SATURDAY, MAY 3, 1890. CAPITAL CITY COURIER,

THE VOICES OF NATURE.

DR. TALMAGE DECLARES THEM AR-TICULATE AND HARMONIOUS.

The Academy of Music Thronged to Hear Isa. ix, 13 the Text.

BROOKLYN, April 27.- The attraction of the parks in their new spring time garb, which affects many congregations at this season, does not diminish the crowd which pours into the Academy of Music to hear the eloquent preacher. This morning the great edifice was thronged, as usual, as soon as the doors were opened. After the reading of an appropriate passage of Scripture and the singing of the hymn, "Glory to God on High," Dr. Talmage announced as his text Isa, Ix, our glorious Christianity, 12. "The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee; the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary." Following is his sermon in full: THE GLORY OF LEBANON.

On our way from Damascus we saw the mountains of Lebanon white with snow, and the Son of God again walking the hills about the places from which the cedars were hewn Jerusalem. Caviglia once rejected the truth, and then drawn by ox teams down to the but afterward said, "I came to Egypt, and Mediterranean sea, and then floated in great the Scriptures and the pyramids converted rafts to Joppa, and then again drawn by ox teams up to Jerusalem to build Solomon's December, our beloved American missionary, temple. Those mighty trees in my text are Rev. Dr. Jessup, told me of his friend who called the "glory of Lebanon." Inanimate met a skeptic at Joppa, the scaport of Jerunature felt the effects of the first transgression. When Eve touched the forbidden tree it seems as if the sinful contact had smitten the folly of the Christian religion. I am go not only that tree, but us if the air caught ing to visit all the so called 'sacred places' the pollution from the leaves, and as if the and write them up, and show the world that sap had carried the virus down into the very the New Testament is an imposition upon the soil until the entire earth recked with the leprosy. Under that sinful touch nature sup's friend met the skepts: at Beyrout after withered. The inanimate creation, as if he had completed his journey through the aware of the damage done it, sent up the Holy Land. "Well, how is it?" said the The inacimate creation, as if thorn and brier and nettle to wound and aforesaid gentleman to the skeptic. The anfiercely oppose the human race,

THE COMING OF THE MILLENNIUM. Now as the physical earth feit the effects of man who went to destroy came back to dethe first transgression, so it shall also feel the fend, effect of the Saviour's mission. As from that one tree in Paradise a blight went forth through the entire earth, so from one tree on Calvary another force shall speed out to interpenetrate and check, subdue and override the evil. In the end it shall be found that the tree of Calvary has more potency than recorded and with his own almighty hand the tree of Paradise. As the nations are evangelized, I think a corresponding change will be effected in the natural world. I verify believe that the trees, and the birds, and the rivers, and the skies will have their millennium. If man's sin affected the ground, and the vegetation, and the atmosphere, shall Christ's work be less powerful or less extensivel

Doubtless God will take the irregularity and fierceness from the elements so as to make them congenial to the race, yet to be so symmetrical and evangelized. The ground on papyrus; I will write it here on the bowishall not be so lavish of weeds and so grudgeders. ful of grain. Soils which now have peculiar proclivities toward certain forms of evil production will be delivered from their besetting sins, Steep mountains, plowed down into more gradual ascent, shall be girdled with flocks of sheep and shocks of corn. The wet marsh shall become the deep grassed meadow. Cattle shall eat unharmed by caverns once Cattle shall eat unharmed by caverns once sinstic utterances. Would Christ set forth haunted of wild beasts. Children will build the strength of faith, he points to the sycaplay houses in what was once a cave of serpents; and, as the Scripture saith: "The down, and clinch themselves amid great weaned child shall put his hand on the cock- depths of earth, and he said that faith was atrice's den.

Oh what harvests shall be reaped when neither drouth, nor excessive rain, nor mildew, nor infesting insects shall arrest the longed walk through his magnificent park, growth, and the utmost capacity of the fields for production shall be tested by an intelli- the hand said: "In your visit to the Holy gent and athletic yeomanry. Thrift and com- Land did you see any sycamore more imprespetency characterizing the world's inhabitants, their dwelling places shall be graceful. Its beam and healthy and adorned. Tree and arbor its roots. It was to such a tree as that Jesus and grove around about will look as if Adam and Eve had got back to Paradise. Great cities, now neglected and unwashed, shall be orderly, adorned with architectural symme try and connected with far distant seaports by present modes of transportation carried to the world as no other teacher is because intheir greatest perfection, or by new inven- stend of using severe argument he was altions yet to spring up out of the water or drop from the air at the beck of a Morse or a Robert Fulton belonging to future generations. Isaiah in my text seems to look forward to a treasure hid in a field. Like a merchant seekthe future condition of the physical earth as a condition of great beauty and excellence. and then prophesies that as the strongest and most ornamental timber in Lebanon was brought down to Jerusalem and constructed into the ancient temple, so all that is heautiful and excellent in the physical earth shall yet contribute to the church now being built in the world, "The glory of Lebanon shall come unto thee; the fir tree, the pine tree, and the box together, to beautify the place of my sanctuary. Much of this prophecy has already been fulfilled, and I proceed to some practical remarks upon the contributions which the natural world is making to the kingdom of God, and then draw some inferences. The first contribution that nature gives to the church is her testimony in behalf of the truth of Christianity. This is an age of profound research. Nature cannot evade man's inquiries as once. In chemist's laboratory she is put to torture and compelled to give up her mysteries. Hidden laws have come out of their hiding place. The earth and the heavens, since they have been ransacked by geologist and botanist and astronomer, appear so different from what they once were that they may be called "the new heavens and the new earth.' POWERFUL EFFECT UPON THE RELIGIOUS WORLD. This research and discovery will have powerful effect upon the religious world. They must either advance or arrest Christianity, make men better or make them worse, be the and its wings and breast decked with new church's honor or the church's overthrow, down and plumes, its boly as finely feath-Christians, aware of this in the early ages of ered as that of her young ones just begindiscovery, were nervous and fearful as to the progress of science. They feared that rejuvenated and replumed is the Christian's some natural law, before unknown, would maldenly spring into harsh collision with with that, Christianity. Gunpowder and the gleam of eagle's." Would Solomon represent the answords would not so much have been feared by religionists as electric batteries, voltaic he points to a leakage in the top of his house piles and astronomical apparatus. It was feared that Moses and the prophets would be the water comes through, failing upon the run over by skeptical chemists and philosophers. Some of the followers of Aristotle, after the invention of the telescope, refused to look through that instrument, lest what they saw would overthrow the teachings of that grea philosopher. But the Christian religion has no such apprehension now. Bring on your telescopes and microscopes and spectroscopes-and the more the better. The Gosl of nature is the God of the Bible, and in all the universe and in all the eternities he has never once contradicted himself. Christian merchants endow universities, and in them Christian professors instruct the children of Christian communities. The warmest and most enthusiastic friends of Christ ency into which he had sunk, compares it to are the bravest and most enthusiastic friends | a quagmire of those regions, through which of science. The church joices at much over he had doubtless sometimes tried to walk, but every discovery as the rid rejoices. Good sunk in up to his neck, and he cried: "I sink men have found that the six no war between in deep mare where there is no standing." science and religion. That which at first has Would Habakhuk set forth the capacity seemed to be the weap a of the infidel has which God gives the good man to walk safely turned out to be the weapon of the Christian. | amid the wildest perils, he points to the wild those which are concluded, and mose which rocks, and leaping from wild erag to wild expects no homage from your sould When Gagette.

are still in progress, depending for decision upon future investigation. Those which are concluded have invariably rendered their verdict for Christianity, and we have faith to believe that those which are still in prosecution will come to as favorable a conclusion.

The great systems of error are falling before these discoveries. They have crushed everything but the Bible, and that they have esthe Brooklyn Divine Preach a Sermon tablished. Mohammedanism and paganism Appropriate to the Season of the Year. In their ten thousand forms have been proved false, and by great natural laws shown to be

impositions. Buried citles have been exhumed and the truth of God found written on their coffin hds. Bartlett, Robinson and Layard have been not more the aposties of science than the apostles of religion. The dumb lips of the pyramids have opened to preach the gospel. Expeditions have been fitted out for Palestine, and explorers have come back to say that they have found among mountains and among rulus, and on the shore of waters, living and undying evidences of

THEY HAVE COME PACK BELIEVERS.

Men who have gone to Palestine infidels have come back Christians. They who were blind and deaf to the truth at home have seemed to see Christingain preaching upon Olivet, and have beheld in vivid imagination When I was in Beyrout, Syria, last salem, and the unbeliever said to his friend: "I am going into the Holy Land to show up workl's credulity." Months after Dr. Jesswer was: "I have seen it all, and I tell you the Bible is true! Yes; it is all true!" The

After what I myself saw during my recent absence, I conclude that any one who can go through the Holy Land and remain an anbeliever is either a bad man or an imbecile. God employed men to write the Bible, but he be gouged them into the rocks and drove them down into dismal depths, and, as documents are put in the corner stone of a temple, so in the very foundation of the earth he folded up and placed the records of heavenly truth. The earth's corner stone was laid, like that of other sacred ediffees, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. The author of revelation, standing among the great strata, looked upon Moses and said, "Let us record for future on papyrus; I will write it here on the bowl

THE STATELY SYCAMORE.

Again, nature offers an invaluable contribution to Christianity by the illustration she makes of divine truth. The inspired writers seized upon the advantages offered by the natural world. Trees and rivers and clouds and rocks broke forth into holy and enthumore, whose roots spread out, and strike strong enough to tear that up by the roots.

At Hawarden, England, Mr. Gladstone while showing me his trees during a propointed out a sycamore, and with a wave of sive than that?" I confessed that I had not, - were not more remarkable than pointed when he would illustrate the power of faith. "Ye might say unto this sycamore tree, 'Be thou plucked up by the root and be theu cast into the sea," and it would obey you." One reason why Christ has faseinated One reason why Christ has fascinated ways telling how something in the spiritual world was like unto something in the natural world. On these wonderful "likes" of our Lord! Like a grain of mustard seed. Like ing goodly pearls. Like unto a net that was cast into the sea. Like unto a householder.

erag, by the peculiar make of its hoofs able God has written his truth upon everything ous places: "The Lord God is my strength, to open your eyes and read it? and he will make my feet like hind's feet."

ALL NATURE PAYS TRIBUTE.

and the splendor that cometh out of the horts of angels would fly to deliver you from and the mountain torrents in red fury foam clouds in wisdom, or who can stay the bot- for evermore." ties of heaven?" As you read on, you feel yourself coming in frosty climes, and, in fancy, wading through the snow, you say, with that same inspired writer, 'Hast thou entered into the treasures of the snow " And while the sharp sleet drives in Charles Wesley sat in a room watching it your face, and the bail stings your check, you through an open window, and, frightened by quote him again: "Hast thou seen the treasures of the hail?" In the Psalmist's writings flew in and nestled in the bosom of the sacred I hear the voices of the sea; "Deep calleth poet, and, as he gently stroked it and felt the unto deep;" and the roar of forests: "The Lord sinketh the wilderness of Kadesh " and the loud peal of the black tempest: "The God sung while the world lasts; of glory thundereth;" and the rustle of the long silk on the well filled husks: "The vallevs are covered with corn;" and the cry of wild beasts: "The young lions roar after their prey;" the hum of palm trees and cedars; 'The righteous shall flourish like a paim tree, he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon;" the sough of wings and the swirl of fins; "Dominion over the fowl of the air and the fish of the sea

The truths of the gospel might have been presented in technical terms, and by the means of dry definitions, but under these the world would not have listened or felt. How could the safety of trusting upon Christ have been presented, were it not the figure of a rock? How could the gladdening effect of the gospel have been set forth, had not Zacharias thought of the dawn of the morning, exclaiming: "The day spring from on high hath visited us to give light to them that sit in darkness." How could the soul's intense longing for Christ have been presented so well as by the emblem of natural hunger and natural thirst! As the lake gathers into its bosom the shadow of hills around, and the gleam of stars above, so, in these great deeps of divine truth, all objects in nature are grandly reflected. We walk forth in the spring time, and everything breathes. of the Resurrection, Bright blossom and springing grass speak to us of the coming up of those whom we have loved, when in the white robes of their joy and coronation they shall appear.

And when in the autumn of the year nature preaches thousands of funeral sermons from the text, "We all do fade as a leaf," and scatters her elegies in our path, we cannot help but think of sickness and the tomb. Even winter, "being dead, yet speaketh. The world will not be argued into the right It will be tenderly illustrated into the right. Tell them what religion is like. When the mother tried to tell her dying child what beaven was, she compared it to light. "But that hurts my eyes," said the dying girl. Then the mother compared heaven to music. 'But any sound hurts me; I am so weak, said the dying child. Then she was told that heaven was like mother's arms. "Oh, take me there," she said. "If it is like mother's and have worn everything from blouses and arms, take me there?" The appropriate simile had been found at last.

NATURE'S LAWS DEFEND THE CHRISTIAN. Another contribution which the natural world is making to the kingdom of Christ is

presented as a bargain made between the in-

animate creation and the righteous man;

'Thou shalt be in league with the stones of

the field." What a grand thought that the

lightnings, and the tempests, and the hail,

and the frosts, which are the enemies of un-

righteousness, are all marshaled as the Chris-

tian's bodyguard. They fight for him. They

strike with an arm of fire or clutch with their

fingers of ice. Everlasting peace is declared

ing up on a June day by way of a flower gar-

den, you may call your sister. Though so

mighty in circumference and diameter, the

THOUGHTS. Now I infer from this that the study of

natural objects will increase our religious

knowledge. If David and Job and John and

Paul could not afford to let go without obser-

vation one passing cloud, or rift of snow, or

spring blossom, you cannot afford to let them

go without study. Men and women of God

most contront in all ages for faith and zeal

indulged in such observations-Payson and

Baxter and Doddridge and Hannah More.

That man is not worthy the name of Chris-

tian who saunters listlessly among these mag-

nificent disclosures of divine power around, be-

neath and above us, stupid and uninstructed.

that has its fountains and palm trees; nor in

regions of everlasting ice, for even there the

stars kindle their lights, and auroras flash,

and huge icebergs shiver in the morning light,

and God's power sits upon them as upon a

great white throne. Yet there are Christians

in the church who look upon all such tenden-

cies of mind and heart as soft sentimentali-

ties, and because they believe this printed

revelation of God are content to be infidels in

of stars, in paragraphs of constellations, and

idustrated with sumset and thumler cloud and

spring nearing.

They are not worthy to live in a desert, for

indirect, for your spirit.

calmly to sustain itself in the most danger- around you, asppose you be did not mean you Finally, I learn from this subject what an

honorable position the Christian occupies Job makes all natural objects pay tribute when nothing is so great and glorious in nato the coyalty of his book. As you go through ture but it is made to edify, defend and in some chapters of Job you feel as if it were a struct him. Hold up your heads, sons and bright spring morning, and, as you see the daughters of the Lord Almighty, that I may glittering drops from the grass under your see how you hear your honors. Though now feet, you say with that patriarch, "Who hath you may think yourself unbefriended, this begotten the drops of the dew?" And now, spring's soft wind, and next summer's harvest as you read on, you seem in the silent mid- of barley, and next autumn's glowing fruits, night to behold the waving of a great light and next winter's storms, all seasons, all eleupon your path, and you look up to find it ments, zephyr and euroclydon, rose's breath the aurora borealis, which Job described so and thundercloud, gleaning light and thick long ago as "the bright light in the clouds darkness, are sworn to defend you, and conorth." As you read on, there is darkness peril, and the great God would unsheath his hurtling in the heavens, and the showers sword and arm the universe in your cause break loose till the birds fly for hiding place rather than that harm should touch you with one of its lightest fingers. "As the mountover the rocky shelving; and with the same aims around about Jerusalem, so the Lord h poet, you exclaim, "Who can number the around about his people from this time forth

Oh for more sympathy with the natural world, and then we should always have a Bible open before us, and we could take a les son from the most fleeting circumstances, a when a storm came down upon England wild beating of its heart, he turned to his desk and wrote that hymn which will be Jesus, lover of my soul,

Let me to thy bosom fly. While the billows near me roll. While the tempest still is high; Hide me, O my Saviour, hide, Till the storm of life be past, Safe into the haven guide.

"How did I happen to take up the dress re form costume?" said Dr. Mary Walker the other day; "I will tell you. When I was a little girl I became interested in a lot of medical books which my father had in the house. That was at Oswego, N. Y., fifty years ago. My father had oncestudied medicine, though he never practiced. He was a dress reformer. He believed in hygienic food, in sanitary dress, in many things which the people of that day knew little about. From him and from my familiarity with the laws of health drawn from the medical books I received the inspiration to take up the dress re form. I never wore a corset, nor did any of my four sisters, while we were at home. My parents supported me in my determination to show the world that I was in earnest, that I had the courage of my convictions, by wearing the reform suits. I will never for get the day I first appeared on the street in one of my own costumes. It was not as mannish as some suits I have since worn, but it was in fear and trembling that I opened the door of our house and started for the side walk. I was faint and dizzy, and nothing but the sheer exercise of will power kept me on my feet or continued my limbs in motion "The next day it was a little easier, but though the world has thought me hardened and brazen, I have never seen the day when it was not a trial to me to appear in public in a rate u dress. Every jeer has cut me to the quick. Many times have I gone to my room and wept after being publicly derided. No one knows, or will ever know, what it has cost me to live up to my principles, to be consistent with my convictions and declara tions; but I have done it, and am not sorry for it. For nearly thirty-five years I have

worn some form or other of reform suits. 1 have experimented with different garments bifurcated trousers to a man's regular outfit, high hat and all." And here the doctor, who is now lying seriously ill at Washington, smiled rather grimly at the tall hat hanging



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Them

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O receive my soul at last

Dr. Mary Walker.

EXPRESSIVE SIMILES.

Would Christ teach the precision with which he looks after you k - says he counts the hairs of your head. Well, that is a long and tedious count if the head have the average endowment. It has been found that if hairs of the head be black there are about 120,000, or if they be flaxen there are about 140,000. But God knows the exact number The hairs of your head are all numbered. Would Christ impress us with the divine watchfulness and care, he speaks of the sparrows that were a nuisance in those times. They were caught by the thousands in the They were thin and scrawny and had net, comparatively no meat on their bones. They seemed almost valueless, whether living or dead. Now, argues Christ, if my Father takes care of them, will be not take care of Christ would have the Christian, dotimit spondent over his slowness of religious development, go to his corn field for a lesson. He watches first the green shoot pressing up through the clods, gradually strengthening into a stalk, and last of all the busk swelling out with the pressure of the corn: "First the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the car

Would David set forth the freshness and beauty of genuine Christian character, he sees an eagle starting from its nest just after the moiting season, its old feathers shed, ning to try the speed of their wings. Thus faith and hope, by every season of communion "Thy youth is renewed like the noyance of a contentious woman's tongue, or tent, where, throughout the stormy day, floor-drip! drip! And he says: "A continual dripping in a very rainy day and a intentious woman are alike."

Would Christ set forth the character of ase who make great profession of piety, but have no fruit, he compares them to bar ron fig trees, which have very large and showy leaves, and nothing but leaves. Would Job illustrate deceitful friendships, he speaks of brooks in those climes, that wind about in different directions, and dry up when you want to drink out of them; "My brethrenhave dealt decentually as a brook, and as the stream of brooks they pass away." Davidwhen he would impress us with the despond-Scientific discussions (any be divided into animal called the hind walking over slippery

on the bureau, conscious that she may never the defense and aid which the elements are again have use for it. sompelled to give to the Christian personally. There is no law in nature but is sworn for the Christian's defense. In Job this thought is

Rush Was a "Rassler,"

As I looked at Secretary Rusk in the Ebbitt house the other night the incident of his wrestling match with James A. Garfield came to me, and I resolved to settle the question. which I have never seen settled in the news papers, which of the two was the victor. The general told me that the match tool place at Newark, O. He was then 13 years old and was driving a stage, while Garfield was a boy leading a mule on the canal. "Rassling" (that is the way Governor Rust

between the flercest elements of nature and pronounced it), said he, "was very common the good man. They may in their fury seem to be indiscriminate, smiting down the thing in the world for two young fellows like righteous with the wieked, yet they canmyself and Garfield to try a rassle. The renot duringe the Christian's soil, although sult did not affect our friendship, and all of they may shrivel his body. The wantry blast the boys tried their strength in this way. that howls about your dwelling, you may "But how did it turn out, governorf" said call your brother, and the south wind com-"Which whipped f"

"That I don't like to say," replied the se retary of agriculture, "and it is hardly a fair question to ask.

sun and the moon have a special charge con-"On, well," I repited, "Garfield was a very cerning you. "The sun shall not smite thee strong man, general, and you need not it by day, nor the moon by night." Elements ashamed of baying had an unsuccessful cor and forces hidden in the earth are now hartest with a man of his caliber." nessed and at work in producing for you food

"Well," continued the general, laughing and clothing. Some grain field that you and slightly nettled at the thought that he never saw presented you this day with your might be beaten in anything, !! will say that morning meal. The great earth and the I was never downed in a rassle until I was 22, heavens are the busy loom at work for you; and this happened whom I was 13. I won't and shooting light, and eilvery stream, and say anything about this Garfield rassle more than this-I was a close friend of Garfield' sharp lightning are only woven threads in the great born, with God's foot on the shutfrom that time to his death, though I did not tle. The same spirit that converted your soul most him again until the opening of the war, has also converted the elements from enmity When we were in congress together he used toward you into inviolable friendship, and to call me stage driver, and I generally re furthest star and deepest cavern, regions of plied that I was not ashamed of it, but everlasting cold as well as climes of eternal thanked the Lord that he had given me four summer, all have a mission of good, direct or horses to manage instead of condemning me to steer an insignificant bobtail mule."-THE STUDY OF NATURE ASSISTS RELIGIOUS Frank G Carpenter's Letter.

Natural Gas.

Natural gas was discovered in paying quantities and its "boom" began in 1885 At the end of three years its annual displace ment of coal was 12,000,000 tons, estimates in value at \$50,000,000, which is believed to be only about half the rate of the present dis placement. There are now more than him thousand miles of mains, exclusive of smaller conveying papes. The cheapness of the gas and the enterprise of strongly competing companies have been the principal stimulants in its introduction. These competitions have resulted in the rapid acquirement and development of territory, and in very many cases gas is furnished free to consumers Not counting the hundroils and thousands of ompanies that have organized to prospect sore wells, strike water and quit business, the total equivalization in the name of natura gas in this country exceeds \$100,000,000, Chicago Herald

Mr. Balfour's Exchantation.

Mr. Balfour threatens to give us a new regard to all that has been written in this parliamentary catchword A hundred timegreat look of the universe, written in letters ne sus will one speech, "Very well, sir," H marked ins divisions of subjects by it, is differentiations and the progress of his oratio

cal paragraphs. "I hope I have made it cas in to the house. Very well, sir," was said over BONORABLE POSITION OF THE CIDLISTIAN. I infer, also, the transcendent importance. and over again. Sir Charles Russ il's cater of Christ's religion. Nothing is so far down, word is, "Let that pres," Sir William Hai and nothing is so high up, and nothing so fur Mr. Goschen, clears ins court's "A'ah?" out but Cod makes it pay tax to the Christian out but Cod makes it pay tax to the Coristian religion. It snow and tempest and dragon Mr. Balfour produces his pocket bandkereinef are expected to praise God, suppose you be and exclaims, "Very well, sr "- Pail Mar

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