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CLAPSADDLE-LUSCH WEDDING CEREMONY

Performed Wednesday by Rev. George Barnard.

Miss Dessie B. Clapsaddle Becomes the Bride of Mr. William G. Lusch.

The wedding of Miss Dessie B. Clapsaddle and Mr. William G. Lusch was solemnized at 8 o'clock, Wednesday evening, at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Clapsaddle on North Main street. The ceremony was performed by Rev. George E. Barnard, pastor of the Free Baptist church, and was witnessed by only the immediate relatives of the young people.

Following the ceremony was a wedding dinner. The young people then went to the fine new home which the groom had prepared at No. 406 Chestnut street.

Mr. and Mrs. Lusch are among the best known young people of the city. Miss Clapsaddle until recently has been employed in the office of the J. C. Anthony laundry on East Center street. Mr. Lusch holds a position as book-keeper with the Wolleweber Lumber company. He is a member of the Tally Wag club.

How's This?

We offer One Hundred Dollars Reward for any case of Catarrh that cannot be cured by Hall's Catarrh Cure. F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.

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REV. D. H. BAILEY DELIVERS ANNUAL THANKSGIVING SERMON

Union Services Held at the United Brethren Church are Largely Attended—Special Musical Program Rendered by the Choir Under Direction of William Dowler—Pastor of Epworth M. E. Church Preaches a Powerful Sermon From the Text, "Thanks be to God Which Giveth Us Our Victory Through Our Lord Jesus Christ."

The annual union Thanksgiving services of the churches of Marion were held at the United Brethren church at 10 o'clock this morning. A large crowd was present and the services proved very interesting and impressive.

The program opened with special music by the United Brethren choir under the direction of Mr. William Dowler. A short prayer service was conducted in which practically all of the ministers of the city participated. After another selection by the choir, the annual Thanksgiving sermon was delivered by Rev. D. H. Bailey, pastor of Epworth M. E. church.

Rev. Mr. Bailey took his text from the Fifteenth chapter of First Corinthians—"Thanks be to God which giveth us our victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." The minister in part spoke as follows:

"I stood on an embankment and watched a ship coming into a harbor. Its every movement declared that it was neither controlled by tide or wind. It wound about islands, passed safely by breakers, escaped rocks and finally came to its place of anchorage. There was no one visible on the ship, but there was an unseen hand, controlled by an intelligent mind, guiding the ship on its course. The destiny of the ship depended upon the man at the wheel.

The great movements in world history, and more particularly in recent history; the progress in world civilization, the triumph of great moral and religious ideas; the overthrow of great injustice; the correction of wrongs and the victories of righteousness clearly reveal the hands of omnipotence and the mind of conscience in the affairs of men.

"I do not care to offer proof of the reality of a divine providence. Our gathering here at this thanksgiving service is an acknowledgment that we already believe in that Providence. Our thanksgiving is a confession of our belief that God is on His throne and is ruling and overruling in this high tension exciting, bewildering period of the world's history. My purpose is to point out some of the benefits conferred upon us in consequence of such a beneficent Providence.

MATERIAL PROSPERITY. It is my purpose to spend but little time in tabulated statements of the greatness of our harvests, the value of our minerals, the output of our factories; the triumphs of inventions or the marvelous development of our National resources. It is well however for us to remind ourselves, that these great harvests, great inventions, great bank accounts and the like are limited very closely to the nations that yield an obedience to the Divine Will and worship at the shrine of Jesus Christ, His Son.

A most interesting article was published in one of our magazines on "The Movements of Wheat." In that article it was shown that some where in the world there was a wheat harvest each month in the year with possibly a single exception. By the methods of conveyance if there should be a failure of the wheat crop in any part of the world it is not necessary to wait a year for bread until another crop can be grown, but the very next month in another part of the world a crop is being harvested and shipped to that part of the world where most needed. In Christian nations a famine becomes almost an impossibility. This continuous harvest portrays the wisdom and goodness of the Creator and modern methods of commerce are distinctly products of Christian countries.

While the wealth of the world largely belong to the Christian nations of the world it is a matter of interest and an occasion of gratitude that our own land is so favored. At the taking of the last census the wealth of the few of the great countries was as follows:

United States \$94,300,000,000. Great Britain \$39,000,000,000. France \$48,000,000,000. Germany \$44,000,000,000. Russia \$32,000,000,000. From this it is seen that the wealth of the United States is greater than the combined wealth of Great Britain and Russia or than the combined wealth of Germany and France. In 1850, the per capita wealth of the U. S. was \$308. In 1906

it was \$1236. The per capita wealth of Russia is but \$245. God has been greatly favoring America and while this is a matter of thanksgiving we should not forget the great responsibility it brings to us. The divine order is "I will bless thee and thou shalt be a blessing." God most certainly intends that America shall be a blessing to the world.

MORAL REFORM.

The past year has been remarkable for the agitations, prosecutions, and victories in the realm of morals. From the President of the Nation, with his "muck rake" to the mayor of the most obscure village with his "lid," the work of reform has been steadily gaining ground. In no particular, perhaps, has greater advancement been made than in the field of temperance.

In slavery days, Senator Calhoun, in conversation with Daniel Webster was lamenting the agitation of the slavery question and the threatened dangers to the southern slave holders of whom he was one. Mr. Webster sought to console him, by saying that the slavery agitation in the North was limited to the preachers and a handful of men and women in the prayer meetings. Mr. Calhoun replied "that is the very power I am afraid of."

For decades Christian people of America have been in continuous warfare with the liquor traffic, and lifting their voices in humble supplication to Heaven and have been crying "How long! O Lord, how long!" But these prayers have not been vain, and the many great victories of the past year leads to the hope, that in the near future our own city and county and state will be without a legalized saloon. It may be of interest to note that the following states are now doing business for themselves and the world without the revenues from the liquor traffic derived in the form of a tax. And delivered from the shame of such revenues, every dollar of which is blood money, the people are prosperous, happy and contented. The following are the Prohibition states: Maine, Kansas, Georgia, Oklahoma, Alabama and North Dakota.

By local option laws, we note also some gratifying results. In Arkansas 60 out of the 78 counties are dry. Southern California, mostly dry. Connecticut, 96 dry towns, 72 wet; Florida, 30 dry counties out of 45. Illinois has 200 dry towns. Indiana, half the population in dry territory. Iowa has 65 dry counties. Kentucky has 97 dry counties; 13 wet. Louisiana, seven-eighths of the state dry. Ohio has 1,140 townships and 60 per cent of the towns in the Prohibition column. Two-thirds of the state of Texas is dry and a state prohibition campaign is under way. And so throughout the entire United States the temperance forces are gradually and we believe permanently gaining ground.

THE PROGRESS OF CHURCHES. I noted recently an article in which the author argued quite forcefully that the church in our day is declining in power, influence, popularity and usefulness. Among other things he noted the drift from the church services to the parks and places of amusement on the Sabbath. The loss of reverence, if not respect for clergymen; instability of church members as shown by the readiness in which many take up with religious fads; the resolutions of religious bodies being read but unheeded. From these conditions he concluded the church is passing away. The author is perhaps not a Christian, if so, he only sees one side of church life, and that the darker side.

In the conversation of Jesus with His Apostles, in answer to a question Simon Peter said, "Thou Art the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Jesus answered, "Blessed are thou, Simon, Son of Jonah; for flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven." "And I say unto thee, that thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."

There are two important questions here; first, is the foundation still secure; second, is the church now building on the foundation? There seems to be two factors to be considered in the study of this foundation for the church. First, Jesus Christ, Himself. Does He still abide as the all sufficient Savior of men? The testimony of saved men is the answer. For nineteen hundred years, Jesus Christ has been pointed out as the savior of all who would come unto Him. The record of these centuries as it relates to saved men, saved communities and saved nations, to gather with the great multitude of witnesses in our own time constitute the uncontroverted evi-

dence that "He is the same yesterday, today and forever. But is He still revealed to human consciousness as the all sufficient Savior? Can men now say with the certainty of a personal consciousness through divine assurance, as did Simon Peter, "Thou art the Christ?"

There may be less hysteria, fanaticism or physical magnetism connected with the work of conversion than formerly, but the testimony to the reality of conscious salvation was never clearer, more intelligent, more positive or more assuring than that given by the multitude of converts in recent years. There can be but one conclusion, and that is, that the foundations of the church abide.

Is the church building upon this foundation? The church seems to be somewhat weary of dogma, and sectarianism has lost its power, but the cry both from the church and the world is "back to Christ." The preaching of "Jesus Christ and Him crucified," meets with as ready a response as ever before and if I understand the present trend of the church its activities it is to more and more present Jesus Christ as the hope of the world. And co-existent with the tendency to lift up Christ, is the tendency to emphasize the value of a definite religious experience. It is noteworthy that a Professor in one of the great universities of Germany said recently, that the first mission of theology is to exhibit the realities of religious experience. Most certainly therefore is the church building on the truest foundation. The results are as we would expect. The critic with the narrow vision whom we have already quoted does not grasp. The church was never so triumphant as now. More people attend its services; more members are devoted to its interests; more converts are baptized at its altars; more money is expended for its promotion; more missionaries are sent to heathen countries; a greater influence is exerted in the affairs of government, a wider field of service is included in its activities; a higher standard of morals is attained; more sympathy is shown for the needy and the oppressed; and clearer visions of God, and stronger convictions for service characterize the church than ever before. The church is presenting the gospel to the world in many different languages. Two hundred and nineteen languages that existed only in oral form, were reduced to writing in the last century in order that the people speaking these languages might receive the gospel in this permanent form.

We are living in a triumphant age. Achievement is the word that best characterizes our times. This achievement is the result of the forces set in operation nineteen hundred years ago by our Savior. With our whole hearts may we say "thanks be to God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

FATHER VAUGHAN COMING TO MARION

Will Lecture Here on December the Tenth.

"Sermon From Shakespeare," the Subject of Lecture to be Given at Epworth Church.

The management of the Y. M. C. A. lecture course have just put on the lithographs and advertising matter announcing the appearance of the third attraction of the course. The next number will be an unusually strong one and those who have heard Father L. J. Vaughan, who will be here December 10, are anxiously awaiting for this gifted orator. The name and fame of Father Vaughan has become so great that he can no longer confine himself to the limits of his own church but has been called to appear before the people all over the country.

Father Vaughan's lecture, "Sermons from Shakespeare," is a masterpiece of thought, style, and delivery, as is also any one of his seven other lectures, but this one in particular gives the lecturer an opportunity for developing his original and unique interpretations of Shakespearean characters and lessons. The lecturer's long experience on the stage before entering the priesthood has given him perfect control over his powerful voice, his readings from Shakespeare are intensely dramatic, this coupled with his fine personality and magnetic bearing, which are the very essence of eloquence, are the qualities which have made this man so eminently popular with those who appreciate dramatic art and oratorical eloquence.

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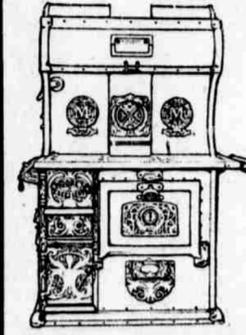
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