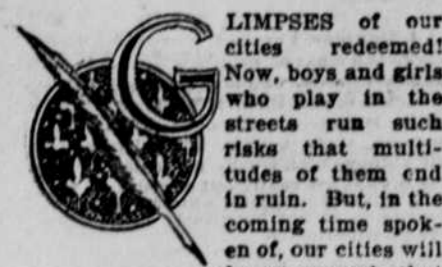


TALMAGE'S SERMON.

"THE CITIES SAVED," LAST SUNDAY'S SUBJECT.

"And the Streets of the Cities Shall Be Full of Boys and Girls Playing in the Streets Thereof"—Zachariah, Verse 5, 8-8.



LIMPSES of our cities redeemed! Now, boys and girls who play in the streets run such risks that multitudes of them end in ruin. But, in the coming time spoken of, our cities will be so moral that lads and lasses shall be as safe in the public thoroughfares as in the nursery.

Pulpit and printing press for the most part in our day are busy in discussing the condition of the cities at this time; but would it not be healthfully encouraging to all Christian workers, and to all who are toiling to make the world better, if we should for a little while look forward to the time when our cities shall be revolutionized by the Gospel of the Son of God, and all the darkness of sin and trouble and crime and suffering shall be gone from the world? Every man has a pride in the city of his nativity or residence, if it be a city distinguished for any dignity or prowess. Caesar boasted of his native Rome, Virgil of Mantua, Lycurgus of Sparta, Demosthenes of Athens, Archimedes of Syracuse, and Paul of Tarsus. I should have suspicion of base-heartedness in a man who had no especial interest in the city of his birth or residence—no exhilaration at the evidence of its prosperity or its artistic embellishments, or its intellectual advancement.

I have noticed that a man never likes a city where he has not behaved well! People who have had a free ride in the prison van never like the city that furnishes the vehicle. When I find Argos, and Rhodes, and Smyrna trying to prove themselves the birthplace of Homer, I conclude that Homer behaved well. He liked them and they liked him. We must not war on laudable city pride, or with the idea of building ourselves up at any time, try to pull others down. Boston must continue to point to its Faneuil Hall and to its Common, and to its superior educational advantages. Philadelphia must continue to point to its Independence Hall, and its mint, and its Girard College. Washington must continue to point to its wondrous Capitoline buildings. If I should find a man coming from any city, having no pride in that city, that city having been the place of his nativity, or now being the place of his residence, I would feel like asking: "What meaning have you done there? What outrageous thing have you been guilty of that you do not like the place?"

I know there are sorrows, and there are sins, and there are sufferings all around about us; but as in some bitter, cold winter day, when we are threshing our arms around us to keep our thumbs from freezing, we think of the warm spring day that will after awhile come; or in the dark winter night we look up and see the northern lights, the windows of heaven illuminated by some great victory—just so we look up from the night of suffering and sorrow and wretchedness in our cities, and we see a light streaming through from the other side, and we know we are on the way to morning—more than that, on the way to "a morning without clouds."

I want you to understand, all you who are toiling for Christ, that the castles of sin are all going to be captured. The victory for Christ in these great towns is going to be so complete that not a man on earth, or an angel in heaven, or a devil in hell will dispute it. How do I know? I know just as certainly as God lives and that this is holy truth. The old Bible is full of it. If a nation is to be saved, of course all the cities are to be saved. It makes a great difference with you and with me whether we are toiling toward a defeat, or toiling toward a victory. Now, in this municipal elevation of which I speak, I have to remark there will be greater financial prosperity than our cities have ever seen. Some people seem to have a morbid idea of the millennium, and they think when the better time comes to our cities and the world people will give their time up to palm-singing and the relating of their religious experience, and, as all social life will be purified there will be no hilarity, and, as all business will be purified there will be no enterprise. There is no ground for such an absurd anticipation. In the time of which I speak, where now one fortune is made, there will be a hundred fortunes made. We all know business prosperity depends upon confidence between man and man. Now when that time comes of which I speak, and when all double dealing, all dishonesty, and all fraud are gone out of commercial circles, thorough confidence will be established, and there will be a better business done, and larger fortunes gathered, and mightier successes achieved.

The great business disasters of this country have come from the work of godless speculators and infamous stock gamblers. The great foe to business is crime. When the right shall have hauled back the wrong, and shall have purged the commercial code, and shall have thundered down fraudulent establishments, and shall have put into the hands of honest men the keys of business, blessed time for the bargain-makers. I am not talking an abstraction. I am not making a guess. I am telling you God's eternal truth. In that day of which I speak, taxes will be a mere nothing. Now, our busi-

ness men are taxed for everything. City taxes, county taxes, State taxes, United States taxes, stamp taxes, license tax, manufacturing taxes—taxes, taxes, taxes! Our business men have to make a small fortune every year to pay their taxes. What fastens on our great industries this awful load? Crime, individual and official. We have to take care of the orphans of those who plunged into their graves through sensual indulgences. We have to support the municipal governments, which are vast and expensive just in proportion as the criminal proclivities are vast and tremendous. Who support the almshouses and police stations, and all the machinery of municipal government? The taxpayers.

In our great cities the churches are not to-day large enough to hold more than a fourth of the population. The churches that are built—comparatively few of them are fully occupied. The average attendance in the churches of the United States today is not four hundred. Now, in the glorious time of which I speak, there are going to be vast churches, and they are going to be all thronged with worshippers. Oh, what rousing songs they will sing! Oh, what earnest sermons they will preach! Oh, what fervent prayers they will offer! Now, in our time, what is called a fashionable church is a place where a few people, having attended very carefully to their toilet, come and sit down—they do not want to be crowded; they like a whole seat to themselves—and then, if they have any time left from thinking of their store, and from examining the style of the hat in front of them, they sit and listen to a sermon warranted to hit no man's sins, and liaisons to music which is rendered by a choir warranted to sing tunes that nobody knows! And then after an hour and a half of indolent yawning they go home refreshed. Every man feels better after he has had a good sleep!

In many of the Churches of Christ in our day the music is simply a mockery. I have not a cultivated ear, nor a cultivated voice, yet no man can do my singing for me. I have nothing to say against artistic music. The two or five dollars I pay to hear any of the great queens of song are a good investment. But when the people assemble in religious convocation, and the hymn is read, and the angels of God step from their throne to catch the music on their wings, do not let us drive them away by our indifference. I have preached in churches where vast sums of money were employed to keep up the music, and it was as exquisite as any heard on earth, but I thought, at the same time, for all matters practical I would prefer the hearty, outbreathing song of a backwoods Methodist camp-meeting.

Let one of these stardling fancy songs sung in church get up before the throne of God, how would it seem standing amid the great dogologies of the redeemed? Let the finest operatic air that ever went up from the Church of Christ get many hours the start, it would be caught and passed by the hosanna of the Sabbath School children. I know a church where the choir did all the singing, save one Christian man, who, through "perseverance of the saints," went right on, and, afterward, a committee was appointed to wait on him and ask him if he would not please stop singing, as he bothered the choir.

Let those refuse to sing Who never knew our God; But children of the Heavenly King Should speak their joys abroad. "Praise ye the Lord: let everything with breath praise the Lord." In the glorious time coming in our cities, and in the world, hosanna will meet hosanna, and hallelujah, hallelujah. In that time also of which I speak, and the haunts of iniquity and crime and squalor will be cleansed and will be illuminated. How is it to be done? You say, perhaps, by one influence. Perhaps I say by another. I will tell you what is my idea, and I know I am right in it: The Gospel of the Son of God is the only agency that will ever accomplish this.

A gentleman in England had a theory that if the natural forces of wind and tide and sunshine and wave were rightly applied and rightly developed it would make this whole earth a paradise. In a book of great genius, and which rushed from edition to edition, he said: "Fellow-men, I promise to show the means of creating a paradise within ten years, where everything desirable for human life may be had by every man in superabundance without labor and without pay—where the whole face of nature shall be changed into the most beautiful farms, and man may live in the most magnificent palace, in all imaginable refinements of luxury, and in the most delightful gardens—where he may accomplish without labor in one year more than hitherto could be done in thousands of years. From the houses to be built will be afforded the most cultured views that can be fancied. From the galleries, from the roof, and from the turrets, may be seen gardens as far as the eye can see, full of fruits and flowers, arranged in the most beautiful order, with walks, colonnades, aqueducts, canals, ponds, plains, amphitheatres, terraces, fountains, sculptured works, pavilions, gondolas, places of popular amusement, to lure the eye and fancy. All this to be done by urging the water, the wind, and the sunshine to their full development."

In that day of which I speak, do you believe there will be any mid-night carousals? Will there be any kicking off from the marble steps of shivering mendicants? Will there be any unwashed, unshod, uncombed children? Will there be any inebriated staggering past? No. No wine stores. No lager beer saloons. No distilleries, where they make the three N's. No bloodshot eyes. No bloated cheeks. No instruments

of ruin and destruction. No fist-pounded forehead. The grandchildren of that woman who goes down the street with a curse, stoned by the boys that follow her, with the reformers and philanthropists and the Christian men and the honest merchants of our cities.

Oh, you think sometimes it does not amount to much! You toll on in your different spheres, sometimes with great discouragement. People have no faith, and say: "It does not amount to anything; you might as well quit that." Why, when Moses stretched his hand over the Red Sea it did not seem to mean anything especially. People came out, I suppose, and said, "Aha!" Some of them found out what he wanted to do. He wanted the sea parted. It did not amount to anything, this stretching out of his hand over the sea. But, after awhile, the wind blew all night from the east, and the waters were gathered into a glittering palisade on either side, and the billows reared as God pulled back on their crystal bits! Wheel into line; O, Israel! march! march! Pearls crashed under feet. Flying spray gathers into rainbow arch of victory for the conquerors to march under. Shout of hosts on the beach answering the shout of hosts amid sea. And when the last line of Israelites reach the beach, the cymbals clap, and the shields clang, and the waters rush over the pursuers, and the swift-fingered winds on the white keys of the foam play the grand march of Israel delivered and the awful dirge of Egyptian overthrow.

So you and I go forth, and all the people of God go forth, and they stretch forth their hand over the sea, the boiling sea of crime, and sin, and wretchedness. "It don't amount to anything," people say. Don't it? God's winds of help will, after awhile, begin to blow. A path will be cleared for the army of Christian philanthropists. The path will be lined with the treasures of Christian beneficence, and we shall be greeted to the other beach by the clapping of all heaven's cymbals, while those who pursued us, and derided us, and tried to destroy us, will go down under the sea, and all that will be left of them will be cast high and dry upon the beach, the splintered wheel of a chariot, or thrust out from the foam, the breathless nostril of a riderless charger.

SPOKEN LANGUAGE.

The Sanskrit language is said to have about 500 root-words.

The word "language" comes from the Latin "lingua," the tongue.

The rabbis taught that the language spoken by Adam was Hebrew.

The Chinese language has 40,000 simple words and only 450 roots.

Philologists agree that all languages are developed from one root.

Geiger says that "all words are developed from a few simple sounds."

Jager, Bleek, Muller and many others assume language to be an evolution.

The speech of the aborigines of Africa changes with almost every generation.

Very rapid speakers enunciate about two words per second, or from 120 to 150 per minute.

In 1801 there were only 5,000 Italian-speaking people in the United States; now there are 460,000.

Of the leading dialects, 937 are spoken in Asia, 587 in Europe, 276 in Africa and 1,924 in America.

Ellihu Burrill, the learned blacksmith, is said to have understood from forty to fifty languages.

There were, in 1801, 230,000 persons in the United States who spoke French; there are now over 1,900,000.

In ninety years the Spanish-speaking people of the world have increased from 26,190,000 to 42,800,000.

The German and Spanish languages are remarkable for one fact, that every letter has a uniform sound.

It is estimated by Grove that the idea of the pipe organ was borrowed from the human cheat, mouth and larynx.

SOUTHWEST BREEZES.

Calamity is man's true touchstone. It is a waste of time to watch a hypocrite.

The white daisy is emblematic of innocence.

A hen-pecked husband has very little to crow over.

The "bump of destructiveness"—A railway collision.

There is a charming elasticity about a girl of eighteen springs.

FARM AND GARDEN.

MATTERS OF INTEREST TO AGRICULTURISTS.

Some Up-to-date Hints About Cultivation of the Soil and Yields Thereof—Horticulture, Viticulture and Floriculture.



Now that the water-gates from on high have been opened, after the manner of "Auld Lang Syne," the wisecracks who have been predicting this country would no longer get the usual average of rainfalls of former years, on account of the great change wrought in physical features of the country, by the destruction of forests and the reclaimed marshes interspersed through their once almost impenetrable fastness, will have to "knock under," (self included), for nothing is apparently more easy than to see rain pouring straight down out of clouds not much larger than a bed blanket, that last year were as devoid of the colicent vapors as the cuticle covering the phiz of some teetotaler would be of bourbon putrescent iniquities. "Whence the wind cometh or whither it goeth man knoweth not," may be quite as applicable with our rainfall from standpoint of observation and dwelling on this mundane sphere. And yet here comes an argument favorable to increase of rainfall in lower California, on account of a largely increased area of timber and orchard culture; so that 'tis a poor rule that don't work both ways, notwithstanding phenomenal conditions existing as at present time. The promising oat and corn crop of a few weeks ago has been materially injured by a profusion of showers, rotting oats in the shock, and damaging corn by the continued soaking of soil about the roots and stalks. Twelve years ago Grant county, Indiana, was the banner county in the state or United States for the number of tile mills turning out tiles for underdraining the low level lands within its border, not unlike many others in that respect, covering an area of many hundreds of square miles in several states; but the rapid conversion from swamp to grain fields, followed by a series of unusual dry summers in succession, most all the factories had been closed indefinitely and many abandoned altogether, yet recent rains have created considerable stir among the farmers and tilers, again reviving their manufacture, and a number have started in turning out a moderate supply. That it pays the farmer, as well as any other man with a business, to be on the alert at all times and ever ready to push his business to best advantage, even to a change of method, is never more apparent than during unfavorable seasons for work. One man near here who puts up considerable quantities of hay each year has been following the plan of cutting all his meadows and piling the hay in small heaps over the entire field, before stacking or mowing into sheds. This year he got it about all cut and in cock, but the incessant showers have continued so long that it is now all worthless for market, feeding, or where it is in the fields. Had he increased his force a little and loaded the hay on wagons fast as dry enough, like most of his neighbors, he could have had all or the greater part in the sheds and stacks in time, used as it was.

Another thing noticeable this year with wheat and oats crop harvested by several different parties is rented ground for share of the crop. That the soil was put in very fine condition, but for want of having thoroughly cleaned the seed or set the drill for planting a sufficient quantity, crop wasn't so good. As an instance, one drilled in his oats about two bushels per acre and had a clean crop of oats that threshed out all right from the shock excepting for a little dampness of grain in cap sheaves. The other man used same drill following day in portion of same field of forty acres, with same kind of soil and advantages, but did not put so much seed in to the acre, consequently stand was not so good as the other, and the few little rag weeds occupying spaces, this prolific year for the weed crop everywhere, given a chance, was gathered in the sheaves by the binder, and, tho' shocked well, much of the oats was badly damaged by the weeds rotting in the sheaves and making something near ten bushels less per acre. With several pieces of wheat a like condition existed for want of properly selected seed and planting sufficient quantity to insure a good "stand" against all odds. I. M. Upland, Ind.

Some Truck Garden Profits.

To give some idea of the profitability of raising vegetables and fruit, we will mention that only recently the large truck-farms in the vicinity of one of our large cities were inspected by a committee to examine into this industry, and they reported that one farm of 46 acres yielded annually \$16,000 worth of fruits and vegetables; another of 36 acres yielded \$6,000; another of 90 acres returned \$20,000, and another of 20 acres returned \$5,000. These figures represent gross receipts, but even after making reductions for fertilizers and other necessary expenditure, the net returns, although not stated, were no doubt handsome. Apart, however, from the profits from exclusive truck-farming, the garden acre on the farm can be made an important item in the domestic economy of the home, if we take into consideration all the expense attaching to the purchase of garden produce necessary to the health, comfort and well-being of the family.—Farm and Fireside.

Rev. M. Mahin: It is often necessary to move bees by railroad, and it is well to know the best way to do it.

Having had a somewhat extensive and varied experience in the matter, I can, perhaps, give information that may save some one from serious loss. I have often had occasion to move bees in box hives, and I have never met with the slightest loss in doing so. I have followed the plan recommended in King's "Bee Keepers' Text-Book." Turning the hive bottom upwards, I have tacked coffee sacking or carpet over the mouth of it, holding the sacking in place by pieces of lath. The hive can then be placed in an express car, bottom upwards, and carried with perfect safety. I have not tried shipping box hives in freight trains. If the bees are to be confined more than a few hours, wire cloth must be used instead of carpet or sacking, as the bees would cut through the latter and escape. There is no danger that they will smother, unless the weather should

be very warm, and the hive very full of bees. It would not be safe to move a hive having new combs full of honey, in hot weather, or in any weather. But we are not so much concerned with moving bees in box hives as those having movable frames. In shipping bees several things need to be attended to:

1. They must be carefully shut up, so that not a bee can escape. A very few loose bees can quickly demoralize a whole crew of railroad hands and a few draymen thrown in.

2. The frames must be secured so that they will not be jostled out of their places. This can best be done by driving a three-penny fine nail through each end of the top bar of every frame, and into the hive. But some one may ask: "What will you do with the bees while that is being done?" That is easily managed when you only know how. Have made a lot of wooden strips the length of the top bars of the frames, and large enough to fit down between them. With these strips pressed down between the frames the bees are effectually prevented from coming out at the top of the hive. I use a very simple and convenient device for closing the entrance of the hive. I take a piece of inch board as long as may be necessary (for the Langstroth hive it would have to be just as long as the width of the hive inside of the portico), and 1 1/2 inches wide. Near each end of this I saw in, about an inch and cut out the wood between the saw cuts, and then take a strip of the same length one inch wide, and one-half inch thick, cut out a piece the same length as the notch in the other, and half way through it. This I nail to the notched edge of the larger piece. When nailed together I have a block having an opening under one side, when laid down on its face, half an inch high and six or eight inches long. Over the opening in the top, which is one inch wide and six or eight inches long, tack wire cloth. When this is placed against the entrance to the hive, the hive is effectually closed, and yet there is abundant ventilation. The device is easily and cheaply made and there is no other way so convenient for shutting bees in the hive for any purpose. There should be a hole through each end of this block through which a nail may be passed, and driven slightly into the alighting board to keep it in place. When you have put the strips between the top bars of the frame and have tacked the shutting in block to the front of the hive, you can proceed to fasten the ends of the frames at your leisure. The heads of the nails should be left out, so that they may be easily pulled out with a claw-tool. When the ends of the frames have been tacked fast, the strips may be removed, or so many of them as may be necessary to give free ventilation. Now have a hole bored with as many as three inch holes in it, covered with wire cloth, and nail it over the frames, remove the block that shuts the bees in, and let them fly until evening. Then when all are in, nail your block on the entrance of the hive and it is ready to ship.

3. The third thing necessary is plenty of ventilation, and as that has been provided for, in describing the manner of shutting the bees in, nothing more need be said about it.

4. Care should be taken that the combs shall not be heavy with honey. If they contain much honey it should be extracted, even if it has to be fed back.

5. If many hives are to be shipped together and the weather is warm, they should, by all means, be placed in a stock car that the animal heat may not injure them. In 1878, I shipped over forty hives from New Castle to Logansport, a distance of eighty miles, in a stock car and all went through in perfect order. In 1880 I shipped forty-seven hives from Logansport to Huntington, on a warm April day, in a box car, left only partly open, and they were badly damaged, as, in about a dozen hives the combs were more or less broken and in some the bees were nearly all dead. In some hives in which the combs were not broken, and there were but a few dead bees, the brood was all killed, and after some days dragged out. They were damaged more than they otherwise would have been because there had been an unusual flow of honey for April, and the honey had not been extracted. I have shipped bees at all seasons of the year, from March until late in the summer, and never had any misfortune befall them, except in the one case above narrated.

FOR LADIES ONLY.

Side combs are as stylish as ever, but are not so conspicuously worn as formerly. The plain skirt remains the favorite style, and when well made is generally becoming. The most stylish garments for traveling hats consist of garlands of autumn leaves and berries. Stockings with small pockets on the outer side, just above the knee, are shown in the shops.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON XIII—SEP. 27—A REVIEW OF DAVID'S LIFE.

Golden Text: "The Name of the Lord Is a Strong Tower. The Righteous Kenneth Into It and Are Safe"—Proverbs 18:10.



THE Life of David. —Birth. David was the son of Jesse, and was born in Bethlehem in Judah, about B.C. 1055. His mother's name is unknown. He had seven brothers (1 Sam. 16: 10) and two elder sisters, whose names are given, — Zeruiah and Abigail (1 Chron. 2: 16). Natural Endowments. These were of a high order. He had physical strength, beauty and attractiveness. He had natural abilities of a high order and great variety. He was a business man, statesman, warrior, musician and poet. "There was a rare combination in him of all that was gentle, tender and mild, with the most exalted enthusiasm, the most noble aspirations, the most generous sentiments, the most heroic dandy department, the most heroic prowess, and the most invincible consideration for others, open-heartedness, humbleness and entire absence of all pretension.

Early Training. David's early training was exactly the best for the work he was to do in life.—In a country of religious and intelligent, with sufficient temptation, and arduous daily duties that developed him physically as well as mentally, amid the influences of nature, of music, of meditation. The victory over Goliath, in the valley of Elah, when 20 or 21 years old. The fruit of previous training and choosing of good, and the means to larger duties. "Scripture. "To him that overcometh, I will make a pillar in the temple of my God; and I will give him the morning star."

Nine Years of Training and Trial. In the court of Saul for about two years. David learned many lessons of culture, self-restraint, of resistance to worldliness, of soldierly conduct and skill in the use of arms, the blessing and power of true friendship. Then for seven years more he was learning necessary lessons in exile. He learned the character and needs of the people, and their grievances. His lessons in privation and humility counteracted the dangers of his court life. He gained a knowledge of the country. He gathered around him choice and heroic spirits in preparation for his defense and conquests. Illustration. The mahogany tree, in low and damp soils, is of very rapid growth; but the most valuable trees grow slowly amidst rocks and on sterile soil, and seem to gather compactness and beauty of grain and texture from the very difficulty with which they have to struggle for existence; just as in human life affliction and trial develop the loveliest traits of human character. In the Bahama Islands, springing up on rocky hillsides in places almost destitute of soil, and crowding the roots into crevices among the rocks—I speak now of a time long past—it formed that much esteemed and curiously veined variety of wood known and valued so highly in Europe as "Madera wood."

David becomes King of Judah, and a half year later king of all Israel. This was his preparation for the larger kingdom. Scripture. Well done, good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things (Matt. 25: 21). All Israel. He became king at Hebron, and then at Jerusalem. He was guided by the providence of God, (1) by the guiding providence of the people, (2) by a right heart and persevering will.

1. David enlarged the kingdom.
 2. He subdued the enemies that attacked him.
 3. He organized the government.
 4. He organized the army.
 5. He arranged the services of religion.
 6. He enlarged commerce, business and material prosperity.
- David's sin marks a sad era in his life. His repentance changed the very atmosphere of his later life. There were two streams flowing side by side: one from his sin, culminating in Absalom's rebellion, but felt to the end of his life and beyond; the other from his changed character, his penitence and the new phase of his religious life. This stream gradually widened as the evil stream grew less. David spent much of his later years in preparing materials for the temple which he never saw to build. Death and Burial of David. David died at the age of seventy, "full of days, riches and honor" (1 Chron. 29: 28). He was buried at Jerusalem, in the tombs of the kings cut in the rocks under Mount Zion.

Review of David's Character. David was a noble, brave, loving man, with strong passions, a warm heart and a ready, generous hand; a devoted friend, attractive, bright, joyous, poetic, deeply religious and devotional, strong in faith, unselfish and sincerely good. He fell into some of the vices of the age, he committed a great crime; he was too easy in his family government; but his repentance and public confession prove him to be at heart a true and godly man, one of the greatest and best men that ever lived. He was a great general, a great statesman, a great poet, a great organizer, a great man.

Time. Seventy years, the whole life of David, B. C. 1055 to 1015.

Place. The land of Palestine.—Bethlehem, Valley of Elah, Gibeath, where Saul held his court, Hebron, Jerusalem.

Contemporaries. The prophet Samuel lived till David was 30 years old or more. Nathan and Gad were also prophets during his reign. Saul was king till David was 30 years old. Secular History. During David's reign, and Solomon's the great kingdoms of Egypt and of Assyria were suffering an eclipse. Horses in Straw Hats. A couple of horses wearing straw hats were seen attached to a handsome landau in London the other day. It is said that horses suffer from the heat when their heads are exposed to the sun.