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PILES

THE PARSON'S LEAP-YEAR.

"It's a very pleasant parish," said the Rev. Mr. Racquet, "and very pleasant people. The elder ladies are steady, consistent workers; the younger are active and enthusiastic. I don't think, if I had possessed the privilege of selecting for myself, I could have found a more delightful position."

Mr. Roderic Racquet was 2[illegible], with a straight nose, pleasant blue eyes, and a general talent for being satisfied with everything and everybody. He was located in his first parish—a picturesque little knot of houses, overhanging a brisk cataract which made work for mills and factories, and filled all the adjacent woods with its noisy melody; and, so far, he was one of those exceptions in life—a perfectly satisfied man.

"Ah," said his friend, Mr. Alton who was a misanthrope. "The ladies, eh?"

"Yes," said Mr. Racquet, quietly; for, of course, you know that much of the prosperity of a country parish depends upon its female members."

"Yes," observed Mr. Alton, dryly. "You are an unmarried man, I believe?"

"I am an unmarried man—yes, certainly."

"And this is—leap-year."

"Nonsense!" cried the parson, briskly.

"I hope you may find it nonsense," said Mr. Alton, pursing his lips; "but I am told that there are a good many single ladies this year who are driven desperate by the prospect of spinsterhood—"

"Nonsense!" again exclaimed Mr. Racquet. "My dear Alton, this is a [illegible]

[illegible]

gasped Mr. Racquet. "My decision is irrevocable."

And hurriedly gathering his papers, he caught his pen and feigned great assiduity once more.

"I see you are busy," said Rosa, softly, after an instant of hesitation.

"Yes," said Mr. Racquet. "I am rather busy."

"Then perhaps I had better bid you good morning," said Rosa.

"Good morning, Miss Appleton," said the clergyman, with his eyes glued to the paper.

"What!" he cried, after the fashion of the soliloquizing heroes of the stage, "marry that wrinkled, cross-eyed hag against my will, just because she wants some one to provide for her, and it is leap-year! And worst and cruelest of all, to think that Rosa herself should come to propose it!"

Just then Rosa's voice, soft and plaintive, talking to the old housekeeper in the kitchen, below, chimed upon his ear. Involuntarily he listened.

"I know it is very foolish in me to cry, Mrs. Megson," faltered Rosa; but, indeed, I can't help it. You see we heard you were going away next week, and Lucilla was so anxious to obtain the situation of housekeeper. She's so middle-aged and steady-going, you know, that it would be the best place for her."

"Certainly, certainly, Miss Rosa," said the good-natured Mrs. Megson. "And what objection did the master possibly have to it?"

"I don't know," said Rosa, "but he was so cold and stern, and short with me. He didn't seem a bit like himself. And, oh, Mrs. Megson, please give me [illegible]

[illegible]

EDISON'S PROGRESS.

[illegible]

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The bayonet is not a fit instrument for collecting the votes of freedom.—W. S. Hancock.

An $80 diamond ring floated away from Lafayette, Ind. A child tied it to the string of a toy balloon, and let it go.

The war for the Union was successfully closed more than fifteen years ago. All classes of our people must share alike in the blessings of the Union, and are equally concerned in its perpetuity and the proper administration of public affairs. [W. S. Hancock.

Mrs. Mary Bell, of Brooklyn, New York, belabored Rev. Samuel Halsey with an umbrella, driving him into the Church door, and exclaiming, "go in there, old Brigham Young, and the women you are trying to lead to hell."

A young wife remonstrating with her husband on his dissipated habits, was answered: "I am like the prodi-[illegible]

[illegible]

Choice of a Husband.

[illegible]

Death of James Bruce.

[illegible]

THE CHINESE QUESTION.

We Must Send Our Own Laborers to the Poor-House and Penitentiary in Order to Convert Them—Dr. Talmage Talks to His Broad-Clothed Congregation About the Heathen Chinee.

This was the second sermon of Dr. Talmage since his return from the Pacific Coast, and the great Tabernacle was thronged with an attentive audience. The opening hymn was the favorite missionary slogan:

"From Greenland's icy mountains,
From India's coral strand."

The following is a verbatim report of the sermon:

Subject: "The Chinese in America."

Text—Luke x. 29: "Who is my Neighbor?"

A keen lawyer had Christ under cross-examination and this was one of the questions. Christ's answer enlarged the idea of neighborhood, and the idea has been enlarged ever since. It once seemed a figure of speech to call people on the other sides of the earth our neighbors, but nations are so rapidly intermixed, steam power from Southampton to New York, from China to San Francisco, and iron tracks across the continents and cables under all the seas, make the world one neighborhood. Is the Chinaman a neighbor? Does he belong to the race of which God is the Father? Is he a brute or an immortal? How ought you to treat him? Must he be welcomed or driven back? Will be help or hurt us? [illegible]

[illegible]

make it. False again! They pay rent in San Francisco for residences, wash-houses, and so on, $2,400,000 yearly. Would you not consider $2,400,000 added to the income of Brooklyn a prosperous condition? The Chinese pay to the State of California a tax of over $4,000,000. They paid in Custom-house duties to the United States in one year $9,494,379. Now, take that falsehood back about Chinese not paying any money where they make it. I do not wonder that many of them send home their money and do not make large investments in this country. How much of your money would you invest in a land where you were not allowed citizenship, and might any moment have to suffer outrage or expatriation? I do not wonder that they have their bones sent back to China.

If you and I were treated as badly in Brooklyn as the Chinese have been treated in California, we would not want to be buried within 3,000 miles of the place where such indignity was possible. We would argue: If they do such things to us while we have our arm strong for defense, what may they not do when we become harmless? But what an inconsistent thing it is for us to complain that they send their money home! Have we not for the last twenty years been complimenting and praising the German and Irish serving maids for that, denying themselves almost every comfort, they have sent [illegible]

[illegible]

have them Christianized, and then multitudes sent back for the evangelization of their native country.

Now, my friends, these Chinese are either our inferiors, our equals or our superiors. If they are inferior, there is no danger that they will ever become our masters. Flat skulls cannot rule high foreheads. Stupidity will never dominate large brain. If they are our equals, then they ought to have equal rights. If they are our superiors, then we cannot afford to insult them. Do you know who these men are? Their ancestors have forgotten more than we ever knew. Education is far more general in China than in America. You cannot find a Chinaman that cannot read and write his own name. Ages before other nations heard of it the Chinese invented printing, paper, making gun powder, the mariner's compass and porcelain. Five hundred years before Christ came Confucius anticipated the Golden Rule, and when asked to compress into one sentence a directory for human life, said, "Do not unto others what you would not have them do unto you."

I think the Chinese are God's favored nation. Why? Because He has made more of them than any other kind of people. Moreover He has made China the wealthiest of all lands. Oh, the ruby, and the amethyst, and the porphyry and the turquoise, and the jasper [illegible]

[illegible]

tablishing that all colors before God and the law had equal rights, when I saw that party surrender that national principle which they had purchased with the blood of 500,000 men, and widowhood and orphanage, all the land over, making a different regulation for the yellow man from what they had made for the black man, I said of that party, "Her scepter is gone."

The simple fact is this: In 1784, nearly a century ago, the American flag first appeared in Chinese port. Ever since we have been begging the Chinese people to come out and come over and be sociable and neighborly. In 1844 the Government of the United States said practically: "Oh, you dear Chinese! Do come over and see us. Come and bring your work with you." In 1858 we practically said: "Oh, you dear, dear Chinese, we can't live without you. Do, do come and see us and live with us." In 1867 we sent Mr. Burlingame, a skillful embassador, to say practically: "Oh, you dear, dear Chinese, you have no idea how much we think of you! You are on our minds and hearts day and night. We dream about you."

Mr. Burlingame acted so pleasantly that he has been deified by the Emperor of China, and has become one of the gods of that Nation. The Chinese said: "Will you protect us?" "Oh, yes, you shall not only be protected, but you shall be welcomed. You shall [illegible]

[illegible]

Talmage's Angels Visited by the President's Party.

[illegible]

One Hundred and Eight Years Old and Spry.

[illegible]