BETHLEHEM DAYS.

DR. TALMAGE RELATES HIS LAPL RIENCE AT CHRIST'S BIRTHPLACE

Immortal Masterpleces of Art Whiteh Portray the Scenes of the Nativity. Mission of Children in the Seriptures. The Shepherds and Other Heroes.

BROOKLYN, Dec. 27.-Rev. Dr. Talmage eached this morning a sermon appropriate to the Christmas season. Taking up the subject of the Nativity, he drew from it lessons which, though perfectly legitimate, are commonly overlooked. His text was Luke II, 16, "And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger." The black window shutters of a Decem

ber night were thrown open, and some of best singers of a world where they all ding stood there, and putting back the drapery of cloud, chanted a peace anthem, until all the echoes of hill and valley ap plauded and encored the Hallelujah chorus. Some, let us go into that Christmas scene as Come, let us go into that Christmasseene as though we had never before worshiped at the manger. Here is a Madonna worth looking at. I wonder not that the most frequent name in all lands and in all Christian centuries is Mary. And there are Marys in palaces and Marys in cabins, to give the richest possible gift to a house-hold he looks around all the worlds and all the universe and then gives a child. The greatest present that God ever gave our d though German and French and Italian and Spanish and English pronounce it dif-erently, they are all namesakes of the one whom we find on a bed of straw, with her pale face against the soft cheek of Christ in the night of the Nativity. All the great painters have tried on canvas to present Mary and her child and the incidents of that most famous night of the world's histhat most famous night of the world's his-tory. Raphael, in three different master-pieces, celebrated them. Tintoretto and Ghirlandajo surpassed themselves in the adoration of the Magi. Correggio needed to do nothing more than his Madonna to become immortal. The Madonna of the Ldly, by Leonardo da Vinci, will kindle picture a failure unless there be a child either playing on the floor, or looking through the window, or seated on the lap. gazing into the face of the mother. It was a child in Naaman's kitchen that the admiration of all ages. But all the galieries of Dresden are forgotten when I think of the small room of that gallery containing Sistine Madonna. Yet all of them were copies of St. Matthew's Madonna and Lake's Madonna, the inspired Madonna of the Old Book, which we had put into our hands when we were infants, and that we hope to have under our heads when we die.

AMID THE DEASTS OF THE STALL, Behold, in the first place, that on the first night of Christ's life God honored the brute creation. You cannot get into that Bethlehem barn without going past the camels, the mules, the dogs, the oxen. The brutes of that stable heard the first cry of the infant Lord. Some of the old painters represent the oxen and camels kneeling that night before the newborn babe. And well might they kneel! Have you ever thought that Christ came among other things to alleviate the sufferings of the things to alleviate the sufferings of the brute creation? Was it not appropriate that he should, during the first few days and nights of his life on earth, be sur-rounded by the dumb beasts, whose mean and plaint and bellowing have for ages been a prayer to God for the arresting of their tortures and the righting of their tortures and the righting of their wrangs! It did not merely "happen so" that the unintelligent creatures of God should have been that night in close neigh-

there any music so sweet as the child's voice? Is there any plume so wavy as a Not a kennel in all the centuries, not a Not a kennet in all the centuries, not a bird's nest, not a wornout horse on tow path, not a herd freezing in the poorly huilt cow pen, not a freight car in summer time bringing the beeves to market with out water through a thousand miles of agony, not a surgeon's room witnessing the struggles of fox or rabbit or pigeon or dog in the horrors of vivisection but has an interest in the fact that Christ was born in a stable, surrounded by brutes. He re-members that night, and the prayer he heard in their pitiful mean he will answer in the punishment of those who maltrest child's hair? Notice also that in this Bible night scene God honored science. Who are the three wise men kneeling before the Divine Infant? Not boors, not ignoramuses, but Caspar, Belthasar and Melchior, mea who knew all that was to be known. They were the Isaac Newtons and Herscheis and Faradays of their time. Their alchemy was the forerunner of our sublime chemistry, their astrology the mother of our magnificent astronomy. They had studied stars, the dumb brutes. They surely have as much right in this world as we have. In the first chapter of Genesis you may see that they were placed on the earth before man was, the fish and fowl created the fifth day, and the quadrupeds the morning of the sixth day, and man not until the after-moon of that day. The whale, the engle, the lion, and all the lesser creatures of their kind were predecessors of the human fa-mfly. They have the world by right of possession. They have also paid rent for the places they occupied. What an army of defense all over the land are the faith of defense all over the land are the faith ful watchdogs. And who can tell what the world owes to the horse and camel and or for transportation? And robin and lark have, by the cantatas with which they have filled orchard and forest, more than paid for the few grains they have picked up for their sustemance. When you abuse any creature of God you strike its Creator and you insult the Christ who, though he might have been welcomed into life by princes and taken his first infantile slum-ber and considered on the strike interview. ber amid Tyrian plush and canopled couches and ripping waters from royal aquednots dripping into basins of ivory and pearl, chose to be born on the level with a cow's horn, or a camel's hoof, or a dog's nostril, that he might be the allevia on of animal suffering as well as the re Geener of man CRUELTY TO ANIMALS. Standing, then as I imagine now I do in that Bethlehem night, with an infant Christ on the one side and the speechless creatures of God on the other, I cry look out how you strike the rowel into that horse's side. Take off that curbed bit om that bleeding mouth. Remove that addle from that raw back. Shoot not for fun that bir that is too small for food. Forget not to put water into the cage of that canary. Throw out some crumbs to those birds caught too far north in the winter's inclemency. Arrest that man who is making that one horse draw a load heavy enough for three. Rush in upon that scere where boys are torturing a cat or transfixing butterfly and grasshopper. Drive not off that old robin, for her nest is a mother's cradle, and under her wing there may be three or four musicians of the sky in training. In your families and in your schools teach the coming gener ation more mercy than the present gener ation has ever shown, and in this marvel ation has ever shown, and in this marvel-ous Hible picture of the Nativity, while you point out to them the angel, show them also the camel, and while they hear the celestial chant let them also hear the cow's mosn. No more did Christ show in terest in the botanical world when he said "Consider the Illies," than he showed "Consider the Illies," than he showed sympathy for the ornithological when he and "Behold the fowls of the sir," and the quadrupedial world when he allowed him inf to be called in one place a tion and in mother place a tamb. Meanwhile may the Christ of the Bethlebern cattle part that are preparing diseased and fevered mare mercy on the suffering stockyards that are preparing diseased and fevered mare for our American household. Behold, also, in this Bible scene, how on the Christ might have made his first risit to our world in a cloud, as he will de a chariet of illumined vapor he might have rolled down the sky, escorted by mounted

form and literature and eloquence and law and benevolence have come from the fields. cavaty, with lightning for drawn sword. Elijal had a carriage of fire to take him Washington from the fields Jefferson np way not Jesus a carriage of fire to fetch him down? Or over the arched bridge of from the fields. The presidential martyrs, Garfield and Lincoln from the fields. Henry Clay from the fields. Daniel Web-ster from the fields. Martin Eather from a rainbow the Lord might have descended. Or Christ might have had his mortality built up on earth out of the dust of a gar the fields. Before this world is right the den, as was Adam, in full manhood at the den, as was Adam, in full manhood at the start, without the introductory feebleness of infancy. No, not Childhood was to be honored by that event. He must have a child's light limbs, and a child's dimpled hand, and a child's beaming eye, and a child's flaxen hair, and babyhood was to be honored for all time to come, and a cradle was to mean more than a grays. overflowing populations of our crowded cities will have to take to the fields.

Instead of ten merchants in rivalry as to who shall sell that one apple we want at least eight of them to go out and raise ap ples. Instead of ten merchants desiring to sell that one bushel of wheat we want at cradle was to mean more than a grave. Mighty God! May the reflection of that least eight of them to go out and raise wheat. The world wants now more hard hands, more bronzed cheeks, more muscuone child's face be seen in all infantile faces. lar arms. "Po the fields' God honored them when he woke up the shepherds by the midnight anthem, and he will, while the Enough have all those fathers and moth ers on hand if they have a child in the world lasts, continue to honor the fields, house. A throne, a crown, a scepter, a When the shepherd's crook was that fakingdom under charge. Be careful how you strike him across the head, jarring the mous night stood against the wall of the Bethlehem khan, it was a prophecy of the time when thrasher's flail and farmer's brain. What you say to him will be cen-tennial and millennial, and a hundred years plow and woodman's ax and ox's yoke and and a thousand years will not stop theecho and re-echo. Do not say, "It is only a child. Rather say. "It is only an immorsheafbinder's rake shall surrender to the God who mad the country, as man made tal." It is only a masterpiece of Jehovab. It is only a being that shall outlive sun the town.

Behold, also, that on that Christmas night God honored motherhood. Two angels on their wings might have brought an infant Saviour to Bethlehem without Mary's being there at all. When the villagers, on the morning of December 26, awoke, by divine arrangement and in some unexplained way, the child Jesus might have been found in some comfortable cradle world be gave about eighteen hundred and ninety-one years ago, and he gave it on a Christmas night, and it was of such value that heaven adjourned for a recess and came down and broke through the clouds to look at it. Yea, in all ages God has honored childhood. He makes almost every of the village. But no, no! Motherhood for all time was to be consecrated, and one of the tenderest relations was to be the maternal relation, and one of the sweetest words, "Mother." In all ages God has honored good motherhood. John Wesley had a good mother, St. Bernard had a good mother, Samuel Budgett a good mother, Doddridge a good mother, Walter Scott a good mother. Benjamin West a good mother.

told the great Syrian warrior where he might go and get cured of the leprosy, which at his seventh plunge in the Jordan was left at the bottom of the river. It was In a great audience, most of whom were Christians, I asked that all those who had been blessed of Christian mothers arise, and almost the entire assembly stood up. Don't you see how important it is that all motherhood be consecrated? Why did Titian, the Italian artist, when he sketched to the cradle of leaves, in which a child was laid, rocked by the Nile, that God called the attention of history. It was a sick child that evoked Christ's curative the Madonna, make it an Italian face? Why did Rubens, the German artist, in sick child that evoked Christ's curative sympathies. It was a child that Christ set in the midst of the squabbling disciples to teach the lesson of humility. We are in-formed that wolf and leopard and lion shall be yet so domesticated that a little child shall lead them A child decided Water-loo, showing the army of Blucher how they could take a short cut through the fields, when if the old goad had been followed. his Madonna, make it a German face! his Madonna, make it a German face? Why did Joshua Reynolds, the English artist, in his Madonna, make it an English face? Why did Murillo, the Spanish artist, in his Madonna, make it a Spanish face? 1 never beard but 1 think they took their own mothers as the type of Mary, the mother of Christ? When you hear some one, in sermon or oration, speak in the abwhen, if the old road had been followed, the Prussian general would have come up too late to save the destinies of Europe. It one, in sermon or oration, speak in the ab-stract of a good, faithful, honest mother. your eyes fill up with tears while you say to yourself, "That was my mother." was a child that decided Gettysburg, he having overheard two Confederate gene-rals in a conversation, in which they de-cided to march for Gettysburg instead of

THE GLORY OF MOTHERHOOD.

The first word a child utters is apt to be "Mother," and the old man in his dying dream calls "Mother! mother!" It matters not whether she was brought up in the sur roundings of a city, and in affluent home, and was dressed appropriately with reference to the demands of modern life, or whether she wore the old time cap and great, round spectacles, and apron of her own make, and knit your socks with her own nee lies, seated by the broad fireplace, with great black logs ablaze on a winter night. It matters not how many wrinkles crossed and recrossed her face, or how much her shoulders stooped with the burdens of a long life, if you painted a Ma-donna, hers would be the face. What a gentle hand she had when we were sick, and what a voice to sooth pain, and was there any one who could so fill up a room with peace and purity and light? And what a sad day that was when we came home and she could greet us not, for her lins were forever still.

Come back, mother, this Christmas day and take your old place, and as ten or ifty yes ago come the old Bible as you used to; read and kneel in the same place where you used to pray, and look upon us as of old, when wished us a merry Christmas or a happy New Year. But, no! That would not be fair to call you back. You had troubles enough and aches enough and bereavements enough while you were here. Tarry by the throne, mother, till we join you there, your prayers all answered, and in the eternal homestead of our God we shall again keep Christmas jubilee together. But speak from your thrones, all you glorified mothers, and say to all these, your sons and daughters, words of love, words of warning, words of cheer. They need your voice, for they have traveled far and with many a heartbreak since you left them, and you do well to call from the heights of heaven to the valleys of earth: Hail, enthroned ancestry! We are coming. Keep a place right beside you at the ban quet.



How to Smooth Ribbon Place a moderately hot flatiron on the froning board, the ribbon under the iron, , ad pull it carefully through

How to Make Aunt Sally's Sweet Pickles. Select large firm peaches, peel and weigh them. To each pound of fruit allow half a pound of sugar and half a pint of vinegar; with the sugar and vin egar make a sirup. Put into each peach four whole cloves, and when the sirup is clear put the peaches in, a few at a time and cook them. Put them into jars and pour over the liquor hot. In a few days scald the sirup and pour over again.

and probably the only one in the world which has defined by law the proper way to pronounce its name. The law . ! the state is that it shall be called Arkansaw. There was conflict until this legislative enactment; now it is settled better than the pronunciation of any disputed word in any of the dictionaries. It is related of one of the vice presidents of the United States, Millard Fillmore perhaps, that so great was his courtesy that in recognizing the senators from Arkansas, one was always "the senator from Arkansas" and the other, "the senator from Arkansaw," the senior senator being in the habit of pronouncing the name of his state as it is spelled, while the junior called it as it is now only lawful to do.

How to Give Medicine to a Sick Cat. Mix it with lard and rub it on her sides, and her love of cleanliness forces her to lick it off and swallow it. Flowers of sulphur administered so keeps her from having distemper. A quarter of a teaspoonful once a week or so while young, and once a month if older. If indigestion and vomiting, put sweet olive or almond oil on her paws. If a cat has a fit throw cold water on her head, and later give her oil and sulphur.

How to Defeat and Eradicate a Tendency to Insanity.

Never think long about yourself or your wrongs and sorrows. Make it a point to help some other person every

How to Outfit for Mountain Climbing. A mountain trip may be made a season of unmixed delight or almost unbearable misery, according to the manper in which one is dressed. In the first place no corset should be worn. A beauty waist, snug yet comfortable, sus-pends its weight from the shoulders. The stocking suspenders button to this, as do also the woolen knickerbockers or divided skirt. The shoes should be wide of sole and low heeled. Gaiters of cloth protect the ankles and meet the divided skirt. The dress should be short, of storm serge, gray, brown or blue. A Norfolk waist, with a stout leather belt from which hangs a little bag containing smelling salts, a bottle of perfume and some vasoline and camphor ice. Two large pockets can contain small comb, brush, torthbrush and handglass as well as hairpins, penknife, pencil, pad, some string, several cle a couple of pairs of stockings. The hat should be soft, but should shade the eyes. A field glass and gossamer waterproof may be slung in a snug bundle over the shoulder. Castor gloves, one extra pair in a pocket. These with a drinking cup and a little spirits in a small bottle if desired will with an alpenstock carry a fair maiden through several days of climbing in perfect comfort and independence of civilization. Needle, thread and small scissors can also be easily carried.

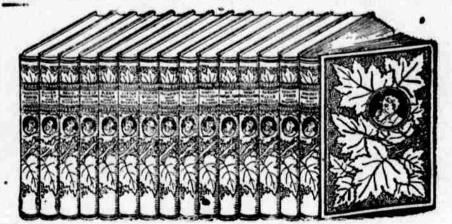


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everything. And when I see these scien-tists bowing before the beautiful babe I see the prophecy of the time when all the telescopes and microscopes and all the Ley-den jars and all the electric batteries and all the observatories and all the universities shall bow to Jesus. It is much that way already. Where is the college that does not have morning prayers, thus bow-ing at the manger? Who have been the

Harrisburg, and this reported to Governor

Curtin, the Federal forces started to meet

their opponents at Gettysburg. And today the child is to decide all the great battles.

make all the laws, settle all the destinies

and usher in the world's salvation or de-

struction. Men, women, nations, all earth and all heaven, behold the child! Is there

any velvet so soft as a child's cheek? Is

there any sky so blue as a child's eye? Is

GOD'S RECOGNITION OF SCIENCE.

A WELL SPRING OF PLEASURE.

and moon and star and ages quadrillennial.

God has infinite resources, and he can give

presents of great value, but when he wants

world he gave about eighteen hundred and

greatest physicians? Omitting the aames of the living lest we should be invidious, have we not had among them Christian men like our own Joseph C. Hutchinson and Rush and Val entine Mott and Abercrombie and Abernethy? Who have been our greatest scientists? Joseph Henry, who lived and diod in the faith of the Gospels, and Agassiz, who, standing with his students among the hills, took off his hat and said, "Young gentlemen, before we study these rocks let us pray for wisdom to the God who made the rocks." Today the greatest doctors and lawyers of Brooklyn and New York and of this land and of all lands revere the Chris tian religion, and are not ashamed to say so before juries and legislatures and senates. All geology will yet bow before the Rock of Ages. All botany will yet worship the Rose of Sharon. All astronomy will yet recognize the Star of Bethlehem. And

physiology and anatomy will join hands and say, "We must, by the help of God, get the human race up to the perfect nerve and perfect muscle and perfect brain and perfect form of that perfect child, before whom, nigh twenty hundred years ago, the wise men beut their tired knees in

worship. Behold also in that first Christmas night that God honored the fields. Come in, shepherd boys, to Bethlehem and see the child "No," they say, "we are not dressed good enough to come in." "Yes you are; come in." Sure enough, the storms and the night dew and the brambles have made rough work with their apparel, but none have a better right to come in. They were the first to hear the music of that Christ mas night. The first announcement of a saviour's birth was made to those men in the fields. They were wiseacres that night in Bethlehem and Jerusalem snoring in deep sleep, and there were salaried officers of government, who, hearing of it after ward, may have thought that they ought to have had the first news of such a great to have had the first news of such a great event, some one dismonnting from a swift camel at their door and knocking till, at some sentinel's question, "Who comes there?" the great ones of the palace might have been told of the celestial arrival. No, the shepherds heard the first two bars of the music, the first in the major key and the last in the subdued minor, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth perce-

Woman's News.

Slow footed years: More swiftly run Into the gold of that unsetting sun; Homesick we are for thee. Caim land beyond the sea.

New Employment for Women.

Experts from the agricultural depart-ment recently established in Boston a station for the inspection of meat to be ship-ped abroad. This completes the number of such stations provided for by the meat inspection bill passed at the last session of congress. The other stations are at South Omaha, Kansas City, Milwaukee and Chicago The establishment of these stations opens up another branch of employment for young women.

It has been found that they are better fitted for the work of inspection than men. This was developed at Chicago, where the first station was established. At first sixteen young men and sixteen young women were employed. The women outstripped the men from the start. Now nearly all of the employees at the various stations are young women. They excel men in that they are more careful, apter to learn and are more quick and deft in handling the microscopes. They also seem to be quicker in the eye than men when looking through those instruments.

The work is clean and they take much interest in it. If there is triching in an animal it will be evidenced by the condition of the tenderloin and the diaphragm. Sec-tions of those portions of the animal are given to the inspectors. They, after using their microscopes, pronounce whether or not the animal was healthy. - Chicago

An Original Idea.

Rather a novel idea was that carried into effect at a recent wedding. This was to utilize the laundry in the front basement as an addition to the suite of rooms thrown The billiard room was below stairs, and to reach it the laundry door must be passed. So the door had to be closed or the room transformed. The latter was done. rug was stretched on the floor, the whoneys litted with flowers and greens, the tubs banked and wholly concealed with particle planes and trailing moss, the range rest of the line with growing palms, rub-ber trees stood in corners and the place much bower of vernal beauty, with every stop alors for homely use obliterated.— Her the view in New York Times.

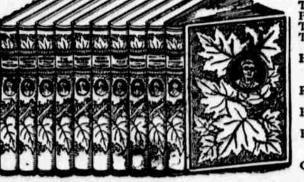
. How to Sew Furs.

In case any lady wants to make over a fur garment, she can do so by following these directions: Whenever she wants to cut her fur she must mark it on the skin side with chalk and cut it with a sharp knife, not letting it cut quite through at first, and then pull the piece apart, finishing the cut very delicately, so as not to spoil the fur. On no account must scissors be used, as they will cut the fur on the outside in spite of the utmost precaution. When it is all cut the edges to be sewn are brought together and moistened, and sewn over hand with waxed cotton thread. Silk cuts the skin. When the seam is sewed it should be laid fur side down on a board and the seam again moistened. and pressed flat by rubbing it with a shell, or some other smooth surfaced article. Done this way, no seam is visible on the outside, and the garment looks as well as if done by professional sewers. All kinds of fur are sewn in the same way.

How to Cure Nervousness. Handle and care for live animals as much as possible, especially horses and cattle. Did you ever see a nervous jock ey?

How to Care a Carbuncle and Prevent

Its Breaking. As soon as a person begins to have severe lancinating pains, together with redness and swelling upon the back or sides of the neck, among the cords, he should at once begin to take inwardly ten drops of muriated tincture of iron three times a day, and have the painful place moistened every two hours with carbolic acid as strong as it can be borne. A small spot should be touched at first to see how strong it can be used, and water added to it until it does not burn. The oftener this is applied the better. A couple of days of this treatment will allay the pain and prevent the gathering and breaking out, or, in medical parlance, abort the carbuncle. It is a recent discovery. After the disappearance of the swelling the patient should take a generous diet and try to build up the system by bovinine or some other nonr ishing and enriching thing, as carbuncles, like felons, come usually from an impoverished condition of the blood.



PLUSH PAPERS. PARIS AND EASTERN

SKETCHES, AND THE IRISH SKETCH BOOK. CHRISTMASBOOKS, AND THE HOGGARTY DIAMOND.

No one could ask for a richer store than these works of Thackeray, from which to draw for literary recreation during the evenings of the winter or the days of the summer outing.

Thackeray was the king of satirists. His brilliant wit scintillates like the gleams of light from the facets of the diamond. His shafts pierce like the point of a rapier.

The foibles and fashions, the fads and follies of the upper crust are held up to scathing ridicule, while the habits and habitations of the masses are laid bare for instruction, amusements and general edification. No man or woman should be without Thackeray's Works.

No household has the right to withhold Thacke.ay from its youths and maidens. Everyone should avail themselves of the following

