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Ancestral Achievements The Basis of Posterities Glory

Architectonic Projection of Character.

By Rev. G. M. Moreland, Pastor M. E. Church, South.

Serial Sermon No. 4

Scripture Text:
"God having provided some better way for us, that they without us should not be made perfect." Heb. (1:3).

A highway of universal history has been embossed across the hoary centuries by the caravan of civilization. Like his Lord man has never left himself without witness. In the wake of human progress is registered every vicissitude of physical experience, mental apprehension, and moral aspiration. As the tides of a restless sea mark the granite promontory, man engraves on the bosom of another earth the eb and flow of civilization. A causal force, a conscious entity, contradistinguished from the things, events and environments among which he moves, whose every act embodies a law of endless progression, written in the language of reason, man leaves the imprint of his personality on everything he touches, so builds and works that his biography, from primitive innocence to the golden age of the twentieth century is wrought into the earth that like the shields of Pallas, so long as there remains a fragment of the image of the artisan should be reflected.

History is a record of man as he was, as he has been and a prophecy of what he is to be. Greatness in man is not so much to be found in what he is or has been as in what man can be. To find in the past self satisfaction or in the present contentment would be little less than intellectual anarchy that would end in racial suicide.

Human progress is not an importunate freak of blind force but cumulative and regulative force of personality through which providence is operating to the objectification of Divine thought in ideal manhood.

Universal history, not simply the compilation of fortuitous etchings of marauding rabble or incongruent borders, but the compendium of the laws under which intellect and reason move to world wide conquest in civilization.

Institutions have been the "Tabula Rosa" of civilization on which the nations of the earth have left the uniform inscription of racial history. Whether it has been a subterranean cavern beneath the mountain of his native heath or the Catecombs, a wigwam, a hut or a stately mansion, a simple stone with its sacred oil for consecration, colossal temple or spacious cathedral, all are the objectified civilization of the passing age. Arrow points no less than Galilei guns reveal the defensive and offensive strides towards development. The wooden plow discourses as eloquently upon his industrial traits as the modern cultivator or heaver. The Hall of Pillars, of Egypt speak across the chasm of forty centuries of the intellectual force, artistic skill and the aesthetic taste of that great people, their faith in the silent guardianship of providence or her concept of an immovable fate she carved in her native stone.

Antique friend, Aiant Sphinx
That cannot speak nor think,
Although, as nature's scroll
Volumes of history holds.

Those massive and imposing pyramids express simple patriotism and are a thesis on the cherished hope of immortality.

Goths and Normans, Greeks and Romans, Aryans and Caucasians, civilized or uncivilized, bond or free, legibly engraved their character and history in Parthenon, Coliseum, palace and temple and through these though dead yet speak in reasons ear, stir the silent forces of thought through the pages of history and from the somber ruins of achievement or the twilight of faded glory, echo the shout of the charioter rounding the goal, the acclamations of the populus over the feats of some Achilles or the gorgeous return of some wagner ridden with the gore of the helpless and color the ideals of the twentieth century.

Institutions are apparent channels of a quasi immortality through which one generation inherits a posthumus inspiration from ancestral greatness builds on their past dead selves and in turn bequeath to posterity the accumulated wealth of the ages.

No age of the world has had such historic antecedence, such political and social environment or inherits so noble ancestry as this age. Every age and clime, people and tongue have paid their tribute to this golden age of human history.

Among the nations of the earth none can boast of so peerless a heritage as we. "The lines have fallen unto us in pleasant places, yea we have a godly heritage". Incorporated in our constitutional foundations are to be found the highest ideals and means to an unprecedented civilization. Ancestral nobility and sane statesmanship and deep reverence and well defined piety form the corner stone of our civic, political and religious life, foster and fortify inherent rights and provide for the largest latitude to intellectual genius and spiritual development. Philanthropy, that priceless jewel of national brotherhood, ornamented the breast, animated the life and served the arm of colonial manhood, gave color to every achievement, outline and form to every institution. Faith and fortitude pushed back the shadows of barbarism and superstition, supplanted the glowing campfire with a rude bonfire, hewed from the native forest a temple for the true God and provided for public instruction. Utility gave form and idealism ornament to the monumental achievements of brain and brawn conserving to their day and generation such equipment and environment as contributed to the maintenance and development of the highest type of manhood, secured mental stimulus and originated, such ideals as were comparable to the national problems and social exigencies of national existence. Projected a system of industry and commerce that would utilize the latent wealth in nature, turn the "happy hunting ground" into a waving field of husbandry and set the wheels of industry to the music of the century causing the wilderness to blossom as the rose.

The static forces of ancestral character built into our institutional glory have wrought out constellations after constellations of heroes like our Washington, Websters and Clays; to adorn our historic horizon. These forces have given endowment and inspiration to every profession and vocation founded in the fertile brain of man or necessitated by the intricacies of colossal life, spread the canvass and furnished the prospective for the most unvoted attainments in art, built and furnished the laboratory and provided equipment for scientific research and exploration, unshackled the mind, fostered faith in and worship of a personal God. What an inheritance, such ancestral characteristics. What ancestral reward, the achievements of this age. What causal force our institutional antecedence. This peerless civilization what an effect.

Institutional forms are transitory. Organizing principles are casts of personality and are eternal. Evolutions of life strew the highway of progress with the skeletons of primitive glory. Life cannot be holden of the dead past. Life seeks an ever increasing latitude. The cozy home of the crysolite is to be circumscribed a throne for the winged battery. Ever increasing civilization necessitates ever expanding avenues for its expression. The primitive implements of husbandry are insufficient for landed estates. Vast prairies and world markets consign the crude to the charnel house of past glory or to some implement hall of fame and the gang plow moves across the prairie. Mammoth enterprises and international commerce have antiquated former manor and means of transportation. Business compartments and industrial plants have been replaced by the modern steel structure that seeks an altitude that comports with the requirements of the age and conveys the ideal of this commercial era.

That nation, people, or institution that fails to catch the movements and spirit of the age write their own doom, and will be soon committed to an unmarked tomb to become a fossilized relic of an antiquated civilization.

We have arrived at an institutional

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Urge Friedmann To Visit State

Health Commissioner Assures Scientist He will Be Given Opportunity to Test His Cure Here.

Richmond, Va., March 29.—Should Dr. Friedrich Friedmann find it possible to visit Virginia, he has been assured by officers of the State Board of Health a most hearty welcome and every possible facility for demonstrating his cure.

Health Commissioner Williams in extending this invitation to Dr. Friedmann wrote the German savant that the patients at the State Sanatorium at Catawba would welcome him with open arms and that the staff at the Sanatorium would render him every possible assistance in making a thorough demonstration of his treatment. "From many parts of the State," wrote Dr. Williams, "we have received requests that we do our utmost to bring you to Virginia and give you opportunity of demonstrating your new tuberculosis cure. We very gladly second these requests as we think the duty of public health officers should be to encourage investigators in every legitimate way possible."

The State's health officers will do their utmost to bring Dr. Friedmann to Virginia and to give his cure a fair test, but are anxious that their invitation to the German scientist be not misunderstood. "We are open to conviction," said an officer of the Board in discussing the matter this morning, "I sincerely hope that Dr. Friedmann's discovery is valuable and we certainly shall not be a party to any effort to discredit it in advance. As a bacteriologist of experience, Dr. Friedmann is entitled to the most respectful consideration. He will receive it if he can come to Virginia."

"We are, however, most anxious that the public, and especially the consumptives of the State defer judgment until the Friedmann remedy has been tried long enough and under conditions sufficiently diverse to demonstrate its merit. The fact that some of the patients given the treatment have shown marked improvement should not be accepted as proof. Under existing methods of treatment, many consumptives improve from the very first, and at the State Sanatorium, as at other Sanatoria throughout the country, some patients gain weight from the very day of their admission. Dr. Friedmann has treated a number of early incipient cases, some of whom would have improved if given the open-air treatment. This does not mean that his remedy has no merit; it rather means that the merit of his cure has not yet been proved. We hope the doctor can come to this State and begin a more comprehensive test."

The public need not fear that Virginia will be backward in this matter. No question of professional ethics is involved, and even if there were this would not stand in the way of giving Dr. Friedmann a fair chance to prove his case. Should the lasting merits of his treatment be proved, the State Antituberculosis Association will raise a fund and will see that the remedy is purchased for distribution in Virginia.

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Appalachia Items

Jno A. Moore, who has a stand on Main Street, and his son, Edgar, were both severely burned about the hands with burning gasoline one night last week.

Little Alpha Patrick, a third grade pupil, was severely burned several days ago in starting a fire in the kitchen stove by a flash from the lamp oil with which she was starting the fire. Her face was all most one blister.

Miss Charlie Reba Orr, the popular primary teacher in the school at this place, went up to Norton on the Interstate Friday afternoon to attend the burial of Mrs. Letcher Gilly, who died at that place Thursday morning of blood poison.

Misses Lettwich and McKenzie expect to spend the week-end with friends in Norton and Coeburn.

Prof. Blake, of this place, joined his sister, Miss Albie, of Norton; and Miss Scruggs, of the same place, in Big Stone Gap Sunday, where they were the guests of the Presiding Elder and Mrs. Martin.

Miss Elizabeth Richmond, of Dryden, and her sister, Miss Pat, primary teacher in the Cumberland High School, Ewing Virginia, were shopping at Ford and McConnell's Saturday.

Prof. Montgomery, of Tom's Creek, spent Saturday in Appalachia, and Floyd Creek escorted him home Sunday morning and spent the day. Miss Beatrice Gobble also went along to visit Miss Ruth Whitehead.

If the town cows will kindly keep to the commons and the pigs, the school children of some of the lower grades will try to beautify their disgraceful looking school yard with a few flower beds this spring at the expense of considerable labor.

Mrs. Vilas and Mrs. Lillie Wells were buying spring headgear at Ford and McConnell's Monday.

Dr. Harry Smith also went to Tom's Creek Sunday.

J. S. McConnell has just purchased from M. D. Richmond a residence lot adjoining that of which Mr. Richmond has recently built a residence for himself in the Blondell Addition. Mr. McConnell expects to build in the near future.

An unsightly building between Amburgey's and the Post office is being torn down, having been condemned as unsafe by the town authorities.

Dudley Ingham, of Coeburn, was down Sunday visiting friends in the Blondell Addition.

Miss Gertrude Moore and Lucile and George Bunn are now pupils in the A. H. S. from the St. James Hotel.

Tom Walker, that nice fat traveling man, spent Sunday in Appalachia.

East Stone Gap

Miss Cora Lee Collier was the charming hostess of a birthday party at her home here on last Friday night.

Among those present were: Misses Bonnie Wells, Lura Richmond, Virgie Neely, Lucrertia Collier, Nettie Williams, Della Williams, Bessie Tate, Grace and Orena Gilly, Edna Stewart, Cora Collier and Ruth Lee. Messrs. Clarence Reed, Lawrence Hobbs, of Mendota; Rhea Wells, Rufus and Dave Neely, Newton Collier, John Shipley, Adair Collier, John Lee, Chessier Hood, Ora Buchanan, Frank and James Gilly.

All of those present had a good time on Miss Collier's 15th birthday. Cake, ice cream, oranges and other refreshments were served.

Miss Gertrude Wells, of Osaka, spent Sunday in East Stone Gap.

Mr. and Mrs. Worley Kilbourn, of Cadet, visited Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Richmond Sunday.

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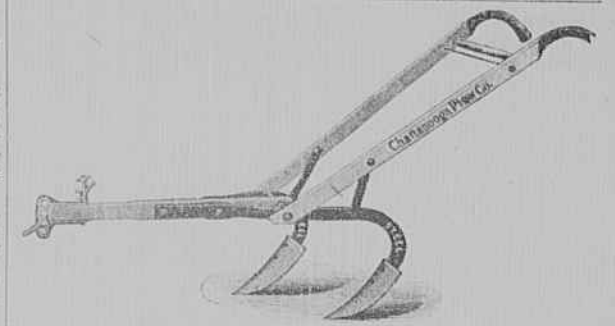
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