AVENING CAPITAL QUENAL, MONDAY, DECEMBER'4, 1808,

DR. TALMAGE PREACHES ON THE

MISSION OF THE FROST.

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mon Appropriate to the Cold Weath--The Frost as a Painter, a Jeweler d an Evangelist-The Lesson and the min read Sugar.

ongs that for nearly 25 years have on fire, and bombardment with bursting image this forenoon preached this the wing. spel sermon, after commenting upon appropriate Scripture lesson and givout the most inspiriting hymns. The bject was, "The Mission of the Frost." xt-Job xxxvii, 10, "By the breath of al frost is given."

Nothing is more embarrassing to an ganist or pianist than to put his finger text, "By the breath of God frost is erately and for hours, and no one to tell ake no response. Though all the other was are in full play, that one silence is able to do that by the finger of the stroys the music. So in the great frost 50 times in one winter and on a thedral of nature, if one part fails to hundred thousand window panes for use the Lord the harmony is halted nd lost. While fire and hail, snow and apor, respond to the touch of inspiraon, if the frost made no utterance the ed, and governments protect them, for, rchestral rendering would be hopeless-y damaged and the harmony forever inemplete, I am more glad than I can that the white key of the frost unds forth as mightily as any of the other keys, and when David touches it in the Psalms, it sounds forth the words, the place clear for a display just as mag-"He scattereth the hoar frost like ashes," "He scattereth the hoar frost like ashes," nificent the next morning. No one but and when Job touches it in my text it a God could afford to do that. It would esounds with the words, "By the breath bankrupt everything but infinity and of God frost is given." omnipotence.

As no one seems disposed to discuss the mission of frost, depending on divine help I undertake it. This is the first doors of the transfigured window glass, Sabbath of winter. The leaves are down. I want to cure my folly and your folly The warmth has gone out of the air. of longing for glorious things in the dis-The birds have made their winged march tance, while we neglect appreciation of southward. The landscape has been glorious things close by. "Oh, if I could scarred by the autumnal equinox. The only go and see the factories of lace at huskers have rifled the cornshocks. The Brussels!" says some one. Why, within night sky has shown the usual meteoric 20 feet of where you awaken some Derestlessness of November. Three sea- cember morning you will see richer lace sons of the year are past, and the fourth interwoven for your window panes by and last has entered. Another element divine fingers. "Oh, if I could see the now comes in to bless and adorn and in- factories of silk at Lyons!" says some one. struct the world. It is the frost. The Why, without leaving your own house es and winter palaces and Kenilworths -embroideries such as no one but God and Alhambras of ice, temples with can work. pendant chandeliers of ice, thrones

of iceberg on which eternal silence tant and this belittling of the close by! reigns, theaters on whose stage eternal This crossing of oceans and paying a high cold dramatizes eternal winter, pillars admission in expenses to look at that of ice, arches of ice, crowns of ice, which is not half as well done as somechariots of ice, sepulchers of ice, moun- thing we can see by crossing our own tains of ice, dominions of ice-eternal room, and free of charge. This praising frigidity! From those hard, white, of Raphaels, hundreds of years gone, burnished portals King Frost descends when the greater Raphael, the frost, will and waves his silvery scepter over our soon be busy at the entrances to your temperate zone. You will soon hear his own home. heel on the skating pond. You already

feel his breath in the night wind. By cian. Standing at the gates of New York most considered an enemy coming here harbor autumn before last, the frost to benumb and hinder and slay, I shall drove back the cholera, saying, "Thus

HE DIVINE BREALH. ness, with pomp, with almost super-natural spectacle. Then you will appre-that he neglects the Old Testament of ciate what my text says as it declares, "By the breath of God frost is given."

the fields nor reads the wisdom and kindness and beauty of God written in You will see on the window pane, traced blossoms on the orchard, in sparkles on there by the frost, whole gardens of the lake, in stars on the sky, in frost on beauty-ferns, orchids, daffodils, helio- the meadows. The greatest jeweler of tropes, china asters, fountains, statues, all the earth is the frost. There is nothhounds on the chase, roebucks plunging ing more wonderful in all crystalloginto the stream, battle scenes with dy- raphy. Some morning in December a ing and dead, catafalques of kings, tri- whole continent is found besprinkled

umphal processions-and as the morning with diamonds, the result of one night's ROOKLYN, Dec. 3.-Before the usual sun breaks through you will see cities work by this jeweler. Do you make the depreciatory reports hered in the first, second and third shell, and illuminations as for some that the frost is impermanent and will bered in the number of the successively, Dr. great victory, coronations and angels on 1:st only two or three hours? What of that? We go into London tower and

All night long while you were sleeplook at the crown jewels of England, but ing the frost was working, and you ought we are in a procession that the guards not let the warmth obliterate the scene keep moving on, and five minutes or less until you have admired it, studied it, ab- are your only opportunity of looking at sorbed it, set it up in your memory for those crown jewels, but at the crown perpetual refreshment, and realized the jewels bestarred of the frost in parks force and magnitude and intensity of my and fields you may stand to look delib-

a key of the instrument and have it given." Oh, what a God we have! What you to move on. Oh, these regalias and diadems of resources are implied by the fact that he beauty flung out of heaven! Kings and queens on celebrative days have come riding through the streets throwing handfuls of silver and gold among the thousands of winters!

people, but the queen of the winter The great art galleries of Venice and Naples and Dresden are carefully guardmorning is the only queen rich enough to throw pearls, and the king of frost once lost, they can never be reproduced, the only king rich enough to throw opals and sapphires and diamonds. Homer but God sets up in the royal galleries of describes a necklace of amber given to the frost pictures such as no human art Penelope, but the frost necklaces a concould ever produce, hundreds of thoutinent. The carcanet of precious stones sands of them, only for four or five given to Harmonia had pinions of orange hours, and then rubs them out, making jasper and white moonstone and Indian agate, but it was a misfortune to any one who owned or inherited it, and its history, generation after generation, was a history of disaster. But the regalia of frost is the good fortune of every morn-Standing here between the closed doors

ing that owns it. The imperial household of Louis XVI could not afford the diamond necklace which had been ordered for Queen Marie Antoinette, and it was stolen and taken apart and lost, but the necklace that the frost puts on the wintry morning, though made of as many brilliants as the withered grass blades, is easily afforded

by divine opulence and is never lost, but after its use in the coronation of the fields is taken back to heaven. O men and women, accustomed to go into ecstasy when in foreign travel you come palaces of this king are far up in the on Christmas morning you may see upon the historical gems of nations, arctic. Their walls are glittering con- where the Lord has spun silken threads whether the jewel be called the Moungelation. Windsor castles and Tuiler- about your windows this way and that tain of Glory, or the Sea of Light, or the Crown of the Moon, or the Eye of Allah, or the Star of Sarawak, or the Koh-inoor, I implead you study the jewels strewn all round your wintry home and

Alas, for this glorification of the disrealize that "by the breath of God frost is given!" But I go a step farther and speak of the frost as an evangelist, and a text of Scripture is not of much use to me unless I can find the gospel in it. The Israelites in the wilderness breakfasted on Let the corners of your mouth, so long something that looked like frozen dew. drawn down in complaint, be drawn up The manna fell on the dew, and the dew evaporated and left a pulverized ma-

Next I speak of the frost as a physiterial, white and looking like frost, but it was manna, and of that they ate. So now this morning, mixed with the frozen dew of my text, there is a manna benediction divinely pronounced, and From Memphis and New Orleans and V which we may breakfast our souls. of Jerusalem-an Arabian steed mounted charged and surcharged with lessons Jacksonville he smote the fever plague You say the frost kills. Yes, it kills of Jerusaleni-an Arabian steed mounted by an Arab. Do you know where these that it gives health and life to others.

mission. Put down all the promises of the Bible on a table for study, and put on one side the table a man who has never had any trouble, or very little of it, but pile upon the table beside him all encyclopedias, and all dictionaries, and all archmologies, and all commentaries, and on the other side of the table put a man who has had trial upon trial, disaster upon disaster,

sui 1 t him begin the study of the promises, without lexicon, without comcentary, without any book to explain ip, and this latter man will understand far more of the height and depth and length and breadth of those promises than the learned exegete opposite, almost submerged in sacred literature. The one has the advantage over the other because he has felt the mission of the frosts. O, take the consolation of this theme, ye to whom life is a struggle, and a disappointment, and a gantlet. and a pang. That is a beautiful proverb

among the Hebrews which says, "When the tale of bricks is doubled, then Moses comes."

Mild doses of medicine will do for mild sickness, but violent pains need strong doses, and so I stand over you and count out some drops that will alle viate your worst troubles if you will only take the medicine, and here it is "In the world ye shall have tribulation but be of good cheer. I have overcome the world." "Weeping may endure for a night, but joy cometh in the morn ing." Thank God for frosts! What ing." helped make Milton the greatest of poetsi The frost of blindness. What helped make Washington the greatest of generals? The frosts of Valley Forge. What made it appropriate for one passing John | Holmes, 84. Bunyan's grave to exclaim, "Sleep on, thou prince of dreamers?" The frosts of in excellent health. imprisonment.

The greatest college from which we can graduate is the college of frosts. Especial trial fits for especial work. Just now watch, and you will see that trouble is preparative and educational. That is the grindstone on which battle axes are sharpened. I have always noticed in my own case that when the Lord had some especial work for me to do it was preceded by especial attack upon me. This is so proverbial in my own house that if for something I say or do I get poured upon me a volley of censure and anathema, my wife always asks: "I wonder what new opportunity of usefulness is about to open? Something good and grand is surely coming!"

What is true in my case is true on a larger or smaller scale in the history of every man and woman who wants to serve the Lord. Without complaint take the hard knocks. You will see after awhile, though you may not appreciate it now, that by the breath of a good and loving God frost is given. in smiles of content.

For many years poets and essayists have celebrated the grace and swiftness of the Arabian horses. The most wonderful exhibition of horsemunship that I ever witnessed was just outside of the city and surcharged with lessons Jacksonville he smote the rever plague some things, but we have already seen till it reeled back and departed. The that it gives health and life to others Mohammed, with 30,000 cavalry on the march, could find for them not a drop of water for three days, Coming to the top of a hill a river was in sight. With wild dash the 30,000 horses started for the stream. A minute after an armed By the breath of God the gospel is given. host was seen advancing, and at Mohammed's command 100 bugles blew for the horses to fall in line, but all the 30,000 continued the wild gallop to the river, except five, and they, almost dead with



The Bible seven times alludes to the frost is a physician that doctors cities, frost, and we must not ignore it. "By nations and continents. He medicines the breath of God frost is given."

First I think of frost as a painter. He brile for typhoids, sulphonal for sleepbegins his work on the leaves and con- lessness, antispasmodic for disturbed tinues it on the window panes. With nerves, but in all therapeutics there is palette covered with all manner of colors no remedy like the small pellets prepared in his left hand and pencil of crystal in his by the cold, and no physician so skillful right hand, he sits down before the hum- or so mighty as the frost. blest bush in the latter part of September and begins the sketching of the but her greatest doctors have been the leaves. Now he puts upon the foliage a Abernethies and Abercrombies that faint pallor, and then a touch of wown, have come down over the highlands and then a hue of orange, and last a horsed on the north wind. England has flame of fire. The beech and ash and oak had her great physicians, but her greatare turned first into sunrises and then est doctors have been the Andrew into sunsets of vividness and splender. Clarkes and the Mackenzies who ap-All the leaves are penciled one by one, peared the first night the fields of Engbut sometimes a whole forest in the land were rimmed with white. America course of a few days shows great velocity has had its great physicians, but her

Weenix, the Dutch painter, could make Parkers and Valentine Motts who landof work. in a summer day three portraits of life ed from bleak skies while our fingers size, but the frost in 10 days can paint 10 were benumbed and our ears tingled mountains in life size. It makes the last with the cold. Oh, it is high time that days of an antumnal wood the days of you add another line to your liturgy. It

its chiefest glory-Luxembourgs in the is high time that you make an adden-Adirondacks, Louvres in the Sierra Ne- dum to your prayers. It is high time vadas, Vaticans in the White mountains. that you enlarge the catalogue of your The work of other painters you must see blessings in the right light to fully appreciate, but Thank God for frost! It is the best of

the paintings of the frost in all lights are all germicides. It is the only hope in enchanting from the time when the cur-tain of the morning lifts to the time when Michael Augelo put upon one ceiling God ever gave the human race. It is the curtain of the night drops.

his representation of the last judgment, the only strong stimulant which has no but the frost represents universal con- reaction. The best commentary on it 1 flagration upon 3,000 miles of stretched had while walking near here one cool out grandeur. Leonardo da Vinci put morning with my brother John, who upon a few feet of canvas our Lord's last spent the most of his life as a missionary supper for all ages to admire, but the in China, and in that part of it where frost puts the gleaming chalices of the there are no frosts. He said there was imperial glories of the last supper of the a tingling gladness in his nerves indedying year on the heights and lengths scribable and an almost intexication of and breadths of the Alleghanies. When delight from the fact that it was the Titian first gazed upon a sketch of Cor- first time for years he had felt the sensareggio, he was wrought up into such co- tion of frost. We complain of it, we Titian, I would be Correggio," and so ought to be stirred by it to gratitude and you go down under nervous prostragreat and overpowerful are the autum- and heist it on a doxology. one force of nature might well exclaim frost as a jeweler. As the snow is frozen to another, "If I were not the sunlight, I would be the frost."

Rugendas, the German painter, suffering from weakness in his right hand, lahand, but the frost paints with both dramatist with ecstatic interrogation, hands, and has in them more skill than all the Rembrandts and Rubens and Wests and Poussins and Albert Durers and Paul Veroneses and Claudes gathered in one long art gallery. But the door of that great museum of autumnal line. A minute before God had asked soloring is now closed for a twelve about the parentage of a raindrop in month, and another spectacle, just as wonderful, is about to open. I put you on the alert and ask you to put your children on the alert.

Tired of working on the leaves, the frost will soon turn to the window panes. will soon waken on a cold morning and find that the windows of your house gendered it? " have during the night been adorned with curves, with coronets, with exquisite-

This gospel is the savor of life unto life or of death unto death. the world. Quinine for malaria, antife-

As the frost is mighty, the gospel is mighty. As the frost descends from heaven, the gospel descends from heaven. By the breath of God frost is given. As the frost purifies, so the grace of God purifies. As the frost bestars the earth, Scotland has had great physicians, so grace bejewels the soul. As the frost prepares for food many things that oth-

erwise would be inedible, so the frost of trial ripens and prepares food for the In the tight grip of the frost the soul. hard shells of walnut and chestnut and hard and prickly shell and crushes it until that which stung the soul now greatest doctors have been the Willard feeds it.

There are passages of Scripture that once were enigmas, puzzles, riddles and impossible for you to understand, but he frosts of trouble after awhile exposed the full meaning to your soul. You said, "I do not see why David keeps rolling over in his Psalms the story of how he was pursued and persecuted." He de-

scribes himself as surrounded by bees. He says, "They compassed me about like bees: yea, they compassed me about like bees." You think what an exaggerating thing for him to exclaim, "Out of the depths of hell have I cried unto thee, O Lord!" And there is so much of that style of

lamentation in his writings you think he overdoes it, but after awhile a frost comes upon you in the shape of persecution, and you are stuck with this cen-sure, and stuck with that defamation. and stuck with some falsehood, and hes in swarms are buzzing, buzzing about your cars, and at last you understand what David meant when he said, "They compassed me about like bees; yea, they compassed me about like been,"

yea, they compared all those nervous prostra-tion and feel that you are as far down as David when he crasd, "Out of the depths of hell" What opened all those chapters that hitherto had no appropriateness? Frostst For a long while the Bible seemed lop-sided and a disproportionate amount of it given up to the consolatory. Why page after page and chapter after chapter and book after book in the Bible taken up with alleviations, with pacifications, with condolences? The book seems like an apothecary store with one-half of the shelves occupied with balaams. Why shelves occupied with balaams. Why But I must go farther and speak of the transforms it from a liquid into a crystal. It is the dow glorified. In the thirtyeighth chapter of that inspired drama, the book of Job, God says to the inspired gendered it?" God there asks Job if he knows the parentage of the frost. He inshelves occupied with bulsams. Why quires about its pedigree. He suggests that Job study up the frost's genealogical such a superfluity of habanns? But after awhile the membranous croup carries off line. A minute before God had asked your child, or your health gives way under the grip, or your property is swept off by a lad investment, or perhaps all ive text for a sermon, "Hath the rain a father?" But now the Lord Almighty is catechising Job about the frost. He practically says: "Do you know its father? Do you know its mother? In what cradie of the leaves did the wind rock it? "The hoary frost of heaven, who hath He is a stupid Christian who thinks so

and the second second

thirst, wheeled into line of battle. Nothing in human bravery and self sacrifice excels that bravery and self sacrifice of those five Arabian warhorses. hickory open, and the luxuries of the Those five splendid steeds Mohammed woods come into our laps or upon our chose for his own use, and from those tables; so the frost of trial takes many a five came that race of Arabian horses for ages the glory of the equestrian world. And let me say that in this great war of truth against error, of holiness against

sin and heaven against hell, the best warhorses are descended from those who under pang and self denial and trouble answered the gospel trumpet and wheeled into line. Out of great tribulation, out of great fires, out of great frosts, they came.

And let me say it will not take long for God to make up to you in the next world for all you have suffered in this. As you enter heaven he may say: "Give this man one of those towered and colonnaded palaces on that ridge of gold overlooking the sea of glass. Give this woman a home among those amarinthine blooms and between those fountains tossing in the everlasting sunlight. Give her a couch canopled with rainbows to pay her for all the fatigues of wifehood and motherhood and housekeeping, from which she had no rest for 40 years.

"Cupbearers of heaven, give these new ly arrived sonls from earth the costlicat beverages and roll to their door the grandest chariots, and hang on their walls the sweetest harps that ever thrummed to fingers scraphic. Give to them rapture on rapture, celebration on

threatroubles come at onco- bankruptoy, sickness and begenvernent. Now the con-solatory parts of the likble do not seem to be disproportionate. You want some thing off almost all the shelves of that sacred dispensary. What has uncovered and exposed to you the usefulness of so

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