the sanger of homor to recipio and Pabius and Conor now, in his strong arms to carry me over the angels. In other words, that men of bland. What contempt the mountains to the heartful leadarea most of God and Heaven who minds they must have had there for the pentithey must have had there for the pentithey must have had there for the pentithe mountains. Over the high

MISCELLANEOUS

-Americans who have been shreed unite in saying with one accord that the most delicious melons of all are the bind they serve in Parts for herabfast.

- A butcher hird dropped in at Yreka, Cal., the other day, and anapped off the beads of ten canaries, hanging in their cages in the sanshine, before the alarm Was raised.

-A Ruffalo hosband, whose wife to variably winters fifty rents' worth of scraggy geraniums at the cost of \$15 coal, has asked for a commission of dectors to pronounce on her

- Late experiments would seem to to fute the theory that Prance is warned by the Gulf Stream, as in summer no surface currents reach that country from the southwest, but there are currents from west and northwest.

Some experiments were made recently by the Northern Pacific carbuilders at Tacona to tost the strength of the fir and oak timber. The first-named proved one-third stronger than the eastern oak, and more than open

halt stronger than castors white pine.
+ The turnkey of the Peoris jail has a rure for delirium trement says the Medical World, He rubs the patient with capsicom, and in the enthusiasm and singleness of purpose with which the latter scratches bimself he has no time to think of suskes. One day of this treatment is sufficient for any ordinary

A Duboque, In man invented an arrangement by which a rumaway horse could be detached from a buggy, and before aftering it to the public he decided to give it a personal trial. He promped a victous horse, encouraged him to get up and dust, and then pulled the beer it didn't work, and he was flung into the ditch and had his neck breken.

- A Hopolulu paper thus describes a curious substance thrown off by the molfire at the volcano: "It clings to the adjoining rooks in Ober-like threads of a faven color and has the appearance of human hair; but mixed with it are sharp particles of black lava. Considering that this substance is a mineral pristue tion it is wonderfully flexible and tough brading easily but not ductile in its present state or capable of being cano, and is certainly a singular produc-

-A physician has discovered that color blindness is very rare among girls, though it is common among buys. From this fact be drawn the conclusion that in most cases color blindness is due to want of early education in discriminating colors. Girls are taught to become amiliar with every shade of color, while boys receive no instruction whatever on subject. Hence, boys frequently exhibit an ignorance in colors which is confounded with true color blindness, but which girls reroly show.

A new use of the phonograph has been discovered. A teacher of lan-guages, whose admirable accent has rought him many pupils, resorts to the phonograph wherever he finds it as an assistant tutor. For instance, he will talk slowly in Parisian French a page of some good author in that tongue into the phonograph, and instructs his pupil to read the passage sloud, while the phonograph prompts him with the proper pronunciation. After the inter has retired the leason remains intact ready for further om. It can be seen how considerable the phonograph aid to

in this regard. -It has always puzzled us to know why Mohammed healtated about going to the Mountain, expecting the Mountain to come to him. It wouldn't have cost him a cent to stay at the Mountain as long as he wanted. The Mountain House would have been glad to deadhead him giving him the best suite of rooms they had. His arrival would have been chronicled in the daily papers, pecple would have flocked to the Mountain to see him, and he would have been a hig card. He was sometimes called the false prophet," but he would have been a real profit to the house where he gut up. We are estimied that is refusing to go to the Mountain Muhammed, whose system needed bracing up. anyhow, lost one of the greatest opportunities of his life. - Texas Hiftings.

EXPENSIVE SPORT. The Artual Cost of an Ordinary Bull Fight

Mr. Moncayo has rendered the followbill of expense for the benefit performance for the Belem Library fund which was given in the Colon ring. Some idea will be gained of the cost of an ordinary bull fight in Mexico from his figures Fire build Expenses for ubtaining these fails at A law for the proprietor of the full Ha-

strict tours on the build then fights on the name day.
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that only DELES was resited for the library fund from the fight. - City of Mexico I so Republica. FROM DISTANT SOURCES

Waster to London are beginning to affect the single eye-glass, it is shree-Laure in England which formerly

brought \$175 per acre are men unsalable A comperent authority thinks that

the Paris Expedition drew at least \$800,-

The policemen of Kng land and Wales, if brought together, would form a great army. They number 21,000. The year \$118, according to the prestdent of the Manchester Geological Stestety, will see the aghaustion of the lin-

glish roal. Scancers a week passes in London without the police raiding some alleged alub which is in reality a gambling octohitahment, but which to not hopt closed

very lang Tue Official Journal of Athens pullishes the result of the recent estimate of the population of the Rollonie king dem. The total number of inhabitants

a given at 2.181.905 Tuens are less than half a million Jows in France, yet the profects of altments are of the Jewish faith. The fort was recently made public and created a Crave organition.

Tru Coar of Eussie has attered an edies forbidding applause in the theaters of St. Petersburg. It interferes with his slumbers during an after-dianer performance and is apt to conf se the dance ing of the ballet.

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money paid for it will be returned.

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THE GENERAL MARKETS.

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Abother Christman and New Yoar's Assault, by "A Man," of the Route Schause Seater, New Boady for Intertwenter. The "Days and (little of America," and adults as well, whe have read the instruction pages of "Watt Hopken" (1986), "Value out Chara, "(1986), "Futrodista," (1987), "Value out Chara," (1986), "Futrodista," (1987), "Value out Chara," (1988), out "Iron and Rhout," (1989), will be pleased to know that the latest of the figures. Recent leases of approval which well not be strongly," (1980) and grid out of the figures. Recent leases of approval which welcomed each of the professencers.

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