TALMAGE'S SERMON.

AN ELOQUENT SERVICE OF GLADNESS AND HOPE.

"The Battle Ours," Says Rev. Dr. Talmage. Science Slightly Scored—The Little Popgun Shots at Religion—The Secular Press and the Pulpit.

At the Tabernacle.

Rev. T. De Witt Talmage preached to a thronged audience in the Brooklyn Tabernacle last Sunday forenoon. The keynote of the service was one of gladness. Many of the audience had been absent during the summer and had returned for this service. The pastor commented on passages of Scripture depicting the morning of the world's deliverance. The subject of the sermon was, "The Battle Ours," the text being I Kings xx, 27, "And the children of Israel pitched before them like two little flocks of kids."

With thirty-three kings drunk in one tent this chapter opens. They were allies plotting for the overthrow of the Lord's Israel. You know that if a lion roar a flock of kids will shiver and huddle together. One lion could conquer a thousand kids. The battle opens. There are a great multitude of Syrians under General Ben-hadad, strong as lions. The Israelites are few and weak, like two little flocks of kids. Who beat? The lion, of course. Oh, no; the kids, for it all depends whether God is on the side of the lions or the kids. After the battle 100,000 Syrians lay dead on the field, and 27,000, attempting to fly, came along by a great wall, which toppled and crushed them to death.

Which was the stronger weapon—great Goliath's sword or little David's sling? David had five smooth stones from the brook. He only used one in striking down Goliath. He had a surplus of ammunition; he had enough to take down four more giants if they had appeared in the way. It all depends upon weather God is on the side of the shepherd boy or on the side of the giant.

There have been many in our day who have ventured the opinion that Christianity is failing back, and that in fifty years it will be extinct. They found their opinion on the assumed fact that the Bible is not as much of a book as it used to be, and that portions of it are repulsive to the people. I reply by asking which one of the publishing houses of New York, Philadelphia, Boston, or Chicago is publishing the Bible to-day with the omission of a single verse or chapter? Are not our publishers intelligent men? And would they, contrary to their financial interests, continue to publish the Bible without the omission of a single chapter or a single verse if it were becoming an unpopular book and the people did not want it.

If Harpers or Appleton or Scribner or Lippincott should publish a Bible with the omission of certain chapters they would not sell ten copies in ten years. The fact that throughout Christendom there are hundreds or printing presses printing the word of God without the omission of a chapter or a verse proves that the Bible is popular, and the fact that there are more being printed in this decade than any other decade proves that the Bible is increasing in popularity.

A Popular Book.

I go through the courtrooms of the country. Wherever I find a judge's bench or a clerk's desk I find the Bible. By what other book would they take solemn oath? What is very apt to be among the bride's presents? The Bible. What is very apt to be put in the trunk of the young man when he starts for city life? The Bible. Voltaire predicted that the Bible during the nineteenth century would become an obsolete book. Well, we are pretty nearly through the nineteenth century; the Bible is not obsolete yet. There is not much prospect of its becoming obsolete, but I have to tell you that the room—the very room in which Voltaire wrote that prediction—some time ago was crowded from floor to ceiling with Bibles for Switzerland. Suppose the Congress of the United States should pass a law that no Bibles should be printed in the United States.

If there are 30,000,000 grown men and women in the country, then there would be 30,000,000 people armed against such a law. But suppose Congress of the United States should pass a law that Macaulay's history or Charles Reade's novels should not be read. Could you get half as large an army or the fourth as large an army? In other words, there are, as you know and I know, a thousand men who would die for their Bibles where there are fifty men who would die for any other book. The fact that there are now more Bibles being printed than ever before; that publishers find it a financial interest for them to continue the publication of the Bible, proves that this book is still the most popular book on the planet.

"But," say those who are antagonistic, "Christianity is falling back, from the fact that the church is not as much respected as it used to be and is not as influential." I reply to that with the statistic that one denomination—the Methodist Church—according to a statistic given me by one of their bishops, dedicates on an average a new church every day of the year. Three hundred and sixty-five new churches in one denomination in a year, and over a thousand new churches built every year in this country. Does that look as though the church were failing in its power and were becoming a wornout institution? Around which institution in our communities gather our most ardent affections?—the postoffice, the hotel, the court house, the city hall, or the churches?

Why, when our old Tabernacle was burning there were hundreds of men standing in the streets who never went to church, tears raining down their cheeks. It is because the church of God stands nearer the sympathies of the American people than any other institution. Men may caricature the church and call it a collection of hypocrites, but when their children are swept off with the diphtheria for whom do they send? To the postmaster, to the attorney general, to the aldermen, or to the ministers of the churches? And if there be not room for the obsequies in the private house what building do they solicit? The academy of music, the hotel, public hall, court house? No; the churches. And if they want music on the sad occasion do they select the "Marseillaise" hymn, or "God Save the Queen," or our own grand national air? No; they want the old hymn with which we sang their old Christian mother to sleep. They want the Sunday-school hymn that their little girl sang the last Sabbath afternoon she was out before she was seized with the awful sickness that broke father's heart and mother's heart. Oh, you know as well as I do—I shall not dwell on it any longer—the church of God, instead of being a wornout institution, stands nearer the sympathies of the people than it ever did and eclipses all other institutions.

But our antagonists go on and say that Christianity is falling back, in the fact that infidelity is bolder now and more blatant than it ever was. I deny the statement. Infidelity is not near so bold now as it was in the days of our fathers and grandfathers. There were times in this country when men who were opposed to the above bound infidel and antagonistic to Christianity could be elected to high office. Now let some man wishing high position in the State proclaim himself the foe of Christianity and an infidel, how many States of the Union will he carry; how many counties; how many wards in Brooklyn? Not one.

From Christianity to Infidelity.

Ah! my friends, infidelity in this day is not half as bold as it used to be. If it comes now, it is apt to come under the disguise of rhetoric or fantastic sentimentality. I know if a man with great intelligence does become an infidel and begins an attack on Christianity it makes great excitement—of course it does, and people come to the conclusion, weak minded Christians come to the conclusion that everything is going overboard because some man of strong intellect assails Christianity.

If a man jumps overboard from a Cunard steamer, he makes more excitement than all the 500 sane passengers who continue in the berths or on the decks. But does that sink the ship? Does that wreck all the 500 passengers? It makes great excitement when a man leaps from a platform or a pulpit into infidelity, but does that hinder our glorious Bible from taking its millions into the skies? I tell you infidelity is not half as bold now as it used to be.

"But," say our antagonists, "Christianity is failing back because science, its chief enemy, is triumphing over it." Now I deny that there is any war between science and revelation. There is not a fact in science that may not be made to harmonize with the statements of the Bible. So said Hugh Miller; so said Joseph Henry; so said Prof. Hitchcock; so said Prof. Silliman; so said Prof. Mitchell.

Joseph Henry, the leading scientist of America, better known and honored in the royal societies translantic than any other American, lived and died a believer in the religion of Jesus Christ. Joseph Henry knew all the facts of geology and yet believed the book of Genesis. He knew all the facts of astronomy and yet believed in the book of Joshua, the sun and moon standing still. Joseph Henry knew all the anatomy of man and fish and yet believed the book of Jonah.

If the scientists of the day were all agreed, and they came up with solid front to attack our Christianity, perhaps they might make some impression upon us, but they are not agreed. It is often said that the religionists are failing in our advocacy of Christianity because we differ in our theology. I tell you we do not differ inside the church in theology half as much as they differ outside the church in science. If they reject our religion because we differ on some minor points, we might just as well reject science because the scientists differ. But so far as I can tell the war of infidel science against Christianity is not so severe as it used to be, because these men are antagonistic to each other, and as far as I can tell it is going to be a war between telescope and telescope, Leyden jar and Leyden jar, chemical apparatus and chemical apparatus. They do not agree on anything.

Do you suppose that this Bible theory about the origin of life is going to be overthrown by men who have different theories—fifty different theories—about the origin of life? And when Agassiz comes out and puts both feet on the doctrine of evolution and says in regard to many scientists, "I notice that the most young naturalists are adopting as theories in science things which have not passed under observation," Agassiz saw what we all see—that there are men who talk very wisely who know but very little, and that just as soon as a young scientist finds out the difference between the reciera of a wasp and the horns of a beetle he begins to patronize the Almighty and go about talking about culture as though it were spelled c-u-l-c-h-a-r—culchar!

No Exact Sciences.

It makes me sick to see these literary fops going down the street with a copy of Darwin under one arm and a case of transfixed grasshoppers and butterflies under the other arm, talking about the "Survival of the Fittest" and Huxley's "Protoplasm," and the "Nebular Hypothesis," and talking to us common men as though we were fools! If they agreed in their theories and came up with solid front against Christianity, I say perhaps they might make some impression, but they do not agree. Darwin charges upon Lamarck, Wallace upon Cope. Herschel even charged upon Ferguson. They do not agree upon the question of the species; they do not agree about embryology. What do they agree about?

Herschel wrote a whole chapter on what he calls "Errors In Astronomy." La Place says that the moon was not put in the right place; that if it had been put four times the distance from our world there would have been more harmony in the universe. But Lionville comes up just in time to prove that the Lord was wise and put the moon in the right place. How many colors woven into the light? Seven, says Newton. Three, says David Brewster. How high is the aurora borealis? Two and a half miles high, says Lias. One hundred and sixty-five miles, says Twining. How far is the sun from the earth? Seventy-six million miles, says Lacaille; 82,000,000 miles, says Humboldt; 90,000,000 miles, says Henderson; 104,000,000 miles, says Mayer. Only a little difference of 28,000,000 miles! These men say we do not agree in religion. Do they agree in science? Have they ever come up with solid front to assault our glorious Christianity?

Encouraging Thoughts.

But my subject shall no longer be defensive—it must be aggressive. I must show you that instead of Christianity falling back it is on the march and that the coming religion of the world is to be the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ, 10,000 times intensified. It is to take possession of everything—or all laws, all manners, all customs, all cities, all nations. It is going to be so mighty as compared with what it has been—so much more mighty—that it will seem almost like a new religion.

I adopt this theory because Christianity has gone on straight ahead notwithstanding all the bombardment, and infidelity has not destroyed a church or crippled a minister or rooted out one verse of the Bible, and now their ammunition seems to be pretty much exhausted. They cannot get anything new against Christianity, and if Christianity has gone on under the bombardment of centuries and still continues to advance may we not conclude that, as the powder and shot of the other side seem to be exhausted, Christianity is going on with more rapid stride?

I find an encouraging thing in the thought that the secular press in this day and the pulpit seem harnessed in the same team for the proclamation of the gospel. To-morrow there will not be a banker on Wall street or State street or Third street who will not have in his pocket or on his table treatises on Christianity, calls to repentance and Scripture passages, twenty or thirty of them, in the reports of the Christian churches of this city and other cities. Why, that thing would have been impossible a few years ago. Now, on Monday morning and Monday evening, the secular press spreads abroad more religious truth than all the tract societies of the country spread in the other six days. Blessed be the tract societies! We hail them, and we hail these others.

I say it would have been impossible a few years ago. Hundreds of letters would have come to the secular newspaper offices: "Stop my paper. We have religion on Sunday. Don't give us any through the week. Stop my paper." But I have been told that many of the secular newspapers have their largest circulation on Monday morning, and the whole population of this country are becoming sermon readers. Besides that, have you not noticed that papers proclaiming themselves secular almost every week have religious discussion in them?

Go back a few years when there was not a decent paper in the United States that had not a discussion on the doctrine of eternal punishment. Small wits made merry, I know, but there was not an intelligent man in the United States that as a result of controversy in regard to eternal punishment did not ask himself the question, "What is to be my eternel destiny?" And so some years ago, when Tyndall offered his prayer gauge, there was not a secular paper in the United States that did not discuss the question: "Does God ever answer prayer? May the creature impress the Creator?" Are not these discussions encouraging to every Christian and every philanthropist? Besides that the rising generation are being saturated with Gospel truth as no other generation by this international series of Sunday-school lessons. Formerly the children were expected only to nibble at the little infantile Scripture stories, but now they are taken from Genesis to Revelation; the strongest minds of the country explaining the lessons to the teachers, and the teachers explaining them to the classes, and we are going to have in this country 5,000,000 youth forestalled for Christianity. Hear it! Hear it!

Besides that, you must have noticed, if you have talked on these great themes, that the one finding out that while science is grand in secular directions, worldly philosphy grand in secular directions, they cannot give any comfort to a soul in trouble.

Go to that woman who has lost her husband and tell her it was a geological necessity that that man passed out of existence just as the megatherium disappears in order to make room for a higher style of creature, and go on with your consolation and tell her that there is a possibility that 10,000,000 years from now we ourselves may be geological specimens on the geological shelf, petrified specimens of the extinct human race!

And after you have got all through with your consolation, if the poor afflicted soul is not utterly wearied, will send out the plainest Christian from my church, and with one half hour of prayer and the reading of Scripture promises the tears will be staid, and the consolation and the joy in that house will be like the calmness of an Indian summer sunset. There will be a glory flooding the house from floor to cupola. People are finding out themselves—and they all have troubles—they find that philosophy and science do not help them when there is a dead babe in the house. They are coming back to our glorious old fashioned sympathetic religion.

Emanuel's Banners.

Oh, young man, do not be ashamed to be found on the side of the Bible. Do not join those young men who in this day put their thumbs in their vest and swagger about the streets and stores, talking about the glorious nineteenth century, about its light being sufficient without any Bible, and without any Christ, and without any God. The time is coming—we may not live to see it, but I should not be surprised if we did see it—when this whole country is to be one great church, the forests the aisles, the Alleghany and the Rocky Mountains the pillars, the chain of inland lakes the baptistries, and the worship the halielujah chorus unto Him who was and is and shall be evermore. Oh, come over to the majority—come under the banners of Emanuel.

Where Rossetti Sleeps.

Dante Gabriel Rossetti is buried near the waves of his beloved German ocean in the churchyard of Birchington, a small village op the Isle of Thanet. He died in 1882 at his bungalow, on a cliff near by, and his grave is marked by a Celtic cross of stone, carved with designs by Ford Madox Brown. The head and arms of the cross are decorated with a spray ending in leaves, and two leafy branches right and left. The shaft has four panels, with reliefs. The upper compartment has a figure of Christ, fronting, and two figures right and left in profile. The panel below has a kneeling bull, with wings, to represent the evangelist. Being that is a kneeling painter, with canvas and easel before him, and his palette on his arm. The lowest panel is filled with a decorative scroll. There is a stained glass window to his memory in the little church.

SCENES IN THE SENATE

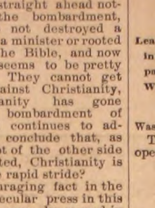
SOME OF THE MEN WHO MAKE SPEECHES.

Leaders Engaged in Parliamentary Dueling—Debates Bristle with Sharp Repartee—Conferences that Indicate Silent Warfare.

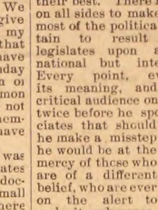
The Great Debate.

Washington correspondence:

The scenes in the Senate since the opening of the extra session have been remarkable for the regular and steady attendance of the Senators, the sincere interest of each of them in the utterances of their associates, and the crowded galleries. Each speaker is given strict attention of the Senate. The logic of the speech is followed and stored away, the data and statistics are read and analyzed. Seldom has any debate been so carefully followed and studied as that which has been going on for the past two weeks. Those who have been fortunate enough to be present in the Senate galleries have seen and heard the men of the nation at their best. There has been a struggle on all sides to make for each party the most of the political capital that is certain to result when Congress legislates upon a subject of not national but international import. Every point, every word has its meaning, and before such a critical audience one is bound to think twice before he speaks, for he appreciates that should he make a misstep he would be at the mercy of those who are of a different belief, who are ever on the alert to make it embarrassing for him. The debates bristle with sharp repartee, and give to the sessions of the Senate a sharpness and brilliancy that is unusual.

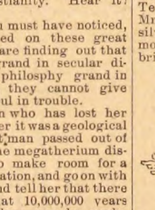


SENATOR WOLCOTT.



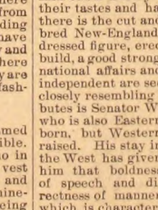
SENATOR LODGE.

The battle that is being waged on the floor is not apparent to the casual observer. In every motion that is made there is apt to be a hidden effort, and it takes the vigilance and quick insight of the leader to appreciate the meaning of his opponent and as quickly parry it with a motion that will benefit his side. The conferences that occur between these men are interesting and at the same time are indicative of the silent warfare that is going on. A motion or suggestion made by the Senator from Indiana (Mr. Voorhees) hurriedly calls together Mr. Teller, Mr. Stewart, Mr. Dubois, Mr. Peffer, Mr. Jones, and the other silver Senators. On the other hand, a move on the part of any of these will bring together Mr. Gorman, Mr. Voorhees and Mr. Faulkner, and with their heads together they will talk hurriedly, and as a result one of the latter two will make the motion, which will probably be carried out by the majority. It is very seldom that Mr. Gorman speaks to the Senate. He prefers to allow others to carry out his plans.



SENATOR M'PHERSON.

As a study of the aristocratic characters of the different sections of the country the Senate even affords better opportunities than the House. It would not be a difficult matter to analyze the temperaments of the Senator from Massachusetts, Mr. Lodge, or those of Mr. Peffer, from Kansas. Two men could hardly be more different in their tastes and habits. In Mr. Lodge there is the cut and dash of a collegebred New-Englander. The trim, well-dressed figure, erect and athletic in its build, a good strong head well posted on national affairs and a mind clear and independent are seen by his walk. Most closely resembling him in these attributes is Senator Wolcott, of Colorado, who is also Eastern born, but Western raised. His stay in the West has given him that boldness of speech and directness of manner which is characteristic of the West, while adding a robust constitution which allows of a powerful voice and force of gesture. For so young a man he attracts more attention to his speeches than is usual.



SENATOR SHERMAN.

Firmly identified with everything in the Senate that has a silver lining is Mr. Stewart of Nevada. He is known the world over as being for silver, free and unlimited as to its coinage, and in this respect he is one of the best-known characters in the Senate. He is one of the far Western self-made men, and though, perhaps, his power of oratory is not as magnetic as some of his fellow members, he is undoubtedly a thorn in the side of those who attempt to legislate against the white metal. He has an apparently everlasting fund of silver knowledge, and is ever prepared to stand for the rights of that metal.

Senator Sherman seems to have aged since the last session, but it was apparent from his recent speech that he has lost none of the fire and clear-headed manner of speech that has marked him as one of the most able men this country has produced. He is one of the parliamentarians of the Senate, and always ready to suggest the proper method of disposing of any question that comes before the body of which he is a member. Though he had a portion of his speech written out, he seldom referred to the notes, except for statistics or figures, and though he talked for nearly three hours he never hesitated or had to change his style of expression. He is seldom absent from the Senate, and is regarded as one of most valuable men that there are on the Republican side of the chamber for that party.

Perhaps, next to Senator Voorhees, the Democrat who is taking the most active part in the financial discussion is Senator McPherson of New Jersey. According to his own statement he appreciates that his party is now in control of the legislative branches of the country, and that it is responsible for all that is given to this country from Congress during this Congress at least. He has come forward as a strong friend of the administration in the present emergency, and on account of his experience and long service on the Finance Committee is one of Mr. Cleveland's most helpful lieutenants on the floor.

CORN CROP IS COOKED.

Great Maize Belt of the Country Much Affected by the Drought.

The September report of the statistician of the Department of Agriculture shows a decline in the condition of corn to 76.7 from 87 in the month of August and 93.2 in July, being a decline of more than 10 points from the August and over 16 from the July report. The change is marked in nearly all of the surplus corn States. The present condition is 75 in Kentucky, 64 in Ohio, 65 in Michigan, 59 in Indiana, 64 in Illinois, 96 in Iowa, 92 in Missouri, 74 in Kansas and 71 in Nebraska. In comparison with the September reports of the last ten years only three were lower—70.1 in 1890, 72.3 in 1887, and 76.6 in 1886. In the same month in 1882 the condition was 79.6 or nearly three points higher than the present month. There has been a general decline in the condition throughout the country due to the prevailing drought. The condition of wheat, considering both winter and spring varieties, when harvested was 74, against 85.3 in 1892. The general average is the lowest since 1885, when it was 72.

The reported conditions from correspondents in the principal wheat-growing States are as follows: Ohio, 98; Michigan, 80; Indiana, 88; Illinois, 60; Wisconsin; 80; Minnesota, 65; Iowa; 85; Missouri, 64; Kansas, 42; Nebraska, 55; South Dakota, 66; North Dakota, 67; Colorado, 89, and Oregon, 93. In the East, New York has 76; Pennsylvania, 93; Maryland, 98; Virginia, 96, and Texas, 68. In the New England, Eastern, and most of the Southern States the crop was harvested in good condition and the yield averaged well. The same can be said of Ohio. In Indiana the quality is good, but crop light, while in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska the yield is small and of an inferior quality, much of it grading No. 3 and under, while in some places it is reported to be worthless. In the Dakotas the yield is light, while the quality is generally good. In Iowa and Wisconsin the winter variety yielded well and was of good quality, while the spring yield was poor and of an inferior quality. In Minnesota the yield has been poor and not up to expectations, the quality generally being good, with some complaint of shriveled grain. In California and Oregon the quality of the grain is good up to an average, and the yield has been good except on lowlands where it was greatly damaged.

PEOPLE OF MANY CREEDS.

Nearly all the Great Religions Represented at Chicago.

Christians and Jews, Mohammedans, Buddhists, Brahmans and followers of about every religious creed in the civilized world met in one grand assembly in the Chicago Art Palace Monday morning for the first time in the history of the world. Time and again the greatest audience which has ever packed the Art Palace thundered its approval of the spirit of toleration and liberality which made possible the parliament of the religions of the world. The dark-skinned sectarians of the Oriental countries in their white and yellow robes and turbans sat side by side with the dark-gowned and hatted prelates of the Greek Church and a red cloaked and capped cardinal of the Church of Rome. Methodists, Presbyterians, Baptists, Campbellites and Unitarians laid by their differences on baptism and eternal punishment, foreordination and the vicarious atonement and joined hands with the followers of Confucius, Mahomet, Buddha and those of every sect. Nor was woman forgotten. She was given such recognition as would have been impossible a few decades ago.

Long before the hour for the opening of the session Columbus Hall was crowed with such an audience as was never within its doors before. Up stairs and down the aisles were filled with people and the passageways around the seats were packed with people five deep. Archbishop Feehan, the Rev. John H. Barrows, President Higinbotham and others delivered addresses of welcome and responses, and addresses to the occasion were delivered by Cardinal Gibbons; Archbishop Redwood, of New Zealand; Count A. Bernstorff, Berlin; the Most Rev. Dionysius Latas, Archbishop of Zante, Greece; Carl von Bergen, Sweden; Prof. C. N. Charkravarti, Dharmapala and P. C. Mozoomdar, India; the Hon. Pung Quang Yu, China; Principal Grant, Canada; Mrs. Laura Ormiston Chant, Rabbi E. G. Hirsch, Bishop B. W. Arnett, Miss Jeanne Serabji, Khersidji Laurasava, Bombay; and Mrs. Chapin.

Wheels Revolve Again.

GONIE woolen mills, West Rochester, N. H., resumed Monday.

ABERNETHY factory, Leavenworth, Kas., resumed, employing 300 men.

PAWTUCKET VALLEY Print Works, Rhode Island, resumed on full time.

COCHECO Manufacturing Company and Sawyer woolen mills, Dover, N. H., resumed.

AMERICAN Curled Hair Company, Central Falls, R. I., resumed with reduction of wages.

YOURTREE ore mine and Russellville coal mine, Russellville, Ala., resumed Monday, employing 2,000 men.

C. A. GODCHARLES' nail works and City Nail Works, Milton, Pa., resumed. Pennsylvania Paper Company, Lock Haven, Pa., resumed.

THE Peabody mills, at Newburyport, Mass., which have been shut down for the past five weeks, have started up. The corporation employs about 400 hands.

ILLINOIS INCIDENTS.

SOBER OR STARTLING, FAITHFULLY RECORDED.

Central Illinois Crops Short, Wells Dry, and Stock Suffering, Because of the Drought—Tried to Kill Her Family.

From Far and Near.

CAMPBELL S. HEARN has won the fight for the postmastership of Quincy.

MARTIN CASEY, of Jerseyville, drank a quantity of carbolic acid, thinking it was whisky. He lived an hour.

MRS. WILLIAM MCBRIDE died at her home in Jacksonville from heart disease. She had lived there half a century.

JACOB KELLER, of Chester, has received a six-year sentence for poisoning the food of the Young family. None of them died.

MICHAEL RYAN of Broadwell was adjudged insane in the Logan County court and sent to the State asylum at Jacksonville.

ROBERT MCEVOY, a stated clerk in the Merchants' National Bank at Chicago for twenty years, played the races and is a defaulter.

SIMON MARKS was fatally injured by being crushed by a horse while at work in a manhole in the North Side cable track, Chicago. A team of horses attached to a beer wagon stepped in it and fell upon Marks.

MRS. LUCY A. JOHNSON, of Kendallville, Ind., 40 years old, was held to the Criminal Court at Chicago in a bond of $200 for shoplifting by Justice Kersten. She had an underskirt ch with deep pockets, and every pocket held something, mostly from Siegel, Cooper & Co.'s store.

THE wife of Abijah Rambo, a farmer living a short distance from Golconda, attempted to hang two of her children, but was discovered in the act by her husband. While cutting them down he was attacked with a pitchfork by the infuriated woman and seriously if not fatally injured.

SEVERAL days ago Miss Lillie Smith was out driving in a buggy at Alton and accidentally stepped on a match that had been carelessly thrown into the vehicle. She did not know the match had ignited until her clothes were afire. There was no help near, and she ran screaming through the fields until she came to some farm hands, who extinguished the flames. She was so badly burned that she died.

THE North German Fire Insurance Company, of Hamburg, Germany, has deposited $200,000 of United States registered bonds in the insurance department for the protection of policy holders, and received a license to do business in Illinois. This is the first foreign company that has made a deposit in this State since the great fire in Chicago in 1871. The other foreign companies have their deposit in New York or Boston.

PEOPLE all over central Illinois are devoutly praying for rain. No rain, except light occasional showers, has fallen in that locality for 106 days, and this unprecedented drought has extended all over central Illinois. Old settlers say that they never knew a drought to equal it, unless it was in 1854, when a season perhaps equally as devoid of moisture was experienced. Farmers are suffering greatly and the danger to crops and pastures is incalculable, the oats crop being from thirty to forty bushels to the acre, whereas it should have been from fifty to sixty. Corn will range from twenty to forty bushels, while it should be from forty to sixty. Pastures have lost all their greenness, and farmers are required to feed their stock with grain. Wells have gone dry and farmers have to drive their stock many miles for water. An immense rain at Nashville broke the long drought Sunday. It was hailed with delight. Farmers can now put in their fall wheat. Also at Lincoln a shower broke the drought which had been upon that section for the last forty-seven days. Corn and potato crops are both cut short by the long-continued dry weather, but great good will be done in Logan County by Sunday.

EDWARD CONROY, a coal operator of Phœnixville, who was struck by a train at his mine, is dead.

CATCHING his foot in a frog, Patrick Buckley, employed by the Michigan Central, was cut to pieces at Chicago.

INQUEST upon the body of Peter Clark, at Lincoln, resulted in a noncommittal verdict. Neighbors suspect poisoning.

DESPERATE prisoners in jail at Belleville had planned to escape, but the sheriff put the ring-leaders in cells and ruined the plot.

GEORGE SAMUELS, operating a robbing lottery at Chicago, was arrested by Postoffice Inspector Stuart. He was caught by a ruse.

THOMAS BURFORD, who cut the throat of Peter Curtis at Belleville a month ago, has been arrested. His victim is recovering.

THE Union elevator at Louisville, Ky., owned by Robert Parkinson, of Carmi, this State, was burned. Loss, $20,000; insurance, $8,000.

CHICAGO bankers are practically unanimous that the silver repeal should come quickly and the 90 per cent limit on national bank issues be removed.

THE Anchor mill at Mt. Olive took fire and burned. The mill was owned by Keiser Bros., and the loss is estimated at $50,000; insured for $25,000.

AT Jacksonville Saturday night about 8 o'clock thieves entered the house of Ralph Reynolds, and made away with a gold watch, a diamond pin, and other valuables.

AN election was ordered by the Adjutant General in Company H, First Infantry, for a First Lieutenant, and to fill such other vacancies as may be existing at the time of the meeting.

JUSTICE KERSTEN, of Chicago, is of the opinion that the boy who will steal a paper from the doorstep of a neighbor is on the road to something worse and in need of a lesson that will be remembered. He fined three boys $20 and costs each for his offense.

IT has long been supposed that there was intentional error in the statement that operations at the Illinois Glass Works at Alton might remain indefinitely suspended. This suspicion was strengthened Wednesday by the starting of fire in one of the flint factories and the bustle of preparation for work throughout the plant.