

THE PIONEER

A Backward Glance at the Past Twelve Months.

STORY BRIEFLY TOLD

CHRONOLOGICAL ARRAY OF IMPORTANT EVENTS.

The Year of Our Lord Eighteen Hundred and Ninety-three Will Be Prominent in the History of the World—Its Changes, Progress Largely with Prosperity, but Drought, Disaster, and Devastation Were Not Escaped—Concise Review of Current Events.

January.
1. New York has 23 new cases of typhus fever.
2. Gigantic strike of coal miners in Saar district, Germany.
3. Fire at Memphis, Tenn., \$150,000 loss.
4. Fire at New York, \$100,000 loss.
5. Niagara frozen over.
6. Henry Duncanson lynched at Knoxville, Tenn.
7. Electric company's plant \$100,000.
8. Negro lynched at Hall, England.
9. Fire at St. Louis, \$100,000 loss.
10. Fall of Loan and Trust Company of Sioux City.
11. Army at Chicago.
12. Man-of-war leaves Hampton Roads for New York.
13. Sixteen killed by cyclone in Oklahoma.
14. Terrible storm sweep the States.
15. Flood parades at Lake Erie.
16. Death of W. G. Gould.
17. Pork advances over 100 per cent.
18. Liberty Bell arrives in Chicago.
19. Duke of Veragua and President Cleveland.
20. Six killed in fire at Burlington, Ia.
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February.
1. Opening of World's Fair by President Cleveland.
2. Heavy property loss in Miami Valley by fire.
3. Lewiston, O., reservoir, second largest in the country, breaks; great property damage.
4. Fire at Wall street; five firms fail; reformer appointed for the Corgate Trust.
5. Y. M. C. A. building, N. Y., broken; fire again.
6. German army bill defeated, Reichstag dissolved.
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March.
1. Three killed in collision at Joliet, Ill.
2. John J. Martin, ex-Governor of Iowa, chosen Senator by the Democrats and Populists.
3. John L. Mitchell, of Milwaukee, chosen Senator by Democrats.
4. Death of James G. Blaine at Washington.
5. Funeral of Blaine... Pottawatomie, Pa.
6. Senate passes Washburn's anti-opium bill.
7. Several storms in Northwest...
8. Death of Mrs. W. C. Whitney...
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April.
1. Five lives lost in burning hotel at Bradford, Pa.
2. Fire in Chicago...
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A CHRISTMAS SERMON

PULPIT FETTERED WITH HOLI-DAY GREEN.

Rev. Dr. Talmage's Sermon on Christ the Star—A Living, Speaking, Historic, and Evangelical Star—A Discourse That Glows with Eloquence.

Back in Brooklyn.

In the Brooklyn Tabernacle on Christmas day a great audience assembled to participate in the services. Standing before the organ, fettered with Christmas greens, this sermon was delivered by Rev. Dr. Talmage, after the chorals had sung "The Star of Bethlehem." Text, Revelation xlii, 16, "Behold, the bright and the morning star."

This is Christmas eve. Our attention and the attention of the world is drawn to the star that pointed down to the caravansary where Christ was born. How do you forget that Christ himself was a star. To that luminous fact my text calls us. It seems as if the natural world were anxious to make up for the damage it did our race in furnishing the forbidden fruit which wrought death among the nations, now the natural product shall become a symbol of blessing. The showering down of the wealth of the orchard will make us think of Him whom Solomon describes as the apple tree among the trees of the wood.

Behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. Behold, I am the bright and morning star. The meaning of my text is this: As the morning star precedes and promises the coming of the day, so Christ heralds the natural and spiritual dawn.

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Some fall on their faces. Some lie on their backs helpless and look up into what seems to them an unyielding sky. Some put their hair down over their eyes and look into the burning glare of a banquet—but this light burns on and burns on. Paul kept his eye on that morning star, until he would say: "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith." Edward Payson told his eye on that star until he could say, "Welcome, sweet Lord Jesus—welcome, eternity." No other star ever pointed a mariner into as safe a harbor, no other star ever sunk its silver anchor into the waters. No other star ever pierced such accumulated cloud or beckoned with such a holy lustre.

With lanterns and torches and a guide, we went down in the Mammoth cave to the depth of the burning lamps of a banquet—but this light burns on and burns on. Paul kept his eye on that morning star, until he would say: "I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought the good fight. I have finished my course. I have kept the faith." Edward Payson told his eye on that star until he could say, "Welcome, sweet Lord Jesus—welcome, eternity." No other star ever pointed a mariner into as safe a harbor, no other star ever sunk its silver anchor into the waters. No other star ever pierced such accumulated cloud or beckoned with such a holy lustre.

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