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ONLY SEMI-WEEKLY IN ANSON

GROW STRONG BY ENDURANCE.

Rev. W. Bruce Doyle Preaches That Only by Enduring Hardships and Rebuffs Is Strength Attained—Ancients Superior to Moderns.

Text: II. Timothy 2-3—"Endure hardness."

Knowing the strength of this young preacher, his endurance and his difficulties, the Apostle Paul here admonishes Timothy, "Endure hardness with me as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."

Our modern life is more comfortable than the ancient one. But our modern life is not conducive to the development of endurance. This is an age of ease and so the demand is more urgent for the presentation of this text, "Endure hardness."

This is True of Our Physiological Life.

Before the use of opiates thousands died in miserable pain. To our race with its fleshly ills anesthetics have been a blessing. And opiates have let many a mortal down easy.

But too many of our homes are now supplied with hypodermic needles and morphine tablets. When a child plays until his cheeks are flushed an anxious mother with a handy clinical thermometer takes his temperature. If he stumbles over a stone and loses a nail the hypodermic syringe is used to alleviate his pain. If he is sleepless from pain morphine gives the family quiet.

On the battle field these sons would have no show before the stragglers of that army that followed Caesar through Gaul to Britain, or before the Moors and Vandals who followed Genseric into Rome. The relief from hardness has had its danger.

This is True of Our Industrial Life.

There were giants among the Anakims. Giants daunted the spies sent out by Moses. Goliath defied a splendid army at Elah. Sampson pulled the pillar from beneath a palace. But men of that class have passed away. Even our modern pugilists are not comparable with the ancient Germans.

Real muscle was called into play in building the pyramids of Egypt and raising the stones in Jerusalem's walls. That work could not be done today.

This is the age of labor saving devices. The stalk cutter, the corn shredder, the locomotive, the derick, the electric current have called little for muscular development. Today man holds the throttle, presses a button, clangs a gong, throws a lever and ten thousand wheels supplant his muscle.

This is True of Our Educational Life.

We have no sympathy for those who are opposed to all things new. We are glad that our children do not have to walk three miles to school and sit upon a slab with no back and learn to spell from a blue backed book in a log hut. It was eminently unfair to wear out so many symmetrical shrubs inducing a half grown boy to spell "incomprehensibility" before he had learned to read a line. But there is some defect in our public school system.

Twenty years ago a boy started to school when he was twelve years old, walked two miles, arrived early in the morning, stayed until the sun was almost down, then hurried home, to feed a pig, milk a cow, bring in some pine-knots and then study until his eyelids closed. But he got ready for college in four years, and took Latin and Greek when he got there.

Today a child starts to school at six years old, walks two blocks, sings a song, marches a march, laughs at a story, draws a map, and after three hours goes home. Then the streets are walked until dark, and supper is eaten hurriedly to go out for the evening. After fifteen years that child is ready for college.

There are some here who have two or three college degrees and have not gone yet to school as many years as some of your children, who

cannot recognize a logarithm or translate "E pluribus unum." Why is this?

It is not because we were wise and our children are foolish. It is not because our teachers were more efficient than the teachers today. But a partial explanation may be found in this text, "Endure hardness."

With the desire to make things easy and attractive the instructors have drafted twenty years from a man's life to leave him helpless before a problem that is soluble only by hard enduring thought. The hardness is gone.

This is True of Our Political Life.

Two great families have fashioned the destinies of the human race and drawn the map of the world. They are the Anglo-Saxon and the Latin.

The Latins had the start. Their nation bloomed and their blood reached the zenith of its culture while the Britons had husbands and wives "in communis," and the Germans drank from the skulls of their enemies whom they had strangled on their shores.

Today the Latin world wears a galling papal yoke, and quakes with superstition like a leaf. In Spain they are sunk in ignorance below the Malay of Japan. In France they are sunk in virtue below some African tribes. In Brazil they are fallen in morals below the Chinese.

But the Anglo-Saxons rise above every people in valor, in morals, in intellect and in finance. And why? Come to the text for a reason.

The Anglo-Saxons endured hardness against the armies of Rome, against the papal chair, against the Inquisition, against Philip and Napoleon, and every foe. The Latins with a cradle-song endured not against a licentious hierarchy, against a debauched monarchy, against the suppression of learning, liberty and justice. The endurance of hardness made the difference.

This is True of Our Climatic Life.

In Canada the blizzards blow for half the time. Snow covers the ground half the year. Ice prevents the life of a thousand plants. Yet the people are industrious, educated and wealthy, able to enjoy their model government and sane, prompt and just courts.

In Mexico timber abounds, minerals lie under the soil, fish swim in every stream, the sun shines perpetually, the polar bear may roam over the mountain tops while an alligator sleeps in the valley below, heaven and nature sing a song that is favorable to man and beast. But the people are indolent, poor, immoral, superstitious.

The Canadians have learned by enduring hard things. The Mexicans contending against nature nowhere have grown inert and vicious.

In Spain the rose blooms the year round, the fig and pomegranate and grape bear their fruit in abundance. But the people are lean in purse, hungry in soul, dwarfed in intellect.

In Holland the land lies below the sea level, the landscape is void of timber. The Hollander is thrifty, learned, reliable and happy.

The difference lies largely in having endured. The Hollander has thrown up dikes against the sea and endured the waves. He has built brick houses against the wind and endured a frozen winter. He has constructed windmills against stagnant waters and endured against the want of natural drainage.

This is True of Our Religious Life.

It is good for us that we have something to endure. The tree exposed to the wind is stronger in root and limb. The tree exposed to the sun is harder than one grown in the shade.

Pleading for endurance James referred to the husbandman who "waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth until it receive the early and latter rain." And he said, "we call them blessed that endure; ye have heard of the patience of Job and seen the end of the Lord." Paul taught that "through many tribulations we must enter into the kingdom of God."

The inquisitions following the reformation were hard to endure. Protestants were poisoned, put upon the rack, disemboweled, beheaded, roasted.

But that endurance of hardness produced stalwart believers, it brought forth Calvin in theology, and Zwingle in creed building, and Luther (Continued on 4th page.)

\$10,000 FOR BUILDING SITE.

Senator Overman Introduces an Amendment to Appropriations Bill, Appropriating \$10,000 to Purchase Site for Public Building in Wadesboro.

Last Friday in the Senate Senator Overman introduced an amendment to the public building appropriations bill appropriating \$10,000 to purchase a site for a public building in Wadesboro. The amendment passed the Senate, and it is hoped will pass the House. If it passes the House the site will soon be bought, and Wadesboro will be certain of securing a handsome public building within the next few years.

Already citizens of Wadesboro are discussing the site which may be bought. The present court house lot, the Bank of Hanover lot, the corner on Morgan and Green streets where the marble yard is located and the vacant lot between the Live Stock Co.'s stable and the Bank of Wadesboro have all been suggested.

Slums in the Country.

The slums are not all in the big cities. We have slums and slum conditions in every North Carolina town. In fact, we don't even have to go to town to find slums and many of the slum conditions we read about in our great cities. Who has not seen the house in the country with window space at a premium? This is particularly true in the mountain regions. The writer has visited mountain homes that had but one small window, not over thirty inches square, to a room.

Overcrowding in these rooms is frequently as bad as in the city slums. When cold weather comes these people "hole up" much like certain animals. A wood supply is laid in, but as the wood becomes scarce and the wood chopper is not over ambitious, they economize heat and space and have fire only in the cook stove. Windows and unnecessary doors are nailed shut, and sometimes they even eat, sleep and spend the winter in one or two rooms. The faces of these people, particularly the children, remind one of the faces seen in the worst tenement houses in large cities. The complete outdoor life of the summer is barely able to combat the lack of fresh air during the winter months.

Refuse to Support Regime of Huerta.

Laredo, Tex., Feb. 21.—Eight Mexican States, Zacatecas, Coahuila, Nuevo Leon, Chihuahua, San Luis Potosi, Vera Cruz, Sinaloa and Puebla, have expressed dissatisfaction with the new regime in Mexico and will not support the Government set up by General Huerta, according to information gathered from Federal telegraph sources here, and a civil war, in an effort to establish a new Republic to be composed of the Northern States, is regarded as a possibility by men conversant with the affairs of Mexico. Because of the reticence of those said to be interested in the scheme, however, rumors that plans were maturing for the founding of a new Republic could not be confirmed tonight.

It is rumored that Governor Carranzas of the State of Coahuila, is at the head of the movement and that efforts are being made to bring about the secession of several other States.

Illustrate It, Pa.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. A little boy was advised by his father to use illustrations in his conversation whenever they should occur to him.

"For," continued the parent, "there is no more forcible way of conveying or impressing your meaning."

Shortly after, the boy was being lectured on generosity.

"It's far better to give than to receive, Johnny—far better."

"Illustrate it, papa, I think I shall understand it better."

FRANCISCO MADERO DEAD.

Mob Attacks Official Automobile Carrying Him to the Penitentiary Along With Vice President Suarez Who Was Also Slain During the Melee—Circumstances Surrounding Death of Victims Unknown Except That Given in Official Account Which in All Cases Does Not Conform.

Mexico City, Feb. 23.—Francisco I. Madero and Jose Pino Suarez are dead in a midnight ride under guard from the National Palace to the penitentiary they were killed.

The circumstances surrounding the death of the deposed President and Vice President of the Republic are unknown, except as given in official accounts, which do not in all cases conform. The only witnesses were those actually concerned in the killings.

The Provisional President, General Victoriano Huerta, says the killing of the two men was incidental to a fight between their guard and a party attempting to liberate them. The Minister of Foreign Relations, Francisco de la Barra, adds that the prisoners attempted to escape. Neither makes a definite statement as to which side fired the fatal shots. It is not impossible that neither knows.

An official investigation has been ordered to determine the responsibility and solemn promises have been made that the guilty will be punished.

Not unnaturally a great part of the public regards the official versions with doubt, having in mind the use for countless centuries of the notorious "ley fuga," the unwritten law which is invoked when the death of a prisoner is desired. After its application there is written on the records "prisoner shot trying to escape."

Senora Madero, widow of the Ex-President, received the first definite information of his death from Senor Cologan y Cologan, the Spanish Minister. She already had heard reports that something unusual and serious had happened but friends had endeavored up to that time to prevent her from learning the whole truth.

Soon afterward, accompanied by her brother, Jose Perez, and Mercedes Madero, a sister of Francisco, Senora Madero drove to the penitentiary but was refused permission to see the body of her husband. Senora Suarez also was denied admittance to the mortuary, where physicians, in accordance with the law, were performing an autopsy.

In contrast to the widow, whose grief was of a pitiable silent character, expressed in sobs, Mercedes Madero, a beautiful young woman, educated in Paris, who has been a brilliant leader of society since the revolution of 1910, was dry-eyed and tigerish in her emotions. By the side of the two women whose husbands had been killed, the girl hurled accusations at the officers who barred the entrance.

"Cowards!" "Assassins!" she called them, her voice pitched high. The officers stared impassively.

"You! the men who fired on a defenseless man! You and your superior officers are traitors!"

No effort was made to remove the women nor did the officers attempt to silence them. Senora Madero continued weeping and the girl did not cease her hysterical trade until the arrival of the Spanish Minister and the Japanese charge, who came to offer their services.

The Minister spoke with the officers in charge but was told that on account of the autopsy it would be impossible for any one to see the bodies. Later in the day they said the request would be complied with. The Diplomats then conducted the women away from the penitentiary.

Madero's father and Rafael Hernandez, former Minister of the Interior, and other friends made efforts early in the day to recover the bodies and it was said this afternoon that the American Ambassador Henry Lane Wilson had interested himself and secured the promise of Minister de la Barra that the bodies should be delivered to their families for burial.

Tuesday last, were placed in an automobile which was accompanied by another car and escorted by 100 rurales under the orders of Commandant Francisco Cardenas and Col. Rafael Pimiento.

With instructions not to outdistance the escort, the cars moved slowly. No incident occurred until they had reached a point near the penitentiary, where, in an open place, the guarda's attention was attracted, according to the official version, to a group of persons following. Shots were fired at the escort out of the darkness. The rurales closed in and ordered the prisoners out of the car.

Thirty of the guards surrounded the prisoners, while the remainder disposed themselves to resist an attack. About fifty men, some afoot and some mounted, threw themselves upon the detachment guarding the cars and the exchange of shots lasted 20 minutes, when the attacking party fled. The dead bodies of Madero and Suarez were then found.

The body of Madero shows only one wound. A bullet entered the back of the head and emerged at the forehead.

The body of Pino Suarez shows many wounds, entering from in front.

PROGRAM TO RESTORE ORDER.

Out of Chaos Shall Rise Great Republic, Huerta's Ambition.

Mexico City, Feb. 21.—That the new Administration in Mexico expects to use the methods of Porfirio Diaz, so far as is possible, in governing the country was made evident today in a conversation Huerta had with newspaper men.

Huerta declared that no matter what the cost should be or who the men were who paid it, peace would be restored in Mexico. He said it was his ambition that when he left the presidency people would say of him "he has restored order throughout Mexico, made safe the investment of money and rendered secure the lives and interests of all, both foreigners and Mexicans."

Calmly and dispassionately General Huerta outlined his program for the use of the Army in restoring and maintaining order. He admitted that in many parts of the Republic all was not in accord with peace. To these sections, he said, he would send emissaries in an attempt to bring about order or, if necessary, troops would be dispatched to them to inform the people of the Government's desires. "I want to restore to Mexico that interrupted current of riches which is her right," the President continued, "and to bring about that all Diplomats will feel their national interests are secure."

The President declared he favored a free press in Mexico, saying that even antagonistic organs were desirable since from them the Administration might learn of evils that otherwise might be hidden.

To Limit Powers of Commissioners.

Representative F. E. Thomas has introduced in the House a bill providing that the county commissioners of Anson cannot make contracts involving the expenditure of more than \$5,000 without first submitting the question to a vote of the people.

Mr. Thomas has also introduced a bill to prevent dumping saw dust and timber slabs in streams in Anson.

MR. C. B. LEDBETTER DEAD.

Prominent Former Ansonian Dies at Red Springs—Funeral at Polkton.

Friends and relatives in Anson were shocked Friday when they learned that Mr. C. B. Ledbetter, formerly of Polkton, had died at his home in Red Springs after an illness of only two days. Mr. Ledbetter was stricken with paralysis Wednesday, and died Friday.

Mr. Ledbetter was a son of the late Charles Ledbetter and his wife, Mrs. Roxie Bennett Ledbetter, and was prominently connected in Anson. He lived in Polkton until about eight years ago, when he moved to Red Springs.

He was twice married, his first wife being Miss Cora Crump. From this marriage the following children survive: Mrs. June Gunter, of Sanford; Mrs. J. A. Calvin, of Fayetteville; Mrs. J. L. Scott, of Charlotte; Mr. Fred Ledbetter, of Charlotte, and Mr. Clarence Ledbetter, of Texas.

His second wife, who was Miss Pattle DeBerry, survives him, with several children. All the children except Mr. Clarence Ledbetter, who was unable to come, attended the funeral.

Mr. Ledbetter was an exemplary citizen, and was most popular wherever he was known. He traveled for the Stephen Putney Shoe Co., his territory being Mississippi.

The funeral was held at Polkton yesterday, a large crowd being present and the burial was in the Williams cemetery. Rev. G. C. Brinkman held the services. The remains were buried with Masonic honors.

Play to Be Given at Morven.

"The Elopement of Ellen" will be presented by the Young Ladies Aid Society of the Presbyterian church, at Morven school building, Friday, Feb. 28th at 8 p. m. Admission will be 15 and 25 cents.

Characters.

Richard Ford, a devoted young husband, Eugene Lowry.

Molly, his wife, Annie Belle Johnson.

Robert Shepard, Molly's brother, Walter Clark.

Max Tea Eych, a chum of Robert's, Marcus Woosley.

Dorothy March, engaged to Max, a guest of Mrs. Ford's, Mae Fulton.

June Haverhill, Wellesley '06, who is doing some special investigation for economics courses during the summer, Maude Morrison.

John Hesel, Rector of St. Agnes, William Cox.

Synopsis.

Act I—Morning room at Mrs. Ford's house at 8 a. m.

Act II—Corner of Mrs. Ford's garden, at five a. m., the next day.

Act III—Same corner in the evening of the same day.

Place—Pleasant Hill, a suburb of New York City.

Time—The summer of 1905.

Of Course Not.

"Why the limp?"

"Her father—"

"Sure enough? Ha-ha-ha!"

"That's right laugh!"

"But you told me last evening that her father had better not raise his hand to you?"

"Well, it wasn't his hand."—Houston Post.

FOR SALE—Good family horse and buggy. D. J. Everett.

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