RUBIES SURPASSED.

AN ELOQUENT SERMON BY REV. T. DE WITT TALMAGE.

A Comparison of Wisdom With the Most Precious Stone-The Value of Religion. Words of Solomon-Contrasts Brought Out by the Text.

BROOKLYN, Feb. 11 .- In the Tabernacle this forenoon Rev. Dr. Talmage preached to a crowded andience that filled the great building to overflowing, the subject of his sermon being "Rubles Surpassed" and the text Proverbs viii, 11, Wisdom is better than rubies."

You have all seen the precious stone commonly called the ruby. It is of deep red color. The Bible makes much of it. It glowed in the first row of the high priest's breastplate. Under another name it stood in the wall of heaven. Jeremiah compares the ruddy cheek of the Nazarites to the ruby. Ezekiel points it out in the robes of the king of Tyre. Four times does Solomon use it as a symbol by which to extol wisdom or religion, always setting its value as better than rubies.

QUALITIES OF THE RUBY. The world does not agree as to how the precious stones were formed. The ancients thought that amber was made of drops of perspiration of the goddess Ge. The thunderstone was supposed to have dropped from a stormcloud. The emerald was said to have been made of the firefly. The lapis lazuli was thought to have been born of the cry of an Indian giant. And modern mineralogists say that the precious stones were made of gases and liquids. To me the ruby seems like a spark from the anvil of the setting

The home of the genuine ruby is Burmah, and 60 miles from its capital, where lives and reigns the ruler, called "Lord of the Rubies." Under a careful governmental guard are these valuable mines of ruby kept. Rarely has any foreigner visited them. When a ruby of large value was discovered, it was brought forth with elaborate ceremony, a procession was formed, and, with all bannered pomp, military guard and princely attendants, the gem was brought to the king's palace.

Of great value is the ruby, much more so than diamond, as lapidaries and jewelers will tell you. An expert on this subject writes, "A ruby of perfect color weighing five carats is worth at the present day ten times as much as a diamond of equal weight." It was a disaster when Charles the Bold lost the ruby he was wearing at the battle of Grandson. It was a great affluence when Rudolph II of Austria inherited a ruby from his sister, the queen dowager. It was thought to have had much to do with the victory of Henry V, as he wore it into the battle of Agincourt.

It is the pride of the Russian court to own the largest ruby of all the world, presented by Gustavus III to the Russian empress. Wondrous ruby! It has electric characteristics, and there are lightnings compressed in its double six sided prisms. What shall I call it? It is frozen fire! It is petrified blood! In all the world there is only one thing more valuable, and my text makes the

But it is impossible to compare two things together unless there are some points of similarity as well as of difference. I am glad there is nothing lacking here. The ruby is more beautiful in the night and under the lamplight than by day. It is preferred for evening adornment. How the rubies glow and burn and flash as the lights lift the darkness! Catherine of Aragon had on her finger a ruby that fairly lanterned the night.

Sir John Mandeville, the celebrated traveler of 400 years ago, said that the emperor of China had a ruby that made the night as bright as day. The probability is that Solomon, under some of the lamps that illumined his cedar palace by night, noticed the peculiar glow of the ruby as it looked in the hilt of a sword, or hung in some fold of the upholstery, or beautified the lip of some chalice, while he was thinking at the same time of the excellency of our holy religion as chiefly seen in the night of trouble, and he cries out, "Wisdom is better than ru-

WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS.

Oh, yes, it is a good thing to have religion while the sun of prosperity rides high and everything is brilliant in fortune, in health, in worldly favor. Yet you can at such time hardly tell how much of it is natural exuberance and how much of it is the grace of God. But let the sun set, and the shadows avalanche the plain, and the thick darkness of sickness or poverty or persecution or mental exhaustion fill the soul and fill the house and fill the world; then you sit down by the lamp of God's word, and under its light the consolations of the gospel come out; the peace of God which passeth all understanding appears. You never fully appreciated their power until in the deep night of trouble the Divine Lamp revealed their exquisiteness. Pearls and amethysts for the day, but rubies for the

All of the books of the Bible attempt in some way the assuagement of misfortune. Of the 150 psalms of David at least 90 allude to trouble. There are carmine of the ruby that suggests the sighings in every wind, and tears in ev- sacrifice on which our whole system of ery brook, and pangs in every heart. It religion depends. While the emerald was originally proposed to call the pres- suggests the meadows, and the supphire ident's residence at Washington "The the skies, and the opal the sea, the ruby Palace" or "the Executive Mansion," suggests the blood of sacrifice. The but after it was destroyed in the war of | most emphatic and startling of all colors 1814 and rebuilt it was painted white hath the ruby. Solomon, the author of to cover up the marks of the smoke and my text, knew all about the sacrifice of fire that had blackened the stone walls. Hence it was called "The White House." Most of the things now white with at-

solatory, and here it comes, our holy re- time-Jesus-of the centuries! Drive ligion, with both hands full of anodynes | the story of the crucifixion out of the and sedatives and balsams, as in Daniel's Bible and the doctrine of the atonement time to stop mouths leonine; as in Shad- ont of our religion, and there would be rach's time to cool blast furnaces; as in nothing of Christiamity left for our wor-Exektel's time to console captivity; as in | ship or our admiration. St. John's time to unroll an apocalypse | Why should it be hard to adopt the pyer rocky desolations. Hear its sooth-Bible theory that our redemption was

from their eyes."

make Paul what he was it took ship- destroyed by the powder blast. wreck, and whipping on the bare back, and penitentiary, and pursuit of wild mothers have been martyrs to the cradle mobs, and the sword of decapitation. To of sick children. Tell us how many men make David what he was it took all that sacrificed nerve and muscle and brain Abithophel and Saul and Absalom and life in the effort to support their Goliath and all the Philistine hosts could households. Tell me how many men in do against him. It took Robert Cham- England, in France, in Germany, in bers' malformation of feet to make him Italy, in the United States, have died for the literary conqueror.

wickedness to an evangelism that won fires been kindled around his feet, and not liking their slow work he cried: "I cannot burn. Let the fire come to me. I cannot burn." Thank God that there of a ruined world. are gems that unfold their best glories the ruby!

SOLOMON WAS RIGHT.

dollars on your wall bring you as much satisfaction as the engraving that at the expense of \$5 was hung upon the wall when you first began to keep house?

Do all the cutlery and rare plate that glitter on your extension dining table, surrounded by flattering guests, contain your first table, at which sat only two? Does a wardrobe crowded with costly attire give you more satisfaction than your first clothes closet with its four or all our souls! five pegs? Did not the plain ring set on the third finger of your left hand on the day of your betrothal give more gladness than the ruby that is now enthroned on the third finger of your right hand?

ed anything, we have learned that this men and put out to sea. The pirates, world neither with its emoluments nor with their flag inscribed of a death's gains can satisfy the soul. Why, here come as many witnesses as I wish to call to the stand to testify that before high heaven and the world, in companionship with Jesus Christ and a good hope of put them in chains and then sailed for heaven, they feel a joy that all the resources of their vocabulary fail to express. Sometimes it evidences itself in ejaculations of hosanna; sometimes in doxology; sometimes in tears. A con- striped flag of the cross is hoisted. Blessverted native of India in a letter said, "How I long for my bed, not that I may sleep-I lie awake often and long-but mind the price paid for such a rescue! comparison, "Wisdom is better than ru-to hold sweet communion with my God."

II, hearing his armies were triumphant, per, for it gathers 17 colors into its bosom, expired, and if Talva, hearing that the and I like the jet, for it compresses the Roman senate had decreed him an honor, expired, and if Dionysius and Sophocles, overcome of joy, expired, and if a shipwrecked purser, waiting on the coast of and I like the chrysolite for its waves of Guinea in want and starvation at the color which seem on fire. But this mornsight of a vessel bringing relief, fell ing nothing so impresses me as the ruby, dead from shock of delight, is it any surprise to you that the joys of pardon and heaven rolling over the soul should sometimes be almost too much for the Christian to endure and live? An aged aunt said to me: "De Witt, three times I have fainted dead away under too great Christian joy. It was in all three cases

at the holy communion." An eminent Christian man while in for mortal. Withhold! withhold!" We have heard of poor workmen or workwomen getting a letter suddenly telling them that a fortune had been left them, and how they were almost beside themselves with glee, taking the first ship to claim the estate. But, oh, what it is to wake up implies opulence of all kinds. The picout of the stupor of a sinful life, and through pardoning grace find that all trophies of European travel. The curour earthly existence will be divinely managed for our best welfare, and that then all heaven will roll in upon the

Compared with that a spring morning is stupid, and an August sunset is inane, and an aurora has no pillared splendor, and a diamond has no flash, and a pearl no light, and a beryl no aquamarine, and a ruby no ruddiness. My gracions Lord! My glorious God! My precious Christ! Roll over on us a few billows of that rapture. And now I ask you, as fair minded men and women, accustomed to make comparisons, is not such a joy as that worth more than anything one can have in a jeweled caskei? Was not Solomon right when he said, "Wisdom is bet-

ter than rubies?"

MARTYRS TO DUTY. There is also something in the deep lamb and dove on the altars of the temple, and he knew the meaning of sacrificial blood, and what other precious tractiveness were once black with dis- stone could be so well use to symbolize it as the ruby? Red, intensely red, red What the world most needs is the con- as the blood of the greatest martyr of all

endure for a night, but joy cometh in ever sprung its arches, what temple ever sorts. Now she is going out of life. he morning." "The mountains shall reared its towers, what nation ever lepart and the hills be removed, but my achieved its independence, what mighty neither thirst any more, neither shall the the life of the first architect. Ask the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne how many carpenters went down under shall lead them to living fountains of accidents before the steamer was launchwater, and God shall wipe away all tears ed; ask the three great transcontinental railroads how many in their construc-The most wholesome thing on earth is tion were buried under crumbling emtrouble, if met in Christian spirit. To bankments or crushed under timbers or

Tabulate the statistics of how many their country. Vicarious suffering is as It was bereavement that brought Wil. old as the world, but the most thrilling. liam Haworth of Wesley's time from the most startling, the most stupendous sacrifice of all time and eternity was on many thousands for heaven. The world a bluff back of Jerusalem when one Bewould never have known what heroic ing took upon himself the sins, the agostuff Ridley was made of had not the nies, the perdition of a great multitude that no man can number between 12 o'clock of a darkened noon and 8 o'clock in the afternoon, purchasing the ransom

Dive in all the seas, explore all the under the lamplight! Thank God for mines, crowbar all the mountains, view all the crowned jewels of all the emperors, and find me any gem that can so Moreover, I am sure that Solomon was overwhelmingly symbolize that martyrright in saying that religion or wisdom dom as the ruby. Mark you, there are is better than rubles, from the fact that many gems that are somewhat like the a thing is worth what it will fetch. Re- ruby. So is the cornelian, so is the garligion will fetch solid happiness, and the net, so is the spinel, so is the balas, so ruby will not. In all your observation the gems brought from among the gravdid you ever find a person thoroughly fe- els of Ceylon and New South Wales, but licitated by an incrustment of jewels? there is only one genuine ruby, and that As you know more of yourself than any comes from the mine of Burmah. And one else, are you happier now with there is only one Christ, and he comes worldly adornments and successes than from heaven. One Redeemer, one Ranbefore you won them? Does the picture som, one Son of God, only "one name that cost you hundreds or thousands of given under heaven among men by which we can be saved."

Ten thousand times 10,000 beautiful imitations of that ruby, but only one ruby. Christ had no descendant. Christ had no counterpart. In the lifted up grandeur and glory and love and sympathy of his character he is the Incomparmore of real bliss than the plain ware of able, the Infinite One! "The only wise God, our Saviour." Let all hearts, all homes, all times, all eternities, bow low before him! Let his banner be lifted in

PRICE OF THE GOSPEL.

In olden times Scotland was disturbed by freebooters and pirates. To rid the seas and ports of these desperadoes, the hero William Wallace fitted out a mer-If in this journey of life we have learn- chant vessel, but filled it with armed head, thinking they would get an easy prize, bore down upon the Scottish merchantman, when the armed men of Wallace boarded the craft of the pirates and port under the Scotch flag flying. And so our souls, assailed of sin and death and hell, through Christ are rescued, and the black flag of sin is torn down, and the sed be God for any sign, for any signal. for any precious stone, that brings to

I like the coral, for it seems the solidi-If so mighty is worldly joy that Julius | fied foam of breakers, and I like the jasshadows of many midnights, and I like he chrysoprase because its purple is illumined with a small heaven of stars, for it depicts, it typifies, it suggests "The blood of Jesus Christ that cleanseth from all sin," Without the shedding of blood there is no remission." Yea, Solomon was right when in my text he said, "Wisdom is better than rubies."

To bring out a contrast that will illustrate my text, I put before you two last earthly scenes. The one is in a room with rubles, but no religion, and the other in prayer said: "Stop, Lord; I cannot bear a room with religion, but norubies. You any more of this gladness. It is too much enter the first room, where an affluent and worldly man is about to quit this life. There is a ruby on the mantel, possibly among the vases. There is a ruby

in the headdress of the queenly wife. On the finger of the dying man there is a ruby. The presence of these rubies tures on the walls are heirlooms or the tains are from foreign looms. The ruga are from Damascus or Cairo. The sofas are stuffed with ease and quietude. The rocking chairs roll backward and forward on lullabies. The pillows are exquisitely embroidered. All the appointments of the room are a peroration to a successful commercial or professional life. But the man has no religion, never has had and never professed to have, There is not a Bible or one religious book

in the room. The departing man feels that his earthcareer is ended, and nothing opens be-Where he will land stepping off from this life is a mystery, or whether he will land at all, for it may be annihilation. He has no prayer to offer, and he does not know how to pray. No hope of meeting again in another state of existence. He is through with this life mantel and the ruby on the wasted fin-

BETTUR THAN BURIES. show window and saw a row of them in-carnadining the velvet. She had keen Herald. temptations and persecutions and sick- is his name? - New York Choper.

The same of the same

ing voice as it declares: "Weeping may purchased by blood? What great bridge nesses and privations and trials of all

or statues, not with upholstery, not with loying kindness shall not depart from good was ever done without sacrifice of any of the gems of mountain or of sea you." "Whom the Lord loveth he chas- life? The great wonder of the world, the teneth." "They shall hunger no more, bridge that unites these two cities, cost the room. Not the light of chandelier or star or noonday sun, but something sun light on them, nor any heat, for the shipyards of Glasgow and New York that outshines all of them. It must be the presence of Supernaturals, From her illumined face I think she must hear sweet voices. Yea, she does hear sweet voices-voices of departed kindred voices apostolic and prophetic and evan gelic, but all of them overpowered by the voice of Christ, saying, "Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom."

From her illumined face, I think she must hear rapturous music. Yea, she does hear rapturous music, now soft as solos, now thunderous as orchestras 161. Chop feed \$16 and \$17. now a saintly voice alone, now the hundred and forty and four thousand in concert. From her illumined face, I think she must breathe redolence. Yea, she does inhale aroma from off the gardens whose flowers never wither and from the blossoms of orchards, every tree of which bears 12 manner of fruit. From her illumined face, I think she must see a glorious sight. Yes, she sees the wall that has jasper at the base and amethyst at the top and blood red rubies between. Goodby, sweet soul! Why should you longer stay? Your work all done, your burdens all carried, your tears all wept! Forward into the light! Up into the joy! Out into the grandeurs! And after you have saluted Christ and your kindred, search out him of the palaces of Lebanon cedar and tell him that you have found to be gloriously true what thousands of years ago he asserted in this morning's text, "Wisdom is better than rubies."

In those burnished palaces of our God may we all meet. For I confess to you that my chief desire for heaven is not th radiance, or, to take the suggestion of the text, not the rubescence of the scene My one idea of heaven is the place to My one idea of heaven is the place to roused, in bags, \$5.75@6.00; barrels, meet old friends, God, our best friend, \$6.00@6.25; cases, \$3.75. and our earthly friends already transported. Aye, to meet the millions whom I have never seen, but to whom I have administered in the gospel week by week through journalism on both sides of the sea, and throughout Christendom, and through many lands yet semibarbaric.

A MIGHTY AUDIENCE.

Hay—Best, \$10(6)12 per ton.

Wool—vailey, 10(6)12, 600 the.

Milliantiffs—Bran, \$16,00; shorts, \$16; ground barley, \$18; chop feed, \$15 per ton; whole feed, barley, 70 cts. per cental; middling, \$23(6)28 per ton; chicken wheat, 65(6)1.15 per cental.

Hops—New 12 to 14.

A MIGHTY AUDIENCE. For the last twenty-three years every blast of injustice against me has multiplied my readers all the world over, and the present malignancy printed and uttered because our church is in financial struggle after having two great structures destroyed by fire and we compelled to build three large churches-I say the present outrageous injustice in some quarters will multiply my audience in all lands if I can keep in good humor \$8 00@3.50 per dozen; ducks,\$4.50@5.00 and not fight back.

A gentleman tapped me on the shoulder summer before last on a street of Edinburgh, Scotland, and said, "I live in the Shetland islands, North Scotland, and I read your sermons every Sabbath to an audience of neighbors, and my brother lives in Cape Town, South Africa, and he reads them every Sabbath to an audience of his neighbors." And I hear and now say to the forty millions of the earth to whose eyes these words will come, that one of my dearest anticipations is to meet them in heaven. Ah, that will be better than rubies.

Coming up from different continents, from different hemispheres, from opposite sides of the earth, to greet each other in holy love in the presence of the glorious Christ who made it possible for us to get there. Our sins all pardoned, our sorrows all banished, never to weep, never to part, never to die! I tell you that will be better than rubies. Others may have the crowns, and the thrones, and the scepters; give us our old friends creases their elasticity. They are an sticketh closer than a brother," and all aliay irration and removes obstructions the kindred who have gone up from our by aiding nature and are of great benebereft households, and all our friends fit in cases of temporary and 'better than rubles."

"better than rubies."
Instead of the dying kiss when they looked so pale and wan and sick, it able, absolutely harmless and safe to would be the kiss of welcome on lips ju- take at any time. bilant with song, while standing on floors paved with what exquisiteness, under ceilings hung with what glory, bounded by walls facing us with what splendor, amid gladness rolling over us with what doxology-far better, infinitely better, everlastingly better than ru-

An Energetic Maine Woman. One of the representative women of Portland is Mrs. Samuel Augustus Stevens. She is the president of two women's clubs, an energetic member of several others and is well known throughout all the eastern states for her ability and willingness to do such work. She is also prominently identified with many philanthropies. In person Mrs. Stevens, who is still in her twenties, is of a charming brunette type, with a cordiality of manner that has undoubtedly done much to forward her success as a leader. She has written two novels and several short stories and at present is engaged in editorial work.-Portland (Me.) Let-

Use of the Fork and Spoon. An absurd and inconvenient dictate of and is sure of no other. The ruby on the | the present fashion is the almost complete banishment of the tenspoon. The ger of the departing one say nothing of | multiple fork has gradually encrosched the ransoming blood which they so upon the spoon's domain until even the mightily typify. So far as giving solace various grains and vegetables of the THE INDEPENDENT STEAMER or illumination to a departing spirit, more clusive sort, which were once wont they are a dead failure. Midnight of to occupy little dishes and have a teautter hopelessness drops on all the scene. spoon apiece, are now amalgamated with the rest of the dinner and disposed Another room of mortal exit. Religion of as best one may with a four tised imand no rubies. She never had money plement. For the present teaspoons are Leaves Portland for Salem and Corenough to buy one of these exquisites. still permitted for stirring and sipping Sometimes she stopped at a jeweler's beverages without incurring the odium

TODAY'S MARKETS. The room is bright, not with pictures Prices Current by Telegraph - Local

> and Portland Quotations. SALEM, February 14, 4 p. m.—Office DAILY CAPITAL JOURNAL, Quotations for day and up to hour of going to press were as follows:

SALEM PRODUCE MARKET.

FRUIT.

Apples-30c to 50c, a bushel.

BUTCHER STOCK. Veals-dressed 5 cts. Hogs-dressed 5. Live cattle-21 to 3. Sheep-alive \$1.50@\$2.

MILL, PRICES. Salem Milling Co. quotes: Flour in whotesale lots \$2.60. Retail \$3.00. Bran \$14 bulk, \$15 sacked. Shorts \$15}

WHEAT. 39 cents per bushel. HAY AND GRAIN. Oats—new 25@30c, Hay—Baled, new \$8 to \$10; old \$10 to 2. Wild in bulk, \$6 to \$8,

FARM PRODUCTS. Wool-Best, 10c. Hops-Small sale, 17 to 18c. Eggs-Cash, 15.

Butter- Best dairy, 25@30; fancy creamery 19@25. Cheese—12 to 15 cts, Farm smoked meats—Bacon 10; hams, 12; shoulders, 8.

Potatoes-25@30c, Oulons-2 cents, Carrots, \$6.00 per ton. Beeswax -34c. Caraway seed, 18c. Anise seed, 26c. Ginseng, \$1.40.

LIVE POULTRY. Poultry—Hens,5@fic; roosters, 4@5c; ducks, 8; turkeys, slow sale, choice, 10c; geese 6 to 7c. Market overstocked. PORTLAND QUOTATIONS.

Grain, Feed, etc. Flour-Standard, \$2.75; Walla Walla, \$3.00; graham, \$2.40; superfine, \$2.25 Oats-New white,34c per bu.;grey,32c;

Hay-Best, \$10@12 per ton.

Hides—green, salted, 60 lbs. 3lc, under 60 lbs., 2@3; sheep pelts, 10@60c. DAIRY PRODUCE. Butter-Oregon fancy creamery, 271@

30c; fancy dairy, 221@25c; fair to good, 15@17]c; common, 11to 12c per lb. Cheese - Oregon, 10@13; Young American, 12@15cper pound; California 14c.; Swiss imp., 30@32; Dom., 16@18.
Eggs—Oregon, 15@16c per dozen. Eastern 15@ 16.

Poultry-Nominal; chickens, mixed geese, \$8. dressed 120 10e; turkeys, live,

Beef-Topsteers,21@3cper pound; fair togood steers, 26 210; No 1 cows, 20; fair cows, 110; dressed beef, \$4 00@5 50 per Mutton—Best sheep, \$2:50; choice ewes, \$2:25. Hogs—Choice, heavy, \$4 00@4 25; medium, \$4 00@4 50; light and feeders,

\$3 90@4 00; dressed, \$6 50@7. SAN FRANCISCO MARKET. Wool: Oregon Eastern choice, 10@

12e; do inferior, 7@9e; do valley, 12@ Hops-15 to 18c. Potatoes-Early Rose, 40@50. Bur-

Oats-Milling, \$1.15@1..221

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carnadining the velvet. She had keen taste enough to appreciate those gens, but she never owned one of them. She was not jealous or unhappy because others had rubies while she had none. But she had a richer treasure, and that was the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way are grace of God that had comforted her along the way amid bereavements and length of the grace of God that had comforted her along the way are grace of God that had comforted her along the way are grace of God that had comforted her along the way are grace of God that had comforted her along the way are grace of God that had comforted her along the way are grace of God that had comf



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