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which can be attached to all kinds of Threshing Machines. We also build Smoke Stacks of all sizes to order. We are manufacturing agents for the Cyclone Fanning Mill. We make a specialty in selling at lowest figures corrugated steel roofing and fancy ceiling. We also deliver job lots of piping free of freight at the very lowest figures.
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A Woman Voter Dies at the Polls.

While Mrs. Thomas Jones was preparing her ballot at a polling-place at Newcastle, Col., she fainted and fell, striking her head heavily against the floor. She died in a short time, having ruptured a blood vessel.

MARKETS.

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FLOUR—Balto. Best Pat.	@	$ 4 80
High Grade Extra		3 40
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	58	61
CORN—No. 2 White	30.	30½
OATS—Southern & Penn.	27	27½
RYE—No. 2	56½	57
HAY—Choice Timothy	13 00	13 50
Good to Prime	12 50	13 00
STRAW—Rye in car lds.	11 00	11 50
Wheat Blocks	6 00	7 00
Oat Blocks	7 50	8 00
CANNED GOODS.		
TOMATOES—Stnd. No. 3	@	$ 65
No. 2		55
PEAS—Standards	93	1 00
Seconds		85
CORN—Dry Pack		60
Moist		50
HIDES.		
CITY STEERS	@	7
City Cows		4½
Southern No. 2		3½
POTATOES & VEGETABLES.		
POTATOES—Burbanks	$ 65 @	70
ONIONS	60	80
PROVISIONS.		
HOGS PRODUCTS—shids.	@	7
Clear ribsides		8
Hams	10¼	10¼
Mess Pork, per bar		13 50
LARD—Crude		6
Best refined		8
BUTTER.		
BUTTER—Fine Crmy	$ 21 @	22
Under Sup	20	21
Creamery Rolls	18	19
CHEESE.		
CHEESE—N.Y. Fancy	12 @	12¼
N. Y. flats	12¼	12¼
Skim Cheese	6	8
EGGS.		
EGGS—State	11½ @	12
North Carolina	10	11
LIVE POULTRY.		
CHICKENS—Hens	$ 12 @	$ 13
Ducks, per lb	13	14
TOBACCO.		
TOBACCO—Md. Infer's	$ 1 50 @	$ 2 50
Sound common	3 00	4 00
Middling	4 00	7 00
Fancy	10 00	12 00
LIVE STOCK.		
BEEF—Best Beeves	$ 4 00 @	$ 5 25
Good to Fair	3 75	4 00
SHEEP	3 00	4 25
Hogs	4 60	5 00
FURS AND SKINS.		
MUSKRAT	$ 10 @	$ 11
Raccoon	40	45
Red Fox	—	1 00
Skunk Black	—	80
Opossum	—	30
Mink	—	80
Otter	—	4 00

NEW YORK.

FLOUR—Southern	$ 3 10 @	$ 4 20
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	59¾	61¾
RYE—Western	48	50
CORN—No. 2	56	56¾
OATS—No. 2	36	36¾
BUTTER—State	12	20
EGGS—State	13	13½
CHEESE—State	8	11½

PHILADELPHIA.

FLOUR—Southern	$ 3 80 @	$ 4 00
WHEAT—No. 2 Red	60	60¾
CORN—No. 3	49¼	49¾
OATS—No. 2	37	37¾
BUTTER—State	20	21
EGGS—Penna. fr	11	12

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OUR FARMERS' EGGS.

THE CANADIAN HEN SENDS HER PRODUCT INTO OUR MARKETS.

Prices Have Fallen and American Women Lose Their Pocket Money —All Farm Products Cheaper Under the Wilson Bill—We Sell Less in the Markets of the World.

It is some time since we looked into the farmer's egg basket. Then it was well filled with good fresh American eggs that sold readily in all American markets, the competition from Canada, Europe, China and elsewhere having been stopped under the McKinley tariff.

But we have a new tariff now, a Gorman tariff, which reduced the duty on eggs from five to three cents a dozen. In order to learn how this is working for the benefit of American farmers we have looked up the imports of eggs since September 1, 1894, a few days after the new bill became law, and find, from the figures of the Treasury Department, that the imports of eggs compare of follows:

	Four months, September 1 to December 31. Value.	Dozen.
1894	$169,113	1,365,096
1893	139,471	1,105,403
Increase	$29,642	259,693

The new tariff had been in effect only four months when we imported almost 260,000 dozen more eggs than during the corresponding four months of 1893. The money loss to the farmers was $29,642 in this short time, which is at the rate of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars a year. This much money distributed among the farmers' wives would come in mighty handy during these hard times, when even the Treasury has run short and had to buy gold at a high rate of interest. The Gorman bill is not doing much good for the farmers in this country, and the Canadians know it. This is what we find in the Canadian Trade Review of February 15:

"We seem to be getting back our egg market across the border. Last week ten carloads were shipped from Montreal to New York, and realized a net profit to the shipper of three cents above what he could have got from the home market. The demand there is still far from exhausted, and further supplies from Canadian points will probably find a rising market. This reminds us of old times. Before the passage of the

1895.



McKinley act our egg exports across the border ran into quite large figures, amounting in 1889 to 14,011,017 dozen, of the value of $2,156,725. The five-cent duty of that tariff cut down these exports to the value of $324,355 in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1893. The present duty is three cents a dozen, a rate which should not make it impossible to do an egg trade of the former magnitude with our neighbors."

This Gorman bill seems to be gormandizing every little profit that the farmer used to make. He has lost money on his wheat, corn and cotton crops, and now the Canadian eggs are coming in again, which means more eggs in the market. Too many eggs mean too low prices, and no pocket money for the farmer's wife after she has paid for the chicken feed.

Protection in the South.

Diversified farming is being enthusiastically discussed in the South where the low price of cotton is driving the producers to a practical study of what is best suited for their needs. They say that the money which they do get for their cotton must be kept in the South instead of its being sent to other parts of the country for hay, corn and meat. This is good policy and a policy that, in its broad sense, should be applied to every part of the South, to the North, to the East and to the West. It is, in fact, the policy of protection.

Venezuela Mulct by Us.

Venezuela must now pay an indemnity to the United States. The Claims Commission have awarded $141,000 for the seizures of 1871 on the Orinoco.

Watchfulness is Necessary.

Zeal after an election is quite as essential as before. The cause which was successful at the polls demands constant zeal for its practical realization. The best agents of the popular will are made better by the incessant watchfulness of one, but support, reinforcement and encouragement are necessary. The battle is only begun when the first line of intrenchments is taken. The army is quite as necessary in the engagements which are to follow. The election only determines public policy. It has then to be carried out. It requires the people co-operating continuously with the public officers to put into the form of law and administration their declared purpose. The election settles much or little, dependent upon how the election decrees are interpreted and executed. The election only declares the people's purpose. After this must come the fulfillment, for the promises of the election should always be sacredly kept. Here comes "the tug of war." Then is not the time for relaxtion on the part of the citizen, but for renewed and redoubled effort and vigilance. If then the people become indifferent, you may be sure the public officer, however strong and true and well meaning, will be inadequate for the task. The official is quick to catch the spirit of the people.

Lincoln said, as he journeyed to Washington in 1861, in response to the address of welcome by Governor Morton, of Indiana, at the city of Indianapolis:

"In all the trying places in which I may be placed, and doubtless I will be placed in many such, my reliance will be upon you, the people of the United States, and I wish you to remember now and forever that it is your business, not mine alone."

No truth was ever more manifested or more significant then and now, than that uttered by Mr. Lincoln.—Governor Wm. McKinley.

Smaller Exports of Farm Products.

Farmers will naturally be interested to learn how great is the competition in those markets of the world to secure our American farm products, for the latest statistics show our exports for the seven months ending January 31, 1895. In comparing these with the corresponding months a year earlier we have the following:

EXPORTS OF FARM PRODUCTS.
Seven Months, July 1 to January 31.

	1894-95. Bushels.	1893-94. Bushels.
Barley	1,143,583	3,755,025
Corn	9,065,428	27,728,763
Oats	233,105	5,479,704
Rye	8,810	230,628
Wheat	48,286,579	63,114,284
Total bushels	58,838,505	110,308,404
Flour, barrels	9,206,495	10,143,681

Farmers can see that, during the seven months ending January 31, 1895, we sold nearly 52,000,000 bushels less food stuff to foreign countries than we did during the seven months ending January 31, 1894, and also 1,000,000 barrels of flour less. It is easy to imagine how the buyers in the foreign markets of the world are fighting among themselves to secure this small quantity of our products, which is only about one-half of what we sold them before the wall of protection was broken down in order that we could reach their markets. And the worst of it is, too, that they are only buying the smaller quantity at lower prices than they used to pay for the larger quantities which they bought from us under protection.

Chance for Mexico's Oranges.

The Florida freeze is giving Mexico a chance to place its oranges in the markets of the United States.

Ripe for a Harvest.

"It's the worst season for dampness I ever saw," said a traveler on a train.

"Yes," answered a man of big words, "it's the supersaturation of the atmosphere from fogs and vapors; there is too much moisture and sickness follows." "Maybe 'tis, but, as I said, it is the worst season for wet and for such complaints as neuralgia, sore throat, ache, headache, toothache and the like." "Well, you've struck a combination I can brook," said my friend. "How?" "With St. Jacobs Oil. If it's the worst season, St. Jacobs Oil is the best thing to use for the troubles which it brings. It will cure in no time anything in the shape of pain or ache."

Austrian coachmen sp inkle a pinch of arsenic in the feed of their horses to make them look sleek.

The Skill and Knowledge

Essential to the production of the most perfect and popular laxative is only known have enable l the California Fig Syrup Co. to achieve a great success in the reputation of its remedy, Syrup of Figs, as it is conceded to be the universal laxative. For sale by all druggists.

A man of many phases—The man in the moon.

IN THE SPRING

Every one should pay attention to the condition of his health. Nearly every person needs a good spring medicine. The impurities which have accumulated in the blood during the cold months must be expelled, or when the mild days come and the effect of bracing air is lost, the body is liable to be overcome by disease and great suffering follows.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

will purify, vitalize and enrich the blood, create an appetite, and enable the body easily and safely to meet the coming changes in temperature. It possesses precisely those elements of support and assistance which the body at this season craves. Hood's Sarsaparilla is the "ideal spring medicine" and

The Great Blood Purifier.



Health Broken Down

From any cause, finds a corrective and health-restorative in Hood's Sarsaparilla, the great blood purifier:

Hood's Sarsaparilla Makes Rich Red Blood

"I had a severe attack of rheumatic fever which left me in bad condition, weak and with kidney troubles and headache. I was much alarmed and knew my condition must be improved or I would never get well. I began to take Hood's Sarsaparilla and it did me a great deal of good. My general health is much improved, and the headaches, which formerly lasted three weeks at a time, never trouble me. Hood's Sarsaparilla is a good medicine and I highly recommend it." ELLA C. ELLIS, Roxbury, Vermont.

Hood's Sarsaparilla Is the Only True Blood Purifier

This is why it cures even when all other medicines fail. Insist upon Hood's.

Hood's Pills act harmoniously with Hood's Sarsaparilla. 25c.

REV. DR. TALMAGE.

The Eminent Brooklyn Divine's Sunday Sermon.

Subject: "The Gospel Ship."

TEXT: "Thou shalt come into the ark, thou and thy sons and thy wife and thy sons' wives with thee."—Genesis vi., 18.

In this day of the steamships Lucania and Majestic and the Paris I will show you a ship that in some respects eclipsed them all, and which sailed out, an ocean underneath and another ocean falling upon it. Infidel scientists ask us to believe that in the formation of the earth there have been a half dozen deluges, and yet they are not willing to believe the Bible story of one deluge.

In what way the catastrophe came we know not—whether by the stroke of a comet, or by flashes of lightning, changing the air into water, or by a stroke of the hand of God, like the stroke of the ax between the horns of the ox, the earth staggered. To meet the catastrophe God ordered a great ship built. It was to be without prow, for it was to sail to no shore. It was to be without helm, for no human hand should guide it. It was a vast structure, probably as large as two or three modern steamers. It was the Great Eastern of olden time.

The ship is done. The door is open. The lizards crawl in. The cattle walk in. The grasshoppers hop in. The birds fly in. The invitation goes forth to Noah, "Come thou and all thy house into the ark." Just one human family embark on the strange voyage, and I hear the door slam shut. A great storm sweeps along the hills and bends the cedars until all the branches snap in the gale. There is a moan in the wind like unto the moan of a dying world. The blackness of the heavens is shattered by the flare of lightnings, that look down into the waters and throw a ghastliness on the face of the mountains. How strange it looks! How suffocating the air seems! The big drops of rain begin to plash upon the upturned faces of those who are watching the tempest. Crash! go the rocks in convulsion. Boom! go the bursting heavens. The inhabitants of the earth, instead of flying to house top and mountain top, as men have fancied, sit down in dumb, white horror to die. For when God grinds mountains to pieces and lets the ocean slip its cable there is no place for man to fly to. See the ark pitch and tumble in the surf, while from its windows the passengers look out upon the shipwreck of a race and the carcasses of a dead world. Woe to the mountains! Woe to the sea!

I am no alarmist. When on the 20th of September, after the wind has for three days been blowing from the northeast, you prophesy that the equinoctial storm is coming, you simply state a fact not to be disputed. Neither am I an alarmist when I say that a storm is coming, compared with which Noah's deluge was but an April shower, and that it is wisest and safest for you and for me to get safely housed for eternity. The invitation that went forth to Noah sounds in our ears, "Come thou and all thy house into the ark."

Well, how did Noah and his family come into the ark? Did they climb in at the window, or come down the roof? No; they went through the door. And just so, if we get into the ark of God's mercy, it will be through Christ, the door. The entrance to the ark of old must have been a very large entrance. We know that it was from the fact that there were monster animals in the earlier ages, and in order to get them into the ark, two and two, according to the Bible statement, the door must have been very wide and very high. So the door into the mercy of God is a large door. We go in, not two and two, but by hundreds, and by thousands and by millions. Yea, all the Nations of the earth may go in, 10,000,000 abreast!

The door of the ancient ark was in the side. So now it is through the side of Christ—the pierced side, the wide open side, the heart side—that we enter. Aha, the Roman soldier, thrusting his spear into the Saviour's side, expected only to let the blood out, but he opened the way to let all the world in! Oh, what a broad gospel to preach! If a man is about to give an entertainment, he issues 200 or 300 invitations, carefully put up and directed to the particular persons whom he wishes to entertain. But God, our Father, makes a banquet and sends out to the highway door of heaven and stretches out His hands over land and sea, and with a voice that penetrates the Hindoo jungle, and the Greenland ice castle, and Brazilian grove, and English factory, and American home, cries out, "Come, for all things are now ready!" It is a wide door! The old cross has been taken apart, and its two pieces are stood up for the doorposts, so far apart that all the world can come in. Kings scatter treasures on days of great rejoicing. So Christ, our King, scatters and scatters the jewels of heaven.

Rowland Hill said that he hoped to get into heaven through the crevices of the door. But he was not obliged thus to go in. After having preached the gospel in Surry Chapel, going up toward heaven, the gatekeeper cried, "Lift up your heads, ye everlasting gates, and let this man come in!" The dying thief went in. Richard Baxter and Robert Newton went in. Farel went in, Africa, North and South America may get through this wide door without crowding. Ho! every one—all conditions, all ranks, all people! Luther said that this truth was worth carrying on one's knees from Rome to Jerusalem, but I think it worth carrying all around the globe and all around the heavens, that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Whosoever will, let him come through the large door. Archimedes wanted a fulcrum on which to place his lever, and then he said he could move the world. Calvary is the fulcrum, and the cross of Christ is the lever, and by that power all Nations shall yet be lifted.

Further, it is a door that swings both ways. I do not know whether the door of the ancient ark was lifted or rolled on hinges, but this door of Christ opens both ways. It swings out toward all our woes; it swings in toward the raptures of heaven. It swings in to let us in; it swings out to let our ministering ones comes out. All are one in Christ—Christians on earth and saints in heaven.

One army of the living God,
At His command we bow.
Part of the host have crossed the flood,
And part are crossing now.

Swing in, O blessed door, until all the earth shall go in and live. Swing out until all the heavens come forth to celebrate the victory.

But, further, it is a door with fastenings. The Bible says of Noah, "The Lord shut him in." A vessel without bulwarks or doors would not be a safe vessel to go in. When Noah and his family heard the fastening of the door of the ark, they were very glad. Unless these doors were fastened the first heavy surge of the sea would have whelmed them, and they might as well have perished outside the ark as inside the ark. "The Lord shut him in." Oh, the perfect safety of the ark! The surf of the sea and the lightnings of the sky may be twisted into a garland of snow and fire—deep to deep, storm to storm, darkness to darkness—but once in the ark all is well. "God shut him in." There comes upon the good man a deluge of financial trouble. He had his thousands to lend. Now he cannot borrow a dollar. He once owned a store in New York and had branch houses in Boston, Philadelphia and New Orleans. He owned four horses and a carriage and a man to keep the dust off his coach, phaeton, carriage and curricle; now he has hard work to get shoes in which to walk. The great deep of commercial disaster was broken up, and fore and aft and across the hurricane deck the waves struck him. But he was safely sheltered from the storm. "The Lord shut him in!" A flood of domestic troubles fell on him." Sickness and bereavement came. The rain pelted; the winds blew. The heavens are aflame. All the gardens of earthly delight are washed away. The mountains of joy are buried fifteen cubits deep. But, standing by the empty crib and in the desolated nursery and in the doleful hall, once a-ring with merry voices, now silent forever, he cried, "The Lord gave, the Lord hath taken away blessed be the name of the Lord." "The Lord shut him in."

All the sins of a lifetime clamored for his overthrow. The broken vows, the dishonored Sabbaths, the outrageous profanities, the misdemeanors of twenty years, reached up their hands to the door of the ark to pull him out. The boundless ocean of his sin surrounded his soul, howling like a simoom, raving like an euroclydon. But, looking out of the window, he saw his sin sink like lead into the depths of the sea. The dove of heaven brought an olive branch to the ark. The wrath of the billow only rushed him toward heaven. "The Lord shut him in!"

The same door fastenings that kept Noah in keep castaways out. I am glad to know that when a man reaches heaven all earthly troubles are done with him. Here he may have had hard work to get bread for his family; there he will never hunger any more. Here he may have wept bitterly; there "the Lamb that is in the midst of the throne will lead him to living fountains of water, and God will wipe away all tears from his eyes." Here he may have had work to get a house; but in my Father's house are many mansions, and rent day never comes. Here there are deathbeds and coffins and graves; there no sickness, no weary watching, no choking cough, no consuming fever, no chattering chill, no tolling bell, no grave. The sorrows of life shall come up and knock at the door, but no admittance. The perplexities of life shall come up and knock on the door, but no admittance. Safe forever! All the agony of earth in one wave dashing against the bulwarks of the ship of celestial light shall not break them down. Howl on, ye winds, and rage, ye seas! The Lord—the Lord shut him in!"

Oh, what a grand old door! So wide, so easily swung both ways and with such sure fastenings. No burglar's key can pick that lock. No swarthy arm of hell can shove back that bolt. I rejoice that I do not ask you to come aboard a crazy craft with leaking hulk and broken helm and unfastened door, but an ark fifty cubits wide and 300 cubits long and a door so large that the round earth, without grazing the post, might be moved in.

Now, if the ark of Christ is so grand a place in which to live and die and triumph, come into the ark. Know well that the door that shut Noah in shut others out, and though, when the pitiless storm came pelting on their heads, they beat upon the door, saying: "Let me in! Let me in!" the door did not open. For 120 years they were invited. They expected to come in, but the antediluvians said: "We must cultivate these fields; we must be worth more flocks of sheep and herds of cattle; we will wait until we get a little older; we will enjoy our old farm a little longer." But meanwhile the storm was brewing. The fountains of heaven were filling up. The pry was being placed beneath the foundations of the great deep. The last year had come, the last month, the last week, the last day, the last hour, the last moment. In an awful dash an ocean dropped from the sky and another rolled up from beneath, and God rolled the earth and sky into one wave of universal destruction.

So here now put off going into the ark. They say they will wait twenty years first. They will have a little longer time with their worldly associates. They will wait until they get older. They say: "You cannot expect a man of my attainments and of my position to surrender myself just now. But before the storm comes I will go in. Yes, I will. I know what I am about. Trust me!" After awhile, one night about 12 o'clock, going home, he passes a scaffolding just as a gust of wind strikes it, and a plank falls. Dead, and outside the ark! Or, riding in the park, a reckless vehicle crashes into him, and his horses becomes unmanageable, and he shouts, "Whoa, whoa!" and takes another twist in the reins and plants his feet against the dashboard and pulls back. But no use. It is not so much down the avenue that he flies as on the way to eternity. Out of the wreck of the crash his body is drawn, but his soul is not picked up. It fled behind a swifter courser into the great future. Dead, and outside the ark! Or some night he wakes up with a distress that momentarily increases until he shrieks out with pain. The doctors come in, and they give twenty dops, but no relief; forty drops, fifty drops, sixty drops, but no relief. No time for prayer. No time to read one of the promises. No time to get a single sin pardoned. The whole house is aroused in alarm. The children scream. The wife faints. The pulses fail. The heart stops. The soul flies. Dead, and outside the ark!

I have no doubt that decision kept many people out of the ark. The world laughed to see a man go in and said: "Here is a man starting for the ark. Why, there will be no deluge. If there is one, that miserable ship will not weather it. Aha, going into the ark! Well, that is too good to keep. Here, fellows, have you heard the news? This man is going into the ark!" Under this artillery of scorn the man's good resolution perished.

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Be sure that you bring your husband and wife with you. How would Noah have felt if, when he heard the rain pattering on the roof of the ark, he knew that his wife was outside in the storm? No; she went with him. And yet some of you are on the ship "outward bound" for heaven. But your companion is unsheltered. You remember the day when the marriage ring was set. Nothing has yet been able to break it. Sickness, sorrow and the cyclone of death, but it is a wide door! The old cross has been taken apart, and its two pieces are stood up for the doorposts, so far apart that all the world can come in. Kings scatter treasures on days of great rejoicing. So Christ, our King, scatters and scatters the jewels of heaven.

Rowland Hill said that he hoped to get into heaven through the crevices of the door. But he was not obliged thus to go in. After having preached the gospel in Surry Chapel, going up toward heaven, the gatekeeper cried, "Lift up your heads, ye everlasting gates, and let this man come in!" The dying thief went in. Richard Baxter and Robert Newton went in. Farel went in, Africa, North and South America may get through this wide door without crowding. Ho! every one—all conditions, all ranks, all people! Luther said that this truth was worth carrying on one's knees from Rome to Jerusalem, but I think it worth carrying all around the globe and all around the heavens, that "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Whosoever will, let him come through the large door. Archimedes wanted a fulcrum on which to place his lever, and then he said he could move the world. Calvary is the fulcrum, and the cross of Christ is the lever, and by that power all Nations shall yet be lifted.

Further, it is a door that swings both ways. I do not know whether the door of the ancient ark was lifted or rolled on hinges, but this door of Christ opens both ways. It swings out toward all our woes; it swings in toward the raptures of heaven. It swings in to let us in; it swings out to let our ministering ones comes out. All are one in Christ—Christians on earth and saints in heaven.

One army of the living God,
At His command we bow.
Part of the host have crossed the flood,
And part are crossing now.

Swing in, O blessed door, until all the earth shall go in and live. Swing out until all the heavens come forth to celebrate the victory.

But, further, it is a door with fastenings. The Bible says of Noah, "The Lord shut him in." A vessel without bulwarks or doors would not be a safe vessel to go in. When Noah and his family heard the fastening of the door of the ark, they were very glad. Unless these doors were fastened the first heavy surge of the sea would have whelmed them, and they might as well have perished outside the ark as inside the ark. "The Lord shut him in." Oh, the perfect safety of the ark! The surf of the sea and the lightnings of the sky may be twisted into a garland of snow and fire—deep to deep, storm to storm, darkness to darkness—but once in the ark all is well. "God shut him in." There comes upon the good man a deluge of financial trouble. He had his thousands to lend. Now he cannot borrow a dollar. He once owned a store in New York and had branch houses in Boston, Philadelphia and New Orleans. He owned four horses and a carriage and a man to keep the dust off his coach, phaeton, carriage and curricle; now he has hard work to get shoes in which to walk. The great deep of commercial disaster was broken up, and fore and aft and across the hurricane deck the waves struck him. But he was safely sheltered from the storm. "The Lord shut him in!" A flood of domestic troubles fell on him." Sickness and bereavement came. The rain pelted; the winds blew. The heavens are aflame. All the gardens of earthly delight are washed away. The mountains of joy are buried fifteen cubits deep. But, standing by the empty crib and in the desolated nursery and in the doleful hall, once a-ring with merry voices, now silent forever, he cried, "The Lord gave, the Lord hath taken away blessed be the name of the Lord." "The Lord shut him in."

All the sins of a lifetime clamored for his overthrow. The broken vows, the dishonored Sabbaths, the outrageous profanities, the misdemeanors of twenty years, reached up their hands to the door of the ark to pull him out. The boundless ocean of his sin surrounded his soul, howling like a simoom, raving like an euroclydon. But, looking out of the window, he saw his sin sink like lead into the depths of the sea. The dove of heaven brought an olive branch to the ark. The wrath of the billow only rushed him toward heaven. "The Lord shut him in!"

The same door fastenings that kept Noah in keep castaways out. I am glad to know that when a man reaches heaven all earthly troubles are done with him. Here he may have had hard work to get bread for his family; there he will never hunger any more. Here he may have wept bitterly; there "the Lamb that is in the midst of the throne will lead him to living fountains of water, and God will wipe away all tears from his eyes." Here he may have had work to get a house; but in my Father's house are many mansions, and rent day never comes. Here there are deathbeds and coffins and graves; there no sickness, no weary watching, no choking cough, no consuming fever, no chattering chill, no tolling bell, no grave. The sorrows of life shall come up and knock at the door, but no admittance. The perplexities of life shall come up and knock on the door, but no admittance. Safe forever! All the agony of earth in one wave dashing against the bulwarks of the ship of celestial light shall not break them down. Howl on, ye winds, and rage, ye seas! The Lord—the Lord shut him in!"

Oh, what a grand old door! So wide, so easily swung both ways and with such sure fastenings. No burglar's key can pick that lock. No swarthy arm of hell can shove back that bolt. I rejoice that I do not ask you to come aboard a crazy craft with leaking hulk and broken helm and unfastened door, but an ark fifty cubits wide and 300 cubits long and a door so large that the round earth, without grazing the post, might be moved in.

Now, if the ark of Christ is so grand a place in which to live and die and triumph, come into the ark. Know well that the door that shut Noah in shut others out, and though, when the pitiless storm came pelting on their heads, they beat upon the door, saying: "Let me in! Let me in!" the door did not open. For 120 years they were invited. They expected to come in, but the antediluvians said: "We must cultivate these fields; we must be worth more flocks of sheep and herds of cattle; we will wait until we get a little older; we will enjoy our old farm a little longer." But meanwhile the storm was brewing. The fountains of heaven were filling up. The pry was being placed beneath the foundations of the great deep. The last year had come, the last month, the last week, the last day, the last hour, the last moment. In an awful dash an ocean dropped from the sky and another rolled up from beneath, and God rolled the earth and sky into one wave of universal destruction.

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