

TALMAGE'S SERMON.

THE WRESTLERS THE SUBJECT SUNDAY.

"We Wrestle Not Against Flesh and Blood but Against Principalities, Against Powers, Against the Rulers of Darkness."

Squeamishness and fastidiousness were never charged against Paul's rhetoric. In the war against evil he took the first weapon he could lay his hand on. For illustration, he employed the theater, the arena, the foot-race, and there was nothing in the Isthmian game, with its wreath of pine leaves; or Pythian game, with its wreath of laurel and palm; or Nemean game, with its wreath of parsley; or any Roman circus, but he felt he had a right to put it in sermon or epistle, and are you not surprised that in my text he calls upon a wrestling bout for suggestiveness? Plutarch says that wrestling is the most artistic and cunning of athletic games. We must make a wide difference between pugilism, the lowest of spectacles, and wrestling, which is an effort in sport to put down another on floor or ground, and we, all of us, indulged in it in our boyhood days, if we were healthful and plucky. The ancient wrestlers were first bathed in oil, and then sprinkled with sand. The third throw decided the victory, and many a man who went down in the first throw or second throw, in the third throw was on top, and his opponent under. The Romans did not like this game very much, for it was not savage enough, no blows or kicks being allowed in the game. They preferred the foot of a hungry panther on the breast of fallen martyr.

In wrestling, the opponents would bow in apparent suavity, advance face to face, put down both feet solidly, take each other by the arms, and push each other backward and forward until the work began in real earnest, and there were contortions and stragulations and violent strokes of the foot of one contestant against the foot of the other, tripping him up, or with struggle that threatened apoplexy or death, the defeated fell, and the shouts of the spectators greeted the victor. I guess Paul had seen some such contest, and it reminded him of the struggle of the soul with temptation, and the struggle of heavenly forces against apollonic powers, and he dictates my text to an amanuensis, for all his letters, save the one to Philemon, seem to have been dictated, and as the amanuensis goes on with his work I hear the groan and laugh and shout of earthly and celestial belligerents: "We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

I notice that as these wrestlers advanced to throw each other they bowed one to the other. It was a civility, not only in Grecian and Roman games, but in later day, in all the wrestling bouts at Clerkenwell, England, and in the famous wrestling match during the reign of Henry III, in St. Giles' Field, between men of Westminster and people of London. However rough a twist and hard a pull each wrestler contemplated giving his opponent, they approached each other with politeness and suavity. The gentlemen, the affability, the courtesy in no wise hindered the decisiveness of the contest. Well, Paul, I see what you mean. In this awful struggle between right and wrong, we must not forget to be gentlemen and ladies.

We are in the strength of God to throw flat on its back every abomination that curses the earth, but let us approach our mighty antagonist with suavity. Hercules, son of Jupiter and Alemeve, will by a precursor of smiles be helped rather than damaged for the performance of his "twelve labors." Let us be as wisely strategic in religious circles as attorneys in court-rooms, who are complimentary to each other in the opening remarks, before they come into legal struggle such as that which left Rufus Choate or David Paul Brown triumphant or defeated. People who get into a rage in reformatory work accomplish nothing but the depletion of their own nervous system. There is such a thing as having a gun so hot at the touch-hole that it explodes, killing the one that sets it off. There are some reformatory meetings to which I always decline to go and take part, because they are apt to become demonstrations of bad temper. I never like to hear a man swear, even though he swear on the right side. The very Paul who in my text employed in illustration the wrestling match, behaved on a memorable occasion as we ought to behave. The translators of the Bible made an unintentional mistake when they represented Paul as insulting the people of Athens by speaking of "the unknown God whom ye ignorantly worship." Instead of charming them with ignorance, the original indicates he complimented them by suggesting that they were very religious; but as they confessed that there were some things they did not understand about God, he proposed to say some things concerning Him, beginning where they had left off. The same Paul who said in one place, "Be courteous," and who had noticed the how preceding the wrestling match, here exercises suavities before he proceeds practically to throw down the rocky side of the Acropolis the whole Parthenon of idolatries, Minerva and Jupiter smashed up with the rest of them. In this holy war polished rifles will do more execution than blunderbusses. Let our wrestlers bow as they go into the

struggle which will leave all perdition under and all heaven on top.

Remember also that these wrestlers went through severe and continuous course of preparation for their work. They were put upon such diet as would best develop their muscle. As Paul says, "Every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things." The wrestlers were put under complete discipline—bathing, gymnastics, struggle in sport with each other to develop strength and give quickness to dodge of head and trip of foot; stooping to lift each other off the ground; suddenly rushing forward; suddenly pulling backward; putting the left foot behind the other's right foot, and getting his opponent off his balance; hard training for days and weeks and months, so that when they met it was giant clutching giant. And, my friends, if we do not want ourselves to be thrown in this wrestle with the sin and error of the world, we had better get ready by Christian discipline, by holy self-denial, by constant practice, by submitting to divine supervision and direction. Do not begrudge the time and the money for that young man who is in preparation for the ministry, spending two years in grammar school, and four years in college, and three years in theological seminary. I know that nine years are a big slice to take off of a man's active life, but if you realized the height and strength of the archangels of evil in our time with which that young man is going to wrestle, you would not think nine years of preparation were too much. An uneducated ministry was excusable in other days, but not in this time, loaded with schools and colleges. A man who wrote me the other day a letter asking advice, as he felt called to preach the Gospel, began the word "God" with a small "g." That kind of a man is not called to preach the Gospel. Illiterate men, preaching the Gospel, quote for their own encouragement the scriptural passage, "Open thy mouth wide and I fill it." Yes! He will fill it with wind. Preparation for this wrestling is absolutely necessary. Many years ago Doctor Newman and Doctor Sunderland, on the platform of Brigham Young's tabernacle at Salt Lake City, Utah, gained the victory because they had so long been skillful wrestlers for God. Otherwise Brigham Young, who was himself a giant in some things, would have thrown them out of the window. Get ready in Bible classes. Get ready in Christian Endeavor meetings. Get ready by giving testimony in obscure places, before giving testimony in conspicuous places.

Your going around with a Bagster's Bible with flaps at the edges, under your arm, does not qualify you for the work of an evangelist. In this day of profuse gab, remember that it is not merely capacity to talk, but the fact that you have something to say, that is going to fit you for the struggle into which you are to go with a smile on your face and illumination on your brow, but out of which you will not come until all your physical and mental and moral and religious energies have been taxed to the utmost and you have not a nerve left, or a thought unexpended, or a prayer unsaid, or a sympathy unwept. In this struggle between Right and Wrong accept no challenge on platform or in newspaper unless you are prepared. Do not misapply the story of Goliath the Great, and David the Little. David had been practising with a sling on dogs and wolves and bandits, and a thousand times had he swirled a stone around his head before he aimed at the forehead of the giant and tumbled him backward, otherwise the big foot of Goliath would almost have covered up the crushed form of the son of Jesse.

Notice also that in this science of wrestling, to which Paul refers in my text, it was the third throw that decided the contest. A wrestler might be thrown once and thrown twice, but the third time he might recover himself, and, by an unexpected twist of arm or curve of foot, gain the day. Well, that is broad, smiling, unmistakable Gospel. Some whom I address through ear or eye, by voice or printed page, have been thrown in their wrestle with evil habit.

Aye! you have been thrown twice; but that does not mean, oh! worsted soul, that you are thrown forever. I have no authority for saying how many times a man may sin and be forgiven, or how many times he may fall and yet rise again; but I have authority for saying that he may fall four hundred and ninety times, and four hundred and ninety times get up. The Bible declares that God will forgive seventy times seven, and if you will employ the rule of multiplication you will find that seventy times seven is four hundred and ninety. Blessed be God for such a Gospel of high hope and thrilling encouragement and magnificent rescue! A Gospel of lost sheep brought home on Shepherd's shoulder, and the prodigals who got into the low work of putting husks into swine's troughs brought home to jewelry and banqueting and hilarity that made the rafters ring!

Three sketches of the same man: A happy home, of which he and a lassie taken from a neighbor's house are the united heads. Years of happiness roll on after years of happiness. Stars pointing down to nativities. And whether announced in greeting or not, every morning was a "Good Morning," and every night a "Good Night." Christmas trees and May Queens, and birthday festivities and Thanksgiving gatherings around loaded tables. But that husband and father forms an unfortunate acquaintance who leads him in circles too convivial, too late-houred, too scandalous. After awhile, his money gone and not able to bear his part of the expense, he is gradu-

ally shoved out and ignored and pushed away. Now, what a dilapidated home is his! A dissipated life always shows itself in faded window curtains, and impoverished wardrobe, and dejected surroundings, and in broken pallings of the garden fence, and the unhinged gate, and the dislocated door-bell, and the disappearance of wife and children from scenes among which they shone the brightest, and laughed the gladdest. If any man was ever down, that husband and father is down. The fact is, he got into a wrestle with Evil that pushed and pulled and contorted and exhausted him worse than any Olympian game ever treated a Grecian, and he was thrown. Thrown out of prosperity into gloom. Thrown out of good association into bad. Thrown out of health into invalidism. Thrown out of happiness into misery. But one day, while slinking through one of the back streets, not wishing to be recognized, a good thought crosses his mind, for he has heard of men flung flat rising again. Arriving at his house, he calls his wife in and shuts the door and says: "Mary, I am going to do differently. This is not what I promised you when we were married. You have been very patient with me, and have borne everything, although I would have had no right to complain if you had left me and gone home to your father's house. It seems to me that once or twice, when I was not myself, I struck you, and several times, I know, I called you hard names. Now I want you to forgive me." "Help you?" she says; "bles your soul! of course I will help you. I knew you didn't mean it when you treated me roughly. All that is in the past. Never refer to it again. Today let us begin anew." Sympathizing friends come around and kind business people help the man to something to do, so that he can again earn a living. The children soon have clothing so that they can go to school. The old songs which the wife sang years ago come back to her memory, and she sings them over again at the cradle, or while preparing the noon-day meal. Domestic resurrection! He comes home earlier than he used to, and he is glad to spend the evening playing games with the children or helping them with arithmetic or grammar lessons which are a little too hard. Time passes on, and some outsider suggests to him that he is not getting as much out of life as he ought, and proposes an occasional visit to scenes of worldliness and dissipation. He consents to go once, and, after much solicitation, twice. Then his old habit comes back. He says he has been belated, and could not get back until midnight. He had to see some Western merchant that had arrived and talk of business with him before he got out of town. Kindness and gentility again quit the disposition of that husband and father. The wife's heart breaks in a new place. That man goes into a second wrestle with evil habit and is flung, and all hell cackles at the moral defeat. "I told you so!" say many people who have no faith in the reformation of a fallen man. "I told you so!" You made a great fuss about his restored home, but I knew it would not last. You can't trust these fellows who have once gone wrong. So with this unfortunate, things get worse and worse, and his family have to give up the house, and the last valuable goes to the pawnbroker's shop. But that unfortunate man is sauntering along the street one Sunday night, and he goes up to a church door, and the congregation are singing the second hymn, the one just before sermon, and it is William Cowper's glorious hymn—
There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Emanuel's veins;
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains.

ODD RESULTS OF THE WAR.

Money Belts Have Been in Greater Demand Than for Many Years.

In the past six months there has been a greater demand for money belts than has existed before in the memory of any local dealer in that unpretentious but useful article. The unusual inquiry has in great part come from one or other of the new possessions which "manifest destiny" has thrust into United States domain. It is true that the summer is always the best season for such things, because of the great amount of vacation travel, but this year the number made and disposed of has been larger than usual. One Philadelphia firm, which has agents in this city, has filled several government orders for money-belts, to be used by officers of the army. These belts were of the same pattern that is commonly seen—flat pockets about two feet long and three and a half or four inches wide, divided into several compartments for the different sizes of the money. The flaps of these compartments button down securely over them, and when the belt is fastened around the waist, by means of stout tapes attached to the ends of it for that purpose, there is no possibility of having its contents drop out. The belts are all of about the same pattern, varying only in the arrangements and sizes of the compartments. They come in several kinds of leather—chamois, calf, soft-finished seal and buckskin.

Their Never-Ending Warfare.

Friend—Did you see this article? The prohibitionists are on the warpath again. Druggist—What's the trouble? Friend—They complain that the drug-stores in this town are being run wide open.—Puck.

Interest in the Baby.

Papa—Poor little fellow! It's his teeth that makes him cry that way. Friend—His teeth, eh? What do you do for that? Have 'em filled or extracted?—Puck.

UNDER ALIEN CONTROL

FOREIGN AND AMERICAN TRANSPORTATION ALLIANCES.

A Combination of Interests That May Be Expected to Oppose Measures for the Rehabilitation of the American Merchant Marine.

It is a fact, though probably not generally known outside of transportation circles, that there is, so to speak, a close community of interest between the principal trunk lines of railroad in this country and foreign steamship companies. This combination enables the railroad companies to secure the distribution of imported goods and also to gather and deliver to the steamship lines outward-bound cargoes, both steamship and railroad lines apportioning the rates of freight and sharing in the profits of the transportation.

Of the five principal lines of railroad connecting the interior with Atlantic ports, all but one have combinations with foreign steamship lines, and thus the carriage of the commerce of the country, from the various points of production to those of distribution and consumption, is almost wholly directly or indirectly controlled by alien interests and combinations. The solitary exception among the railroad lines maintains an independent system of steamship connection; otherwise it also would probably be obliged to combine with alien ocean transportation interests in order to get its share of the traffic.

This shows how absolutely necessary it is that whatever protection is afforded to American over sea shipping interests shall be ample and of such a character as to give assurance of permanency in order to be entirely effective. The reciprocity navigation treaties now in force require that at least twelve months' notice shall be given of their abrogation. It is easily conceivable that during this interval of twelve months the enormous aggregation of foreign capital employed in alien transportation lines, and the influence of the railroad interests allied with these lines, would combine with the object of securing the repeal or at least the modification of enactments of a character so inimical to their interests as provided for the imposition of discriminating duties against imports in foreign vessels.

The profits of ocean freight carrying are very largely derived from imported goods having high freight classification. Aliens practically enjoy the monopoly of ocean transportation, and through agreements among themselves, freight rates are maintained with general uniformity. With outward-bound cargoes practically assured, through combinations with the principal railroad lines, and with but little competition in passenger business, the foreign steamship companies could well afford to lower rates on imports to such a figure as would materially lessen the profits of American ships enjoying the protection of discriminating duties against imports in foreign vessels.

Therefore, the measure of protection which it is proposed to give with the object of promoting American shipbuilding interests and restoring the American merchant marine should, at the outset, be so liberal and of such a character as not only to be entirely effective in its purpose, but such as to give assurance of being maintained for a term of years.

Capitalists could not be expected to take the risk of establishing plants for the construction of cargo ships to compete with foreign vessels if there should be the remotest probability of such modification of the measure of protection, through foreign or domestic influences, as would tend to discourage the operation of such vessels when they were water born. Neither would managers of the projected ships be likely to perfect their arrangements for employing the vessels in the over-sea trade without some assurance that the protection afforded would be sufficient to enable them successfully to compete with alien enterprises.

It is believed by those who have given this matter careful consideration that 10 per cent discriminating duty against imports in foreign vessels is none too great, and that any less degree of protection would be ineffective and, moreover, discouraging to the interests which are sought to be promoted. Hon. Stephen B. Elkins, the framer and the earnest advocate of the measure providing for discriminating duties on imports in foreign vessels, in his speech in the senate in April, 1897, said:

"It is not claimed that the bill under consideration is perfect or will bring all needed relief. It will have to be supplemented by further legislation. It is claimed, however, in its behalf, that the principle has been tried for nearly forty years and produced the most beneficial results, and to restore discriminating duties now would be a start in the right direction."

Though the measure is to some extent tentative, the principle is by no means experimental. Perfection of the measure, according to the best lights obtainable, would give promise of such results as would be a practical guaranty of its successful operation despite the opposition of the combinations of capital and of influence that would be arrayed against it.

WORKINGMEN AROUSED.

Alive to the Importance of an American Merchant Marine.

There are many gratifying evidences of an awakening of interest on the part of the workingmen of the United States

concerning the restoration of the American merchant marine. The vast importance of this question as affecting the interests of American labor cannot be too strongly emphasized. Once the wage earners become thoroughly alive to the fact that in the rehabilitation of their country's ruined shipping industry there is an immense outlet for remunerative employment, there will be heard from the masses of the people a demand for prompt action that cannot be ignored.

Already the subject has been taken up by the New York state organization of the Knights of Labor, and a committee representing that body is now actively engaged in working for a recognition of the needs of the American marine at the hands of the leading political parties. The resolution under which this committee is working was adopted at the last state congress of the New York K. of L. and demands:

"The introduction of a plank in the platform of each political party in every state in the Union favoring the national policy of re-establishing the American merchant marine, thus to regain our lost carrying trade; and that every candidate for congress be pledged, as a condition precedent to our support, to bend every effort, if elected, toward the accomplishment of this object."

The workmen of the seaboard districts are not alone in their zeal for the revival of the shipbuilding and ship sailing industry. The wage earners of the Mississippi valley have begun to interest themselves in the question, as will be seen from the following letter to the American Economist from R. L. Hilton, Grand Master Workman of the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Iowa:

"Grand Lodge Ancient Order of United Workmen, Ottumwa, Iowa, September 15, 1898.—National pride ought to be a strong factor with all patriotic citizens. American people generally glory in the recent success of the American navy, and if they could be made to realize that a great essential for an ever ready and effective navy is an active, growing, prosperous merchant marine, it would help to remove the obstructions which have been so strong in these later years. Then organized labor is today a fixed fact, seeking in many instances to dominate. And if the labor organizations of the country could be made to see and feel that the building and operating of an American merchant marine would create a demand for American labor, that would be a great help. Then Republican candidates and speakers and the Republican press should emphasize the thought; but somehow on this matter, with rare exceptions they are, as they were regarding the tariff, tardy to learn, and some of them, I fear, unconscious of the fact that they have need to learn. They do not realize that shipbuilding, though an industry on the coast, and ocean commerce are more important to national prosperity and independence than any particular or inflated condition of the silver market."

Foreign Capital Invited by Protection.

The "Importer's revenge" referred to in a recent issue of the American Economist—that of retaliating upon our government's refusal to admit undervalued goods by establishing a large plant in the United States for the manufacture of those goods—impresses the Minneapolis "Tribune" as "an interesting illustration of the working of the protective principle in favor of American labor. The "Tribune" remarks:

"If this is their mode of securing 'revenge' on the customs officials, it will be a revenge that will conduce to the interest of American labor and American farmers and merchants, for the work of manufacturing their goods will be done here. American workmen will be employed, and the wages paid to their employes will be spent here instead of abroad. Thus protection encourages an importation of capital and industries rather than of goods. The way to national development is through the diversification and multiplication of industries. Political economists say we need foreign capital to properly stimulate our growth, and the application of the protective principle is bringing it to us."

Cattle Importations.

The Ensenada Lower Californian prints the following:
"Entries of Mexican cattle into the United States, as shown by the different custom houses on the border and tabulated by the bureau of animal industry, show for the month of July the following entries of cattle from this republic: El Paso, 2,490 head; Laredo, 825; Nogales, 417; Brownsville, 195; Eagle Pass, 163; Tijuana, 112, making a total of 4,247 head, as compared with 24,253 head for July of 1897."

In July, 1897, the Wilson law was in force, and the heavy exports of cattle from Mexico were having a discouraging effect upon the cattle industry in this country. Under the Wilson law the tariff rate was 20 per cent ad valorem; under the Dingley law it is 27½ per cent. The result has been a reduction of 83 per cent in the number of cattle imported in one month. —Los Angeles Express.

As a War Measure.

The Dingley law put the country in good condition for war and helped it every day during the year. It put the balance of trade in our favor before the war and it has held it there under the extraordinary conditions of the last four months. It was intended as a peace law, but it has done good service as a war measure.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Among the newest trimming for autumn tailor-made gowns is wash leather, worked in multi-colored silks in floral designs.

Small coat-shaped revers of guipure edged with a ruche of black velvet are a popular form of trimming for blue, pink or yellow bodices.

The apron tunics are likely to lengthen, save when they form part of a princess belt in embroidery or applique, when they will be hardly more than a panier, and that flat panier trimmings are coming in there is very little doubt.

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Blood Purified by Hood's Sarsaparilla and Health is Good.

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Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is America's Greatest Medicine. \$1; six for \$5. Hood's Pills cure all Liver Ills. 25 cents.

SALARIES OF ROYALTY.

The queen's daughters, Princess Christian, Princess Louise and Princess Beatrice, all have \$30,000 a year and each had a dot of \$150,000. Prince Christian has \$2,500 a year as ranger of Windsor Park and the marquis of Lorne \$6,000 a year as governor of Windsor castle.

The duchess of Edinburgh brought her husband a dowry of \$1,500,000 and an annuity of \$56,250, which goes to her children at her death. The duke of Connaught has \$125,000 a year and his pay as general is nearly \$15,000. The duchess brought a dowry of \$75,000 and the duke settled \$7,500 a year upon her at her marriage.

The duke of Cambridge has \$60,000 a year and Gloucester house rent free, which is equal to another \$15,000 a year, and although the rangship of the Green park, St. James', Hyde and Richard parks are altogether worth only \$550 a year, the residences which go with them are worth a couple of thousand pounds a year. While the duke was commander-in-chief, as well as colonel of the grenadiers, he drew about \$32,500 a year from the war office as well.

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For a short time we will send TWO DOLLARS' WORTH OF MUSIC FOR 10 CENTS, post-paid to any address upon receipt of price. We lose money on every order, but do it to advertise ourselves. Send at once, stating whether you want Vocal, Instrumental, or both.

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PENSIONS, PATENTS, CLAIMS.

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