

# DR. TALMAGE'S SERMON.

### SOME IMPRESSIVE LESSONS ARE FOUND IN THE ECHO.

The Echoes of a Moral Example in One Family and an Example of Moral Indifference in Another—Eternity to Echo the Doings of Time.

At the Tabernacle.

Dr. Talmage's subject was "Echoes," and his text, Ezekiel vii, 7, "The sounding again of the mountains."

At last I have found it. The Bible has in it a recognition of all phases of the natural world from the aurora of the midnight heavens to the phosphorescence of the tumbling sea.

Born among mountains, and in his journey to distant exile, he had passed among mountains, and it was natural that all through his writings there should loom up the mountains.

Among them he had heard the sound of Cataracts and of tempests in wrestle with oak and cedar, and the voices of the wild beasts, but a man of so poetic a nature as Ezekiel could not allow another sound, viz., the Echo, to be disregarded.

Greek mythology represented the Echo as a nymph, the daughter of Earth and Air, following the footsteps of her father and into grottoes and every whither, and so strange and weird and startling is the Echo I do not wonder that the superstitious have lifted it into the supernatural.

The Echo has frightened many a child and many a man. It is no tame thing after you have spoken to hear the same words repeated by the invisible.

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Near Coblenz—that which is said has seventeen Echoes. In 1766, a writer says in "The Echo," "I have seen in Italy, where seventy such reflections of sound to one snap of a pistol. Play a bugle near a lake of Killarney and the tune is played back to you as distinctly as when you played it."

First—Parental teaching and example have their Echo in the character of descendants. Exceptions? Oh, yes. So in the natural world there may be no Echo, or a distorted Echo, by reason of peculiar propensities, but the general rule is that the character of the children is the Echo of the character of parents.

The general rule is that good parents have good children and bad parents have bad children. If the old man is a crank, his son is apt to be a crank and the grandchild a crank.

Years ago I made up my mind to trust God and He has always seen me through. I remember when I was your age, he took me to the mountains and temptations of city life gathered around me, but I resisted. The fact is there were two old folks out on the old farm praying for me and I knew it, and somehow I could not do as some of the clerks did and when some of the clerks were told, I tell you, boys, it is the best always to do right, and there is nothing to keep one right like the old-fashioned religion of Jesus Christ. John, where did you go to church last Sunday? Henry, how is the Young Men's Christian Association prospering?

About noon the rain ceases and the sun comes out and the clerks go to their places, and they say within themselves: "Well, he is a successful merchant and I guess he knows what he is talking about, and the Christian religion must be a good thing. God knows I want some help in this battle with temptation and sin." The successful merchant who uttered the kind words did not know how much good he was doing, but the Echo will come back in five or six lifetimes of virtue and five Heavens. From all the mountains of rapture and all the mountains of glory and all the mountains of eternity, he will catch that Ezekiel in my text style. "The sounding again of the mountains."

Yes, I take a step further in this subject and say that our own eternity will be a reverbation of our own earthly lifetime. What we are here we will be there, only on a larger scale. Dissolution will tear down the body and embank it, but our faculties of mind and soul will go right on without the hesitancy of a moment and without any change except enlargement and intensification. There will be no more differences between a lion behind the iron bars and a lion escaped into the field, between an eagle in a cage and an eagle in the sky. Good here, good there; bad here, bad there. Eternity is only an enlarged time.

any other book. The house is a sort of inn where the older and younger people of the household stop for awhile. The thought on the subject is not new, but the Echo, "The children will have to do as I did and take their chances. Life is a lottery anyhow, and some draw prizes and some draw blanks, and we will trust to luck."

"Sign your names and come back to the neighborhood where that family used to live. You meet on the street or on the road an old inhabitant of that neighborhood, and you say, "Can you tell me anything about the Petersons who used to live here?" "Yes," says the old inhabitant; "I remember them very well. The father and mother have been dead for years." "Well, how about the children?" "What has become of them?" The old inhabitant replies: "They turned out badly. You know the old man was about half an infidel and the boys were all infidels. The oldest son married, but got into drinking habits, and in a few years his wife was not able to live with him any longer and his children were taken by relatives, and he died in a madhouse on some island, well's Island. His other son forged the name of his employer and fled to Canada."

"One of the daughters of the old folks married an inebriate with the idea of reforming him, and you know how that always ends." "In the end," says the experimenter and the one experimented with. The other daughter disappeared mysteriously and has not been heard of. There was a young woman picked out of the East River and put in the morgue, and some thought it was her, but I cannot say for certain, you know, "out. "Yes, it is possible." The family is a complete wreck." My hearers, that is just what might have been expected. All this is only the Echo, the dismal Echo, the awful Echo, the dreadful Echo of parental obliquity and infidelity. The fact is that we are all under the influence of wrong influences, and this is only what my text calls "The sounding of the mountains."

Indeed our entire behavior in this world will have a resound. While opportunities fly in a straight line and just touch us once and are gone never to return, the wrongs we practice upon others fly in a circle, and they come back to the place from which they started. Dr. Guillotine thought it smart to introduce the instrument of death named after him, but did not know that well as his own head was chopped off with the guillotine.

So also the Judgment Day will be an Echo of all other days. The universe needs such a day, for there are so many things in the world that need to be fixed up and expunged. God had not appointed such a day all the nations would cry out, "Oh, God, give us a Judgment Day." But we are apt to think of it and speak about it as a day away off in the future, having no special connection with this day or any other day. The fact is that we are now making up our voices, its trumpets will only sound back again to us what we now say and do. This is the meaning of all that Scripture which says that Christ will on that day address the soul, "I was naked and ye clothed me, I was sick and in prison and ye visited me."

On that day all the charities, all the self-sacrifices, all the philanthropies, all the beneficent last wills and testaments, all the Christian work of all the ages, will be piled up into mountains, and the angels will be making up their voices, its trumpets will only sound back again to us what we now say and do. This is the meaning of all that Scripture which says that Christ will on that day address the soul, "I was naked and ye clothed me, I was sick and in prison and ye visited me."

Suppose the boss of a factory or the head of a commercial firm some day comes out among his clerks or employees, and putting his thumbs in the armpits of his coat, says, "Well, don't believe in the Bible or the church. The one is an imposition and the other is full of hypocrites. I declare I would not trust one of those very pious people further than I could throw a brick." "Oh, all he says, but he has said enough." There are men go back to their counters or their shuttles and say within themselves, "Well, he is a successful man and has probably studied up the whole subject and is probably right."

The tolerance against Bibles and churches has put five young men on the wrong track, and thought the influential man had spoken only in half jest, the echo shall come back to him in five renewed lifetimes and five destroyed eternities. You see the Echoes are an exact low; that he arranges things on the other hand, some rainy day, when there are hardly any customers, the Christian merchant comes out from his counting room and stands among the young men who have nothing to do, and says, "Well, boys, this is a dull day, but it will clear off after awhile. There are a good many ups and downs in business, but there is an overruling Providence."

"Years ago I made up my mind to trust God and He has always seen me through. I remember when I was your age, he took me to the mountains and temptations of city life gathered around me, but I resisted. The fact is there were two old folks out on the old farm praying for me and I knew it, and somehow I could not do as some of the clerks did and when some of the clerks were told, I tell you, boys, it is the best always to do right, and there is nothing to keep one right like the old-fashioned religion of Jesus Christ. John, where did you go to church last Sunday? Henry, how is the Young Men's Christian Association prospering?"

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But there is a sliphod home. The parents are a godless pair. They let their children do as they please. No example to follow. No lessons of morality or religion. The father no better than any other day. The Bible no better than

In this life our soul is in dry dock. The moment we leave this life we are launched for our next voyage, and we are in the water for centuries, until the ship does not change its fundamental structure after it gets out of the dry dock, it does not pass from brig to schooner or from schooner to man-of-war. What we are when launched from this world we will be in the world to come. Oh, God! by Thy converting and sanctifying spirit make us right here and now that we may be bright forever!

"Well," says some one, "this idea of moral, spiritual and eternal Echo is new to me. Is there not some way of stopping this Echo?" My answer is, "God can and He only." If it is a cheerful Echo we do not want it stopped; if a baneful Echo we would like to have it stopped. The hardest thing in this world to do is to stop an Echo.

Aristotle and Pythagoras and Isaac Newton and La Place and our own Joseph Henry tried to hunt down the Echo, but still the unexplored realms of acoustics are larger than the explored. When our first Brooklyn Tabernacle was being constructed we were troubled by acoustics that it was of such a shape that the human voice could not be heard in it, or, if heard, it would be jaggled into Echoes.

In state of wrorment I went to Joseph Henry, the President of the Smithsonian Institute at Washington, and told him of this case. He said, "I have probably experimented more with the laws of sound than any other man, and I have got as far as this. Two buildings may seem to be exactly alike and yet in one the acoustics may be good and in the other they may be bad. You should build and trust that all will be well." And all was well. Oh, this mighty law of sound! Oh, this subtle Echo! There is only one being in this universe who thoroughly understands it—"The sounding again of the mountains."

And if it is so hard to destroy a natural Echo, how much harder to stop a moral Echo, a spiritual Echo, an immortal Echo. You know that the Echoes are affected by the surfaces, and the shape of rocks, and the depths of ravines, and the relative position of buildings. And once in Heaven God will so arrange the relative position of mansions and temples and thrones that all of the everlasting charms of Heaven will be the rolling, bursting, ascending, descending, chanting Echoes. All the songs we ever sang devoutly, all the prayers we ever prayed earnestly, all the Christian deeds we have ever done will be waiting to spring upon us in Echo.

In the future state, whether of rapture or ruin, we will listen for reverberations of earthly things and doings. Voltaire standing amid the shadows will listen from the millions whose godlessness and libertinism and debauchery were a consequence of his brilliant blasphemies will come back a weeping, wailing, despairing, agonizing, million-voiced Echo. Paul will, while standing in the light, listen, and from all the cities of the ransomed, and from all the many mansions whom he helped to people, and from all the thrones he helped to occupy, and from all the gates he helped to open with arrivals, and from all the temples he helped fill with worshippers there will come back to him glorious, over-arching, transporting and triumphant Echo.

Oh, what will the tyrants and oppressors of the earth do with the Echoes? Those who are responsible for the wars of the world will have come back to them all the cries, the shrieks, the cannonades, the bursting shells, the crackle of burning cities and the crash of a nation's homes—Hohenluden and Salananza, Wazram and Sedan, Marathon and Thermopylae, Bunker Hill and Lexington, South Mountain and Gettysburg. Scoundrel listen! Scoundrel listen! Marc Antony listen! Artaxerxes listen! Darius listen! Julius Cæsar listen! Alexander and Napoleon listen! But to the righteous will come back the blissful Echoes.

Composers of Gospel Hymns and singers will listen for the return of Antioch and Bethany, Ariel, Dives, Harwell and Woodstock, Mount Pisgah and Coronation, Homeward Bound and Shining Shore, and all the melodies they ever started. Bishop Heber and Charles Wesley and Isaac Watts and Thomas Hastings and Bradbury and Horatio Bonar and Francis Hall will listen!

But you know as well as I do that there are some places where the reverberations seem to meet, and standing there they rush upon you, they rain upon you, all at once they capture your ear. And at the point where all heavenly reverberations meet, Christ stands and listen for the resound of all His sighs and groans and sacrifices and they shall come back in an echo in which shall mingle the acclaim of a redeemed world, and the "Jubilata Deo" of a full Heaven. Echo saintly, cherubic, archangelic, angelic, Echo of praise, acce! Echo of praises! Omnipotent acce! Everlasting echo! Amen!

### Pat's Temptation.

One of the members of the New York Senate who has passed through a good many experiences during his life, was in his younger days a track-walker on a New England railroad, says the Buffalo Express. At each end of his route was a small station. The only persons to watch him were in these neighborhoods. Pat (it is needless to say he was an Irishman) lived in a small house beside the track, about half a mile from one of these stations. He was the fortunate owner of an old horse and wagon. This was what led to his temptation and downfall. There was a good wagon-road running parallel with the track all the way. "Pat," said the tempter, "what's to hinder your riding between stations?" "It wouldn't do," said Pat. But the idea had taken hold of him and one rainy night he tried it. He let his horse walk a mile from each end of his head and walked to the stations at his usual time. Over the rest of the distance he rode on the turnpike, trusting to luck that the track would be all right. The thing was so easy that it soon became a settled practice with him. For three or four months he guarded the company's property in this way, and no one was the wiser. Then he was spotted, and a summary discharge followed. "A man with your genius for dodging work ought to be a lawyer," said the Superintendent. "Fath, I thank you for yourself," answered the discharged track-walker, and a lawyer he became.

# LABOR AND LABORERS.

### ECHOES FROM THE OFFICE, MILL AND BENCH.

Paragraphs Bearing on Labor Picked From all the Newspapers of the World—How Wage Earners in Every Country Live—Strikes, Lockouts, Etc.

**Labor Notes.**  
THE Teutonic steamship consumes 300 tons of coal per day.

A BIRMINGHAM, ENG., man collected 540,000 pennies during his lifetime.

Making a cost of £1,000 Bank of England note is less than a penny.

THE negroes in the United States now pay taxes on \$24,000,000 worth of property.

RECENT calculations upon the pace of the sun place it at about forty miles per second.

FROM 1859 to 1890 Colorado produced \$300,000,000 worth of gold, silver, copper and lead.

THERE are 20,000,000 dogs in the United States and it costs \$200,000 per annum to keep them.

IT is estimated that there are 160,000,000,000 feet of timber still standing in Washington forests.

MORE than half a million dollars' worth of gold is used every year for the purpose of filling teeth.

THE discovery of a rich copper mine in Alaska is reported from Victoria, British Columbia.

HORSEFLIES is used as human food in Denmark, Sweden and Switzerland and also in several parts of Italy.

A COMPANY of women is running two canning and preserving factories in Michigan. Not a man is allowed to work in either place.

THE famous coal mines at Takushima, Japan, which were flooded last June, have been unwatered and are now producing regularly.

THE amount of Cheese imported by the combined countries of Europe is about 480,000,000 pounds, and of this England takes over 360,000,000 pounds, or nearly 70 per cent. of the whole.

THE result of the recent attempt to raise tea in North Carolina indicates that the soil and climate are favorable to such an industry, but that, owing to the expense of picking and drying, none but the highest grades could be produced profitably.

SOME of the Indians of the South and Southwest were excellent agriculturists. In Georgia and Alabama, when the white men first went among the Natchez Indians, they found them all cultivating maize, beans, sunflowers, sweet potatoes, melons, pumpkins, and a large number of the native fruits growing in orchards—persimmons, honey locust, mulberry, black walnuts and shell barks of the best kind were sorted and planted by them.

THE tonnage of the Majestic is 9,861; that of the City of New York is 5,783; the Majestic is 582 feet long, longer than the City of New York, while the latter is broader and deeper than the former.

ONE of the shortest wills on record was admitted to probate in Philadelphia recently. It conveyed property to the value of \$6,000, and was in these words: "Don't forget that everything that I possess must go to Emily. She is to be my sole heir."

IOWA, 331,562,000 bushels; Illinois, 241,076,000; Missouri, 201,176,000; Kansas, 168,863,000; Nebraska, 145,004,000; Indiana, 116,490,000; Ohio, 96,230,000; Texas, 93,122,000; Kentucky, 86,040,000, and Tennessee, 81,824,000, are the ten leading corn growing States.

AN Italian engineer has originated a system by which he proposes to utilize the power of trains running down grade; that is, he has devised a machine for compressing air as the train goes down, which can be used to actuate a motor at the will of the engineer, and to assist the locomotive on up grades.

A BREXON Royalist journal gives the number of the dukes in France at sixty-two. Of these thirty date from the old monarchy, seventeen from the first empire, nine from the restoration, two from Louis Philippe and four from the second empire. The oldest Duke is Duc de Mortemart, who was born in 1879.

IN 1860, the year before the war, there were published in New York nineteen daily papers, besides forty-two weeklies, semi-weeklies and monthly periodicals. During the twenty-five years ending with 1885, 1,491 new papers were started in New York, including sixty dailies and 611 weeklies. Of these papers, 1,105 died before the end of the twenty-five years, leaving a per centage of about 33 per cent. surviving. This is a remarkably heavy mortality. Among the weeklies 460 died, fifty-five of them in less than a year and 108 in less than two years.

A CITIZEN of Salt Lake City sued the city for \$5,000 damages for injuries sustained in falling on a defective sidewalk in the city. The citizen was pretty drunk at the time he fell, and he admitted the fact to the court. The city set up the defense of contributory negligence. The plaintiff's lawyer laid down the very plain and plausible proposition that "a drunken man is as much entitled to a good sidewalk as a sober man, and is much more in need of it." The jury was still wrestling with the logic of the plea at last reports.

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