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VOL. LXXVIII. NO. 12. EASTON, MD., SATURDAY, FEB. 24, 1894. $1 50 PER YEAR.

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A PATH THAT SHINES.

REV. DR. TALMAGE PREACHES UPON THE LIGHTNING OF THE SEA.

An Unusually Attractive and Eloquent Sermon—The Pathway of the Almighty—An Irradiated Wave of Gladness—The Glow of Good Deeds.

BROOKLYN, Feb. 18.—In the Brooklyn Tabernacle this forenoon Rev. Dr. Talmage preached an unusually attractive and eloquent gospel sermon to a crowded audience, who listened with rapt interest. The subject was "The Lightning of the Sea," the text selected being Job xxxvi, 32, "He maketh a path to shine after him."

If for the next thousand years ministers of religion should preach from this Bible, there will yet be texts unexpounded and unexplained and unappreciated. What little has been said concerning this chapter in Job from which my text is taken bears on the controversy as to what was really the leviathan described as disturbing the sea. What creature it was I know not. Some say it was a whale. Some say it was a crocodile. My own opinion is it was a sea monster now extinct. No creature now floating in Mediterranean or Atlantic waters corresponds to Job's description.

LIGHTNING OF THE SEA.

What most interests me is that as it moved on through the deep it left the waters flashing and resplendent. In the words of the text, "He maketh a path to shine after him." What was that illumined path? It was phosphorescence. You find it in the wake of a ship in the night, especially in rough weather. Phosphorescence is the lightning of the sea. That this figure of speech is correct in describing its appearance I am satisfied by an incident. After crossing the Atlantic the first time and writing from Basle, Switzerland, to an American magazine an account of my voyage, in which nothing more fascinated me than the phosphorescence in the ship's wake, I called it the lightning of the sea. Returning to my hotel, I found a book of John Ruskin, and the first sentence my eyes fell upon was his description of phosphorescence, in which he called it the lightning of the sea."

Down to the postoffice I hastened to get the manuscript, and with great labor and some expense got possession of the magazine article and put quotation marks around that one sentence, although it was as original with me as with John Ruskin. I suppose that nine-tenths of you living so near the seacoast have watched this marine appearance called phosphorescence, and I hope that the other one-tenth may some day be so happy as to witness it. It is the waves of the sea diamonded; it is the inflorescence of the billows; the waves of the sea crimsoned as was the deep after the sea fight of Lepanto; the waves of the sea on fire.

There are times when from horizon to horizon the entire ocean seems in conflagration with this strange splendor as it changes every moment to tamer or more dazzling color on all sides of you. You sit looking over the taffrail of the yacht or ocean steamer, watching and waiting to see what new thing the God of beauty will do with the Atlantic. It is the ocean in transfiguration; it is the mariner world casting its garments of glory in the pathway of the Almighty as he walks the deep; it is an inverted firmament with all its stars gone down with a splash.

No picture can present it, for photographer's camera cannot be successfully trained to catch it, and before it see hand of the painter drops its pencil, ashamed and powerless.

This phosphorescence is the appearance of myriads of the animal kingdom arising, falling, playing, flashing, living, dying. These luminous animalcules for nearly 150 years have been the study of naturalists and the fascination and solemnization of all who have brain enough to think. Now, God, who puts in his Bible nothing trivial or useless, calls the attention of Job, the greatest scientist of his day, to this phosphorescence, and as the leviathan of the deep sweeps past points out the fact that "he maketh a path to shine after him."

WAKE MADE BY A BAD MAN.

Is that true of us now, and will it be true of us when we have gone? Will there be subsequent light or darkness? Will there be a trail of gloom or good cheer? Can any one between now and the next 100 years say of us truthfully as the text says of the leviathan of the deep, "He maketh a path to shine after him?" For we are moving on. While we live in the same house, and transact business in the same store, and write on the same table, and chisel in the same studio, and thrash in the same barn, and worship in the same church, we are in motion and are in many respects moving on, and we are not where we were 10 years ago, nor where we will be 10 years hence. Moving on!

Look at the family record, or the almanac, or into the mirror, and see if any one of you is where you were. All in motion. Other feet may trip and stumble and halt, but the feet of not one moment for the last 60 centuries has tripped or stumbled or halted. Moving on! Society moving on! The world moving on! Heaven moving on! The universe moving on! Time moving on! Eternity moving on! Therefore it is absurd to think that we ourselves can stop, as we must move with all the rest. Are we like the creature of the text, making our path to shine after us? It may be a peculiar question, but my text suggests it.

What influence will we leave in this world after we have gone though it? "None," answer hundreds of voices; "we are not one of the immortals. Fifty years after we are out of the world it will be as though we never inhabited it." You are wrong in saying that. I pass down through this audience and up through these galleries, and I am looking for some one whom I cannot find.

I am looking for one who will have no influence in this world 100 years from now. But I have found the man who has the least influence, and I inquire into his history, and I find that by a yes or a no he decided some one's eternity. In time of temptation he gave an affirmative or a negative to some temptation which another, hearing of, was induced to decide in the same way.

Clear on the other side of the next million years may be the first you hear of the long reaching influence of that yes or no, but hear of it you will. Will that father make a path to shine after him? Will that mother make a path to shine after her? You will be walking along these streets or along that country road 200 years from now in the character of your descendants. They will be affected by your courage or your cowardice, your purity or your depravity, your holiness or your sin. You will make the path to shine after you or blacken after you.

Why should they point out to us on some mountain two rivulets, one of which passes down into the rivers which pour out into the Pacific ocean, and the other rivulet flowing down into the rivers which pass out into the Atlantic ocean? Every man, every woman, stands at a point where words uttered, or deeds done, or prayers offered, decide opposite destinies and opposite eternities. We see a man planting a tree, and treading sod firmly on either side of it, and watering it in dry weather, and taking a great care in its culture, and he never plucks any fruits from its bough. But his children will. We are all planting trees that will yield fruit hundreds of years after we are dead—orchards of golden fruit or groves of deadly upas.

I am so fascinated with the phosphorescence in the track of a ship that I have sometimes watched for a long while and have seen nothing on the face of the deep but blackness. The mouth of watery chasms that looked like gaping jaws of hell. Not a spark as big as the firefly; not a white scroll of surf; not a taper to illuminate the mighty sepulchers of dead ships; darkness 3,000 feet deep, and more thousands of feet long and wide. That is the kind of wake that a bad man leaves behind him as he plows through the ocean of this life toward the vaster ocean of the great future.

THE GROWTH OF SIN.

Now, suppose a man seated in a corner grocery or business office among clerks gives himself to jolly skepticism. He laughs at the Bible, makes sport of the miracles, speaks of perdition in jokes and laughs at revivals as a frolic, and at the passage of a funeral procession, which always solemnizes sensible people, says, "Boys, let's take a drink." There is in that group a young man who is making a great struggle against temptation and prays night and morning and reads his Bible and is asking God for help day by day. But that guffaw against Christianity makes him lose his grip of sacred things, and he gives up Sabbath and church and morals and goes from bad to worse, till he falls under temptations, dies in a later house and is buried in the potter's field.

Another young man who heard that jolly skepticism made up his mind that "it makes no difference what we do or say, for we will all come out at last at the right place," and began as a consequence to purloin. Some money that came into his hands for others he applied to his own uses, thinking perhaps he would make it straight some other time, and all would be well even if he did not make it straight. He ends in the penitentiary. That scoffer who uttered the jokes against Christianity never realized what bad work he was doing, and he passed on through life and out of it and into a future that I am not now going to depict.

I do not propose with a searchlight to show the breakers of the awful coast on which that ship is wrecked, for my business now is to watch the sea after the keel has plowed it. No phosphorescence in the wake of that ship, but behind it two souls struggling in the wave—two young men destroyed by reckless skepticism, an unillumined ocean beneath and on all sides of them. Blackness of darkness.

You know what a gloriously good man Rev. John Newton was the most of his life, but before his conversion he was a very wicked sailor, and on board the ship Harwich instilled infidelity and vice in the mind of a young man—principles which destroyed him. Afterward the two met, and Newton tried to undo his bad work, but in vain. The young man became worse and worse and died a profligate, horrifying with his profanities those who stood by him in his last moments.

Better look out what bad influence you start, for you may not be able to stop it. It does not require very great force to ruin others. Why was it that many years ago a great flood nearly destroyed New Orleans? A crawfish had burrowed into the banks of the river until the ground was saturated and the banks weakened until the flood burst.

THE SHINING PATH.

But I find here a man who starts out in life with the determination that he will never see suffering but he will try to alleviate it, and never see discouragement but he will try to cheer it, and never meet with anybody but he will try to do him good. Getting his strength from God, he starts from home with high purpose of doing all the good he can possibly do in one day.

Whether standing behind the counter, or talking in the business office with a pen behind his ear, or making a bargain with a fellow trader, or out in the fields discussing with his next neighbor the wisest rotation of the crops, or in the shoemaker's shop pounding sole leather, there is something in his face, and in his phraseology, and in his manner, that demonstrates the grace of God in his heart. He can talk on religion without awkwardly dragging it in by the ears. He loves God and loves the souls of all whom he meets and is interested in their present and eternal destiny.

For 50 or 60 years he lives that kind of life and then gets through with it and goes into heaven a ransomed soul. But I am not going to describe the port into which that ship has entered.

I am not going to describe the Pilot who met him outside at the "lightship." I am not going to say anything about the crowds of friends who met him on the crystalline wharves up which he goes on steps of chrysoprases. For God in his words to Job calls me to look at the path of foam in the wake of that ship, and I tell you it is all a-gleam with splendors of kindness done, and rolling with illumined tears that were wiped away, and a-dash with congratulations, and clear out to the horizon in all directions is the sparkling, flashing, billowing phosphorescence of a Christian life. "He maketh a path to shine after him."

And here I correct one of the mean notions which at some time takes possession of all of us, and that is as to the brevity of human life. When I bury some very useful man, clerical or lay, in his thirtieth or fortieth year, I say: "What a waste of energies! It was hardly worth while for him to get ready for Christian work, for he had so soon to quit it." But the fact is that I may insure any man or woman who does any good on a large or small scale for a life on earth as long as the world lasts. Sickness, trolley car accidents, death itself, can no more destroy his life than they can tear down one of the rings of Saturn. You can start one good word, one kind act, one cheerful smile, on a mission that will last until the world becomes a bonfire, and out of that blaze it will pass into the heavens, never to halt as long as God lives.

WHAT ORDINARY PERSONS CAN DO.

There were in the seventeenth century men and women whose names you never heard of who are today influencing schools, colleges, churches, nations. You can no more measure the gracious results of their lifetime than you could measure the length and breadth and depth of the phosphorescence last night following the ship of the White Star line 1,500 miles out at sea. How the courage and consecration of others inspire us to follow, as a general in the American army, cool amid the flying bullets, inspired a trembling soldier, who said afterward, "I was nearly scared to death, but I saw the old man's white mustache over his shoulder and went on." Aye, we are all following somebody either in right or wrong directions.

A few days ago I stood beside the garlanded casket of a gospel minister, and in my remarks had occasion to recall a snowy night in a farmhouse when I was a boy and an evangelist spending a night at my father's house, who said something so tender and beautiful and impressive that it led me into the kingdom of God and decided my destiny for this world and the next. You will, before 24 hours go by, meet some man or woman with a big pack of care and trouble, and you may say something to him or her that will endure until this world shall have been so far lost in the past that nothing but the stretch of angelic memory will be able to realize that it ever existed at all.

I am not talking of remarkable men and women, but of what ordinary folks can do. I am not speaking of the phosphorescence in the wake of a Campania, but of the phosphorescence in the track of a Newfoundland fishing smack. God makes thunderbolts out of sparks, and out of the small words and deeds of a small life he can launch a power that will flash and burn and thunder through the eternities.

How do you like this prolongation of your earthly life by deathless influence? Many a babe that died at 6 months of age by the anxiety created in the parent's heart to meet that child in realms seraphic is living yet in the transformed heart and life of those parents and will live on forever in the history of that family. If this be the opportunity of ordinary souls, what is the opportunity of those who have especial intellectual or social or monetary equipment?

Have you any arithmetic capable of estimating the influence of our good and gracious friend who a few days ago went up to rest—George W. Childs of Philadelphia? From a newspaper that was printed for 30 years without one word of defamation or scurrility or scandal, and putting chief emphasis on virtue and charity and clean intelligence, he reaped a fortune for himself and then distributed a vast amount of it among the poor and struggling, putting his invalid and aged reporters on pensions, until his name stands everywhere for large heartedness and sympathy and help and highest style of Christian gentleman.

In an era which had in the chairs of its journalism a Horace Greeley, and a Henry J. Raymond, and a James Gordon Bennett, and an Erastus Brooks, and a George William Curtis, and an Irenaeus Prime, none of them will be longer remembered than George W. Childs. Staying away from the unveiling of the monument he had reared at large expense in our Greenwood in memory of Professor Proctor, the astronomer, lest I should say something in praise of the man who had paid for the monument. By all acknowledged a representative of the highest American journalism.

If you would calculate his influence for good, you must count how many sheets of his newspapers have been published in the last quarter of a century, and how many people have read them, and the effect, not only upon those readers, but upon all whom they shall influence for all time, while you add to all that the work of the churches he helped build and of the institutions of mercy he helped found. Better give up before you start the measuring of the phosphorescence in the wake of that ship of the Celestial line. Who can tell the post mortem influence of a Savonarola, a Winkelried, a Gutenberg, a Marlborough, a Decatur, a Toussaint, a Bolivar, a Clarkson, a Robert Raikes, a Harlan Page, who had 125 Sabbath scholars, 84 of whom became Christians, and six of them ministers of the gospel.

THE BRIGHT PATH.

With gratitude and penitence and worship I mention the grandest life that was ever lived. That ship of light was launched from the heavens nearly 1,900 years ago, angelic hosts chanting, and from the celestial wharves the ship sprang into the roughest sea that ever tossed. Its billows were made up of the wrath of men and devils, Herodic and sanhedrinic persecutions stirring the deep with red wrath, and all the hurricanes of woe smote it until on the rocks of Golgotha that life struck with a resound of agony that appalled the earth and the heavens. But in the wake of that life what a phosphorescence of smiles on the cheeks of souls pardoned, and lives reformed, and nations redeemed. The millennium itself is only one roll of that irradiated wave of gladness and benediction. In the sublimest of all senses it may be said of him, "He maketh a path to shine after him."

But I cannot look upon that luminosity that follows ships without realizing how fond the Lord is of life. That fire of the deep is life, myriads of creatures all a-swim and a-play and a-romp in parks of marine beauty laid out and parterred and roseated and blossomed by Omnipotence. What is the use of those creatures called by the naturalists "crustaceans" and "copepods," not more than one out of hundreds of billions of which are ever seen by human eye? God created them for the same reason that he creates flowers in places where no human foot ever makes them tremble, and no human nostril ever inhales their redolence, and no human eye ever sees their charm. In the botanical world they prove that God loves flowers, as in the marine world the phosphori prove that he loves life, and he loves life in play, life in brilliancy of gladness, life in exuberance.

And so I am led to believe that he loves our life if we fulfill our mission as fully as the phosphori fulfill theirs. The son of God came "that we might have life and have it more abundantly." But I am glad to tell you that our God is not the God sometimes described as a harsh critic at the head of the universe, or an infinite scold, or a God that loves funerals better than weddings, or a God that prefers tears to laughter, an omnipotent Nero, a ferocious Nana Sahib, but the loveliest Being in the universe, loving flowers and life and play, whether of phosphori in the wake of the Majestic or of the human race keeping a holiday.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE.

But mark you that the phosphorescence has a glow that is not night monopolizes, and I ask you not only what kind of influence you are going to leave in the world as you pass through it, but what light are you going to throw across the world's night of sin and sorrow? People who are sailing on smooth sea and at noon do not need much sympathy, but what are you going to do for people in the night of misfortune? Will you drop on them shadow, or will you kindle for them phosphorescence?

At this moment there are more people crying than laughing, more people on the round world this moment hungry than well fed, more households bereft than homes unbroken. What are you going to do about it? "Well," says yonder soul, "I would like to do something toward illumining the great ocean of human wretchedness, but I cannot do much."

Can you do as much as one of the phosphori in the middle of the Atlantic ocean, creatures smaller than the point of a sharp pin? "Oh, yes," you say. Then do that. Shine! Stand before the looking glass and experiment to see if you cannot get that scowl off your forehead, that peevish look out of your lips. Have at least one bright ribbon in your bonnet. Embroider at least one white cord somewhere in the midnight of your apparel. Do not any longer impersonate a funeral. Shine! Do say something cheerful about society and about the world. Put a few drops of heaven into your disposition. Once in awhile substitute a sweet orange for a sour lemon.

Remember that pessimism is blasphemy and that optimism is Christianity. Throw some light on the night ocean. If you cannot be a lantern swinging in the rigging, be one of the tiny phosphori back of the keel. Shine! "Let your light so shine before men that others seeing your good works may glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Make one person happy every day, and do that for 20 years, and you will have made 7,300 happy. You know a man who has lost all his property by an unfortunate investment or by putting his name on the back of a friend's note. After you have taken a brief nap, which every man and woman is entitled to on a Sunday afternoon, go and cheer up that man. You can, if God helps you, say something that will do him good after both of you have been dead a thousand years.

Shine! You know of a family with a bad boy who has run away from home. Go before night and tell that father and mother the parable of the prodigal son, and that some of the illustrious and useful men now in church and state had a silly passage in their lives and ran away from home. Shine! You know of a family that has lost a child, and the silence of the nursery glooms the whole house from cellar to garret. Go before night and tell them how much that child has happily escaped, since the most prosperous life on earth is a struggle.

Shine! You know of some invalid who is dying for lack of an appetite. She cannot get well because she cannot eat. Broil a chicken and take it to her before night and cheat her poor appetite into keen relish. Shine! You know of some one who likes you, and you like him, and he ought to be a Christian. Go tell him what religion has done for you, and ask him if you can pray for him.

THE FAILURE OF EULOGY.

Shine! Oh, for a disposition so charged with sweetness and light that we cannot help but shine! Remember if you cannot be a leviathan lashing the ocean into fury you can be one of the phosphori, doing your part toward making a path of phosphorescence. Then I will tell you what impression you will leave as you pass through this life and after you are gone. I will tell you to your face and not leave it for the minister who officiates at your obsequies.

The failure in all eulogium of the departed is that they cannot hear it. All hear it except the one most interested. This, in substance, is what I or some one else will say of you on such an occasion: "We gather for offices of respect to this departed one. It is impossible to tell how many tears he wiped away, how many burdens he lifted, or how many souls he was, under God, instrumental in saving. His influence will never cease. We are all better for having known him.

"That pillow of flowers on the casket was presented by his Sabbath school class, all of whom he brought to Christ. That cross of flowers at the head was presented by the orphan asylum which he befriended. Those three single flowers—one was sent by a poor woman for whom he bought a ton of coal, and one was by a waif of the street whom he rescued through the midnight mission, and the other was from a prison cell which he had often visited to encourage repentance in a young man who had done wrong.

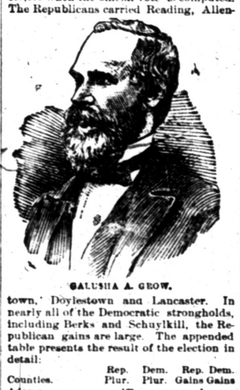
"Those three loose flowers mean quite as much as the costly garlands now breathing their aroma through this saddened home crowded with sympathizers. 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord. They rest from their labors, and their works do follow them.'"

Or if it should be the more solemn burial at sea, let it be after the sun has gone down, and the captain has read the appropriate liturgy, and the ship's bell has tolled, and you are let down from the stern of the vessel into the resplendent phosphorescence at the wake of the ship. Then let some one say, in the words of my text, "He maketh a path to shine after him."

GROW'S MAJORITY GROWS.

Largest Republican Majority Ever Recorded in the Keystone State.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 22.—According to reports from all the counties the Republican plurality in Pennsylvania will be 170,458, which may possibly be increased to 180,000 when the official vote is computed. The Republicans carried Reading, Allen-



GALUSHA A. GROW.

town, Doylestown and Lancaster. In nearly all of the Democratic strongholds including Berks and Schuylkill, the Republican gains are large. The appended table presents the result of the election in detail:

Counties.	Rep. Plur.	Dem. Plur.	Rep. Gains	Dem. Gains
Adams	169	.....	5	...
Allegheny	25,500	.....	1,863	...
Armstrong	2,300	.....	171	...
Beaver	2,000	.....	850	...
Bedford	1,049	.....	252	...
Berks	.....	2,340	754	...
Blair	3,000	.....	580	...
Bradford	1,500	.....	735	...
Bucks	1,200	.....	714	...
Butler	1,400	.....	.....	152
Cambria	1,835	.....	313	...
Cameron	202	.....	.....	3
Carbon	248	.....	341	...
Center	300	.....	917	...
Chester	3,675	.....	734	...
Clarion	.....	72	524	...
Clearfield	352	.....	725	...
Clinton	232	.....	308	...
Columbia	.....	750	256	...
Crawford	2,500	.....	738	...
Cumberland	.....	202	.....	5
Dauphin	4,922	.....	830	...
Delaware	3,500	.....	.....	192
Elk	137	.....	588	...
Erie	2,100	.....	.....	424
Fayette	1,200	.....	945	...
Forest	345	.....	47	...
Franklin	1,350	.....	.....	1
Fulton	16	.....	191	...
Greene	.....	650	1,218	...
Huntingdon	1,892	.....	301	...
Indiana	3,300	.....	512	...
Jefferson	1,871	.....	236	...
Juniata	197	.....	153	...
Lackawanna	1,000	.....	651	...
Lancaster	9,351	.....	831	...
Lawrence	3,004	.....	759	...
Lebanon	2,750	.....	370	...
Lehigh	.....	882	.....	350
Luzerne	1,150	.....	1,131	...
Lycoming	96	.....	634	...
McKean	1,249	.....	276	...
Mercer	2,400	.....	397	...
Mifflin	404	.....	124	...
Monroe	.....	1,050	539	...
Montgomery	1,739	.....	890	...
Montour	.....	287	70	...
Northampton	.....	1,351	.....	98
Northumberland	1,154	.....	629	...
Perry	874	.....	235	...
Pike	.....	400	.....	4
Philadelphia	58,940	.....	6,694	...
Potter	600	.....	.....	26
Schuylkill	1,582	.....	1,759	...
Snyder	658	.....	.....	52
Somerset	2,486	.....	21	...
Sullivan	.....	48	184	...
Susquehanna	2,400	.....	1,200	...
Tioga	4,100	.....	1,316	...
Union	1,175	.....	324	...
Venango	1,500	.....	1,301	...
Warren	1,500	.....	.....	55
Washington	2,000	.....	572	...
Wayne	645	.....	664	...
Westmoreland	2,800	.....	.....	186
Wyoming	582	.....	299	...
York	.....	350	209	...
Totals	178,840	8,382		
	8,382			
Grow's plurality	170,458			

McKane Gets Six Years.

BROOKLYN, Feb. 20.—John Y. McKane, Coney Island's boss, was sentenced by Judge Bartlett to six years in the penitentiary for election frauds. Ten years was the maximum punishment. At the conclusion of the court proceedings the prisoner's counsel drew up an application for a stay. This was presented to Judge Cullen and granted. Judge Cullen will hear the argument on Friday next. If they cannot secure a further stay the sheriff will remove the prisoner to Sing Sing as soon as he has arranged his business affairs.

Harris Held Up the Court.

BUFFALO, Feb. 19.—Leroy Harris was brought before United States Commissioner Fairchild on Saturday to answer a charge of mail robbery. Being excused for a moment he retired to a closet, and on his return covered the commissioner and four other government officials with a revolver and compelled them to hold their hands up, while he backed to the door and escaped, locking the door behind him. He was subsequently captured at Clifton, Canada, and returned without extradition papers.

Death of Millionaire Wistar.

ATLANTIC CITY, Feb. 22.—William Lewis Wistar, who owns the property selected by the government as a mint site and a great deal of other realty in Philadelphia, died here yesterday, aged 50 years. He was many times a millionaire.

A BIG LION AT LARGE.

Wallace Jumps from His Cage in a Chicago Museum.

THE AUDIENCE TERROR STRICKEN.

Ludicrous Rushes for Safety on the Part of Spectators—The Brute Finally Driven to His Cage by His Keeper Without Causing Any Damage.

CHICAGO, Feb. 22.—Wallace, the 500 pound lion which is on exhibition at a dime museum, where he is advertised as the "terrible untamed wonder of the world," escaped from his keeper last evening and bounded among a crowded audience in the heart of the museum. Bremcho Boccacio, an East Indian, who is the lion's keeper and trainer, was about to give an exhibition before a crowded audience in the big iron cage with the lion when the animal leaped from the cage before the iron door could be closed. Wallace completely cleared the stage and landed fully twenty feet away.

The brute gave vent to his feelings as soon as he struck the floor by sending up a mighty roar, and as he went trotting up the aisle, whipping his tail from side to side and snapping and roaring, there was the wildest kind of a scramble among the cool and collected when the detectives placed him under arrest, and he at once proceeded with them to the district attorney's office. From thence he was taken before Judge Martine.

The counts in the indictments relate to forgery and the uttering of forged checks which were drawn on the Second National bank when Wiman had no account. The offense is punishable with not more than ten years for each of the indictments.

The letter on which the indictments against Mr. Wiman were made says in part:

"Mr. Dun did not submit the proof of Wiman's crimes to the authorities on first discovering them for several reasons. In the first place, he was moved by considerations of sympathy for Mr. Wiman's family, with whom he had been on terms of friendship for many years, and by the piteous appeals for mercy which Mr. Wiman made to him in a letter.

"In the second place he had then no appreciation of the extent of Wiman's embezzlement nor of the length of time, lasting many years, during which he had systematically abused his confidence and abused the trust reposed in him.

"In view of the fraud practiced upon his general creditors, as well as upon Mr. Dun himself, and the conviction that a man of Wiman's bad character ought not longer to be allowed to masquerade as an honest man in this community and as an adviser and exhorter of youth, Mr. Dun decided that his duties require him to expose Wiman's conduct."

In reply to a message sent him by his son Harry last night Mr. Wiman wrote that he had committed no crime; that he had no undue blunders to answer for; that he was willing to stand the consequences. His note concluded with the statement that he had an engagement to speak tonight in grammar school No. 47, on Forty-second street, and please God he would keep his engagement. He was to speak on "The Great North Land." Mr. Wiman will not keep his engagement, however, as bail cannot be secured until tomorrow. General Tracy, his counsel, says this will be forthcoming.

Wiman was the originator of the scheme that put "an iron band" around the water front of Staten Island, and he became a director of it when it developed into the Staten Island Rapid Transist company. He was also the promoter and president of the Staten Island Amusement company, which owned the old Metropolitan baseball team. This was a failure, and the property at St. George is now used by the Staten Island Electric Light company, in which he was also interested, as well as in the South Beach Improvement company. He was supposed to be possessed of valuable real estate on Staten Island, but its value was grossly overestimated when he severed his connection with R. G. Dun & Co. about two years ago, after having made an assignment.

Wiman is a native of Toronto, and in the zenith of his power he used to give out to newspapermen who called upon him at Dun's agency printed sketches of his life, in which it told of his having earned his first fifty cents on a farm, and how he went to work in the office of the Toronto Globe as "devil," and finally became a reporter. He was about 19 years of age, according to his own biography of himself, when he wrote a report giving statistics of the condition of the crops in the province that were so much at variance with those published by the government that they attracted attention all over the country. An investigation resulted in Wiman's figures being sustained. This incident, he said, was the first stepping stone to his rise in eminence. The biography stated that his expertness in statistics attracted the attention of R. G. Dun & Co., and he was employed by that firm. He next became manager of the Toronto branch, and he was sent to New York to take charge of the business there.

In 1887 Wiman made a grand effort to secure the title of "Sir," and he got up a great demonstration of Britishers in New York on the occasion of the queen's jubilee. The Staten Island Amusement company was in a flourishing condition then and owned the grounds at St. George and at Erastina (named after himself). The crowds that visited the two places were so great that the grounds were thrown open and no more tickets could be gotten. The people were so thick in the grounds that there was no moving about. It was estimated that there were no less than 200,000 British subjects in Richmond county that day.

Elaborate reports of these proceedings were cabled by Wiman to Europe; but the money was wasted, for none of the British papers published anything that he sent. The credit for the big demonstration was given to Wiman, but the failure of the notices to get in print resulted in the queen's attention not being called to the honor intended to be paid her by her subjects in New York, and Wiman failed to get knighthood. Since that time he has advocated annexation, commercial union and other schemes of anti-British tendency. He also helped by his money and influence to found the British-American Association of the United States. He is a married man and has two sons and two daughters grown up.

Governor McKinley Out of Debt.

CANTON, O., Feb. 22.—The trustees appointed to receive the property of Governor and Mrs. McKinley have been discharged by the court here. Papers were filed yesterday showing that all of the $106,000 indebtedness had been paid. Deeds have been filed transferring the governor's property back to him and deeding Mrs. McKinley's property back to her.

WIMAN'S DOWNFALL.

The Well Known Railroad Magnate Charged with Forgery.

INDICTED BY THE GRAND JURY.

Arrested and Imprisoned in Default of Bail—His Alleged Stealings Aggregate $219,000—The Accused Man's Heroic Efforts to Secure a British Title.

NEW YORK, Feb. 22.—Erastus Wiman, the well known capitalist and railroad magnate, was arrested on a bench warrant yesterday afternoon on two charges of forgery. He was brought into court at 5 o'clock, and in default of $25,000 bail was committed to the Tombs by Judge Martine.

Two indictments were found against Mr. Wiman by the grand jury. They are for forgery and uttering checks. Each indictment contains two counts. The total amount involved in Mr. Wiman's alleged forgeries is $220,000. The complainant against him is R. G. Dun, president of the Mercantile Agency association, of 314 Broadway.

The warrants were executed at Wiman's office, on the sixth floor of the Field building, No. 1 Broadway. He was perfectly cool and collected when the detectives placed him under arrest, and he at once proceeded with them to the district attorney's office. From thence he was taken before Judge Martine.

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