

REV. DR. TALMAGE.

THE BROOKLYN DIVINE'S SUNDAY SERMON.

TEXT. "Two cubits and a half was the length of it, and a cubit and a half the breadth of it, and a cubit and a half the height of it."—Exodus xxxvii, 1.

Look at it—the sacred chest of the ancients. It was about five feet long, three feet wide and three feet high. It was within and out of pure gold. On the top of it stood two angels facing each other with outstretched wings. In that sacred box was the law, and there were in it a great many precious stones. With that box went the fate of the nation. Carried in front of the host, the waters of the Jordan parted. Divinely charged costly, precious, momentous box. No unholy hands might lay hold of it. It was called the ark of the covenant. But you will understand it was a box, the most precious box of the ages. Where is it now? Gone forever. Not a crypt of church or museum of the world has a fragment of it.

But is not this nation God's chosen people? He has led us through the Red Sea! Have we not been led with a pillar of fire by night? Has this nation no ark of the covenant? Yes, the ballot box, the sacred chest of the nation, the ark of the American covenant.

In it is the law, in it is the divine and the human will, in it is the fate of the nation. Carried in front of our host again and again the waters of national trouble have parted. Mighty ark of the covenant, the American ballot box! It is a very old box.

In Athens, long before the art of printing, the people dropped pebbles into it to give expression to their sentiments. After that boxes were dropped into it—a white bean for the affirmative, a black bean for the negative. After that, when they wished to assess a man out of citizenship, they would write his name upon a shell and drop that into the box. O'Connell and Grotte and Cobden and Macaulay and Gladstone fought great battles in the introduction of the ballot boxes in England, and to-day it is one of the fastnesses of that nation. It is one of the corner stones of our government. It is older than the constitution. It is older than the national. Tell me what will be the fate of the American ballot box, the ark of the American covenant, and I will tell you what will be the fate of this nation. Give the people one year, or even four years, an opportunity to express their political sentiments, and you practically avoid insurrection and revolution.

Either give them the ballot or they will take the sword. Without the ballot box there can be no free republican institutions. Millions visiting in Italy noticed that on the sides of Vesuvius gardeners and farmers were at work while the volcano was in eruption, and he asked them if they were safe. "Yes," said the farmers and the gardeners, "it is safe; all the danger is before the eruption; then comes earthquake and terror, but just as soon as the volcano begins to pour forth lava we all feel at rest." It is the suppression of political sentiment that makes moral earthquake and national earthquake. Let public opinion pour forth, and that gives satisfaction, and that gives peace, and that gives permanency to good government. And yet, though the ballot box is the sacred chest and the ark of the American covenant, you know as well as I know it has its sworn antagonists, and I propose this morning, in God's name and as a Christian patriot, to set before you the names of some of the sworn enemies of this sacred chest, the ark of the American covenant, the ballot box.

First, I remark, ignorance is a mighty foe. Other things being equal, the more intelligence a man has the better he is qualified to exercise the right of suffrage. You have been ten, fifteen, twenty, thirty years studying American institutions; you have canvassed all the great questions about tariff and home rule and all the educational questions, and everything in American politics you are well acquainted with. You consider yourself competent to cast a vote next Tuesday, and you are confident. You will take your position in the line of electors, you will wait until you announce your name, you will cast your vote and pass out. Well done.

But right behind you there will come men who cannot spell the name of competitor, or attorney, or myself. He cannot write, or if he can write he uses signs for the personal pronoun. He could not tell on which side of the Allegheny mountains Ohio is. Educated canary birds, educated horses know more than he. He will cast his vote and it will balance your vote. His ignorance is as mighty as your intelligence. That is not right. All men of fair mind will acknowledge that that is not right. Until a man can read the Declaration of Independence and the constitution of the United States, and calculate the interest on the American debt, and know the difference between a Republican form of government and a monarchial or aristocratic, is he unfit to exercise the right of suffrage at any ballot box between Key West and Alaska?

In 1872 in England there were 2,600,000 children who ought to have been in school. There were only 1,333,000, in other words, about 50 per cent, and of the 50 per cent, not more than 5 per cent, got anything worthy the name of an education. Now, take that foreign ignorance and add it to our American ignorance, and there will be in November thousands and thousands of people who are no more qualified to exercise the right of suffrage than to lecture on astronomy. How are these things to be corrected? By laws of compulsory education, well executed. I go for a law which, after giving fair warning for a time, will make it a capital offense to be ignorant. There is no excuse for ignorance on these subjects in this land where the common schools make knowledge as free as the fresh air of heaven. I would have a board of examination seated beside the officers of registration, and let them decide whether the men who come up to vote have any capacity to be monarchs in a land where we are all monarchs. One of the most awful foes of the American ballot box is popular ignorance. Educate the people, give them an opportunity to know and understand what they do. If they will not take the education, deny them the vote.

Another powerful enemy of this sacred chest, the ark of the American covenant, the ballot box, is spurious voting. In 1880, in Brooklyn there were thousands named recorded of persons who had no souls here, and if there were a thousand attendants in the best city on the continent, what may we expect in cities not so fortunate? What a grand thing is the law of registration! Without it elections in this country would be a farce. There must be a scrutiny on this subject. The law must have a keenest twist for the neck of repeaters. Something more than slight fine and short imprisonment. It is an attempt at the assassination of the Republic when a man attempts to put in a spurious vote. In olden times when men laid unholy hands on the ark of the covenant they dropped down dead. Witness Utah. And when men attempt to put unholy hands on the American ballot box, the ark of the American covenant, they deserve extermination.

Another powerful foe of this sacred chest is intimidation. Corporations sometimes demand that their employees vote in this and that way. It is skilfully done. It is not positively in so many words demanded, but the employee understands he will be frozen out of the establishment unless he votes as the firm do. So you can go into villages where there are establishments with hundreds and thousands of employees and having found out the politics of the head men in the factory, you can tell which way the election is going. Now, that is terrible. If in any precinct in the United States a man cannot vote as he pleases, there is something radically wrong.

How do you treat that man? You will voter differently from what you do. If he says you do not interfere with the right of suffrage. But you call him into your private offices, and you find fault with his work, and after a while you tell him there is an ungrateful

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS.

A Good Way to Cook Tomatoes.
A good and unusual way to cook tomatoes is the following: Peel and slice eight tomatoes. Put them in a coarse cloth and press most of the juice into a bowl. Save the juice. Chop the tomatoes and mix in two tablespoonfuls of melted butter. Stir up well, put in a buttered mold, fit on the top, set in a pot of boiling water, and keep at a fast boil for one hour. When done turn out on a flat dish and pour over it the following source: Heat the tomato juice, stir in a tablespoonful of butter rolled in flour, season with pepper, sugar and salt, and boil one minute.

Sanitary Bedrooms.

"Woolen carpets are filthy," says Dr. John Crowell in *Popular Science News*, "and if the good housewife does not believe it, let her look across the room when the sun is shining through it, and see the dust constantly rising. This process goes on night and day, and is unavoidable when the floor is encumbered with the woolen covering."

Hard floors, without cracks or seams for dust and vermin, painted walls, simple furnishings, because of dust and "germs," an open fireplace, sunshine for disinfecting and drying, no draperies to catch and hold dust, the iron or brass bedstead and hair mattress—these constitute the essentials of a sanitary sleeping-room. The old-fashioned wash-stand is recommended as far more desirable than soap bowls with hot and cold water, as these are rarely trapped properly, and so become sources of pollution to the bed-room.—*Laws of Life*.

A Suggestion for Old Boxes.

Do mothers and nurses know how much enjoyment and fun can be had out of different styles of boxes that we so ruthlessly destroy? If all the members of the family will save the boxes they will find, some stormy day when children are forced to remain indoors, that a trip to the attic (where the boxes can be kept) will afford a great deal of amusement.

The little girls of the family will select a good-sized box for a new kind of doll's house, and mamma or nurse can easily teach them how to cut cardboard furniture to furnish this little house.

If it is summer time, make a tiny house out of an old cardboard box, and paste on to it dried moss, then set it on a shingle and have a little gravel path leading up to the door. On one side have a bit of looking-glass for a pond, and some branches of evergreen boughs for trees.

You can add whatever else you like to make it look like an old fashioned farmhouse. This simple toy has kept little girls happy for whole summers.

The boys can use the boxes for theatres, Punch and Judy and many different kinds of shows.

The baby will be amused with an old tin box, some beans or pebbles put inside, and the outside covered with some bright-colored flannel after the cover is firmly fastened. This will make a good rattle, and if a string be tied to the box it can be drawn on the floor, or be suspended from the chandelier and swung if the baby is too young to walk.

Whereas, Its rates are as low as the lowest:

Resolved, That in the event of starting on a trip it is good policy to consult with E. O. McCormick, Gen'l Pass. Agent Monon Route,

A report comes from Los Angeles, Cal., of the discovery of an ancient temple on San Cleminto Island, just off the coast.

Conventional "Monon" Resolutions.

Whereas, The Monon Route (L. N. A. & Ry. Co.) desires to make it known to the world at large that it forms the double connecting link of Pullman tourist travel between the winter cities of Florida and the summer resorts of the Northwest; and

Whereas, Its "rapid transit" system is unsurpassed, its elegant Pullman Buffet Sleepers and Chair car service between Chicago and Louisville, Indianapolis and Cincinnati unequalled; and

Whereas, Its rates are as low as the lowest:

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The United States is the only civilized country in which in recent years there has been a large increase in the production of wool.

No opium in Piso's Cure for Consumption. Cures where other remedies fail. 25c.

At a recent sale of short-horn cattle at Cresco, Iowa, forty-eight head brought \$355, which was an average of \$147 for the cows, and for the bulls sold, \$39.50.

A Radical Cure for Epileptic Fits.

To the Editor—Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease which I warrant to cure the worst cases. So strong is my faith in its virtues that I will send free a sample bottle and valuable treatise to any sufferer who will give me his P.O. and Express address. Resp'y. H. G. ROOT, M. C., 188 Pearl St., New York.

R. N. U. 47

ELY'S CREAM BALM CATARRH

I was surprised after using Ely's Cream Balm two months to find the right nostril, which was closed for 20 years was open and free as the other. I feel very thankful.

R. H. Cressingham, 275-18th St., Brooklyn, N.Y.

A particle is applied into each nostril and is agreeable. Price 50 cents at Druggists; by mail, registered, 60 cents.

ELY BROTHERS, 56 Warren St., New York.

R. N. U. 47

BEST COUGH MEDICINE, PISO'S CURE FOR CONSUMPTION.

It has permanently cured THOUSANDS of cases pronounced by doctors hopeless. If you have prematurity symptoms, such as Cough, Difficulty of Breathing, &c., don't delay, but use PISO'S CURE for CONSUMPTION immediately. By Druggists. 25 cents.

15. That cool rainwater and soda will remove machine grease from washable fabrics.

16. That beeswax and salt will make your rusty flat irons as clean and smooth as glass. Tie a lump of wax in a bag and keep it for that purpose. When the irons are hot, rub them first with the wax rag, then scour with a paper or cloth sprinkled with salt.

17. That blue ointment and kerosene mixed in equal proportions and applied to the bedsteads is an unfailing bedbug remedy, and that a coat of whitewash is ditto for the walls of a log house.

18. That kerosene will soften boots or shoes that have been hardened by water and render them as pliable as new.

19. That kerosene will make tin tea kettles as bright as new. Saturate a woolen rag and rub with it. It will also remove stains from the clean varnished furniture.

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