

WILLSON

AN ADDRESS

BY

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IN THE

NATIONAL REFORM CONVENTION

PARK STREET CHURCH

BOSTON, MASS.

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**SHALL WE CONDEMN THE AGGRAVATED GUILT OF
THIS NATION IN VITIATING THE CONSCIENCES
OF ITS CHRISTIAN CITIZENS BY REQUIRING
THEM TO SWEAR ALLEGIANCE TO THE SE-
CULAR CONSTITUTION OF THE U. S. AS
THE CONDITION OF EXERCISING
THEIR POLITICAL PRIVILEGES
IN THE GOVERNING BODY?**

Address by Rev. J. M. FOSTER, in the National Reform Convention
Park St. Church, Boston, October 19, 1909.

When the philosopher was asked: "Why does a cask of water weigh as much before a fish is put into it as after?" he retorted: "Is that a fact?" The question before us awakens in every thinking mind the query: "Is that true?" Let us see? We all agree that "the organic people" the nation, is responsible to God for its character and conduct, that the righteous nation is blessed by Him, and the ungodly nation punished. We are agreed that a christian nation should set up a christian government, in harmony with God's moral order. We are agreed that the nation should have a constitution, that the written or formal constitution should be a perfect transcript of the unwritten or vital constitution and that a christian people should have a christian constitution. We are agreed that the constitution is the "letter of instruction" from the nation to its government, and should embody its moral and religious purposes. We are agreed that the nation is responsible for the morals of its citizens, and that a christian nation can remain such only by keeping its citizens christian. We are agreed that when a christian nation adopts a secular constitution it sins against God. And when the nation requires its christian citizens to accept under oath that secular compact as their supreme law in political life, it has damaged their consciences. It follows then necessarily that the nation is guilty of an aggravated sin in vitiating the consciences of its christian citizens by requiring them to swear allegiance to our secular constitution as the condition of exercising political privileges in the governing body. Let us see if we can make good on these propositions.

I. *The fact must be accentuated, that a nation is a corporate body, that "the organic people" has a moral character and accountability, that it is capable of rights and obligations, of doing good or evil. There is no fact of political philosophy more clearly established than the moral personality of the nation, that a nation has reason, will and conscience, that it has a unity and continuity running through the generations, that it sins against God and is punished, that it confesses in penitence and is forgiven through Jesus Christ, that it obeys the king of kings and enjoys His blessing. "Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord."*

II. *It is premised, as an historic fact, that the character of the nation is ultimately determined by the government it sets up.* If the nation recognizes that civil government is an ordinance of God, clothed with authority and power from God, ordained to administer the moral law of God, existing for moral and religious ends, the suppression of immorality and vice and the encouragement of virtue, integrity and righteousness, "a terror to evil doers, and a praise to them that do well"—then will the "organic people" be lifted up to the plane of the "holy nation." But if the nation disregard all these cardinal truths and set up a godless, worldly government, then the nation is dragged down, like the man with a millstone fastened to his neck and thrown into the sea. Israel under Moses, and Joshua, David and Hezekiah and Josiah, is a sample of the uplift.

Twenty-three times it is stated in the book of Kings that Jeroboam, the son of Nebat, made Israel to sin in worshipping idols. And after nine dynasties, comprising nineteen kings, each distancing his predecessor in idolatry, with one or two exceptions. God carried them captive B. C. 722, in Hosea's reign and they never returned, but heathen tribes were sent to colonize the country and they mingled with the remnant remaining of the ten tribes and were called Samaritans. The tribe of Judah also became idolatrous under Solomon, and after twenty-two kings, they were deported in B. C. 587. After 70 years they were returned, cured of idolatry to this day.

Phillip II Spain was a rank Papist. In 1588, he built the Invincible Armada, to destroy Protestantism in England, to make the Papal Tiara supreme throughout Europe. Spain is to-day a Papal Kingdom. France revoked the Edict of Nantes and expelled 400,000 Huguenots. She slit her veins and let out her best blood. And the bad blood remaining produced the Reign of Terror. King Henry VIII repudiated the authority of the Pope at Rome in 1532 and made himself the head of the church of England. King Edward VII to-day enjoys that bad eminence. One hundred and twenty years ago our nation adopted a constitution that does not recognize God or Christ or the Bible. It is secular. It is supreme law. It determines the conduct of the government of the land. It is secular. It makes a secular government. It is secularizing the nation. Gorta said "Plant an oak in a vase and either the vase must burst or the oak will die." The tree of our liberty is in the vase of a secular constitution—save the nation and amend the constitution.

III. *It is recognized that the nation expects us to judge of her ideals, her mission and attitude toward the divine government by her constitution.* In requiring all her officials and voting citizens to swear allegiance to the constitution of the United States, this nation proclaims her purpose to have all conform their political character and conduct to that instrument. Let me quote from the *Call for the National Reform Convention* in Philadelphia, Jan. 18, 1871. "There is no political document so all important to the American statesman and the American citizen as the

Constitution of the United States. All laws, all customs, all forms of administration are shaped by it. Everything in any state, corporation or business that affects a citizen in the remotest degree as to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, is tested by it, and stands and works only as it agrees with it. Year by year its moulding power is felt. The President, the Congress, and the courts are coming more and more into agreement with what is there written. Our statesmen and our whole people are learning their Americanism as to its letter and spirit, from that great instrument. This is as it should be. This was intended from the beginning. But, at the same time, it is a serious matter if that Constitution should be found wanting in any principle or any matter of fact. The deficiency will, in due time, work mischief. Error in the Constitution will work as powerfully as truth, and what is left of it may one day be formally declared un-American. And one such serious matter there is; one unnecessary and most unfortunate omission. God and Christianity are not once alluded to; although the Constitution is itself the product of a Christian civilization, and although it purports to represent the mind of a Christian people, who, in all their state constitutions, had made explicit reference to both God and religion. Hence it is that all the laws of this country in favor of Christian morality are enacted and enforced outside the constitution. They rest only upon the basis of what is called common law. We have, strictly, no oath, no law against blasphemy, Sabbath-breaking, or polygamy, that has any better foundation. And, as matters seem to be going, it will soon be discovered and decreed that common law is only another name for custom, which has no binding force. And then where are we? In atheism, corruption and anarchy.

IV Swearing allegiance to our secular Constitution vitiates the consciences of Christian citizens.

1. It taints their loyalty to Christ. Christian citizens are those who have been redeemed by the blood of Christ and saved by His life. They have accepted of Him as the Church's Head and the King of nations. They have entered into a covenant with Him and vowed to regulate all their political relations and deportment by the revealed will of King Jesus. And for such a disciple of Christ to swear in the name of Almighty God that he will accept as his supreme law in the realm of political life an instrument that utterly ignores Christ as Law-giver, King and Judge, and substitutes "we the people" as the official head of the legislative, executive and judicial departments of government, is guilty of an act that dishonors Christ, the King, voids his vow of Allegiance to Him as Lord of political life, and blights his discipleship by this act of disloyalty to his Saviour King.

2. It compels a double standard of morality; one for the political sphere, the other for the ecclesiastical. We are justly indignant when society receives with open arms the adulterer, while it consigns his victim, the adulteress to oblivion. We protest against the Yazoo and

Mississippi Delta dominating the blacks, although the colored citizens outnumber the whites in the Delta nine to one and defeat the 14th and 15th amendments which secure for all civil and political rights, and contravene the fundamental principle of our Republic, that all men are created free and equal and are endowed with certain inalienable rights among which are life, liberty and property. We condemn the discrimination against the Japanese in California, as unworthy of a Christian people, who recognize that God hath created of one blood all nations and whether the skin be white or black or red or yellow, a man's a man for a' that and a' that. Why then do we adopt a secular standard for the state and religious standard for the church? Is it surprising that when church members learn to repudiate the Bible as supreme law in the political sphere, that they reject it as the supreme standard in the ecclesiastical? Is it surprising that when they reject the son of God as King of the nation, they can easily deny His miraculous virgin birth, His vicarious atonement and His supernatural resurrection from the dead? Is it surprising that when they become accustomed to legalized gaming, excursions, play houses, U. S. mail, newspapers and railroad trains, on the Lord's day, that they have little regard for the day as sacred? Our government is secular because the Constitution is secular. The secular government is secularizing the people. And the churches are thereby secularized. The same people cannot have a secular state and a Christian church. The double standard will not work.

Judge Chas Kyle, of Xenia, O., is an elder in the U. P. Church. Last spring, he held court in Dayton, O. He had 110 divorce cases. Of these he granted 68. The ministers of Dayton protested, because the divorces were granted for unscriptural causes. The judge was a church member and officer. He replied: "You elected me to be judge. You gave me the unscriptural divorce statutes and required me to take oath to administer them. I am only your agent. Why do you censure me for doing what you required?"

What can these ministers say? The Presbyterian Assembly, in Denver, Colo., last May, voted that such a judge is not guilty of wrong in granting unscriptural divorces or granting saloon licenses according to the statutes he is sworn to carry out. Is this not proof as clear as holy writ, that the consciences of these christian men are vitiated? The Legislature of California passed an act forbidding their Chaplain mentioning Christ's name in his prayers. And he obeyed. Would it be difficult for that truculent preacher to omit Christ's name from his prayers in his pulpit on Sabbath? Corey, the steel magnate divorced his excellent wife and married an actress. The Conn. Congregational minister, who performed the ceremony and received \$3000, was hounded into his grave by his indignant fellow clergymen and church members. Did not those Church members and clergymen make the law and elect the judge of the Court where Corey secured his divorce? Our secular government is making a secular Church. Last spring, professor Willis-

ton Walker, of Yale Divinity School, gave an address on the 25th anniversary of the pastorate of Dr. Gordon, in the new Old South Church, contrasting New England theology then and now. It is a descent and one of appalling extent. And Ex-president Elliott made an address last July on "The New Religion" that substitutes sentiment for authority in the Church, ignores the Bible as the supreme standard and Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and His vicarious death and miraculous resurrection and the mission of the Holy Ghost. A Dutch Reformed minister remarks: "Dr. Elliot's religion is not new. It is old as Sodom. And it would produce a Sodom wherever adopted." "Their vine is the vine of Sodom and of the fields of Gomorrah; their grapes are grapes of gall, their clusters are bitter: their wine is the poison of dragons and the cruel venom of asps."

The New York Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church last July ordained and installed Rev. Black in a Jersey church, although he denied the Old Testament story of Eden and Jonah, the Virgin birth of Christ and the resurrection of Lazarus; and the Congregational Conference of Boston installed Dr. Vinton in Harvard Church, Brookline, although he rejected much of the Old Testament as myth, denied the validity of the four gospels, questioned the Deity of Christ, His substitutionary death and miraculous resurrection. Our secular constitution is secularizing the church. If we will not have Christ in politics we cannot have Him in the church. If Christian citizens deliberately choose a secular state they must have a secular church. If we will have no religious test in the state we cannot have religious test in the church. Is it surprising that when the government spends 41 per cent of its income on army, battleships and fortifications and 31 per cent paying war debts leaving 28 per cent for purposes of peace, that there should be social war between labor and capital, patricide war between white and black citizens, and suicidal war in every locality, while wars and fighting prevail among all the churches? We have formed a union of state on the basis of "the will of the people." Is it surprising that it is proposed to unite the 187 Reformed Churches in a Federation, which ignores the Bible as the only standard of Doctrine, Discipline, Worship and Government, leaving every one to do what is right in his own eyes? And their foreign missions are to be co-ordinated by the same rope of sand—human expediency? Is this the unity contemplated in our Lord's Intercessory prayer? That they all may be one, as Thou Father art in me I in Thee, that they may be one in us that the world may believe that Thou hast sent Me?" Lincoln said: "This land cannot exist half slave, half free. It must become all free or it will be all slave." A Christian people cannot be secular in government and religious in church. Either the state must be christianized or the church will be secularized. The double standard is destructive.

Is it surprising that when we grant 945,000 divorces in the past 20 years, that church members should lightly break their marriage covenant with their Head and Husband and make their religious vows a

sham and a by-word? Is it surprising that when Christ's name is omitted from our national constitution and thanksgiving proclamation, that the Jews should demand that He be left out of the school room and the Romanists after helping the Jews in this, should cry out against our godless schools and demand a division of the school funds for their Parochial schools and a spineless Protestantism? "Fools, when wise will ye grow?" said the Psalmist, to those who were so foolish as to say, God does not know. Ps. XCIV: 8. When will we learn to trace out our national ills to their real source? Swearing allegiance to our secular constitution has debauched the consciences of our christian citizens until they are satan's tools. They will train in the liquor party, vote the liquor ticket, rent their property for liquor business, hold stock in breweries and distilleries. They will give charters to secret, oath-bound lodges, become members of these lodges, give their time and money to the lodges that belong to the church. The double standard is satan's service for leading our nation into the pit that has no bottom.

V. *The nation is responsible to God for vitiating the consciences of its christian citizens by requesting them to swear allegiance to our secular constitution*

1. Because it fosters godlessness and irreligion—when Nebuchadnezzar degraded his people by requiring all to bow to his golden image which he set up, God rebuked him by the testimony of His three Hebrew witnesses in the burning fiery furnace. And when he boasted: "Is not this great Babylon that I have built for the house of my kingdom, by the might of my power, and for the honor of my majesty?" the decree of the watchers—the triune God—was issued and he was sent forth to eat grass like an ox for seven years, until he learned "that the Most High ruleth in the kingdom of men and giveth it to whomsoever He will." When Belshazzar issued a decree that no one should offer a petition to any God save the king for thirty days, God rebuked him by His servant Daniel, who went to the lion's den rather than cease praying to his God with his face toward Jerusalem three times a day. And when this king drank wine from the vessels of God's house there came the form of a man's hand righting on the wall, "Mene, Mene, Tekel, upharsin." And when Daniel was called in and read the king's doom, "Weighed in the balance and found wanting," he reproved the king. "Thou hast praised the gods of wood and stone, which see not nor know but the God in whose hand thy breath is and whose are all thy ways, hast thou not glorified." In that night was the king slain and Babylon taken.

Now, let me say with all the serious solemnity possible, that the sin of Nebuchadnezzar in requiring his people to worship his image was not a circumstance or the aggravated guilt of this nation in requiring the people to swear to support our godless constitution. It is requiring them to fall down and worship this political idol, "we the people." And the insult of Nebuchadnezzar to Almighty God in claiming to have built great Babylon was not so great as for 'we the people' to arrogate to themselves the prerogatives of Almighty God, who alone

can "form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity." It is nothing short of blasphemy for the people to claim ability to do these things. And the defiant sacrilege of Belshazzar in using the sacred vessels of the temple at Jerusalem was not so heinous in God's sight as our national sin in taking the Bible oath and cutting off the name of God from it and placing that mutilated oath in our constitution, as the form by which our president shall be inducted into office. Dr. J. R. W. Sloane said "Our Godless constitution is the mighty millstone that is dragging our nation down."

Dr. John Mason said: "Should the citizens of America, be as irreligious as her constitution, we have reason to fear lest the Governor of the Universe, who will not be treated with indignity by a people any more than by individuals, overturn from its foundation the fabric we have been rearing and crush us to atoms in the wreck."

Rev. Dr. McAllister, LL. D., in an address in the Pittsburg National Reform Convention in 1874, entitled "Testimonies to the Religious Defects to the Constitution" cites a series of witnesses from Luther Martin in 1788, to Prof. John N. Pomeroy 1863, since which time the National Reform Association has been sounding the trumpet, all protesting against this sin and danger. Rev. Channcey Lee, 1813, said in Connecticut: "The Constitution has not the impress of religion upon it, not the smallest recognition of the government or being of God, or of the dependence and accountability of man. Be astonished, O earth! Nothing by which a foreigner might with certainty decide whether we believe in the one true God or in any God; whether we are a nation of Christians or—but I forbear. The subject is too delicate to say more, and it is too interesting to have said less. I leave it with this single reflection, whether, if God be not in the camp, we have not reason to tremble for the ark?"

Dr. George Duffield, 1861: "Ye have robbed me, even this whole nation, and as a nation He will hold us responsible for this robbery of his service and honor, just as much as He did Israel and Babylon and Persia and Greece and Rome. To deny that God is the governor of the nations' (Ps. XXII, 28) is to deny His Divine Providence, acknowledged in the Declaration of Independence and to deny the providence of God is to deny His attributes. It is that old story of Israel and human nature over again: 'Joshua waxed fat and kicked.' Temporal prosperity was too much for him. 'Then he forsook the God which made him and lightly esteemed the Rock of his salvation.' Was the omission of God and Christianity from the constitution intentional, as in the original draft of the Declaration of Independence, or was it a moral oversight, even greater than the tremendous political oversight in the original articles of confederation? The God of our Fathers. Dr.

George Junken of Virginia, 1863: "For more than forty years, a fourth of July has seldom passed on which I have not preached and warned my countrymen of this defect and told them if it be not supplied, God would pull down their temple and bury a nation in its ruins. This warning has been sounded forth from thousands of pulpits in this land and would have been much more extensively trumpeted but for the paralyzing influence of the fallacy couched in the demagogue's double entendre: 'Religion has nothing to do with politics.'" Dr. Robert J. Breckenridge of Kentucky, 1863: "It must be a source of shame and wonder that our constitution, the embodiment of our system, has no mention of God in it. How in this its power is weakened? What bad morals it teaches the young offspring to be born and raised under its protecting aegis! And bitterly we are reaping the effects of its implied atheism, as well as presenting to the world the astonishing fact of a constitution ignoring the only source of its power, without which not a single wheel of its machinery would ever move upon its pinions."

Dr. Mason adds: "The Federal Constitution makes no acknowledgement of that God who gave us our national existence and saved us from anarchy and internal war. This neglect has excited in many of its best friends more alarm than all other difficulties." These testimonies are sufficient to establish our contention. Our Godless constitution makes a Godless people.

2. Because it creates indifference to the inalienable rights of our fellowmen. A people who fear not God, will not regard man. Pharaoh's oppression of the Hebrews was the natural product of his proud demand: "Who is God that I should obey Him?" There is the connection of cause and effect between our godless constitution and the seventy years of slavery under its wings. And there is the same connection between the War of the Rebellion and Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation, that there was between the ten plagues that desolated Egypt and the children of Israel going out free.

And, although the nation, still smarting from the terrible scourge of war in 1867 and '70, adopted the 14th and 15th amendments, yet these constitutional guarantees of civil and political rights to the colored citizens have not been made good in the Southern states and race prejudice has not abated in the North to this day. Both Republican and Democratic parties have abandoned the cause of the black man. The elders of Israel made a covenant with the Gibeonites. Four hundred years later, Saul, the King of Israel, violated the treaty and slew the Gibeonites. Fifty years later a three years famine came upon Israel. David, the King, asked of God the cause, and God said: "It is for the bloody house of Saul, because he saw the Gibeonites." Ever since our nation had a being we have been making and breaking treaties with the Indians, until Christian patriots bow their heads in shame as they read the bloody record.

3. Because it blurs the distinction between the true religion and the false. This is a Protestant nation. The Reformed religion has made this nation what it is. But our national constitution ignored this fact and embodied a provision that admitted all false religions, including the Roman Papal hierarchy, Satan's counterfeit of the mediatorial dominion of the Lord Jesus Christ, and that mystical Babylon, the mother of harlots, is now in possession of our municipal, state and national governments, and is dictating from the Vatican our policy in the Philippines and Porto Rico. When will we learn that light and darkness cannot dwell together, that Christ and Satan cannot share the same throne, that the bride of Christ and "the great whore" cannot be received on an equal footing by our government.

4. Because it produces the grosser evils of society. Jeroboam made Israel to sin in worshipping idols. That evil grew worse and worse until the land could not endure it and the Babylonian captivity came. Besides the people disregarded the Sabbath. Jeremiah warned them that they would be held in captivity for seventy years "that God's land may have her Sabbaths." Now the same indictment stands against us to-day. We have set up our political idol, "we the people." And Rome Papal, has come in with her baptized heathenism and filled our land with her cathedrals and their images and idols. Israel was never so full of idols and groves as our land to-day of idols and masses. In pursuance of the constitution congress in 1810 passed a law requiring the U. S. mail service to be operated on Sabbath. And to this day our government has been guilty of breaking the fourth commandment by law. This carries interstate commerce on Sabbath and so this Republic is a gigantic Sabbath-breaker. This appalling desecration of the Sabbath should make America consider the terrible results of the French Revolution: "Where there is no Sabbath, there is no religion; where there is no religion, there is no God; where there is no God, there is no conscience; where there is no conscience, there is no respect for the rights of our fellowman; where there is no respect for the rights of our fellowman, there is mob law and anarchy. No people can be blessed until they come back to God." In addition, our government is in the liquor business. Every gallon of whisky sells for \$1.10. On this the government collects 90 cents revenue. So the government is nine-elevenths partner. Every year the government collects \$250,000,000 of this "blood money." These evils are constitutional. The nation is responsible for them. They constitute accumulated guilt. By its secular constitution the nation poisons the minds of her citizens, so that they do not distinguish right from wrong; it sears their consciences, so that they call good evil or evil good; it perverts their wills, so that they choose the evil and reject the good; it atrophies their hearts, so that they compromise like the Samaritans who "feared the Lord and served graven images."

VI. God's witnesses must warn the guilty nation.

The Savior warned the Jewish nation thus: "Think ye that the Galileans, whose blood Pilate mingled with their sacrifices, were sinners above all the Galileans? or those eighteen men, upon whom the tower of Siloam fell and slew them, were sinners above all that dwell in Jerusalem? I tell you, nay. But except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish." They did not take warning and repent; but arose and slew the Lord of glory. And in the year 70 A. D. the Romans came and destroyed their nation. Think you that the victims of the San Francisco earthquake were sinners above all the people of the United States? or those 6,000 men, slain by our railroads last year, were

sinners above the other 85,000,000 in this land? "I tell you nay: but except the organic people, the nation, repent, all will perish as these have done." God deals with the nation as a colossal man, and whether the punishment fall on the first or the tenth generation, upon the head or body or feet, it is the same responsible agent that suffers. Saul, the king of Israel, is commanded to go and smite Amalek and utterly destroy men, women and children and all cattle. Why? Because they met Israel 400 years before and slew the weak and faint, as they journeyed in the wilderness. David, the king, sinned in numbering the people, but the people suffered in the three days' pestilence. The people sinned in demanding a king, and Samuel, the man of God, is rejected and broken-hearted. "They have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me," God said. Three times our nation has been smitten by the iron rod on the head, in the assassination of three Presidents—Lincoln, Garfield and McKinley. The whole people, north and south, were scourged for the sin of slavery in the civil war. And the fretting leprocy of the secret, oath-bound lodge system in which 11,000,000 men are smitten, the open sore of strife between organized labor and corrupt trusts, the gangrene of Romanism which is spreading over the whole political body, the small pox of Sabbath desecration which covers the whole national body, and the intoxication by tobacco, alcohol and opium, make a combination that portends speedy and certain death. The warning of the Savior to the Jewish nation is in order: "Whosoever the carcass is thither will the vultures be gathered together." It is a law, that when the carcass is left in the desert place, the vultures appear, and circle about and swoop down upon their feast of carion. That is a provision of nature to prevent the poisoning of the atmosphere. The nation, destitute of morals and religion, is the carcass. God's providence produces the vultures. When Sodom and Gomorrah became carcasses, the fire and brimstone were the vultures. When the nations of Canaan had filled the cup of their iniquity and the land could bear them no longer, the armies of Israel were the vultures sent to destroy them. When the Chaldean empire became a carcass, the Medo-Persian armies led by Cyrus were the vultures to take Babylon. When Judea became a carcass, the Roman legions were the vultures about Jerusalem in 70 A. D. When the Rome pagan empire became a carcass, the "barbarian hordes" from the North were the vultures. When the slave system became a carcass, "the boys in blue" were the vultures to destroy it. When Spain became a carcass in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines, the U. S. army and navy were the vultures. And when Rome Papal becomes the carcass "the nations will eat her flesh as it were fire." And when the secular government of this land becomes a carcass, God will send His vultures to destroy it and make room for a Christian civil government, acknowledging God as sovereign, Christ as king, the Bible as the fountain of all law and the true Christian religion as our life in the Constitution of these United States.

In the Bible God's judgments are called "a burden." "The burden of Ninevah," "the burden of Babylon," "the burden of Egypt" may be written against us, only changing the name. Phenomena change, principles are eternal. These are samples of God's government of the nations to-day. A Christian nation that allows 2,500,000 unwilling tollers to be compelled to work on Sabbath on pain of losing their positions, that grants 945,000 divorces in 20 years, leaving millions of children without home and parentage while their parents live in adultery with polluted partners, that every year has its President call the people to observe a day of thanksgiving to God, without mentioning the name of Christ in his proclamation, the name that is above every

name and by whom alone the organic people can approach God's throne acceptably and that legalizes that door-way to hell—the saloon—is ripe for the judgments of God.

The most shocking crime of which our nation is guilty before God is debauching the consciences of her Christian citizens by requiring them to swear allegiance to her secular constitution. It makes her the hydra-headed monster that devours her own children. Before the war of the Rebellion the South maintained the institution of slavery, and demanded that she be let alone with her domestic institution, and the North acquiesced and then justified the demand. But God was displeased and after due warning, He came in the terrible scourge of war and destroyed the vile system. Now the South holds the negroes as subordinate, appointed by nature to be hewers of wood and drawers of water, and the whites are their God-appointed superiors. And again they demand that the North leave them to settle this race question for themselves. And again the North has acquiesced in this abominable miscarriage of justice. And again the wrath of God is rising against us in coming judgments. "Shall I not visit for these things saith the Lord? Shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?"

But the national sin regarding our secular constitution is the whole people, against every citizen, and is defiant as Pharaoh.