tations of the Season Explained in Rioquent Words.



ASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8, 1895.—Today Dr. Talmage chose as the subject of his sermon "The Opening Winter." Adthough the cold comes mearlier or later, according to the latitude, this sermon is sooner or later as appropriate everywhere as it is in Washington. The

12, "I have determined there to winter." Paul was not independent of the sea-He sent for his overcoat to Troas on a memorable occasion. And now in the text he is making arrangements for the approachig cold weather, and makes an appointment with Titus to meet him at Necopolis, saying: "I have determined there to winter." Well this is the eighth day of December and the second Sabbath of winter. We have had a few shrill, sharp blasts already, forerunners of whole regiments of storms and tempests. No one here needs to be told that we are in the opening gates of the winter. This season is not only a test of one's physical endurance, but in our great cities is a test of moral character. A vast number of people have by one winter of dissipation been destroyed, and forever. Seated in our homes on some stormy night, the winds howling outside, we imagine the shipthousand moral shipwrecks. There are many people who came to the cities on the first of September who will be blasted by the first of March. At this season of the year temptations are especially rampant. Now that the long winter evenings have come, there are many who will employ them in high pursuits, in intelligent socialities, in Christian work, in the strengthening and ento others it may not have such effect.

where you spend your winter nights.

is not very much temptation for a man to plunge in on a hot night amid blazing gaslights, and to breathe the fetid air of an assemblage, but in the cold nights Satan gathers a great harvest. At such times the casinos are in full blast. At such time, the grogshops in one night make more than in four or five nights in summer. At such times the play-bills of low places of entertainment seem especially attractive. and the acting is especially impressive, and the applause especially bewitching. Many a man who has kept right all the rest of the year will be capsized now. and though last autumn he came from the country and there was lustre in the eye and there were roses in the cheek and elasticity in the step, by the time the spring hour has come you will pass him in the street and say to your friend: "What's the matter with that man? How differently he looks from what he looked last September." Slain of one winter's dissipation. At this time of the year there are many entertainments. If we rightly employ them, and they are of the right kind, they enlarge our socialities, allow us to make important acquaintance, build us up in our morals, and help us in a thousand ways. I can searcely think of anything better than good neighborhood. But there are those entertainments from which others will come besoiled in character. There at the opening of the season their prosmeets were bright, at the close of the season they will be in the hands of the doctors, or sleeping in the cemetery. The certificate of death will be made out, and the physician, to save the feelings of the family, will call the disease by a Latin name, But the doctor knows, and everybody else knows, they died of too many levees. Away with all these wine-drinking convivialities. How dare you, the father of a family, tempt the appetites of the young people? Perhaps at the entertainment, to save the feelings of the minister or some other weak temperance man, you when you come out, by the glare of your eye and the stench of your breath, that you have been serving the devil.

of temptation, because of the long even- be still now, while I speak, when you ings allowing such full swing for evil | get to be as old as I am I will be as still indulgences. You can scarcely expect as a mouse." There was not another a young man to go into his room and | whisper that afternoon. He was as sit there from seven to eleven o'clock | much a boy as any of them. Oh, in in the evening, reading Motley's "Dutch | these approaching holidays, let us turn Republic," or John Foster's essays. It would be a very beautiful thing for him to do, but he will not do it. The most | again, and make all our homes happy. of our young men are busy in offices, in factories, in banking-houses, in stores, in shops, and when evening these temptations of city life incorrupt comes they want the fresh air, and they want sight-seeing, and they must have it, they will have it, and they ought to have it. Most of the men here assembled will have three or four evenings of meet you and say: "Good morning; leisure on the the winter nights. After tea, the man puts on his hat and coat, and he goes out. One form of the world; I thought you would turn out allurement says, "Come in here." Sasught not to be so green; by this time you ought to have seen everything,"

dull times such we have had but which. believe are gone; for I the land the prophecy of great nd the railroad men and the mer hands, they all tell ne of the days of prosperity they think are coming, and in many departments they have already come, and they are going to come in all departments; but those dull times through which we have passed have destroyed a great many men. The question of a livelihood is with a vast his head the blessing of a poor mother's multitude the great question. There prayer and there was on his lips the are young men who expected before dew of a pure sister's kiss, now, as they this to set up their household, but they have been disappointed in the gains they have made. They cannot support themselves, how can they support others? and, to the curse of modern spciety, the theory is abroad that a man must not marry until he has achieved a fortune, when the twain ought to start at the foot of the hill and together climb to the top. That is the old-fashioned way, and that will text selected will be found in Titus 3: be the new-fashioned way if society is ever redeemed. But during the hard times, the dull times, so many men were discouraged, so many men had nothing to do-they could get nothing to doa pirate bore down on the ship when the sails were down and the vessel was making no headway. People say they want more time to think. The trouble is, too many people have too much time to think, and if our merchants had not had their minds diverted, many of them would long before this have been within the four walls of an insane asylum. These long winter evenings, be careful where you spend them. This winter will decide the temporal and eternal destiny of hundreds of men in this

Then, the winter has especial temptations in the fact that many homes are peculiarly unattractive at this season. In the summer months the young man ping helplessly driven on the coast, but | can sit out on the steps, or he can have any winter night, if our ears were good | a bouquet in the vase on the mantel, enough, we could hear the crash of a or, the evenings being so short, soon after gas-light he wants to retire anyhow. But there are many parents who do not understand how to make the long winter evenings attractive to their children. It is amazing to me that so many old people do not understand young people. To hear some of these parents talk you would think they had never themselves been young, and had been born with spectacles on. Oh, it is nobling of moral character, and this dolorous for young people to sit in the winter to many of you will be the bright- | house from 7 to 11 o'clock at night, and est and the best of all your lives, and in | to hear parents groan about their ailanticipation I congratulate you. But | ments and the nothingness of this world. The nothingness of this world! and I charge you, my beloved, look out | How dare you talk such blasphemy? It took God six days to make this world, In the first place, I have to remark | and he has allowed it six thousand years that at this season of the year evil al- to hang upon his holy heart, and this lurements are especially busy. There | world has shone on you and blessed you and caressed you for these fifty or seventy years and yet you dare talk about the nothingness of this world. Why, it is a magnificent world. I do not believe in the whole universe there is a world equal to it, except it be heaven. You cannot expect your children to stay in the house these long winter evenings to hear you denounce this star-lighted, sun-warmed, showerbaptized, flower-strewn, angel-watched God-inhabited planet.

Oh! make your home bright. Bring in the violin or the picture. It does not require a great salary or a big house, or chased silver, or gorgeous upholstery to make a home happy. All that is wanted is a father's heart, a mother's heart, in sympathy with the young folks. I have a blaze to warm by, and just as soft a known a man with seven hundred dollars salary, and he had no other income, but he had a home so bright and happy, that, though the sons have gone at \$5 a dozen, may be an innocent inout and won large fortunes, and the daughters have gone out into splendid spheres, and become princesses of society, they can never think of that early home without tears of emotion. It was law exacts self-abnegation-self-abneto them the vestibule of heaven, and all | gation with no perquisites save that of their mansions now, and all their palaces now, cannot make them forget that | the gift is a one-sided benefit. If a early place. Make your homes happy.

Alas! that old people so much misunderstand young folks! There was a great Sunday-school anniversary, and are those who by the springtime will | there were thousands of children presbe broken down in health, and though | ent; indeed, all the Sunday-schools of the town were in the building, and it was very uproarious and full of disturbance, and the presiding officer on the occasion came forward, and in a very loud tone shouted, "Silence!" and the more noise the presiding officer made, the more noise the children made. Some one else rose on the platform and came forward, and with more stentorian voice shouted, "Silence!" and the uproar rose to greater height, and it did seem as if there would be almost a riot and the police have to be called in. when old Doctor Beaman, his hair white as the driven snow, said: "Let me try my hand." So he came forward leave the decanter in a side room, and | with a slow s'ep to the front of the platonly a few people are invited there to form, and when the children saw the partake; but it is easy enough to know | venerable man and the white hair, they thought they would hush up that instant, and hear what the old man had to say. He said: "Boys, I want to The winter season is especially full | make a bargain with you. If you will back our natures to what they were years ago, and be boys again and girls

to 200 lines a day. Oh, what a beautiful thing it is to see a young man standing up amid while hundreds are falling. I will tell your history. You will move in rebedmaking. spectable circles all your days, and some day a friend of your father will glad to see you. You seem to be prospering; you look like your father for all well when I used to hold you on my tan says, "It is best for you to go in; you knee; if you ever want any help or lowing every muscle to relax, letting nicotine poisoning. It had a pipe to any advice, come to me; as long as I | the hands go any way they will, and remember your father I'll remember | hope the even closed.

and the temptations shall be mighty in you. Good morning." That will be the THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

history of hyndrids of these young met. How do I know it? I know it by he way you start But here's a young LESSON XII, DECEMBER 22-

> Golden Text: Behold I Bring You Good Tidings of Great Joy-Luke, 2:8-20-The Need of a Redeemer for Man-



es of hin charm him awa He

reads bad books, mingles in bad acclety.

The glow has gone from his cheek and

the sparkle from his eye, and the purity

from his soul. Down he goes, little by

little. The people who saw him when

he came to town while yet hovered over

prayer and there was on his lips the

see him pass, cry: "What an awful

wreck!" Cheek bruised in grogshop

fight. Eye bleared with dissipation.

Lip swollen with indulgences. Be care-

ful what you say to him; for a trifle he

would take your life. Lower down, low-

er down, until, outcast of God and man,

he lies in the asylum, a blotch of loath-

someness and pain. One moment he

calls for God and then he calls for rum.

He prays, he curses, he laughs as a

flend laughs, then bites his nails into

the quick, then puts his hands through

the hair hanging around his head like

the mane of a wild beast, then shivers

until the cot shakes, with unutterable

seem to wind around him their awful

folds, then asks for water which is in-

Some morning the surgeon going his

rounds will find him dead. Do not try

to comb out or brush back the matted

locks. Straighten out the limbs, wrap

him in a sheet, put him in a box, and

let two men carry him down to the

chalk write on top of the box the name

of the destroyer and the destroyed.

Who is it? It is you, oh man, if, yield-

ing to the temptations of a dissipated

life, you go out and perish. There is a

way that seemeth bright and fair and

beautiful to a man, but the end thereof

is death. Employ these long nights of

December, January and February in

high pursuits, in intelligent socialities,

in innocent amusements, in Christian

work. Do not waste this winter, for

soon you will have seen your last snow

shower, and have gone up into the com-

panionship of Him whose raiment is

white as snow, whiter than any fuller

on earth could whiten it. For all Chris-

tian hearts the winter nights of earth

will end in the June morning of heaven.

The river of life from under the throne

Post-Mortem Generosity.

We lead miserly or selfish lives,

thinking to redeem ourselves by a post-

mortem generosity; only relieving dis-

tress when our effects can be of no fur-

ther use to us. We go into mourning

and give away our gay apparel because

it will become old-fashioned by the

time we emerge from our somber garb.

We give away what we are done with.

We do this and pat ourselves for our

generosity. Too many of us are like

the child with her cake, we only give

when we have had enough ourselves.

After the donation to the poor fund has

been made, we yet have more than

pillow to lie upon-and what it sweeter

our ears. A vase of American beauties.

escape the pangs of starvation your

washerwoman's feet are kept warm and

dry, what does it signify who gave her

the shoes? If the gift came from an

egotist, the most important fact to him

Baxter, it is said, kept the manu-

script of the "Saint's Everlasting Rest"

in his hands for thirteen years, revising

Bryant is said to have written "Than-

atopsis" in a week. The work of trans-

lating Homer consumed four or five of

Hazlitt, after the necessary work of

preparation had been concluded, wrote

one lecture a week of the series "Lec-

Fielding is said to have written "Tom

Jones" in three months. The work was

written as a satire on one of Richard-

Montgomery, the famous hymn writ-

er, required but a single afternoon to

prepare one of his magnificent para-

one of her essays on "Female Educa-

tion" in two weeks. She did not spend

OUNCES OF PREVENTION.

Wear a clean apron while ironing on

To clean bamboo furniture use

The eyes should be bathed every

night in cold water just before retir-

ing and they will do better work the

When very tired lie on the back, al-

brush dipped in salt water.

following day.

in the case is the giver

and condensing.

his best years.

tures on Authors."

phrases of the psalms.

much time in revision.

"History of England."

son's novels.

NTRODUCTORY The moral state of the world was then and is now a proof of the need of a Saviour from sin. The moral condition of the Roman Empire, amid the glory of its milttary achievements that made Rome the mistress of the world; in the height of its intellectual supremacy, producing works which have aided the

education of the world for eighteen centuries, and are still a part of the training of every educated person in Christendom; under the power of a law which is still the basis of civilized legislation; amid the triumphs of wealth and luxury,-is portrayed in the terrible indictment of Romans 1:21-32, which the contemporary literature of the day fully contemporary literature of the day fully conterror, then with his fists fights back firms, as do the startling revelations from the

the devils, or clutches for serpents that | ruins of Pompeii. IV. Jesus Came at the Best Time-There has been no other time in the history of the world so perfectly adapted for the beginning stantly consumed on his cracked lips. of the Kingdom and the spreading of the news of salvation throughout the earth as that in which in Christ was born. (1) It was after the Jews had received all that they would about God's kingdom, but before the breaking up and scattering of the pation by the fall of their capital and the temple. (2) There were many lands, but nearly all the world was subject to the one government at wagon at the door. With a piece of Rome, so that the preachers of the gospel could travel in safety, and be protected in their work. Roman roads made for their legions were a highway for the gospel, and the Roman soldiers were a guard for its preachers. (3) The world was at peace, for almost the only time, so that the gospel could have free course. (4) The Greek language, the most perfect medium of human speech, was spoken everywhere with the native languages, so that the gospel could be heard and read by all. The conquests of Alexander, which diffused the Greek language, the Greek civilization, and Greek learning throughout the East, were a marvellous providential preparation for the gospel.

V. Jesus Came in the Best Way .- Vs. 8-20. Place. He was born at Bethlehem, the city, of David, his royal ancestor. Time. He was born about December, B. C. 5. His Father 'acquaintance with the methods of the was God. His mother was Mary, a descend- original Greek builders.- New York ant of David. His birth was at an inn, and he was laid in a manger. His circumstances were of humble life and honest toll, that he might be the friend of all men, but especially of the poor and suffering.

never freezes over. The foliage of life's shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch fair tree is never frost-bitten. The fest over their flock by night.

tivities, the hilarities, the family greetupon them, and the glory of the Lord shone ings of earthly Christmas times will round about them, and they were sore afraid. give way to larger reunion and bright-10. And the angel said unto them, Fear er lights and sweeter garlands and not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. mightier joy in the great holiday of 11. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

12. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling ciothes, lying in a manger. 13. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God

14. Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will-toward men. 15. And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another. Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

16. And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a 17. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

18. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the 19. But Mary kept all these things, and

enough for our comfort. Just as bright pondered them in her heart. 20. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they still, the praise of friends ringing in had heard and seen, as it was told unto them. The shepherds returned. To their duty as dulgence; but if your neighbor throws shepherds, but with a new life and blessing in their daily work. Feeding sheep herself from a fourth-story window to could never again be commonplace toil to flowers condemn you. The spirit of the God, our views from the Pisgahs of life, our insight into the word and heaven on the mounts of transfiguration we must return our daily duties, but with a new life in an approving conscience. Without this, them, a new blessing on them. Glorifying expresses the feeling of the greatness of the

Romance of a Watch.

work. Praising refers to the goodness dis-

A Westboro man has a watch which has quite a romance attached to it. It belonged to Capt. Daniel Chamberland of that town, who carried it to the Sandwich islands in 1819, he being a member of the pioneer missionary band. While lying in the harbor at Honolulu, Mr. Chamberland accidently dropped the timepiece overboard into the deep but clear water. It could be seen upon the bottom, and the natives, who were expert divers and swimmers, were called upon to aid in its recovery. After repeated efforts one Kanaka got it, but he had been so long under water that blood gushed from his ears and nose when he came up, and he died the next day. Mr. Chamberland, who kept a journal, made a long note of the af- of this theory the query is considered fair, therein remarking: "It is to be regretted that this poor soul should since our world was in the condition have been snatched away just as the of Beta Lyrae, whether any helium gospel was about to be preached to Hannah More is said to have written him."

Not a Mere Clerk. Wealthy Parent-What! Engaged Macauley, from the inception of the yourself to young Tapester? Outrageplan to the time when the work was cut ous! The idea of a Van Juneberry marsnort, spent eight or nine years on his rying a mere store-clerk!

Daughter-But he isn't a store-clerk Wordsworth would write one or two now, papa. He is a gentleman of sonnets every day. When engaged on "The Excursion" he produced from 159

"Yes; he's been discharged."

CURIOUS FACTS.

The Japanese method of lacquering is said to be at least 2,000 years old. Pieces made ten centuries ago are still exhibited.

The authorities have prohibited the use of boric acid as a meat preservative. It is said to be used largely by butchers

and fish dealers. A year-old baby recently died from play with for a short time and must have put it in its mouth.

TO REPAIR THE PARTHENON

Plans Proposed for the Preservation

of This Famous Greek Temple.

possible damage done to it by the

The condition of the Parthenon, the

earthquake of 1894, has already been alluded to. Many experts having examined the Parthenon, as to the best method of preserving this marvel of Greek art, the subject is yet under discussion. Ernest Ziller states that the earthquake did the Parthenon little, if any, harm. The worst accident to it happened when the Morosini laid siege to the Acropolis in 1687. Ziller proposes using a particular cement, and holding together the cracked stones. He wants "no modern patchwork." Ziller represented a minority report. The majority report, headed by Prof. Doerofeld and Theophilus, devoted their attention to the architrave and other injured portions of the Parthenon. They want to remove the broken block of the architrave, to use iron bars to support other parts, and to introduce new stone, but this new stone to be made out of old material, so that no patching can be visible. Nothing having been decided upon, a third expert, Prof. Julius Durm, has been called on. He deems the architrave to be hopelessly ruined, and thinks it ought to be entirely restored. It is future consequences he dreadsnatural distegration brought about by rains and frost. According to the Athenaeum, Durm emphasizes between what "is urgent and not urgent, necessary and desirable, what must be done and what might be done." About \$10,000 would be the sum required for the pressing wants of the Parthenon, and \$40,000 would cover all the outlay. There was some difference of opinion when the matter of workmen was entered on, as Durm wanted Germans or Italians in preference to Greeks. And so the matter stands. The last expert is M. Mange: M. Mange is opposed to "stone cementing or any similar process of restoration." His idea is to rivet in the loose stones by means of iron or copped hooks. He describes how difficult be the removal of unsound parts, on account of the old way the Greeks had of mortising their stones, and using lead, which fastened the lower blocks. He dreads that careless repairs or tinkerings might bring down the whole western cornice. There is no question as to M. Mange's superior

STEAM ENGINE MUST GO.

8. And there were in the same country | Electric Power to Be the Propeller of the Future.

It is only a matter of time when electric roads will be established between all important cities. The substitution of the electric motor and special devices for fast travel may be delayed by the managers of steam railways, whose business will be injured thereby, but the change has got to come. Present methods are not in keeping with the progressive science of the age. The steam roads carry a ton of car weight for every passenger they transport, where only 400 pounds will be required with the new system. The slaughter of people by crossing roads built at grade on the surface must be stopped, and this is one way to avoid it. Why should the mails occupy twenty-four hours in transit between New York and Chicago, when the distance can be covered in eight hours? Why should passengers be bothered with sleeping car accommodations to make a journey that can be accomplished within the short hours that now constitute a legal working

In the Brott system locomotives are dispensed with. The motors are on the axles, under the cars. Hence it is possible to dispense with the mighty locomotive, that has to be made nearly as heavy as the whole train in order to secure a proper hold upon the track. Now that ocean steamers have so closely approached railroad speed. it is high time that the land roads forged ahead before the designers of water craft catch up.-Lippincott's.

Atmosphere of the Stars. The modern astronomical principle on which stars are classified, namely, the resemblance and difference between their spectra, and the revela tions characterizing this remarkable phenomenon, have led to various attempts to indicate the stage of advancement attained by each particular orb in its life's history or development. Remarking upon this, a recent writer cites Dr. Scheiner as putting, in his late work on stellar spectroscopy, those stars whose spectra contain the bright lines of hellum and hydrogen in the first subdivision of his first class in evolution. Beta Lyrae and Gamma Cassioplae being two such stars; he regards them as having atmospheres composed of those gases, enormously extensive as compared with those of other ctars, and possibly hotter than the gaseous envelopes of their older companions. On the basis pertinent as to how long it may be now floats in our outer atmosphere. how that particular portion which is now imbedded in the earth's crust got there, and other similar questions .-New York Sun.

The Elevator Disease Has a Word. One of the elevator men in the city hall, whose contact with all sorts and conditions of men has developed in him a fondness for studying character, has often wondered just what word to apply to a malady which seems to afflict some of his passengers. "Many people get into the elevator,' 'he remarked the other day, "and seem to imagine that I should know just where they want to get off. They never open their lips until I carry them beyond their destination, when they seem to think I am at fault for not being a mind reader. I spoke to Police Surgeon Andrews about it one day, and told him I thought there ought to be some word coined to aptly describe these people. He advised me to call them aphonians, and explained to me that aphonia was really a temporary loss of speech. So now I'm always on the watch for aphonians."-Philadelphia Record.

A Touching Epitaph

A Topeka reporter was nosing around a second-hand store the other day when he came across a tombstone which had in some manner drifted into the dealer's hands, and which was for sale at less than half first cost. Upon it was engaved the following touching inscription: 'Jimmy thou art gone; but 'tis sweet to know that thou wilt meet us on Jordan's banks with thy sweet

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I would have a man great in great things and e egant in little things .- Johnson.

The rarefled atmosphere of the city of Leadville, Col., is fatal to cats, rats, mice,

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