

Sunday Reading

THE LUNATIC SON.

Lord, have mercy on my son; for he is a lunatic, and sore vexed; for oftentimes he falleth into the fire and into the water. And I brought him to thy disciples and they could not cure him.—St. Matthew xvii. 15, 16.

Here is a lesson pointedly enforced in this narrative. Here is a man in great distress. He needs help. He finds a company of men who had been admitted to the closest intimacy with the Lord from heaven. On them had been bestowed one of the choicest of gifts among them, the gift of power. Yet, notwithstanding this, they are found unreliable in the case of an emergency.

If apostles may not be leaned upon, what shall be said of people with ordinary human powers? This man could get no relief until he applied directly to the Lord.

'Trust ye in the Lord forever; for in the Lord is everlasting strength.'

The master hears, and with sadness hears how his apostles fail to honor him. He sees its cause, rebukes the devil, and he is cured.

From this we learn how to pity sinners, for we have only to think of spiritual deafness, dumbness and lunacy, and we have them. We see them with the Gospels ringing around them, and they hear not; with help at hand and a loving Jesus, and they cry not unto him; with a scheme of salvation laid before them, and they cannot perceive its features. Plenty, plenty all around, yet they partake not.

Success consists in faith. Jesus asked this man 'if he could believe.' He replied, 'Lord, I believe; help thou my unbelief.'

When we apply directly and persistently to Jesus we will ever meet success. 'All things are possible to him that believeth.'

Oh, for more faith to serve the Lord, Since he has done so much for me; Why is my heart so hostile still, So cold, when it should fervent be? Come, Holy Spirit, bring relief, And save my soul from unbelief.

New Light on Johan.

A writer in a Southern religious weekly, a minister of the Gospel, adds a new feature to the current version of Johan and the whale which has the merit of novelty at least. To account from the immediate and marvelous effect of the preaching of Johan on the people of Nineveh, he conceives the idea that which the fish vomited out Johan upon the dry land, the act was preformed in sight of the Ninevites, who were so deeply impressed by the miraculous occurrence that they believed on Johan's God at once. In no other way, this writer thinks, could a whole city have been so quickly converted. One of the chief difficulties in the way of this aversion lies in the fact that Nineveh was situated on the River Tigris, whereas Johan was thrown overboard and swallowed out in the Mediterranean. But the writer overcomes this trifling obstacle by the asserting it as his belief that the whale, 'after showing Johan safely away in his interior,' immediately started for Nineveh by the all-water route. This meant a passage down the Mediterranean coast, then up the Nile to a canal which, it is said, existed in those days between that river and the Red Sea. thence down that body of water to the Arabian Sea, and around and up the Persian Gulf to the Tigris, and so on to Nineveh, a distance altogether of about three thousand miles. But all this had to be done, according to the Scriptural narrative, in three days. The writer admits that this raises another knotty problem, but he enters gravely into a mathematical computation to prove that an ordinary whale could make Nineveh on time even at that distance if it was necessary. He would have to spin along at the rate of a mile a minute, but he sees no inherent improbability in that. No attempt is made to explain how so large a creature as a whale could pass at such a rate of speed through the shallow waters of the canal between the Nile and the Red Sea, but a writer of such ingenuity and such fertility of resources as this Southern gentleman could no doubt easily dispose of this point if it were raised. After such a marvel of Scriptural interpretation, it might as easily be surmised that the fish jumped across the isthmus as anything else.

The Necessity for the new Birth.

The language of our Lord could hardly puzzle Nicodemus, but the idea that not only Gentiles but also Jews must be born again, that did stagger him. John had required the same preparation for entrance into the kingdom, but the Pharisees had not listened to John, and were offended precluded on the ground of his baptism. But now Jesus presses upon Nicodemus the very same truth, that as the Gentile had to be naturalized and born again that he

might rank as a child of Abraham and enjoy the external privileges of the Jew, so must the Jew himself be born again if he is to rank as a child of God and belong to the Kingdom of God. Our Lord speaks of the second birth as completed by two agencies, water and the Spirit. John the Baptist baptized with water for the remission of sins, but he was always careful to disclaim power to baptize with the Holy Ghost. His baptism with water was symbolical, that is, the water, itself exercised no spiritual influence but merely represented to the eye what was invisibly done to the heart. But that which it symbolized was not the life giving influence of the Holy Spirit, but the washing away of sin from the soul. Those who humbly submitted to his baptism with confession of their sins went from it forgiven and cleansed. But more than that was needed to make them new men, but that he could not give. For that which would fill them with new life they must go to One greater than he, who alone could bestow the Holy Ghost. Those, then, are the two great incidents of the second birth—the pardon of sin, which is preparatory, and which cuts our connection with the past, and the communication of life by the Spirit of God, which fits us for the future. Both these are represented by Christian baptism because in Christ we have both, whereas those who were baptized by John's baptism were only prepared for receiving Christ's Spirit by receiving the forgiveness of their sins.

The Two Births.

Many of the summer insects are twice born. The caterpillar has already a life of its own, but inclosed in its nature as a creeping thing it has capacity for becoming something different and higher. It may become a moth or a butterfly. The analogy shows how common a thing it is for capacities of life to lie dormant; how common it is for a creature in one stage of its existence to have a capacity for passing into a higher stage, a capacity which can be developed only by the same agency peculiarly adapted to it. It is in this condition that man is born of human parents. He is born with a capacity for a higher life than that which he lives in this world. He has a capacity which lies dormant until the Holy Ghost comes and quickens it. The capacity to be a child of God is man's but the development of this lies with God. But he cannot quicken with himself the capacity to love God and to live for him. For this there is needed an influence from without, the efficient touch of the Holy Spirit, the importation of his life. Every man is born with that in him which the Spirit of God may quicken. This is human nature; but when this capacity is so quickened, when the man has begun to live as a child of God, he has not lost his human nature, but has over and above become a partaker of the divine nature. He is born again.

The Real Character.

On account of the Emperor William's visit to Constantinople, on his way to the Holy Land, the newspapers of the whole civilized world have been printing recently the portrait of the Sultan of Turkey. It is said, however, that these portraits give an utterly false impression of the Sultan as he really looks today. 'Abdul Hamid has not had his photograph taken for twenty-two years, and the pictures which have appeared in the illustrated papers represent him as he was when he ascended the throne. The Sultan was born in 1842, and is therefore fifty-six years old. He wears a long beard, which is now turning gray, though his published photographs make him look like a young man without a beard. The Sultan in thus seeking to deceive the public as to his actual appearance is only doing what multitudes are seeking to do who are trying to appear before their fellow men as good and generous and noble, while within the heart is full of all uncleanness and is a graveyard of dead men's bones. But although men may be deceived, God is never deceived. He sees the real character and only goodness that will stand the light clear down to the motive and purpose, will pass muster at his judgment seat.

Reasonable of Requirement.

That which is born of the flesh is flesh. Like produces like. Our Lord does not mean by flesh the mere tangible substance of the body. As soon as we clearly see what the Kingdom of God is, we see also that by nature we do not belong to it. The Kingdom of God, so far as man is concerned, is a state of willing subjection to him, a state in which we are in our right relation to him. That flesh or nature does not, and cannot, give us entrance into God's kingdom, needs no further proof than our own consciousness. Remove the constraints which grace puts upon our nature, and how soon we are aware that we are not in sympathy with God, are not fond of his will, not disposed for his service. Let

There are three conditions: When the blood is poor; When more flesh is needed; When there is weakness of the throat or lungs.

There is one cure: that is Scott's Emulsion.

It contains the best cod-liver oil emulsified, or digested, and combined with the hypophosphites and glycerine. It promises more prompt relief and more lasting benefit in these cases than can be obtained from any other remedy.

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nature have its swing, and everyone knows that it is not the Kingdom of God it takes him to. Our nature is thoroughly fallen. The carnal mind is enmity against God. Men who have had the deepest religious experience have realized this most clearly, and have felt, like Paul, that the flesh lusts against the spirit, and draws us ever back from entire submission to God and delight in him.

Changing the Nature.

A negro, dark as ebony, was arraigned recently in the police court of an Eastern town, on a criminal charge. The prisoner decided to give evidence in his own behalf. The judge, who had been writing, suddenly looked up, and seeing a black hand stretched out to touch the Bible, promptly exclaimed, 'Take off your glove!' 'That's his hand,' remarked the clerk. 'The judge bowed his head over his desk in confusion, and everyone else was convulsed with laughter. The colored man could not help having a black skin. There is a Scripture which inquires, 'Can the Ethiopian change his skin or the leopard his spots?' And assuming that it is impossible in either case, proceeds to say, 'Then may ye also do good, that are accustomed to do evil.' But that which is impossible to man is possible with God, and those who ask help of Christ are changed and transformed in their thoughts and affections, so that evil things which they once loved they now hate, and the good which was unattractive to them, now charms and delights them.

YOUTH FOR OLD AGE.

Seventy-Six Years Old, but Felt Like a Young Man.

Commissioner Worden of (Wickham, N. B., Cured of Kidney Disease by Dodd's Kidney Pills—He Suffered for a Quarter of a Century.

WICKHAM, QUEEN'S CO., N. B. May 29.—Every resident of this district knows Mr. G. J. Worden. Commissioner of the Wickham Civil Courts. He is a gentleman seventy-six years old, universally looked up to and respected as an upright worthy citizen, and an honorable God-fearing man.

Mr. Worden's friends are congratulating him on his remarkably robust health and sturdy appearance. Behind this is a wonderful story, that should be read by everyone. Mr. Worden tells it himself.

'For over twenty-five years I was afflicted with Kidney Disease,' says Mr. Worden, 'suffered terribly with pains in the back and loins, and urination caused me the most horrible agony. I submitted to several surgical operations. Could get no rest at night, and had to lie on one side in bed continually. I could not sit an hour at a time. In short, my condition was such as I can't describe. I was treated by several doctors, but they failed to relieve me. I had fully given up hope of ever getting better.'

'One day I read of Dodd's Kidney Pills and the description of Kidney Disease symptoms was so exactly like my own sufferings, that I resolved to try the Pills. One box helped me so much that I got six more. When I had nearly finished the seventh box, I quit taking them, as it seemed I was a new and young man, made from an old one. That is how I felt. Every sign of my trouble had disappeared completely. I was, and now am, strong, hale and hearty.'

'I was a great sufferer from Itching Piles, and to my great surprise they also were cured. Dodd's Kidney Pills have, by the blessing of God, cured me and made a new man of me.'

'I solemnly declare the foregoing to be true, to the best of my recollection.'

Dodd's Kidney Pills are sold by all druggists, at fifty cents a box, six boxes for \$2.50, or they will be sent on receipt of price, by The Dodds Medicine Co., Limited, Toronto, Ont.

Aristocracy and Democracy.

First Citizen (twenty-first century)—'I understand there are to be two banquets in honor of Susan B. Anthony this year.' Second Citizen—'Yes; there is to be the exclusive, high-toned banquet at one dollar a plate, and a banquet for the rank and file at ninety-nine cents a plate.' Puck.

AMERICAN CAPITAL IN CANADA.

Millions of Money Coming Here to Develop Various Enterprises.

It looks as if a great deal of American capital is destined soon to find investment in the Quebec district of Canada. Already the example set by Secretary Russell A. Alger and those identified with him in the \$3,000,000 pulp and paper mills on the St. Maurice River at Grand Mere Falls is being followed by several New York, Chicago and Boston capitalists. One syndicate, headed by Mr. McMullen of Emerson, McMullen & Co., bankers, of New York, has been incorporated in Canada under the name and title of the Jacques Cartier Power Company, to furnish electric light and motive power to the city of Quebec in opposition to the existing electric company. It has already developed existing water powers at the famous falls of the Jacques Cartier River on the line of the Quebec and Lake St. John Railway. American capital has also found its way in large blocks into the capital stock of the existing electric light and power company of Quebec, which utilizes the famous Falls of Montmorenci to illuminate the streets and private residences of the city, to operate the street railway of the old French capital, and is now about to replace steam by electricity as the motive power of its railway trains between Quebec, Montmorenci and Ste. Anne de Beaupre.

Col. James McNaught of New York, of Northern Pacific fame; H. H. Melville of Boston and a number of their friends in both cities are interested in a number of industrial schemes in this part of Canada. A large party of these men was here in the middle of the week to attend the annual meeting of the Great Northern Railway Company. The scheme of this company is most ambitious, having for its terminal points Duluth, at the head of Lake Superior, on this side of the Atlantic and Liverpool on the other. The railroad part of the road will be 525 miles long, of which only eighty-eight miles now remain to be built. Col. McNaught of McNaught and Redding in New York, and W. H. Melville of Boston have placed all the bonds necessary for the completion of the line, which is to be ready for traffic by July 11900, including the completion of the bridge over the Ottawa. The price of the contract just given out for the completion of the road amounts to \$1,664,000. The company has made arrangements to build steamers to run from Duluth to Georgian Bay, and has substantially completed arrangements for an ocean line from Quebec to Liverpool. It will construct grain elevators in Quebec and control the shortest route for the shipment of grain from the great west to Europe. It has awarded another contract for the immediate construction by the Warren Schart Company of New York of a branch line to the Shawenegan Falls, where the same company has just undertaken the development works of the Shawenegan Water Power Company at an expenditure of \$300,000. This latter company is also composed of American capitalists, and by the terms of its purchase of the waterfalls from the Government for the sum of \$51,000 has engaged itself to expend \$2,000,000 in the establishment of industries upon the site within the next two years.

Another large company with \$2,000,000 capital, consisting of Montreal and American capitalists, is seeking incorporation here to acquire from the Government the principal water powers of the Mistassin, the Peribonca and other large rivers in the Lake St. John country, to erect pulp mills thereon and to ship their product part of the way to Europe by means of an electric railway that they purpose to construct from these different rivers to the port of Chicoutimi on the Saguenay.

Still another important American company has been organized by A. J. Maguire of this city, Consul-General of the Argentine Republic for Canada. Its President is William R. Weeks of New York. H. S. Finch, manager of the Fidelity Casualty Company of New York, is Vice-President, and Oscar C. Kuntze, attorney at law, is Secretary-Treasurer. This company will have its chief sphere of operations, however, in the Argentine Republic, where Mr. Maguire, its promoter and manager, possesses some valuable privileges. The company is to be known as the Argentine American Promotion Company, with offices in the Rowling Green building New York and in Jersey City. One of the first undertakings of the new company will be the construction of the interoceanic railway between Buenos Ayres and Talcahuano, Chili, a distance of 850 miles. The estimated cost of the work is \$32,000,000, on which sum the Argentine Government guarantees 6 per cent upon \$36,000 worth of bonds per mile.—N. Y. Sun.

A Good Story of Schley.

How Admiral Schley got his first command is an amusing episode in his early career. After leaving the Niagara he was promptly promoted to a lieutenantancy, and assigned as executive officer of one of the ninety-day gunboats, Owasca, of the Gulf Squadron. Her commanding officer—his name is of no consequence, and he is

dead now—was a devotee of John Barleycorn, and periodically had to retire to his cabin for repairs, where he usually stays a week. The Owasca was stationed off Mobile, and one of a small squadron of which Captain James Alden of the Richmond was senior officer.

One day a quartermaster of the Richmond reported to Captain Alden that the Captain's gig of the Owasca was approaching, and the Captain's pennant flying. Supposing his visitor to be the Captain of the Owasca, Alden put on his uniform coat, the side boys were ordered, and the boatswain's mate made ready for his three pipes at the gangway. When the Owasca's gig came alongside the man who sprang up the ladder was Lieutenant Schley.

'I expected to see Captain—of the Owasca,' said Alden, with a slight sarcasm. 'I am commander of the Owasca, sir,' said Schley.

'Since when?' asked Alden. 'An hour ago, sir,' said Schley. 'Where is Captain—?' 'Locked up in his cabin, sir, drunk.'

'Who locked him in?' asked Alden. 'I did. I put him under arrest and then shut him up in his cabin. Then I took command of the ship, and here I am to report for orders.'

Alden was fond of a joke, and he was at first disposed to laugh at the young man's summary action, but he said:

'Well, the first order I'll give you is for you to lower that pennant in the gig, go back to your ship, sir, unlock that cabin door, and restore Captain—to duty. Then report in writing if the captain's illness still incapacitates him, and I will know what to do. Don't be in too great a hurry to get command of a ship, Mr. Schley.'—Pittsburg Bulletin.

A CARD.

We, the undersigned, do hereby agree to refund the money on a twenty-five cent bottle of Dr. Willis' English Pills, if, after using three-fourths of contents of bottle, they do not relieve Constipation and Headache. We also warrant that four bottles will permanently cure the most obstinate case of Constipation. Satisfaction or no pay when Willis' English Pills are used.

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The Royal Road in Athletics.

'Now minion,' cried the Assyrian king, 'bring hither the tablets upon which are inscribed the names of the victors in our athletic games.'

The slave prostrated himself and hastened to obey. In a moment he returned, carrying a hod full of bricks, each one of which was covered with cuneiform inscriptions.

'It is well,' said the king. 'Give them to me.' And, taking the hod from the hands of the slave, he dashed its contents on the marble floor, shattering the bricks into a thousand pieces.

'Now go,' he commanded, 'and bid my heralds proclaim in all the streets and market places throughout my realm that I, the king, am the boss athlete in Assyria, for I have broken all the records.'—Judge.

Like a Lady.

'Frances' said that little girl's mamma, who was entertaining callers in the parlour 'you came down stairs so noisily that you could be heard all over the house. You know how to do it better than that. Now go back and come down the stairs like a lady.'

Frances retired, and after the lapse of a few minutes re-entered the parlour.

'Did you here me come down stairs this time, mamma?'

'No, dear. I am glad you came down quietly. Now don't let me ever have to tell you again not to come down noisily, for I see you can come quietly if you will. Now tell these ladies how you managed to come down like a lady the second time, while the first time you made so much noise.'

'The last time I slid down the banisters,' explained Frances.—Harper's Bazar.

You'd be surprised if you used Magnetic Dyes to see what splendid results can be obtained, with slight effort and at a cost of ten cents.

'Some men,' said Uncle Eben, 'is so busy blowin' dah own horns dat they can't hear de factry whistle coaxin' em to come to work.'