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THE DIVINE PLUMB LINE. Dr. Talmage's Sermon, Preached Sunday, Sept. 25th, 1887.

THE DIVINE PLUMB LINE. Much of the so-called religion of the day bends this way and that, to suit the times. It is horizontal with a low state of sentiment and morals.

THE DIVINE PLUMB LINE. The whole tendency of the times is to make us act by the standard of what others do. If they dance, we dance. If they read certain styles of books, we read them.

THE DIVINE PLUMB LINE. Thousands of years ago Solomon discovered the tendency of buyers to depreciate goods. He saw a man beating down an article; lower and lower, and saying it was not worth the price asked, and when he had purchased at the lowest point he told everybody what a sharp bargain he had struck, and how he had outwitted the merchant.

The Tobacco Plant.

"HERE SHALL THE PRESS THE PEOPLE'S RIGHTS MAINTAIN, UNAWAY BY INFLUENCE AND UNDRIBBY BY GAIN."

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easy, as the universal adoption of the law of right. Suspicion strikes through all bargain making. Men who sell know not whether they will ever get the money.

HE WHO STANDS UP AMID ALL THE PRESSURE AND DOES RIGHT is accomplishing something toward the establishment of a high commercial prosperity. I have deep sympathy for the laboring classes who toil with hand and foot.

THE PRESSURE TO DO WRONG is all the stronger from the fact that in our day the large business houses are swallowing up the smaller, the whales dining on bluefish and minnows.

ALL SORTS OF RELIGIONS are putting forth their pretensions. Some have a spiritualistic religion, and their chief work is with ghosts, and others a religion of good ends, and others a religion of good ends, and others a religion of good ends.

THE BIBLE RELIGION DEMANDS THAT we stand at the top and measure down, while the other religions begin at the bottom and try to measure up. They stand at the foot of the wall, up to their knees in the mud of human theory and speculation.

then you hear of some swindle he has practiced in Colorado mining stock, telling some one if he will put in \$10,000 he can take out \$100,000, or he has sacrificed his chastity, or plunged into irremediable worldliness. His sins are so broad.

HE HAS TO BROADEN HIS RELIGION, and becomes as broad as temptation, as broad as the soul's darkness, as broad as hell. They want a religion that will allow them to keep their sins, and then at death say to them: "Well done, good and faithful servant."

My text gives me a grand opportunity of saying a useful word to all young men who are now forming habits for a lifetime. Of what use to a stonemason or a bricklayer is a plumb line? Why not build the wall by the unaided eye and hand?

Oh, this plumb line of the everlasting right! God will throw it over all our lives to show us our moral defects, and to lead us to the fountain of life. There is no fun in the physical pangs of the disolute. There is no fun in the profligate's death-bed. There is no fun in an undone eternity.

THE CHIPPewa, wanting to see God, blackens his face with charcoal and fasts till he has a vision of what he calls God. My God I can see best when I take my hat off and let the sun shine on my face, and after a reasonable breakfast.

ALL OVER THE STATE.

ITEMS OF NEWS SCISSORED FROM EXCHANGES.

Marriages, Deaths, Personal Paragraphs, and All Sorts, Cut out for the Readers of The Plant.

New Berne graded school opened Monday. Taylorville is preparing for a big jubilee in honor of the completion of the "June bug" road.

Trinity college will in October issue a college magazine. Prof. Armstrong is editor-in-chief, the students assistants.

Dr. J. M. Baker, of Tarboro, has been appointed Assistant Surgeon General, vice Dr. Hubert Haywood promoted.

Twin-City Daily: Sixty bales of cotton, together with a box car, were consumed by fire at Tatum's depot on the C. F. & Y. V. railroad last week.

Davidson Dispatch: Capt. Trice says he caught the boss rat of the county last Friday night at the depot. It measured 17 inches from tip to tip.

Carthage Blade: Maj. John W. Scott, of Greenwood township, has a scuppernon vine that is estimated to have borne this year one hundred bushels of grapes.

News & Observer: Governor Seales and family will move from their present residence on North Wilmington street, to the Blount mansion on Hillsboro avenue.

Asheville Citizen: We asked a friend yesterday "What's the news?" and he replied, "Things is awful quiet." We found them so. [And this in Asheville]—PLANT.

Raleigh's water works came up to the contract in every particular. The News & Observer says they proved to be as fine and perfect a system as can be found in the country.

Reidsville Democrat: It is said that Maj. Robt. L. Ragland, of Waco, Va., will raise 100 bushels of tobacco this year. Enough to plant the acreage of the entire globe four times.

Fayetteville News: The W. S. C. R. Co. has about completed a freight warehouse in the rear of their office in Fayetteville, which will add considerable to the convenience of our merchants.

News & Observer: The cotton compress has handled nearly 5,000 bales of cotton already this season. A count on yesterday showed that eighty-four bales of cotton were compressed in sixty minutes.

Washington Progress: The remains of Mr. Thomas H. Blount, who died in Birmingham, Alabama, arrived in this town on Wednesday night last, and were interred in the Episcopal churchyard on Thursday morning.

Kernersville News & Farm: Mr. R. D. Fulton, of this place, had a barn of tobacco which had just been cured, to burn down last Friday, causing a pretty heavy loss. Every year we chronicle cases of this kind, which shows that additional care's necessary.

Charlotte Chronicle: The cotton compress in this city is doing some of the finest work on record, and is squeezing the cotton at a lively rate. Yesterday the press turned out 102 compressed bales per hour, or at the rate of 2,448 bales per day, of 24 hours.

Western Sentinel: Mr. James Lineback left Monday morning with Miss Pattie Vogler, of Salem, for the Morganton asylum. Miss Vogler's mind has been affected for some time, but it was not until a few days past that it was thought advisable to take her away for treatment.

The News & Observer tells of a wonderful wild creature that has appeared in the woods four miles north of Raleigh. It is a wild man or a wild beast of some unknown species. It goes on all fours, has a stumpy tail, climbs trees, chatters like an ape, etc. Probably an old circus monkey.

Greensboro Workman: We are glad to hear through Principal Morgan that the repairs to the college building, since the storm, are progressing rapidly, and will be completed in two weeks more, and that four new students have been added, making the number on hand fifty-four.

Wilmington Messenger: The Messenger is pleased to learn that an order for the three drinking fountains decided upon by the mayor and water works committee of the board of aldermen will be given at once to Mr. J. W. Fisk, of New York. They will probably be placed in position by the last of October.

Selma News: On last Wednesday evening, as the train which was bringing back the colored excursionists from Wilmington was passing the Faison or Mount Olive section, showers of stones were thrown at the train by some boys and one woman was hurt. These young villains ought to be caught and severely punished.

Wobler's Weekly: There is not a day that passes but that we see lots of little chaps playing around the depot and platform. They jump on the passenger cars to steal a short ride and hang on the freight as they are side tracking. The police ought to put a quietus on them. Some boys may get killed or severely hurt in this manner.

New Berne Journal: There are two enterprises which we think will be of great benefit to New Berne and which we think can be secured by united effort, and only by united effort. These are to secure an extension of the A. & N. C. R. R. to Sanford or Fayetteville, and the other is to secure a through line of railway from this city to Wilmington.

Henderson Gold Leaf: There is a new counterfeit dollar out which is said to be a fine piece of workmanship and hard to detect, being made of glass and composition. However, any of our friends who desire to pay their subscription to the Gold Leaf, need not hesitate on this account. We will take the risk of having counterfeit dollars passed upon us.

Charlotte Chronicle: Work is progressing rapidly on the new cotton factory at Fort Mill, and the walls are built up to the top of the first story, and the bricklayers are waiting for the carpenters to place timbers before proceeding further. The main building is two hundred and seventy-two feet long by fifty feet wide, and is quite an imposing structure.

Statesville Landmark: Mr. Edwin Borden, and Mrs. Octavia Wallace, of Wilmington, were married at the residence of Dr. H. Harrell, on Davie avenue, Rev. Dr. W. A. Wood, pastor of the Presbyterian church, performed the ceremony, and soon thereafter Mr. and Mrs. Borden left via Charlotte, for Wilmington. Mr. Borden is train dispatcher at that point for the Atlantic Coast Line.

THE GREAT DIFFERENCE.

THE TARIFF IN NEW YORK AND MASSACHUSETTS.

The Declarations of the Two Great States—Their Platforms Side by Side—Protection for One, Reduction for the Other.

Whereas, The unnecessary federal taxation of the last fiscal year exceeded \$100,000,000 and unnecessary taxation is unjust taxation, therefore the Democracy of New York demand that federal taxation be straightway reduced by a sum not less than \$100,000,000 a year, and also respectfully urge upon Congress that a measure shall be adopted which will, in the language of the President's inaugural address, relieve the people from unnecessary taxation, having a due regard to the interests of capital invested and workmen employed in American industries.

That is what the Democracy of New York says. Here follows in a short sentence the Massachusetts declaration in favor of protection. This is the great difference between the parties at present, or at least this is about the only difference that can be ascertained from their platforms.

After the platform was adopted the New York Democrats endorsed the administrations of President Cleveland and Gov. Hill in the following language: "The Democracy of New York approve the administration of Grover Cleveland, President of the United States. It has won the respect and confidence of our citizens without regard to party. It has removed that apprehension of the dangers which would attend change of party in the federal administration which has become a serious obstacle to the maintenance of our system of a free government depending upon the popular will. It has brought back honesty and simplicity to the management of our public affairs, and has restored to the people the confidence which they have placed in their government."

Secretary Whitney has not allowed the grass to grow under his feet. He is a master workman in his department, and is rapidly making a record. He has in less than three years of service taken three strides toward the American navy of the future.—New York Herald.

Atlanta, with President Cleveland as a feature of her Exposition, and Macon, with Jefferson Davis as an attraction at her State fair, are bound to have a close race to see which is the cake-taking city in Georgia. We are betting on Macon's exhibit as a crowd-gatherer.—Philadelphia Press, Rep.

The plain, simple truth is that Mr. Stanton is holding precisely the same relations towards the Democratic party that any other Republican Congressman would hold who should call himself a Democrat, and rest his Democracy on that point alone.—Charlotte News and Courier, Dem.

Mr. Chauncey Depew says with commendable pride that the title of American is equal to a patent of nobility abroad. This is a very pleasant remark, in which to greet his friends on arriving home. He also declared that Mr. Blaine is not working for the Presidential nomination—at least so it seemed to him.

General P. M. B. Young is to superintend the arrangements for the great sham battle at the Kenesaw Mountain, and he guarantees that no one shall get hurt. The blank cartridges will be duly inspected before they are served out, and in no case will the opposing combatants approach nearer than forty yards to each other.

General Lee, went to the theater in Philadelphia, and as soon as the auditors obtained sight of him they shouted for a speech, nor would they rest until he came forward and made a few remarks. The applause which followed was tremendous. The manager says he never before saw so much attention given to a stranger in a theater.

Charles Dickens, Jr., who is to lecture in this country, is about as much unlike what the public would expect in a son of Bob, as a parlor match is unlike a comet. His round face and rather feeble cast of features are scarcely redeemed by a large pair of spectacles, and in his delivery he has neither physical nor dramatic power.—News & Observer.

There is no velvet so soft as a mother's lap, no star so lovely as her smile, no music so melodious as her voice, no rose so fragrant as the memory of her love.

Good temper, like a sunny day, sheds a brightness over everything. It is the sweetener of toil and the soother of disquietude.

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PEOPLE TALKED ABOUT.

Senator McPherson says he is tired of politics, and will not seek the nomination for senator.

John Washington, one of the most prominent lawyers of Caroline county, Virginia, dropped dead in church on Sunday.

The Swedish nightingale, the peerless Jenny Lind, is thought to be rapidly nearing the grave.—Wilmington Star.

President Cleveland will be received with enthusiastic greetings in all parts of the South he may visit.—Wilmington Star.

Oliver Wendell Holmes says that English people are taller, stouter and healthier than New Englanders.—Philadelphia Record.

Mr. Kilbridge, who attended Mr. O'Brien on his Canadian tour, has been elected to the house of commons without opposition.

Samuel L. Avery, nominated Republican candidate for mayor of Louisville, voted for Cleveland in 1884, and is classed as a Mugwump.

If it could get all the telegraph wires in the country Blaine may be elected for two weeks after the election next year instead of one.—Philadelphia Times.

The fact that Mr. Cleveland does not remove her gloves at dinner, is not nearly so astonishing to Western congressmen as Mr. Cleveland's habit of eating with his coat on.

Henry George really does not need a daily newspaper organ in New York, such as he wishes to establish. The New York Tribune is doing all it can for him.—Savannah News.

Hon. Wm. R. Morrison, of Illinois, says the President is growing stronger all the time with the people, and will continue to grow stronger until the next Presidential election day comes around.

Lord Salisbury's health is said to be very poor. We are not surprised. With that burden of Irish guilt on his conscience he has enough to break him, or any man, completely down.—Wilmington Star.

Gov. Richardson, of South Carolina, says that while in Philadelphia he was greatly annoyed by the question: "What did the Governor of North Carolina say to you just now?"—Philadelphia Record.

Ex-Governor Carroll, of Maryland, says his State will send a solid Cleveland delegation to the next Democratic National convention, and that Mr. Cleveland will then receive an almost unanimous nomination.

Lord Randolph Churchill is being boycotted by some of the Tory organizations, and he gets but little sympathy from the Tory leaders, a number of whom have refused to speak from the same platform with him.

Jarvis will be the man to nominate for Governor, and the Times believes that his election would be by a much larger majority than before. The whole State would rally to such a noble Governor as Jarvis made. Give us Jarvis.—Baltimore Times.

Ex-Congressman Wm. R. Morrison, of the interstate commerce commission, who is spending his vacation at his old home in Illinois, is said to be utilizing his spare moments in laying his pipes for his re-nomination to Congress.—Wilmington Review.

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