SUNDAY'S SERMON.

ONE OF REV. DR. TALMAGE'S STERLING DISCOURSES.

Subject: "Points of Compass."

TEXT: "They shall come from the East, and from the West, and from the North, and from the South, and shall sit down."—Luke xiii., 29.

The man who wrote this was at one time a practicing physician, at another time a talented painter, at another time a powerful preacher, at another time a reporter—an inspired reporter. God bless and help and inspire all reporters! From their pens drops the health or poison of Nations. The name of this reporter was Lucanus. For short he was called Luke, and in my text, although stenography had not yet been born, he reports verbatim a sermon of Christ which in one paragraph bowls the round world into the light of the millennium. "They shall come from the East, and from the West, and from the North, and from the South, and shall sit down."

Nothing more interested me in my recent journey around the world than to see the ship captain about noon, whether on the Pacific or the Indian or Bengal or Mediterranean or Red Sea, looking through a nautical instrument to find just where we were sailing, and it is well to know that, though the captain tells you that there are thirty-two points of division of the compass card in the mariner's compass, there are only four cardinal points, and my text hails them—the North, the South, the East, the West. So I spread out before us the map of the world to see the extent of the gospel campaign. The hardest part of the field to be taken is the North, because our gospel is an emotional gospel, and the Nations of the far North are a cold-blooded race. They dwell amid icebergs and eternal snows and everlasting winter. Greenlanders, Laplanders, Icelanders, Siberians—their vehicle is the sledge drawn by reindeer, their apparel the thickest furs at all seasons, their existence a lifetime battle with the cold. The winter charges upon them with swords of icicle and strikes them with bullets of hail and pounds them with battling rams of glacier.

But already the buts of the arctic hear the songs of divine worship. Already the snows fall on open New Testaments. Already the warmth of the sun of righteousness begins to be felt through the bodies and minds and souls of the Hyperboreans. Down from Nova Zembla, down from Spitzbergen seas, down from the land of the midnight sun, down from the palaces of crystal, down over realms of ice and over dominions of snow and through hurricanes of sleet Christ's disciples are coming from the North. The inhabitants of Hudson Bay are gathering to the cross. The Church Missionary Society in those polar climes has been grandly successful in establishing twenty-four gospel stations, and over 12,000 natives have believed and been baptized. The Moravians have kindled the light of the gospel all up and down Labrador. The Danish mission has gathered disciples from among the shivering inhabitants of Greenland. William Duncan preaches the gospel up in the chill latitudes of Columbia, delivering one sermon nine times in the same day to as many different tribes who listen, and then go forth to build school houses and churches.

Alaska, called at its annexation William H. Seward's folly, turns out to be William H. Seward's triumph, and it is hearing the voice of God through the American missionaries, men and women as defiant of arctic hardships as the old Scottish chief who, when camping out in a winter's night knocked from under his son's head a pillow of snow, saying that such indulgence in luxury would weaken and disgrace the clan. The Jeannette went down in latitude seventy-seven, while DeLong and his freezing and dying men stood watching it from the crumbling and crackling polar pack, but the old ship of the gospel sails as unhurt in latitude seventy-seven as in our own forty degrees, and the one-starred flag floats above the topgallants in Baffin's Bay and Hudson's Strait and Melville Sound. The heroism of polar expedition, which has made the names of Sebastian Cabot and Scoresby and Schwatka and Henry Hudson immortal, is to be eclipsed by the prowess of the men and women who amid the frosts of highest latitudes are this moment taking the upper shores of Europe, Asia and America for God. Scientists have never been able to agree as to what is the aurora borealis, or northern lights. I can tell them. It is the banner of victory for Christ spread out in the northern night heavens. Partially fulfilled already the prophecy of my text, to be completely fulfilled in the near future, "They shall come from the North."

But my text takes in the opposite point of the compass. The far South has, through high temperature, temptations to lethargy and indolence and hot blood which tend toward multiform evil. We have through my text got the North in, notwithstanding its frosts, and the same text brings in the South, notwithstanding its torridity. The fields of cactus, the orange groves and the thickets of magnolia are to be surrendered to the Lord Almighty. The South! That means Mexico and all the regions that William H. Prescott and Lord Kingsborough made familiar in literature; Mexico, in strange dialect of the Aztecs; Mexico conquered by Hernan Cortes, to be more gloriously conquered; Mexico, with its capital more than 7000 feet above the sea level looking down upon the entrancement of lake and valley and plain; Mexico, the home of nations yet to be born—all for Christ. The South! That means Africa, which David Livingstone consecrated to God when he died on his knees in his tent of exploration. Already about 750,000 converts to Christianity in Africa. The South! That means all the islands strewn by omnipotent hand through tropical seas—Malayan, Polynesia, Melanesia, Micronesia and other islands more numerous than you can imagine unless you have voyaged around the world. The South! That means Java for God, Sumatra for God, Borneo for God, Siam for God.

A ship was wrecked near one of these islands, and two lifeboats put out for shore, but those who arrived in the first boat were clubbed to death by the cannibals, and the other boat put back and was somehow saved. Years passed on, and one of that very crew was wrecked again with others on the same rocks. Crawling up on the shore, they proposed to hide from the cannibals in one of the caverns, but mounting the rocks they saw a church and cried out: "We are saved! A church, a church!" The South! That means Venezuela, New Granada, Ecuador and Bolivia. The South! That means the torrid zone, with all its bloom, and all its fruitage, and all its exuberance, the redolence of illimitable gardens, the music of boundless groves, the lands, the sea, that sight by night look up to the Southern Cross, which, in stars, transmures the midnight heaven as you look up at it all the way from the Sandwich Islands to Australia. "They shall come from the South."

But I must not forget that my text takes in another cardinal point of the compass. It takes in the East. I have to report that in a journey around the world there is nothing so much impresses one as the fact that the missionaries divinely blessed are taking the world for God. The horrible war between Japan and China will leave the last wall of opposition flat in the dust. War is barbarism always and everywhere. We hold up our hands in amazement at the massacre at Port Arthur, as though Christian Nations could never go into such diabolism. We forget Fort Pillow! We forget the fact that during our war both North and South rejoiced when there were 10,000 more wounded and slain on the opposite side. War, whether in China or the United States, is hell let loose. But one good result will come from the Japanese-Chinese conflict. These regions will be more open to civilization and Christianity than ever before. When Missionary Carey put before an assembly of ministers at Northamption his project for the evangelization of India, they laughed him out of the house. From Calcutta on the east of India to Bombay on the west there is not a neighborhood but directly or indirectly feels the gospel power. The Juggernaut, which did its awful work for centuries, a few weeks ago was brought out from the place where it has for years been kept under shed as a curiosity, and there was no one reverentially to greet it. About 3,000,000 of Christian souls in India are the advance guard that will lead on the 250,000,000. The Christians of Amoy and Peking and Canton are the advance guard that will lead the 340,000,000 of China. "They shall come from the East." The last mosque of Mohammedanism will be turned into a Christian church. The last Buddhist temple will become a fortress of light. The last idol of Hindooism will be pitched into the fire.

The Christ who came from the East will yet bring all the East with Him. Of course there are high obstacles to be overcome, and great ordeals must be passed through before the consummation, as witness the Armenians under the butchery of the Turks. May that throne on the banks of the Bosphorus soon crumble! The time has already come when the United States Government and Great Britain and Germany ought to intome the indignation of all civilized Nations. While it is not requisite that arms be sent there to avenge the wholesale massacre of Armenians, it is requisite that by cable under the seas, and by protest that shall thrill the wires from Washington and London and Berlin to Constantinople, the Nations anathematize this diabolism for which the Sultan of Turkey is responsible. Mohammedanism is a curse whether in Turkey or New York. "They shall come from the East." And they will come at the call of the loveliest and grandest and best men and women of all time. I mean the missionaries. Dissolute Americans and Englishmen who have gone to Calcutta and Bombay and Canton to make their fortunes defame the missionaries because the holy lives and the pure boldols of those missionaries are a constant rebuke to the American and English libertines stopping there, but the men and women of God there stationed go on gloriously with their work. People just as good and self denying as was Missionary Moffat, who, when asked to write in an album, wrote these words:

My album is in savage breasts,
Where passion reigns and darkness rests
Without one ray of light.
To write the name of Jesus there,
To point to worlds both bright and fair,
And see the pagan bow in prayer,
Is all my soul's delight.

In all those regions are men and women with the consecration of Melville B. Cox, who, embarking for the missionary work in Africa, said to a fellow student, "If I die in Africa, come and write my epitaph." "What shall I write for your epitaph?" said the student. "Write," said he, "these words: 'Let a thousand fall before Africa be given up."

There is another point of the compass that my text includes. "They shall come from the West." That means America redeemed. Everything between Atlantic and Pacific Oceans to be brought within the circle of holiness and rapture. Will it be done by wordly reform or evangelism? Will it be law or gospel? I am glad that a wave of reform has swept across this land, and all the cities are feeling the advantage of the mighty movement. Let the good work go on until the last municipal evil is extirpated. About fifteen years ago the distinguished editor of a New York daily newspaper said to me in his editorial room: "You ministers talk about evils of which you know nothing. Why don't you go with the officers of the law and explore for yourself, so that when you preach against sin you can speak from what you have seen with your own eyes?" I said, "I will," and in company with a commissioner of police and a captain of police and two elders of my church I explored the dens and hiding places of all styles of crime in New York and preached a series of sermons warning young men and setting forth the work that must be done lest the judgments of God whelm this city with more awful submergement than the volcanic deluge that buried Herculaneum and Pompeii. I received, as nearly as I can remember, several hundred columns of newspaper abuse for undertaking that exploration. Editorials of denunciation, double leaded, and with captions in great primer type, entitled "The Fall of Talmage," or "Talmage Makes the Mistake of His Life," or "Down With Talmage," but I still live and am in full sympathy with all movements for municipal purification.

But a movement which ends with crime exposed and law executed stops half way. Nay, it stops long before it gets half way. The law never yet saved anybody, never yet changed anybody. Break up all the houses of iniquity in this city, and you only send the occupants to other cities. Break down all the policemen in New York, and while it changes their worldly fortunes it does not change their heart or life. The greatest want in New York to-day is the transforming power of the gospel of Jesus Christ to change the heart and the life and uplift the tone of moral sentiment and make men do right not because they are afraid of Ludlow Street Jail or Sing Sing, but because they love God and hate unrighteousness. I have never heard, nor have you heard, of anything except the gospel that proposes to regenerate the heart, and by the influence of that regenerated heart rectify the life. Execute the law most certainly, but preach the gospel by all means in churches, in theatres, in homes, in prisons, on the land and on the sea. The gospel is the only power that can revolutionize society and save the world. All else is half and half work and will not last. In New York it has allowed men who got by police bribery their thousands and tens of thousands and perhaps hundreds of thousands of dollars to go scot free, while some who were merely the cat's paw and agents of bribery are struck with the lightnings of the law. It reminds me of a scene in Philadelphia when I was living there. A poor woman had been arrested and tried and imprisoned for selling molasses candy on Sunday. Other lawbreakers had been allowed to go undisturbed, and the groggeries were open on the Lord's Day, and the law, with its hands behind its back, walked up and down the streets declining to molest any of the offenders, but we all rose up in our righteous indignation, and calling upon all powers, visible and invisible, to help us, we declared that though the heavens fell no woman should be allowed to sell molasses candy on Sunday.

A few weeks ago, after I had preached in one of the churches in this city, a man staggered up on the pulpit stairs, maudlin drunk, saying, "I am one of the reformers that were elected to high office at the last election." I got rid of that "great reformer" as soon as I could, but I did not get rid of the impression that a man like that would cure the abominations of New York about as soon as smallpox would cure typhoid fever or a buzzsaw render Hayda's "Creation." Politics in all our cities has become so corrupt that the only difference between the Republican and Democratic parties is that each is worse than the other. But what nothing else in the universe can do the gospel can and will accomplish. "They shall come from the West," and for that purpose the evangelistic batteries are planted all along the Pacific coast, as they are planted all along the Atlantic coast. All the prairies, all the mountains, all the valleys, all the cities are under more or less gospel influence, and when we get enough faith and consecration for the work this whole American continent will cry out for God. "They shall come from the West."

The work is not so difficulty as many suppose. You say, "There are the foreign populations." Yes, but many of them are Hollanders, and they were brought up to love and worship God, and it will take but little to persuade the Hollanders to adopt the religion of their forefathers. Then there are among these foreigners so many of the Scotch. They or their ancestors heard Thomas Chalmers thunder and Robert McCheyne pray. The breath of God so often swept through the heather of the highlands, and the voice of God has so often sounded through the Trossachs, and they all know how to sing Dundee, so that they will not have often to be invited to accept the God of John Knox and Bothwell Bridge.

Then there are among these foreigners so many of the English. They inherited the same language as we inherited—the English in which Shakespeare dramatized, and Milton chimed his cantos, and Henry Melville gospelized, and Oliver Cromwell prorogued parliament, and Wellington commanded his eager hosts. Among these foreigners are the Swiss, and they were rocked in a cradle under the shadow of the Alps, that cathedral of the Almighty in which all the elements, snow and hail and tempest and hurricane, worship. Among these foreigners are a vast host of Germans, and they feel centuries afterward the power of that unparalleled spirit who shook the earth when he trod it, and the heavens when he prayed—Martin Luther! From all Nations our foreign populations have come, and they are homesick, far away from the place of their childhood and the graves of their ancestors, and our glorious religion presented to them aright will meet their needs and fill their souls and kindle their enthusiasm. They shall come from amid the wheat sheaves of Dakota, and from the ore beds of Wyoming, and from the silver mines of Nevada, and from the golden gulches of Colorado, and from the banks of the Platte, and the Oregon, and the Sacramento, and the Columbia. "They shall come from the West."

But what will they do after they comes Here is something gloriously consolatory that you have never noticed. "They shall come from the East, and the West, and the North, and the South, and shall sit down." Oh, this is a tired world! The most of people are kept on the run all their lifetime. Business keeps them on the run. Trouble keeps them on the run. Rivalries of life keep them on the run. They are running from disaster. They are running for reward. And those who run the fastest and run the longest seem best to succeed. But my text suggests a restful posture for all God's children, for all those who for a lifetime have been on the run. "They shall sit down!" Why run any longer! When a man gets heaven, what more can he get? "They shall sit down." Not alone, but picked companionship of the universe; not embarrassed, though a seraph should sit down on one side of you and an archangel on the other.

There is that mother who, through all the years of infancy and childhood, was kept running amid sick trundle beds, now to shake up the pillow for that flaxen head, and now to give a drink to those parched lips, and now to hush the frightened dream of a little one, and when there was one less of the children, because the great lover of children had lifted one out of the croup into the easy breathing of celestial atmosphere, the mother putting all the more anxious care on those who were left, so weary of arm and foot and back and head, so often crying out: "I am so tired! I am so tired!" Her work done, she shall sit down, and that business man for thirty, forty, fifty years has kept on the run, not urged by selfishness, but for the purpose of achieving a livelihood for the household. On the run from store to store, or from factory to factory, meeting this loss and discovering that inaccuracy and suffering betrayal or disappointment, nevermore to be cheated or perplexed or exasperated, he shall sit down, not in a great armchair of heaven, for the rockers of such a chair would imply one's need of soothing, of changing to easy posture or semi-invalidism, but a throne, solid as eternity and radiant as the morning after a night of storm. "They shall sit down"

I notice that the most of the styles of toil require an erect attitude. There are the thousands of girls behind counters, many such persons through the inhumanity of employers compelled to stand, even when because a lack of customers there is no need that they stand. Then there are all the carpenters, and the stonemasons, and the blacksmiths, and the farmers, and the engineers, and the ticket agents, and the conductors. In most trades, in most occupations, they must stand. But ahead of all those who love and serve the Lord is a resting place, a complete relaxation of fatigued muscle, something cushioned and upholstered and embroidered, with the very ease of heaven. "They shall sit down." Rest from toil, rest from pain, rest from persecution, rest from uncertainty. Beautiful, joyous, transporting, everlasting rest!

Oh, men and women of the frozen North, and the blooming South, and from the realms of the rising or setting sun, through Christ get your sins forgiven and start for the place where you may at last sit down in blissful recovery from the fatigues of earth, while there roll over you the raptures of heaven. Many of you have had such a rough tussle in this world that if your faculties were not perfect in heaven you would some time forget yourself and say, "It is time for me to start on that journey," or "It must be time for me to count out the drops of that medicine," or "I wonder what new attack there is on me through the newspapers?" or "Do you think I will save anything of those crops from the grasshoppers, or the locusts, or the droughts?" or "I wonder how much I have lost in that last bargain?" or "I must hurry lest I miss the train." No, no! The last volume of direful, earthly experiences will be finished. Yes, the last chapter, the last paragraph, the last sentence, the last word. Finis!

Frederick the Great, notwithstanding the mighty dominion over which he reigned, was so depressed at times he could not speak without crying, and carried a small bottle of quick poison with which to end his misery when he could stand it no longer. But I give you this small vial of gospel anodyne, the drop of balm, not nothing chief body or soul, ought to soothe all unrest and put your pulses into an eternal calm. "They shall come from the East, and from the West, and from the North, and the South, and shall sit down."

An Atchison man who has thirteen children wants to know if his luck would be better with fourteen.

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Birds as Apple Eaters.

Hitherto birds have been considered the friends of the fruit-grower, but this season complaints have come from several sections of the damage done by them to apples. The birds would appear to have exercised considerable discrimination in selecting the most juicy varieties. The drought is generally regarded as responsible for the trouble, and it is to be hoped that by next season they will have forgotten the flavor of the apple and will devote their attention to their legitimate food supply. U4

Slow Traveling.

Nine-tenths of the traveling public accustomed to making the journey between Philadelphia and Baltimore in a little over two hours scarcely suspects that some folks still go from one city to the other by a route that makes it an all-night trip. Long, narrow, high, cigar shaped steamboats ply between the two rivers by way of Delaware and Chesapeake bays and the connecticut canal. The journey is a picturesque one.

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NOTES AND COMMENTS.

THE extent to which industries are now specialized was illustrated by the arrest in Paris of a Mme. Bide, whose specialty was the stealing of corpses. She had accumulated a magnificent collection of 2,600 pipes, including fifty-nine nicely colored meerschaums. She got eight months in prison for them.

A GHOSTLY story comes from an outlying province of Russia of a girl fourteen years old, who was accused of strangling a two-year-old child which she had been hired to attend. During the course of the examination the girl confessed that she had killed sixteen children in the same way because they were troublesome.

It is claimed for the University of Pennsylvania that for the second time in its history it is the third largest university in America, the University of Michigan being the first, with something over 4,000 students; Harvard second, with about 3,200, Pennsylvania coming next with 2,389, and Yale coming fourth, with 2,350.

THIRTYTHREE fatalities have been reported for the last season in the Alps, which is less than the average. Four persons met their deaths by avalanches or falling stones, six by exposure to the weather, fourteen missed their footing and fell down precipices, three were killed by lightning, one fell into a glacier fissure, one was lost while seeking edelweiss, and four cases are unexplained.

FROM a summary of London street accidents it appears that no fewer than 6,836 persons were injured last year, which is about eighteen accidents per day. To these have to be added 172 fatal cases. The bicycle has an unenviable prominence among the causes of injury. There were 669 persons injured by these machines, but the tables do not show how many of the injured were cyclists themselves.

FORTY-TWO centenarians, thirty women and twelve men, were discovered in Great Britain last year by the St. James Gazette. Among them were the Dowager Viscountess Sidmouth, 100, 44 years a wife and 30 years a widow; Evan Baines, in Wales, at 106, whose birth is entered in the parish register for 1788; Mrs. Sarah Thomas, who on her 106th birthday received 106 shillings from the Prince of Wales, and who is an inveterate smoker, and Ellen Roche, who died in county Cork at the reputed age of 115, and was an ardent smoker and snuff taker.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Independent says that the Hawaiian Islands have been found to be richer in animal life than was formerly supposed. As a result of a year's investigation by the British Association, through its committee, it has been found that of birds there are seventy-eight species, of which fifty-seven are peculiar to this group. All the land and fresh water shells are peculiar, and of 1,000 species of insects, 700 are not found elsewhere. It thus seems that these islands have by no means been populated from the continent, but have been centres of independent creation.

It appears that in Australia, which originated and gave the name to the kind of balloting so generally now in use in this country, they have made a peculiar change in their own system. Under it a voter may indicate his first and second choice for a candidate by marking against names upon a ticket the numbers 1 and 2 respectively. In this way, if the candidate marked 1 has only a scattering vote in comparison with others, his votes may be transferred to the candidates marked 2 if those votes be sufficient to elect the latter over a candidate who was not marked by these voters by any number. To illustrate its operation in our State, the prohibition or populist vote would be counted for the Republican or the Democratic candidate, provided the figure 2 was placed against such candidate on the ballot. It is a curious way of enabling a man to vote to sustain a principle by his first preference in voting and yet to utilize his vote between two other candidates at the same time.

THE sociologists will find no little material for thought in a bulletin fresh from the census office, relative to persons of foreign parentage. In 1870 the percentage of those in the total population was 28.25, increased during the next decade to 29.75, and in 1890 to 33.02. Note where these are found: in the Western division, comprising Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, they make up almost one-half of the population—48.67 per centum. In the North Atlantic Division they make 47.21 of the total, while in the South Atlantic, Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, the Virginias, the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida, only 6.02, and in the South Central, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Arkansas, 7.59. In these two Southern divisions the number is 1,366,418, while Pennsylvania has alone more than that. The States of the South Atlantic division had a larger percentage in 1870 than in 1890, while those of the South Central division increas-