

THURSDAY, JAN. 31, 1889.

TO-MORROW.

The days pass by, and the weeks, the months, the years,
As waves upon Time's shore, they break and pass;
With every season's round a new face wears
The mighty world that is our small life's glass;
And still, as flows the tide of joy or sorrow,
"To-morrow" do we sigh, and yet "to-morrow"
Comes April with her sudden gleams and glows,
Her blue bright noons of laughter and of showers.
The sun flecks shade beneath white orchard blooms,
Her wealth of primrose and of cowslip flowers;
And yet, for this purpose, from May to borrow
Full fare we wait, and murmur still, "To-morrow!"
Now summer's here. Warm skies are o'er us
best;
White sheaves of lilies rise against the blue;
The very air is hot and indolent,
Breathing the rose walks they have wandered
through.
No thought have we for winter's death and sorrow,
Yet must we sigh, unsatisfied, "To-morrow!"

A Large Clock.

A new clock, weighing two and a half tons, has been placed in the tower of the Glasgow university, similar to the great clock at Westminster. The frame of the clock newly erected is horizontal and of cast iron, and is 64 feet long and 11 feet in depth. It is supported on beams built well into the wall of the tower, so as to obviate vibration. The wheels, which are of gun metal, can be moved separately, as the pivot holes are screwed to the frame. The main wheels of the striking and quarter trains are twenty inches in diameter, and attached to them are cams to lift the hammers, which are fixed in iron frames connected with the clock by cranks, and having a check spring to prevent vibration. The weight of the hammer that strikes the hour is 120 pounds, and it is lifted ten inches.

There is an automatic apparatus attached to the clock which stops the quarter peals at night and starts them in the morning. The escapement of the going part is known as the double three legged gravity, invented by Lord Grimthorpe. The pendulum is of zinc and iron, to counteract influences of temperature. The tubes are arranged so that the expansion of one raises the center of gravity, while that of the other lowers it. The bob of the pendulum is cylindrical, and weighs 300 pounds, and the beat is one and one half seconds. The "bolt and shutter" appliance of the nobleman already named maintains the motion while the clock is being wound. J. B. Joyce & Co., Whitechurch, Shropshire, manufactured the clock.—New York Graphic.

Chinese in America.

The outbreak in Portland shows that in other places besides San Francisco there exists between gangs of ruffians a never ending contest for supremacy over the Chinese population. The power of the highlander is the only one which the average Chinaman understands and fears, and his conduct is regulated by it to a greater extent than by the laws of the country in which he lives. In whatever city there is found a considerable number of Chinamen, there the Chinese highlander will find material for his calling, and there he will exist, exercising an influence which extends even to the white employers of Chinese labor.

In San Francisco the number of these lawless Chinamen is very large, and they are the virtual rulers of Chinatown. Were the Mongolian population larger the gangs of murderers would be greater, and the subjection of the coolie would be more complete. The well being of the Chinaman now in this country, as well as of the white people among whom he lives, has been subserved by the exclusion act. Those Chinamen are most prosperous and happy who have forced off their own race surrounding them. They are benefited by isolation from their Mongolian brothers. The greater the number of Chinese that congregate together the lower their condition, the more degraded their habits, the more abject their slavery and the greater the danger to which they expose the country. The total cessation of Chinese immigration will prevent the formation in other cities of colonies of aliens governed by thieves and cut-throats, whose battles for supremacy endanger the lives of law-abiding citizens as well as of Mongolians.—San Francisco Bulletin.

One Year's Track Laying.

Notwithstanding the widespread impression that the additions to the railway system of the United States during 1888 would be comparatively insignificant, the evidence is now before us that the railway mileage of the country increased during that year by no less than 7,120 miles of main track. While this is much less than the phenomenal increase of the year 1887, 1888, 1882 and 1881, when the new mileage was respectively 13,000, 9,000, 11,500 and 9,796 miles, the record for the past year exceeds that of every other year in history, with the exception of the year 1871, when 7,379 miles were added.

New track was laid in all but two of the thirty states and territories. The exceptions being for Nevada, Kansas still leads the list in the extent of new mileage, and she has done so for several of the years. California comes next. The most striking characteristic of the year's work is the large number of separate lines of which it is composed and the correspondingly small average—less than twenty miles—for each line. Only about twelve built more than 100 miles each; those doing the largest amount of work being the Chicago, Kansas and Nebraska, 412 miles; St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba, 374 miles; and Southern Pacific, through various subsidiary companies, a little over 300 miles. These facts are important as showing how the nature of the work of railway construction changed in a single year. The building of great competitive lines practically ceased for the immediate present, and the year's work was chiefly devoted to the construction of short independent lines or branches.—Railway Age.

Sculpture.

Sculpture must first be a common place, a fashionable necessity in the home life, before it can flourish greatly and nationally in a community with like aims. The field of the sculptor is

the rival of the painter in the daily affections of amateurs is practically unworked, scarcely suspected; yet the signs of its presence are on all sides. One straw is the removal of an old prejudice against plaster casts, used in lieu of costly materials. As to what is now called sculpture—backed as it is by no large mass of trained, cultivated fosterers—the silent nation of marble and bronze statues which men think of when sculpture is mentioned becomes already oppressive. Our parks will soon offer the cluttered chaos of the cemetery and become a derision. But will not then a wider taste, wearying of easel pictures and pictures on the wall, carved woods and bric-a-brac, turn to statuary for agreeable, companionable forms of art, at once calmer in temperament and more indestructible than the fashionable decorations of our homes? It is only by beginning at the fireside that we can cultivate the public taste to the level of Athens and Florence, and have the knowledge to bid our sculptors grapple with those grand forms of art that for their backgrounds demand a sea, a landscape, or a steeped town.—Century.

Peculiar to Persia.

Oriental life must possess charms for the student of human nature for ages; that of Persia is of special interest, because, while apparently cast in fixed molds of immemorial usage, it is more plastic and mobile than that of other eastern countries. The Persian is of a vivacious, mercurial disposition, and has none of that aversion to change, as such, which is so marked a characteristic of the Chinese or the Indian.

Men of wealth or position traveling in Persia usually send in advance and hire a house during their stay in a place, or they are entertained by friends. The vaunted hospitality of golden times, still in full vogue in oriental countries, is no indication of superior amiability or breeding; it is the result of circumstances—a system of mutual accommodation under unavoidable conditions, in which the host dispenses a courtesy which he knows he may need in turn. But the men of the middle and lower classes generally resort to the caravansaries, where they take a room, cook their own meals, and sleep on a rug they carry with them.—Cor. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Good Qualities of Turpentine.

After a housekeeper fully realizes the worth of turpentine in the household she is never willing to be without a supply of it. It gives quick relief to burns; it is an excellent application for corns; it is good for rheumatism and sore throats, and it is the quickest remedy for convulsions or fits. Then it is a sure preventive against moths: by just dropping a trifle in the bottom of drawers, chests and cupboards, it will render the garments secure from injury during the summer. It will keep ants and bugs from closets and storerooms by pitting a few drops in the corners and upon the shelves; it is sure destruction to bedbugs and will effectually drive them away from their haunts if thoroughly applied to the joints of the bedstead in the spring cleaning time, and injures neither furniture nor clothing. A spoonful of it added to a pail of warm water is excellent for cleaning paint. A little in the sud on washing day lightens laundry labor.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Dog Interves.

Dogs have been trained to do many useful and many amusing things, but the most degrading instruction ever given to a noble animal of its species came to light early in the week. A great Newfoundland dog entered a noted store near the East River, and after some time among the customers and finally seized a bundle containing some shooting jackets with which he made off as fast as he could. Some of the clerks saw him and about a hundred of them ran out after him. The dog was taken in the street and the "dog thief" was soon being pursued by half a dozen police and hundreds of boys besides the clerks. The animal was finally run down and marched off to the police station, and taken to the pound, where he has probably been smothered before this. Several shopmen complained that they had been visited by the dog and had suffered from his depredations, so that there is no doubt that he had been taught to steal by some Fagin of the neighborhood, which is not a particularly respectable one.—Paris Cor. New Orleans Picayune.

Women and the Smokers.

Women could do a great deal to stop the habit of smoking, if a gentleman would only encourage them to do so. Instead of tobacco smoke being objectionable they like the fragrance of a nice cigar. Men smoke quite enough when they are alone without being encouraged to do so when they are spending the evening in the society of any of their friends. A great many women, too, are learning to smoke cigarettes, and some men maintain that there is no harm in doing so. About two hundred years ago women used to smoke pipes, but they had better balanced brains than the women of today. They had no time for flirting or for lazy luxury, and did not fill their minds with loveless stories.—Herald of Health.

Berlin Apartments.

Life in Berlin is essentially an apartment one. There are no homes here in our sense of the word; that is, people do not live in their own houses, but in apartments. This is the universal custom in all the large cities of Europe. Berlin has many large and handsome apartment houses; in fact nearly all the dwellings except the palaces are on that plan, and the rents are not dear, considering that this is the capital and the metropolis of the empire. I know of a nice apartment in an excellent neighborhood that can be had for \$70 a month, completely furnished. It would cost two or three times that sum in New York.—San Francisco Chronicle.

Of, for and for the Students.

The students of Oberlin have petitioned for a democratic form of college government, of the students, by the students and for the students. The faculty will not grant the petition, but have concluded to try a consultation system. Each class selects three of its members, who are to confer with a committee of the faculty on college regulations; but these committees have no power of legislation or arbitration, and it is probable that on this account it will not elicit the sympathy of the students.—Boston Transcript.

PARABLE OF THE SOWER.

LESSON V, FIRST QUARTER, INTERNATIONAL SERIES, FEB. 3

Text of the Lesson, Mark iv, 10-20—Commentary Verse 20—Golden Text, Mark iv, 23—Commentary by the Rev. D. M. Stearns.

(Compiled from Lesson Helper Quarterly, by permission of H. S. Hoffman, publisher, Philadelphia.)
Jesus had at this time been well through the land and his fame had spread abroad everywhere. He had been in all the cities and villages teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the Gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease (Matt. ix, 35). He had satisfied the twelve and sent them forth to heal the sick and preach that the kingdom of Heaven was at hand (Matt. x, 1-8); he had proclaimed by words and deeds that He was the appointed Son of God foretold by the prophets, Israel's Messiah, the Servant of Jehovah, Jehovah Himself, but they would not receive Him. His own townshipmen of Nazareth seek His life and the Pharisees held a council against Him, how they might destroy Him (Luke iv, 29; Matt. xii, 14).

10. "And when He was alone, they that were about Him with the twelve, asked of Him the parable. Sitting in a boat on the sea of Galilee, He had been teaching the multitude in parables as they stood on the shore. He had spoken the parables of the sower, the wheat and tares, the mustard seed and the leaven, and then sending the multitude away He went into the house (Matt. xiii, 1-30) and now, being alone with His disciples, they ask Him the meaning of this parable.

11. "Unto you it is given to know the mystery of the kingdom of God." Now the kingdom was no mystery, but a fact plainly stated over and over again, that a son of David should sit on David's throne; the Messiah of the Jews should reign in righteousness over the twelve tribes of Israel, the whole nation knowing the Lord and rejoicing in Messiah, their king, and all nations of the earth looking to him, blessed through them and sending or going up from year to year to worship the Lord of Hosts at Jerusalem; these and many similar statements were not mysteries, but simple truths plainly stated. Neither was it a mystery, but the plain statement of Gabriel to Mary that her son was the promised Son of David to sit on David's throne and reign over the house of Jacob forever (Luke i, 32-33). But that the Messiah would come to the kingdom did not come. That He should die and rise again and return to Heaven without restoring all things of which the prophets had spoken; that He should have to come a second time for this restoration; that Gentiles should for a time be put on a level with Jews, and a people gathered out of all nations for His name, that would be the restoration of things on earth during this "gathering out" process between His going away and return; these were things kept secret from the foundation of the world (Matt. xiii, 35); these are some of the mysteries of the kingdom contained in these parables and referred to often in the scriptures (Eph. i, 9; 1 Cor. ii, 7; 2 Cor. xii, 2; 1 Thess. ii, 7; Rev. xvi, 17; 1 Cor. xv, 51, etc.).

12. "Unto them that are without, all these things are done in parables, that seeing they may see and not perceive." If they persist in remaining without, notwithstanding all the grace and invitation to enter in, they can blame no one but themselves for their blindness and ignorance and hardness of heart. Some one has said that a parable is like the shell of a nut which keeps the sweet meat within for the diligent, but from the indolent who are too slothful to diligently seek it.

13. "Known ye not this parable. How often will ye know all parables?" He seems to wonder at their dullness in not readily seeing the meaning of this first and, perhaps, most simple of all parables.

14. "The sower sows the Word, and the seed falls on four different kinds of ground, the one which receives it into his heart to be kept again. 1. That is, the seed which abiding in the believer brings him from sinning against God. (John iii, 9; 16; Luke ix, 11.) It is manna from Heaven, that he gathered every morning and evening, day by day. (John vi, 17.) It is milk for babes and strong meat for those of mature age. (Heb. v, 12-14.) It is as a fire and a hammer. (Jer. xlii, 22.) It is the sword of the Spirit. (Eph. vi, 17.) It is the joy and rejoicing of the believer's heart, sweeter than honey, better than gold, silver, or silk. (Jer. xlii, 22; 1 Cor. xiii, 13.)

15. "And these are they by the wayside, where the word is sown." We find that the seed falls on four different kinds of ground, in each case with a different result. The ground represents to us the human heart, and the seed represents to us the Word of God. The seed which falls on the first kind of ground, the heart of the sower, is the Word of God which he sows. In this case the seed is sown on good ground, and it grows and bears fruit. The seed which falls on the second kind of ground, the heart of the sower, is the Word of God which he sows. In this case the seed is sown on good ground, and it grows and bears fruit. The seed which falls on the third kind of ground, the heart of the sower, is the Word of God which he sows. In this case the seed is sown on good ground, and it grows and bears fruit. The seed which falls on the fourth kind of ground, the heart of the sower, is the Word of God which he sows. In this case the seed is sown on good ground, and it grows and bears fruit.

16. "Have no rock." . . . endure but for a time. The work is not thorough, but too much on the surface; there is no depth to them; they are too emotional. They make a fine sport for a while and seem to go ahead in many ways; are often received into the church with great rejoicings and pointed out as wonderful trophies of the Grace of God. They themselves wonder at the more quiet demeanor of others, and are astonished when the church is not zealous as they are; they would put real life into all the services and lift all Christians up to their proper plane. It is really inspiring to hear them; would to God that they might continue.

17. "When affliction or persecution ariseth for the world's sake, immediately they are of them." The rock is not to be mistaken for the battle to the strong. (Rev. ii, 13.) They had not been tried, and now, when tried, they cannot stand, for in time of temptation or trial they fall away. They thought it would be all sunshine, but it has proved different; they could not stand it. Their eyes were not on the Master.

18. "Sow on good ground." . . . the seed of the Word. The seed of the Word is the Word of God, and it is sown on good ground, and it grows and bears fruit. The seed of the Word is the Word of God, and it is sown on good ground, and it grows and bears fruit. The seed of the Word is the Word of God, and it is sown on good ground, and it grows and bears fruit. The seed of the Word is the Word of God, and it is sown on good ground, and it grows and bears fruit.

A variation of Dr. O. J. Lodge's experiments on the electric deposition of dust has been tried by M. Soret of Geneva. Steam submitted to electric discharges was instantly precipitated; and when the pole of the electric machine was sufficiently near the surface of the water—the other pole being attached to the platinum cup used for the boiling—the dust was condensed so rapidly as to form, presenting the appearance of numerous boiling waters. At a given travel.

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