TALMAGE TALKS WITH "CARP"

Denies that He Tried to Buy the Place of Christ's Crucifixion.

PALESTINE NO PLACE FOR RICH JEWS.

The Great Preacher Talks of His Success and His Lecture Income—Anecdotes of Famous Men He Has Met.

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NEW YORK, Oct. 22.—[Special Correspondence of THE BEE.]—The pastor of the biggest church in the United States!

A preacher whose sermons are read every week in 15,000,000 families!

An author whose books sell by the hundreds of thousands!

A lecturer who is now offered $150,000 for a series of talks!

An intellectual worker, the gray matter of whose brain can produce from $500 to $1,000 a day the year round!

This is the Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, who stands before the people of the United States in as many different lights as there are variations of the human mind. To many, he is sincere, godly and genuine. To others, he appears false, sacrilegious and a humbug. If the former, he is a most wonderful apostle; if the latter, he is certainly a most successful humbug, and in either case he is by far the most interesting character in the American pulpit today. I called upon him at his home in Brooklyn the other day, and had three hours of most interesting conversation with him. I went with him over his great tabernacle and chatted with him upon many subjects.

The Talmage Home.

Dr. Talmage lives in a big four-story, brown stone house on the corner of South Oxford and Calvert streets, Brooklyn. It is in a good neighborhood and the house is perhaps the finest in the block. Passing up broad, brown stone steps, you enter a wide hall, the floor of which is porcelain-tiled in blue and yellow. A black walnut staircase leads from the right of this hall to the second story, and at the left, just opposite this, is the entrance to the parlor. This parlor is about twenty-five feet long, and there is another smaller parlor separated from it by folding doors, at the back. It contains as many curiosities as a museum. Beautiful pictures hang upon the walls and an old master in oils representing Christ casting out devils hangs just at the left of the entrance. The floors are covered with Turkish and Persian rugs, which Dr. Talmage picked up at Damascus at the time he made the tour through the Holy Land, and there are swords from Cairo, tables from Constantinople, rare busts from Italy, and articles of vertu and curios from all parts of the world. On one wall there is a banner of silk which a Chinese missionary sent to Dr. Talmage, and on a stand below it is a piece of elegant old lacquer from Japan. There are baskets from Alaska, pieces of stone from the Acropolis, sand from the base of the Pyramids, a chunk of stone from Baalbec, and pretty things from everywhere. The rest of the house corresponds to the parlors, and every article in it seems to have a history.

It is in this parlor that Dr. Talmage receives his visitors. He is besieged with callers, and though he receives almost everyone, he has to guard his privacy. His workshop is at the top of the house. It is a big room furnished in the plainest manner and packed full of books. There are books on the tables, in the cases and on the floor. Magazines are scattered here and there, and the tables which take up different parts of the room are littered with manuscripts, newspaper clippings and papers. Not a half dozen men get into this den during the year. Dr. Talmage restricts its occupants to himself and his private secretary. The servants are not permitted to clean it, and at long intervals only is Mrs. Talmage allowed in with her dust brush. There are no fancy books in this library, and the newest copies are torn and mutilated. In using a quotation Dr. Talmage tears out the paragraphs to which he refers and pastes them into his manuscripts to save the time of copying them. He does the greater part of his work by dictation. He dictates readily, and some of his best writings are taken down by an amanuensis at the rate of 150 words per minute.

How He Looks and Talks.

It was in the parlors that Dr. Talmage received me, and I noted that the step with which he entered was firm and springy. He will be 60 years old in January next, but his hair is still brown, his dark rosy face shows that his blood is full of iron, and he says he can eat his three square meals every day and enjoy them. He is a big man and a strong one. He is, I judge, about 5 feet 11 inches, and he weighs about 170 pounds. His broad shoulders have a slight stoop, but they are well padded with muscular flesh, and his arms look as though they could wield an ax as well as Gladstone's. He was dressed in plain business clothes and, I noted, as an hour or so later we walked toward the Tabernacle, that the high hat that he wore was a derby, and its number, I judge, was about 8¼. Doctor Talmage converses as well as he preaches. His talk with me was full of bright sayings. It was perfectly unconventional and simple. It covered a great variety of subjects and I only give a taste of its substance.

Palestine and the Jews.

Referring to the Jewish troubles in Russia, I asked Doctor Talmage if he did not think that the Jews would eventually drift back to Palestine. He replied:

"I don't think the prosperous Jews of America or Europe ought to go back to Palestine. Our Jewish citizens here have all the comforts of civilization. In Palestine they would find the land and the people, so old in years, newer than the youngest parts of our western frontier. The land offers no field for their undoubted ability, and they would be surrounded by discomfort and misery. The future of Palestine, it seems to me, is not destined to come from the Jews. It is a field for the work of all nations, and I believe that all the peoples of the earth are to unite in its improvement. The country is, to a large extent, a desert now. The lands between Jerusalem and the Valley of the Jordan are as barren as the plains of Colorado, and in climbing up the hills of Judea you pass through a country where only the sparsest of vegetation is seen on the hillsides, and where the crop is made up of rocks. These hills, however, show evidences that the land was once a garden. The hills are terraced, and you see signs of them having been carefully cultivated in past ages. I believe it will become a garden again. God's favorite figure is the circle, and Palestine is moving in a circle back to its old beauties. These rocks which laid upon the hills above the Plains of Sharon where the Philistines lived are limestone. This stone is disintegrating, and becoming skeletonized. The lime is sinking into the soil and Palestine is getting by the action of its climate what our farmers spend great sums for to revivify their lands. The climate of Palestine is changing, the rainfall is increasing, and at no distant date the land will blossom like the rose. As it is, many of the Jews in the Holy Land are turning their attention to agriculture. They have experimental farms and they are raising fine crops. The Plains of Sharon are today as fertile as any part of the state of New York, and the time will come when the barren hillsides of Judea will produce like our rich lands of Westchester county, or like the rich valleys about Lancaster, Pennsylvania, or those which border on the Scioto in Ohio."

"Will Jerusalem ever become a great city?" I asked.

"Yes," replied Dr. Talmage, "It has grown rapidly during the past few years, and it is already fulfilling the saying of the prophet that it will spread out beyond the walls and will cover even the Place of the Ashes. Until now the commentators of the scriptures did not know how to interpret this paragraph. There was no evidence of any ashes about Jerusalem, and they did not know what it meant. In the excavation, however, for the new buildings outside in the new part of the town, ashes are being turned up by the digging for every foundation. They are being analyzed, and are found to be the ashes of wood and the ashes of animals. They are in fact the ashes of the sacrifices of the Jews in the days of the past, which for 1,000 years were carried out of Jerusalem and deposited in that place. Jerusalem, in fact, is having quite a real estate boom. The lands about the city have increased in value and there has been much building."

Did Not Attempt to Buy Calvary.

"How about Calvary, and that story that you attempted to buy it of the Turks?"

"There is no truth in that," replied Dr. Talmage. "The very idea would have been absurd. The Mohammetans will not sell their lands to foreigners, and there is a Mohammetan cemetery on the edge of the spot where Christ was crucified, and you see it would have been impossible for me to have purchased it had I wished to do so. As to that spot being the place of the crucifixion, however, I have not the slightest doubt. The morning I arrived in Jerusalem I went up to the top of the house in which I was stopping and took a look at the Holy City. I had the Mount of Olives pointed out to me and Mount Mariah, and without anyone telling me, I fixed upon this spot as the place of crucifixion. Why, it corresponds exactly with the descriptions of the bible. It is the perfect shape of a great skull, both inside and outside, and there is a spot on its top just large enough for three crosses. It is without the walls, and the bible says that Jesus was taken outside of the walls to be crucified. It is known that this was the place of execution of malefactors for years prior to this time, and it would be the natural place for the crucifixion. Besides it was on the edge of the main road leading out of Jerusalem, and you remember that the bible says that the people wagged their heads at him as they went along. The spot which has been accepted as the place of crucifixion and over which the church of the Holy Sephulchre is built is in the middle of the city, and it must have always been a densely populated spot."

Dr. Talmage and His Life of Christ.

"By the way, doctor, did you write much of your 'Life of Christ,' while you were in Palestine?"

"Yes," was the reply. "I worked at it as hard as you worked there during your trip as a newspaper correspondent. I found the inspiration of my surroundings conducive to the work and I rewrote much that I had written before. I took my description of places from life, and I found it enabled me to make it a better book."

"Please tell me about the book, doctor. Where did you get the title and is it a success?"

"The story of the title," replied Dr. Talmage, "is a curious one. I sought for a long time for a title but could find none. 'The Life of Christ,' was too hackneyed. It had been used a number of times, and I wanted something new. For weeks I cudgeled my brains in vain. I was thinking of it when I traveled in the west, and one day as I sat in the train approaching Alliance, O., like a flash came to me the words, 'From Manger to Throne.' 'I've got it at last,' said I to myself, and for fear I might lose it, I took out my note book and wrote it down. As to the success of the work, it promises to be more successful than anything I have ever written. Four hundred thousand copies have been subscribed for, and two hundred and fifty thousand copies have been delivered and paid for. This is a great many considering the fact that the book costs from $4 to $20 per copy. I think there is no doubt but that the circulation will reach 1,000,000."

"Tell me something of your other books," said I.

"I have written for years," said Dr. Talmage, "and the public has always treated me well. We were counting up the other day the books that have been published over my name as author, and we find there are fifty of them, and they are translated into nearly all the languages of Europe. I got a copy of a Scandinavian translation of one of my books today. Of course I can't read it, but I know it is mine from my name as author on the title page. Of these different books, I have myself published fifteen and have gotten receipts from them. The other thirty-five have been pirated in one way or another."

Money Making and the Pulpit.

"Dr. Talmage," said I, "you've been called a money-making preacher. Do you think the making of money is incompatible with your profession?"

"If the making of money were the chief end of the profession I would say yes," replied Dr. Talmage. "And if it were not entirely subordinate and apart from it, I would also say yes. But when the making of money comes entirely from work that does not conflict with the duties of the pulpit, and that in fact aids on the work of the profession, I would say no. During my whole life I have made my preaching and my church the supreme end of my work. I have never made a dollar at the expense of my congregational labors, and I have never tried to make money for money's sake. The opportunities and the work have been forced upon me. I have accepted them, because in doing so I believe that I am at the same time able to do good. I refuse hundreds of offers for literary work and lectures because I have not the time to give to them, and if, as is often so, my prices for such things are called high, they are forced upon no one and they are fixed in general not by me, but by bureaus and agents through whom such business is done for me. If I would, I could I believe have such engagements as would net me $1,000 a day the year through, and I have now lying on my study table an offer of $150,000 for a series of lectures. I never lecture for less than $500 or $1,000 a night, and the latter is my regular price for the larger cities. When I charged $1,000 for going to Chicago not long ago to lecture, the fact was made a subject of comment by some of the newspapers, who said that my action was a mercenary one. Why, I cannot see. I did not ask Chicago to call me to lecture, and the receipts of the lecture, which was held in the Auditorium, were, I understand, $3,000 in excess of the amount paid me. I get numbers of requests from small places offering me $500 a night to lecture, and I have today received such offers from Knoxville and Memphis. As it is I can't accept many of these engagements, though I try to make one or two trips a year. Last year I did not go on account of the building of the Tabernacle, but this summer I traveled through twenty-three states, covered 20,000 miles and shook hands with at least 15,000 people."

He Talks of His Work.

"How do you do such an amount of work, doctor! Please tell me something of your weekly labors."

"My weeks vary so that I can hardly do that," was the reply. "I am engaged nearly every day to speak, lecture or preach somewhere. I'm editor of the Christian Herald and write three columns a week for it. I write an article a week for the Observer and every month I prepare an article for the Ladies' Home Journal entitled, 'Under my Study Lamp.' Then I have my Friday night talks, my regular sermon, my calls and my mail, which comes from all parts of the world."

"How do you get your rest?"

"I save time in every way possible. I use stenographers in my work and dictate readily and rapidly. I find my chief rest in a change of work and conversation at a dinner party, for instance, gives me new life and vigor. I remember the New England dinner when Henry Grady made his great speech. I sat between him and General Sherman and the talk that night was one of the pleasantest episodes of my life. It was an effervescence elixir to my tired brain, and I arose from the table wonderfully refreshed."

Talmage on General W. T. Sherman.

The conversation here took a shoot into reminiscence, and Dr. Talmage spoke of General Sherman. Said he:

"I noted your interview with John Sherman of a week or so ago. You represent him rightly. The world does not know what a social and lovable side there is to his character and the virtues of General Sherman are not appreciated as they should be. I had a close friendship with him and I have many letters from him. His bluffness and rugged good nature blinded people to his extraordinary literary ability. His letters were models of good diction. Even his speeches, though he spoke extemporaneously and sometimes haltingly, were well worded, and there was no more delightful talker in private. I remember a night I spent with him in St. Louis. General Sherman was not well enough to attend my lecture, but he sent me a note asking me to come to his home after I was through. I did so and we spent a long evening together. During this time he gave me ideas of the war that I never had before. He went over the whole of it, criticising this man and that and giving me much unwritten history. He uttered things which, had they been given to an unscrupulous person, would have furnished big newspaper sensations and would have brought high prices in the literary newspaper markets. He was a most lovable man in his family relations and he had a gentle side to his character which was very charming."

World Growing Better.

"Dr. Talmage," said I, "don't you think the world grows worse as it grows older?"

"No," replied the preacher, "I do not. I think the world is growing better instead of growing worse, and I am in all things rather an optimist than a pessimist. I often hear the mechanical inventions, the reapers, the mowers, the electric wires, the steam engine, etc., spoken of as the great wonders of modern times. The greatest marvel to me of modern times is the true Christian spirit which grows more from day to day. Our greatest wonders are our good men and good women. In the ages of the past, there was one great philanthropist in half a dozen centuries and for the next ten or twenty generations he was the wonder of history. The people placed a halo around his head and they worshipped him and wondered at him. Now we have a great philanthropist in every town and a dozen in every city. It took 500 years to produce a George Peabody, and Peter Cooper would have been an impossibility in any other age than ours. That man's work is the wonder of modern times. His institution has mothered a thousand other institutions. From his example have sprung hundreds of free libraries, hospitals and schools and the work of charity grows in an ever increasing ratio as the times go on."

Our Wonderful Women.

"Look at the men and women of today," Dr. Talmage went on. "There has never been such a generation. Take our women; a few years ago soft flesh, a slender waist, a polite languor, a do nothing air, were the elements of the so-called beautiful woman. Now our girls pride themselves on being strong. The roses of health bloom in their cheeks. They stand firm upon their feet and swing their arms from the shoulder. They have strong frames and healthy, well trained minds. They are the apostles of physical culture and every town has its woman's gymnasium. It is the same with our young men. We are developing a stronger race and a better race. This is mentally and physically. The old saying that there is no royal road to learning is a thing of the past. Our children have such a road and it is an asphalt pavement compared with the rough corduroy of my childhood. When I was a boy children had to be whipped to make them go school. Now they cry if they can't go. I spent my school days in a country school. We had 100 children in one room and we sat on rough benches so high that our feet dangled six inches above the floor. The rod was not spared and the rule was one of terror rather than kindness. I remember the school was always opened with prayer. The teacher prayed. He held his hands with his fingers spread wide apart over his eyes as he prayed and kept his eyes on the school to see that the scholars preserved a decent reverence and attention. When he saw one of us doing otherwise he dropped his hand, suspended his prayer and came down and thrashed the offender, and then went back and finished the prayer. We had no music but the crying of the chidren when whipped. We had no drawing and our studies were of the most arbitrary kind, forced out of us in the most arbitrary way."

Free Thought and Christianity.

"How about religion and free thought, doctor," said I. "The churches seem to be growing more liberal every year. Infidelity is growing in all religions the world over and the tendency seems to be to the breaking down of all faith."

"You are right in saying that the churches are becoming more liberal," replied Dr. Talmage. "We are getting closer and closer together every year, and religion is becoming more and more a religion of sympathy and kindness. We have thousands of real Christians now who hardly know they are Christians. They cannot be called intellectual Christians, and the purely intellectual Christian, the Christian of reason rather than faith, is of little account in the world anyhow. He is an iceberg and he is of good neither to himself nor to anyone else. You speak of the growing infidelity among the believers of other religions the world over. The tendency of man when he gives up the God of his fathers is for a time to believe in no God whatever, and it is only after a time that he comes around to study and believe in another religion. I believe that any religion is better than no religion and I believe that the Christian religion is destined to conquer the world. People are surprised that the church does not advance more rapidly. They forget that the world has just been discovered. Our hemisphere is but a few hundreds of years old, and Columbus only discovered its shell. Asia and Africa have been practically unknown to us until now and they are still to a great extent undiscovered. It is the same with the world in other respects as in its geographical ones. We are just beginning to know it and its possibilities. Modern inventions are coming in to help us, and we are now ready for the first time to begin to work in earnest.

"The railroad and the steamboat have been invented to carry us to our fields, and the phonograph has come in to do its share in the missionary work of the future. I believe the phonograph is going to be our greatest preacher. When the manager of the board of missions can say 'Send 300 sermons to as many towns and cities of Japan' or 'Send 500 lectures to out-of-the-way places in China, and see that a phonographic translation of that bright discourse against Buddhism is sent out to India,' you will see the possibilities.

"Then our missionary scholars can do their work surrounded by civilization and supported by the best of God's ozone. Now the climate and the hardships of life kill hundreds. Then we can have a thousand men where we have one now, and one sermon can travel from one end of the country to the other and preach its mission to millions.

Story of Gladstone and Lord Napier.

"You say the world is growing better," Dr. Talmage went on. "I tell you, the world is better than you think. There are spots of the true Christian feeling and spirit animating the darkest parts of our darkest continents. I remember an incident that happened not long ago when I was visiting the great English statesman, Mr. Gladstone. We were at Hawarden. It was just after his eightieth birthday, and we were out in his big park running together along the road. Gladstone called it a promenade, but he kept me on the trot to keep up with him, and he asked questions just as fast as he walked. He kept throwing sticks for his dog to run after and bring back to him, and he would jerk out all sorts of questions. 'Do you see that fine sycamore there?' he would say: 'I venture to say that you did not see anything like that in the Holy Land, did you?' At last the conversation drifted into this very subject of which you are asking and Gladstone made the same remark that I have made to you, and illustrated it with this story. Said he: 'On this very spot where we are now walking, Lord Napier walked with me shortly after his return from Africa, and as he walked, he told me the story of a soldier who had had his leg broken in one of the skirmishes and who was being carried back with the army towards home. 'As we went on,' said Lord Napier, 'his leg got worse and I saw that he would die before he got into the ship. His only chance of salvation was immediate rest and quiet. At this time we came to a rude tent in which an old African woman lived. I besought her to take the man in and care for him and I offered her what must have seemed to her a very large sum for such a service. She refused to take the money though I urged her to do so, and when I was in despair thinking she would not take care of the man, she looked up at me and said, 'white man, I don't want your money, I will not take your money. I have enough. But I will take care of this man and do the best I can for him because,—and here she raised her hands towards the sky—'I believe in the great God above us.' 'We left the man with her and he recovered.' 'Whether this woman was a Christian or not, I do not know,' replied Dr. Talmage, 'or where she got her Christianity, I do not know. I only know that her spirit was a Christian one, and had shone there brightly amid the darkness of Africa,"

Talmage On Sensational Preaching.

"Dr. Talmage, you have been accused of being a sensational preacher. Do you believe in sensational preaching?"

"If you call sensational preaching," replied the divine, "the striving after striking effects, merely to astonish the people or to create a stir, it is wrong. But if sensational preaching is the sensation arising from the presentation of truth, it is right. Truth is always surprising, and rightly preached, it ought not to fail to create a sensation. The opponents of such preaching are often men who are as heavy in their remarks as a load of bricks. They are too lazy or too dull to rise out of the commonplace and they often vegetate or die of the dry rot. You ask as to pulpit oratory today. I believe that our preachers are improving in power as the world goes on. Our seminaries turn out better men every year, and they will this year furnish the best crop of young men in their history."

Brooklyn Tabernacle.

Leaving the house, we then walked around the block to the Brooklyn Tabernacle. It is the biggest church in the United States and is one of the finest churches in the world. Its tower of red brick and stone rises one hundred and sixty feet from the ground and its four corners have columns which remind you of the beauties of the Kutab Minar. Its entrances are of stone richly carved and it covers more than a half acre of ground. Standing in the galleries, the scene below makes you think of the Coliseum at Rome, and the great organ which stands opposite you is one of the largest ever made. It has four banks of keys, one hundred stops and appliances, and its pipes number 4,500. Dr. Talmage stands on a platform with no desk nor pulpit in front of him, and he addresses here an audience of 7,000 souls every Sunday. The church was almost completed while Dr. Talmage was in the Holy Land. It was started after he left New York on that tour, and its cost has been up to this time, $425,000. It is the third church which Dr. Talmage has built in Brooklyn and it is a monument worthy of his genius.

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Dr. Birney cures catarrh. Bee bldg.

LITERARY NOTES.

Henry Harland, who has written so much and so well under the nom-de-plume of "Sydney Luska," seems to have tired of the sonbriquet, and is now using his own name upon his literary efforts.

General Sherman's letters to his daughter, written from the field during the war, are among the most valuable contributions that have yet been made to the literature of the war and are soon to be published.

Current Literature each month publishes a famous chapter from the work of some standard author. In like manner Short Stories makes a feature of a brief romance that has been notable at some time in the past.

Hall Caine was the author of a work which was placed among the best books of the year in 1890. He has now published through the John W. Lovell company, another work which is meeting with the same commendation. It is entitled "The Scapegoat."

In the November issue of the New England Magazine, Walter Blackburn Harte makes a plea for a world without books. He thinks that education is not an unmixed blessing, as the greater the intelligence of individuals and peoples the greater is their capacity for suffering.

Since Blanche Willis Howard wrote "One Summer," her books have been looked for eagerly. Her new story, which is now running serially in a London periodical, will be issued in this country in a few months. It is entitled "A Battle and a Boy," and while it is of a character to interest juvenile readers, it is equally fascinating for children of a larger growth.

The passage of the copyright law has produced one result at least which will please the general reading public. English authors, in anticipation of the possible passage of the law, have been holding back their best manuscripts in order to publist under protection. As a consequence, the last half of 1891 and the first half of 1892 will be full of these works which have been held in reserve awaiting the action of congress.

Octave Thanet has written a clever story for the November Lippincott's called "The Return of the Rejected." It tells of the travels and adventures of a manuscript which is submitted to all the leading magazines. The story is founded on fact, and fac-simile copies of several letters of rejection from various editors are reproduced. George Alfred Townsend (Gath) also relates his experience as a newspaper correspondent.

Very curiously, but little attention has ever been given in the magazines to the frightful tragedies of the Roman Amphitheater, which were carried on through centuries, and in which the lives of hundreds of thousands were sacrificed. C. Osbourne Ward, whose book "The Ancient Lowly" last year excited so much attention, and who has made this subject his life work, gives an article in the November Cosmopolitan on the "Massacres of the Roman Amphitheater," and the article is illustrated by drawings by Dan Beard and from famous paintings.

The Buckeye state comes imposingly to the front in the November number of Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly. The opening page is adorned with a new portrait of Senator John Sherman, who contributes a scholarly and thoughtful paper upon "Ohio: Its History and Resources." There are, moreover, thirty-five portraits of distinguished sons of Ohio, living and dead, and numerous interesting views. In this same number Clara Morris writes interestingly about "The Modern Emotional Drama and Its Exponents."

In the Forum for November Edward A. Freeman, the English historian, explains the political situation in Europe, pointing out the specific dangers to peace. Another remarkable article will appear in the same number on the armies and politics of Europe, from an American point of view, by William R. Thayer, who records the results of studies recently made in Europe of the political and military situation. These two articles together make a complete review of the present European situation.

Wolcott Balestier, the young American writer who has collaborated with Rudyard Kipling in the novel "The Naulahka," which the Century will print, is at present a resident of London, where he represents an American publishing house. He was born at Rochester, N. Y., less than thirty years ago, and he has lived and attended school there, and at Baltimore, Washington, New York, Vermont and Denver. His college is Cornell, and he studied law at the University of Virginia. He was at one time on the editorial staff of the Rochester Post-Express.

The first number of The Californian, a new magazine published at San Francisco, has made its appearance. Among the articles is one describing the new electric road of Prof. T. S. C. Lowe, the longest in the world, now being built up the Sierras. The line is twelve miles long, passing over some of the most remarkable scenery in America. The illustrations snow the famous Eaton canyon; the location of the two depots in the same day; the lower, abounding in ferns and flowers; the upper, deep in the snow of an eastern winter, showing that in southern California the tourist can pick oranges in the forenoon and order a sleigh by telephone and spend the afternoon in sleighing.

The old Arab university of El Azhar, which was founded in the tenth century, and has constantly opposed an inflexible front to the advance of European ideas, is today the most important Mohammedan college in the world. Although it has no longer the 20,000 students who crowded its courts in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, there is still an attendance of from 7,000 to 10,000—some say 12,000—and its pupils are sent out to every Mohammedan country, from the Soudan to India. A very entertainging account of this university and the methods of instruction pursued within its walls will be given by Constance Fenimore Woolson in an illustrated paper on "Cairo in 1891," to appear in Harper's Magazine for November.

A Study of Child Nature from the Kindergarten Standpoint, by Elizabeth Harrison, principal of the Chicago Kindergarten training school is now in its third edition. The authoress has a keen insight into child nature which has been quickened by long and constant contact with the little ones in her practical kindergarten work. In her excellent little book she has presented her ideas in a most charming and systematic manner. The perplexities of many a thoughtful, fond mother will be largely removed by its perusal, for she suggests many practical methods of reaching the hearts and developing the intellects of the little ones. With the delicate touch of an artist Miss Harrison points the way harmoniously to direct the moral, physical and mental growth, and if every woman could be led to take instruction from her publication there would be fewer weary hands and heads and sinking hearts among the sweet mothers of America. Especially helpful and interesting are the chapters devoted to the training of the muscles, the affections, the will and that upon right and wrong punishments. The little work breathes the spirit of Froebel, and will increase the interest in kindergarten institution, which is so rapidly growing up in the homes and educational centers of our country. The book is published by the Chicago Kindergarten college, Chicago, and is sold for $1.

Are you a cruel man, or only a chump Your horse has chafed his neck until it is absolutely cruel to make him work, or he has cut himself on a wire or a nail. Now do you know that one bottle of Haller's Barb Wire Liniment will absolutely cure every cut, bruise or old sore? Just try it.

Dr. Birney cures catarrh. Bee bldg.

CHARACTERISTICS OF GREATNESS.

It is said that Senator Plumb of Kansas makes a speech at every wedding, corn husking or barbecue to which he is invited.

The aged Louis Kossuth, the Hungarian patriot, knows English remarkably well. He learned the language while a prisoner, with only a dictionary, a bible and a copy of Shakespeare to aid him.

Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee are roommates at the Washington and Lee university, Lexington, Va. Let us have peace.

General Curtis, now running for congress in the Watertown, N. Y., district, enlisted when 19 years old at the breaking out of the civil war and came out of it eminent. He is six feet six inches in height.

Paul Du Chaillu, the noted traveler and African explorer, is a little brown man with flashing black eyes, smooth bronzed face and a head as bald as a baby's. He is a confirmed old bachelor, but has manners that charm women.

Judge Culbertson, the Texas congressman, recently replied to a tirade of abuse from an embittered constituent by throwing his arms around the man's neck and exclaiming, "What's the nearest grocery?" This was too much for the constituent.

General Beauregard appeared at a meeting of the Daughters of the Confederacy in St. Louis one day last week. The general appeared to be in excellent health, his snow white hair showing up in striking contrast to a healthy and ruddy complexion.

Timothy Hopkins, the adopted son of the late Mrs. Searles, has a five acre patch of violets at Menlo park, California, from which he ships large quantities of flowers to San Francisco daily for six months every year, and receives a handsome return therefor.

Prince Bismarck continues to flourish, notwithstanding rumors to the contrary. A recent visitor to the prince at Varzin writes: "On the day of my arrival he was two hours in the saddle, and during the afternoon he inspected part of the estate, the drive taking up four hours."

In his villa up in the hills Salvini dines at 6 and finishes his evening meal at 10. Budding tragedians will read with wonder that his dining hall is 40 feet square, and that the trophies of his American tours in the shape of statues, pictures, medals, plate and jewelry are valued at $100,000.

Colonel John A. Cockerill, having given a handsome monument to the Order of Elks in St. Louis, evidently believes that "one good deed deserves another," as he has offered to present the cities of New York and Brooklyn with two bronze or stone drinking fountains to be placed on the Brooklyn bridge, one at each of the two towers.

Solon Chase, the veteran apostle of flat money, is postmaster at Chase's Mills in Maine. Some time ago an inspector called at Solon's office, and, after looking over the book, inquired of the postmaster where he kept the government funds, which the law requires must be separate from the other. "In my pocket, by G—d," was the immediate reply of the famous "financier."

Henry George is so enthusiastic a believer in bicycling that he urges it upon people who visit him with much more persistency than he shows in the propagation of his own social theories. Many of his friends among men have been induced by his example to practice the art; he has persuaded his whole family to learn to ride, and he has begun proselyting among the women and children of his acquaintance.

Three sons of the author of "Pickwick" are still living. Charles Dickens, his father's namesake, is editor of All the Year Round and is known to American audiences for his readings from his father's works. Alfred Tennyson Dickens is a merchant in Melbourne, and the youngest member of the family, Edward Bulwer Lytton Dickens, is a sheep farmer and a new member of the New South Wales parliament.

Frank B. Sanborn, the philosopher, is a man whose name is not often heard by the world these days. Yet in Emerson's time he was the brightest and best beloved of the coterie of scholars and poets who gathered about the Concord sage. Sanford still lives in Concord, and is identified with the modern school of philosophy there. He is a tall, slender man, and when he appears in Boston is conspicuous for a broad brimmed soft white hat and a big red flowing cravat.

Dr. Birney cures catarrh. Bee bldg.

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London has 1,000 idle printers.
We support 325 electric roads.
Brandy is made from potatoes.
Corsets employ 10,000 persons.
Berlin printers want nine hours.
Pittsburg boss printers organized.
New York has 600 union furriers.
Iron will be melted by electricity.
Uncle Sam has 70,000 bee growers.
Rome will be lighted by electricity.
Railway bars are electrically welded.
The K. of L. has reached voting age.
Arizona has a woman mining expert.
Toledo has a free employment bureau.
New York sewing girls are organizing.
Women work in Houtzdale (Pa.) mines.
Pittsburg job printers want nine hours.
Toledo has a German carpenters' union.
Grand Rapids will make paper matches.
Dr. McGlynn got a purse on his birthday.
Texas colored cotton pickers have a union.
New York cooks and stewards are organized.
Tacoma exhibits a 16,000-pound piece of coal.
Halifax painters struck to maintain their union.
New York K. of L. protest against Italian labor.
War department clerks will be paid weekly.
Kansas City, Kan., is to have a $1,250,000 cotton mill.
New York buttonhole makers won a fifteen weeks' strike.
The Southern Pacific employs Chinamen at $20 per month.
The Waltham Watch company has cut wages 20 per cent.
Miss Braun, the organizer of the German barmaids, has been exiled.
The New York K. of L. school provides lectures and entertainments.
Four dramatic companies in New York are composed of labor union talent.
Chicago will have an electric unicycle railroad to make forty miles an hour.
Compulsory voting has been added to the constitution of the Cigarmakers' union.
The newest patent given to a woman has been for improvement in steam boilers and furnaces.
St. Louis Knights of Labor will boycott American tin, because the union tin men are on strike.
Two-thirds of 3,000 people employed in the Elgin watch works are women, and they are organizing.
New York book and job offices will be organized. Burial ground for Catholic and Protestant printers has been purchased.
Creosote works for rendering piles proof against the teredo will probably be built in San Francisco at a cost of about $100,000.
The grand trustees of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, who were removed from office by Grand Master Wilkinson some months ago, have secured a temporary injunction.
An air ship which generates hydrogen gas is to be tried by Henri le Comte, the director of the school of aerostation in Paris. He is credited with proposing to cross Africa and Mozambique by this balloon.
The late international congress at Frankfort has already been dubbed the "high-tension" congress" by reason of the gibbess with which 10,000 to 100,000 volts were discussed as available potentials for power transmission.
Aluminum, substituted for cast iron in the tower of the new public buildings in Philadelphia, will save 400 tons in weight and avoid the constant expense of painting. It is reported that the new metal has been definitely adopted for this purpose by the commissioners.
Fast house building in Chicago is illustrated by progress on the Unity building. This structure was commenced on July 3, when the first columns were raised, and on September 8, nine weeks afterward, the framework of iron and steel had reached the top and save nteenth story.

SANTA CLAUS SOAP.

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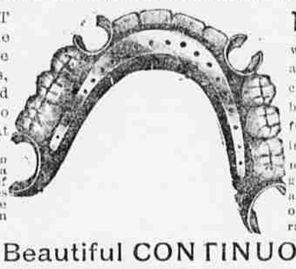

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