

Our Pulpit.

KING AND EMPIRE.

Synopsis of sermon preached at Port Medway, N. S., May 17th, by the Rev. T. H. Siddall. Text, Isaiah xxvi. 2: "Open ye the gates that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth may enter in."

"Gates" symbolize power, authority, and empire. The text gives us the secret of national, and empire-enduring greatness—righteousness.

The Greeks gave the world the "gate beautiful," beauty of thought, and beauty of form.

The Romans, the gate of the law. Israel, the "gates" of truth and righteousness.

To the Jew we owe a debt of gratitude, for their splendid work and mission. Their name is imperishable, because they built, as De Quincey so wisely says, "within the spiritual and eternal." "The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever." So, "their works do follow them," and they live in the heart of the best nations today." Righteousness exalteth a nation."

Character is true greatness; truth, wisdom, and righteousness enduring riches.

Next Sabbath, May 24th, is Victoria Day. On May 24th, 1819, our late revered, beloved, and good Queen was born. On November 9th, 1841, King Edward was born. Nationally it has been decided to observe the King's birthday on May 24th.

Patriotism bids us to mark events, entwined with the weal and well being of our empire.

We are of an Imperial race; belonging to an empire, unequalled, unsurpassed in all past history; unsurpassed in the staying qualities of truth and righteousness.

On a Sabbath of October, 1901, attention was called to the millenary festival marking the reign of the great, noble, good, and wise King Alfred, who was born in the year 849, and died October 28th, 901. One thousand years of unbroken continuity of the British throne and power. Think of its significance!

A thousand years from the time of Moses, Israel was in ruins. Throne destroyed, power broken, and never again restored. A thousand years from the time of Romulus and Remus, the great Roman Empire, was verging to decay; and already the capital had been changed from Italy to Constantinople. We look back over 1,000 years. Chequered indeed it has been, but there has been a steady growth and development; an onward march, sure, steadfast, unexampled in the annals of a world.

Can we fail to ask why so favored? And why so blest?

The Greeks were brilliant as the French are of modern days. The Romans were imperial and massive. Germany in mental power, educational force, has a commanding position. Our neighbor to the south of us, in alertness, quick adaptation, inventiveness and marvellous energy, is most distinguished. What are our outstanding features, and marked characteristics? What the cause of our long continuity, power and strength? "Open ye the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth the truth, may enter in."

Briefly: "The Bible is the secret of

England's greatness;" with its ideals of truth, duty and righteousness.

1. Truth.—"Thou desirest truth in the inward parts." Reality, exemplified by the ideal and greatest of kings, King Alfred; who was named by one of the old chroniclers the Truth-Speaker.

In the northern home of our distinguished race was the proverb: "My word is as good as my bond." Says Emerson, speaking of the British race, "they love reality." "Honor bright," a speech of the streets, denotes a pervading spirit.

The complaint is made that the German, the Frenchman, and the American, in adaptability surpass the British. The British spirit is thoroughness; the truth of things. Art ceases to be beautiful when it is unreal. "Truth is the basis of all excellence."

God's creations are real! Honesty and truthfulness, sincerity and simplicity, mark His works. Evinced in tree and flower, bright emblems of divine wisdom.

Montaigne, the transparent French philosopher, said: "The liar is brave towards God, and coward towards man." What is our wisdom? "In all thy ways acknowledge Him, (the God of truth) and He will direct thy paths."

2. Duty.—That stirring message of Admiral Nelson on the eve of the battle of Trafalgar, is a precious memory to British hearts: "England expects every man to do his duty." Duty, I owe; a sense of relationship; an obligation.

Glory is the word of the Celts, duty is the word of the Teutons. The dispatches of Napoleon are punctured with glory; but a better word adorns the despatches of the grand Duke of Wellington,—duty. This is the epitaph on the monument of that noble soldier Henry Lawrance: "Here lies the body of Henry Lawrance, who tried to do his duty." Duty is the thought of king, peer, and peasant; castle and cottage.

"And not once or twice in our fair Island's story,
The path of duty was the path of glory."

3. Righteousness.—"Israel" (Dr. Fairbairn) "discovered God. The Greeks discovered man." Sinai was written in the heart of Israel. The God of righteousness, Of the land and people of our fathers can it not be said: "Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest wickedness; therefore God, thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows."

Righteousness: Having this beacon light:—

"An ever fixed mark,
Which looked on tempests and was never shaken."

Our empire stands at the forefront of the nations, blest with the vigor of youth, while crowned with the wisdom and glory of age. Opulent in unbounded wealth. Recently the South African loan was called for of \$150,000,000, par value, at 3 per cent. It was subscribed twenty times over. That notwithstanding the war costing \$1,085,000,000, of which one-third was paid out of current revenue.

The glamour of wealth is much in evidence on this continent, and the plutocratic spirit by some is greatly admired. As to wealth, our empire is

not second. But other splendid achievements are more in accord with the claims of greatness, less vulgar, and more commendable.

In the building of man we have had our honored place. The star of liberty has been set in orderly progress. The boundaries of freedom enlarged; and the realms of knowledge expanded. Given to a world two of the world's greatest sons, Milton and Shakespeare. Made justice—just; and the bench incorruptible. Secured castle and cottage in cherished, honored rights. Made law august, and authority supreme. The mother of parliaments, an example to a world, of self-sacrifice, integrity and devotion to the public weal. The flag we so deeply cherish, the foe of oppression, and the shield of the oppressed. Great in missions of emancipation, philanthropy, and enlightenment, as broad as a world. Commerce, enterprise, invention, prized and blest, because stamped with moral integrity. And with all the abiding sense that every gift is of God; "power" (Edmund Burke) "not for self but for the blessing and advancement of a world."

Is not this a wise and understanding people? Is not our royal and imperial race crowned with many virtues, adorned with many gifts, an instrument of God's will? Are we not an empire divinely blest, divinely favored?

What other people so earnestly, and with such largeness of heart have gone to the ends of the earth to establish the beneficent rule of liberty, justice and righteousness? Given to a world an open Bible; and gladly spread the Gospel of the grace of God; and made known the fruitful, precious, and blessed paths of truth, duty, and righteousness!

"God Save the King."

MY TRUE SELF.

I am only able to exert the influence of my true self. How many a man imagines he can influence his neighbor by what he says to him! He cannot. How many a man dreams he can influence children by the precepts that fall from his lips! Child-life is never so influence. How many a man imagines he can influence his children, friends, neighbors, acquaintances, by what he desires they should think him to be! No man does so influence any of his fellows. How many a man, for many long years, has kept up an outward appearance of morality and respectability, yea, even of religion, while his heart has not been cleansed; and in the deep recesses of his nature there have lurked dominating all the impulses of that life, things low, and base, and impure! Tell me, how has that man influenced other men? Has he influenced them by what he has appeared to be, or what he has really been? Without a moment's hesitation I assert that he has influenced men by what he has been within himself. Not by the appearance which was a lie, but by the baseness which was the truth of his life has he influenced children, and friends and acquaintances.—*Rev. G. Campbell Morgan.*

The horseshoe that clatters wants a nail.—*Great thoughts.*

A love that thinks it will die at some time or other is already dead.—*Richter.*

POINTER FOR YOUNG SPEAKERS.

Many debaters weaken their style by "a fatal facility in the use of strong expressions." At a recent conference, this fault was very apparent. The words "extraordinary," "wonderful," "glorious," "terrible," and others, lost their force by being applied to commonplace things. When will speakers learn that the strength of an expression is in the noun, and that many a speech is spoiled by the excessive use of adjectives, particularly superlatives? Where everything is emphasized, nothing is emphasized. Exaggeration soon palls upon intelligent hearers, and bombast is always offensive to an audience of cultivated taste. Speaking of speakers reminds one of the fact that nearly every orator has some favorite form of expression by which his speech may be identified. But some times a set of words, instead of being the man's servants, become his master, and a tyrannical master at that. They thrust themselves into paragraph after paragraph, as much to the chagrin of the orator as to the fatigue of the audience. In spite of his efforts to get rid of them, they cling to his utterances like the Old Man of the Sea to the shoulders of Sinbad the Sailor. Happy is he who has a discerning wife, or a kind, judicious friend, to warn him of his danger before his enslavement is complete. Happy is the speaker of whom it is never said, "He is the man who is always saying—so and so."—*Canadian Epworth Era.*

57-62 the Critical Age.

Height of vigor past—nature's power slowing down, vitality less, recuperative power less, endurance less. Stop the progress of decay, tone up the weakened nerve centres, impart vigor to the tiring brain, prepare for the crisis. A means of remarkable potency in the renewal of decreasing vigor is found in Ferruzone. It brightens up the whole being, imparts a sense of power and strength. By the use of Ferruzone, old age is pushed back twenty years. Ferruzone gives strength, vigor, endurance, vim. Your druggist has it. Get a box today.

Useful at all Times.—In winter or in summer Parmelee's Vegetable Pills will cope with and overcome any irregularities of the digestive organs which change of diet, change of residence, or variation of temperature may bring about. They should be always kept at hand, and once their beneficial action becomes known, no one will be without them. There is nothing nauseating in their structure and the most delicate can use them confidently.

A Medicine for the Miner's Pack. Prospectors and others going into the mining regions where doctors are few and drug stores not at all, should provide themselves with a supply of Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil. It will offset the effects of exposure, reduce sprains, and when taken internally will prevent and cure colds and sore throat, and as a lubricant will keep the muscles in good condition.

Biliousness Burdens Life.—The bilious man is never a companionable man because his ailment renders him morose and gloomy. The complaint is not so dangerous as it is disagreeable. Yet no one need suffer from it who can procure Parmelee's Vegetable Pills. By regulating the liver and obviating the effects of bile on the stomach they restore men to cheerfulness and full vigor of action.