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A LESSON OF BETHLEHEM.

The season has again come, when all Christians reverently join in celebration of the advent to this earth, of our Lord and Redeemer. Catholic and Protestant, Slav and Greek, Armenian and Kopt, all unite in adoration at the manger in Betblehem. For they have all heard, reverberating through the ages, the "Gloria in Excelsis" that was sung by the heavenly hosts, and they have seen, by faith, the star that guided the eastern Magi to the land of promise. "Come now! let us go unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which has come to pass, which the Lord made known to us." Thus, the shepherds, after they had been enraptured by heavenly harmonles; thus, every soul who has a testimony that Jesus is the Christ.

But one of the great lessons of Bethlehem is but imperfectly understood. Man is apt to esteem the importance of an event by the pomp and splendor accompanying it. But here is neither, though the King of kings and the Lord of lords has made His entrance into the world. To unenlightened human understanding it appears incredible that God could manifest Himself in this manner, without convulsions of nature. Apocryphal writers speak of the awful moment of nativity, when "the pole of heaven" was motionless and the entire creation stood still in expectation. This seems natural to the human understanding. But there were no such manifesta-In the humble khan, or tions. lodginghouse at Bethlehem, the shepherds found an innocent babe in a manger. They beheld a Galilean peasant whose hands bore the marks of toll and whose countenance was furrowed by the finger of trouble that had dwelt in his heart; they saw a young mother who, since there was none to help her, wrapped her infant with her own, tender hands; and upon further inquiry they would have found a condition impossible to human segacity to explain? A virgin mother, a promised husband! Whatever of glory there was in that humble resting-place of the Son of God, was visible only to the eye of faith. It is true, that then and there, the fountains of the great deep were opened and the salvation of the nations burst forth; but human society went on as before; each one was taken up by his own little affairs, and only a few-very few-realized that God had sent the promised Messiah It is this leason the world is slow to grasp. And on that account it has misunderstood the signs of our times, as it misunderstood the signs of that age. It has rejected Joseph the Prophet, as it rejected Jesus, his Master, and for similar reasons. May we learn the lesson of the coming of the Son of Man, at Bethlehem, that we may be prepared, as were Simeon and Anna, to hall Him with joy, at His second appearance.

terrestrial nation, and though it is not yet fully grown to show its superiority, it has all the essentials for the achieves ment of the latter. It casts its shadow over all the neighboring nations, and gradually absorbs them. It has conquored the Crimea, the Caucasus, eastern Siberia, the outlying western terris tories, and now where Russia is, there will never be aught else. The Tartars already speak Russian among them. selves, and the same will happen every-

where. We shall erowd out also your English, both from Egypt and India. Russia is unconquerable." With such views about intional

groatness and a national destiny, Russian rulers must necessarily be slow in granting reforms in a liberal direction. But, in all probability, the movement started will continue until every moderate demand is granted. The Russians themselves will be made to realize that they are very far from prepared for the role of a world educator. As one of their authors says:

"Exceptional national wisdom is surely a great force, but where is it with us? Is it expressed in the almost universal ignorance of the Russian universal ignorance of the Russian people at the time when all 'de neigh-boring nations, white and yellow, have a more or less assured system of popu-lar education? Ability to read and write is something which, with suf-ficient demand, could become a com-mon possession in a balt-century. With us, it is a bixary a thousand years after St. Cyril. Or is our national wis-dom expressed by high morality, by a longing for temperance, popular de-corum; in customs of civic digoity, in the perfection of government system? religious field. Dec. 31;

the perfection of government system? With us, popular morality is considerably lower than with our neighbors. Popular dishonesty, 'graft,' cruelty, dissipation, drunkenness, lack of respect for human rights-this course cynicism pervades the population to its very heart. If the spiritual might of a people is expressed by its creative power, I ask, where is it? Our pational art is insignificant, and there is hardly any national literature at all. Our culture is entirely borrowed, and

is, notwithstanding, the poorest in the

When the people generally realize their shortcomings and failings, there will be no obstacle to reform in the spirit of the age. But as long as they labor under the delusion of national superiority, reform work will be, at best, very slow.

THE APE THEORY.

Som time ago it was noticed that scientists no longer are satisfied with the Darwinian theory of the origin of species. Now, a contributor to the Chicago Record-Herald takes up that discussion and points out that different theories generally depend upon different interpretations placed upon facts known and admitted. "It is easy," he says, "to re-read very different meanings from the same facts, and to find false readings from a limited number of facts throughout the entire literature of evolution. There is almost THAT INVESTIGATION.

The following comment is from the Lewiston Tribune, quoted by the Pocatello Advance of Dec. 20:-

"The testimony at least seems to show that the membership of the Church at large is not very intelligent ing largely immigrants converted oad, and that the strong hand of Priesthood hus made of them ifty, industrious, temperate and law-ding people. If they are prone to influenced in their politics by their eaders it is no more than a very re-spectable element of other sects may be accured of with equal justice. The

two or three cases of new polygamy that have been admitted by them con-stitute a very creditable record compured with that of other people and considering their previous religious be-lief in the institution. The facts

all seem to show that this abominable practice has disappeared much more rapidly and readily than could really have been supposed and is leaving that sect with quite as clean skirts as denominations can show. Otherwise, while their religion seems bizarre, like the Zionites of the Trapplats, it is a matter that concerns themselves and their hopes for the hereafter more than it does others

who have need of providing for their own hereafter. We may all continue to enjoy the unique testimony in the case as we did when Dowle was on the rack, and still live at amity in the ame state with them without bringing the heavy hand of the law upon their peculiarities or doctrinal yagar-ies unless we decide to regulate all other dissenters or speculators in the

This is from the Ogden Standard of

"And so the protestants in the senate investigation in the Smoot case have completed the introduction of their testimony. And what have they proved? From a heterogeneous mass of known facts and vair imaginings they have proved that a few nen, most of them having passed the allotted three-score-and-ten years of life, are still contribting to the support of families by plual wives; one or two have a aintaining polygamous relation out

n each classification the cuses so proved are so isolated as to prove the act that polygamy is a ques of the past, that it is no longer proceed by the members of the Mormon Church and that the leaders of that Church liscountening such marriages. That me or two may have occurred cannot impeach the position of the Church any rity of the civil authorities who are sworn to enforce the laws. "As a matter of fact it was known

to the people of Utah at the time state. hood was first requested that a num-ber of the older members of the Church had plural wives and maintained polygamous relations. But it was recog-ulzed that time would soon eliminate he conditions; that they did not stand in the way of the new order of things, but they simply wished to live up to the vows they had made before the manifesto or the Edmunds-Tucker law ad made such vows a violation of both the law of the Church and of the

"And recognizing these facts, the Centiles and Mormons united in the demand for statehood with the tacit nderstanding that no cognizance should be taken of such cases, leaving it to time and nature to solve the prob-

on was about to adjourn :

mong the delegates.

Chauncey M. Depew doesn't seem to need sympathy so much as votes.

Hang up the baby's stocking and be sure you don't forget, for the dear little darling has never seen Christmas yet.

Battling Nelson has fallen on evil days. Beaten by Britt, he now accuses his manager of beating him out of the money he got.

If Nan Patterson has a second trial the A. P. will do the public a real service by cutting down as much as possible the report of it.

If the winter brings iltile snow and the apring less rain, for a solution of the water question recourse may have to be had to the barn stormers.

King Peter has signed the law suppressing freedom of the press in Servia. Freedom of the press in Servia was but a will of the wisp at hest.

President Anton H. Lund will address the Scandinevian Saints at their meeting in Assembly Hall, tomorrow, at 10 o'clock a. m. A fine musical program will also be rendered, and all interested are cordially invited.

The New York World of Sunday has a half page half tone of the President and his cabinet. All, excepting the President, are plainly conscious that they are having their picture taken. He is reading. What? The "Strenuous Life" or the "Simple Life?"

Attention is called to the quarterly conference of the Ensign stake, which is held tomorrow. There will be no morning session, but a special, very interesting program has been prepared for the afternoon session in the Tabernacle, and a large attendance is expected.

A considerable portion of the English press practically accuses the Russlan government of stooping to subornation of perjury in the North sea ineldent. It shows that the stald, honmore than bigamous marriages or a est conservative and only upright press proven violation of the marriage vows in the world can be just as yellow as in other states can attaint the integ- the press of any other country when est, conservative and only upright press. occasion arises.

> 'The "News" asknowledges the receipt of a little pamphlet, "A Quill from a Canada Wild Goose," with fraternal greetings from the Manitoba Free Press, Winnipeg, Canada. The pamphlet contains a description of the manufacture of quills, which seems to be quite an industry yet; also an Indian legend concerning the wild goose. It is accompanied by a quill, the genuine article.

Bourke Cockran in a debate in New York the other day characterized the public schools as "agnostic and anti-Christian." Had a "Mormon" said cated as a result of the exhibition. Four em. And so far as these cases have that, what a howl would have gone up twautiful reproductions of pictures and brilliancy to the art section. The exploited in the investigation all over the land! The "Mormons there has been nothing new given to the people of Utab and if there is any would have been denounced as enemies blame it attaches alike to every Gentile as well as every Mormon in Utah, for the lives of these men were as an open book to every clilzen of the state be-book to every clilzen of the state beof the public schools and traitors to ran and his church? fore statehood was asked for or con-



See Announcement of Our Before Inventory Clearance Sale on Another Page.

clous stones will find the article on "A City Bullt on Rubies" a very graphic account of the ruby mines at Mogok, in Burma, the largest in the world. The volcanoes in the world have been un usually active of late, and the brief descriptions of visits to Vesuvius, by W. N. Jennings, and to Taal and My-one, in the Philippines, by Willard French, are full of interest. The Am-erican invasion of Oxford by the Rhodes Scholars is the theme of Stan-bar & Monhoek's article. "The Rhodes ley K. Hornbeck's article, "The Rhodes Scholar at Oxford." Students of America will be gratified to read, in Lella Meclin's review of the recent "Com-parative Exhibition of Native and Foreign Art" in New York, that the work

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ZEMSTVOS TURNED DOWN.

The Czar, It seams, has decided to pay no attention to the agitation for a constitution and representative government. This can cause no surprise We believe the petitions formulated by the zemstvo presidents summoned to St. Petersburg, came as a surprise to all interested. The zematyos are sup posed to be looking after local affairs. such as roads, charitable institutions, etc., and when they were asked to suggest needed reforms, it was, no doubt, taken for granted that they would contine themselves to their own domain. and not meddle with national politics. But, in their first meeting they decided that the fils of Russia could not be cured by the local application of palliatives, but that a radical treatment was needed; and so they demanded a constitution and popular representation. This

was too much for the Czar's advisers. Nor is this to be wondered at. Every true Russian firmly believes that the destiny of Russia is to mave the world from ecclesiastical and political anarchy. Every loyal son of Russia expects other forms of government to fall to pieces, and give room for the form Shapespeare, Paul, Plato, Aristotle, under which they are living. How can they, then, abolish that form, or even modify it by the adoption of others? Not long ago a son of Tolstol said: "You may rest assured that we and not you are to realize your dream of a universal empire. And we shall achieve that naturally by force of circumstances jus, ideals, aspirations as far removed and of destiny. The people that posfrom the intellectual sphere of monsesses the northern portion of the earth keys, as heaven is from earth. Hisfrom the Finnish cliffs to the waste of tory is decidedly against the ape the-

nothing final about science. Every phase of life is capable of higher, truer interpretations, and doubtless this will continue to be so. This conclusion is justified by the very theory of evolution Itsolf."

Our author is particularly emphatic in his protest against the so-called "tall theory." He challenges the proposition of Haeckel, that "the rudimen-NON-UNION BREAD AND BUNS. tary little tail of man is an irrefutable proof of the fact that he is descended Very often the good but misguide from tailed ancestors." He Illustrates union people do the most absurd things his position by the evolution of the n their geal for unionism and never see typewriter. If, he says, any one of he humorous side of their acts. The these scientists will go to an exhibition following incident, the account being of typrewriting machines he will see intaken from a New York paper, is an dubitable proofs of the evolution of nstance of this kind: that useful article. In each of the first The meeting at the Central Federat. dozen invented he will note a mechanical principle. In the next dozen in the tay when the delegate of the Bakers union, in indignant voice, excisimed: ascending scale he will find that prin-'Mr. Chairman, I want the favor of ciple repeated, exactly in five or six the floor,' "'What is it you want?' asked the cases, and modified in others. In the third dozen of the ascending series he hairman 'An outrage has been committed. Non-union bread and bung were will find new principles of more importance, or the original mechanical eaten at the banquet given by the Na-tional Civic federation at which Auprinciple eliminated and superseded by gust Belmont was made president another. Thus we find "vestiges" and lace of the late Senator Hanna. Those postles of labor. Samuel Gomers ohn Mitcheil and others prominent in "rudimentary structures" somewhere along the line in the evolution of every mechanism. Now, I wish to ask if this abor circles were present and made no proves that one machine gave birth to "There was a tremendous sensation

or caused to exist the next machine in the ascending scale? The question he answers in the neg-

"'And that isn't all,' roared little Morris Brown of the Cigarmakers union, as he jumped up excitedly ative and continues: ompers, Mitchell and the whole labo "Compare the physical organisms of

ombination smoked non-union eigars with Belmont, President Eliot and oth a man and an ape and there seems to be much reason in the Darwinian the-ory that 'man is descended from a ers. It is an everlasting disgrace to the labor movement,' "Then the delegates went outside, so hairy, tailed quadruped, probably ar-boreal in its habits.' However, those they could have room to laugh." belleve this theory have compared Could there be any greater outrage. only the physical organisms. The very a more everlasting disgrace than that ioment that the attempt is made to non-union bread and buns should have ompare an npe with a man as in-lividual entities, taking into account been eaten at the banquet given by the heir whole natures, then the theory National Civic federation? In the naitterly fails. The two species diff r oo radically in their essential identitional catalogue of crimes against

George III there is no such charge as The distinction between man and he animal is the absolutely impassa-le gulf of rational and moral capacity that, Against Jefferson Davis and the Southern Confederacy, there is no such Neither apes per natural selection ever produced human beings." charge. In the indictment against Spain for her cruel and oppressive rule in

The similarity observed can be, we Cuba there was nothing of this nature; are told, much more satisfactorily acnot even Aguilaido was ever accused of counted for by assuming that God, or ating non-union bread and buns. nature (the name makes no difference) The matter is so serious that there has used some of the same materials in should be a congressional investigation various combinations to create every of the matter, conducted under the structure that exists, "The same orauspices of the bureau of labor. ganic and mechanical principles are re-Down with non-union bread and mated over again in various species buns! out that fact does not prove that one pecies ever produced another and dif-The storm was far more extensive ferent species. It simply proves that han intensive. he life forces of nature are proceeding on established lines, with variations

Galileo and Isaac Newton, Luther

monuments, that testify to lofty gen-

The politicians may be cutting ice but more or less efficient, in accordance the formen are not. with the general tendency of progress. It is a question upon which science Christmas comes but once a year, certainly has not spoken its last worde herefore let's be jolly History, as far as its testimony goes, I against the ape theory. As we turn A little snow now and then is relishits pages and note the ancestry of the ed by the best of men. ace, we do not find a gradually descending scale toward the animal

Whenever the Japanese have that kingdom. We notice names such as ired feeling they just take a fort for it. Many a man who thinks that he is Socrates, Solon, Solomon, David, sounding a keynote is only making a

Moses, Abraham, Noah. No matter how shrlek. far back we follow the beaten path of history, there is no trace of an animal The public will have to keep on guessing whether or not Nan Patterancestry. And even back of recorded history, man has raised his eternal son killed Caesar Young.

> His friends say there is no bee in Secretary of War Taft's bonnet, Hasn't the Secretary any bonnet?

ON RELIGIOUS TOPICS.

Dickinson in the Independent Review. Faith, in the sense in which I am using the term, is distinguished from anowledge, but is not necessarily opposed to it, though it may easily be usied into opposition. And, being distinguished from knowledge, the kind if assurance it gives is not, or should ot be, intellectual certainty. On the contrary, faith would seem to be an expression of the imagination and the iil, rather than of the intellect, though it be from the intellect that it takes its form. It is closer to music and poetry than to science. It is the veration of our passion and our desire, aping in anticipation the forms and estures of the unknown land which we about to explore. I know no better netaphor for it than that-the passion in the explorer's heart, dictating the vision by which he is led. Because there is a horizon, because there is space, because there is the unknown, therefore there is faith. Columbus had faith. But what he discovered was not the world of his dream. Only the dream And, spiritelped him to discover it. ually, we are all in his position. We are Columbuses setting forth on our voyage. We need our dream, but we need also our compass. And the confirmation or dissipation of the dream hangs upon reality.

Rabbi Solomon Schechter.

Among the various causes which conribute to make me doubt latter-day theories as to the rise and conclusion of the canon was the discovery of the riginal Hebrew of the book of Ec-lesiasticus, or the book of the Wisdom d Jesus, the son of Sirach. It is the only ewish literary production coming down o us from that dark period which can poast of something like a date. It can not be placed before about 280 B. C., or much later than 200 B. C. It was much later than 200 B. C. It was Sirach who made use of Ecclesiastes, not Ecclesiastes of Sirach. Ecclesiarter must therefore have formed a part of he canon long before 280 B. C. A grea leal of the work in the problems of theology which the last century has left as is badly in need of revision. What we should endeavor to do in our study of the Bible is to understand also the men of God, the law-givers, prophets, and psalmists, whose words we are studying, and this can be done only by means of sympathy, love, and faith.

Northwestern Christian Advocate. Many a man has good, even exalted, riews of life, or, at any rate, can write and speak well on the subject, whose practise suggests his written and spoken views only by contrast. A once noted writer and lecturer on art, Oscar Wilde, about whom many persons in our own country fairly raved, was committed to prison in England for a most revolting crime. We all know how easy It is to be moved by the thought of high motives and ideals and imagine nothing could be more beautiful than the realization of these dreams. The truth, of course, is that, as Longfellov says, we reach the summit round by dream would fail. A candidate for church membership once appeared before the great Rowland Hill and told of a dream by which he had been greatly affected and which finally led to the hearing of ermons and then to a desire for union with the Church. Rowland Hill replied: "We do not wish to despise a good man's dreams, but we will tell you what we think of the dream after we have how you go on when you are seen awake."

RECENT PUPLICATIONS.

The most striking paper in the Jan-uary number of the Brooklyn Magazine is N. T. Bacon's prediction of the world-wide results likely to follow the

recently consecrated Roman Catholic Cathedral of Westminster, London, described by Marion Elliston as "The Crowning Glory of Byzantine Art." The dramatic article for the month is an interview with Madame Rejane by Frederic Lees. Two stories appeal to the readers of fiction. The longer one is by Robert Barr and is called "The Story of the second Brother: A Case , անձիրիականական անդանական անդանական անձին ա Triple Personality." The shorter one is a New Year's legend of the Canadian woods by W. Victor Cook, and entitled "The Phantom Canoe."-1323 Walnut St., Philadelphia.



The Pope Bloycle Daily Memoranlum Calendar for 1905 contains a memorandum leaf for every day in the year, and 365 original sayings in favor of good roads, good health, outdoor ex-ercise, and the blcycle,-143 Sigel St. Chicago, Ill.





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