

EASTER THOUGHTS.

Dr. Talmage Discourses on the Glories of the Resurrection.

The Resurrection Discourse—Death Only Rest For the Weary Mortal.

In his sermon at Brooklyn on Easter Sunday Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage took for his subject, "Machpelah, or Easter Thoughts."

Here is the first cemetery ever laid out. Machpelah was its name. It was an arborescent beauty, where the wound of death is bandaged by foliage.

The necropolis of every civilized land has vied with its metropolis. The most beautiful hills of Europe outside the great cities are covered with obelisk and funeral vase and arched gateways.

Genoa has its terraces cut into tombs; Constantinople covers with cypress the habitations; and Paris has its Purgatoire-Champs, on whose heights rest Balzac and David and Marshal Ney and Cuvier.

Our own country consents to be second to none in respect to the lifeless body. Every city and town and neighborhood of any intelligence or virtue has, not many miles away, its sacred enclosure where affection has engaged sculptor's chisel and florist's spade and artificer in metals.

This is our American Machpelah, as sacred to us as the Machpelah in Canaan, of which Jacob uttered that pastoral poem in one verse: "There they buried Abraham and Sarah, his wife; there they buried Isaac and Rebekah, his wife, and there I buried Leah."

At this Easter service I ask and answer what may seem a novel question, but it will be found, before I get through, a practical and useful and tremendous question: What will resurrection day do for the cemeteries? First, I remark, it will be their supernal beatification.

At certain seasons it is customary if all lands to strew flowers over the mounds of the departed. It may have been suggested by the fact that Christ's tomb was in a garden.

The late frosts of spring and the early frosts of autumn are so near to each other that there are only a few months of flowers in the field. All the flowers we see today had to be potted and coaxed, and put under shelter, or they would not have bloomed at all.

They are the children of the conservatories. But at this season, and through the most of the year, the Holy Land is all ablush with floral opulence. You find all the royal family of flowers there, some that you supposed indigenous to the North, and others indigenous to the far South—the daisy and hyacinth, crocus and anemone, tulip and water lily, geranium and ranunculus, mignonette and sweet marjoram.

and will not this split the polished Aberdeen granite as well as the plain slab that can afford but the two words, "Our Mary, or 'Our dearley'?"

Well, I will tell you how resurrection day will beautify all the cemeteries. It will be by bringing up the faces that were to us once, and in our memories are to us now, more beautiful than any calla lily and the forms that are to us more graceful than any willow by the waters.

Of those from whom we have been parted. I do not care which way the tree falls in the blast of the judgment hurricane, or if the plowshare that day shall turn under the last rose leaf and the last china aster, if out of the broken shell shall come the bodies of our loved ones not damaged, but irradiated.

The idea of the resurrection gets easier to understand as I hear the phonograph unroll some voice that talked into it or sung into it a year ago, just before our friends' decease.

You turn the wire and then comes forth the very tones, the very accentuation, the very cough, the very song of the person that breathed into it once, but is now departed.

Another consideration makes the idea of resurrection easier. God made Adam. He was not fashioned after any model. There had never been a human organism, and so there was nothing to copy.

At the first attempt God made a perfect man. He made him out of the dust of the earth. If out of the ordinary dust of the earth and without a model God could make a perfect man, surely out of the extraordinary dust of the mortal body, and with millions of models, God can make each one of us a perfect being in the resurrection.

They will come in improved condition. They will come up rested. The most of them lay down at the last very tired. How often you have heard them say: "I am so tired!"

If I should go through this audience and go around the world I could not find a person in any style of life ignorant of the sensation of fatigue. I do not believe there are fifty persons in this audience who are not tired.

Your head is tired, or your back is tired, or your foot is tired, or your brain is tired, or your nerves are tired. Long journeying, or business application, or bereavement, or sickness have put on you heavy weights.

The vast majority of those who went out of this world went out fatigued. About the poorest place to rest in is this world. Its atmosphere, its surroundings and even its hilarities are exhausting.

If a drummer boy were compelled in the army to beat his drum for twenty-four hours without stopping, his officer would be court-martialed for cruelty. If the drummer boy should be commanded to beat his drum for a week without ceasing, day and night, he would die in attempting it.

What a mercy, then, it is that the grave is the place where that wondrous machinery of ventricle and artery can halt! Under the healthful chemistry of the soil all the wear and tear of nerve and muscle and bone will be subtracted, and that bath of good, fresh, clean soil will wash off the last ache, and then some of the same style of dust out of which the body of Adam was constructed may be infused into the resurrection body.

How can the bodies of the human race, which had no replenishment from the dust since the time of Adam in Paradise, get any recuperation from the storehouse from which he was constructed without our going back into the dust? That original, life-giving material having been added to the body as it once was and all the defects left behind, what a body will be the resurrection body!

the original material for the fashioning of the first human being, we have to go back to the same place to get a perfect body. Factories are apt to be rough places, and those who toil in them have their garments grimy and their hands smudged.

You put into a factory cotton, and it comes out apparel. You put into a factory lumber and lead, and it comes out pianos and organs. And so into the factory of the grave you put in pneumonias and consumptions, and they come out health. You put in groans, and they come out hallelujahs.

We are not told in what season that day will come. If it should be winter those who come up will be more lustrous than the snow that covered them. If in the autumn, those who come up will be more gorgeous than the woods after the frosts have penciled them.

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AGRICULTURAL HINTS.

KEROSENE.

Insects can be readily destroyed by the application of kerosene to their bodies; but, unfortunately, this substance is equally destructive to many kinds of plants.

The effect of kerosene upon plants is a puzzling matter, and one about which we are not able to make generalizations. We are able to freely wet some plants with undiluted kerosene without any appreciable injuries resulting to them.

If kerosene could be easily diluted with water its use as an insecticide would doubtless become much more general; but it is so much lighter than water that, in any attempt to mix the two substances, the kerosene quickly separates from the water and floats upon it.

Kerosene emulsion is made by churning together milk and kerosene, in the proportion of one part of milk and two parts of kerosene. The best way to do the churning is to use a force-pump and spray-nozzle, and to pump back into the vessel containing the mixture.

In regions where it is not easy to get milk, a solution of soap made by dissolving one pound of soap in two gallons of hot water may be used as a substitute for milk.

Using kerosene in this way, great pains must be taken to have the emulsion a perfect one; otherwise the kerosene will quickly break from it when it is diluted with water.

A cow of mine firmly believes she is as much entitled to meal as I am to milk, writes H. T. Brooks in the New York Tribune. She has converted me to her opinion, or, rather, forced me to acquiesce.

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Never prop a fruit tree, says the New England Homestead. If the load is too heavy, thin the fruit, and make what is left better than it could possibly be if over-crowded.

NINE cases out of ten, where a variety of fruit which once flourished in a given soil has ceased to flourish and perfect fruit there, the change is due to the fact that the soil has become destitute of the necessary mineral manure.

SEEDS of beets, carrots and parsnips are slow to germinate. They may be made to swell and sprout quickly if placed in a flannel bag and moistened with warm water daily.

One of the best locations for a garden is to turn under a clover sod; now apply thirty bushels of air-lacked lime per acre (or proportionately), and then cross-plough the land in the spring.

It is better to apply the manure thick than to attempt to make it go as far as possible by spreading it on in thin layers. In the one case it must nourish more plants than it possesses nutrition for, and in the other case the plants will have a sufficiency and produce more than if the supply is deficient.

Ducks lay at night or early in the morning. Don't let them out until after nine o'clock. They seldom use a nest.

CATTLE IN THE UNITED STATES.

Fairly Accurate Estimates Show an Increase of Thirty-Three Per Cent. in Ten Years. According to the last report of the Department of Agriculture, the number of milk cows is necessarily increasing, somewhat unequally, as attention is locally directed to dairying.

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FIRESIDE FRAGMENTS.

A house is no home unless it contain food and fire for the mind as well as for the body. —White woolen goods may be cleaned by rubbing in dry starch or flour. Shake thoroughly.

—Wash and peel parsnips, lay in milk until ready to use, season, dip in flour and fry in clear lard or butter. If the parsnips are old parboil before frying. Some prefer egg batter to the flour; this, of course, is left to taste.

—To put up furs in the simplest and most practical way, it is only necessary to beat them thoroughly to dislodge any concealed moth-worms, and examine them carefully for deposits for eggs; then wrap them in tissue paper, afterwards in newspaper, and then tie the various parcels up in a bag made of thick muslin or linen.

—Cut up a quart of mixed vegetables, say carrots, turnips, cabbage and one onion, into long, thin shreds size of a match; put in pan, sprinkle with spoon of sugar and a little butter; place in oven in pan; cook half-hour, stirring often so as not to burn; when nicely colored drain off the butter, turn into the broth, boil slowly ten minutes, add a spoon of parsley cut fine, well washed; serve at once. This will give you a nice family julienne soup.

—Kidney Toast: Chop fine four veal kidneys with half a pound of calf's liver; season with pepper and salt. Make a little butter hot in a frying-pan and toss them about until cooked but not overdone. Remove from the fire and stir in the beaten yolk of one egg and half a teaspoonful of lemon juice. Spread on toast and serve at once. Stewed or boiled tomatoes, and hot Indian meal muffins, go nicely with this excellent dish. —American Agriculturist.

—Roast Fillet of Veal: Take the bone out of the joint, and make a deep incision between the fillet and the saddle. Fill it with a forcemeat of veal stuffing. Bind the veal up in a round form, and fasten with skewers and twine. Cover the veal with buttered paper, and put in a moderate oven. Roast with melted butter, and allow two hours for a six-pound fillet. When done, take up, pour over melted butter and brown gravy. —Household.

—Meat maybe saved in very warm weather if, as it is cut out, you have a kettle of boiling brine. Dip each piece of meat in this for about one minute; take it out and lay it aside to cool, and while cooling have a quantity of pulverized nitre (nitrate of potash) dust and sprinkle over the flesh side of each piece about a dessertspoonful. It will be absorbed by the meat in about half an hour; then pack the meat down, flesh side up, with plenty of fine salt—say one inch deep—all over the meat. In a week or so overhaul and re-salt. —Old Homestead.

How Ingenious Ladies Can Produce Some Very Pleasant Results. To make a rug, plenty of perseverance is needed, for it is a large contract to make one of ordinary size; but it is very pretty work, and can be done with ease by even those ladies whose eyesight is failing.

—Cut these into strips of any length their size allows, but let them be of uniform width, say three inches. Unroll these out, rejecting the linen and collecting in a box the little crimped worsted threads. Then provide yourself with a pair of the largest sized steel knitting needles and a ball of the coarsest crocheted cotton, either white or colored.

—SEEDS of beets, carrots and parsnips are slow to germinate. They may be made to swell and sprout quickly if placed in a flannel bag and moistened with warm water daily. Some gardeners mix the seeds with fine earth before placing the seeds in the bag.

—One of the best locations for a garden is to turn under a clover sod; now apply thirty bushels of air-lacked lime per acre (or proportionately), and then cross-plough the land in the spring. The ground must be well harrowed and made fine before planting the seed, however.

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—A certain young lady—native of Belfast—wishing to please an absent friend Christmas, sent her to her home in Idaho a daintily-embroidered silk table scarf. In due time a letter came with grateful acknowledgments and saying: "A thousand, thousand thanks for the lovely present you have so kindly sent me. It is exquisitely beautiful, and came just in the nick of time for me to wear to our Christmas ball. It is very, very becoming to me, and you couldn't have chosen better colors. It is a new thing here and has made a great hit—for the girls are fairly wild over it and everybody is having one." —Augusta (Me.) Journal.



A New Jersey friend sends a drawing of a gate fastener. The wind can not jar it open, neither can cattle push it open with their horns. It is constructed the same as the ordinary slide latch, except that it has at one end two levers fastened to it and the gate. At the other end is a slot, through which a bolt works, fastened in the gate. The illustrations plainly show how any one can construct it. —Farm and Fireside.

HORTICULTURAL HINTS.

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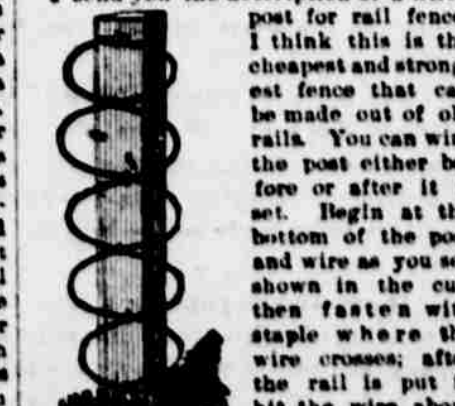
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Wired Post for Rail Fence.



I send you the description of a wired post for rail fence. I think this is the cheapest and strongest fence that can be made out of old rails. You can wire the post either before or after it is set. Begin at the bottom of the post and wire as you see shown in the cut, then fasten with staple where the wire crosses; after the rail is put in hit the wire above the rail and it will be tight. —L. W. Marshall, in Farm and Fireside.

Concoctions contain more potash than wood. If they are used for fuel, and the ashes saved, it will be the most economical mode of disposing of them.