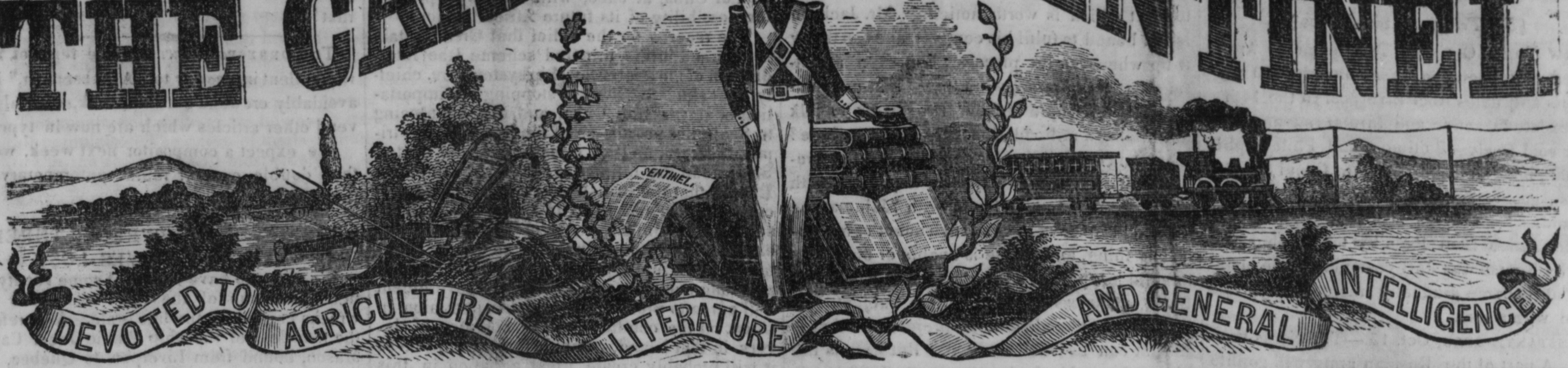


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THE COMING STRUGGLE AMONG THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH;

OR, THE POLITICAL EVENTS OF THE NEXT FIFTEEN YEARS, AS DESCRIBED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROPHECIES OF EZEKIEL, DANIEL, AND THE APOCALYPSE.

[Continued.]

I. The Seizure of Constantinople and Overthrow of Turkey by the Emperor of Russia.

In following Daniel's version of the prophecy, which is more detailed than John's, we find that the unfiled part begins the middle of the 40th verse of the 11th chapter. That verse opens with the declaration, that the king of the south, or Mehemet Ali, would "push" at the Sultan. This was accomplished in 1839, when that monarch wrested Egypt and Syria from him, and endeavored to seize Constantinople itself, and probably would have done so, had not the other powers prevented him, or rather had not God determined that he should only *push*, not overthrow. The next part of the verse is, however, fraught with dire calamity to this, the representative of the dragon—"The king of the north," or Russia, it is stated, "shall come against him like a whirlwind, with chariots and horsemen, and with many ships, and he shall enter into the countries, and shall overthrow and pass over."

II. War between France and Austria.—Overthrow of the latter, and consequent Destruction of the Papacy.

Leaving for a time the sixth vial to run its course on the Turkish empire, we must follow the seventh in its operation on the horns. After the angel had poured it into the air, where it caused a world of dire commotions, the apostle was carried away into the wilderness to see the judgements these would cause to fall upon the beast and his image—in other words, on Austria and Rome.—For let it be observed, that Austria, as well as Turkey and Rome, is doomed to perdition before the ten toes of the image are smitten with the stone. As Turkey had yielded to the Papacy its secular and ecclesiastical power, so Austria has supported this twofold authority more than any other of the powers, and therefore shall suffer a more signal punishment. Indeed, we find this kingdom, which is in the prophecy styled the two-horned beast, identified with, and assimilated to, the Papacy in all its more damnable features. The history of its rise and progress is given in the last eight verses of the 13th chapter of Revelation, as well as in the seventh of Daniel, where its fate is particularly described. "They (the saints) shall take away his dominion, to consume and destroy it unto the end." In that dark history of cruelties and crimes perpetrated by the horns against the saints, or friends of liberty, Austria occupies an unenviably prominent distinction. The blood of the two witnesses lies heavily on that country, and has long cried for vengeance from on high.—Nor has it cried in vain. When these witnesses were raised, and appeared in the person of Napoleon, the iron hand of a stern retribution was laid upon Austria, and his dominion was for a time taken away. The judgment was temporarily suspended by the removal of the ambitious Corsican, but though vengeance has been delayed, it cannot be much longer averted. His dominion was at that time only temporarily taken away, but now it must be "consumed and destroyed unto the end." And this will doubtless be accomplished by the same power that punished him before. France, though herself one of the doomed kingdoms, will be the scourge and destroyer of the two-horned

beast; and preparation is being rapidly made for the accomplishment of the work. Already are the two powers placed in hostile relations, and a speedy war must ensue. The result of this will be the final overthrow of the "bloody house of Austria," and the annexation of its territory to France.—Then comes the fall of Babylon. Austria, her supporter, and now only real prop, having been destroyed, she must of necessity perish. The time will then have come when the ten horns "shall hate her, and make her desolate and naked, and shall eat her flesh, and burn her with fire." The account of her overthrow is contained in the 18th of Revelation, and is of the most fearful and awe-inspiring nature. It is not for us to describe in detail the events which will produce and accompany her death. These are not indicated fully in the prophecy; we are only told that the powers of Europe will be the agents, and that even they themselves will be filled with fear and wonder when they behold her destruction.

III. The Conquest of the Horns or Continental Powers by the Emperor of Russia.

By the time the above occurrences have taken place, the fifteen years will have nearly expired.—The whole ten horns will be shattered and weakened by the war, and in this condition will form an easy conquest to a foreign power. This power is Russia, who, having settled himself in Turkey, will "enter into the countries, and overflow and pass over." It is almost necessary that the original Roman empire become subject to one power, in order that the image of Nebuchadnezzar may be reconstructed; and though we have not an exact description of their subjugation by Russia, further than being informed that he would overflow and pass over, we find that Ezekiel, who gives a most minute and graphic account of the great battle of Armageddon, styles him Gog, the land of Magog, chief prince of Meshech and Tubal, and enumerates Persia, Ethiopia, Libya, and the bands of Gomer in those that follow him. Now, it can be satisfactorily proved that Magog and Gomer mean Germany and France. These countries he must therefore conquer; and having conquered them, the whole of continental Europe is within his grasp. The metallic image will thus be joined in all its parts; the territory comprehended in the Babylonian, Persian, Grecian and Roman empires will be ruled by one man, and that man an autocrat, or one who ruleth by his own will. Events will now hurry forward to the mighty catastrophe.—The heart of the emperor will be lifted up by success, and in his pride and arrogance he will endeavor to make the world his slave. But at last the aerial stone descends suddenly upon his feet; the iron and clay separate; the brass, the silver, and the gold are broken to pieces, become as chaff in the summer threshing floor, and the whole is scattered to the winds of heaven.

But what, it will be eagerly asked, is Britain about all this time? Surely she must have an important part to play in this direful game of war? No such thing—so far as we have yet gone Britain is exempted from the affray, though her proximity to the scene of the unequalled struggle will keep her in a continual state of alarm, and her rulers anxious and watchful. But yet, though beyond the eddies of the whirling vortex, she *must not, cannot, will not be idle*. She has a mission to fulfil, and she must feel straitened till it is accomplished—a mission of the strongest necessity, and she cannot evade it—a mission of the noblest nature, and she will not shun it. To her to the whole Anglo-Saxon race, of which she is the head and representative—is the task assigned of carrying forward the religious, moral, and social progress of

the world, and in this she must be well assisted by her children in the west and south. America is to be united with her in the noble work, and Australia must grow in strength for the same purpose, and thus supported on each side by a strong and stalwart son, the brave old empire will feel equal to the task. Talk of America and Britain going to war! the thing is impossible; nature forbids it, and the Bible forbids it too. When they do fight it will be on one side, and against a common foe; but they have a far different battle to fight and win, in these coming years, than the sword or cannon can accomplish. The great moral contest of spiritual freedom and social morality must be sustained, and the cause must unite them and us in an eternal bond of brotherhood. A people must be prepared for the Lord, that his kingdom may be populated when it is established, and Britain with her sons is called on to rear, cherish, and protect them.—But to be more definite, the next event, though not in chronological order, will be—

IV. Britain rapidly extends her Eastern Possessions, prevents the Occupation of Judea, and completes the first Stage of the Restoration of the Jews.

[To be continued.]

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Evening Post* relates the following romantic anecdote:—"To day I visited a house in which eighteen years ago, I spent much of my time. Within it there was a young man wasting away with consumption. For several days a mourning dove uttered its note in the branches of a tree near the house. A brother of the sick one, rather annoyed at its continual singing, took down his gun to kill it, but hesitated it, at the solicitation of his brother, who declared "that its mournful song was music in his ear." Soon the sick one died: we laid him out in the habiliments of the grave, preparatory to putting his remains in the coffin, and bearing them to their final resting place. I was standing by the open window, near which he was laid, when the dove flew in, alighted upon the sill, sat still half a minute, then its wings fluttered, and it lay over and died! It was truly a singular and touching scene. The brother, who had a few days before refrained from shooting it, stood by me, and when he saw it, turned deadly pale. I examined it, but could find no cause of its death."

A CURIOUS SERMON.—An English paper contains the following curious discourse, said to have been delivered by an eccentric preacher, at Oxford. "I am not one of your fashionable, fine spoken, mealy mouthed preachers—I tell you the plain truth. What are your pastimes? Cards and dice, fiddling, dancing, guzzling and gutting! Can you be saved by dice? Will all the four knaves give you a passport to heaven? No. Can you fiddle yourselves into a birth among the sheep? No! You will dance yourselves to damnation among the goats. You may guzzle wine here, but you'll want a drop of water to cool your tongue hereafter! Will any of the prophets say, "come here, gamblers, and teach us the long odds?" 'Tis odds if they do! Will martyrs cant and swear and shuffle and cut with you? No! The martyrs are no shufflers. You will be cut down in a way you little expect. Lucifer will come with his reapers and his sickles and forks, and you will be cut down, and bound, and pitched and housed in hell! I will not oil my lips with lies to please you! I will tell you the plain truth. Ammon, and Mammon, and Moloch are making Bethorah hot for you. Profane wretches! I have heard you wrangle and bawl, and tell one another before me, "I'll see you d—d first." But h! tell you, the day will come, when you will pray to Beelzebub to escape his clutches; and what will be his answer? "I'll see you d—d first."

All Sorts of Paragraphs.

The Persians have a saying that "ten measures of talk were sent down upon the earth, and the women took nine."

If it were not intended that women should drive their husbands, why are they put through the bridal ceremony? who'll answer?

"Goodness me!" cried a nice old lady, the other day—"If the world does come to an end next year, what shall I do for snuff!"

The late Rev. Sidney Smith observed that a rail-way whistle seemed to him to be something like the scream an attorney would give when first the devil caught hold of him.

The last case of modesty, is that of a lady who discarded her lover, a sea-captain, because in speaking of one of his voyages, he said that he hugged the shore.

The following is a copy of a bill posted on the walls of a village in this vicinity: "A lecture on total abstinence will be delivered in the open air and a collection will be made at the door to defray expenses."

Two lovers stood upon the shore // Of Massachusetts Bay, // Bidding a sad farewell before // 'I'll marry you when I come back, // My Sally ann," says he, // And then he took a little smack, and went away to sea.

Among the queer names belonging to those queer craft, the Canadian barges which ply between the River St. Lawrence and Lake Champlain, there is one which is decidedly unique, being entitled and registered as the "*Jean Baptiste et Compagnie*," or in our own vernacular, "John the Baptist & Co." A strong firm that.

An eastern paper says:—The greatest case of love is that of a youth in Kentucky, who got into a hollow tree, where he lived a whole week, peeping through a knot-hole at his lady-love, as she sat sewing bearskin petticoats at her window.

Our devil (foolish boy!) on account of the scarcity of printers, is elevated with the hope that the time is coming when "female devils" will be as thick as "toads after a shower." In view of that happy period, he says: "He aint sorry he learned the profession."

Diodorus Siculus, in conversation with Magnus Profundis, advanced this proposition: "Do you suppose that the mouth of a man, so admirably adapted to kissing the girls, was also formed to chew tobacco?"

The conversation at Holland House turned upon first love. Tom Moore compared it to a potato, "because it shoots from the eye." "Or rather, exclaimed Byron, "because it becomes all the less by paring." Characteristic of both.

"NO NIGGERS."—A Sabbath School Teacher in Louisville, Ky., was exhorting a poor pious old female slave to be very humble reminding her that she should be like Lord Jesus—who had neither house nor home—"Yes," she added with emphasis—"blessed be God, he had no house, no home, and no Niggers!"

RIDDLES FOR THE POST OFFICE.—The following is an exact copy of the direction of a letter mailed a few years ago by a German living in Lancaster county, Pa.: "This is for old Mr. Willy wot prints de Baders in Lang Kaster ware ti gal is gist rede him assume as it comes to ti Pushtufous." Meaning—"This is for old Mr. Willy, what prints the paper in Lancaster, where the jail is. Just read him as soon as it comes to the post office." Inclosed was an essay against public schools.