

COLLECTION

— OF —

FACTS FOR THE TIMES,

CONSISTING OF

VALUABLE EXTRACTS

FROM

EMINENT AUTHORS.

“Their rock is not as our Rock,
even our enemies themselves being judges.”

DEUTERONOMY 32:31

“Admissions in favor of truth, from the ranks of its enemies,
constitute the highest kind of evidence.”

PRES. MAHAN

COMPILED BY

M. E. CORNELL

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Foreword

FOR the *Practica Prophetica* website, I have prepared four works by Merrit Eaton Cornell. He was an Adventist pioneer, who was actually involved in the Millerite movement at the young age of 17. After the disappointment in 1844, he was involved in an Advent group that taught the “Age to Come” theory. However, a few years after 1844 he found himself in a meeting with Joseph Bates, and was convinced of the truth of the Sabbath, and the error of the “Age to Come” theory.

His wife also accepted the truth, and was a great helper to him. He became an active minister, and was quite effective in speaking, writing, and debating. He was involved in evangelistic work with James White, J. N. Loughborough, J. H. Waggoner, and others.

I’m reproducing a few of his works, because he was quite talented at gathering and organizing quotations from different sources, in order to support the present truth. These books fill a niche that is not covered by other material, so reproduction is warranted. I have also included some Biographical material and some of Angeline Cornell’s poems at the front of the work.

In the later 1870’s, until the late 1880’s, Cornell came into some difficulty with personal sin problems, and it is claimed that his wife had some problems with spiritualism, although I could not find details about that. Ellen White wrote him often, to counsel him out of these difficulties. Apparently by 1889 Cornell and his wife were reconciled to the church, and he spent his last few years ministering to the churches again, before his death in the fall of 1893.

In posting material on the website, I am mainly concerned with what God did through men, and not what they did on their own, when they walked apart from Him. When we have access to the record books in heaven, we will be able to see more clearly why men and women whom God called, failed Him at times. It would be foolish to attempt to make a complete judgement without access to all this information. Instead, we will focus on the truth, gather the truth, and share the truth. We want to hear God’s

voice, as He speaks through weak humanity. If we despise the vessel (humanity), we will lose the treasure (divine truth).

In this particular work, *Facts for the Times*, Cornell has gathered together many historical quotations and statements that support various points of Adventist truth, thus showing that they are not entirely unique or odd ideas, but that these special truths have been entertained by others, at other times, although they did not see the entire framework of truth, but only a small piece.

For His last work in the world, God has gathered together all these gems of truth, and placed them in their order, each part connected to the other, so that the faith and obedience of His people can be perfected in these last days, as they study the glorious picture of Christ therein revealed.

Frank Zimmerman
practicaprophetica.com

Some Biographical Details

From *Footprints of the Pioneers* by A. W. Spalding, p. 160-162

MERRITT E. Cornell, a young preacher brought into the faith by Bates in 1852, was an impetuous and energetic worker. He bought the first tent and was associated with Loughborough in the holding of evangelistic meetings, the first pitch being at Battle Creek, for two days only, short stops then being the rule. He liked Battle Creek so much that, being foot free, he brought his wife Angie to live there while, like all Adventist preachers not bound to farm or business, he ranged through the widening field.

Angeline Lyon Cornell was a fit companion to her husband, a slender young woman of energy, initiative, and decided opinions, which happily comported with her husband's, and with a gift of speech which shows in her early letters to the *Review and Herald*. There was no provision then for the regular payment of preachers, still less for their wives to accompany them; yet Angie Cornell was much with her husband, often remaining at a place after his departure, visiting and teaching the interested ones as the later phrase ran, "binding off the effort." She was indeed the pioneer and the exemplar of today's Bible instructors and evangelists' assistants.

Shortly [after,] her father, Henry Lyon, living near Plymouth in the eastern part of the State, sold his farm in order to have money to invest in the cause. He and his wife moved to Battle Creek in 1854, and he engaged in carpentry to support his family. It was Henry Lyon, doubtless strongly abetted by his energetic son-in-law, who conceived the idea of getting James White to come to Battle Creek, and who induced his three friends, Palmer, Smith, and Kellogg, to go in with him in the investment which built the first owned home of the *Review and Herald*.

Testimony of the Cornell's

Merritt Cornell - 1852

Review and Herald, September 16, 1852

Dear Brother White:

IT IS due perhaps that I should state, in a few words, an account of the reception of the Sabbath commandment in this place. I came here three weeks since, and strove to defend God's holy law by presenting the testimony in meekness and fear. And notwithstanding I am a feeble instrument, yet the evidences in favor of truth were so clear and abundant that four have commenced keeping the seventh-day Sabbath. Others are investigating, and I have good reasons to expect they will embrace the Sabbath, and keep the day according to the commandment.

I am struck with astonishment that men of good judgment should in so short a time embrace, and stand out firm on the message when so imperfectly presented. But I suppose it is accounted for easily when we consider, that some are honestly searching for Truth, and have lost confidence in men, and their creeds and commentaries, and have taken the Bible for the man of their counsel.

It is only five weeks, since I was convinced that O. R. L. Crozier and many others are fighting against a truth which is as plainly set forth in God's word as any other. I had perused his (C.'s) articles, and had not seen the other side; and not being interested in the subject, (thinking there was little or no importance attached to its investigation,) I did not search the Bible for testimony relative to the subject. But I now rejoice with joy that I cannot describe.

I was induced to call at Jackson, Mich., in a manner that to me is rather mysterious. I went to listen to Bro. Joseph Bates with some reluctance, and much prejudice. But I could not stand before the vast amount of testimony from the Word. I was convinced of the truth, but to confess it was a trial such as I had never before

experienced. I would not yield, and my last resort was a lengthy article written by Dr. Thomas, published in the *Harbinger*.¹ I supposed he would get into difficulty. But to my disappointment, after three hours and a half in review, he showed in a clear manner, from the Bible, that the article contained many absurdities, and the main positions, were founded on mere assumption.

This left me standing upon the word of God, and I was obliged to yield and confess that the Sabbath has been, ever since Creation, and always will be binding as long as men and angels are under any obligation to keep a moral law. Praise the Lord, “whereas I was blind, now I see.” I could not but see, when once my eyes were anointed with the eye-salve, so clear and glorious a truth.

Yours in patience and hope,
M. E. Cornell
Tyrone, Mich., Aug. 4th, 1852

Angeline Cornell - 1852

Review and Herald, September 16, 1852

Dear Brother White:

EVERYTHING seems to praise the Lord, and I feel that I can heartily respond, Amen, Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me praise His holy name.² Not only for the privilege of communicating with those of like precious faith, but that I was led by a most singular train of God’s providences to hear from our beloved Brother Bates about the commandments of God, one of which I had so long trampled under my feet. I do feel deeply humble when I think how long I have been desecrating God’s holy time, finding my own pleasure, and speaking my own words. But by the help of Him who is mighty to save, this shall no

¹ Apparently Cornell presented this article to Bates as an argument against the truth.

² *Psalm* 103:1.

longer be. My motto, from henceforth, shall be, the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.

I went to Jackson, Mich., with my companion, to hear, as I thought, an awful doctrine. My mind was so filled with prejudice that I almost feared to go, having heard so much about the great delusion; and yet I felt an irresistible desire to hear for myself. And, praise the Lord, my prejudices had to yield before the plain, unvarnished truths of God's holy Word—not inferences, or forced conclusions, as I anticipated, and as some have wickedly intimated. Those too, from whom we might expect better things. At least, I did not expect such misrepresentations. But, says our Blessed Saviour, Rejoice when men shall revile you, and say all manner of evil against you, falsely for my sake.³

I feel that it is a small thing to be judged by man's judgment. One is my judge, even the Most High, who will judge righteously. It matters not what wicked men say of us, if we can only feel that we are approved of God. I am so situated that I cannot often meet with those who are keeping all the commandments of God, yet I am not alone. My dear parents are with me, endeavoring to keep holy the Sabbath of the Lord our God. And how true it is that by keeping this fourth commandment, we may know that the Lord our God does sanctify us.

When I received the present truth, all the errors of my past life were arrayed before me; and I trust they have all been confessed, that they may be placed on the head of the antitypical Scapegoat, that they may be borne far away into the land of forgetfulness.

Before hearing this present, sealing truth, I was, with the majority of the nominal Adventists, in a luke-warm state, gradually (so that I was hardly aware of it) conforming to the world, its fashions and customs. And this third angel's message was just what I most needed to arouse me from my state of lethargy. It would be impossible for me to express my gratitude for the privilege of hearing these important truths, which have such a sancti-

³ *Matthew* 5:11.

fyng influence upon the hearts and lives of those who heartily embrace them.

But I feel that I have yet a great deal to overcome. The occasional risings of self, worldly-mindedness, and a disposition to doubt what the Lord has done for me, warns me to beware, lest the light that is in me become darkness, and some one take my crown. But Jesus has said, "Lo I am with you always," and by His grace I mean to be an overcomer; for I know it would be far better for me never to have known this way, than after I have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto me.⁴

May God grant, dear brethren and sisters, that this may not be our case. But may we keep the word of His patience, that we, also, may be kept from the hour of temptation,⁵ etc. And now let us have confidence in God, and establish our hearts for the coming of our Lord draws nigh.⁶ O, how I long to stand upon Mount Zion, with the 144,000. By the grace of God I shall meet you there. I love your society here, and I long to be where I can always enjoy it, with all the redeemed.

*Yours in the patience and faith of the saints,
Angeline M. A. Cornell
Plymouth, Mich., Aug. 28th, 1852*

Angeline Cornell - 1853

Review and Herald, February 17, 1853

Dear Bro. White:

SINCE I last wrote I have had great reason to rejoice; not only in view of what the Lord has been, and is still doing for me and mine, but in seeing the message rising, notwithstanding the efforts of its enemies to put it down. "Truth is mighty and will prevail;" praise the Lord. Who, that is not blinded, can fail to see

⁴ 2 Peter 2:21.

⁵ Revelation 3:10.

⁶ James 5:8.

the hand of the Lord in this work? Yes indeed, the Lord is graciously blessing us in the West. Many honest souls have embraced the present truth since Bro. Bates was at Jackson last June. At that time, that was the only band in Michigan, but now there are many more, besides those scattered in different places, like wheat among tares. And, bless the Lord, they are not weak and sickly; but strong in the Lord, able to bear strong meat.

The present sanctifying truth strengthens and prepares them to fight the good fight of faith, to endure hardness as good soldiers of the cross of Christ. And they love one another too, and are of the same mind, speaking the same things. And some among the number feel that the Lord has a work for them to do, in proclaiming this glorious message. O, that the Lord would in His own appointed time and way, seek out and qualify, holy, self-denying men to proclaim this message of mercy, for honest inquiring souls are starving for want of the truth. And, thank God, we know from our own experience, that this alone can satisfy their hunger. The commandments of God, and faith of Jesus, when written, not only in the mind but also in the heart, enables us to realize our former standing, and present duty. For my own part, I can say that I do know that I love the law of God; yea, it is my meditation day and night.

I have to endure many trials here; and yet they are not worth mentioning. My only care is, that I may endure them cheerfully; that I may be purified by them, and not be led to murmur or complain; but joyfully suffer affliction with the dear people of God.

A people called "Believers" are embracing the present truth. They claim that the gifts should be in the Church, and that Babylon is fallen. So that they are ready, as a people, to embrace the third angel's message. My soul truly feels to magnify the Lord for His goodness to erring mortals, who love Him and desire to keep His commandments.

May the Lord give us abundantly of His Spirit, and enable us, as the message rises, to rise with it, and finally stand upon the Mount Zion of God.

*Yours in the love of the truth,
Angeline M. A. Cornell
Plymouth, Mich., Feb. 5th, 1853*

Angeline Cornell – 1854

Review and Herald, September 12, 1854

Dear Brethren and Sisters:

PERMIT me to address a few words to you concerning those who are seeking to cause division among God's people, and our duty at the present time in the light of God's word. The apostle Paul teaches that we should mark them which cause divisions and offenses contrary to the doctrine which you have learned, and avoid them, and affirms that such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ," *Romans* 16:17-18. We trust that none of the honest will be deceived by them; for their course has been and is still such as to open the eyes of those whose hearts have been made glad by the plain teaching of the word and who love union and the doctrine which is according to godliness.

Their work is to *scatter and divide*; and they are very zealous to accomplish this object; but we need not fear: the Lord has set His hand to the work to *gather* the remnant, and it will be accomplished, notwithstanding the efforts of those who have been excluded from the fellowship of the saints because of disorderly unchristian walk. We may pity them, but must have no fellowship or sympathy for their unholy work. Paul instructs Timothy to withdraw himself from those who consent not to wholesome words and to the doctrine which is according to godliness. *1 Timothy* 6:3-4.

Again in *Ephesians* 5:11, he teaches that we should have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove

them. John speaks of the commandment which was from the beginning, “to love one another,”⁷ that we should walk in it, etc., and adds,

2 John

¹⁰ If there come any unto you and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house neither bid him God speed:

¹¹ For he that bids him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds.

We shall know them by their fruits. We need not be deceived if we compare their precepts and example with those of Christ and the apostles. Dear Brethren and Sisters, be not deceived. Dwell not on trials and difficulties; for it brings darkness. Look up! Let your conversation be in heaven. We have no time to spend in contending with those whom we cannot benefit. Every energy of our souls should be enlisted, and every moment employed in the great work of preparation.

And to God’s messenger we would say, You are engaged in a great and important work. The harvest is great and the laborers few, and the “Macedonian cry” is heard from every quarter, “come over and help us.” Now as faithful watchmen upon the walls of Zion, should you cease to give the warning message and come down to dispute and contend with these dark spirits? No! no! their course is too crooked, their work too low. Remember that God can make the wrath of man to praise Him; and the remainder will He restrain.⁸

I was a short time since forcibly reminded of the striking analogy between the position that you occupy at present with reference to these persons, and that of Nehemiah when requested to come down and confer with his enemies, Sanballat, Tobiah and Geshem. How strikingly appropriate was his answer. I doubt not but that every messenger realizing the responsibility of their station, and the importance of the present time, feeling the weight of this last message, and the worth of souls, can adopt and practice

⁷ 2 John 5-6.

⁸ Psalm 76:10.

the sentiments expressed in the reply of Nehemiah to those who would hinder the work of God. He says,

Nehemiah 6

³ And I sent messengers unto them, saying, I am doing a great work so that I cannot come down: why should the work cease, while I leave it and come down to you?

In the first and second verses, Nehemiah informs us that his great work was repairing the breach in the walls of Jerusalem, and that his enemies wished him to leave the work and meet them in one of the villages; for they thought to do him mischief. Your work is far more important than was that of Nehemiah. You are engaged in “Repairing a breach” in the law of God.

Your work is not yet accomplished; then let not your enemies hinder you by their wicked devices. For,

Your work's a high and lofty one;
And from it you may not come down,
Or leave the field to strive with those
Who would the work of God oppose.

The Lord does on their efforts frown;
And He will make their folly known.
The God who has for Israel wrought,
Will bring their evil work to nought,

Fear not! the piercing eye that can
Their every secret motive scan,
Will for the precious jewels care,
And keep their feet from every snare.

Then trust in God, and still go forth,
From east to west, from south to north.
Sound the last message far and near,
Let all the note of warning hear.

A. M. A. Cornell
Battle Creek Sept 4th, 1854

Shall I Be an Overcomer? Addressed to the Young

Review and Herald, February 5, 1861

Angeline Cornell

My Dear Young Friends:

THIS is an important question, and eternal consequences hang upon your decision. I have often heard those words spoken from full hearts; and the speakers seemed to realize the greatness of the work, and their inability to perform it in their own strength. But there is One fully able to help you, One that is strong to save and mighty to deliver. Trusting in Him you have nothing to fear but it is truly a great work, surrounded by so many influences directly opposed to your progress; fearful and doubting you are sometimes almost ready to give the struggle o'er; but while you fear the Lord, you may take courage from this precious assurance, that:

Psalm 103

¹⁴ Like as a father pities his children, so the Lord pities them that fear Him.

¹⁵ For He knows our frame, and remembers that we are dust.

How kind and tender these words. Earthly parents may not fully understand how much their children can endure, and lay upon them tasks too heavy for them; but not so your heavenly Father. He knows how weak and frail you are, and though the work of overcoming is a daily and hourly task, yet He will lay upon you no burden that you may not overcome by the help of Him who was tempted in all points as you are, and who knows how to deliver the godly out of temptation.

If you are fully submitted to God, you may successfully resist the Devil and his wiles. Present yourselves a living sacrifice to God; lay all upon His altar; remember that He will not accept a lame sacrifice, but give Him the whole heart, and you will find the Lord faithful and true. He will give you grace to overcome and strength to stand in the midst of all the evils in these perilous times.

But my heart has been pained to hear that some of my young friends are conforming to the world, following its fashions, loving its pleasures, and consequently losing the spirit of the message, losing their interest in the truth, losing their spirituality, not anxiously seeking the society of those who are interested in their spiritual welfare, and who could encourage and advise them, but delighting in the company of those who will lead them still farther away from truth and duty.

Dear Young Friends, are you blind to these things? Are you deceived with regard to your real condition? Do you imagine yourselves in the favor of God and the enjoyment of His blessing, when in fact He frowns upon you, and holy angels are made to weep over your wayward and inconsistent course? O, let me entreat you to examine your hearts and see whether the love of God dwells there. Is not your heart divided, and does not the world engage the larger share of your thoughts, more than you bestow upon the work of overcoming, the exceeding great reward, and those things calculated to inspire the Christian with zeal and energy, and quicken their pace in the narrow way?

You say you desire to overcome. If so, you will be making some effort in that direction. The Lord wants to save you, Jesus still intercedes, angels are waiting to minister, friends are pleading fervently at a throne of grace, the Spirit is wooing and beseeching you. O do not harden your hearts and grieve it away forever; but now while you feel its sweet drawing influence, hasten to secure the approbation of God by turning away from the unholy influences that are binding you down to this poor dark world. These things that now so please the eye and delight the sense, are soon to wither and blacken under the plagues of God's wrath. Will you continue to love them and cling to them and at last perish with them, miserably perish for the sake of a few fleeting hours of worldly enjoyment?

Wisdom points out a way by which an eternal life of glory may be secured, and though there may be difficulties and obstacles to

be overcome, yet this way is not without its enjoyments, for she declares that her ways are ways of pleasantness and all her paths are peace.⁹ When you taste the sweets of obedience, and get a view of the glorious things in reserve for the faithful, the seeming pleasures of earth will no longer charm you. O improve the precious moments. Now is the time to break away from opposing influences and engage with all your hearts in the work of preparation to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord.

Will you do it? Will you overcome and have the reward, the glory, eternal life?

A. M. A. Cornell
Rochester, Mich.

Good is the Lord

Review and Herald, May 9, 1865
Angeline Cornell

Brother White:

I ESTEEM it a privilege to acknowledge through the *Review* the great goodness of the Lord toward me in my late afflictions; and to express my deep gratitude for the words of sympathy and comfort received from many of God's dear people. It is my firm conviction that my life has been spared in answer to the fervent prayers of faithful brethren and sisters. I feel humbled under a sense of my own unworthiness and of the loving kindness of the Lord, and trust that my afflictions have been for my profit, that I may be drawn nearer to the Lord, and feel more closely united than ever before with His people.

I feel like giving myself anew to the Lord, and devoting the life He has so mercifully lengthened out, to His service. When I review the events of the past few months, I feel to exclaim, "Good is the Lord and greatly to be praised."¹⁰

⁹ *Proverbs* 3:17.

¹⁰ *Psalms* 48:1; *Psalms* 145:3.

I have found sympathizing hearts and willing hands to minister to my necessities. May the Lord, who has promised a blessing to those who give even a cup of water, abundantly reward them all.

I feel that I have strong incentives to faithfulness in the cause of God, and by His grace I hope to be numbered with the redeemed when they shall come to Zion with singing and everlasting joy upon their heads.

Affliction, and sorrow, and death will be o'er;
The saints then unite to be parted no more;
Their loud hallelujahs fill Heaven's high dome;
They dwell with the Saviour, forever at home.

A. M. A. Cornell

Portland, Me., March 10, 1865

He Leads Us On

Review and Herald, March 13, 1866

Angeline Cornell

Jeremiah 10

²³ O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man that walks to direct his steps.

THIS language has often recurred to my mind in connection with the manner in which I, with many others, have been led to see and embrace the present truth. Truly it was by a way that we knew not. Many times in reviewing the past we have felt to exclaim, "It is the Lord's doings." It certainly was not the way we should have chosen for ourselves. We should never have looked for light from such a source. It seemed so unlikely that the despised little company of Advent Sabbath-keepers should be right in their views of Bible truth.

But we were led, (oh how mysteriously) to hear before judging; and to hear was to believe, and believing, we must obey. We felt that the message was a compelling one, and oh, how blessed we

found it to yield obedience to God's holy law! It was not a yoke of bondage, but a delight. Having love to God it was not hard to keep His commandments.

Do we have to give up our friends and worldly prospects? love will sweeten all our sacrifices: and the reward at the end of our pilgrimage will amply repay for all we may endure for Jesus' sake.

With the assurance that the Lord is leading us, we can joyously submit to His guiding hand, and with childlike confidence move on in the humble, self-denying pathway that is sure to end in peace and rest at last.

He leads us on,
By paths we did not know.
Upward He leads us, though our steps be slow
Though oft we faint and falter on the way,
Though storms and darkness oft obscure the day;—
Yet when the clouds are gone
We know He leads us on.

He leads us on
Through the unquiet years;
Past all our dream-lands hopes, and doubts and fears
He guides our steps.
Through all the tangled maze
Of sin, of sorrow, and o'er clouded days
We know His will is done,
And still He leads us on.

And He at last,
After the weary strife,—
After the restless fever we call life,—
After the dreariness, the aching pain,—
The wayward struggles which have proved in vain,
After all our toils are past,—
Will give us rest at last.

A. M. A. Cornell
Norridgewock, Me.

Home Again

Review and Herald, April 17, 1866

AFTER an absence of two years and six months, we are permitted in God's good providence to visit home and friends once more. God has been very merciful to us in all our trials and afflictions, for which we desire ever to be grateful. We shall be glad to hear from any of our friends, at Battle Creek, Mich.

M. E. Cornell

A. M. A. Cornell

Poems

By Angeline Cornell

The Sabbath

Review and Herald, February 17, 1853

We've entered now on holy time,
God's blessed Rest-day all divine;
The labors of the week are past,
Now let earth's cares aside be cast.

O, let us help repair the breach,
And all of God's commandments teach;
Calling His Rest-day our delight,
Thus walking blameless in His sight.

This holy Rest to us is given;
To call our minds from earth to heaven;
That we may not forget the Lord,
And trample down His holy word.

The faith of Jesus, too, we need,
For thus the flying Angel said,
Commands of God and Jesus' Faith,
Will shield us in the day of wrath.

Plymouth, Mich.

Coming of Christ

Review and Herald, September 19, 1854

He comes to raise the sleeping just,
Who long have slumbered in the dust;
His voice will break their long repose,
And snatch them from the last of foes.

He comes to change the waiting ones,
Who now endure the world's cold frowns;
Their feet are planted on the Rock;
They fear not, though a little flock.

They hear the peace and safety cry,
The token of destruction nigh,
And know the fearful doom that waits
The scoffer, who His coming hates.

Sinner! do you not dread your doom?
The retribution hastens on,
Stern justice lifts the avenging sword,
To slay the mocker of God's word.

O then repent, ere the decree,
He that is filthy let him be,
From the stern Judge's lips shall fall,
And you for rocks and mountains call.

Sweet Mercy still does plead for thee;
O then to Jesus quickly flee;
His blood can wash your sins away;
Then haste, 'tis fatal to delay.

God's perfect law no more despise,
But have His fear before your eyes,
And keep the faith of His dear Son,
That you may wear a glorious crown.

Eternal life! the prize is worth
Far more than all the wealth of earth;

Then on that treasure fix your eyes,
Till you shall win the blessed prize.

Battle Creek Mich. Aug. 15th, 1854

The Christian's Trust

Review and Herald, January 10, 1856

Awake, my slumbering harp, and raise
Devotion's sweetest notes of praise;
Arouse, my tuneful powers, to sing
The praises of my coming King.

Hear O earth! the tidings glad:
You weary ones, with hearts so sad,
Rejoicing, lift your eyes on high,
And see the Lord of glory nigh.

O list not to the siren lay,
Which tells of a long, long delay;
For, lightning-like, He soon will come,
Descending on His azure throne.

Shun the vain world, with all its cares,
Lest that day take you unawares;
O, let your faith and works abound,
And in your lips no guile be found.

Let speech be sound and uncondemned,
That those who scoff may be ashamed,
Having no evil thing to say
Of those they fain would lead astray.

O may the God of truth and grace,
Direct and guide you all your days;
Preserve you blameless till the Lord
Of life shall crown you with reward.

My Lord Delays His Coming

Review and Herald, January 17, 1856

List! hear the idle watchman say:
 “My Lord His coming does delay:
And many, yea, ten thousand years
 Will roll away, ere He appears.”

They do not for His coming long,
 But sing the peace-and-safety song;
To God’s own truth they give the lie,
 Which speaks the Saviour’s coming nigh.

But Jesus says He’ll come again;
 You need not fear who love His name;
He’s gone, bright mansions to prepare,
 And soon will come and take you there,

Let scoffers listen to their doom!
 The day of judgment hastens on;
Stern justice lifts the avenging sword,
 To slay the mockers of God’s word.

No more they’ll sing the siren song—
 “My Lord delays His coming long:”
But to the rocks and mountains fly,
 To ‘scape th’ Avenger’s piercing eye.

But those who have obeyed His word
 Will then receive their great reward;
Share in the glorious, heavenly home,
 Promised to all who overcome.

Paraphrase of Psalm 146

Review and Herald, January 31, 1856

Verses 1,2

My soul, O praise the Lord
And trust His faithful word.
While life shall last I'll sing,
The praise of God my King.

Verse 3

In princes put no trust;
They are but mortal dust.
There is no help in man,
Whose life is but a span;

Verse 4

For lo, His breath goes forth
And He returns to earth,
And in that self-same day
His very thoughts decay.

Verse 5

How happy then are they
Who make the Lord their stay;
Who hope in Israel's God,
And bow beneath His rod.

Verse 6

He earth's foundation laid,
And the bright heavens made;
The sacred truth He keeps—
He slumbers not nor sleeps.

Verse 7

Judges for the oppressed
Who sigh in bonds distressed,
Gives to the hungry food,
And is the prisoner's God.

Verse 8

The blind He giveth sight,
 To hail the radiant light,
The bowed down He'll raise;
 He loves the righteous' ways.

Verse 9

Defends the orphan's right,
 Repay the widow's mite,
The wicked shall be brought,
 In all their ways, to naught.

Verse 10

The Lord our God shall reign,
 And banish grief and pain.
O Zion hear this word,
 And magnify the Lord.

Battle Creek, Mich.

The Saviour's Petition

Review and Herald, June 26, 1856
John 17:11, 21-23

O, holy Father, keep,
Keep through your own Almighty name,
These dear disciples of the Lamb,
 Now they in anguish weep;
For now I leave them, and I come to Thee—
Keep those from strife whom You have given me!

That they may all be one
As You, my Father, are in me,
And I your Son am one with Thee
 Let the good work begun;
Be consummated in their unity—
From strife and sad divisions keep them free.

The glory You did give
To me, your well-beloved Son,

I freely have bestowed on them,
That they by grace may live;
In love as brethren, that the world may see,
And know by this that I am sent by Thee.

And I in them will dwell,
As You have always dwelt in me,
That they in one may perfect be,
That all the world may tell,
That them You love just as You do love me,
That praise and glory may be given Thee.

Obituary

Review and Herald, January 7, 1858
Poems by Angeline Cornell

FELL asleep on the 7th of Oct. last, Ira Burr, son of Ira B. and Lucy Woodin, Sylvan, Mich., aged seven years and six months. He was attacked with dysentery, and lived only about one week. He suffered patiently during his illness, and on being asked a few minutes before he died, he expressed a love for the Lord, the Sabbath and the brethren. He expired without a struggle. We deeply mourn his loss, but sorrow not as those who have no hope. —*I. B. Woodin*

Lines on the Above

You mourn, dear parents, that your boy
Is torn away from your embrace;
That he who was your pride and joy,
Can fill no more his wonted place.

That cherished form now in the tomb,
Fast mouldering back to mother dust,
Will in immortal beauty bloom,
When the dark grave shall yield its trust.

Then let hope cheer you 'mid your grief,
And fill your lonely hearts with joy.
Death's dread dominion will be brief,
Jesus will soon his power destroy.

Soon will His lovely voice be heard,
Saying, "Awake! awake! arise!
You saints, come forth to your reward,
You've sought and won the glorious prize."

The Departed Year

Review and Herald, January 6, 1863

Another year is numbered with the past,
How quickly have its moments sped away?
The morning shed its light, the evening cast
Its shadow o'er the soon departing day.

The weeks and months have almost moments seemed,
So swiftly have they rolled their course around;
But with events of interest they've teemed,
And ears have almost tingled at the sound.

We hear and read of bloodshed, war and strife,
And hearts of men are failing them for fear.
The very air with pestilence is rife—
All tokens of the great destruction near.

This wicked world is now fast filling up
Its measure of iniquity and crime,
And to its very dregs must drink the cup
Of God's fierce wrath reserved for guilty man.

Sweet mercy's warning voice they will not heed,
But still are rushing blindly, madly on
As though from all restraint they would be freed
That they might hasten their impending doom.

But see amid the strife the Christian stand,
Firm and unshaken as the mountains are;

For He who holds the nations in His hand,
Has bidden His dear children not to fear.

To the stronghold for safety they have fled,
And stand secure in His almighty name;
And while His light is round about them shed,
They're safe from swelling flood or fiery flame.

A few more battles fought, and victories won,
And all their toils and conflicts will be o'er,
Then with the host redeemed they'll sing the song
Of triumph on the bright eternal shore.

Time Is Fleeting

Review and Herald, June 20, 1865

Tune: Life's Harvest

How fast the time is fleeting,
How swift it speeds away,
As we are surely nearing
The long expected day.
The day of Christ's appearing
Is even at the doors,
And we are almost counting
The swiftly passing hours.

Events of solemn import,
Are duly taking place,
Without apparent effort,
We meet them face to face.
All these events are speaking,
And bidding us prepare
To be all ready—waiting,
When Jesus shall appear.

No time have we for trifling,
With earth's vain, fleeting toys,
If we would be securing,
Heaven's bright, enduring joys.
Our High Priest pleads in Heaven,

And offers His own blood,
That we may be forgiven,
And stand before our God.

But soon His work completed,
Stern justice rules again,
And Egypt's plagues repeated,
Shall fall on living men.
Oh, heed the warning given!
And flee the wrath to come,
Ere it is said in Heaven,
Amen—the work is done.

Redemption's plan completed,
The saints are saved at last.
Their artful foe defeated,
His long dark reign is past.
Freed from his wiles forever,
They shall in glory reign,
And peace and joy shall ever
Fill all that bright domain.

"I Will Come Again!"

Review and Herald, July 18, 1865

Long since these blessed words were spoken,
And for Him we are waiting still.
His promise sure cannot be broken,
It cheers us on, mid all life's ill.
We yet are looking, longing waiting,
To see Him coming in the skies;
And still with ardent zeal are striving
That we may gain the glorious prize.

Come for your own, you blessed Saviour,
And take us home to dwell with thee,
O manifest your wondrous favor,
And bring us immortality.

We long to enter those blest mansions
Which You have promised to prepare,
And oft to our enraptured vision
The golden gates almost appear.

The world is dark and we are weary
Of lingering in this vale of tears,
We long to leave this desert dreary,
And bid farewell to doubts and fears.
We long for rest, sweet rest in Heaven,
Where cares of life can never come,
And hail with joy the promise given
Of resting soon with Christ at home.

This earth is not our place of resting,
So full of blood and strife and crime,
And oft we find our spirits sighing,
For a more holy peaceful clime,
Where brother will not war with brother
With deadly hatred in his heart,
But dwell in peace and love together,
And brother act a brother's part.

Topsham, Maine

Preface

THE design of this work is to help honest inquirers after truth, by removing prejudice which may exist in their minds against important Bible truths. Those who will carefully examine these pages will find that we have, not only the testimony of Scripture, but also that of very eminent and good men; for many have testified in favor of what some now rashly term “heresies,” “novelties,” “wind of doctrine,” &c.

Speaking evil of that which they have not investigated, and do not understand, is calculated to frighten the timid and keep them in the beaten track of popular tradition. But there are those who will, like the noble Bereans, search the Scriptures, that they may know for themselves whether these things are so.

The Bible testimony on any point of doctrine would seem sufficient for any unbiased mind, but there are many who have so long drank at the fountain of tradition, that even a plain “thus says the Lord” will not wholly satisfy them when it is opposed to some favorite and long-cherished theory. Such will find in the copious extracts we make from the sayings of some of the most noted and pious of the past, as well as the most learned and popular of the present, that our views of truth are neither new nor novel, but in harmony with the opinions of the wisest and best authorities.

There is in the religious world a gross departure from first principles—a departing from the faith.¹¹ The spirit of the world, coming in like a flood, has not only prevented advancement, but has gradually led to a neglecting, if not to open rejection, of some truths before generally received.

As a book of reference, this work may be of service to Bible students, and we humbly hope it may prove, by God’s help, a blessing even to many who do not now believe. To all honest inquirers this work is prayerfully commended with an earnest desire that it

¹¹ 1 Timothy 4:1.

may aid in the investigation of the important truths relating to the present time.

Compiler

Battle Creek, Mich., January 1875

1. Use of the Scriptures

DR. ADAM CLARKE, in his *Clavis Biblica*, p. 64, says:

From this word all doctrines must be derived and proved; and from it, every man must learn his duty to God, to his neighbor, and to himself.

BOYLE says:

I use the Scriptures, not as an arsenal to be resorted to only for arms and weapons. . . . but as a matchless temple, where I delight to contemplate the beauty, the symmetry, and the magnificence, of the structure; and to increase my awe and excite my devotion to the Deity there preached and adored.¹²

MATTHEW HENRY says:

Especially make the Bible your study. Many get wisdom by books; but wisdom toward God is to be gotten out of God's book, and that by digging. Most men do but walk over the surface of it, and pick up here and there a flower; a few dig into it. Read other books to help you to read that book. Fetch your sermons from thence; the volume of inspiration is a full fountain, always overflowing and has always something new.

CHRYSOSTOM says:

An intimate acquaintance with the Holy Scriptures is a secure haven, and an impregnable bulwark, and an immovable tower, and imperishable glory, and impenetrable armor, and unfading joy, and perpetual delight, and whatever other excellence can be uttered.

First Written and First Printed

The decalogue containing the moral law is the very foundation and center of the Holy Scriptures. And this moral law engraved on tables of stone by the finger of God, was the *first written* document on earth. The great Creator set the first copy. Written language was of divine origin, and was revealed for the express pur-

¹² *Style of Scripture*, 3d Obj. 8..

pose of communicating the will of God to men. Not only was the law and books of Moses the first ever written, but they were the first ever *printed* with types.

A noted spiritualist speaks of the “old Bible system before the art of printing,” that science has now thrown the Bible into the shade by the extremely cheap literature of the present day! He then calls on the people to...

...dismiss the old, dilapidated, and *costly* machine as belonging to the Dark Age, before printing was known.

Here we have a specimen of the blindness of infidelity. The Bible was not only the *first book printed*, but it is the *cheapest book* in existence. It was the importance of Bible truth that stimulated science, and caused the invention of the art of printing!

ANDERSON says:

The first book ever printed on movable metal types was the *Bible*, in 1455 AD.¹³

Speaking of the Scriptures, DR. ADAM CLARKE says:

They contain the *most ancient* writings in the world; the *decalogue* or ten commandments, a part of the book of *Exodus*, being probably the first regular production in alphabetical characters ever seen by man.¹⁴

On the origin of written language, we find the following in the *Printer* for February, 1864:

Herodotus, Pliny, Plutarch, and others, signify that Cadmus, a Phoenician, settled in Boeotia about 1500 years before Christ, where he built the city of Thebes; and that he was the first who taught the Greeks the use of alphabetic symbols. Here, perhaps, it may be well to suggest that Cadmus was contemporary with Moses; and the time of his migration into Greece, making a little allowance for the discrepancies of chronologers, corresponds, as

¹³ *Anderson's Annals*, p. 31.

¹⁴ *Claris Biblica*, p. 16.

near as need be, with the time when the Israelites came into the possession of the promised land. Now Moses, we are fully assured, had been qualified to write the commandments of God at Sinai; and it is but reasonable to suppose that an art so valuable as writing would, when once learned, rapidly circulate among the most learned of the Hebrews. The inference, therefore, from these premises, is, that before he left Asia, Cadmus had, by an intercourse with some of the Hebrew people, learned the use of letters; and when he emigrated to Greece, he carried the art with him, in which country it was unknown until he taught it.

Maurice on this subject, says: "I cannot, however, avoid owning myself very much inclined to join in opinion with Mr. Bryant, and other genuine sons of science, not infected with the French skeptical philosophy, that so divine an art could not have its origin in the unassisted powers of the human mind." And the same author, after having adverted to a number of arguments relative to the first application of letters to the purposes of human correspondence, concludes his dissertation with the following energetic language: "In this state of uncertainty the mode of conduct for us to pursue, at once the most consistent with reason, the most conformable to true science, and the most agreeable to sound religion, is to conclude that though some sort of characters, as before observed, formed by the ingenuity of man, or founded upon the basis of the ancient hieroglyphic system, was occasionally used in the early ages of the world, that so divine an art—an art apparently so far surpassing human powers to invent, as alphabetic writing, in the perfection in which it has descended down to us from an Asiatic source, through the medium of the Greeks and Romans—could have its origin in inspiration only, and was *at first revealed to man amid the awful promulgations at Horeb*; amid the thunders that shook the basis of Mount Sinai!"

It is a remarkable fact that, although with respect to other arts, as for instance those of music and metal working, the Hebrews have assigned the honor of their discovery to the heroes of a remote antiquity, there is no trace or tradition whatever of the origin of letters, a discovery many times more remarkable and important than either of these. Throughout the book of *Genesis* there is not a single allusion, direct or indirect, either to the prac-

tice or to the existence of writing. The word, *cathav*, “to write,” does not once occur; none of its derivatives are used; and *sapher*, “a book,” is found in a single passage [*Genesis* 5:1], and these not in a connection which involves the supposition that the art of writing was known at the time to which it refers.¹⁵

DR. WINDER, in his *History of Knowledge*, thinks it probable that this was the first writing in alphabetical characters ever exhibited to the world, though there might have been *marks* or hieroglyphics cut on wood, stone,...

“No time,” says DR. A. BAYLEY, “seems so proper from whence to date the introduction of *letters* among the Hebrews as this, for *after* this period we find continual mention of *letters*, *reading*, and *writing*, in the now proper sense of those words. . . .

1. *Reason* may show us how near to an impossibility it was that a just and proper number of convenient characters for the sounds in language should naturally be hit upon by any man, for whom it was easy to imitate and vary, but not to *invent*.

2. From evidence of the Mosaic history, it appears that the introduction of writing among the Hebrews was not from *man*, but God.

3. There are no evident vestiges of letters subsisting among other nations till after the delivery of the law at Mount Sinai.¹⁶

The ancient Hebrews had a strong traditional prejudice against the use of vowels and marks in their sacred writings because the use of them at all was “only transmitted orally by Moses.”¹⁷ This shows that they had special regard to the *origin* of their language as *written* by the finger of God at Sinai.

The Bible

Study it carefully,
Think of it prayerfully,
Deep in your heart let its pure precepts dwell.

¹⁵ Smith’s *Unabridged Dictionary of the Bible*, Article: “Writing.”

¹⁶ Clarke’s *Commentary on Exodus* 31:18.

¹⁷ Smith’s *Dictionary*, Article: “Writing.”

Slight not its history,
Ponder its mystery,
None can e'er prize it too fondly or well.

Accept the glad tidings,
The warnings and chidings,
Found in this volume of heavenly lore;
With faith that's unfailing,
And love all-prevailing,
Trust in its promise of life evermore.

With fervent devotion,
And thankful emotion,
Hear the blest welcome, respond to its call;
Life's purest oblation,
The heart's adoration,
Give to the Saviour, who died for us all.

May this message of love,
From the Tribune above,
To all nations and kindreds be given,
Till the ransomed shall raise
Joyous anthems of praise—
Hallelujah! on earth and in Heaven.

Principles of Interpretation

Matthew 24

¹⁵ Whoso reads let him understand.

2 Peter 1

²⁰ No prophecy of the Scripture is of any private interpretation.

Words which admit of different senses should be taken in their most common and obvious meaning, unless such a construction leads to absurd consequences, or be inconsistent with the known intention of the writer.¹⁸

MARTIN LUTHER says:

¹⁸ *Hedge's Logic*.

The allegorical sense is commonly uncertain, and by no means safe to build our faith upon; for it usually depends on human opinion and conjecture only. . . . Therefore Origen, Jerome, and similar of the fathers, are to be avoided, with the whole of that Alexandrian school, which formerly abounded in this species of interpretation. For, later writers unhappily following their too much praised and prevailing example, it has come to pass that men *make just what they please of the Scriptures*, until some accommodate the word of God to the most *extravagant absurdities*.¹⁹

WILLIAM TYNDALE says:

No man *dare abide the literal sense of the text but under a protestation, if it please the pope*. You shall understand, therefore, that the Scripture has but one sense, and that is the literal sense. . . . The greatest cause of which captivity and decay of faith, and this blindness wherein we are now, sprang first from allegories; for Origen, and the doctors of his time, drew all the Scriptures into allegory, insomuch as that *twenty doctors expounded one text twenty different ways*. . . . Yea, they are come into such blindness that they not only say the literal sense profits not, but also that it is hurtful, and kills the soul.²⁰

MOSHEIM, speaking of a class of errorists, says:

They attributed a double sense to the words of Scripture; the one obvious and literal, the other hidden and mysterious, which lay concealed, as it were under the vail of the outward letter. The former they treated with the *utmost neglect*, and turned the whole force of their genius and application to unfold the latter; or, in other words, they were *more studious to darken the Scriptures with their idle fictions than to investigate true and natural sense*.²¹

Says Bishop JEREMY TAYLOR:

¹⁹ *Annotations on Deuteronomy*, cap. 1, Fol. 55.

²⁰ *Works*, Vol. 1, p. 307.

²¹ *Church Hist.*, Cent. II; part 2, chap. 2.

In all the interpretations of Scripture, the *literal sense* is to be presumed and chosen unless there be evident cause to the contrary.

Says PROF. J. A. ERNESTI:

There is in fact but one and the same method of interpretation common to all books whatever be their subject. And the same grammatical principles and precepts ought to be the common guide in the interpretation of all...Theologians are right, therefore, when they affirm the literal sense, or that which is derived from the knowledge of words, to be the only true one; for that mystical sense, which indeed is incorrectly called a sense, belongs altogether to the thing and not to the words.²²

Says the learned VITRINGA:

We must never depart from the *literal meaning* of the subject mentioned in its own appropriate name, if all or its principal attributes square with the subject of the prophecy—an unerring canon, he adds, and of great use.²³

Says ROSENMULLER:

All ingenuous and unprejudiced persons will grant me this position, that there is no method of removing difficulties more secure than that of an accurate interpretation derived from the words of the texts themselves, and from their true and legitimate meaning, and depending upon no hypothesis.²⁴

DR. JOHN PYE SMITH defines the literal sense as...

...the common rule of all rational interpretation, viz.: the sense afforded by a cautious and critical examination of the terms of the passage, and an impartial construction of the whole sentence, according to the known usage of the language and the writer.²⁵

²² *Biblical Repertory*, Vol. 3, pp. 125, 131.

²³ *Doc. Proph. Types*, 1716.

²⁴ *Cox's Immanuel Enthroned*, p. 70.

²⁵ *Scripture Test.*, Vol. 1, p. 214.

Language is used literally and figuratively, but it cannot therefore be said that language has a literal and a figurative meaning. The figurative use must conform to the literal signification, otherwise we could no more judge of the correctness of the figure than if the terms used had no meaning. We have lexicons to define terms, and a word may have several meanings, yet any one is as literal as any of the others; that is, it has only literal meanings.²⁶

DR. CLARKE says:

Without all controversy, the *literal* meaning is that which God would have first understood. By not attending to this, heresies, false doctrines, and errors of all kinds, have been propagated and multiplied in the world. Remember you are called not only to explain the *things* of God, but also the *words* of God. The meaning of the *thing* is found in the *word*.

Even *metaphors* and *parables* prove nothing; they only illustrate; and are never allowed to be produced in support of any doctrine. This is a maxim in theology to which all polemic divines are obliged to bow.²⁷

DR. JOSEPH ANGUS says:

The Spirit of God does not communicate to the mind of even a teachable, obedient, and devout Christian, any doctrine or meaning of Scripture which is not contained already in Scripture itself. He makes men wise *up to* what is written, but not beyond it. When Christ opened the understanding of His apostles, it was "that they might understand the Scriptures."²⁸

WHITAKER says:

He that shall be content to use the means, and will lay aside the prejudices which many bring with them to every question, will be honored to gain an understanding of Scripture; if not in all things, yet in most; if not immediately, yet ultimately.²⁹

²⁶ J. H. W., in *Review and Herald*.

²⁷ *Preachers' Manual*, pp. 86, 90.

²⁸ *Bible Hand-book*, p. 178.

²⁹ *Disput. of Scripture*, p. 473.

BRIDGES, on *Christian Ministry*, says:

Inferences from Scripture that appear to be strictly legitimate must be received with the greatest caution, or, rather, decidedly rejected, except as they are supported by explicit Scripture declarations.

MARTIN LUTHER gives good advice. He says:

Let the Christian reader's first object always be, to find out the literal meaning of the word of God; for this, and this alone, is the whole foundation of faith, and of Christian theology. It is the very substance of Christianity.³⁰

Prof. C. E. STOWE, in his great work, *History of the Books of the Bible* gives the true idea:

The Bible is not given to us in any celestial or superhuman language. If it had been, it would have been of no use to us, for every book intended for men must be given to them in the language of men. Every human language is from the very nature of the case, and from necessity, an imperfect language. No human language has exactly one word, and only one, for each distinct idea. In every known language, the same word is used to indicate different things, and different words are used to indicate the same thing. In every human language each word has more than one meaning, and each thing has more than one name. The boy is learning his letters—the merchant is writing his letters—Dr. Johnson was a man of letters. In these three sentences the same word, letters, is used to designate three perfectly distinct and most widely divergent things; yet nobody mistakes, or nobody need mistake, for the connection in each case shows the meaning. In the first stanza of Grey's Ode on Spring, there are no less than six words used in their figurative instead of their literal sense. Yet who mistakes?

Lo, where the *rosy-bosomed* hours,
Fair Venus' train appear;

³⁰ *Milner's History*, Vol. 5, p. 460.

Disclose the *long-expecting* flowers,
And *wake* the *purple* year!

In all these cases men can mistake if they choose. All this is as true of the Bible as of any other hook, and no more so.

Many Protestant authors give the Bible to the common people and then put out their eyes by their mystical rule of interpretation. But the papal power has denounced the most commonly received version, and have forbidden the translation of the Scriptures into the vulgar tongue, for the common people.

The First Canon of the “Council of Toulouse” in 1229, reads as follows:

We forbid the laity to *possess* any of the books of the Old or New Testaments, except, perhaps, the Psalter or Breviary for the Divine offices, or the Hours of the Blessed Virgin, which some out of devotion wish to have; but having any of these books translated into the vulgar tongue, we *strictly forbid*.³¹

POPE PIUS IX, in his bull, bearing date May 8, 1844, says:

Moreover, we confirm and renew the decrees recited above, delivered in former times by apostolic authority, against the publication, distribution, reading, and possession of books of the Holy Scriptures translated into the vulgar tongue.

The Protestant Bible Admitted Reliable

The learned DR. HEMPHIL, in his reply to Father Burchart, p. 42, says:

The papists say, “We do not object to the Bible, but to the Protestant version; for it is a corrupt translation.” When Bishop Hughes objected to the use of the Bible in the schools of the State of New York, he said: “We do not object to the Bible in the public schools; we object to the Protestant version of it.” When it was proposed to introduce the Douay version for the use of the Catholic children, Bishop Hughes was the first to object.

³¹ *Andersons Annals*, p. 17.

MR. HEMPHIL denies the charge that King James' version is a Protestant translation. He says:

The work was begun by Wickliffe when he was in full communion in the Romish church. It was continued by Tyndale, Coverdale, Matthew, and others, in the same Romish church. It was printed, published, and circulated, by the authority of a Romish king. This translation was taken as the basis of the translation issued under King James. So this translation of the Bible which we read to you every Sabbath is not a Protestant translation at all, but simply the English, and of such perfect freedom from anything sectarian, as between Romanism and Protestantism, that the learned Dr. Alexander Geddis, an ecclesiastic of the Romish church, called it "of all versions the most excellent for accuracy, fidelity, and the strictest attention to the letter of the text."³²

Eminent Catholic bishops have testified in favor of King James' translation. The Archbishop of Baltimore (Dr. Hendric), in the introduction of his translation of the New Testament, alludes to the Protestant version in these words:

In adopting occasionally the words and phrases of the Protestant version, I have followed the example of others who have from time to time revised the Rheimish translation. It is not to be regretted that while we point to errors that need correction we acknowledge excellencies which we are free to imitate, thus diminishing the asperity of censure by the tribute which we willingly render to literary merit.

In 1825, DR. DOYLE, bishop of Kildare, England, called "one of the ablest and wisest of Roman Catholic prelates," being examined before a committee of the House of Lords, was asked:

"Do you consider the authorized version of the Scriptures used in the church of England as of sufficiently perverse quality to warrant the description that it is the gospel of the devil?" He replied, "I have said before, God forbid that I should so consider

³² *Reply*, p. 42.

it; for, though it has many errors, I consider it as one of the noblest works, and one of the ablest translations that has ever been produced.”

2. Tradition Against Reform

Titus 1

¹⁴ Not giving heed to Jewish fables, and commandments of men, that turn from the truth.

FROM the time of the Reformation under Martin Luther until now, every advance step in reform has been opposed by those who were under the influence of fables and traditions of men. The famous DR. ECK spoke against Luther as follows:

I am surprised at the humility and modesty with which the reverend doctor undertakes to oppose, alone, so many illustrious fathers, and pretends to know more than the sovereign pontiff, the councils, the doctors, and the universities! It would be surprising, no doubt, if God had hidden the truth from so many saints and martyrs until the advent of the reverend father!³³

SEBASTIN MEYER gives the following refutation of the above:

To have been a thousand years wrong, will not make us right for one single hour! or else the pagans should have kept to their creed.³⁴

The Roman Emperor DIOCLETIAN, in a law against Christians, 296 AD, said:

The immortal gods have, by their providence, ordained and established that which is true and good. Many wise and good men are united in the opinion that this must be maintained without alteration. These we dare not oppose, and no new religion ought to venture to blame the old; for it is an enormous crime to pull down that which our forefathers established and which has dominion in the State.³⁵

JOHN LOCKE, the great Christian philosopher, says:

³³ D'Aubigne's *History of the Reformation*, Vol. 2, p. 59.

³⁴ *Id.*, Vol. 2, p. 427.

³⁵ *Rose's Neander*, Vol. 1, p. 84.

An error is not better for being common, nor the truth, for having lain neglected; and, if it were put to vote anywhere in the world, I doubt, as things are managed, whether truth would have the majority, at least while the authority of men, and not the examination of things, must be its measure.³⁶

DR. ADAM CLARKE, in his *Introduction to Solomon's Songs*, says:

The antiquity of an opinion, if that opinion be not founded on a revelation from God, is no evidence of its truth; for there are many ungodly opinions which are more than a thousand years old. And as to great men and great names, we find them enrolled and arranged on each side of all controversies.

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL says:

The plea of ancient tradition is the strength of popery and the weakness of Protestantism. We advocate, not ancient, but *original*, Christianity. The plea of high antiquity or tradition has long been the bulwark of error. It cleaves to its beloved mother, *tradition*, hoary tradition, with an affection that increases as she becomes old and feeble. Errorists of all schools are exceedingly devout and dutiful so far as the precept, "Honor your father and your mother," is concerned.³⁷

Again, DR. CAMPBELL remarks:

No one need ask, "Why, then, so early introduced and so long in practice? and why believed by so many great, and learned, and excellent men?"...If great, and learned, and reverend names can authenticate tradition and satisfy weak consciences, there is not an error in popery, nor an imagination in the ramblings of monkish fanaticism and religious buffoonery that may not be favorably regarded, and cherished with a profound and worshipful respect.³⁸

³⁶ *Essay on Human Understanding*, book 4, chap. 3, sect. 6, note.

³⁷ *Christian Baptism*, book 2, chap. 2, p. 283.

³⁸ *Christ. Bap.*, book 3, p. 246.

Early Introduction of Error

TAYLOR, in his *Antichrist Exposed*, says:

No great ingenuity, therefore, can be needed in matching any modern form of error or extravagance with its like to be produced from the museum of antique specimens.

The vices and absurdities of Romanism, on this ground, are only the vices and absurdities of ancient Christianity.³⁹

ROBINSON, in his *History of Baptism*, says:

Toward the latter end of the second century, most of the churches assumed a new form, the first simplicity disappeared, and insensibly, as the old disciples retired to their graves, their children, along with new converts, both Jews and Gentiles, came forward and new-modeled the cause.⁴⁰

The learned historian, ARCHIBALD BOWER, says:

To avoid being imposed upon, we ought to treat tradition as we do a notorious and known liar, to whom we give no credit unless what he says is confirmed to us by some person of undoubted veracity. . . . False and lying traditions are of an early date, and the greatest men have, out of a pious credulity, suffered themselves to be imposed upon by them.⁴¹

DOWLING says:

The Bible, I say, the Bible only, is the religion of Protestants! Nor is it of any account in the estimation of a genuine Protestant how early a doctrine originated, if it is not found in the Bible. . . . He who receives a single doctrine upon the mere authority of tradition, let him be called by what name he will, by so doing steps down from the Protestant rock, passes over the line which separates Protestantism from popery, and can give no valid reason why he should not receive all the earlier doctrines and ceremonies of Romanism upon the same authority.⁴²

³⁹ pp. 28, 66.

⁴⁰ Book 2, chap. 1, sect. 1.

⁴¹ *History of the Popes*, Vol. 1, p 1.

⁴² *Hist. of Romanism*, book 2, chap. 1.

HEGESIPPUS, writing of the second century, says:

When the apostles were dead, then the church was gradually spotted and corrupted, as in her doctrine, so also in her worship, an infinity of ceremonies by degrees insensibly sliding in.⁴³

The celebrated historian, GIBBON, says:

From Adrian (117 AD) to Justinian, few institutions, human or divine, were permitted to stand on their former basis.⁴⁴

Again, TAYLOR remarks:

The opinion that has forced itself upon my own mind is to this effect, that the period dating its commencement from the death of the last of the apostles, or apostolic men, was altogether as little deserving to be selected and *proposed as a pattern*, as any one of the first five of church history. . . . We need, therefore, neither feel surprise nor alarm when we find, in particular instances, that the grossest errors of theory and practice are to be traced to the first century. . . . The scheme of religious sentiments had shifted its foundations—a different standard of good and evil had come to be appealed to, and the commandments of God were displaced without scruple by the whims of man. . . . Clement of Alexandria is almost the only extant writer of the early ages who adheres to common sense and apostolic Christianity, through and through.⁴⁵

GREGORY, the celebrated historian, says:

With respect to the Gentile converts, the tenets of the Oriental philosophy concerning the origin of evil and the creation of the world by an inferior power, had prepared the minds of many for the reception of the most absurd opinions which they contrived to unite with the doctrines of Christ.⁴⁶

⁴³ *Book 3*, chap. 32.

⁴⁴ Vol. 4, p. 314.

⁴⁵ *Antichrist Exposed*, pp. 104, 113.

⁴⁶ *Hist. Ch.*, pp. 61, 62.

The Christian Fathers Unreliable

DR. COX says:

In the early ages of the church, the writings of the fathers were corrupted without scruple, to serve the purposes of contending sects. The truth is, that the practice of vitiating these holy writings, and even of forging whole treatises and letters, detracts materially from the value of all that has come down to us as the productions of the fathers.⁴⁷

In respect to the progress of the Roman Catholic departure from primitive Christianity, the following is in point:

The Chronologische Anzeiger of Reyner gives the following aperçu of the “development” of practices in the church of Rome: “The use of holy water was introduced in the year 120; penance, in 157; monks appeared in 348; the Latin mass, in 391; extreme unction, in 550; purgatory, in 593; the invocation of Mary and the saints, in 715; kissing the feet of the pope, in 809; the canonization of saints and the beatification of the blessed, in 893; blessing bells, in 1000; the celibacy of priests, in 1015; indulgences, in 1119; dispensations, in 1200; the elevation of the host, in 1200; the inquisition, in 1204; oral confession, in 1215; the immaculate conception, in 1860; infallibility, in 1870.

DU PIN, one of the most celebrated and reliable of Roman Catholic historians, testifies as follows:

Criticism is a kind of torch that lights and conducts us in the obscure tracts of antiquity by making us able to distinguish truth from falsehood, history from fable, and antiquity from *novelty*. ‘Tis by this means that in our times we have disengaged ourselves from an infinite number of very common errors into which our fathers fell for want of examining things by the rules of true criticism. *For it is a surprising thing to consider how many spurious books we find in antiquity; nay, even in the first ages of the church.*

⁴⁷ Cox’s *Literature, &c.*, Vol. 1, p. 123.

DR. ADAM CLARKE, in his comments on *Proverbs* 8, thus speaks of the Fathers:

But of these we may safely say that there is not a truth in the most orthodox creed that cannot be proved by their authority; nor a heresy that has disgraced the Romish church that may not challenge them as its abettors. In points of doctrine *their authority is with me nothing. The word of God alone contains my creed.* On a number of points I can go to the Greek and Latin fathers of the church to know what they believed, and what the people of their respective communion believed; but after all this, I must return to God's word to know what he would have me to believe.

No part of a Protestant's creed stands on the decision of fathers and councils. By appealing to the Bible alone as the only rule for the faith and practice of Christians, they confounded and defeated their papistical adversaries who could not prove their doctrines but by fathers and councils.

In his *Autobiography*, p. 134, DR. ADAM CLARKE remarks as follows:

We should be cautious how we appeal to heathens, however eminent, in behalf of morality; because much may be collected from them on the other side. In like manner we should take heed how we quote the fathers in proof of the doctrines of the gospel; because he who knows them best, knows that on many of those subjects, they blow hot and cold.

MARTIN LUTHER says:

When God's word is by the *fathers* expounded, construed, and glossed, then, in my judgment, it is even like unto one that strains milk through a coal-sack; which must needs spoil the milk and make it black; even so, likewise, God's word of itself is sufficiently pure, clean, bright, and clear, but through the doctrines, books, and writings of the fathers, it is very surely darkened, falsified, and spoiled.⁴⁸

⁴⁸ *Table Talk*, p. 228.

How Errors Are Perpetuated

When truth, long hidden, first begins to shine out, some object, and ask,

“Why has not this been found out before? Is it to be supposed that so many learned and good men would fail to see it if true?”!

The REV. LYMAN ABBOT, in the *Christian Union*, gives the following very clear explanation of the difficulty:

There are many instances in which the biblical commentators appear to have derived their ideas respecting Scripture teaching from previous scholars in the same field; the same thought is often traceable from generation to generation, from ancient father to English divine, and thence to our latest Sunday-school commentary. And sometimes, just as counterfeit bills pass unquestioned because they are well worn, erroneous interpretations pass current in the Christian church, without ever being subjected to a careful scrutiny; because each new student takes it for granted that the student who has preceded him, and from whom he receives the interpretation, has done this work of investigation, and he only needs to report the results.

The following testimony found in *Wesley's Sermons*, Vol. 2, p. 97, is to the point:

A wonderful instance of this spiritual blindness is given us in the very celebrated work of a late eminent writer, who supposes that the New Jerusalem came down from Heaven when Constantine called himself a Christian! I say called himself a Christian, for I dare not affirm that he was one any more than Peter the Great. I cannot but believe he would have come nearer the mark if he had said that it was the time when a huge cloud of infernal brimstone and smoke came up from the bottomless pit; for surely there never was a time wherein Satan gained so fatal an advantage over the church of Christ as when such a flood of riches, and honor, and power, broke in upon it, particularly on the clergy.

3. Likeness of Catholicism to Paganism

IN THE prophecy of the two great powers, pagan and papal Rome, it is stated of the symbol of the papal powers that it received the “power,” “seat,” and “authority,” of the dragon—the symbol of pagan Rome. Also that in worshipping the “beast” or papal power, they at the same time did homage to the dragon, which gave power to the beast. How strikingly was this illustrated by Constantine while he was laying the foundation of Catholicism still adoring the pagan idols, and repairing and supporting the idol temples.

On the right of the transept, in St. Peter’s, at Rome, there stands an old pagan bronze statue of Jupiter—mended toward the head so as to make a statue of St. Peter, whose brazen toe has been nearly kissed away by the lips of the faithful.

For this MADAME DE STAEL, a profound critic and a devout Catholic makes the following excuse:

We shame not in pagan trophies which art has hallowed. The wonders of genius always awaken holy feelings in the soul, and we pay homage to Christianity in tribute to all the best works that other faiths have inspired.

The celebrated Protestant author, WADDINGTON, says:

After the conversion of Constantine, in the fourth century, when under the protection of the State, this sinful conformity to the practices of paganism increased to such a degree that the beauty and simplicity of Christian worship were almost entirely obscured; and, by the time these were ripe for the establishment of the popedom, Christianity of the State, to judge from the institutions of its public worship, seemed but little else than a system of *Christianized paganism*. The copious transfusion of heathen ceremonies into Christian worship, which had taken place before the end of the fourth century, had to a certain extent *paganized* the outward form and aspect of religion.

Speaking of the religion of popery DR. MIDDLETON says:

All whose ceremonies appear plainly to have been copied from the rituals of primitive paganism, as handed down by an uninterrupted succession from the priests of old Rome, to the priests of the new Reme.

DOWLING says:

The gods of the Pantheon were turned into popish saints. The noblest heathen temple now remaining in the world is the Pantheon or Rotunda, which, as the inscription over the portico informs us, having been impiously dedicated of old by Agrippa, to Jove and all the gods, was impiously re-consecrated by Pope Boniface IV about 610 AD to the Blessed Virgin and all the saints.

FAUCHBT, in his *Antiquities of Gaul*, says:

The bishops of that kingdom employed every means to gain men to Christ, availing themselves of their ceremonies, as well as of the stones of their temples to build their churches.⁴⁹

GAVAZZI says:

When Christianity was imposed by Constantine on his pagan subjects, paganism introduced itself into the church of Christ. Before, the choice of religion was free; but, after he had made some laws, especially one denying service in his army, save to Christians, the profession of Christianity became almost an obligation. Commands, magistracies, were obtainable only through the portals of this new faith; it was embraced by multitudes, but with what fervor or what motive? A mercenary motive and a worse than languid fervor. . . . A pagan flood flowing into the church carried with it its customs, practices, and idols. . . . The greater part of Constantine's pagan subjects, while in appearance Christians, remained in substance pagans; especially worshipping in secret their idols. But the church did not prevent the sin. . . . The church was then too weak to resist the abuses brought in by the inundation of paganism; further, it was no longer the upright and severe church of Christ; becoming vain

⁴⁹ Liv. 2, chap. 19.

of having many millions of adherents, it did not closely examine their faith.⁵⁰

Again, the same author says:

Almost all the forms of paganism are found in the Romish church. The pagans had their Pontifex Maximus. Rome has her supreme pontiff. Paganism had its purgatory with material fire. Rome has the same. Paganism had expiations for the dead. So has Rome. Paganism had its vestal virgins. Rome has her nuns. Paganism had its processions and sacred images. Rome abounds in hers. Paganism had its penates. Rome has her peculiar saints. Paganism had its sanctuaries, holy water, pilgrimages, votive tablets, and Rome has all these too. Paganism had the perpetual fire of Vesta, and Rome has the perpetual sacrifice of the mass.

The *American Text-Book of Popery* has the following:

The purity of truth was beclouded with an almost endless train of absurd superstitions; many of which were added from a desire to conciliate the pagans.

Vast numbers of pagan ceremonies were introduced into the idolatrous worship, and those observances, with trivial alterations, were incorporated into the service of the one true God. Who can reflect without regret that the decorum of pure and undefiled religion was enveloped in mitres, robes, processions, and pageantry.

The nations governed by papal authority are scarcely more evangelized than to change the worship of a block of marble, sculptured, and denominated Jupiter, or Venus, for an image of the Virgin Mary, or Peter, or an imaginary disembodied saint.⁵¹

The following interesting statement is from a lecture on the *Rise and Decline of Romanism*, delivered in Boston by a distinguished clergyman of Paris, the REV. ATHANASE COQUEREL. He said:

⁵⁰ *Gavazzi's Lectures*, p. 290.

⁵¹ pp. 54, 73, 76.

When one religion passes away and another succeeds, those who come from the old into the new never come empty-handed. They bring with them many ideas, wants, and habits, they have been accustomed to; and you often see the old religion re-appearing in the new, as the old name on a re-painted sign-board sometimes shows itself under the new owner's name. In this way the Roman Catholic church, though a Christian church, has absorbed a great deal of the Roman paganism, even to the signs and symbols.

One striking illustration of this truth we find in the origin of the pontifical title. On one side of a Roman obelisk it is inscribed that Caesar Augustus (Pontifex Maximus) ordered it brought to Rome. On the other side it reads that Pontiff Sextus ordered its erection. They were both pontiffs, but one was a pagan emperor, and the other a Christian priest.

There is no such word as pontiff in the New Testament. It means "bridge-builder." When Rome was a little town, twenty-five hundred years ago, the bridge over the Tiber was necessary to the defense of the city. They had an order of men called "bridge-makers" to keep these bridges in order. One of them was called chief pontiff, and it was made a crime to quarrel with or strike him, so important were his official duties. So "pontiff" became the most sacred of titles. The kings, consuls, and emperors, assumed it in succession.

The Catholic church, preserving much of the traditional lore of Rome, preserved this also; and Pius IX, heir of those "who kept the bridge" (in repair) "in those brave days of old," now proclaims himself the supreme ruler of this world; the builder of a bridge, forsooth, between this world and the next.

ARCHIBALD BOWER says:

Truly, this whole business of the pope is nothing but the resurrection and reconstruction of the old pagan Pontifex Maximus, with some large additions and modifications' of worldly and sensuous splendor. It is the costume and the mythic gorgeousness of

genuine old heathenism, absurdly baptized and lifted like a pageant of glorious worldliness high in the air.⁵²

GIBBON, speaking of the fourth century, says:

As the objects of religion were gradually reduced to the standard of the imagination, the rites and ceremonies were introduced that seemed most powerfully to affect the senses of the vulgar. . . . The ministers of the Catholic imitated the profane model, which they were impatient to destroy. The most respectable bishops had persuaded themselves that the ignorant rustics would more cheerfully renounce the superstitions of paganism, if they found some resemblance, some compensation, in the bosom of Christianity.⁵³

The same historian again says:

The worship of images had stolen into the church by insensible degrees, and each petty step was pleasing to the superstitious mind, as productive of comfort, and innocent of sin. But in the beginning of the eighth century, in the full magnitude of the abuse, the more timorous Greeks were awakened by an apprehension that, under the mask of Christianity, they had restored the religion of their fathers. They heard with grief and impatience the name of idolaters—the incessant charge of Jews and Mahometans, who derived from the law and the Koran an immortal hatred to graven images and all relative worship.⁵⁴

Of the adoration of relics by Catholics, DR. PRIESTLY remarks:

Jerome, who answered Vigilantius, did not deny the practice, or that it was borrowed from the pagans; but he defended it. “That,” says he, “was done to idols, and was then to be detested; but this is done to martyrs, and is therefore to be received.”⁵⁵

Thus we find by searching up the ancient records that historians generally are impressed with the fact that most of the errors

⁵² *History of the Popes*, pp. 435, 453.

⁵³ Vol. 3, pp. 162, 163.

⁵⁴ *Gibbon*, Vol. 5, p. 7.

⁵⁵ *Corruptions of Christianity*, Vol. 1, p. 324.

of the early church came in by mere human policy to please their pagan neighbors—an effort to conform to their customs in many things, and thus take away their prejudice against the Christian name.

Admission of Catholics Themselves

Indeed, there can be no doubt of this, it being confirmed by the admission of Catholics themselves. POLYDORE VIRGIL, a celebrated Catholic historian, says:

The church has taken many customs from the religion of the Romans and other pagans, but has rendered them better, and employed them to a better purpose.⁵⁶

The Catholic BARONIUS (in 36 of the *Annals*) says:

It is permitted the church to use for purposes of piety, the ceremonies which the pagans used for purposes of impiety in a superstitious religion, after having first expiated them by consecration—to the end that the devil might receive a greater affront from employing in honor of Jesus Christ that which His enemy had destined for his own service.

BARONIUS is called “the great champion of popery;” his testimony, therefore, should have due weight. He continues:

In many things there is a conformity between popery and paganism. That many things have been laudably (!) translated from Gentile superstition into the Christian religion has been demonstrated by many examples and the authority of fathers. And what wonder if the most holy bishops have granted that the ancient customs of Gentiles should be introduced into the worship of the true God, from which it seemed impossible to take off many, though converted to Christianity.

LUDOVICUS VIVES, a learned papist, says:

No difference can be found between paganism and popish image-worship but this—that names and titles are changed.

⁵⁶ *Pol. Virg. Lib. 5, chap. 1.*

BERVALDUS, another Catholic writer, says:

When I call to mind the institutions of the holy mysteries of the *heathen*, I am forced to believe that most things appertaining to the celebration of our solemnities and ceremonies are taken thence; as, for example, from the Gentile religion are the shaven heads of priests, turning round of the altar, sacrificial pomps, and many such like ceremonies which our priests solemnly use in our mysteries. *How many things in our religion are like to the pagan religion! How many rites common!*

The Roman Catholic Sunday is identical with the old Roman *Dies Solos*, Day of the Sun. Protestants have the same by tradition from the Catholics. An informed Protestant could adopt the above, and say,

“How many things in our religion are like to the *Catholic* religion! How many rites common!”

The Washington correspondent of the *Boston Journal* writes:

The great Christian festival, which is a continuation of the pagan rejoicings in honor of the Goddess Eastor, has been celebrated here today in the most *jubilant manner by Protestants and Catholics*.

LORENZO DOW says:

Most people who join the society have never read the discipline, but they love the Methodist doctrine and the preachers, hence love leads them in without knowing the stuff derived from the Roman pontiff incorporated into the theme, which originally was derived from, and founded on, the pagan Roman imperial code.⁵⁷

⁵⁷ *Dow's Life*, First Edition, written by himself, p. 126.

4. Increase of Knowledge

THE papal power was to prevail against the saints to the “time of the end,” which begun at the end of the 1260 years in 1798 AD.⁵⁸ And the prophecy was to be sealed to the same time, and then knowledge should be increased.

Daniel 12

⁴ But you, O Daniel, shut up the words, and seal the book, even to the time of the end; many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased.

DR. ADAM CLARKE says:

Among the ancients, those were said to *seal* who in the course of their reading stamped the places of which they were yet doubtful, in order to keep them in memory, that they might refer to them again, as not yet fully understood.

MATTHEW HENRY (Presbyterian) says:

He must *seal the book*, because it would not be understood, and therefore would not be regarded till the things contained in it were accomplished; but he must keep it safe as a treasure of great value laid up for the ages to come, to whom it would be of great service; for “many shall run to and fro,” . . . they shall discourse of it, and talk it over among themselves, and compare notes about it, if by any means they may sift out the meaning of it, and thus knowledge shall be increased. . . . Those who would have their knowledge increased must take pains, must not sit still in slothfulness and bare wishes, but *run to and fro*; must make use of all the means of knowledge, and improve all the opportunities of getting their mistakes rectified, their doubts resolved, and their acquaintance with the things of God improved; to know *more* and to know *better* what they do know. And let us here see reason to hope that those things of God which are now dark and obscure, will hereafter be made clear and easy to be understood. Truth is the daughter of time. . . . Those things of God which are

⁵⁸ *Daniel* 7:25; 11:35.

despised and neglected and thrown aside as useless shall be brought into reputation.

The learned author, THOMAS WILLIAMS, says:

“Many shall run to and fro,” hither and thither, like couriers in the time of war, “and knowledge shall be increased:” knowledge of the most important kind, the knowledge of God’s salvation. Then those who are wise themselves shall endeavor to enlighten others.⁵⁹

DR. DUFFIELD (Presbyterian) says:

The word translated, run to and fro, is metaphorically used to denote investigation, close, diligent, accurate observation—just as the eyes of the Lord are said to run to and fro. The reference is not to missionary exertions in particular, but to the study of the Scriptures, especially the sealed book of prophecy.⁶⁰

DR. A. CLARKE (Methodist) says:

Many shall run to and fro. Many shall endeavor to search out the sense; and knowledge shall be increased by these means.⁶¹

The *French*, by the American Bible Society, translate,

When many shall run all over it (or through it), and to them knowledge shall be increased.

The old English Bible, by BARKER, has this marginal note:

Many shall run to and fro to search the knowledge of these mysteries.

DR. GILL (Baptist) says:

Many shall run to and fro, and knowledge shall be increased; that is, toward the end of the time appointed, many shall be stirred up to inquire into these things delivered in this book, and will spare

⁵⁹ *Cottage Bible*.

⁶⁰ *On Prophecy*, p. 373.

⁶¹ *Commentary on Daniel* 12:4.

no pains or cost to get a knowledge of them; will read and study the Scriptures, and meditate on them; compare one passage with another, spiritual things with spiritual, in order to obtain the mind of Christ; will carefully peruse the writings of such, who have lived before them, who have attempted anything of this kind; and will go far and near to converse with persons that have any understanding of such things; and by such means, with the blessing of God upon them, the knowledge of this book of prophecy will be increased, and things will appear plainer and clearer, the nearer the accomplishment of them is; and especially when prophecy and facts can be compared.

MICHAELIS has it:

Many shall give their sedulous attention to the understanding of these things.

DR. COKE says:

Many shall run to and fro, earnestly searching into this sealed book, and knowledge shall be increased; light shall be cast on the prophecies,...they will be clear as if written with a sunbeam.

SIR ISAAC NEWTON says:

It is a part of this prophecy that it should not be understood before the last age of the world; and therefore it makes for the credit of the prophecy that it is not yet understood. . . . But, in the very end, the prophecy shall be so far interpreted as to convince many, "for then," says Daniel, "Many shall run to and fro and *knowledge* shall be increased." Among the interpreters of the last age, there is scarce one of note who has not made some discovery worth knowing; whence I seem to gather that God is about opening these mysteries.⁶²

In 1429, Nicholas Belwara was arraigned for purchasing a New Testament for four marks and four pence, and teaching William Wright, and Margery, his wife, the study of the same. This price would be equal to about two hundred and twenty-five dollars for

⁶² *Observations on the Prophecies.*

a New Testament. How precious must the word of God have been then.⁶³

In 1779, there was no such institution as a Bible Society in existence. In 1780 the Naval and Military Bible Society was established in England.

On the 7th of May, 1804, about three hundred gentlemen of all denominations met at London and organized *The British and Foreign Bible Society*.

The American Bible Society was organized in New York, May 8, 1816.

The American Bible Society has, since its organization, issued *twenty-nine millions, nine hundred and eighty-two thousand volumes*, in thirty-nine languages, representing about sixty different languages and dialects. These Bibles have penetrated everywhere, China and Japan not excepted.

The British and Foreign Bible Society has issued above *sixty eight millions of volumes* since its first establishment; and it was stated at the sixty-ninth anniversary of this society (May 7, 1873) that no less than two hundred and four versions of the Bible are now issued.

The Religious Tract Society was organized in London, May 9, 1779, and its fifty-ninth annual report shows a total circulation of *thirty-four million, six hundred and thirty-eight thousand, four hundred and seventy copies* (34,638,470).

The American Tract Society was established in 1814, and in thirty-one years it reported having issued *one hundred and eighty-five millions* of publications.

About the year 1801, at Portsmouth, N. H., Elias Smith started *The Herald of Gospel Liberty*, the first religious paper ever published. Now there are millions of copies of religious papers going forth weekly to enlighten the world.

⁶³ *Reasons for Hope*, p. 64.

What abundant evidence have we in all this that knowledge is now greatly increased and that we are now surely in “the time of the end.”

The Pilgrim Fathers Looked for Greater Light

Mather says,

This present history may stand as a monument in relation to future times, of a fuller and better reformation of the church of God, than it has yet appeared in the world. For by this essay it may be seen that a farther practical reformation than that which began at the first, coming out of the darkness of popery, was aimed at and endeavored by a great number of voluntary exiles that came into a wilderness for that very end, that hence they might be free from human additions and inventions in the worship of God, and might practice the positive part of divine institutions according to the word of God. How far we have attained this design may be judged by this book. But we beseech our brethren, of our own and of other nations, to believe that we are far from thinking that we have attained a perfect reformation. Oh, no!

Our fathers did in their due time acknowledge there were many defects and imperfections in our way, and yet we believe they did as much as could be expected from learned and godly men in their circumstances, and we, their successors, are far short of them in many respects. . . .

And yet in the multitude of our thoughts and fears the consolations of God refresh our souls, that all those that in simplicity and godly sincerity do serve the Lord and His people in their generation (though they should miss it in some things), they shall deliver their own souls, they are accepted of the Lord, and their reward is with Him; and in the *approaching days of a better reformation*, the sincere, though weak, endeavors of the servants of God who went before them, will be also accepted of the saints in those times of greater light and holiness that are to come.⁶⁴

⁶⁴ *Magnalia*, Vol. 1.

On the occasion of the departure of the pilgrims from Leyden to this country in the May Flower, 1620, ROBINSON addressed them as follows:

Brethren, we are now quickly to part from one another, and whether I may live to see you face to face on earth anymore the God of Heaven only knows; but whether the Lord has appointed that or not, I charge you before God and His blessed angels that you follow me no further than you have seen me follow the Lord Jesus Christ. If God reveals anything to you by another instrument, be as ready to receive it as you ever were to receive any truth by my ministry; for I am verily persuaded, I am very confident, *that the Lord has more truth yet to break forth out of His holy word.* For my part, I cannot sufficiently bewail the condition of the reformed churches, who are *come to a period in religion,* and will go at present no further than the instruments of their reformation. The Lutherans cannot be drawn to go any further than what Luther saw, and the Calvinists, you see, stick fast where they were left by that great man of God, who yet saw not all things.

This is a misery much to be lamented; for though they were burning and shining lights in their time, yet they penetrated not into the whole counsel of God, but were they now living, would be as willing to embrace further light as that which they first received. I beseech you, remember it as an article of your church covenant that you *be ready to receive whatever truth shall he made known to you from the written word of God.*

But I must herewith exhort you to take heed what you receive as truth. Examine it, consider it, compare it with other scriptures of truth before you receive it; *for it is not possible that the Christian world should come so lately out of such thick Antichristian darkness, and that perfection of knowledge should break forth at once.*

With the increase of scriptural knowledge, there is a corresponding advance in the arts and sciences. The more useful discoveries and inventions of civilization ever follow in the wake of Bible truth. We are, therefore, to regard the wonderful inventions

of our day a sign of the time of the end. Nearly 6000 years had passed, and then all these wonders, as it were, are hatched out at one brood! Why is this? The answer is, The time of the end has come, when “knowledge shall be increased.”

The *New American Cyclopaedia* gives the following dates:

- 1798. Gas, to light a manufacturing house in Birmingham, England.
- 1800. Cast-iron plough, first used in America, in N. Y. city.
- Steamboat, by Robert Fulton.
- Steel pen, by Mr. Wise, England.
- 1811. Steam printing press, printed the *London Times*.
- 1823. Gold pen, John P. Hawkins, America.
- 1825. Railroad cars.
- 1825. Furnace, for heating houses, Prof. Johnson, Philadelphia.
- 1829. Lucifer match, John Walker, England.
- 1833. Reaper and mower, Obed Hussey, Cincinnati, Ohio.
- 1837. Telegraph, Prof. Morse.
- 1839. Photography, Daguerre, France.
- 1846. First complete sewing-machine, Elias Howe, Jr.
- 1851. Submarine cable.

The *Phrenological Journal*, for December, 1870, says of the American Watch Manufactories:

There are those (machines) which will take a shaving off a hair, or slice up steel like an apple; those which will drill holes invisible to the naked eye; registers which will measure the ten-thousandth part of an inch; screw cutters which will turn out perfect screws so small that, on white paper, they appear like tiny dots.

The *London Spectator* says:

Few phenomena are more remarkable, yet few have been less remarked, than the degree in which material civilization—the

progress of mankind in all those contrivances which oil the wheels and promote the comfort of daily life—has been concentrated in the last half century. It is not too much to say that in these respects, more has been done, richer and more prolific discoveries have been made, grander achievements have been realized, in the course of the fifty years of our lifetime, than in all the previous lifetime of the race, since States, nations, and politics, such as history makes us acquainted with, have had their being.

The *Union Hand-book*, 1870, says:

The great facts of the nineteenth century stand out so conspicuously above the achievements of any preceding century, that it would be affectation of humility not to recognize and speak of them.

HORACE GREELEY, in the *N. Y. Tribune*, said:

In the education of the intellect, mankind have made great strides since the birth of this century. Whether we regard the number taught or the knowledge imparted, the progress made has been marvelous.

The *Chicago Republican*, March 14, 1872, says:

The most striking characteristic of our times is the rapid strides which the world is making in science, general intelligence, and inventions.

The *Phrenological Journal*, of April, 1871, says:

Never was there such activity of invention within the history of mankind as at the present day.

5. The Prophecies

Symbolic Outlines of Earthly Kingdoms to the End of Time.
What Commentators Say on the Subject.

A prophecy is demonstrated to be fulfilled when we can prove from unimpeachable authority that the event has actually taken place, precisely according to the manner in which it was foretold.⁶⁵

Babylon

DR. ADAM CLARKE says:

HEAD OF GOLD. This was the first monarchy, begun by *Nimrod*, 1771 AM, 2233 BC, and ending with the death of Belshazzar, 3466 AM, 538 BC, after having lasted nearly *seventeen hundred years*. In the time of Nebuchadnezzar it extended over *Chaldea, Assyria, Arabia, Syria, and Palestine*. HE, Nebuchadnezzar, was *the head of gold*.

DR. ALBERT BARNES speaks of the gold monarchy under Nebuchadnezzar, as follows:

The meaning is that the Babylonian Empire, as it existed under him in its relation to the kingdoms which should succeed, was like the head of gold seen in the image as compared with the inferior metals.⁶⁶

The Lion

DR. CLARKE says:

The beast like a lion is the kingdom of the *Babylonians*; and the king of Babylon is compared to a *lion*; *Jeremiah 4:7; Isaiah 5:29*; and is said to fly as an *eagle*. *Jeremiah 48:40; Ezekiel 17:3, 7*. The *lion* is considered the *king of beasts*, and the *eagle* the *king of birds*; and therefore the kingdom of Babylon, which was signified by the *golden head* of the great image, was the first and noblest of all the kingdoms.

⁶⁵ *Horne's Introduction, Compendium*, p. 147.

⁶⁶ *Note on Verse 38*.

Of the lion, DR. BARNES says:

All, or nearly all, agree that it refers to the kingdom of Babylon.⁶⁷

Medo-Persia

BREAST AND ARMS OF SILVER. The Medo-Persian empire; which properly began under *Darius the Mede*, allowing him to be the same with Cyaxares son of Astyages, and uncle to Cyrus the great, son of Cambyses. He first fought under his uncle Cyaxares; defeated Neriglissar, king of the Assyrians, and Croesus, king of the Lydians; and by the capture of Babylon, 538 BC, terminated the *Chaldean* empire. On the death of his father Cambyses, and his uncle Cyaxares, 536 BC, he became sole governor of the Medes and Persians, and thus established a potent empire on the ruins of that of the Chaldeans.⁶⁸

The kingdom here referred to was undoubtedly the Medo-Persian, established by Cyrus.⁶⁹

Grecia

BELLY AND THIGHS OF BRASS. The Macedonian or Greek empire, founded by *Alexander the Great*. He subdued Greece, penetrated into Asia, took Tyre, reduced Egypt, overthrew Darius Codomanus at Arbela, Oct. 2, 3673 AM, 331 BC, and thus terminated the *Persian* monarchy. He crossed the Caucasus and subdued Hyrcania, and penetrated India as far as the Ganges; and having conquered all the countries that lay between the Adriatic Sea and this river, the Ganges, he died 3681 AM, 323 BC, and after his death his empire became divided among his generals, *Cassander*, *Lysimachus*, *Ptolemy*, and *Seleucus*.⁷⁰

There can be no reasonable doubt that by this *third kingdom* is denoted the empire founded by Alexander the Great—the *Macedonian Empire*.⁷¹

⁶⁷ *Daniel 7:4. Note.*

⁶⁸ *Clarke.*

⁶⁹ *Barnes' Notes on Daniel 2:39.*

⁷⁰ *Clarke.*

⁷¹ *Barnes.*

Rome

LEGS OF IRON, AND FEET AND TOES OF IRON AND CLAY. . . . These two legs of iron became absorbed in the *Roman Government*, which also partook of the *iron* nature; strong, military, and extensive in its victories; and by its various conquests, united to and amalgamated with itself various nations, some *strong*, and some *weak*, so as to be fitly represented in the symbolical image by feet and toes, partly of iron and partly of clay.⁷²

The *common opinion* has been, that the reference is to the *Roman Empire*.⁷³

This image represented the *four* kingdoms, that should successively bear rule in the earth, and influence the affairs of the Jewish church; by *one* image, because *all of one spirit and genius*, and all more or less against the church. It was the same power, only lodged in four several nations, the two former lying east of Judea, and the two latter west.⁷⁴

GIBBON, in describing the conquests of Rome, uses the very figure of the prophecy. He says:

The images of gold, or silver, or brass, that might serve to represent the nations, or their kings, were successively broken by the *iron monarchy of Rome*.

The Ten Kingdoms

On the ten horns of Daniel's fourth beast, DR. BARNES says:

Even the Romanists themselves admit that the Roman Empire was, by means of the incursions of the northern nations, dismembered into ten kingdoms.⁷⁵

DR. SCOTT, as quoted by *Nelson*, says:

It is certain that the Roman Empire was divided into ten kingdoms, and though they might be sometimes fewer, yet they were

⁷² *Clarke*.

⁷³ *Barnet*.

⁷⁴ *Comprehensive Com.*

⁷⁵ See Calmet, Bossuet, and Du Pin.

still known by the name of the ten kingdoms of the Western Empire.⁷⁶

NELSON remarks on the ten kingdoms as follows:

They have been there for twelve hundred and sixty years. If several have had their names changed according to the caprice of him who conquered, this change of name *did not destroy existence*. If others have had their territorial limits changed, the nation was still there. If others have fallen while successors were forming in their room, the ten horns were still there.⁷⁷

The following list of the ten divisions with names and dates is from the most reliable authors:

The Western Empire of Rome, between the years 356 AD and 483 AD, was divided into ten divisions, or kingdoms:

1. The Huns, in Hungary, 356 AD;
2. The Ostrogoths, in Mysia, 377;
3. The Visigoths, in Pannonia, 378;
4. The Franks, in France, 407;
5. The Vandals, in Africa, 407;
6. The Sueves and Alans, in Gascoigne and Spain, 407;
7. The Burgundians, in Burgundy, 407;
8. The Heruli and Rugii, in Italy, 476;
9. The Saxons and Angles, in Britain, 476;
10. The Lombards, in Germany, 483.⁷⁸

At certain long subsequent epochs of note, notwithstanding many intervening revolutions and changes in Western Europe, the *number ten* will be found to have been observed on from time to time, as that of the Western Roman or papal kingdoms. So *Gibbon*, speaking of the 12th century; *Daubuz*, of the time of the Reformation; *Whiston*, of the commencement of the 18th century;

⁷⁶ *Nelson on Infidelity*, p. 364.

⁷⁷ p. 376.

⁷⁸ Machiavel's *Hist. Florence*, lib. 1, with Bishop Lloyd [approved by Newton, Faber, and Dr. Hales].

and finally *Cunninghame*, of the last great political settlement of Europe, 1815 AD.⁷⁹

The Stone Smiting the Image

DR. CLARKE says:

Which smote the image on its feet; that is, it smote the then existing government at its *foundation*, or *principles of support*; and by destroying these brought the whole into ruin. . . . But as we find that not only the *iron* and *clay*, but also the *brass*, *silver*, and *gold*, were confounded and destroyed by that stroke, it follows that there was then remaining in and compacted with the Roman government, something of the distinguishing marks and principles of all the preceding empires, not only as to their *territorial possessions*, but also as to their *distinctive characteristics*.

⁷⁹ *Horae Apocalypticæ*, Vol. 3, p. 130.

6. The Prophetic Periods

SYMBOLIC or prophetic time is reckoned a day for a year. As a short-lived beast is used to represent a long-lived kingdom, so a short period of time is chosen to symbolize a longer period. The Bible reckoning is thirty days to the month, and 360 days to the year. Proof of this is found in the account of the time the flood was upon the earth. *Genesis* 7:11, with *Genesis* 8:4, gives exactly five months, and *Genesis* 7:24 gives 150 days.

The Year-day Principle

Numbers 14

³⁴ Forty days, *each day for a year*, shall you bear your iniquities, even forty years.

Ezekiel 4

⁴ I have appointed you *each day for a year*.

Nebuchadnezzar was to eat grass “seven times.”⁸⁰

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL says,

A time is one revolution of the earth.

JOSEPHUS says:

When he had lived in this manner in the desert for *seven years*, he should recover his dominion. . . . And as he foretold, so it came to pass; for after he had continued in the wilderness the aforementioned interval of time, while no one durst attempt to seige his kingdom during those seven years, he prayed to God that he might recover his kingdom, and he returned to it.⁸¹

PROF. BUSH, in his letter to Mr. Miller, said:

Nay, I am even ready to go so far as to say that I do not conceive your errors on the subject of chronology to be at all of a Be-rious nature, or in fact to be very wide of the truth. In taking a *day* as the prophetic term for a *year*, I believe you are sustained

⁸⁰ *Daniel* 4:16, 23, 32.

⁸¹ *Antiquities*, book 10, chap. 10, sec. 6.

by the *soundest exegesis*, as well as fortified by the high names of MEDE, SIR ISAAC NEWTON, BISHOP NEWTON, KIRBY, SCOTT, KEITH, and a host of others who have long since come to *substantially* your conclusions on this head. They all agree that the leading periods mentioned by Daniel and John do actually expire *about this age of the world*, and it would be a strange logic that would convict you of heresy for holding in effect the same views which stand forth so prominent in the notices of these eminent divines.⁸²

PROF. CHASE speaks as follows:

We need not wonder that the minds of many have, within a few years, been *greatly agitated* by an expectation of the speedy fulfillment of certain predictions in the book of *Daniel*. The way for this was prepared by some of our *standard English writers* on the prophecies, men of former ages *venerated for their piety* and their *erudition*.⁸³

PROFESSOR STUART more than admits the same.⁸⁴

DR. ELLIOT says:

We find it hinted at by Melancthon. And the Madgeburgh Centurators fully advocated the *year-day principle*, and applied it to the papacy, as also most Protestants afterward.⁸⁵

PROF. STUART says:

It is a singular fact that the *great mass of interpreters* in the English and American world have, for many years, been wont to understand the days designated in *Daniel* and the *Apocalypse* as the representatives or symbols of years. I have found it difficult to trace the origin of this general, I might say *almost universal, custom*.⁸⁶

Again he remarks:

⁸² *Advent Library*, No. 44, p. 6.

⁸³ *Remarks on Daniel, Preface*, p. 5.

⁸⁴ *Hints*, pp. 8, 38.

⁸⁵ *Horae Apoc.*, Vol. 3, p. 260.

⁸⁶ *Hints*, p. 77.

For a long time these principles have been so current among the expositors of the English and American world that scarcely a serious attempt to vindicate them has of late been made. They have been regarded as *so plain* and *so well fortified* against all objections that most expositors have deemed it quite useless even to attempt to defend them.⁸⁷

BARNES, in notes on *Daniel* 7:25, renders:

A time, and times, and the dividing of a time—three years and a half—twelve hundred and sixty days—twelve hundred and sixty years.

Of the dates of *Daniel*, DR. CLARKE says:

That concerning the *advent* and *death* of our Lord is the clearest prophecy ever delivered; though he lived nearly Six hundred years before our Lord, he foretold the very *year* in which He should be manifested, and the year in which He should be cut off.⁸⁸

The 1260 Years of the Papacy

The saints and the times and laws of God were to be in the hands of that power for so many years.⁸⁹ It begins with the overthrow of three kings.⁹⁰ This was accomplished in 538 AD.

FABER, quoted in *Comprehensive Commentary*, says:

We find that the kingdom of the Heruli, the kingdom of the Ostrogoths, and the kingdom of the Lombards, were successively eradicated before the little papal horn, which at length became a temporal no less than a spiritual power, at the expense of these three depressed, primary States.

The author of *Exposition of Prophecy* says:

Prophetic popery commenced in the time of the Emperor Justinian, between 530 AD and 539. The exact year even may, I think,

⁸⁷ *Hints*, p. 8.

⁸⁸ *Claris Biblica*, p. 29.

⁸⁹ *Daniel* 7:25.

⁹⁰ *Daniel* 7:20.

be ascertained with the utmost precision. Suffice it to say, however, that *it was Justinian, and no other, who gave the bishop of Rome the dragon's "power, and his seat, and great authority."*

GIBBON says:

The whole nation of the *Ostrogoths* had been assembled for the attack, and was almost entirely consumed in the siege of Rome. One year and nine days after the commencement of the siege, an army, so lately strong and triumphant, burnt their tents, and tumultuously repassed the Milvian bridge.

This occurred in 538 AD.⁹¹ A Catholic historian quotes *Liberatus*:

There are many kings in the world, but there is only one pope over the whole world,...which words imply a clear confession of the supremacy of the Roman see, 538 AD.⁹²

In the report of the AECumenical Council of 1870, published by the American Tract Society, we find a speech which was published and widely circulated in Italy, under the title, "*The Speech of a Bishop in the Vatican Council.*" It has the following:

POPE VIGILIUS, 538 AD, bought the papacy from Belisarius, agent of the Emperor Justinian; though to be sure he broke his promise and paid nothing. Is this mode of *gaining the tiara* canonical?⁹³

The decrees of Justinian in 533 AD did not give the bishops of Rome undisputed civil power, for there were yet three powers in his way. The fall of the *Ostrogoths* in 538 cleared the way for all the former decrees to take effect. There were several steps up to the one recognized in the prophecy. The celebrated GAVAZZI, in his New York lectures in 1853, thus speaks of it:

The celebrated letter of Justinian to the pope in the year 533, not only recognized all previous privileges, but *enlarged them*, and entitled the pope and his church to many immunities and

⁹¹ See *Milmans Gibbon's Rome*, Vol. 4, chap. 41, pp. 172, 173, with date in Index.

⁹² *Catholic Hist.* p. 224, found in *Liberatus*, c. 22.

⁹³ *Vatican Council*, p. 189.

rights, which *afterward gave origin to the pretensions displayed in the canon law.*

If, then, 538 be the true date for the 1260 years of the papal supremacy, its fall must occur in 1798. If this latter date is established, then both ends of the line are fortified. If the fall in 1798 cannot be denied, then just reckon back 1260 years, and 538 is confirmed as the true date.

Fall of the Papacy

REV. GEORGE CROLEY, A. M., says:

On the 9th of February, 1798, the French corps commanded by *Berthier* encamped in front of the Porta del Popolo. On the next day the castle of St. Angelo surrendered; the city gates were seized; and the pope and the cardinals, excepting three, were made prisoners. . . . Ten days after, the pope was sent away under an escort of French cavalry, and was finally carried into France, where he *died in captivity*.⁹⁴

The French army under Bonaparte was seen invading and partitioning the papal territory. The next year, 1798, saw it *master of Rome*, the popedom a Republic, and the pope a prisoner and an exile.⁹⁵

DR. ADAM CLARKE says:

In 1798, the French republican army under General *Berthier*, took possession of the city of Rome, and *entirely superseded the whole papal power*.⁹⁶

CROLEY on the Apocalypse, p. 100, says:

On the 10th of February, 1798, the French army under *Berthier* entered Rome, and took the pope and the cardinal prisoners. Within a week, Pius VI was deposed. Pius VI *died in captivity*. The *papal independence was abolished* by France, and the son of Napoleon was declared king of Rome.

⁹⁴ *The Apocalypse*, p. 429, London ed., 1828.

⁹⁵ *Id.* p. 124.

⁹⁶ *Commentary on Daniel 7:25*.

The *Cyclopedia Americana* of “Berthier” speaks as follows:

In October, 1797, General Bonaparte sent him to Paris to deliver to the directory the treaty of Campo-Formio. In January, 1798, he received the chief command of the army of Italy, and was ordered by the directory to march against the dominions of the pope. In the beginning of February, he made his entrance into Rome, abolished the papal government, and established a consular one.⁹⁷

Of Pope Pius VI it says:

An army, commanded by General Berthier, entered that capital (Rome) Feb. 10, 1798, and, on the 15th, proclaimed the establishment of the Roman republic, governed by consuls, a senate, and a tribunate. The pope, after this *deprivation of his authority*, was conveyed to France as a prisoner, and died at Valence, Aug. 29, 1799.⁹⁸

The following is found in *Thier’s French Revolution*:

On the 22nd of Pluviose (Feb. 10, 1798), Berthier came in sight of the ancient capital of the world, which the republican armies had not yet visited. . . The Castle of St. Angelo was delivered up to the French on the natural condition between civilized nations to respect religion, the public establishments, persons, and property. The pope was left in the Vatican, and Berthier, introduced at the Porta di Populo, was conducted to the capitol, like the Roman generals of old in their triumphs. . . A notary drew up an act by which the populace, calling itself the Roman people, declared that it resumed its sovereignty and constituted itself a republic. . . The pope, treated with respect due to his age, was removed in the night from the Vatican and conveyed into Tuscany where he received asylum in a convent.⁹⁹

Pius VI. Angelo Braschi, February 15; dethroned by Bonaparte; he was *expelled from Rome and deposed* in February, 1798; and died at Valence, Aug. 29, 1799.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁷ Vol. 2, pp. 80, 81.

⁹⁸ Vol. 10, p. 161. *Edited by Francis Lieber*, Boston, 1854.

⁹⁹ Vol. 4, p. 246.

¹⁰⁰ *Haydn’s Dictionary of Dates*, p. 375.

A French corps d'armee under Berthier, having in February, 1798, crossed the Apennines from Ancona, and entered Rome, the tricolor flag was displayed from the capitol, amidst the shouts of the populace, *the pope's temporal reign declared at an end, &c.*¹⁰¹

The Deadly Wound. Revelation 13:3

From ARCHIBALD BOWER'S *History of the Popes*, we take the following interesting items:

Pius VI, always shut up in the Vatican, wished to disarm his formidable adversary; and sent to him the most eminent personages of his court, to make peace and to obtain a favorable capitulation. But Berthier's inflexibility soon dissipated the pontiff's illusions. The general refused to admit the papal deputation. He directed those envoys to be informed that he should not recognize the sovereignty of the pope, and that he should not receive any overtures, except from the delegates of the Roman republic. The citizens had formed a government, modeled after the ancient constitutions of Rome, had named seven consuls, *decreed the degradation of Pius VI*, and published accusations against the peculating cardinals and plunderers. . . .

All those misfortunes abased the pope almost to idiotism. At length, the governor of Rome, the general Cervoni, gave him the *last stroke*, by the official announcement that the people had reconquered their rights, and he was *no longer an officer of the government*. . . .

In vain did the pope, who perceived that his plans were discovered, protest against the violence which was offered to him, and which severed him from his people and duties. He was placed in a coach with his physician, his footman, and cook, and driven toward Tuscany. He was set down at the convent of Augustine at Sienna, where he remained three months. There he lived in quiet and forgotten by the world, when an extraordinary event, an earthquake, shook the asylum where he resided and destroyed part of the walls of the edifice. . . .

¹⁰¹ *Horae Apoc.* p. 370.

But nothing could comfort the old pontiff in his exile. The last act of ingratitude by his cherished bastard¹⁰² was a *terrible blow to him*. Moreover, the energies of his life having been very much exhausted by age, debauchery, and excesses of the table, palsy in his legs seized him, which subsequently affected his whole frame, and in August 29, 1799, Europe was delivered from the last pope of the eighteenth century.¹⁰³

Healing the Deadly Wound

MR. BOWER continues:

The *papacy*, that fatal and monstrous institution, which had been the cause of such numberless calamities, disasters, and persecutions, at the death of Pius VI, was *apparently on the verge of complete extinction*. But men were not sufficiently sated with superstitions, and the triumph of permanent liberty was still deferred!

Bonaparte, consul, who began to think of placing on his head the diadem of Charlemagne, and who anticipated the period when he should want another Leo III to consecrate him, collected the scattered stones of the pontifical Babel, which the public had almost raised, and anew *reconstructed it*. Twenty days after his attainment of power, thirty-five cardinals assembled at Venice to fill the vacancy in the pontificate, and to elect the chief of the popedom.

Each secular power, according to custom, intrigued to have one of their own minions nominated, and to insure the voices of the cardinals for him; but France was successful. Whether the first consul was more ably served, or whether he paid most generously for the votes, after one hundred and four days of discussions and strife, the majority was announced for the Cardinal Gregory Barnabas Louis Chiramonti, who was proclaimed pope, on March 14, 1800, by the title of Pius VII.

The Protestant princes of Germany themselves were even vigorously urged, solicited, and even threatened, respecting their

¹⁰² His nephew, duke of Braschi, stole his money and jewels and fled the country.

¹⁰³ Vol. 3, pp. 407-409.

permission for the Jesuits to be domiciliated in their territories. In fine, *the restoration of popism was everywhere proclaimed*.¹⁰⁴

Consuming Process

Daniel 7

²⁶ And they shall take away his dominion, to *consume* and to *destroy it unto the end*.

The following extract is from a circular sent by the archbishop of New York to “all the Catholic priests”:

It is well known to all that the trials and embarrassments of our Holy Father have been multiplied during the past two years *far beyond anything he has hitherto been obliged to indorse*. The enemies of the church and of the apostolic see have been pursuing and still continue to pursue with ever-increasing boldness their work of sacrilege and spoliation in the capitol of the Christian world. It is sought to reduce the venerable pontiff, who is already virtually a prisoner in their hands, to the *still further humiliation* of becoming a pensioner to the bounty of an unscrupulous government, which has usurped his rights and *robbed him of his temporal goods and possessions*.

GOODRICH says:

The revolutionary torrent, which was thus set in motion, destroyed law, government, and religion in France, and *laid waste the Roman church* both there and in *neighboring countries*. Her priests were massacred, her silver shrines and saints were turned into money for the payment of the troops, her bells were converted into cannons, and her churches and convents into barracks for soldiers. From the Atlantic to the Adriatic, she presented but one appalling spectacle. She had shed the blood of saints and prophets, and God now gave her blood to drink.¹⁰⁵

A. BOWER says:

In 1809, Napoleon, in his imperial edict, says that we are directed to make known to Pius VII that he is *utterly prohibited*

¹⁰⁴ *History of the Popes*, pp. 420, 428.

¹⁰⁵ *Church History*, p. 183-4.

from holding any communion whatever with any ecclesiastics in France, or any other subject of the emperor, under the penalty of disobedience both on his part and theirs. Advising him also, that *he is no longer the organ of the papacy.*¹⁰⁶

MR. BICKERSTETH says:

The pillage of the papal States in 1797, was such as to drain them of specie, and to take away all precious stones and jewels they could find. The French ambassador wrote to Napoleon, stating, "Discontent is at its highest, in the papal States; the payment of 30,000,000 francs, stipulated by the treaty of Tolentno, at the close of so many losses, has totally exhausted the OLD CARCASS; we are making it *consume by a slow fire.*"

¹⁰⁶ Bower, Vol. 2, page 425.

7. Fall of Babylon

IT IS not with any desire to find fault, or, like the worldling, to dwell upon the imperfections of others, and make their backslidings an excuse for laxity, that we speak of the fallen condition of the churches, for we do it with sadness, and would God it were otherwise.

But while infidels rejoice over the matter, and make it an occasion of doubting and rejecting the Bible and the Christian religion, we note the facts with candor, and see in it a fulfillment of prophecy. Instead of an occasion of stumbling, we find it an occasion of stronger faith in the Bible, as of heavenly origin.

It is claimed by many of the best students of prophecy that the great Babylon of the Apocalypse can symbolize nothing less than the universal, professed Christian, but worldly, church—that it must embrace the entire family, or great city of fallen churches. Many of the Protestant sects having the marks of a striking family resemblance, in their spirit of pride, politics, and worldliness, are identified with sad and faithful accuracy, as the legitimate daughters of the mother of churches.

What Is Babylon?

Jeremiah 51

⁶ Flee out of the midst of Babylon, and deliver every man his soul: be not cut off in her iniquity; for this is the time of the Lord's vengeance; He will render unto her a recompence.

⁷ Babylon has been a golden cup in the Lord's hand, that made all the earth drunken: the nations have drunken of her wine; therefore the nations are mad.

⁸ Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed: howl for her; take balm for her pain, if so be she may be healed.

⁹ We would have healed Babylon, but she is not healed: forsake her, and let us go every one into his own country: for her judgment reaches unto heaven, and is lifted up even to the skies.

Revelation 14

⁸ And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

Revelation 17

⁵ And upon her forehead was a name written, MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Revelation 18

² And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

³ For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth are waxed rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

⁴ And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that you be not partakers of her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues.

The word Babylon comes from *Babel* and signifies “mixture, confusion.” We read of Babylon the great, the *mother of harlots*, &c. Protestant commentators agree that this “mother” is the Catholic church, and if so, who are the “harlot daughters” but the various Protestant sects? If “the woman” *singular*¹⁰⁷ be a symbol of one church (Catholic), then, “women,” *plural*,¹⁰⁸ are symbols of CHURCHES. The Catholic church is a unit the world over. But when we consider the hundreds of Protestant sects, with all their discordant theories, we cannot avoid the conclusion that they belong to the Babylon of the Apocalypse.

The original of the word Babylon is in every place *Babel*. The root of the word signified “gate,” or “gate of God.” But after the building of the tower and the dispersion, it came to signify “con-

¹⁰⁷ Revelation 17:4.

¹⁰⁸ Revelation 14:4.

fusion.” Like mystic Babylon, the ancient city built on the site of the tower was haughty, and assumed to hold the keys of all wisdom and knowledge, or to be the very “gate of God.”

DR. BARNES says:

The word became the emblem of all that was haughty and oppressive, and especially of all that persecuted the church of God. The word here¹⁰⁹ must be used to denote some power that resembled the ancient and literal Babylon in these characteristics. The literal Babylon was no more; but the *name* might be properly used to denote a similar power.

A papal medal was struck at Rome in 1825, on the occasion of a jubilee, with the *figure of a woman holding out a golden cup*.¹¹⁰

On this DR. BARNES remarks:

It is a most remarkable fact that the papacy, as if *designing* to furnish a fulfillment of this prophecy, has chosen to represent itself almost precisely in this manner. Apostate churches and guilty nations often furnish the very proofs necessary to confirm the truth of the Scriptures.

SCALIGER affirms that this name (Mystery, Babylon, &c.,) was inscribed upon the front of the pope’s miter till some of the reformers noticed it.

Revelation 18

² Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils...

On the text, “...become the habitation of devils,” BARNES says:

Of demons—in allusion to the common opinion that the demons inhabited abandoned cities, old ruins, and deserts.

In *Isaiah* 13:21: “Satyrs shall dance there,” the ancient Greek translation is “Devils or demons shall dance there.”

¹⁰⁹ *Revelation* 18:4.

¹¹⁰ See *Revelation* 17:4.

We are led to inquire if the churches of the day are not already becoming a home of spirits— if the churches do not already fellowship those who are in league with the demons. Both Catholics and Protestants hold the doctrines of the immortality of the soul and consciousness in death; and very many have believed in the “return of departed spirits,” to converse with men. It is no marvel then that they should come to fellowship with modern demon-mongers.

The *Phrenological Journal*, October, 1872, speaks as follows:

We have recently read a work by Rev. Samuel Watson (a new book), just published in this city, at \$1.25, entitled, *The Clock Struck One*, in which are presented the Bible proofs that the dead of earth have communicated and can communicate with men on earth, and we are surprised with the number and significance of the proofs cited. Mr. Watson, who has been a devoted Methodist minister for many years, and has been honored with the title D.D., and *still holds his relations with that church*, thinks that many eminent Christians, several of them ministers, and one of them a bishop, have talked with him from the other side of the river called death. He claims to be a Bible spiritualist, and to accept only that which finds its basis in the Bible. If the deceased prophet Samuel could be made visible to those living on the earth in ancient times, why could not the “One-eyed Conductor” be able to do the same for a beneficent purpose?

A correspondent of the *Chicago Tribune*, writing from Boston, says:

A few weeks ago, in a little New England village, I found among the Methodists all the principles of spiritualism, a belief in the presence of spirits, their aid in good, and their hindrance of evil or unsuccessful action. From that small place, with its lowly worshipers, for most of them were mechanics, many with a difficulty about their aspirates, genuine Dissenters, to this educated community of the highest culture, I come to find the same belief expressed.

WARREN CHASE, in his *Gist of Spiritualism*, says:

But let no person mistake me, and suppose that I claim that each medium is a spiritualist. By no means; many of our best test mediums know little or nothing of spiritualism, and some are members of churches, and read or say prayers in their places.

The *Evangel*, periodical of the Baptist denomination in California, in its issue of Jan. 9, 1873, gives the obituary of Eld. D. S. Watson in the following spiritualistic style:

After all, our brother is not dead. He has simply “gone before.” The house he lived in may, and will, decay; but the earnest soul will still serve the Lord. The loved and loving wife, who ministered so faithfully to the suffering body, may find her aching heart soothed by some gentle, silent influence from the heavenly land; and, if permitted to do so, that angel spirit will thus minister to her, and to his dear church, and to other loved friends toiling for Jesus.

Bishop D. W. CLARK, of the Methodists, speaks as follows:

Is it not possible that our departed kindred—our parents, our companions, our dear children, that have passed from us in the bloom of life, a loved brother or sister—*may re-visit earth*, and come to minister to us in that which is holy and good—to breathe around us influences that will draw us heavenward?¹¹¹

On the next page the bishop quotes the great Methodist Commentator as follows:

DR. ADAM CLARKE expresses it as his opinion that spirits from the invisible world, including also human spirits which have gone there, *may have intercourse with this world*, and even become visible to mortals.

The N. Y. *Evangelist*, “On the Ministration of Departed Spirits in this World,” quotes the following sentiments of MRS. H. B. STOWE, expressed in verse:

¹¹¹ *Man all Immortal*, p. 206.

It is a beautiful belief,
That ever round our head,
Are hovering, on viewless wings,
The *spirits of the dead*.

The majority of Roman Catholics at present stand committed against modern spiritualism by that name, and yet they hold the distinctive doctrines of spiritualists under another name.

The following rebuke upon a Catholic, who wrote against spiritualists, would also apply to many Protestants who have tried to oppose them. DELRICO, a Catholic author, in his *Disquisitions*, says:

It is a truth recognized, not only by the Catholic faith, but by true philosophy, that the *souls of the departed can return, and are in the habit of returning* in the divine power and virtue. I am, therefore, astonished that a Catholic of much learning and judgment should treat *such spirits*, not as those of the dead, but as demons. . . .

To dare to treat as a lie, or as a chimera, a faith *accredited by the most orthodox and holy doctors of the church* of Asia, Africa, and Europe—a faith based upon all the monuments of ecclesiastical history—*upon the traditions of the fathers*—upon the acts of councils—upon the pages of Holy Writ, preserved from age to age, and delivered through the hands of the whole succession of pastors, is, in truth, an audacity hitherto unheard of.¹¹²

The church of Rome claims the church of England as her daughter:

If the church of Rome were ever guilty of idolatry in relation to the saints, her daughter, the church of England, stands guilty of the same, which has ten churches dedicated to Mary for one dedicated to Christ.¹¹³

¹¹² Tom. 2, *Quoest.* 26, sect. 1.

¹¹³ *Catholic Christian Instructed*, p. 18.

MR. WM. KINKADE, in his *Bible Doctrine*, p. 294, says:

I also think Christ has a true church on earth, but its members are scattered among the various denominations, and are all more or less under the influence of mystery Babylon and her daughters.

MR. HOPKINS, in a treatise on the Millennium, says:

There is no reason to consider the Antichristian spirit and practices confined to that which is now called the church of Rome. The Protestant churches have much of Antichrist in them, and are far from being wholly reformed from corruption and wickedness.

MR. SIMPSON, in his *Plea for Religion*, says:

For, though the pope and church of Rome are at the head of the grand 1260 years' delusion, yet all other churches, of whatever denomination, whether established or tolerated, which partake of the same spirit, or have instituted doctrines or ceremonies inimical to the pure and unadulterated gospel of Christ, shall sooner or later share in the fate of that immense fabric of human ordinances; and that Protestant churches should imitate the church of Rome, in this worst part of its conduct, can never be sufficiently bewailed.

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL says:

The worshiping establishments now in operation throughout Christendom, increased and cemented by their respective voluminous confessions of faith, and their ecclesiastical constitutions, are not churches of Jesus Christ, but the legitimate daughters of that mother of harlots, the church of Rome.

LORENZO DOW says of the Romish church:

If she be a mother, who are the daughters? It must be the corrupt, national, established churches that came out of her.¹¹⁴

¹¹⁴ *Dow's Life*, p. 542.

In the *Religious Encyclopedia* (Article: Antichrist), we read:

The writer of the book of *Revelation* tells us he heard a voice from Heaven, saying, “Come out of her, my people, that you partake not of her sins, and receive not of her plagues.” If such persons are to be found in the “mother of harlots,” with much less hesitation may it be inferred that they are connected with her unchaste daughters, those national churches which are founded upon what are called Protestant principles.

DR. CUMMING of England, speaking of our duty in reference to great Babylon, says:

Then what is our duty? To call to all that at this moment in the church of Rome, whether sprinkled by her baptismal waters, or imitating within *another church* her forms, her ceremonies, her pomp, and her grandeur, to come out of her, lest partaking of her sins they receive also of her plagues.¹¹⁵

The *Tennessee Baptist* says:

This woman (popery) is called the *mother* of harlots and abominations. Who are the *daughters*? The Lutheran, the Presbyterian, and the Episcopalian churches are all branches of the (Roman) Catholic. Are not these denominated “harlots and abominations” in the above passage? I so decide. I could not with the stake before me decide otherwise. Presbyterians and Episcopalians compose a part of Babylon. They *hold the distinctive principles of papacy in common with papists*.

The following significant paragraph is from the *Watchman and Reflector*, the leading organ of the Baptist denomination:

DR. GUTHRIE, speaking of the exit of the Presbyterian church from Rome, says, “Three hundred years ago, our church, with an open Bible on her banner, and this motto, *Search the Scriptures*, on her scroll, marched out from the gates of Rome.” Then he significantly asks, “Did they come *clean* out of Babylon?”

¹¹⁵ *The End*, p. 241.

The *Liberal Christian* says:

There is a powerful element of Romanism in all the larger Protestant bodies. The clergymen do not teach to the people the Bible itself in its purity and simplicity, but they require them to receive instead a system of clerical interpretations of the Bible. Their whole ecclesiastical system is based on the preposterous assumption that their opinions about the Bible and its teachings are identical with the teachings of the Bible itself.

Babylon Fallen

This is not her destruction, for after her fall she becomes a home of the corrupt, proud, and sinful.¹¹⁶ Her fall must therefore be a *moral fall*.

We now inquire, What is to be expected? What says the Scriptures?

Hosea 5

⁵ And the pride of Israel does testify to his face: therefore shall Israel and Ephraim fall in their iniquity; Judah also shall fall with them.

⁶ They shall go with their flocks and with their herds to seek the Lord; but they shall not find *Him*; He has withdrawn himself from them.

⁷ They have dealt treacherously against the Lord; for they have begotten strange children: now shall a month devour them with their portions.

Matthew 24

¹¹ And many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many.

¹² And because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

¹³ But he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved.

2 Timothy 3

¹ This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.

² For men shall be lovers of their own selves,...

¹¹⁶ See *Revelation* 18:2-4.

⁴ ...heady, highminded, LOVERS OF PLEASURES MORE THAN LOVERS OF GOD.

⁵ Having a *form of godliness*, but denying the power thereof; from such turn away.

2 Timothy 4

³ For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears.

What Good Men Expected

MATTHEW HENRY, of Christ's coming, says:

In general He will find but few good people, few that are really and truly good; many that have the form and fashion of godliness, but few that have faith.¹¹⁷

MARTIN LUTHER, just before his death, writing on the prophetic periods of *Daniel*, in his German Bible, says:

About the consummation of these periods, this gospel will be shut out of all the churches and confined to private houses.

When one of Martin Luther's guests remarked that the world might continue fifty years, he replied:

Pray God it may not exist so long; matters would be even worse than they have been. *There would rise up infinite sects and schisms*, which are at present hidden in men's hearts not mature. No; may the Lord come at once, for there is no amendment to be expected.

DR. GILL, on the signs of Christ's coming, says:

Which yet will be observed by a few, such a *general sleepiness* will have seized *all professors* of religion.¹¹⁸

MR. HARTHY, a learned and sensible churchman, has remarked as follows:

¹¹⁷ *Commentary on Luke 18:8.*

¹¹⁸ *On Revelation 3:20.*

There are many prophecies which declare the fall of the ecclesiastical powers of the Christian world; and though each church seems to flatter itself with the hope of being exempted, yet it is very plain that the prophetic characters belong to all. They all have left the true, pure, simple religion, and teach for doctrines the commandments of men.

DR. COTTON MATHER says:

When the Lord shall come, He will find the world almost void of true and lively faith (especially of faith in His coming); and when He shall descend with His heavenly banners and angels, what else will He find almost but the *whole church* as it were a *dead carcass* miserably putrefied with the spirit and manners and endearments of this world...When I should wish to stir up my brethren, who are in deep sleep, with these messages and admonitions to shake off this soft and indeed lethargic and deadly slumber, I know that I shall appear to them a vain dreamer, a sort of Lot, and that they will treat me as one in jest or sport, and as a man in the falling sickness, seized with I know not what enthusiasm; and that sleep may hold them in still more pleasing fetters, *they will make use of*, as it were, SLEEPY MEDICINES, a diversity of commentaries on certain prophecies as not yet fulfilled.¹¹⁹

The *Encyclopedia Americana* says:

Dr. Mather was a very pious and learned man. He was the author of 382 volumes. Some of huge dimensions. He died in 1728, aged 65 years.

What Has Come?

With the spirit of the world, there has come a tendency to skepticism, infidelity, and atheism.

DR. CUMMING says:

I believe that one-half of the professors of the gospel are nothing better than practical infidels.¹²⁰

¹¹⁹ *Famous Latin Preface.*

¹²⁰ *Time of the End*, p. 183.

The London Quarterly *Journal of Prophecy* says:

The whole world is at this moment leavened with infidelity. Hindooism has become semi-infidel. Mohammedanism has become semi-infidel. Popery has become semi-infidel. Protestantism has become semi-infidel. Three-fourths of the professors of religion in the world (all creeds alike) are infidels, or nearly so. For one conversion to popery in these ten years there have been a hundred to infidelity. Nobody seems able to stand before this strong delusion. Popery itself is thoroughly leavened with the infidelity of the age.

Prof. TAYLER LEWIS, in the *Christian Statesman* of February 15, 1872, makes the following truthful statements:

The positive, aggressive character of irreligion is the peculiar feature of our age. Such, indeed, was always its nature; but time is bringing out its open development in a way which the most worldly stolidity will soon find itself incapable of denying.

Here is another testimony to the point:

The science of our age is intensely skeptical. It throws more and more doubt upon accustomed religion, and strives more and more to make it appear that there is nothing in it beyond mere forms of doctrine, and that the question of the day is whether there is *any religion at all, or any God whatsoever*.¹²¹

The *Christian Union*, Jan. 10, 1872, says:

One thing, however, is clear, that the atheistic element has very great power in Christendom, and is preparing for a conflict more fearful than most Christians anticipate.

The Church of England Is Going Backward

MR. SPURGEON, the eminent Baptist minister of London, says:

The Church of England seems to be eaten through and through with sacramentarianism; but non-conformity appears to be almost as badly riddled with philosophical infidelity. Those of

¹²¹ *H. W. Beecher*, Friday evening, August 23, 1871.

whom we thought better things, are turning aside one by one from the fundamentals of the faith. Through and through, I believe, the very heart of England is honeycombed with a damnable infidelity which dares still go into the pulpit and call itself Christian.¹²²

The following is an extract of a sermon by Rev. D. S. PHILLIPS of Kankakee, Ill., in St. Paul's church, on the "Attitude of the Episcopal Church toward Ritualism."

They do not like the word Protestant. They introduce usages into our simple liturgical worship modeled wholly upon Romish ceremonies. They ape the Romanists in their Latinisms—their talk about matins, and vespers, and masses, and chasubles. They cross themselves in prayer: they "genuflect" before the altar; they bow low before the elements of the holy communion under the belief that they veil the adorable Christ, then and there locally present on the altar under the form of bread and wine; they encourage priestly confession and private absolution; they introduce crucifixes, incense, and altar lights in their public worship; in short they go very far toward making over the holy communion service of our Protestant church into the *Romish mass*.

These are the far-famed ritualists! These are the men who claim to be the true Catholics of our communion. And since their idea of Catholicism is so near like the Romish, they, of course, necessarily disliked Protestantism. The work of the reformers in the English church was a mischievous work, in their opinion. "Protestantism is a failure," they say—its very essence is only denial, protest, a weak negation from which only negations can come. As though it were possible for a man to stand up for truth at all unless he protested against error! As though a man could be a Christian at all, strong and brave for the right, unless he was a protestant against the wrong!

Progress Toward Rome

REV. S. H. TYNG, JR., rector of the Protestant Episcopal church of the Holy Trinity, charges in a recent editorial note:

¹²² *Record*.

Prayers for the departed are gaining recognition in the Protestant Episcopal churches of this city. The church of St. Mary the Virgin, advertised, not long since, a special service of prayer for the holy dead. At the door of the Church of the Transfiguration, in Twenty-ninth street, were found, a few Sundays since, circulars, one of which is now before us, containing collects to be said for the departed. . . . This is only another of the signs of the times, showing the drift in the old Protestant Episcopal church.¹²³

Church Lotteries and Gambling

The following is a copy of a handbill advertising a benefit for a church in New Orleans:

Benefit of Christ's Church Parochial School. Near the dancing platform, a splendid booth and a large canvas tent, with seats reserved for the accommodation of ladies and children. The patrons of this church, as well as the public, will here find a soda-water stand and confectionery, a restaurant filled with everything to satisfy the appetites of epicureans; and, also, A SPLENDID BAR, stocked with the choicest kinds of *liquors, cigars, &c.*"

The N. Y. *Observer* copies this, and adds:

This is a copy of a handbill conspicuously posted in New Orleans at the present time. The church for which this splendid bar is to be opened is called *Christ's church*; but our private opinion is, if Christ attends the fair, He will come with a scourge of large cords and drive out every man and woman who dishonor His house and name with such things as these. Call it a church if you will; but for Christ's sake, O New-Orleans people, don't call it *Christ's church*. Anything but that!

Under the head of "Lotteries and Religion," the *New York Observer* indulges in severe criticism on some practices at a church bazaar. Another editor justifies the *Observer* and says:

Now we *know* that these fair lotteries, raffles, and the like, have this consequence. They kindle the desire for gambling. A young

¹²³ *Daily Paper*.

man wins once or twice a costly article and begins to have a superstition about his "luck." That will tempt him to other ventures in other places. And it makes the young feel that there is no harm in such things. The *Observer* has taken church people to task for breaking the laws of the State. We accept and indorse the rebuke, and add that these have also broken the laws of God.

The "Statutes of California" define a lottery as follows:

A lottery is any scheme for the disposal or distribution of property by chance among persons who have *paid*, or *promised* to pay, any valuable consideration for the chance of obtaining such property, or a portion of it, or any share or interest in such property upon any agreement, understanding, or expectation, that it is to be distributed or disposed of by lot or chance, whether called a lottery, raffle, or gift enterprise, or by whatever name the same may be known.

The "Mercantile Library Association" of San Francisco, obtained a grant from the legislature for a \$1,000,000 gift enterprise. Some of the judges claimed that the action of the legislature had virtually abolished the law of California concerning lotteries.

Many severe criticisms were passed upon the Library Association for their lottery scheme, but the president, R. B. SWAIN, replied that:

The principle of such lotteries has been recognized as right in most of the church fairs and festivals, in this and other States.

The *Active Christian* (Methodist paper) says:

The steps that have been taken in late years toward raising money for church purposes are such as to excite no wonder if open, unblushing gambling be adopted a few years hence.

Pious Gambling Excepted

The following speaks for itself:

SECTION 1. *Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Bloomington, Ill.,* That no person or persons shall hereafter within

the city limits sell any lottery or gift enterprise ticket or tickets of any kind whatever, or any prize package or packages containing, or purporting to contain a prize or prizes of any kind whatever, nor sell or give in a drawing, a chance or pretended chance for the purchaser or receiver to draw a prize of any kind whatever, provided nothing in this ordinance shall prevent any society or organization using an election or other means to raise money for educational, charitable, or religious purposes.

The *Detroit Post*, in an article headed, “A Bold Governor,” says:

The governor of Wisconsin is a bold man. If he were here, we should shake hands with him, and dub him “the bravest of the brave,” not excepting Gen. Grant, Gen. Sheridan, or any other hero. Why? Because the governor of Wisconsin, in his annual message, has had the moral courage—and a most desperate courage it is in a politician—to declare, point blank, the too-long whispered truth that church fairs, charitable raffles, concert lotteries for charitable and other purposes, prize packages, “grab-bags,” Sabbath-school and other religious chances by ticket, are nurseries of crime, inasmuch as they promise something for nothing, are games of chance, and are really gambling. The governor says that the pernicious spirit of gambling is fostered, encouraged, and kept alive by these agencies to a degree little known by good citizens; and that, but for them, the ordinary laws against gambling would be much less violated and much more easily enforced. He says these practices ought not to be permitted any longer to debauch the morals of the young. Think of the row this plain speaking will stir up! Think of the courage necessary to say this in a public official, depending upon the votes of the people for future official honors! Then think how true and well deserved it is, and join us in crying, “Good for Governor Washburn!”

The *Chicago Tribune*, under the head of “Some Pious Frauds,” gives the following:

The arrest and incarceration of Father Forhan, the young Catholic priest who absconded some days since with the proceeds of a Bridgeport fair, bring up the whole subject of church

fairs, into which this particular case resolves itself. There will probably be a mutual disgust at the announcement that Catholics and Protestants meet on common ground here; but such is the case. It is no reflection on the cause of religion itself to say that these institutions are pious frauds. They are conceived in a mistaken zeal, and the few hundreds and thousands of dollars realized for the benefit of church organizations fall far short of compensating for the concomitant evils. The circumstance that one priest had been tempted to appropriate the funds of one fair is not nearly so bad as that hundreds of fairs have misled hundreds of men and women into pernicious practices first acquired under the sanction of the church. At this very fair, for instance, Father Forhan received \$600 as the proceeds of a bar! It requires an acute religious perception to distinguish any difference between stepping up to a bar and taking a drink under the auspices of a church and doing the same thing at a public saloon.

The late DR. NADAL, in view of the Judgment and eternity could well afford to be honest and speak plainly. He said:

The church raffles are as complete specimens of gambling as the Crosby Opera House Lottery—and either of them is as real gambling as the operations of the faro bank or the card table.

In our church fairs, in addition to the countenance and respectability, as in the “Opera House Raffle,” we give to gambling the sacred sanction of religion. It is the church spreading her hands and saying grace over every faro bank and gambling hell in the country.

The raffles of the church tend to remove religious and moral scruples; the last breakwater that holds back the threatened inundation of gambling. If the church fiddles, the world will dance, of course. Like priest, like people.

The church’s raffles are felt, however unconsciously, in every bet on every race horse, at every card table, in every art lottery, aye, in every prize fight. When the bride of Christ raffles, and pockets her gains amid the smiles of gay ladies and flattering beaux, every gambling hell rises in dignity. Whatever wrong there may be in the gambler’s calling, the church shares it in principle in her raffles; and the only difference between her and

the regular gambler in this respect is, that he, perhaps, does his rudely, profanely, in a place set apart to sin, while she does hers *genteelly, piously*, and in the *church* or *lecture-room*. This abuse of holy things, this profanity, this prostitution of the sacred offices of the church, ought to be stopped.

The church has been poor, and can afford, if need be, to be poor again; but she cannot afford, whatever may be the bribe, to be the pomp of worldly lust. We therefore bow penitently under the world's accusations, and confess that we deserve the scourge of the old proverb, "Physician, heal yourself."

Of the tendency of church lotteries, the *Watchman* relates the following:

A member of a church went to his pastor and entreated his personal intercession with his favorite son, who had become ruinously addicted to the vice of gambling. The pastor consented, and seeking the young man, found him in his chamber. He commenced his lecture; but before he concluded, the young man laid his hand upon his arm and drew his attention to a pile of splendid volumes that stood upon the table. "Well," said the young man, "these volumes were won by me at a *fair* given in your church; they were my first venture; but for that lottery, under the patronage of a Christian church, I should never have become a gambler."

The *Golden Censer* gives the words of REV. B. F. BOOTH:

I hide my face in shame when I hear of a governor of a State being compelled to call upon the law-making department of his State to pass laws to counteract the swindling carried on, under the auspices of the church, under the name of church fairs, festivals, and other forms of "pious" church gambling.

Popular Amusements

The love for worldly amusements has come in like a flood and the popular churches have been taken by storm.

Dr. JOHN LORD of England writes to the *New York Observer* in the following strain:

It is not the fashion in London to appeal to the intellect. Everything is in the way of amusement. The whole city seems sensualized. Of course, there are grand exceptions; but no man, except in Parliament, or in the court, or universities, rises to fame, in the popular sense, unless he amuses. The novelists are sensational. Music is sensational. *Preaching is sensational.* Everything is sensational.

The N. Y. *Independent*, giving a report of a missionary meeting, says:

It was almost a failure for want of numbers, and this the writer would fain attribute to the rainy evening had he not learned that hundreds had failed to get seats at the opera that night, and that a party given by one of the church members the same night was numerously attended.

What a striking illustration of St. Paul's latter-day characteristic, "Lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God."

A *Correspondent* of a daily paper writes from *Seymour, Conn.*:

Messrs. Editors: The town of Seymour is alive this summer. Picnics, fairs, festivals, and the like, are the order. The last was an ice-cream festival, given for the benefit of the Congregational Society, Rev. Mr. Quick, pastor, in the basement of their church. There were present, "lots of fair women and bravo men," and as at all festivals cream disappeared, and *fun and frolic prevailed. The church made money!*

This tells the whole story. The church wants money, and so provides "fun and frolic."

As long ago as 1867 the Methodists became alarmed for their church, and, with many other denominations, raised a voice of warning; but it was too late; nothing can stay the general rage for fashionable amusements.

H. MATTISON, D. D., appeals to his people in the following strain:

You Methodists who were once poor and unknown, but have grown rich and prominent in the world, have left the narrow way in which you walked twenty or thirty years ago, have ceased to attend class-meetings, seldom pray in your families or in prayer-meetings, as you once did, and are now indulging in many of the fashionable amusements of the day, such as playing chess, dominoes, billiards, and cards, dancing, and attending theaters, or allowing your children to indulge in them...These things, it is said, are most common in cities and villages; and the rich and aristocratic families of the church, as some call them, lead the way, and are the most prominent and open in the practice of these follies.¹²⁴

NEW YORK CONFERENCE

Resolved, 1. That we, the members of the New York Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, deeply regret that the members of our church should ever be found attending dances, theaters, circuses, operas, negro minstrels, playing those games which do not tend to godliness, &c.

NEW YORK EAST CONFERENCE

Whereas, There is cause to fear that the examples and practices of worldly society are steadily pressing upon our members and their families, endangering our simplicity and purity, especially in the form of drinking vinous and other liquors; of card-playing and dancing; of visiting the theater and the opera, and of taking part in lotteries, &c.”

A presiding elder, in the *Christian Advocate*, says:

Surely, now, when the world, with its trickery, and fashion, and folly, is coming in upon us like a flood, God calls His faithful ministers and people everywhere to lift up a standard against it.

The *Northern Christian Advocate* thus speaks:

This demand for amusement by Christian professors is, in itself, painfully suspicious. We fear such demands arise from leanness

¹²⁴ *Popular Amusements*, p. 3.

of soul spiritually.

The *North-Western Christian Advocate*, says:

It is of the utmost importance that this tide of trifling, and amusement, and sin be stayed, or it will drown out the life of the Christian church.

The *Advocate*, Methodist paper, published at Charlestown, Mass., says:

Notwithstanding the prohibition of the Methodist principle, it is a serious fact, and one generally to be deplored, that there is *more jewelry and superfluous dress* worn by the Methodists of this day than there is by any other class of religious professors in our land.

The “Centenary Methodist Episcopal church” in Chicago was well provided for the latter-day feasting. The *Chicago Tribune* says:

Beneath the vestibule and parlors is a basement, consisting of a *large dining hall*, furnished with table accommodations for one hundred and fifty persons; a *kitchen*, with *cooking apparatus*, sinks, closets, dressing rooms, &c. The basement, under the vestibule and parlors, secures some desirable advantages; the social gatherings can be made agreeable and pleasant without introducing the refreshments into the lecture room or parlors.

The N. Y. *Herald* says:

Insensibly the church has yielded to the spirit of the age and adapted its forms of worship to modern wants. Magnificent edifices, high-priced pews, fashionable music, long salaries and short sermons—all things, indeed, that help to make religion attractive—the church now employs as its instruments.

The following pointed, but truthful, statement is from the *Louisville Recorder*:

Though we have (at least among Protestants) no human priest or sacrificial altar, yet among us the social element and *power of the church, has become cramped, ice-bound, or entirely destroyed.* We have become an assembly, not of living actors, but of silent, passive hearers. The church have become mere listeners to preachers—a roll of names baptized, permitted to take the Lord’s supper, and expected to enjoy good preaching. Like the door on the hinges, they come and go. They are prayed for, and sung to, and preached to; and often sung and preached to sleep, if not to death. Thus, year after year, is this continuous round, this dead flat, over which not a breath of emotion passes to disturb the dull and decent monotony.

Preaching for Hire

The Cincinnati *Times*, July 28, 1870, says:

A well-known clergyman here who comes under the head of sensationalist, was asked by a friend the other day, why he so often violated good taste both in matter and manner when speaking in the pulpit.

“I will tell you,” was the reply. “I have no more liking for the kind of sermons I deliver than you have. They are meretricious in rhetoric, and unsound in sentiment; but they are popular; and I must furnish the sort of article my congregation is willing to pay for. You are aware that my predecessor was an able and scholarly man, and extremely conscientious withal; but he failed to fill the pews, and he was requested to resign. If I had obeyed my own inclination as to sermons, I should have shared his fate. I was anxious, however, to retain the position; for I have a large family, and it is my duty to support them. Do you blame me for discharging that duty?”

“Churches now are nothing more than theological theaters, and preachers the actors who are paid so much for performing cleverly and acceptably. When the priestly artists do not draw, their engagement is discontinued. We are forced to make our sermons attractive to those who come to hear them. In consulting our household expenses, we must make a liberal surrender of our tastes and convictions. I receive \$10,000 a year. If I preached simpler and better sermons, reflecting my *real views*, I could not get

\$3,000. So, you see, bread-earning outweighs both aspiration and inspiration.”

This case probably illustrates thousands of others who are in the same position, but are not frank enough to confess it.

In view of the above, the following Scriptures are of special interest:

Jeremiah 5

²⁶ For among my people are found wicked men: they lay wait, as he that sets snares; they set a trap, they catch men.

²⁷ As a cage is full of birds, so are their houses *full of deceit*: therefore they are become great, and *waxen rich*.

²⁸ They are waxen fat, they shine: yea, they *overpass the deeds of the wicked*; they judge not the cause, the cause of the fatherless, yet they prosper; and the right of the needy do they not judge.

²⁹ Shall I not visit for these things? says the Lord: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?

³⁰ A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land;

³¹ The prophets *prophecy falsely*, and the priests *bear rule by their means*; and my *people love to have it so*: and what will you do in the end thereof?

Jeremiah 6

¹³ For from the least of them even unto the greatest of them every one is *given to covetousness*; and from the prophet even unto the priest every one *deals falsely*.

¹⁴ They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying, Peace, peace; when there is no peace.

Micah 3

¹¹ The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof *teach for hire*, and the prophets thereof *divine for money*: yet will they lean upon the Lord, and say, Is not the Lord among us? none evil can come upon us.

Time of Their Fall

If the churches are thus fallen and left of God, there must be a reason for it. They were Babylon all the time, but not *fallen*, as

they are now. They must have rejected great light, or some important message. It was thus that the Jewish church fell. Jesus gave them the reason of their fall:

Luke 19

⁴⁴ Because you knew not the time of your visitation.

Prophecies and signs were given, and a *special warning* was sent to them; but they were too proud to receive it. And the second house of Israel stumbled and fell in the same manner. A message of warning, based upon the fulfillment of prophecy and signs of the times was given from 1838 to 1844. The first message was a time movement.¹²⁵ Did not the churches as bodies reject the Advent message? They did. Then in quick succession followed the message, “Babylon is fallen.” But did the churches meet with a moral fall about the year 1844? We find that was the very time of their fall, they themselves being judges.

PROF. FINNEY of Oberlin College in 1844, spoke in the following mournful strain:

We have also another corroborated fact: the almost universal absence of revival influence in the churches. The spiritual apathy is almost all-pervading, and is fearfully deep; so the religious press of the whole land testifies. It comes to our ears and to our eyes, also, through the religious prints, that, very extensively, church members are becoming devotees of fashion—join hands with the ungodly in parties of pleasure, in dancing, in festivities, &c...But we need not expand this painful subject. Suffice it that the evidence thickens and rolls heavily upon us, to show that the *churches generally are becoming sadly degenerate*. They have gone very far from the Lord and he has withdrawn himself from them.

The *Christian Palladium* of the same year, said:

In every direction we hear the dolorous sound, wafting upon every breeze of Heaven, chilling as the blasts from the icebergs of the North—settling like an incubus on the breasts of the timid,

¹²⁵ See *Revelation* 14:6.

and drinking up the energies of the weak; that lukewarmness, division, anarchy, and desolation are distressing the borders of Zion.

The *Congregational Journal*, for the same year, said:

At a recent meeting of the Presbytery of Philadelphia, REV. MR. BARNES, pastor of the first Presbyterian church in Philadelphia, whose notes are so extensively used in our families and Sabbath-schools, stated that he had been in the ministry for twenty years, and never till the last communion had he administered the ordinance without receiving more or less to the church. But now there are *no awakenings, no conversions*, not much apparent growth in grace in professors, and none come to his study to converse about the salvation of their souls. With the increase of business, and the brightening prospects of commerce and manufactures, there is an increase of worldly-mindedness. *Thus it is with all denominations.*

The *Religious Telescope*, of Circleville, Ohio, in 1844, contained the following:

Great Spiritual Dearth.—It is a lamentable fact, from which we cannot shut our eyes, that the churches of this country are now suffering severely on account of the great dearth, almost universally complained of. We have never witnessed such a *general declension* of religion as at the present. Truly the church should awake and search into the cause of this affliction; for an affliction every one that loves Zion must view it. When we call to mind how “few and far between” cases of true conversion are, and the almost unparalleled impertinence and hardness of sinners, we almost involuntarily exclaim, “Has God forgotten to be gracious?” Or, *is the door of mercy closed?*

The *Christian Advocate and Journal*, a little later, thus lamented:

Our church is crippled in her energies, and impeded in her progress, and chilled in her soul, and faint in her spirit, because the word is not successful as it ought to be—*as it used to be.*

The *Genesee Evangelist* also spoke sadly:

Our Zion is in a *state of mourning*. The Holy Spirit has not visited us as in former years, and we have great cause for deep humiliation in view of the *sins* and *worldliness* and *spiritual indifference* of most of our churches.

The following extract is from an address before the Theological School, Cambridge, Mass.:

I think no man can go with his thoughts about him into one of our churches without feeling that what hold the public worship had on men is *gone* or *going*. It has lost its grasp on the affections of the good, and the fear of the bad. It is already beginning to *indicate character and religion to withdraw from religious meetings*.

MR. SPURGEON says:

Reflecting the other day upon the *sad state of the churches* at the present moment, I was led to look back to apostolic times, and to consider wherein the preaching of the present day differed from the apostles'.

The report of the Michigan yearly Conference, published in the *True Wesleyan* of Nov. 15, 1851, says

Sins that would shock the moral sensibilities of the heathen *go unrebuked in all the great denominations of our land*. These churches are like the Jewish church when the Saviour exclaimed, "Wo unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites."

As far back as 1854, the *Oberlin Evangelist* contained the following very pointed testimony:

Alas, what object, nay, what bauble of earth, has not been made a rival to her Lord, even in the church herself? "Upon every hill she has wandered, playing the harlot." "Scattered her ways under every green tree." There has she made her bed and her home, instead of dwelling with her covenant Lord! This the *American church has done* far more flagrantly than did Israel of old, and yet God threatened to "pour upon them His fury and His jealousy for it," and did do it.

And, again, where does all this necessarily place the church—in what connection, what service, what fellowship? Our Lord himself has decided that question. “He that is not with me, is against me.” But to be against Christ is to be with Satan. It leaves the church, then, in a virtual alliance with Satan—married to the devil! This language may seem harsh, and I utter it with pain and grief; but the dreadful truth it declares is forced upon us, and it is of no use to conceal it. God sees it, yea, the world sees it, and the church herself must see it.

ROBERT ATKINS, in a sermon preached in London, says:

The truly righteous are diminished from the earth, and no man lays it to heart. The professors of religion of the present day, *in every church*, are lovers of the world, conformers to the world, lovers of creature-comfort, and aspirers after respectability. They are called to suffer with Christ, but they shrink from even reproach.

Apostasy, apostasy, apostasy, is engraven on the very front of *every church*; and did they know it, and did they feel it, there might be hope; but, alas! they cry, “We are rich, and increased in goods, and stand in need of nothing.”

8. The United States in Prophecy

The Two-Horned Beast of Revelation 13:11-14

ON THE “Probability that the United States would be a theme of Prophecy,” S. D. BALDWIN, A. M., President of the Soule Female College, says:

The whole history of the world is, therefore, given prophetically at different times, and all points of great interest to the church are embraced in prophecy. There is not a single age since the oral prophets, but is the subject of their predictions; nor is any great nation, whose existence virtually affects the church, neglected by them, unless the United States be that nation. How can it be that all other nations affecting the cause of God, and man, should be specially and repeatedly predicted by prophets, and our country, which has done more good than all others, not be mentioned by the prophets.

JOHN ADAMS, Oct. 12, 1775, wrote:

Soon after the Reformation, a few people came over into this New World *for conscience’ sake*. Perhaps this apparently trivial incident may transfer the great seat of empire to America.

On the day after the Declaration of Independence, he wrote:

Yesterday the greatest question was decided which ever was debated in America, and a greater perhaps never was, nor will be, decided among men.

COUNT D’ARANDA, one of the first of Spanish statesmen, in 1783, thus wrote of this Republic:

This Federal Republic is *born a pigmy*, so to speak. It required the support and forces of two powers as great as Spain and France in order to attain independence. A day will come *when it will be a giant*, even a colossus formidable in these countries.

GOVERNOR POWNAL, an English statesman in 1780, speaking of the establishment of this country as a free and sovereign power, calls it:

A revolution that has stronger marks of *divine interposition* superseding the ordinary course of human affairs than any other event which this world has experienced.

GEO. ALFRED TOWNSEND, speaking of the misfortunes that have attended the other governments on this continent, says:

The history of the United States *was separated by a beneficent providence* far from this wild and cruel history of the rest of the continent.¹²⁶

Again he says:

This hemisphere was laid away for no one race.

From the *United States in the Light of Prophecy*, by URIAH SMITH (p. 11), we take the following interesting summary:

1. No nation has ever acquired so *vast a territory* in so *quiet a manner*.
2. No nation has ever risen to *such greatness* by so *peaceable means*.
3. No nation has ever *advanced so rapidly* in all that constitutes national strength and capital.
4. No nation has ever arisen to such a pinnacle of power in a space of time so *incredibly short*.
5. No nation in so limited a time has developed such *unlimited resources*.
6. No nation has ever existed founded on principles of justice so *pure and undefiled*.
7. No nation has ever existed in which the *consciences* of men have been left so *untrammelled and free*.
8. In no nation and in no age of the world have the *arts and sciences* so flourished, so many improvements been made, and so great successes been achieved, as in our own country during the last fifty years.
9. In no nation and in no age has the *gospel* found *such freedom*, and the churches of Christ had such *liberty* to spread abroad their principles and develop their strength.

¹²⁶ *New World and Old*, p. 635.

MATHER, in his *History of New England*, says:

It has been deservedly esteemed one of the great and wonderful works of God in this *last age* that the Lord stirred up the spirits of so many thousands of His servants to leave the pleasant land of England, the land of their nativity, and to transport themselves over the ocean sea, into a distant land in America, at the distance of a thousand leagues from their own country; and this merely *on the account of pure and undefiled religion*, not knowing how they should have their daily bread, but trusting in God for that, in the way of seeking first the kingdom of Heaven, and the righteousness thereof; and that the Lord was pleased to grant such a gracious presence of His with them, and such a blessing upon their undertakings, that within a few years a wilderness was subdued before them, and so many colonies planted, towns builded, and churches settled, wherein the true and living God in Christ Jesus is worshiped and served, in a place where time out of mind had been nothing before but heathenism, idolatry, and devil-worship; and that the Lord has added so many of the blessings of Heaven and earth for the comfortable subsistence of His people in *these ends of the earth*. Surely of this *work* and of this *time* it shall be said, “What has God wrought?” “This is the Lord’s doings, and it is marvelous in our eyes.”¹²⁷

Chronology of Its Rise

At the time the papal beast went into captivity, the two-horned-beast government was seen “coming up.”¹²⁸

J. LITCH says:

The two-horned beast is represented as a power existing and performing his part after the death and revival of the first beast.¹²⁹

J. WESLEY, in 1750, speaking of the two-horned beast, says:

He has not yet come, though he cannot be far off; for he is to

¹²⁷ Mather’s *Magnalia*, Vol. 1.

¹²⁸ *Revelation* 13:9-11.

¹²⁹ *Restitution*, p. 131.

appear at the end of the forty-two months of the first beast.¹³⁰

The papal beast went into captivity in 1798.

CHRISTOPHER KELLEY, in his work entitled, *The French Revolution*, p. 243, says:

The Roman Republic was proclaimed on the 15th of February, 1798. The pope, however, made one additional effort for the continuance of his temporal existence by sending an embassy to Berthier, who was encamped outside the walls. The general refused to admit any other deputation than that of the *people of Rome*, thus *dissipating the last hope of the holy father*. The arrival of the French army, and the proclamation of the general, had given the fatal blow to the papal sovereignty.

HOLLIS READ says:

Bonaparte lays sacreligious hands on the pope himself, and *leads him away captive*, and makes the seven hills of Rome tremble.¹³¹

Location of It

From Asia, the cradle of the race, the course of empire has been *westward*, until it has made the circuit, and ends with the setting sun on this continent.

More than one hundred years ago, BISHOP BERKLEY spoke of it as follows:

Westward the course of empire takes its way;
The four first acts already past,
A fifth shall close the drama with the day;
Time's noblest offspring is the last.

A writer in the Dublin *Nation*, says:

In the West an opposing and still more *wonderful* American empire is *emerging*. We islanders have no conception of the extraor-

¹³⁰ *Notes on Revelation* 13.

¹³¹ *Hand of God in History*, p. 114.

dinary events which, *amid the silence of the earth*, are daily adding to the power and pride of this gigantic nation. Within three years, territory more extensive than these three kingdoms, France and Italy put together, has been quietly and in “almost matter of course” fashion annexed to the Union.

Manner of Its Rise

The word which John uses to describe the manner in which this beast comes up, is very expressive. It is *anabainon*, one of the prominent definitions of which is, “*to grow or spring up as a plant.*” And it is a remarkable fact that this very figure has been chosen by political writers, as one which best illustrates the rise of our government. Mr. G. A. Townsend, in his work entitled, “The New World Compared with the Old,” p. 462, says:

Since America was discovered, she has been a subject of revolutionary thought in Europe. The *mystery of her coming forth from vacancy*, the marvel of her wealth in gold and silver, the spectacle of her captives led through European capitals, filled the minds of men with unrest; and unrest is the first stage of revolution.

On p. 635, he further says

In this web of islands, the West Indies, began the life of both [North and South] Americas. There Columbus saw land, there Spain began her baneful and brilliant Western Empire; thence Cortez departed for Mexico, De Soto for the Mississippi, Balboa for the Pacific, and Pizarro for Peru. The history of the United States was separated by a beneficent providence far from this wild and cruel history of the rest of the continent, and *like a silent seed, we grew into empire.*

A short time before the great Reformation in the days of Martin Luther, not four hundred years ago, this Western Continent was discovered. The Reformation brought out a large class of persons who were determined to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. Being fettered and oppressed by the religious intolerance of the old world, they sought, in the wilds of

America that measure of civil and religious freedom which they so much desired. A little more than two hundred years ago, Dec. 22, 1620, the Mayflower landed one hundred of these voluntary exiles on the coast of New England. Here, says Martyn, "New England was born," and this was "its first baby cry, a prayer and a thanksgiving to the Lord."

A writer in the *Dublin Nation*, about the year 1850, spoke of the United States as a wonderful empire which was "emerging," and "*amid the silence of the earth* daily adding to its power and pride."

In Martyn's *History of the Great Reformation*, Vol. 4, p. 288, is an extract from an oration of Edward Everett on the English exiles who founded this government, in which he says:

Did they look for a retired spot, inoffensive from its obscurity, safe in its remoteness from the haunts of despots, where the little church of Leyden might enjoy freedom of conscience? Behold the mighty regions over which in *peaceful conquest—victoria sine clade*¹³²—they have borne the banners of the cross.

We now ask the reader to look at these expressions side by side:

- "coming up out of the earth."
- "coming forth from vacancy,"
- "emerging amid the silence of the earth,"
- "like a silent seed we grew into empire,"
- "mighty regions" secured by "peaceful conquest."

In 1783, the war of the Revolution closed by a treaty of peace with Great Britain, whereby our independence was acknowledged, and territory ceded to the extent of 815,615 square miles. In 1787, the Constitution was framed and ratified by the thirteen States, and on the 1st of March, 1789, went into operation. Then the American ship of State was fairly launched, with less than *one million square miles* of territory, and about *three millions of souls*.

MACMILLAN & Co., in their *Year Book*, give the following:

¹³² Victoria sine clade: victory without strife.

The half century has extinguished three kingdoms, one grand duchy, eight duchies, four principalities, one electorate, and four republics. Three new kingdoms have arisen, and one kingdom has been transformed into an empire. There are now forty-one States in Europe against fifty-nine which existed in 1817. Not less remarkable is the territorial extension of the superior States of the world. Russia has annexed 567,364 square miles; the United States, 1,968,009; France, 4,620; Prussia, 29,781; Sardinia, expanding into Italy, has increased by 83,041; the Indian Empire has been augmented by 431,616. The principal States that have lost territory are Turkey, Mexico, Austria, Denmark, and the Netherlands.

We ask the especial attention of the reader to these particulars. During the last half century, *twenty-one governments have disappeared altogether*; and only three new ones have arisen. Five have lost instead of gained in territory. Only five, besides our own, have added to their domain. And the one which has done the most in this direction has added only a little over half a million of square miles, while we have added nearly two million. Thus the United States government *has added over fourteen hundred thousand square miles of territory more than any other single nation, and over eight hundred thousand more than have been added by all the other nations of the earth put together!*¹³³

The increase in the population of the Union has been, since 1790,

- *Four times greater than Russia;*
- *Six times greater than Great Britain;*
- *Nine times greater than Austria; and*
- *Ten times greater than France.*

MR. TOWNSEND (p. 21) says:

The *memory of one man* can swing from that time of primitive government to this—when *thirty-eight millions of people living on*

¹³³ Gen. Hiram Walbridge, in N. Y. city, July 4, 1862.

two oceans and in two zones are represented in Washington, and their consuls and ambassadors are in every port and metropolis of the globe.

MITCHELL, on the United States, says:

When it is considered that one hundred years ago the inhabitants numbered but 1,000,000, it presents the *most striking* instance of national growth to be found in the history of mankind.¹³⁴

The American minister to England, at a dinner on the fourth of July, said:

The American republic at the time of its birth was a *puny creature*, sickly, feeble, and diminutive. It then contained 2,500,000 souls. The population is now 27,000,000. The territory was then a margin of the Atlantic. It is now an immense continent. Our wealth was then comparative poverty, while our resources are now actually exhaustless.

Coming Up—Unparalleled Growth!

SQUARE MILES—From 800,000 in 1792 to 3,578,392 in 1874.

POPULATION—From 3,000,000 in 1792 to 40,000,000 in 1874.

DWELLING HOUSES—From 250,000 in 1792, worth \$130,000,000, to over 7,000,000 in 1874, worth \$5,200,000,000.

POST-OFFICES—From 75 in 1792 to 40,000 in 1874. The number of letters mailed daily in the United States amounts to over 1,300,000!

SHIPS—Now upwards of 75,000 steam and sailing vessels.

AGRICULTURAL CAPITAL—In 1870 \$11,121,937,706, an increase of over 40 per cent in ten years.

AMOUNT OF LAND OCCUPIED—Over 500,000,000 of acres.

ANNUAL VALUE OF CROPS—Over \$3,000,000,000.

¹³⁴ *School Geography*, p. 101, fourth revised edition.

ACTUAL VALUE OR LAND OCCUPIED—More than \$7,000,000,000.

ANNUAL AMOUNT OF DOMESTIC EXCHANGES—About \$10,000,000,000.

When America was discovered, there were but sixty millions of gold in Europe. California and the territories round her have produced one thousand millions of dollars in gold in twenty years. Sixty-one million dollars was the largest annual gold yield ever made in Australia. California has several times produced ninety millions of gold in a year.¹³⁵

COAL-BEDS—The area of workable coal-beds in all the world outside the United States is estimated at 26,000 square miles. That of the United States, not including Alaska, is estimated at over 200,000 square miles, or eight times as large as the available coal area of all the rest of the globe!¹³⁶

MOUNTAINS OF IRON—Three mountains of solid iron [in Missouri], known as Iron Mountain, Pilot Knob, and Shepherd's Mountain, are among the most remarkable natural curiosities on our continent.¹³⁷

PROF. WATERHOUSE thus describes one of them:

The elevation of Iron Mountain is 228 feet, and the area of its base 500 acres. The solid contents of the cone are 230,000,000 tons. It is thought that every foot beneath the surface will yield 3,000,000 tons of ore. At the depth of 150 feet, the artesian auger was still penetrating solid ore. These mountains contain enough ore above the surface to afford for 200 years an annual supply of 1,000,000 tons. The iron is strong, tough, and fibrous.

RAILROADS—More than 53,000 miles now completed. "Chariots" of prophecy. *Nahum* 2:3-4. "With flaming torches." "Rage in the streets." "Jostle one against another." "Seem like torches," and "RUN LIKE THE LIGHTNINGS."

The fastest speed on record is 100 miles an hour.

¹³⁵ *Old World and New*, p. 384.

¹³⁶ *Year Book*, 1869, p. 655.

¹³⁷ *Year Book*, p. 651.

STEAMBOAT—This wonderful invention was by ROBERT FULTON, an American.

The first steamboat on the Hudson River passed the city of Hudson on the 17th of August, 1807. In the *Hudson Bee*, a newspaper in that city, the following advertisement was published in June, 1808:

STEAMBOAT

For the Information of the Public.

The steamboat will leave New York for Albany every Saturday afternoon, exactly at 6 o'clock, and will pass:

- West Point about 4 o'clock Sunday morning,
- Newburgh, 7 o'clock Sunday morning,
- Poughkeepsie, 11 o'clock Sunday morning,
- Esopus, 2 o'clock in the afternoon,
- Red Hook, 4 o'clock in the afternoon,
- Catskill, 7 o'clock in the afternoon,
- Hudson, 9 o'clock in the evening.

She will leave Albany for New York every Wednesday morning, exactly at eight o'clock.

As the time at which the boat may arrive at the different places above mentioned may vary an hour more or less, according to the advantage or disadvantage of wind and tide, those who wish to come on board will see the necessity of being on the spot an hour before the time.

The year that the first steamer crossed the Atlantic, Dr. Lardner predicted that "the ocean never would be navigated by steam;" but that very year, this English philosopher's prophecy failed, for the steamer Savannah crossed from Savannah to Liverpool. Equally surprised with the more intelligent world were the ignorant natives. An Indian chief, in giving a description of this modern wonder to his tribe, thus described it:

“Big canoe—no row, no sail, pot boil, walkam.”

If we refer to the sailing craft upon the high seas, it is well known that in an actual experiment in England a few years ago, the *American clipper* outsailed the vessels of all other countries.

PAPER MILLS—There are said to be 800 paper mills in operation in the United States, with a capital investment of \$40,000,000, and a total production of \$70,000,000. These mills give employment, nominally, to 20,000 people, whose earnings are footed at \$10,000,000 annually.

TELEGRAPH. About 100,000 miles now in operation. Invented by Americans—Franklin and Morse. It has become a saying:

If Benjamin Franklin *tamed* the lightning, Prof. Morse *taught it the English language*.

At an Atlantic Cable glorification in Indianapolis, ex-Gov. Wallace gave the following interesting account of the first Telegraph bill in the House of Representatives of the United States. Mr. Wallace said:

Some sixteen years ago, I had the honor of a seat in Congress as the Representative of this district.

In the midst of the political strife around us, two remarkable persons appeared—Espy, the “Storm King,” and Morse, the Electrician. Each was asking for assistance. Each became the butt of ridicule, the target of merciless arrows of wit. They were voted downright bores, and the idea of giving them money was pronounced farcical. They were considered monomaniacs, and as such were laughed at, punned upon, and almost despised.

One morning I entered the House of Representatives, and, to my astonishment, saw a gentleman rise from his seat whom I had never heard open his mouth before, unless it was to vote or address the Speaker. “I hold in my hand,” he said, “a resolution which I respectfully offer for the consideration of the House.” In a moment, a page was at his desk, and the resolution was transferred to the Speaker, and by him delivered to the Clerk, who read:

Resolved, That the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of appropriating \$30,000 to enable Professor Morse to establish a line of telegraph between Washington and Baltimore.

The vote of the Committee of nine was found to be a tie, and Mr. Wallace had the deciding vote, and was finally led to give it in favor of the bill. He says:

My vote would decide the question either way. To tell the truth, I had paid no attention to the matter. Like the majority around me, I considered it a great humbug. I had not the faintest idea of the importance of my vote. But as fortune would have it, I recollected that Mr. Morse was then experimenting in the Capitol with his telegraph. He had stretched a wire from the basement story to the ante-room of the Senate Chamber, and it was in my power to satisfy myself in regard to its feasibility. I determined to try it. I asked leave to consider my vote. It was granted. I immediately stepped out of the committee room, and went to the ante-chamber. I found it crowded with Representatives and strangers. I requested permission to put a question to the "madman" at the other end of the wire. It was granted immediately. I wrote the question and handed it to the telegrapher. The crowd cried, "Read! read!" In a very short time the answer was received. When written out the same cry of, "Read! read!" came from the crowd. To my utter astonishment I found that the madman at the other end of the wire had more wit and force than the Congressman at this end. He turned the laugh upon me completely. But, as you know, we Western men are never satisfied with one fall; that never less than two out of three can force from us an acknowledgment of defeat. So I put a second question, and there came a second answer. If the first raised a laugh at my expense, the second converted that laugh into a roar and a shout. I was more than satisfied. I picked up my hat and bowed myself out of the crowd, and as I passed along the halls and passages of the Capitol, that shout followed me. As a matter of course, I voted in the affirmative of the motion then pending before the Committee, and it prevailed. The chairman reported the bill. The House, if I

mistake not, passed it *nem con*,¹³⁸ without asking the yeas and nays. And thus concurring, the Whig portion of that Committee, and that Old New Yorker, played the part of Isabella toward Mr. Morse in this his last struggle to demonstrate the practicability of the most amazing invention of the age, the Magnetic Telegraph!

Party demagogues in Indiana, [says an exchange,] used the telegraph vote of Gov. Wallace to his disadvantage, and succeeded in making the people generally regard it with utter contempt. One old Shelby County farmer urged the Governor to deny having voted for the Telegraph, and a Jerry Johnson, to show his contempt for the humbug, suggested that we would next hear of the people driving the Almighty's lightning across the ocean to split Europe into fragments.

A message was sent from San Francisco, California, to Valentia, Ireland, and an answer was received in just *two minutes!* The lightning courier had traveled 14,000 miles in two minutes, including all delays at the other end of the line.

DR. JOHN PIERREPONT, writing upon the telegraph, concludes thus:

A hero chieftain laying down his pen,
Closes his eyes in Washington at ten;
The lightning courier leaps along the line,
And at St. Louis tells the tale at nine;
Halting a thousand miles whence he departed,
And getting there an hour before he started.

MEN OF AMERICA—MEN OF THE AGE.—The greatest man, “take him all in all,” of the last hundred years, was *George Washington*—an American. The greatest philosopher was *Benj. Franklin*—an American. The greatest *living sculptor*, *Hiram Powers*—an American. The greatest living historian, *William H. Prescott*—an American. The greatest ornithologist, *J. J. Audubon*—an American. The greatest lexicographer since the time of Johnson, *Noah Webster*—

¹³⁸ *Nemine contradicente*, with no one dissenting; unanimously.

an American. The greatest inventors of modern times were *Fulton, Fitch, Whitney, and Morse*—all Americans.

The Two Horns

Two distinct elements of power—*Protestantism* and *Republicanism*. Plurality of horns are not always symbols of divisions, for the two horns on the ram, *Daniel 8*, symbolized the *union* of Media and Persia in *one government*.

A horn is not used exclusively to represent civil power; for the little horn of Daniel's fourth beast, the papacy, was a horn when it plucked up three other horns, and established itself in 538. But it was then purely an ecclesiastical power, and so remained for *two hundred and seventeen years* from that time. Pepin, in the year 755, made the Roman pontiff a grant of some rich provinces in Italy, which first constituted him a temporal monarch.¹³⁹

HON. J. A. BINGHAM, speaking of the Puritans, says:

I can tell you that they had another and a sublimer object in view; it was to found what the world had not seen for ages, viz., a *church* without a pope, and a *State* without a king.

Lamb-like Appearance

The lamb-like horns must represent the mild and harmless character of the profession of this power.

PROTESTANT PROFESSION.—The Bible and the Bible alone is our standard of faith.

REPUBLICAN PROFESSION.—*Declaration of Independence*.—We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof.¹⁴⁰

¹³⁹ See Goodrich's *History of the Church*, p. 98, Bowers' *History* Vol. 2, p. 108.

¹⁴⁰ *Amendment of the Constitution*, Art. I.

The Dragon Voice

Revelation 13

¹¹ And he had two horns like a lamb, and he spoke as a dragon.

What We Find in History

A sentence of whipping upon the person who denied any portion of the Bible—for the second offense, death.¹⁴¹

Quakers to be whipped, have the tongue bored with a red-hot iron, and killed. Four were killed; Marmaduke Stephenson, October 27, 1659; William Robinson and Mary Dyer, June 1, 1660; William Ledden, March 16, 1661, killed because he refused to take off his hat in court, and said thee and thou.

The first two Quakers who set foot in the Colony, Mary Fisher and Ann Austin, were seized on shipboard, their books burned by the hangman—they themselves closely imprisoned for five weeks, and then thrust out of the Colony, July, 1656. It was a crime to offer hospitality to Quakers, or even direct them on their way.

In 1660, at one court, seven or eight persons were fined as much as ten pounds for entertaining Quakers; and Edward Wharton, for piloting them from place to place, was whipped twenty stripes, and bound over for his good behavior.¹⁴²

Matthew Hopkins was assisted by one John Stein, a kindred genius, and in the years 1644-5, and 6, they brought a great number of poor wretches to the fatal tree. Matthew himself hung, in one year, no less than sixty reputed witches of his own county of Essex. He received twenty shillings a head from the public authorities for every witch he discovered.¹⁴³

William Penn was imprisoned in 1668 for writing against the church of England.

That old dragonic spirit which was manifested in hanging Quakers, and imprisoning and banishing Baptists in this country, is still lurking here, and ere long it will be heard.

¹⁴¹ *Ancient Laws and Charters of Massachusetts Bay*, pp. 120, 121; date, 1656-7.

¹⁴² Hutchinson's *History of Massachusetts*, Vol. 1, pp. 180-9.

¹⁴³ Parley's *Panorama*, Art. Matthew Hopkins.

CHARLES BEECHER says:

Our best, most humble, and devoted servants of Christ are fostering in their midst what will one day, not long hence, show itself to be the spawn of the dragon.¹⁴⁴

Great Wonders

Revelation 13

¹³ And he does great wonders, so that he makes fire come down from heaven on the earth in the sight of men, and deceives them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he had power to do in the sight of the beast.

These great wonders to deceive, are fulfilled in modern spiritualism.

The apostle PAUL, speaking of the last days, and Christ's coming, says:

2 Thessalonians 2

⁹ Whose coming is after the *working* of Satan, with *all power*, and *signs*, and *lying wonders*.

The various signs and wonders of these latter-day manifestations are named by MR. SUNDERLAND as follows:

Amulets, charms, enchantments, spells, fascination, incantation, magic, mesmerism, philters, talismans, relics, witchcraft, ecstasy, hallucination, specters, trance, illusions, apparitions, clairvoyance, somnambulism, miracles, sympathy, &c.

So they have mediums for rapping, writing, speaking, personating, painting, healing, &c., &c.

The *Spiritual Clarion* says:

This revelation has been with a *power*, a might, that if *divested* of its almost universal benevolence, had been a terror to the very soul; the hair of the very bravest had stood on end, and his chilled blood had crept back upon his heart at the sights and

¹⁴⁴ *Sermon on Creeds.*

sounds of its inexplicable phenomena. It comes with foretelling, with warning. It has been, from the very first, its own best prophet, and step by step it has foretold the progress it would make.

The Image of the Beast

Revelation 13

¹⁴ Saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.

The wounded beast, nearly all agree, was the Roman combination of civil and ecclesiastical power, or church and State; hence, to “make an image” in this country, there must be a union of Protestantism and Republicanism.

That there is such a tendency now manifested is certain from the following facts:

1. Republicans have, and do still legislate upon religious subjects.
2. Both political and religious men have publicly advocated the necessity of a union of church and State.
3. They are united in measures and action in the Sunday keeping reform movements.

History shows that the steps taken by the beast were about as follows:

1. They formed a creed.
2. They made the creed a rule of faith and test of fellowship.
3. They used the creed as a tribunal in the trial of members.
4. They branded all as heretics who did not subscribe to the creed.
5. They obtained the aid of the civil power to enforce their penalties.

GIBBON says:

And as the emperor ascended from the holy fount, still glowing with the warm feelings of regeneration, he dictated a solemn edict, which proclaimed his own faith, and prescribed the religion of his subjects.

“It is our pleasure (such is the imperial style) that all the nations which are governed by our clemency and moderation, should steadfastly adhere to the religion which was taught by St. Peter to the Romans, which faithful tradition has preserved, and which is now professed by the Pontiff Damascus, and by Peter, bishop of Alexandria, a man of apostolic holiness. According to the discipline of the apostles, and the doctrine of the gospel, let us believe the sole deity of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost; under an equal majesty, and a pious trinity. *We authorize the followers of this doctrine to assume the title of Catholic Christians: and as we judge that all others are extravagant madmen, we brand them with the infamous name of heretics, and declare that their conventicles shall no longer usurp the respectable appellation of churches. Besides the condemnation of divine justice, they must expect to suffer the severe penalties which our authority, guided by heavenly wisdom, shall think proper to inflict upon them.*”¹⁴⁵

In the fifth *Council of Toledo*, can. 3d, the “Holy Fathers” say:

We, the Holy Council, promulge this sentence pleasing to God, that whosoever hereafter shall succeed to the kingdom, shall not mount the throne till he has sworn among others *to permit no man to live in his kingdom who it not a Catholic*. And if, after he has taken the reins of government he shall violate this, let him be anathema maranatha in the sight of the eternal God, and become fuel for the eternal fire.

Old Theology is still making desperate efforts to bind the consciences of men. The AEcumenical Council at Rome met for that purpose, as everybody knows. The Protestant AEcumenical Council met at Pittsburgh for the same purpose.

¹⁴⁵ Gibbons *Rome*, chap. 27.

The Romish Council duly promulgated twenty-one canons. We quote three of them, as a fair counterpart of the sentiments of the Pittsburgh Council:

Canon XVIII.—Whosoever says that the power necessary for the government of a civil State does not emanate from God, or that one is not bound by divine law to submit himself to such power, or that such power is repugnant to the natural liberty of men, let him be anathema.

Canon XIX.—Whosoever says that all rights existing between men arise from the political state, and that there is no other authority besides that so constituted, let him be anathema.

Canon XX.—Whosoever says that the supreme rule for public and social conduct is in the law of the political state, or in the public opinion of men, or that the judgments of the church concerning what is lawful and unlawful, do not extend to such actions, or that there may be something allowed by civil rights that is not allowed by church rights, let him be anathema.

MR. HAVENS, an American, in a speech delivered in Erie Co., N. Y., says:

For my own part, I wait to see the day when a Luther shall spring up in this country who shall found a great *American Catholic church* instead of a great Roman Catholic church; and who shall teach men that they can be good Catholics without professing allegiance to a pontiff on the other side of the Atlantic.

In May, 1869, S. M. MANNING, D. D., in a sermon in Broadway Tabernacle, New York, spoke of the recent efforts to unite all the churches in the land into cooperation on the common points of their faith, as a “prominent and noteworthy sign of the times.”

DR. LYMAN BEECHER is quoted as saying:

There is a state of society to be formed by an extended combination of institutions, religious, civil, and literary, which never exists without the cooperation of an educated ministry.

CHAS. BEECHER, in his sermon at the dedication of the Second Presbyterian church, Ft. Wayne, Ind., Feb. 22, 1846, said:

Thus are the ministry of the evangelical Protestant denominations not only formed all the way up under a tremendous pressure of merely human fear, but they live, and move, and breathe, in a state of things radically corrupt, and appealing every hour to every baser element of their nature to hush up the truth and bow the knee to the power of apostasy. Was not this the way things went with Rome? *Are we not living her life over again?* And what do we see just ahead? *Another general council! A world's convention! Evangelical Alliance and universal creed.*

The *Christian Union* sees the tendency to a creed in the present agitation for amendment, it says:

For even if the demand of the reformers were reduced as nearly as possible to the first principles of natural religion, the inevitable tendency would be (as in this experiment it has been) toward an increase of that amendment until it would attain to the proportions of a *creed*.

Twenty years ago we could say:

The lightest down will soonest show
Which way the rising breezes blow.

But now we have it talked out so boldly that there is no mistaking.

The N. Y. *Church Union* says:

If we are Christians let us make no hypocritical pretensions of founding our government on Christian principles. If we are, and believe they should govern our whole life, let us *have them incorporated in the basis of our government, and the national policy shaped to them. Let no one hold an office of trust or profit whose life has not been conformable thereto.*

The *Examiner and Chronicle* (Baptist) which claims to be “the most largely circulated denominational newspaper in the world,” in an article on the “Political Effect of Religious Union,” says:

It may not be well to create a religious party, though many worse things have been done. But it is well, it is even very desirable, that the religious sentiment of the country should make itself felt in politics, and become a power that is no longer to be trifled with. And we hail every judicious step toward ecclesiastical cooperation and Christian union as a means for promoting this important end.

The fourth resolution passed at the Pittsburgh Convention reads:

Resolved, That in order to maintain and give permanency to the *Christian features* which have marked this nation from its origin, it is necessary to give them *authoritative sanction in our organic law*.

At the Ministerial Association of the Methodists at Healdsburg, California, April 26 to 28, 1870, Rev. Mr. Trefren of Napa city gave vent to his feelings against S. D. Adventist preachers as follows:

As well might a few ants undertake to capture a great city, as for these few miserable, ignorant fellows, to change the Sabbath from the first to the seventh day of the week. I predict for them a short race. What we want is law in this matter, and we will have it too; and when we get the power in our hands we will show these men what their end will be.

The *North-Western Christian Advocate* of Chicago, Ill., Dec., 1867, said:

We warn them further that in the contest for the Sabbath (Sunday) it may so fall out that Roman Catholicism in America and Protestantism will be found side by side, for neither of these will consent to be marshaled by German atheists.

How the Amendment Movement Progresses

The National Convention of this Association for 1873 was held in New York city, Feb. 26, 27. We give the following from the report of the meeting as given in the *Christian Statesman* of the following March 8:

The most imposing and influential Convention yet held in behalf of the Religious Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, assembled last week in the hall of the Cooper Union, in the city of New York. In the number of delegates in attendance, in the variety and effectiveness of the addresses which commended the cause to enthusiastic and delighted audiences, and in the generous provision made for the prosecution of the work on an enlarged scale during the coming year, this Convention far surpassed all that preceded it. * * * *

According to the report of the Committee on Enrollment, found in another column, *four hundred and seventy* members took seats in the Convention, and *three hundred and sixty-three* of these bore certificates of their appointment as delegates from public meetings, auxiliary societies, churches, and other bodies. The students of Harvard Law School, for example, had held a meeting and appointed three of their number as delegates to New York. Thus the Convention, large as it was, represented an immensely larger constituency devoted to the cause. * * *

But the most convincing proof of the increasing power of the movement was furnished in the subscription of upward of *five thousand dollars* to the treasury of the National Association, to carry forward the work during the year.

At the last National Convention, held in Pittsburgh in February, 1874, the President of the Association, and Chairman of the fifth Convention, Hon. Felix R. Brunot, in referring to the increasing strength of the movement, said that their "cause had made the progress of twenty years in five;" and the General Secretary, Mr. McAllister, said of the past year that it had "numbered a larger array of accessions to our rank, than any two, or three, or perhaps five preceding years."

The following is from the pen of one who was present at some of the sessions of this Convention, as given by him under date of February 8, 1874:

This was a meeting of delegates, but largely attended. The number of delegates holding certificates was 641; non-certified, 432; total, 1073, representing 18 States. Petitions to Congress partially returned, as I understood, footed up over 54,000 names.

The officers of the Association for the coming year are, President, Hon. Felix R. Brunot, Pittsburgh, with 99 Vice-Presidents, among whom are 4 Governors, 5 State Superintendents of Public Instruction, 9 Bishops, 15 Judges of higher Courts, and 41 College Presidents and Professors; and the others are all eminent men. General Secretary, Rev. D. McAllister, N. Y.; Corresponding Secretary, Rev. T. P. Stevenson, Philadelphia.

In giving a report of the Convention of 1873, they were greatly encouraged, and quite enthusiastic in being able to report that 470 members took seats in the Convention, and regarded that Convention as far surpassing in importance any that had preceded it. What, then, must have been their delight to be able to report 1073 delegates present at their next National Convention, held in less than a year from that time, with a corresponding accession of numbers and strength throughout the country generally?

The writer from which we have just quoted says:

They do not speak in tones of doubt as to the accomplishment of their purpose; they report nothing but abundant success and the highest enthusiasm wherever their cause is presented. Their whole bearing in the Convention was that of men already flushed with victory.

The *Christian Statesman*, of Feb. 14, 1874, in reference to this movement, said:

No other movement in the country could bring together such a Convention as that which met in Pittsburgh on the 4th and 5th of this month. With thousands of workers scattered all over the

land, the movement will and must progress with ever-accelerating rapidity.

Can we rightly comprehend the importance of a Convention where 18 States are represented by 1073 delegates (averaging nearly 60 from a State), each representing a class of people laboring in behalf of this movement, and of an Association whose officers are so numerous, and of such an influential class as these, without being compelled to believe that this society is destined to wield a very powerful influence in this country?

How It Appears to Others

The *Janesville (Wis.) Gazette* speaks thus of the movement in case it should succeed:

Such measures are hut the initiatory steps which ultimately lead to *restrictions of religious freedom*, and to commit the government to measures which are as foreign to its powers and purposes as would its action be if it should undertake to determine a disputed question of theology.

The *Weekly Alta Californian* of San Francisco, March 12, 1870, said:

The fact is that the movement is one to bring about in this country that union of church and State which all other civilized nations are now trying to dissolve.

The *Champlain Journal* remarks:

However slight, it is the entering wedge of church and State. If we may cut off ever so few persons from the right of citizenship on account of difference of religious belief, then with equal justice and propriety may a majority at any time dictate the adoption of still further articles of belief, until our Constitution is but the text-book of a sect beneath whose tyrannical sway *all liberty of religious opinion will be crushed*.

The *Christian Union*, Jan., 1871, said:

If the proposed amendment is anything more than a bit of sentimental cant, it is to have a *legal* effect. It is to alter the status of the non-Christian citizen before the law. It is to effect the legal oaths and instruments, the matrimonial contracts, the sumptuary laws, &c., &c., of the country. This would be an outrage on natural right.

The National Association for the Constitutional Amendment, in their appeal, say:

Men of high standing in every walk of life, of every section of the country, and of every shade of political sentiment and religious belief, have concurred in the measure.

Consider that they fairly express the mind of the great body of the American people. This is a Christian people. These amendments agree with the faith, the feelings, and the forms of every Christian church or sect. The Catholic and the Protestant, the Unitarian and the Trinitarian, profess and approve all that is here proposed. Why should their wishes not become law? Why should not the Constitution be made to suit and to represent a constituency so overwhelmingly in the majority? . . . This great majority is becoming daily more conscious, not only of their rights, but of their power. Their number grows, and their column becomes more solid.

The *N. Y. Independent* speaks of the Association as follows:

There are honorable and noble men, not a few, working in this movement; but, with the utmost respect for their motives, we frankly declare ourselves totally opposed to the object which they have in view. The Constitution of the United States, in its relations to religion, is, in our judgment, exactly right as it stands; and we are glad to believe that the great majority of Christians of every denomination agree with us. The chance for carrying the proposed amendment is just as good and no better than the chance of uniting church and State in the New World.

The *Christian Advocate* in 1870, advocating the protecting of Sunday by law, said:

The time has come when the moral and religious element of the body politic must make itself felt in the halls of legislation, and in the administration of the government, or all will be lost.

DR. DURBIN, in the *Christian Advocate and Journal*, speaks of a time coming when the civil power will enforce the sentiments of the church by law. He says:

I infer, therefore, that the civil magistrate may not be called upon to enforce the observance of the Sabbath (Sunday) as required in the spiritual kingdom of Christ; but, when Christianity becomes the moral and spiritual life of the State, the *State is bound* through her magistrates to prevent the open violation of the holy Sabbath, as a measure of self-preservation. She cannot, without injuring her own vitality, and incurring the divine displeasure, be recreant to her duty in this matter.

The prophecy clearly indicates that spiritualism is to have a voice in the new form of government to be made. And now, while they write and speak against a union of church and State, they are in favor of a change which is equivalent. They will go for any change which will give the reins of power into their hands.

At a "Progressive Convention," held by spiritualists, Sept. 11, 1863, in Potsdam, N. Y., the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That spiritualists, reformers, progressive friends, and all who love their fellow-men, organize a Religio-Political Association, or party, to the end that higher civilization may dawn upon society, the nation, and the world, through the practical application of laws and principles which they deem more powerful for good than have yet been recognized in the administration of civil government.

The *Banner of Light*, for May 7, 1864, speaks as follows:

A system will be unfolded, sooner or later, that will embrace in its folds *church and State*, for the object of the two should be one

and the same. . . . It is possible that when the child organization is born, it will have to be cradled in a manger.

The *Banner of Light*, of July 30, 1864, said:

The time is rapidly approaching when the world will be startled by a voice that will say to every form of oppression and wrong, "Thus far shall you go, and no farther."

Old things are rapidly passing away in the *religious* and social, as well as in the *political*, world. Behold all things must be formed anew.

In a speech in Boston, May 10, 1868, WARREN CHASE said:

He beheld with heartfelt satisfaction the dawning of this new light, and he could see, drawing nearer and nearer, the fulfillment of the *promises* he had received *from the spirit world, that the governments of earth should ultimately pass into the hands of its followers.*

This question of the union of church and State, seemingly tending to a different answer in England, promises to come up with us before long in momentous proportions. We have numerous premonitions of its approach now. On American soil, it is believed by not a few, is to be fought out that stern battle between the two religious systems—Catholicism and Protestantism—which will decide the question of a united religious and political supremacy for the continent. That Protestantism, by that name, is in a state of decay, it is not possible in strict truth to deny. We see its ranks broken up into innumerable sects, and crumbling away in the pursuit of doctrines not taught by its founders. What it will lead to is just the problem. Were the result to prove no more than the ecclesiastical aggrandizement of either one side or the other, it would be one of the most unfortunate that could occur, knowing as much as we do of the tendencies of such a power. But happily it lies within the reach and influence of spiritualism, with its millions of believers already, and its ranks all the time increasing, to step in between the contending parties, and save the country to the higher and holier influences of the truth which descends direct from the heavens.

The true feelings and designs of spirits will “crop out” in spite of their studied effort to conceal them.

L. JUDD PARDEE, a spiritualist lecturer, is thus reported in the *Banner of Light*:

If we are to have a new theology, we must have a new State, the new church (ere long to rise) to be the mother of it. Church and State ought to be, as in essential reality everywhere they always have been, one. This *ostensible* separateness never struck deep. Every thinker knows what mutual and interactive help and play there practically is between them. Give us a pure, a divine, a rationally justified, and a continuously inspired, church—and it must help keep pure and Heaven-helped the State.

The following is an extract from a letter from Detroit, Mich., to the *Banner of Light*, published May 12, 1866:

Let spiritualists make *their power* known and demand simple justice and fairness. Let them write to those publishers who offend, and tell them that these attacks and slurs upon spiritualism and spiritualists must cease—that they cannot permit our holy religion to be so reviled, and our feelings so trifled with.

Alliance With Civil Power Is Opposition to Christ

2 John

⁹ Whosoever transgresses and abides not in the doctrine of Christ has not God.

Luke 3

¹⁴ And the soldiers likewise demanded of Him, saying, And what shall we do? And He said unto them, *Do violence to no man.*

Matthew 26

⁵² Then said Jesus unto him, Put up again your sword into his place; for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.

2 Corinthians 10

⁴ For the weapons of our warfare are *not carnal*, but mighty through God, &c.

Matthew 5

³⁹ But I say unto you that you *resist not evil*, &c.

See also, *Proverbs* 20:22; 24:29; *Luke* 6:27-29; 12:14; *Romans* 12:17, 19; *1 Corinthians* 6:7; *1 Thessalonians* 5:15; *1 Peter* 3:9.

The reformers, LUTHER, MELANCTHON, and others, in their confession at Augsburg, have the following:

Christians ought necessarily to yield obedience to the civil officers and laws of the land; unless they should command something sinful; in which case it is a duty to obey God rather than man.¹⁴⁶

Many men have injuriously mingled together the power of the church and the power of the sword. From this confusion the greatest wars and commotions have proceeded. . . . Therefore the power of the church and the civil power should not be mixed and confounded together.¹⁴⁷

DR. CLARKE says:

When political matters are brought into the church of Christ, both are ruined. The church has more than once ruined the State: the State has often corrupted the church.

No secular arm, no human prudence, no earthly policy, no suits at law, shall ever be used for the founding, extension, and preservation of my church.

“Woe to the inhabitants of earth” when the church takes the civil government of the world into its hands.¹⁴⁸

Duty To Obey Only Righteous Laws

Disobedience to the laws of men becomes duty when they require anything contrary to the laws of God.

¹⁴⁶ Augsburg Confession, Art. XVI. The unaltered Augsburg Confession, as read before Charles V, Emperor of Germany, June 25, 1530, by Christian Heinrich Schott, Pastor of St. Peter’s Church in Leipzig.

¹⁴⁷ Art. XXXIII.

¹⁴⁸ *Christian Theology*, pp. 251-2.

Acts 5

²⁹ We ought to obey God rather than men.¹⁴⁹

Obedience to civil rulers in such cases is sinful. Proof:

2 Kings 17

⁷ For so it was, that the children of Israel had sinned against the Lord their God, which had brought them up out of the land of Egypt, from under the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and had feared other gods,

⁸ And walked in the statutes of the heathen, whom the Lord cast out from before the children of Israel, and of the kings of Israel, which they had made.

¹⁹ Also Judah kept not the commandments of the Lord their God, but walked in the statutes of Israel which they made.

1 Kings 12

²⁸ Whereupon the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold your gods, O Israel, which brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

²⁹ And he set the one in Beth-el, and the other he put in Dan.

³⁰ And this thing became a sin: for the people went to worship before the one, even unto Dan.

The Congressional Committee of 1830 Report:

The framers of the Constitution recognized the eternal principle that man's relation to his God is *above human legislation*, and his right of conscience inalienable. Reasoning was not necessary to establish this truth: we are conscious of it in our own bosoms. It is this consciousness which, in *defiance of human laws*, has sustained so many martyrs in tortures and flames. They felt that their duty to God was superior to human enactments, and that man could exercise no authority over their consciences. It is an inborn principle which nothing can eradicate.

¹⁴⁹ Also *Exodus* 1:15-20; *1 Samuel* 14:44, 45; 22:17; *Esther* 3:1-3; 5:9; *Daniel* 3:15-18; 6:7-10; *Acts* 4:18-20.

The *Constitution of Pennsylvania* is equally explicit. It says:

No human authority can, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience.

LORENZO DOW says:

Human governments have no right to interfere by assuming a power to tolerate man to pay his devotion to God. For before any human government existed in the world, there was a compact between man and his Maker, which cannot be altered by any human laws. Therefore, all laws ought to be made in conformity to this pre-existing compact; otherwise they do mischief by making encroachments upon the rights of conscience, and cause confusion in society by creating broils and animosities, consequently all denominations of religion should be protected in the peaceable enjoyment of their rights. And universal rights of conscience ought to be established in every land, agreeable to the Creator's law, primarily established by Him. Moral duties are the result of "moral law," which is the divine prerogative alone; and man has no right to invade the moral duty of another, for this is the right of the divine government. No man, therefore, nor set of men, has a right to infringe upon or bind the conscience of another.¹⁵⁰

DR. ADAM CLARKE says:

"Render to Caesar the things which are Caesar's" is a maxim of Jesus Christ; but when Caesar arrogates to himself the things that are the Lord's, then, and in such cases, his authority is to be resisted.¹⁵¹

Article 9, sec. 3, of the *Constitution of Pennsylvania*, reads as follows:

That all men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences; that no man can of right be compelled to attend, erect, or support, any place of worship, or to maintain any ministry against

¹⁵⁰ *Dow's Journal*, pp. 423, 467.

¹⁵¹ *Comment on Daniel 3:17*.

his consent; no human authority can, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience; and no preference shall ever be given by law to any religious establishment or modes of worship.

This article is an unqualified guarantee for liberty of conscience, and yet they enforce a Sunday law regardless of the rights of Jews, and Seventh-day Baptists. Appeal has been of no avail. Several have been fined and imprisoned!

9. Blasphemous Character of the Papal Power

Daniel 7

²⁰ A mouth that spoke *very great things*.

²⁵ And he shall speak *great words* against the Host High.

Revelation 13

⁵ And there was given unto him a mouth speaking *great things and blasphemies*.

2 Thessalonians 2

⁴ Who opposes and exalts himself *above all that is called God*, or that is worshiped; so that *he as God* sits in the temple of God, *showing himself that he is God*.

Daniel 11

³⁶ And the king shall do according to his will; and he shall *exalt himself*, and *magnify himself above every god*, and shall speak marvelous things against the God of gods.

The conclusion of DR. GIUSTIANNI's ordination letter runs thus:

Given in Rome from our palace, the 10th of February, 1817, the XIV Jurisdiction of the *most holy Pontiff* and Father in Christ, and LORD OUR GOD *the POPE, LEO XII, &c.*¹⁵²

POPE MARTIN V wrote in the dispatches with which he furnished his ambassador to Constantinople:

The *most holy* and most happy, who is the *arbiter of Heaven* and *the Lord of the earth*, the successor of St. Peter, the anointed of the Lord, the *Master of the universe*, the Father of kings, the *light of the world*.¹⁵³

Says DR. GIUSTIANNI:

Go to Rome, and you will read on the gate of the city—"Paulus III Pontifex Opt. Maxim, in terris Deus." Paul III, high priest, the *best*, the *greatest*, and *God on earth*.

¹⁵² *Rome as It Is*, p. 180.

¹⁵³ Giustianni's *Rome as It Is*, p. 181.

DR. MIDDLETON informs us that at the coronation of a pope, the cardinal deacon puts the triple crown on the pope's head, and addresses to him the following:

Receive this tiara embellished with three crowns, and never forget that you are the father of princes and kings, the *supreme judge of the universe*, and on the earth, vicar of Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour.¹⁵⁴

To make war against the pope is to make war against God, seeing *the pope is God*, and God is the pope.¹⁵⁵

A canon by Pope GREGORY VII says:

All princes should kiss the feet of the pope. . . . To him it belongs to dethrone emperors. His sentence none may oppose, but he alone may annul the judgment of all mankind. The pope cannot be judged by any man. The Roman church *never erred*, and *never can err*.¹⁵⁶

The famous popish author, AUGUSTUS TRIUMPHUS, in his Pref. Sum. to *John 22*, used the following words:

The pope's power is infinite.

The very doubt whether a council be greater than the pope is absurd, because it involves this contradiction, that the supreme pontiff is not supreme. *He cannot err, he cannot be deceived. It must be conceived concerning him that HE KNOWS ALL THINGS*.¹⁵⁷

The *pope is all in all*, and *above all*, so that God himself and the pope, the vicar of God, are but one consistory.¹⁵⁸

The blasphemous power of the "man of sin" is exhibited in a work on *The Priesthood*, by M. GAUME. This work was approved by nine bishops and archbishops, and by Pope Gregory XVI; and,

¹⁵⁴ *Conformity of Popery and Paganism*.

¹⁵⁵ *Moreri's History*.

¹⁵⁶ *Baronius An. 1076, Hildebrand Epist. 55*.

¹⁵⁷ *Jacob. de Concil. Lib. 10*.

¹⁵⁸ *Hostiensis Cap., &c.*

as a token of his appreciation of the said work, the pontiff sent him the cross of the order of St. Sylvester. He says:

Suppose that the Redeemer visibly descends in person to His church, and stations himself in the confessional to administer the sacrament of penance, while a priest occupies another. The Son of God says, "I absolve you," and the priest says also, "*I absolve you,*" and the penitent *finds himself absolved just as much by one as by the other.*

Thus the priest, mighty like God, can instantly snatch the sinner from hell, render him worthy of paradise, and a slave of the devil make a son of Abraham, *and God himself is obliged to submit to the judgment of the priest, to grant or refuse his pardon according as the priest may grant or refuse absolution. The sentence of the priest precedes, God submits to it.* Can any one conceive of a greater power?

Persecuting Character

Daniel 7

²⁵ And he shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall *wear out the saints of the Most High*, and think to change times and laws.

Revelation 17

⁶ And I saw the woman *drunken with the blood of the saints*, and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus.

Daniel 11

³¹ And they shall place the abomination that *makes desolate.*

⁴⁴ He shall go forth with great fury to destroy, and utterly to make away many.

³³ They shall fall by the *sword*, and by *flame*, by *captivity*, and by *spoil* many days.

The *American Text-book of Popery* sums up the cruelty of the papal canons and decretals as follows:

Heretics are denounced as infamous. The protection of the law and the claims of equity are denied them. They are adjudged to be worthy only of lingering in the most excruciating tortures,

and when nature can no more bear the suffering, or barbarity can no longer be gratified, then the fire terminates the anguish of the victim.¹⁵⁹

POPE MARCELLUS decreed:

It is permitted neither to *think* nor to *teach* otherwise than the court of Rome directs.¹⁶⁰

POPE INNOCENT III decreed:

The secular powers shall swear to *exterminate* all heretics condemned by the church; and if they do not they shall be anathema.¹⁶¹

POPE ALEXANDER IV decreed:

Inquisitors may compel the heirs of those who favored heretics to fulfill the penance enjoined by delivering up their goods. After the death of a man, he may be declared a heretic, that his property may be confiscated.¹⁶²

In the *Directory for the Inquisitors*, Part II, chap. 2, we find the following:

A heretic merits the pains of fire. By the gospel, the canons, civil law, and custom, heretics must be burned.¹⁶³

All persons may attack any rebels to the church, and despoil them of their wealth, and slay them, and burn their houses and cities.¹⁶⁴

Heretics must be sought after, and be corrected or *exterminated*.¹⁶⁵

¹⁵⁹ *Text-book*, p. 373.

¹⁶⁰ *Corpus Juris Canonici*, part 2, chap. 18.

¹⁶¹ *Decretals of Gregory IX*, Book 5, Title 7.

¹⁶² *Decretals of Boniface VIII*, Liber. Sextus, Book 5, Title 2.

¹⁶³ *Directory for the Inquisitors*, Part II, chap. 2, p. 148.

¹⁶⁴ *Id.* pp. 176, 177.

¹⁶⁵ *Id.* p. 212.

POPE LEO X, in 1516 AD, issued the following papal bull:

No person shall preach without the permission of his superior. All preachers shall explain the gospel according to the Fathers. They shall not *explain* futurity, or the *times of Antichrist!* If any person shall act contrary to this rescript, he shall be divested of his office as preacher, and be excommunicated.¹⁶⁶

Presumes To Change the Law of God

Daniel 7

²⁵ And think to change times and laws.

Daniel 7 [Douay (Catholic) Bible]

²⁵ Shall *think himself able* to change.

Daniel 11

²⁸ His heart shall be against the holy covenant.

The Roman *Decretalia* is an authoritative work in the Roman ecclesiastical law. Each pope, when invested with “the succession,” declares the papal decretals to be true.

The *Decretalia* exalts the pope thus:

He can pronounce sentences and judgments in contradiction to the right of nations, to the law of God and man. . . . He can free himself from the commands of the apostles, he being their superior, and from the rules of the Old Testament, &c.

The pope has power to *change times*, to *abrogate laws*, and to dispense with all things, even the precepts of Christ.¹⁶⁷

The pope has authority, and has often exercised it, to *dispense with the commands of Christ* respecting war, marriage, divorce, revenge, swearing, usury, perjury, and uncleanness.¹⁶⁸

The pope’s will stands for reason. He can dispense above the law; and of wrong make right, by CORRECTING and CHANGING LAWS.¹⁶⁹

¹⁶⁶ *Directorium Inquisitorium*, Published at Rome, Oct. 1584.

¹⁶⁷ *Decretal De. Translat. Episcop. Cap.*

¹⁶⁸ *Pope Nicholis, Caus. 15, Quest. 6.*

¹⁶⁹ *Pope Nicholis Dist. 96.*

The pope can dispense against the laws of nature, and against the universal state of the church.¹⁷⁰

The pope is *free from all laws*, so that he cannot incur any sentence of irregularity, suspension, excommunication, or penalty for any crime.¹⁷¹

In that noted Catholic work entitled *Abridgement of Christian Doctrine*, we have the following specimen of the practical working of the “man of sin,” the great law-changing power.

On the change of the fourth commandment, it says:

Q. By whom was it *changed*?

A. By the governors of the church.

Q. How prove you that the church has power to command feasts and holy days?

A. By the very act of changing the Sabbath into Sunday, &c.¹⁷²

In the *Catholic Catechism of Christian Religion*, we have the following:

Q. Had the church power to make this change?

A. *Certainly*.

In the *Catholic Christian Instructed*, we find the following:

Q. What warrant have you for keeping the Sunday, preferable to the ancient Sabbath, which was the Saturday?

A. We have for it the *authority of the Catholic Church*, and apostolic tradition.

¹⁷⁰ *Pope Nicholis, Caus. 15, Quest. 6.*

¹⁷¹ *Dist. 40.*

¹⁷² p. 57.

10. The Temporal Millennium or The World's Conversion a Fable

THE doctrine of the world's conversion, styled a "modern novelty," and admitted by its author to be a "new hypothesis,"¹⁷³ was invented by Daniel Whitby, D. D., of England, and first published about 1680 AD.

DR. HENSHAW, late bishop of Rhode Island, thus speaks of it:

The fact is that the commonly received opinion of a spiritual millennium, consisting in a universal triumph of the gospel and conversion of all nations for a thousand years before the coming of Christ, is a novel doctrine, unknown to the church for the space of sixteen hundred years. So far as we have been able to investigate its history, it was first advanced by the Rev. Dr. Whitby, the commentator, and afterward advocated by Hammond, Hopkins, Scott, Dwight, Bougue, and others, and has been received without careful examination by the majority of evangelical divines of the present day. But we may safely challenge its advocates to produce one distinguished writer in its favor, who lived before the commencement of the eighteenth century. If antiquity is to be considered as any test of truth, the advocates of the pre-millennial advent, and personal reign of Christ with His saints upon earth, need have no fears of the result of a comparison of authorities with the supporters of the opposite theory.¹⁷⁴

A writer in the *Church Advocate*, Vol. 24, No. 16, says:

How ever Dr. Whitby got up the *notion* of the world's conversion, I cannot tell. The ancient church never believed it, and for hundreds of years it was never preached.

D. D. BUCK, in his treatise on the *Avenging of the Elect*, says:

The primitive Christian faith entirely discarded the Origenia

¹⁷³ Daniel Whitby, D. D., who is thus referred to, was born 1638 AD, in England, and died 1727 AD. In the development of his theory, he denominated it "a new hypothesis." *Time of the End*, pp. 295, 296.

¹⁷⁴ *Henshaw on Second Advent*, p. 115.

and Romish faith that the world would be converted previously to the second coming of Christ.¹⁷⁵

Luther and the eminent men associated with him in the work of reformation appear not to have had the faintest expectation of the world's conversion before the coming of the Lord.¹⁷⁶

We have the strongest presumptive evidence against the Whibyan theory; for if the preaching of the apostles, and even of the Son of God himself, was rejected by the majority of all that heard them, it will be so to the end. No greater power can be brought to bear upon the minds of men. The powerful preaching of Christ and the apostles, backed up by the many miracles and signs of the Holy Ghost, exhausted the provisions of the divine plan, so that no power could move those who were hardened under all the rich provision of the mercy offered.

Will there ever be more powerful and persuasive preaching than that of Christ and the apostles? Never! If, then, there is not a more mighty Saviour—a more powerful Spirit, or a more effective gospel, there is no ground for hope that the whole world will be converted in the last days. But to settle the matter, we may appeal with all confidence first of all to the Bible testimony.

Bible Testimony

Matthew 12

²⁴ Because iniquity shall abound, the love of many shall wax cold.

2 Timothy 3

¹³ Evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

1 Thessalonians 5

³ When they shall say, peace and safety; then sudden destruction comes upon them.

¹⁷⁵ Page 71.

¹⁷⁶ Page 83.

Matthew 24

³⁷ But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

³⁸ For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark,

³⁹ And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be.

2 Peter 3

³ Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts.

Testimony of Men

CALVIN, on *Matthew* 24:30, says:

There is no reason why any person should expect the conversion of the world.

LUTHER, on *John* 10:11, 16, says:

Some, in explaining this passage, say that before the latter days all the world shall become Christians. This is a *falsehood forged by Satan* that he might darken sound doctrine, that we might not rightly understand it. Beware, therefore, of this delusion.

DR. A. CLARKE says:

Probably no such time shall ever appear, in which evil shall be wholly banished from the earth, till after the day of Judgment, when the earth having been burned up, a new heaven and a new earth shall be produced out of the ruins of the old, by the mighty power of God, and righteousness alone shall dwell in them.¹⁷⁷

MATTHEW HENRY, on *Luke* 18:8, says:

Even to the end of time will be occasion for the same complaint; the world will grow no better, no, not when it is drawing toward its period. Bad it is, and bad it will be, and *worst of all* just before Christ's coming.

¹⁷⁷ *Notes on Revelation* 20:2.

DR. WILLIAM AMES, of Norfolk, England, 1640 AD, says:

The last days, by reason of that depravedness and corruption which has ever prevailed among men, are as it were the sink of all ages that went before to receive the dregs!

COTTON MATHER says:

They indulge themselves in a *vain dream*, not to say insane, who think, pray and hope, contrary to the whole sacred Scriptures and sound reason, that the promised happiness of the church on earth will be before the Lord Jesus shall appear in His kingdom. They who expect the rest promised for the church of God, to be found anywhere but in the new earth, and they who expect any happy times for the church in a world that has death and sin in it—these do err, not knowing the Scriptures nor the kingdom of God.

WHITFIELD says:

As it was formerly, so it is now, and so it will be to the end of time; he that is born after the flesh, the natural man, does and will persecute him that is born after the Spirit, the regenerate man. Notwithstanding some may live in more peaceful times than others, yet all Christians in all ages will suffer persecution.¹⁷⁸

MARTIN LUTHER remarks:

You will see before long such wickedness will prevail, life will become so terrible to bear that in every quarter the cry will be raised: God, come with your last Judgment.¹⁷⁹

Having now learned what was to be expected, we next inquire what has come to pass.

¹⁷⁸ *Memoirs and Sermons.*

¹⁷⁹ *Life of Luther*, p. 342.

Figures and Facts

The following compilation is from a careful comparison of the most reliable statistical tables, and is presumed to be very nearly correct. Our best authority is the *New American Cyclopaedia*:

The entire population of the globe is now about.....	1,300,000,000.
Pagans,.....	820,920,000.
Mohametans,.....	160,000,000.
Jews,.....	6,000,000.
Asiatic religions,.....	600,000,000.
Roman Catholic,.....	195,000,000.
Protestants,.....	97,139,000.
Entire Protestant church membership,.....	16,850,000.

To say half of these last are real Christians (a charitable estimate) would give only 8 in 1300!!

The world spends \$4,000,000,000 annually for tobacco, opium, and hasheesh; and only \$4,500,000 for missions. (\$888, to \$1.)

The United States, with a population of 38,000,000, has 3,000 distilleries, 130,000 liquor shops, 390,000 liquor sellers, and 500,000 drunkards.

The amount of liquors sold in 1867, was \$1,483,491,865, or *ten times* the value of all the church property in the United States. The United States pay only \$40,000,000 for religion. The Catholics are increasing five times faster than all others.

France spends \$150,000,000 for tobacco and liquor annually.

England pays \$650,000,000 for liquor and tobacco, \$150,000,000 for police, prisons, &c.; and only \$3,000,000 for missions! ! ! (\$266, to \$1.)

In *Canada* there is *one* church member to ninety-three of the population, and only one in seventeen of those are Protestant.

Russia has a population of 80,000,000, and only *one* to one hundred and twenty of them are Protestant.

London population, 3,500,000; thieves, 30,000; gamblers, 10,000; drunkards, 300,000; prostitutes, 70,000.

New York population, 1,000,000; arrests for crime yearly, 100,000; prostitutes, 20,000; Catholics, 550,000; infidels, 75,000; Jews, 40,000; Protestant members, 64,000.

Blackwood's Magazine states as follows:

For the past seventy years crime has increased in England, seven hundred per cent. In Ireland, eight hundred per cent; and in Scotland, three thousand six hundred per cent; while the entire population within this period has increased but sixty-five per cent! This certainly shows progress in immorality. It has been estimated, also, that England has one hundred thousand professional thieves and suspected persons, and *four* hundred thousand prostitutes! and that the cost of crime is *fifty times* more than that expended for religion.

In the United States the moral picture is no less dark and fearful. We have the record of eight hundred suicides annually; eight hundred murders; one hundred thousand thefts, thirty thousand deaths by drunkenness, and five hundred thousand cases of assault and battery.

The *United States* in 1870, spent \$1,487,000,000 for liquors, \$90,000,000 for prosecutions, &c., caused by liquor, making a total of \$1,577,000,000, while the entire cost of provisions clothing, papers, printing, &c., was only \$905,600,000. There were 400,000 more persons engaged in the liquor business in the United States than in preaching the gospel and teaching school. The clergy of the United States cost yearly \$12,000,000. Lawyers, criminals, prisons, &c., cost \$90,000,000; intoxicating liquors (\$1,487,000,000) one billion four hundred and eighty-seven millions!

War Preparations

Joel 3

⁹ Proclaim this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up.

¹⁰ Beat your ploughshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears; let the weak say, I am strong.

The annual amount paid for war for the world is \$2,600,000,000, while only \$5,000,000 is paid for Christian missions! This puts an awful burden on labor, forcing it to pay \$500,000,000 per day before its own wants are begun to be provided for. The aggregate war debt of the world is 23,000,000,000. *Eighty-three* per cent of the income of Great Britain goes for war purposes.

Russia	has.....	1,519,810	men.
“	“	.....181,000	horses.
“	“	.....2,084	cannon.
Germany	has.....	835,000	men.
“	“	.....96,000	horses.
“	“	.....2,022	cannon.
Austria	has.....	856,980	men.
“	“	.....58,125	horses.
“	“	.....1,600	cannon.
England	has.....	478,800	men.
France	has.....	300,000	men.

The remaining States of Europe make up with the above a total of about 5,000,000 of men.

War Interests Ahead

From an article in the *Review and Herald*, Dec. 22, 1874, by J. H. W., we extract the following:

If an inventor should produce some implement or machinery by which the products of the soil might be greatly increased or utilized, something of the greatest possible advantage to the agricultural interests of the world, he must secure his right, and manufacture at his own risk; and if he has not the means to defend

his rights in the courts, he may, by infringements, lose his labors, and be suffered to die in poverty.

On the other hand, should he invent some instrument of destruction, something by which war could be carried on more successfully, by which human life could be destroyed far faster than ever before, he need not be subjected to any risk or expense. Any government in the world will purchase his invention or so patronize him as to assure to him a fortune.

In the book entitled *Great Fortunes*, Mr. Whitney's failure to secure his rights is thus noticed:

"Whitney, thoroughly disheartened, now abandoned the manufacture of cotton gins in disgust, wound up his affairs, and found himself a poor man. In spite of the far-reaching benefits of his invention, he had not realized one dollar above his expenses. He had given millions upon millions of dollars to the cotton-growing States, he had opened the way for the establishment of the vast cotton-spinning interests of his own country and Europe, and yet, after fourteen years of hard labor, he was a poor man, the victim of a wealthy, powerful, and, in his case, a dishonest class, who had robbed him of his rights and of the fortune he had so fairly earned."

"America never presented a more shameful spectacle than was exhibited when the courts of the cotton-growing regions united with the piratical infringers of Whitney's rights in robbing their greatest benefactor."

In this emergency, Mr. Whitney turned his skill in another direction. He undertook to improve the firearms of the country, and with success. He established an arms factory in New Haven, Conn., and the book already quoted says: "He has the honor of being the inaugurator of the system of progressive improvements in firearms which has gone on steadily for now fully sixty years past."

In this business Mr. Whitney received the patronage of government, and was enabled, not only to "pass the evening of his days in comfort, but also to leave a handsome estate to his family."

COMPARATIVE COST OF SWORDS AND PLOUGHSHARES.—It is estimated that all the agricultural labor done in England in 1847, cost

£18,200,000; and official returns show that the cost of their naval and military establishments for the same year was £18,500,000; that is 300,000 more than for all their golden harvests and to the 700,000 laborers who produce them. Grave considerations must arise from such a state of things.

Snuffing the Battle

It is evident from the complexion of yesterday's telegraphic dispatches that our planet is not in the pacific condition which would indicate the speedy advent of a millennium. From every quarter of the globe come rumors of wars, or of warlike preparation.¹⁸⁰

We find the following in the papers. We do not know the author, but the truth contained is too well known to need special verification:

A BANKRUPT WORLD.—France is at the head of the list of public debts with a burden of \$5,000,000,000, the sad legacy of the German conflict. Great Britain follows with \$3,750,000,000, and the United States comes third with a debt of over \$2,000,000,000. The aggregate public debts of all the governments of the world amount to the enormous sum of \$20,000,000,000, a figure so vast as to be almost incomprehensible. If a man were to count it as rapidly as he could handle it, dollar by dollar, he would not finish in fifteen centuries. When we come to add to this the debts of States, provinces, municipalities, villages, corporations, and individuals, we have a mountain of debt perfectly appalling. And the worst of it is that, though nations and individuals are bankrupt, they are going on piling up more liabilities year after year. Wealth, which is the product of labor, is completely outstripped in the race. Some day this enormous bubble will burst. Then comes the deluge.

H. W. BEECHER, in Plymouth church, Nov. 15, 1868, said:

The want of indignation at flagrant wickedness is one of the alarming symptoms of our times. We are living in the midst of an

¹⁸⁰ *San Francisco Chronicle*, Nov. 18, 1874.

amount of corruption second only to that of Sodom and Gomorrah.

At the *National Convention*, of the Association for the amendment of the Constitution, at Philadelphia, 1871, the Rev. MR. McALLISTER said:

The dishonesty, the profanity, the drunkenness, the licentiousness, of a large proportion of our public men, are simply notorious. They are the most tangible point of our political malady. They are the outward manifestations, to which we cannot be blind, of a diseased system. It is hard to select a specimen of the rottenness of our political life.

The *California Christian Advocate* (Methodist), of Nov. 5, 1874, says:

An observer of public morals at the present day cannot fail to see the effort being made to blend or obscure the line of distinction between right and wrong, in all matters where the pleasures of the world or the gratification of the passions are interfered with.

The *Christian Union*, of Nov. 4, 1874, says:

Not infrequently do we hear it said that the present is an exceptionally wicked generation, that society is becoming rapidly demoralized, and that the prospect in regard to the future is very dark and discouraging. And indeed it is not to be denied that corruption, both in private and public life, is lamentably frequent, that crime of every grade abounds, and that men in all the relations of life exhibit a degree of selfishness which shows that the millennium is yet afar off.

The *Watchman and Reflector* of March, 1872, under the head of "The Era of Crime," says:

Bank-robberies, ring-despotisms, official corruptions, domestic tragedies, garrotings, burglaries, suicides, these come in upon us like tidal waves, so constant and regular in their visitations, that we are no longer startled by them. But of late there seems to have

been a change. The sea of crime, always beating and surging and roaring around us, has lifted itself to an unusual height, and is deepening its thunderings. . . . There can be no doubt that much of this revolting wickedness is but the outgrowth of the low moral sentiment which pervades our entire communities.

11. Signs of the Times

QUESTION:

Matthew 24

³ What shall be the sign of your coming, and of the end of the world?

Before the definite answer is given to this question, our Saviour mentions with other things that:

⁷ ...there shall be *famines*, and *pestilences*, and *earthquakes*, in divers places.

History records how wonderful and certain has been the fulfillment of this prediction. From a work of NOAH WEBSTER, LL. D., published in 1799, and from other sources, we gather the following summary of recorded earthquakes, famines, and pestilences for nearly eighteen hundred years.

- By famine and sword 580,000 Jews were destroyed between 96 AD and 180 AD.
- In Antioch, from 96 AD to 180 AD, earthquakes destroyed thirteen cities, and over 100,000 lives.
- In Rome, 169 AD, pestilence destroyed 10,000 daily.
- In London, 310 AD, by famine 40,000 died.
- In 446 AD, Sept. 17, an earthquake shook down the walls of Constantinople, and 57 towers fell.
- In Rome, 539 AD, in one district 50,000 died.
- In Antioch, 588 AD, an earthquake killed 60,000.
- In 590 AD, the plague killed 10,000 daily in Turkey.
- In 679 AD, a severe famine in England three years.
- In 717 AD, in Constantinople, 300,000 died of plague.
- In 1005 AD, earthquakes three months, followed by pestilence, by which it is said one-third of the human race died.
- In 1077 AD, in Constantinople, so many died by plague and famine, the living could not bury them.

- In 1124 AD, in Italy, there was such famine that the dead lay in the streets, not buried; and in England, one-third of the people died of plague.
- In 1294 AD, in England, thousands died of famine.
- In 1345 AD, in London, 50,000 died of plague and famine, and were buried in one graveyard; in Norwich, 50,000; in Venice, 100,000; in Florence, 100,000; in Eastern nations, 20,000,000. It was called the black death.
- In 1352 AD, in China, 900,000 died of famine.
- In 1450 AD, in Milan, 60,000 died of plague.
- In 1611 AD, in Constantinople, 200,000 died of plague.
- In 1625 AD, in London, 35,000 died of plague.
- In 1626 AD, in Lyons, 600,000 died of plague.
- In 1662 AD, an awful earthquake destroyed 300,000 persons in Peking, China.
- In 1665 AD, in London, 68,000 died of plague.
- In 1693 AD, in Sicily, 100,000 lives were lost by an earthquake which overturned 54 cities and towns.
- In 1731 AD, in China, 100,000 were swallowed up at Peking alone.
- In 1755 AD, in the East, an earthquake destroyed the city of Lisbon, killing 50,000. In Mitylene and the Archipelago it shook down 2,000 houses. It shook all the Spanish coast. The plague followed, which destroyed 150,000 lives in Constantinople.
- In 1861 AD, the city of Mendoza (S. A.) was destroyed in three minutes and 16,000 persons perished.
- In 1868 AD, the city of Arequipa was destroyed with 50,000 persons.

The above list might be greatly extended, but it is sufficient to show that the prediction has had a most striking and unmistakable fulfillment.

Isaiah 29

⁶ You shall be *visited of the Lord* of hosts, with thunder, and with *earthquake*, and great noise, with storm and tempest, and the flame of devouring fire.

Psalm 114

⁷ Tremble, you earth, at the presence of the Lord.

Increase of Earthquakes

The first earthquake recorded was at the giving of the law at Mt. Sinai. And the object of that was, no doubt, to admonish, to fill with awe, and to impress the people with the fact that...

Job 37

²² ...with God is *terrible majesty*.

When God met Elijah on the mount, there was...

1 Kings 19

¹¹ ...an earthquake.

When the Saviour of the world was crucified,

Matthew 27

⁵¹ ...the *earth did quake*.

Also at His resurrection,

Matthew 28

² ...there was a *great earthquake*.

The following table is arranged from the best and most reliable authorities.¹⁸¹ Mr. Mallett arranged chronologically and distinguished the registered earthquakes into five periods:

	No.	No. of Years	Average
Those recorded before 1 AD	58	1700	1 in 29 years
Thence to the end of the 9 th century	197	900	1 in 4 years

¹⁸¹ D. T. Taylor, in his *Coming Earthquake*, quotes from Pnton and Mallett, to which we are indebted.

Thence to the end of the 15 th century	532	600	1 in 1 year
Thence to the end of the 18 th century	2804	300	9 in 1 year
Thence to 1850	3240	50	64 in 1 year
Thence to 1868	5000	18	277 in 1 year

Of destructive earthquakes, such as have overthrown cities and destroyed many lives, the number registered is about as follows:

	# of Yrs	Earthquakes	Average
From 1700 BC to 96 AD	1796	16	1 in 112 years
From 96 AD to 1850	1754	204	1 in 8 years
From 1850 to 1865	15	15	1 in 1 year
From 1865 to 1868	3	15	5 in 1 year

In the single year 1868, over *one hundred thousand* persons perished by earthquakes. In January, 1869, there were *eleven* earthquakes, two of them great and destructive.

Signs in the Heavens

The great signs of the near approach of the end of the world were to come...

Matthew 24

²⁹ *Immediately* after the *tribulation* of those days.

The days were the 1260 of the papal persecution. But the tribulation was shortened for the elect's sake. So the persecution ceased a few years before the days ended, which has been shown to be in 1798. *Mark* says,

Mark 13

²⁴ *In* those days *after* that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened.

The tribulation ceased about 1776, or at the latest, 1778. But the *days* did not end until 1798, twenty years later. The sun, therefore,

must be darkened in the *first part* of the last 20 years of the 1260. Any other darkening will not answer the prophecy.

The influence of the reformers, together with the edicts of toleration passed by Austria and Spain, cut short the tribulation. The historian says:

In Austria, Maria Theresa made very important improvements for the benefit of her wide dominions. In 1776, she abolished the torture in the hereditary States; and from 1774 to 1778, her attention was occupied with the establishment of a general system of popular education. Various salutary regulations were enforced, touching the temporalities of the clergy; and in Italy the arbitrary power of the inquisition was circumscribed within narrow limits.¹⁸²

EDICT OF TOLERATION OF THE EMPEROR JOSEPH.—By this edict he granted to all members of the Protestant and Greek churches, under the denomination of A Catholics or non-Catholics, the free exercise of their religion. He declared all Christians of every denomination, equally citizens, and capable of holding all charges and offices in every department of State.¹⁸³

Supernatural Darkening of the Sun and Moon, May 18, 1780

Genesis 1

¹⁴ And God said, Let there be lights in the firmament of the heaven, to divide the day from the night; and *let them be for signs*, and for seasons, and for days, and years.

Luke 21

²⁵ There shall be *signs* in the *sun*, and in the *moon*, &c.

Joel 2

³¹ The *sun* shall be *turned into darkness*, and the *moon into blood*, before the great and the terrible day of the Lord come.

¹⁸² *White's History*, p. 458.

¹⁸³ *Cox's House of Austria*, V. 3.

Revelation 6

¹² The sun became *black as sackcloth of hair*, and the moon became *as blood*.

A something *strikingly awful* shall forewarn that the world will come to an end, and that the last day is even at the door.¹⁸⁴

The Concord (N. H.) *People* speaks of it thus:

It was not the blackness of the storm cloud, such as sometimes, with a frightful agitation, breaks over a single city; it was the silent spreading of the pall cloth over the earth by strong, invisible hands.

The Boston *Gazette*, of May 22, 1780, says:

The printers acknowledge their incapacity of describing the phenomenon which appeared in that town on Friday last. It grew darker and darker till nearly one o'clock, when it became so dark the inhabitants were obliged to quit their business, and they had to dine by the light of the candle. . . . Such a phenomenon was *never before seen here by the oldest person living*.

JOSIAH LITCH, in his *Prophetic Expositor*, describes it as follows:

I refer to the dark day of 1780 AD, May 19. That was a day of supernatural darkness. It was not an eclipse of the sun, for the moon was nearly at the full; it was not owing to a thickness of the atmosphere, for the stars were seen. The darkness began about 9 AM and continued through the day. Such was the darkness that work was suspended in the field and shop; beasts and fowls retired to their rest, and houses were illuminated at dinner time. . . . The sun was *supernaturally darkened*.

The *Connecticut Journal*, New Haven, May 25, 1780, says:

The greatest darkness was, at least, equal to what is commonly called candle-lighting, in the evening. The *appearance was indeed uncommon, and the cause unknown*.

¹⁸⁴ Martin Luther.

A manuscript sermon by REV. ELAM POTTER, M. A., on the dark day of May 19, delivered on the 28th of the same month, says:

But especially, I mention that *wonderful darkness* on the 19th of May inst. [1780]. Then, as in our text, the sun was darkened; such a darkness as probably was never known before since the crucifixion of our Lord. People left their work in the house and in the field. Travelers stopped; schools broke up at 11 o'clock; people lit up candles at noonday; and the fire shone as at night. Some people, I have been told, were in dismay, and thought whether the day of Judgment was not drawing on. A great part of the following night also was singularly dark. The *moon, though in the full, gave no light*, as in our text.

Speaking of the dark day of May 19, 1780, NOAH WEBSTER, in the New Haven *Daily Herald* says:

No satisfactory cause has yet been assigned.

Also in his *Dictionary*, edition of 1869, we find the following:

The dark day, May 19, 1780, so called on account of a remarkable darkness on that day, extending over all New England. In some places, persons could not see to read common print in the open air for several hours together. . . . The true *cause* of this remarkable phenomenon *is not known*.

MILO BOSTWICK, writing from Camden, N. J., March 3, 1848, says:

The 19th of May, in the year 1780, I well remember; I was then in my sixteenth year. The morning was clear and pleasant, but somewhere about eight o'clock my father came into the house and said there was an *uncommon appearance* in the sun. *There were not any clouds*, but the air was thick, having a smoky appearance, and the sun shone with a pale and yellowish hue, but kept growing darker and darker, until it was hid from sight. At noon we lit a candle, but it did not give light as in the night, and my father could not see to read with two candles. My father and mother, who were pious, thought the day of Judgment was near. They sat up that night, during the latter part of which they said

the darkness disappeared, and then the sky seemed as usual, but the moon, which was at its full had the appearance of blood. The alarm that it caused and the frequent talk about it impressed it deep on my mind.

MRS. ABIGAIL BAILEY of Vermont, who was twenty-four years old at the time, has given a very interesting account of the dark day of 1780. She was a real mother in Israel, and her testimony was credited by all who knew her. She said:

The sky, toward which all eyes were turned, appeared of a yellowish hue. *No distinct cloud was visible.* There was no motion of the air sufficient to move a leaf, and darkness overshadowed the earth. The ship yard was before our door, but no sound of the workman was heard. The cattle which had been turned to pasture came along homeward and lowing as they slowly returned. The birds were fluttering on the trees and hiding among the leaves as when a thunderstorm is coming on. The fowls hastened to their roosting places. All nature seemed hushed, as though Jehovah was about to make himself known by some mighty act. Every eye was turned upward, every one inquiring, "What is going to take place?" Some asked, "Is the Judgment day approaching?" The vessels at the wharves with sails loosened and colors unfurled appeared as in mourning on some great occasion. Not a color waved at mast-head, nor a sail showed the least appearance of any wind. The bells rung for meeting. The sailors poured into the house and filled it. Mr. Spring (Rev. Samuel Spring, pastor of the North church in Newburyport), standing at his place, cried, "O earth, earth, earth, hear the word of the Lord!" In speaking he excelled himself. The congregation was motionless, and heard with intense and solemn interest.

The *American Tract Society* bears testimony:

In the month of May, 1780, there was a *very terrific dark day* in New England, when "all faces seemed to gather blackness," and the people were filled with fear. There was great distress in the village where Edward Lee lived; "men's hearts failing them for fear" that the Judgment day was at hand, and the neighbors all flocked around the holy man; for his lamp was trimmed and shin-

ing brighter than ever amidst the *unnatural darkness*. Happy and joyful in God, he pointed them to their only refuge from the wrath to come, and spent the gloomy hours in earnest prayer for the distressed multitude.¹⁸⁵

PRES. DWIGHT says,

The 19th of May, 1780, was a *remarkably dark day*. Candles were lighted in many houses. The birds were silent and disappeared. The fowls retired to roost. It was the *general opinion* that the day of Judgment was at hand. The Legislature of Connecticut was in session at Hartford, but being unable to transact business, adjourned.¹⁸⁶

DR. TENNEY, in 1785, wrote to the Historical Society concerning it. He says:

Although the *uncommon darkness* which attracted the attention of all ranks of people in this part of the country, on the 19th of May, 1780, was a phenomenon which several gentlemen of considerable literary abilities have endeavored to solve, yet, I believe, you will agree with me *that no satisfactory solution has yet appeared*.

WHITTIER, the poet, speaks:

The Darkness Over New England in 1780

‘Twas on a May day of the far old year
Seventeen hundred eighty that there fell
Over the bloom and sweet life of the spring,
Over the fresh earth and the heaven of noon,
A horror of great darkness, like the night
In day of which the Norland sages tell—
The twilight of the gods.

Birds ceased to sing, and all the barn-yard fowls
Roosted; the cattle at the pasture bars

¹⁸⁵ *Tract No. 379—Life of Edward Lee.*

¹⁸⁶ *Connecticut Historical Collections.*

Lowed, and looked homeward; bats on leathern wings
Flitted abroad; the sounds of labor died;
Men prayed, and women wept; all ears grew sharp
To hear the doom-blast of the trumpet shatter
The black sky.

The *Green Mountain Freeman* of Montpelier, Vt., published the following verses, with this remark,

They were furnished us by an old gentleman of a neighboring town, in whose family they have been preserved nearly seventy years; having been written shortly after the memorable event they describe, in the old ballad style of the day:

Nineteenth of May, a gloomy day,
When darkness veiled the sky;
The sun's decline may be a sign
Some great event is nigh.

Let us remark how black and dark
Was the ensuing night;
And for a time the moon declined,
And did not give her light.

Can mortal man their wonders scan,
Or tell a second cause?
Did not our God then shake His rod
And *alter nature's laws*?

An old lady of Kennebecport, Mass., furnishes the following lines:

Ye sons of men who saw the night
Triumphing at high noon,
On nineteenth day of month of May,
Knew well that dismal gloom.
No orb above in coasts could move,
Thus to eclipse the sun;
We understand it was the hand
Of the eternal One,

Who drew a black and fearful veil,
And interposed the light;
And overhead a curtain spread,
Converting day to night.
If every town was burned down,
And forest in our land;
'Twould not create a gloom so great;
'Twas God's immediate hand.

The following lines are taken from a hymn, composed by Eld. Peleg Barroughs, the 20th of the fifth month, 1780, according to the ability which God gave him, to commemorate the darkness of the preceding day:

'Twas on the nineteenth day of May,
The sixth day of the week,
One thousand seven hundred eighty,
The Lord to us did speak,

By spreading His thick clouds all round,
And darkening the light;
So that we heard the dreadful sound,
Our day is turned to night!

'Twas like that awful gloomy day,
When Christ was crucified;
Who hung upon the cross at noon,
And for poor sinners died!

The oldest man cannot declare
He ever saw the like;
When *no eclipse* did happen rare,
To take away the light!

ROBERT SEARS' *Guide to Knowledge*, New York, 1844, has the following:

On the 19th of May, 1780, an uncommon darkness took place all over New England, and extended to Canada. It continued about fourteen hours, or from ten o'clock in the morning till midnight.

The darkness was so great that people were unable to read common print, or tell the time of the day by their watches, or to dine, or transact their ordinary business, without the light of candles. They became dull and gloomy, and some were excessively frightened. The fowls went to roost. Objects could not be distinguished but at a very little distance, and everything bore the appearance of gloom and night. Similar days have occasionally been known, though inferior in the degree or extent of their darkness. *The causes* of these phenomena are *unknown*. They certainly were not the result of eclipses.

The Falling Stars

Revelation 6

¹³ And the *stars of heaven fell unto the earth*, even as a fig tree casts her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

This was literally fulfilled on the 13th of November, 1833. There have been other displays of shooting stars, before and since, but not such as described in the prophecy.

BISHOP BURNETT, in his *Sacred Theory of the Earth*, published in 1697, says:

The last sign we shall notice is that of “falling stars.” “And the stars shall fall from heaven,” says our Saviour. *Matthew 24:29*. We are sure, from the nature of the thing, that this cannot be understood either of fixed stars or planets; for if either of these should tumble from the skies and reach the earth, they would break it all in pieces, or swallow it up as the sea does a sinking ship, and would put all the universe into confusion. It is necessary, therefore, by these stars, to understand either fiery meteors falling from the middle region of the air or blazing comets and stars. No doubt there will be all sorts of fiery meteors at that time; and among others, those that are called *falling stars*.¹⁸⁷

The celebrated astronomer and meteorologist, PROF. OLMSTEAD, of Yale College, says:

¹⁸⁷ Page 486.

Those who were so fortunate as to witness the exhibition of shooting stars on the morning of Nov. 13, 1833, probably saw the greatest display of celestial fireworks that has ever been since the creation of the world, or at least within the annals covered by the pages of history.

In nearly all places, the meteors began to attract notice by their unusual frequency as early as eleven o'clock, and increased in numbers and splendor until about four o'clock, from which time they gradually declined, but were visible until lost in the light of day. The meteors did not fly at random over all parts of the sky, but appeared to emanate from a point in the constellation Leo, near a star called Gamma Leonis, in the bend of the sickle.

The extent of the shower of 1833 was such as to cover no inconsiderable part of the earth's surface, from the middle of the Atlantic on the east to the Pacific on the west; and from the northern coast of South America to undefined regions among the British possessions on the north, the exhibition was visible, and everywhere presented nearly the same appearance. This is no longer to be regarded as a terrestrial, but as a celestial, phenomenon; and shooting stars are now to be no more viewed as casual productions of the upper regions of the atmosphere, but as *visitants from other worlds*, or from the planetary voids.

That the meteors or stars did not originate in our atmosphere, but were of a celestial origin, was ascertained by the professors of astronomy at the time. *Smith's Astronomy* has this note:

As computed by Professor Denison Olmstead, of Yale College, New Haven, it could not have been less than 2,238 miles from the earth.

The *New American Cyclopaedia* says:

It was observed that the lines of all the meteors, if traced back, converged in one quarter of the heavens, which was Gamma of Leo Major; and this point accompanied the stars in their apparent motion westward, instead of moving with the earth toward the east. The source whence the meteors came was thus shown to be

independent of the earth's rotation, and exterior to our atmosphere.

The *Christian Union*, of May 1, 1872, says:

The gold medal of the British Royal Astronomical Society was presented in February to Signor Schiaparelli, for his researches upon the nature and orbits of meteors, which have helped to demonstrate that these bodies belong to the *stellar region*, and are in fact *falling stars*.

It is not possible that the planetary worlds should fall, to have a *literal* fulfillment of the prophecy. A "*star*" went before the wise men to direct them to the infant Saviour. This was a meteor prepared for the occasion.

The Connecticut *Observer*, of Nov. 25, 1833, copied from the *Old Countryman* as follows:

We pronounce the raining of fire, which we saw on Wednesday morning last, an awful type, a sure forerunner, a *merciful sign* of that great and dreadful day, which the inhabitants of the earth will witness when the sixth seal shall be opened. The time is just at hand, described, not only in the New Testament, but in the Old. A more correct picture of a fig tree casting its leaves when blown by a mighty wind, it is not possible to behold.

The *Christian Advocate and Journal*, of Dec. 13, 1833, described it as follows:

The meteoric phenomenon which occurred on the morning of the 13th of November last, was of so *extraordinary* and interesting a character as to be entitled to more than a mere passing notice. . . . The lively and graphic descriptions which have appeared in various public journals do not exceed the reality. No language, indeed, can come up to the splendor of that magnificent display; and I hesitate not to say that no one who did not witness it can form an adequate conception of its glory. It seemed as if the whole starry heavens had congregated at one point, near the zenith, and were simultaneously shooting forth, with the velocity of lightning, to every part of the horizon; and yet they

were not exhausted—thousands swiftly followed in the tracks of thousands, *as if created for the occasion*.

MR. HENRY DANA WARD, of New York, in the *Journal of Commerce*, of Nov. 14, 1833, says:

No philosopher or scholar has told or recorded an event (I suppose) like that of yesterday morning. A prophet of 1,800 years ago foretold it exactly, if we will be at the trouble of understanding stars falling to mean falling stars; or “*ta asteria tou ouranou epesan sti gi*,”¹⁸⁸ in the only sense in which it is possible to be literally true.

A converted papist thus speaks of it:

It was, indeed, owing to this very doctrine (praying for souls in purgatory) that I saw the beautiful meteoric shower which occurred Nov. 13, 1833. I had been taught to make the sign of the cross once for every shooting star I saw, in behalf of departed souls; and, being awake when the meteoric shower lighted up the heavens, the work of crossing myself began; but very soon the use of both hands could not suffice, for the stars apparently moved so rapidly that it became *impossible to keep up*. The consequence was, that the whole family was called up to see a wonder which excited no little fear in us all.¹⁸⁹

HORACE GREELEY said:

While a mere lad, I was waked in the night to see a pale, frightened face bending over me, and to hear, “Get up! get up! the day of Judgment has come, I believe, for the stars are all falling!”¹⁹⁰

Fearful Sights and Great Signs

Luke 21

¹¹ ...and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.

¹⁸⁸ Greek of *Revelation* 6:13, “the stars of heaven fell unto the earth.”

¹⁸⁹ *The Conversion of a Papist*, pp. 39, 40.

¹⁹⁰ *New York Tribune*, June 4, 1859.

Joel 2

³⁰ And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, *blood*, and *fire*, and *pillars of smoke*.

Acts 2

¹⁹ And I will show wonders in heaven above, and *signs* in the earth beneath; *blood*, and *fire*, and *vapor of smoke*.

BISHOP BURNETT says:

We may then easily conclude that when the last great storm is coming, and all the volcanoes of the earth are ready to burst, and the frame of the World to be dissolved, there will be previous signs in the heavens, and on the earth, to introduce this tragical fate. Nature cannot come to that extremity without some symptoms of her illness, nor die silently without pangs of complaint.¹⁹¹

NOAH WEBSTER, in the *New Haven Daily Herald*, says:

In the evening of March 20, 1782, an *extraordinary light* spread over the whole hemisphere, from horizon to horizon, north and south, east and west. The light was of a yellowish cast, and wavy. The waving of the earth was visible, and some persons heard, or imagined they heard, a slight rustling sound. I then resided in Goshen, Orange county, New York, and stood half an hour on a bridge over the Wall Kill, to witness the *extraordinary phenomenon*.

A London correspondent of the *Christian Advocate and Journal*, of 1889, mentions an “*extraordinary phenomenon*”:

The first indication of this singular phenomenon was about ten minutes before ten, when a light crimson, apparently *vapor*, rose from the northern portion of the hemisphere, and gradually extended to the center of the heavens, and by ten o'clock, or a quarter past, the whole, from east to west, was one vast sheet of light. It had a most alarming appearance, and was exactly like that occasioned by a *terrific fire*. The light varied considerably; at one time it seemed to fall, and directly after rose with intense brightness. There were to be seen, mingled with it, *volumes of smoke*,

¹⁹¹ *Theory of the Earth*, p. 477.

which rolled over and over, and every beholder seemed convinced that it was a tremendous conflagration. The consternation in the metropolis was very great. Thousands of persons were running in the direction of the supposed awful catastrophe.

The same paper gives this summary of the terms used descriptive of it at the time:

Extraordinary—singular—alarming—intense brightness—terrific fire—dark crimson vapor— most gorgeous—tremendous conflagration—volumes of smoke—producing very great consternation—galloping of every fire engine in London, &c., &c.

The following is from the *Modern Phenomena of the Heavens*, by HENRY JONES:

Another instance of this phenomenon was very extensively witnessed in this country early in the evening of January 25, 1837, when, as described by many, the very heavens for a short time seemed to be on fire, and when the snow upon the ground much resembled *blood* and *fire*, which was so alarming in appearance as to cause the solemn inquiry with some who were out at the time, if the day of Judgment had come, and also to cause the animals to tremble with fear. In one place, near a mountain, the people informed me that on the snow there was the appearance of “*waves of fire rolling down the mountain.*”

Aurora Borealis

This wonderful phenomena, like earthquakes, has increased greatly during the last hundred years, both in frequency and brilliancy. Many have sought to find a natural cause, but without success. There is no agreement among the learned in attempting to account for it; and it can be said of it as Noah Webster said of the darkening of the sun:

No satisfactory cause has yet been assigned.

We regard it as a sign in the heavens, in fulfillment of prophecy.

HENRY JONES, in *Modern Phenomena*, thus speaks of it:

The most anciently published history of this phenomenon which I have yet seen, is contained in a large, one-volume 8vo. *Dictionary of Arts and Sciences*, published in London, about eighty years ago. This, like others published since, gives a full account of the first occurrence of this phenomenon at London, in March, 1716, and states expressly that the oldest inhabitant there at that time had never seen nor heard of the like before. The writer, after giving some six or eight pages on the subject, concludes his account by giving a list of writings he had found concerning it, the oldest of which was a magazine in London for the above year of 1716.

The following statement is by DR. J. B. FELT, of Salem, Mass:

The *aurora borealis* was seen for the first time in America, Dec. 11, 1719. It filled our country with great alarm. It was dreaded as being the precursor of the Judgment fires, which were to consume the world. It had a similar effect in England in 1716.

WILLARD, the historian, refers to it as follows:

A phenomenon, singular at the time, and not yet satisfactorily explained, alarmed the people of New England in 1719. This was the *aurora borealis*, first noticed in this country on the night of the 17th of December.¹⁹²

The *New American Cyclopaedia* says:

Prior to the year 1716 it was considered a great rarity by the inhabitants of Upsal; and Torfaeus, the historian of Denmark, and an Icelander, writing in 1706, speaks of his recollection of the time when the meteor (meaning the aurora) was an object of terror in his native island.

The *American Home Magazine* has the following:

The first aurora seen in this country (in the winter of 1719) was of this kind; and it is said "the bright light which spread from east to west over the northern sky shone like a great *fire* shooting up its deadly *flames*. Sometimes it was of a *blood-red* color, and

¹⁹² *Willard's Hist.* (U. S.) Ed. 1869, p. 146.

was very terrible to look at, filling the minds of the beholders with terror.

Signs in the Elements

Luke 21

²⁵ The sea and waves roaring.

Psalm 148

⁸ Stormy wind fulfilling his word.

Psalm 98

⁷ Let the *sea roar*, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

⁸ Let the *floods clap their hands*; let the hills be joyful together

⁹ Before the Lord; for *He comes to judge the earth*: with righteousness shall He judge the world, and the people with equity.

BURNETT, in his *Theory of the Earth*, remarks:

Let us then proceed in our explication of this sign, the roaring sea and waves, applying it to the end of the world. I do not look upon this ominous noise of the sea as the effect of a tempest; for then it would not strike such terror into the inhabitants of the earth, nor make them apprehensive of some great evil coming upon the world, as this will do. What proceeds from visible causes, and such as may happen in a common course of nature, does not so much amaze or affright us. . . . And such a troubled state of the waters as does not only make the sea unmanageable, but also strikes terror into all the maritime inhabitants that live within the view or sound of it.

Harper's Magazine for 1869 says:

That *most horrible* phenomena, the tidal wave, how many struggling mortals has it swept back into the deep! What countless ships has it crushed against the shores! What mighty cities has it plundered of life and wealth, strewing their streets with the ocean sand, and peopling their palaces with sea-monsters!

An eye-witness at *Lima, Peru*, says:

I saw the whole surface of the sea rise as if a mountain side, actually standing up. Another shock with a *fearful roar* now took place. I called to my companions to run for their lives on to the pampa. Too late; with a horrible crush the sea was on us, and at one sweep dashed what was Iquique on to the pampa. I lost my companions, and in an instant was fighting with the dark waters. The *mighty waves surged, and roared, and leaped*. The cries of human beings and animals were frightful.

At *Arica*, the *British vice-consul* was an eyewitness. He exclaims:

Gracious God, what a sight! I saw all the vessels in the bay carried out irresistibly to sea (anchors and chains were as pack thread) probably with a speed of ten miles an hour. In a few minutes the great outward current stopped, stemmed by a mighty rising wave, I should judge about fifty feet high, which came in with an awful rush, carrying everything before it, in its terrible majesty, bringing the shipping with it, sometimes turning in circles, as if striving to elude their fate.

The New York *Tribune*, of Nov. 12, 1868, says:

The tidal disturbances are the most remarkable and extensive of which there is any record. It is said their velocity was about *a thousand miles an hour*. Both the great ocean waters of the Atlantic and Pacific have been agitated in their whole extent. We mention in particular the tidal waves at St. Thomas, and all the neighboring islands, which were *full fifty feet in height*. . . . It is said by those who have witnessed these waves that the ocean's *roar is exceedingly frightful*.

The N. Y. *Tribune*, of Nov. 12, 1869, says:

Later and fuller details are every day increasing the interest with which scientific observers regard the recent earthquakes and tidal disturbances, and confirming our first impression that these convulsions of nature would prove to be among the *most remarkable*, and extensive of which there is *any written record*.

The N. Y. *Mercantile Journal*, Nov. 1868, said:

Tornadoes, water-spouts by land as well as at sea, freshets, volcanic eruptions, and earthquakes, have become of almost daily occurrence, and of continually augmenting intensity. Moreover, they embrace a larger and larger area of territory at each recurrence. The last shock which so fearfully devastated South America, was felt over *one-third of the earth's surface*. These portentous phenomena are seriously engaging the attention of the scientific world. The remark that they only seem to us more frequent, because our means of communication are more complete and rapid, and that we now hear from all parts of the globe simultaneously, *will not explain the matter*, since the late commotions have been attended by disturbances of both land and sea in parts of the earth which have been constantly accessible for centuries, that were totally unparalleled in previous history. The *change of the gulf stream* from its course, and the alteration of climates, have been some of these increased marvels.

Ocean Disasters

The *Daily Press* says:

Fourteen hundred ships were wrecked in one week, the first week in December, 1863, in the Mediterranean sea.

On the coast of England the same gale was terrible. The *London Shipping List*, of Dec. 9, says:

The late terrible gale experienced in this country, commenced on the morning of the 3rd inst., and continued with little intermission until after midday on the fifth. The list of casualties extends over thirty columns of the London papers, and embraces almost every locality on the coast of the United Kingdom, and many points on the adjacent continental seaboard. The most serious disaster recorded is the loss of a Hamburg ship with emigrants for Australia. Of the crew and passengers forty-four were saved and *three hundred perished*.

In November, 1872, the telegraphic dispatches announced the following:

A terrible disaster to an arctic whaling fleet. *Thirty-three vessels* were caught in the ice and *crushed like egg shells*, becoming a total loss. The vessels and cargo were valued at one million and five hundred thousand dollars. Twelve hundred sailors were saved from the wreck.

The total losses in the United States marine since 1865 are, 2,821 vessels, valued at \$129,067,700.

The total losses throughout the world for one year, from Jan. 1, to Dec. 10, 1870, as reported to the British Lloyds, were 1,887 vessels.

China papers report as follows:

In the north of China there have been inundations of a very destructive character. In New-Chiang, *twenty thousand square miles were submerged*, and one thousand people were drowned. A terrible typhoon visited the region of Macao on the 2nd of September, and, besides doing immense damage to property, destroyed three hundred lives.

Sept. 22, 23, 1874, a typhoon swept over Hong Kong and vicinity by which 30,000 persons lost their lives, and property was destroyed to the amount of \$50,000,000.

Supernatural Fires

Isaiah 29

⁶ You shall be *visited of the Lord* of hosts with thunder, and with earthquake, and great noise, with storm and tempest, and the *flame of devouring fire*.

Acts 2

¹⁹ And I will show wonders in heaven above, and *signs in the earth beneath*, blood, *fire*, and vapor of smoke.

The *Detroit Post*, under the head of “The Great Fires Supernatural,” says:

Those who were exposed to the terrible tornado during which Chicago, Peshtigo, Manistee, White Rock, and other towns on Lake Michigan and Huron, were burned, testify nearly unani-

mously that “the air seemed to be on fire.” These words are almost invariably used in describing the phenomena. The fire did not spread gradually from tree to tree and house to house, but a *great sheet of flame, overcoming them like the clouds, and moving with the rapidity of a hurricane*, rushed upon them without warning. It surrounded them. The atmosphere seemed filled with fire. Many people who inhaled the hot air fell dead. Corpses were found without a trace of fire upon them, or even upon the clothes which still covered them. There were frequently no marks of fire among the adjacent trees and fences. Many were killed in compact masses as if by a blast of death. They were found huddled together away from trees and buildings. Fish were killed in the streams by the intense heat. Many of these people *believed that the last day had come*; as well they might. The roaring of the whirlwind which preceded the blaze sounded enough like the last trump to suggest a prelude to the final catastrophe. The black midnight sky suddenly burst into flame.

The following graphic description of the Chicago fire, as viewed from the top of the Tremont House, is by Mr. Abel Palmer, in the *Detroit Post*:

A strong wind was blowing at that time, and yet the flames seemed to go in all directions, like an expanding scythe mowing great and increasing swaths with frightful rapidity. We could think of nothing else but hell. The flames were in some places like huge waves, dashing to and fro, leaping up and down, turning and twisting, and pouring—now and then a great column of smoke and blaze hundreds of feet into the air, like a solid perpendicular shaft of molten metal. In other places it would dart out long streaks, like mammoth anacondas, with hissing, fiery tongues; then these serpentine shapes would swoop down over the blazing path into the yet unburned buildings, which *seemed pierced and kindled instantaneously*. There were also billows of flame that rolled along like water, submerging everything in their course. There was a terrible fascination in gazing upon the scene.

It was *unearthly, hideous, terrific*. Our eyes seemed riveted so that we could not withdraw them. There were miles of fire, mountains of flame, waves of light, flashes, clouds, brilliant scin-

tillations. With the aid of glasses we could see the streets thronged with people flying for their lives. Close to their heels in hot pursuit, came the belching, roaring, and crackling flames. In some places, they actually advanced as fast as men could run. The most awful of all was the thunderous roar that seemed to roll upward and outward from the center of the huge holocaust.

J. H. W., in the *Review and Herald* of Oct. 17, 1871, thus gives the extent of the fire in Chicago:

A space one mile wide, east and west, and five miles long, was burned over, not even sparing buildings which were considered fire-proof. This gives the enormous extent of *thirty-two hundred acres of burned buildings*. Compared with this, former fires appear small. The great fire in Pittsburgh, Pa., in 1845, burned eighty acres. The fire in Portland, Me., in 1866, consumed property estimated at \$10,000,000. The celebrated fire in London, in 1666, destroyed about £10,000,000 sterling. The destruction of property in Chicago is more than *three times that in London*, and over fifteen times that destroyed in Portland!

The same writer, in the *Youth's Instructor*, of October, 1874, speaking of the burning of White Rock, Mich., says

They who witnessed it say the atmosphere was all aglow with heat. Far overhead it looked like the top of a heated oven. The fire fell thick as flakes of snow, all around. Many still believe that it was supernatural, and came from the clouds. Hearing their descriptions, which, of course, fall immeasurably short of the reality, we cannot wonder at their belief.

MR. J. A. RICHARDS, in the *Milwaukee Sentinel*, gives a description of the scene of the Wisconsin fires. He says:

O God! what a scene met my gaze on every side. Here came the crisis of the storm; here the fiery elements, controlled by a tornado and a whirlwind, made war on human hopes, hearts, and life. The half has not been told, nor ever can be.

The phenomena and results of this storm were *mysteriously strange*. In some places the forest trees lay in every imaginable

position, while in others they were carried into windrows. They were mere sticks in the hands of a great power, slashing and whipping the earth, and then made fuel for the work of death. The fields, woods, barns, houses, and even the "air," were on fire, while *large balls of fire were revolving and bursting in every direction*, igniting everything they came in contact with; and the whole of this devouring element was driven before a tornado at the rate of a mile a minute. There can be little doubt that the air, strongly charged with electricity, helped on the work of destruction and death.

Mr. Kirby says he saw large balls of fire in the air, and when they came in contact with anything, they would bound thirty or forty rods away. Others testify that they saw *large clouds of fire burst into fragments*, and in some instances great tongues of fire like lightning would issue from these dark clouds and light upon the buildings. Pennies were melted in the pockets of persons who were but little burned. A small bell upon an engine, and a new stove, both standing from twenty to forty feet from any building, were melted.

Many thought the "great day of His wrath" had come. And why should they not? If persons who visit the ruins since the fire are forced to think that God hid His face in wrath and sent forth His thunderbolts of destruction; nay, that He gave the very fiends of hell the right and power to shake the place and burn it up, what must have been the feelings of those who passed through the fiery ordeal?

A STORM OF FIRE

Milwaukee, Oct. 15.—Later accounts from northern Wisconsin confirm all previous reports and rumors. The loss of life in the neighborhood of the burned district of Peshtigo will reach over 1,800, and 15 per cent of those injured cannot recover. The fire tornado was heard at a distance *like the roaring of the sea*. Balls of fire were soon observed to *fall like meteors* in different parts of the town, igniting whatever they touched. People rushed with their children in their arms for a place of safety, but the storm of fire was upon them, and enveloped them in flames, smoke, and cinders, and those unable to reach the river were suffocated and

roasted alive. This terrible scene happened on Sunday night, the 8th of October, already made famous by the Chicago horror. * * *

The fiery cyclone swept over a tract of country eight or ten miles wide. Every building, fence, and all the timber, were licked up clean by the tongue of fire.

The town of Peshtigo numbered 2,000 inhabitants, one third of whom perished in that fearful night.

Reports from the east shore of Green Bay place the loss of life full as high as at Peshtigo.

Many fire judgments have fallen upon the wicked cities of earth. Here is a brief of the published accounts of some of them:

NEW YORK CITY

The largest fire that ever visited New York City was on December 26, 1835, when it swept through the First Ward east of Broadway and below Wall street, destroying 648 stores and warehouses and property valued at \$20,000,000.

PORTLAND, ME

A fire-cracker that exploded on the 4th of July, 1866, burned the city of Portland, Me.; loss, \$15,000,000, and 10,000 people rendered homeless.

ST. PETERSBURG

In 1870 the lightning struck a house at St. Petersburg, and in a few hours 11,000 houses were consumed.

PITTSBURGH, PENN.

On the 10th of April, 1845, Pittsburgh was visited by the Fire King. Before it could be arrested 1,000 buildings were destroyed. Loss, \$6,000,000.

SAN FRANCISCO

May 3 to 5, 1851, 2,500 buildings burnt. Loss, \$3,500,000. On June 22 following, another fire occurred, when 500 buildings were destroyed, with property estimated at \$3,000,000.

QUEBEC

In May, 1845, in Quebec, Canada, 1,500 buildings, many lives and an immense amount of property; and in June, less than a month after, 1,300 dwellings—in all, two-thirds of the city was destroyed.

BOSTON

November 9 and 10, 1872, a terrible fire raged in Boston, making rapid progress even against the wind, the flames leaping from roof to roof as if by a miraculous power. Two hundred acres, literally packed with the loftiest and most costly buildings were swept clean. Upwards of *ninety millions* of property was destroyed.

12. The World Waxed Old

Isaiah 51

⁶ The earth shall wax old like a garment.

Isaiah 24

⁴ The earth mourns and *fades* away, the world languishes and fades away, the haughty people of the earth do languish.

⁶ Therefore has the *curse devoured the earth*.

THE effects of the devouring curse in the earth is manifested in many ways. Statistics show that one-half of the human race die in infancy or childhood. The race are dwarfed and enfeebled.

In the first age of the world man lived almost a thousand years, while now he rarely exceeds the allotted threescore and ten.

In stature also the race are greatly reduced. This is clearly shown, not only by the Bible and ancient history, but by the discoveries of antediluvian remains.

The *Gospel Herald*, of Dayton, Ohio, gives the following account:

In the Scientific Department of one of our most popular weekly exchanges, we find an interesting account of a large human skeleton, recently discovered in the department of Ain, France. The frame is complete in all its parts, and is four yards in height. It was found in a soil of alluvium, the head buried in the earth, with the feet upward.

The *Sauk Rapids Sentinel* (Minn.) gives the following:

Day before yesterday, while the quarrymen, employed by the Sauk Rapids Water Power Company, were engaged in quarrying rock for the dam which is being erected across the Mississippi at this place, they found imbedded in the solid granite rock the remains of a human being of gigantic stature. About seven feet below the surface of the ground, and about three and a half beneath the upper stratum of rock, the remains were found imbedded in

the sand, which had evidently been placed in the quadrangular grave which had been dug out of the solid rock to receive the last remains of this antediluvian giant.

The grave was twelve feet in length, four feet wide, and about three feet in depth, and is today at least two feet below the present level of the river. The remains are completely petrified, and are of gigantic dimensions. The head is massive, measures thirty-one and one half inches in circumference, but low in the os frontis, and very flat on the top. The femur measures twenty-six and a quarter inches, and the fibula twenty-five and a half, while the body is equally long in proportion. From the crown of the head to the sole of the foot, the length is *ten feet nine and a half inches*. The measure around the chest is fifty-nine and a half inches. This giant must have weighed at least nine hundred pounds, when covered with a reasonable amount of flesh.

PROF. SILLIMAN in a scientific lecture is responsible for the following:

The giant whose bones were exhibited at Rouen, in 1830, measured nearly 18 feet. Gorapius saw a girl that was 10 feet high. The giant Galabra, brought from Arabia to Rome, under Claudius Caesar, was 10 feet high. The giant Ferragus, slain by Orlando, nephew of Charlemagne, was 28 feet high. In 1814, near St. Germain, was found the tomb of the giant Isorant, who was not less than 30 feet high. In 1850, near Rouen, was found a skeleton whose skull held a bushel of corn, and which was 19 feet high. The giant Bacart was 22 feet high; his thigh bones were found in 1704 near the river Moderi. In 1823, near a castle in Dauphiny, a tomb was found 30 feet long, 16 feet wide, and 8 feet high, on which was cut in gray stone these words: "Kintolochus Rex." The skeleton was found entire, 251 feet long, 10 feet across the shoulders, and 5 feet from the breast-bone to the back. We have no doubt that "there were giants in those days," and the past was perhaps more prolific in producing them than the present.

Failure of Grain Crops

Joel 1

¹⁰ The field is wasted, the land mourns; for the corn is wasted: the new wine is dried up, the oil languishes.

¹¹ Be ashamed, O you husbandmen; howl, O you vinedressers, for the *wheat* and for the *barley*; because the *harvest of the field is perished*.

¹⁷ The *seed is rotten under their clods*, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the *corn is withered*.

There has been a great change in the productions of the earth, and the grains and fruits are fading away.

HERODOTUS (446 BC), p. 59, says:

But the soil is so particularly well adapted for corn, that it never produces less than 200 fold. In seasons which are remarkably favorable, it will sometimes rise to 300. The ears of their wheat as well as their barley, are *four digits* in size.

LAYARD, in his *Researches*, p. 283, refers to the above as follows:

The blades of wheat and barley he declares grew full four fingers in breadth.

In JEWS' *Letters to Voltaire*, pp. 260, 262, we find the following:

In many distributions of land, made, not only under the kings of Rome, but 400 years after its foundation, about 300 BC, every citizen or planter got but two acres of ground.

These planters' families, they say, "averaged six persons."

COLUMELA informs us that:

"...*four acres* of land made up the whole estate of the famous dictator, *Quintius Cincinnatus*. His family, including slaves, is supposed to have been twelve persons.

GIBBON (Vol. 1, p. 444,) says:

Diocletian, near the days of Constantine, retired from the throne to a farm of between nine and ten English acres.

Now, 160 acres is counted a small farm for a family of six persons!

In the *N. Y. Tribune's* report of the "Farmers' Club" we find the following:

Mr. Disturnell alluded to the failing of the wheat crop in Ohio; as the facts published by the agricultural societies of that State show that the wheat crop of Ohio, during a period of eight years, has been as follows:

Years	Average per Acre (in bushels)	Years	Average per Acre (in bushels)
1851	15	1859	7
1853	12	1861	10
1855	13	1863	11
1857	14	1865	9

This fearful result is becoming apparent in Western and Southern States.

The *N. Y. Tribune*, of February 10, 1869, quotes from a California paper as follows:

It will hardly be claimed for California, that, though she has exceptional lands which yield more per acre than any lands in the great West, her soil is more lasting than those of Ohio, Illinois, and Michigan. Yet in those three States the average wheat crop has run down to less than twelve bushels per acre, and it cannot be long till wheat culture there must be abandoned as unprofitable. Our own experience is not much more encouraging. In our oldest wheat-raising districts there has been a *marked decline* in productions since 1866.

The *Detroit Post* gives the agricultural report from Washington, June 17, 1870. From it we extract the following:

Twenty years have wrought changes in the list of wheat-growing States that are suggestive and even startling. . . . Facts showing the decrease of yield in every State would be equally striking and more sadly suggestive. . . . Many gloomy reports, and forebodings of failure, have come from the "Golden State."

Failure of Fruit Trees

Joel 1

¹² The vine is dried up, and the fig tree *languishes*; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the *apple tree*, even all the trees of the field, are *withered*; because joy is withered away from the sons of men.

J. F. WOLFINGER, of Milton, Pa., in the N. Y. *Tribune*, says:

That our apple trees bear less and also poorer fruit than they did thirty and forty years ago, is generally true, and as generally regretted. And the *real causes* of this apple-tree failure are, as yet, *involved in mystery*, and open to dispute. . . . I am inclined to think that want of manure, and want of proper ground culture, and the changes of our climate from moisture to a hot, scorching dryness, and the prevalence of insects, are the real causes of our apple trees failing to produce plentiful crops of fine fruit as they did in generations gone by.

G. W. SOUTHWICK, of Indiana, in the N. Y. *Tribune*, Nov. 17, 1868, says:

This is the oldest settled part of the State, and formerly we used to have abundance of all kinds of fruit, apples included; but for the last few years, apples have almost uniformly failed.

The celebrated SOLON ROBINSON said:

All through the Eastern States, many have taken great pains, have fertilized and cultivated, and even planted new orchards; but so far from finding a remedy, the trees have died. Everywhere our apple trees are decaying, and they seem doomed.

C. H. MURPHY, of Clay City, Ill., in the *Tribune* of Dec. 24, 1867, said:

Where I was raised in Southern Ohio, I have known my father to frequently gather, about 18 or 20 years ago, as high as 40 bushels of apples from a single tree, and these of the most excellent varieties. In the same region *now, it would take nearly 40 trees to produce one bushel!* Apples had begun to decline there previous to 1850. It began in our own orchard on a bellflower that had always given fine fruit. The apples began to speck with a bitter rot, and fall off prematurely. Other trees were soon similarly affected, and finally the whole orchard. My father grew alarmed and hauled muck from the bottom of the canal and placed around his trees, with straw and leaves. He manured, mulched, and pruned. It did no good. The trees sickened and died.

The *Tribune* speaks of “new and unheard-of diseases in the pear trees,” and asks,

What has become of nice apples?

Destructive Insects

Joel 1

⁴ That which the *palmerworm* has left has the locust eaten; and that which the locust has left has the *cankerworm* eaten; and that which the cankerworm has left has the *caterpillar* eaten.

Amos 4

⁹ I have smitten you with blasting and mildew; when your gardens and your vineyards and your fig trees and your olive trees increased, the *palmerworm devoured them*: yet have you not returned unto me, says the Lord.

The *Eighth Census Report* has the following:

In some instances, *whole armies* ¹⁹³ of destructive insects have rendered the labors of the husbandman unprofitable or fruitless.

¹⁹³ In *Joel 2:25*, the Lord, by the prophet, names the “cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm,” and calls them, “my great army which I sent among you.”—COMPILER.

The wheat midge, the chinch bug, and the *army worm*, besides those that have for years preyed on the products of the orchard and garden, occasion the loss of millions of dollars annually.

The N. Y. *Tribune*, Aug. 18, 1868, said:

Of these great scourges, the grasshopper, the Colorado potato bug, the chintz bug, the strawberry grub, and the curculio, no preventives that can be generally applied are as yet known. We may say positively that destructive insects are increasing every year, and that they destroy as great an amount of food as is saved.

13. The Second Advent

The doctrine of Christ's personal second advent near at hand, has been regarded by many as "Millerism," "new things," &c., but the following testimonies will show that it is not only a *Bible doctrine*, but that it has been the faith of many of the best and most learned men.

Acts 1

¹¹ This SAME JESUS which is taken up from you into heaven, SHALL SO COME in like manner as you have seen him go into heaven.

Matthew 24

³⁰ They shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.

Hebrews 9

²⁸ Unto them that look for Him shall He *appear* the SECOND TIME without sin unto salvation.

MARTIN LUTHER, in 1545 AD, said of passing events:

I do most earnestly hope that these are the blessed signs of the *immediate end of all things*.¹⁹⁴

Near the time of his death, he said:

I persuade myself verily that the day of Judgment will not be absent full three hundred years more. God will not, cannot, suffer this wicked world much longer.

JOHN CALVIN, 1535 AD, said:

The Scripture uniformly commands us to look forward with eager expectation to the coming of Christ, and defers the crown of glory that awaits till that period.¹⁹⁵

¹⁹⁴ *Mitchelet's Life of Luther*, p. 255.

¹⁹⁵ *Institutes*, b. 3, chap. 25.

The *Waldenses* said:

We ought always to watch and pray; for we see that *the world is near its end*. Daily we see the signs coming to their accomplishment, in the increase of evil, &c.¹⁹⁶

MATTHEW HENRY, who was declared by Adam Clarke to be “always orthodox,” says:

How much more should they wait with expectation and earnestness for his second coming, which will be the day of their complete redemption.

They [the wicked,] will still attack us till the end of time; till our Lord is come; they will not believe that He will come; nay, they will laugh at the very notion of His second coming, and do all they can to put all out of countenance who seriously believe and wait for it.¹⁹⁷

On *Luke* 18:8, DR. HENRY remarks:

In particular it intimates that He will delay His coming so long that wicked people will begin to defy it, and to say, “Where is the promise of His coming?” They will challenge Him to come; and His delay will harden them in their wickedness. Even His own people will begin to despair of it, and conclude He will never come, because He has passed their reckoning.

ROBERT HALL, a Baptist preacher and author, of great talent, says:

Everything in the condition of mankind announces the approach of some great crisis.¹⁹⁸

THOMAS SCOTT, who died 1821 AD, says:

No doubt the end of the 2300 days or years is not very distant.¹⁹⁹

¹⁹⁶ *Horae Apocalypticae*, Vol. 2, p. 315.

¹⁹⁷ *Commentary on 2 Peter* 3.

¹⁹⁸ *Hall's Works*, Vol. 4, p. 404.

¹⁹⁹ *Commentary on Daniel* 8:14.

WILLIAM COWPER, about 1789 AD, said

The world appears
To toll the death-bell of its own decease;
And by the voice of all its elements,
To preach the general doom. When were winds
Let slip with such a warrant to destroy?
When did the waves so haughtily o'erleap
Their ancient barrier, deluging the dry?
Fires from beneath, and meteors from above,
Portentous, *unexampled, unexplained,*
Have kindled beacons in the skies. The old
And crazy earth has had her shaking fits
More frequent, and foregone her usual rest;
And nature seems with dim and sickly eye
To wait the close of all.²⁰⁰

THOMAS COKE was associated with Wesley, and was very active, accomplishing nine missionary voyages to America. Of Christ's coming he says:

Near, even at the doors, is the day of Judgment. The period of time which yet remains we know is short; how short, who can tell? We ought to be in constant and hourly expectation of it. At the coming of Christ to avenge and deliver His faithful people, the faith of His coming will, in a great measure, be lost. Chronological calculation, and the general appearance of the world, all conspire to tell us that the events of the latter days are even come upon us, and that the time of God's controversy with the earth is near at hand. It is already on the wing.²⁰¹

LORENZO DOW says:

The ten toes of Nebuchadnezzar's image only remain; these times are eventful, and the signs are portentous; let all the Israel of God be in a state of readiness for the coming of the Lord.²⁰²

²⁰⁰ Cowper's *Task*, b. 2.

²⁰¹ See Coke's *Commentary*.

²⁰² Dow's *Journal*, p. 355.

WM. MILLER says:

I beseech you, O sinner, do not hear to those who will deceive you. Look for yourselves; read, study, and consider for yourselves. You may depend upon it, every important movement of the nations, of the church, of the sects, and societies of the world, denote the end of all things at hand.²⁰³

²⁰³ *Memoirs*, pp. 404-5.

14. Perpetuity of the Moral Law

Psalm 119

¹⁷² All your commandments are righteousness.

¹⁶⁰ Every one of your righteous judgments endures forever.

Isaiah 51

⁶ My righteousness shall not be abolished.

Luke 16

¹⁷ It is easier for heaven and earth to pass, than one tittle of the law to fail.

Romans 2

¹³ The doers of the law shall be justified.

Romans 3

²⁰ By the law is the knowledge of sin.

³¹ *We establish* the law.

Psalm 111

⁷ *All* His commandments are *sure*.

⁸ They stand fast forever and ever, and are done in truth and uprightness.

Nehemiah 9

¹³ You came down also upon Mount Sinai and spoke with them from heaven, and gave them right judgments, and *true laws, good statutes* and commandments.

IRENÆUS says:

For God at the first, indeed warning them [the Jews] by means of *natural precepts*, which *from the beginning* He had implanted in mankind, that is, by means of the DECALOGUE (which if any one does not observe, he has no salvation,) did then demand nothing more of them.²⁰⁴

Preparing man for this life, the Lord himself did speak in His own person to all alike the words of the decalogue; and therefore, in like manner, do they remain permanently with us, receiving,

²⁰⁴ *Against Heresies*, Book 4, chap. 15, sect. 1.

by means of His advent in the flesh, extension and increase, but not abrogation.²⁰⁵

NOVATIAN, about 250 AD, said:

Those ten commandments on the tables teach *nothing new*, but remind them of what had been obliterated.²⁰⁶

In a letter against the Antinomians, published by Samuel Rutherford in London, 1648, DR. MARTIN LUTHER says:

I wonder exceedingly how it came to be imputed to me that I should reject the law of ten commandments. . . . Can it be imaginable that there should be any sin where there is no law? Whosoever abrogates the law, must of necessity abrogate sin also.²⁰⁷

In 1541 AD, Luther wrote as follows:

He who pulls down the law, pulls down at the same time the whole frame-work of human polity and society. If the law be thrust out of the church, there will no longer be anything recognized as a sin in the world, since the gospel defines and punishes sin only by recurring to the law.

*I never rejected the law.*²⁰⁸

CALVIN says:

The law has sustained no diminution of its authority, but ought always to receive from us the same veneration and *obedience*.²⁰⁹

DR. ADAM CLARKE, speaking of the law as a “rule of life,” says:

And let it be observed that the law did not answer this end *merely among the Jews*, in the days of the apostles; it is *just as necessary to the Gentiles, to the present hour*. Nor do we find that true repentance takes place where the moral law is not preached

²⁰⁵ *Id.* chap. 16, sect. 4.

²⁰⁶ *Novatian on Meats, &c.*, chap. 3.

²⁰⁷ *Spiritual Antichrist*, pp. 71, 72.

²⁰⁸ *Life of Luther*, p. 217.

²⁰⁹ *Institutes*, b. 2, chap. 7, § 15.

and enforced. Those who preach only the gospel to sinners, at best only heal the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly.²¹⁰

THOMAS SCOTT says:

This law, which is so extensive that we cannot measure it, so spiritual that we cannot evade it, and so reasonable that we cannot find fault with it, will be the rule of the future judgment of God, as it is of the present conduct of man.

DR. ALBERT BARNES, in his note on *Matthew* 5:19, says:

We learn hence, 1. That all the law of God is binding on Christians. 2. That all the commands of God should be preached in their proper place, by Christian ministers. 3. That they who pretend that there are any laws of God so small that they need not obey them, are unworthy of his kingdom. And, 4. That true piety has respect to all the commands of God, and keeps them.

PRESIDENT HUMPHREY of Amherst College, speaking of the law of ten commandments, says:

The law has no limitations, and therefore can never expire. It has *never been repealed*, and as the sacred canon is full and complete, we are certain it never will be. It is, therefore, binding on every one of us at this moment; and will be upon all future generations. No human authority may expunge a single word from the statutes of Jehovah.²¹¹

JOHN WESLEY, in his Notes on *Matthew* 5:17, says:

It was not the design of Christ to revoke any part of the law. It cannot be broken. Every part of it remains in force upon all men in all ages. Neither time, place, nor circumstances make it liable to change.

The *Methodist Discipline* says:

No Christian, whatsoever, is free from the obedience of the

²¹⁰ *Commentary on Romans* 7:13.

²¹¹ *Essay on the Sabbath*, p. 21.

commandments which are called moral.²¹²

DR. CHALMERS says:

For the permanency of the Sabbath, however, we might argue its place in the *decalogue*, where it stands enshrined among the moralities of a rectitude that is *immutable and everlasting*.²¹³

DR. CUMMINGS, of England, says:

The *law of ten commandments* is in its nature unchangeable and permanent. It was ordained by the supreme Law-giver, as the *infallible rule of life*, to all men, in every age of the world, in all places, under all circumstances, in *every nation* and generation of men on the earth. Not one jot or tittle of it was ever abolished, nor diminished, *nor altered in the least degree*, by the change of dispensation from Jewish to Christian.²¹⁴

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL says:

It is a poor apology for this expurgation of the decalogue that it is not so done in the Douay Bible. What myriads, then, through this fraud, must have lived and died in the belief that the second commandment was no part of God's law. It is clearly proved that the pastors of the church have struck out one of *God's ten words!* which, not only in the Old Testament, but in *all revelation*, are the most emphatically regarded as the synopsis of all religion and morality.²¹⁵

MR. SPURGEON, of England, says:

The law of God is a divine law, holy, heavenly, perfect... There is not a command too many; there is not one too few; but it is so incomparable that its perfection is a proof of its divinity. . . . No human law-giver could have given forth such a law as that which we find in the decalogue.²¹⁶

²¹² *Article VI.*

²¹³ *Sermons*, Vol. 1, p. 51.

²¹⁴ *Signs of the Times*, pp. 23, 39.

²¹⁵ *Debate with Purcell*, p. 214.

²¹⁶ *Sermons*, p. 280.

ELD. E. H. THOMAS, in the *Church Advocate*, Vol. 26, No. 2, says:

The spirit of the decalogue is like its author, unchanged and *unchangeable*, and consequently binding upon *all men*, and in *all ages*.

TAPPAN, speaking of the “great moral laws announced at Sinai,” says:

Every one of these utters a universal and necessary moral truth. Duty as here presented is not arbitrary, but rational.²¹⁷

²¹⁷ *Logic*, p. 241.

15. The True Bible Sabbath

Genesis 2

³ And God *blessed the seventh day* and *sanctified* it.

Exodus 16

²⁹ The Lord has given you the Sabbath.

Exodus 20

¹⁰ The *seventh day* is the *Sabbath of the Lord* thy God.

Mark 2

²⁷ The Sabbath was made for man.

Luke 23

⁵⁶ And rested the Sabbath day according to the commandment.

Observed Several Hundred Years after Christ

COLEMAN says:

Down even to the fifth century the observance of the Jewish Sabbath was continued in the Christian church, but with a rigor and solemnity gradually diminishing until it was wholly discontinued.²¹⁸

EDWARD BREREWOOD, professor in Gresham College, London, says:

It is commonly believed that the Jewish Sabbath was changed into the Lord's day by Christian emperors, and they know little who do not know that the *ancient Sabbath* did remain and was observed by the eastern churches *three hundred years* after our Saviour's passion.²¹⁹

The American Presbyterian Board of Publication, in tract No. 118, states that:

The observance of the seventh-day Sabbath *did not cease* till it was abolished after the empire became Christian.

²¹⁸ *Ancient Christianity Exemplified*, chap. 26., sect. 2.

²¹⁹ *Treatise on the Sabbath*, p. 77.

SOCRATES,²²⁰ 440 AD, says:

There are various customs concerning assembling; for though all the churches throughout the whole world celebrate the sacred mysteries on the *Sabbath day*, yet the Alexandrians and the Romans, from an ancient *tradition*, refuse to do this.²²¹

M. DE LA ROQUE, a French Protestant, says:

It evidently appears that, before any change was introduced, the church religiously observed the Sabbath for many ages; we of consequence are obliged to keep it.

No Authority for the Change

The *National Cyclopaedia* has the following:

It has been held by many eminent divines that there is not sufficient evidence in the New Testament for such an institution; that the change of day from the seventh to the first day of the week is an insuperable difficulty.²²²

DR. COX, in his *Literature, &c.*, says:

All who claim any knowledge of the works of the fathers say that these ancient writers usually, if not invariably, speak of the Lord's day [Sunday] as an independent institution, of which neither the fourth commandment, nor a primeval Sabbath, is once referred to as the foundation.²²³

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL, of the change of the Sabbath, says:

But some say it was changed from the seventh to the first day. Where? when? and by whom? No man can tell. No; it never was changed, nor could it be, unless creation was to be gone through

²²⁰ This is not the ancient Greek philosopher, but a Byzantine church historian.

²²¹ *Ecclesiastical History*, p. 289.

²²² *National Cyclopaedia*, Article: "Sabbath."

²²³ Cox's *Literature*, p. 12. See also Heylin, part 2, chap. 2; Taylor's *Life of Jesus*, part 2, sec. 12, dis. 10, sec. 24; Baxter's *Practical Works*, 13, 386; Cook, 2, 291-303; Holden, p. 334; Bannesman, 130; Neale, 90, 237; Domville, 1, 291-9; Bunsen, Hippolytus, 3, 76.

again; for the *reason assigned must be changed* before the observance or respect to the reason can be changed! It is old wives' fables to talk of the change of the Sabbath from the seventh to the first day. If it be changed, it was that august personage changed it who changes times and laws *ex officio*. I think his name is *Dr. Antichrist*.²²⁴

The reformers, LUTHER, MELANCTHON, and others, speaking of the unwarranted assumptions of the Catholic church, say:

They allege the Sabbath changed into Sunday, the Lord's day, contrary to the decalogue, as it appears; neither is there any example more boasted of than the changing of the Sabbath day. Great, say they, is the power and authority of the church, since it dispensed with one of the ten commandments.²²⁵

DR. COX refers to the reformers thus:

They failed to see in the New Testament any of those indications which the puritans were the first to discover, of a transference of the Sabbath to the first day of the week, by Jesus or the apostles.²²⁶

DR. COX says:

The early fathers give no support, direct or indirect, to the notion that the Sabbath had been transferred at all; but it is not surprising that those who wrote after the enactment by Constantine that Sunday should be kept as a Sabbath, were more apt to discover reasons for such observance of it.²²⁷

DR. NEANDER says:

Opposition to Judaism introduced the particular festival of Sunday, very early, indeed, into the place of the Sabbath. . . . The festival Sunday, like all other festivals, was always only a human ordinance; and it was *far from the intention of the apostles* to estab-

²²⁴ *Christian Baptism*, Vol. 1, p. 44.

²²⁵ *Augsburg Confession*, Art. 28.

²²⁶ *Literature*, Vol. 1, p. 127.

²²⁷ *Literature*, Vol. 1, p. 257. [Note.]

lish a divine command in this respect—far from them, and from the early apostolic church, to transfer the laws of the Sabbath to Sunday. Perhaps at the end of the second century, a false application of this kind had begun to take place; for men appear by that time to have considered laboring on Sunday as a sin.²²⁸

When Was the Sabbath Changed?

SIR WM. DOMVILLE says:

Centuries of the Christian era passed away before the Sunday was observed by the Christian church as a Sabbath. History does not furnish us with a single proof or indication that it was at any time so observed previous to the Sabbatical edict of Constantine in 321 AD.²²⁹

A high authority speaks of it as follows:

It was Constantine the Great who first made a law for the proper observance of Sunday; and who, according to Eusebius, appointed it should be regularly celebrated throughout the Roman Empire.²³⁰

The *Encyclopedia Americana*, Article: “Sabbath,” says:

Constantine the Great made a law for the whole empire (321 AD), that Sunday should be kept as a day of rest in all cities and towns; but he allowed the country people to follow their work.

Of Constantine’s decree, MILMAN, the learned editor of Gibbon, says:

The rescript, commanding the celebration of the Christian Sabbath, bears no allusion to its peculiar sanctity as a Christian institution. It is the day of the sun which is to be observed by the general veneration.²³¹

²²⁸ *Church History*, p. 168.

²²⁹ *Examination of the Six Texts*, p. 291.

²³⁰ *Encyclopedia Britannica*, Article: “Sunday.”

²³¹ *History of Christianity*, book 3, chap. 1.

PRYNNE says:

The seventh-day Sabbath was...solemnized by Christ, the apostles, and primitive Christians, till the Laodicean council did, in a manner, quite abolish the observation of it. . . . The council of Laodicea [864 AD]...first settled the observation of the Lord's day.²³²

JOHN LEY, an old English writer, 1640, says:

From the apostles' time until the council of Laodicea, which was about the year 364, the holy observance of the Jew's Sabbath continued, as may be proved out of many authors; yea, notwithstanding the decree of that council against it.²³³

The Sabbath a Sign or Memorial of the True God

Exodus 31

¹³ Verily my Sabbaths you shall keep; for it is a sign between me and you...that you may know that I am the Lord that does sanctify you.

Ezekiel 20

¹² I gave them my Sabbaths *to be a sign* between me and them, *that they might know* that I am the Lord that sanctify them.

²⁰ And hallow my Sabbaths; and they shall be a sign between me and you, that you may know that I am the Lord your God.

The *Apostolical Constitutions* have the following:

O Lord Almighty, You have created the world by Christ, and *have appointed the Sabbath in memory thereof.*²³⁴

DR. ADAM CLARKE says:

The religious observance of the Sabbath was the first statute or command of God to men. This institution was a *sign* between

²³² *Dissertation of the Lord's Day*, 1633, p. 163.

²³³ *Sunday a Sabbath*, p. 163.

²³⁴ Book 7, sect. 2, par. 36.

God and them to *keep them in remembrance of the creation of the world.*²³⁵

PROF. M'OWEN (Methodist), in his work on the Sabbath, pp. 12, 14, says:

The Sabbath was instituted to *commemorate the creation of the world.* To furnish the world with a standing demonstration of the falsehood and absurdity of idolatry, He instituted the Sabbath. By blessing the Sabbath and hallowing it; by resting therein, and by challenging it for himself, God stamped it with *His own image and superscription*, and hence its desecration was reckoned among the Jews as a sin of treason against His infinite majesty.

JUSTIN EDWARDS, speaking of the creation of the world in connection with the Sabbath, says:

As a *memorial* of that fact, He set apart the Sabbath, kept it, sanctified and blessed it, for the benefit of all. . . . Thus the keeping of the Sabbath makes God known, and gives efficacy to His moral government. . . . It commemorates the work of God as Creator.²³⁶

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL thus speaks of the Sabbath as a commemorative institution:

Heaven left not this fact, the creation, the basis of a thousand volumes, to be gathered from abstract reasonings, vitiated traditions, ingenious analogies, or plausible conjectures, but from a *monumental* institution which was as *universal* as the annals of time, as the birth of nations, and as the languages spoken by mortals. An institution, too, which, notwithstanding its demand, not only of the seventh part of all time, but of the *seventh day* in uninterrupted succession, was celebrated from the creation to the deluge, during the deluge, and after the deluge till the giving of the law.²³⁷

²³⁵ *Comments on Ezekiel 20:12.*

²³⁶ *Sabbath Manual.*

²³⁷ *Popular Lectures*, pp. 283, 284.

16. Baptism by Immersion

Romans 6

⁴ We are BURIED with Him by *baptism* into death...

⁵ ...we have been PLANTED together in the *likeness of His death*.

Mark 1

⁵ Were all baptized of him *in the river Jordan*, &c.

John 3

²³ Baptizing in AEnon near to Salim, *because there was much water there*.

Acts 8

³⁸ And they went down both *into the water*, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.

JUSTIN MARTYR, about 140 AD, says:

Then we bring them to some place where there is water, and they are baptized by the same way of baptism by which we were baptized; for they are washed *in the water* in the name of God the Father, Lord of all things, and of our Saviour Jesus Christ, and of the Holy Spirit.²³⁸

TERTULLIAN, 204 AD, says:

The person *is let down in the water*, and with a few words said, *is dipped*.

Again he says:

There is no difference whether one is washed in the sea or in a pool; in a river or in a fountain; in a lake or in a channel; nor is there any difference between them whom John dipped in Jordan, and those whom Peter dipped in the Tiber.

He also uses the words,

“In aqua mergimur”—“we are *immersed* in the water.”²³⁹

²³⁸ *Apology* 2, sect. 79.

²³⁹ *De Baptismo*, cap. 2, 4, 7.

GREGORY NAZIANZEN, 360 AD, says:

We are buried with Christ by baptism that we may also rise again with Him; we descend with Him that we may also be lifted up with Him; we ascend with Him that we may also be glorified with Him.²⁴⁰

AMBROSE, 374 AD, says:

You said, I do believe, and *were immersed*, that is, you were buried (*mersisti hoc est, sepultus es*).²⁴¹

CYRIL, of Jerusalem, 374 AD, says:

As he who is *plunged in the water*, and *baptized*, is encompassed by the water on every side; so they that are baptized by the Spirit, are also *wholly covered*.²⁴²

CHRYSOSTOM, 398 AD, says:

To be baptized and *plunged*, and then to emerge or rise again, is a symbol of our descent into the grave, and our ascent out of it; and therefore Paul calls baptism *a burial*.²⁴³

MR. WHITBY, author of a Commentary on the New Testament, and more than forty other learned works, says:

It being so expressly declared here [*Romans* 6:4; *Colossians* 2:12,] that we are buried with Christ in baptism, by being buried under water; and the argument to oblige us to a conformity to His death, by dying to sin, being taken hence; and this *immersion* being religiously observed by all Christians for *thirteen centuries*, and approved by our church, and the change of it into sprinkling, even without any allowance from the author of this institution, or any license from any council of the church, being that which the Romanist still urges to justify his refusal of the cup to the

²⁴⁰ *Orations* 40.

²⁴¹ *De Sacramentis*, L. 2, cap. 7.

²⁴² *The Catechetical Lectures*, 17, sec. 14.

²⁴³ *Homilies on 1 Corinthians*, 40.

laity; it were to be wished that this custom might be again of general use.

BISHOP BOSSUET says:

We are able to make it appear, by the acts of councils, and by the ancient rituals, that for *thirteen hundred years*, baptism was thus (by immersion) administered throughout the whole church, as far as possible.²⁴⁴

STACKHOUSE says:

Several authors have shown, and proved, that this *immersion continued*, as much as possible, to be used for *thirteen hundred years* after Christ.²⁴⁵

LIGHTFOOT and ADAM CLARKE say:

That the baptism of John was by *plunging* the body (after the same manner as the washing unclean persons—was) seems to appear from those things which are related of him; namely, that he baptized in Jordan, that he baptized in AEnon, because there was much water there, &c.²⁴⁶

CALVIN says:

From these words [*John 3:23*,] it may be inferred that baptism was administered, by John and Christ, by *plunging the whole body under water*.²⁴⁷

DODDRIDGE says:

Buried with Him in baptism. It seems the part of candor to confess that here is an allusion to the manner of baptizing *by immersion*.²⁴⁸

²⁴⁴ *Stennett's Answer to Russen*, p. 176.

²⁴⁵ *History of the Bible*, P. 8, p. 1234.

²⁴⁶ *Adam Clarke's Commentary*.

²⁴⁷ *Paedobaptism Examined*, Vol. 1, p. 194.

²⁴⁸ *The Family Expositor*, Note on the place.

GEO. WHITFIELD says:

It is certain that in the words of our text [*Romans* 6:3, 4,] there is an allusion to the manner of baptism, which *was by immersion*, which is what our own church allows, &c.²⁴⁹

JOHN WESLEY says:

Buried with Him—alluding to the ancient manner of *baptizing by immersion*.²⁵⁰

Infant Baptism

There is no intimation in the Scriptures that infants are proper subjects of baptism.

MARTIN LUTHER says:

It cannot be proved by the sacred Scripture that infant baptism was instituted by Christ, or begun by the first Christians after the apostles.²⁵¹

CALVIN says:

Because Christ requires teaching before baptizing, and will have *believers only* admitted to baptism, baptism does not seem to be rightly administered, except faith precede.²⁵²

²⁴⁹ *Eighteen Sermons*, p. 297.

²⁵⁰ *Note on Romans* 6:4.

²⁵¹ *Paedobaptism Examined*, Vol. 2, p. p.

²⁵² *Paedobaptism Examined*, Vol. 2, p. 272.

17. Is the Soul Immortal?

1 Timothy 4

¹⁶ The King of kings, and Lord of lords; *who only has immortality.*

Romans 2

⁷ To them who by patient continuance in well-doing, *seek for glory, honor and immortality.*

Genesis 2

⁷ Man became a living soul.

THE word “soul” occurs in the original Scriptures *eight hundred and seventy-three times*; but it is *never once* called immortal. The word “immortal” is found only once in all the Bible,²⁵³ and there it is applied, not to man, but to God.

BISHOP TILLOTSON, 1774 AD, said:

The immortality of the soul is rather supposed, or taken for granted, than expressly revealed in the Bible.²⁵⁴

OLSHAUSEN, the Commentator, says:

The doctrine of the immortality of the soul, and the name, are alike unknown to the entire Bible.²⁵⁵

DR. BAGNALL, in the *Methodist Quarterly Review* for April, 1852, while advocating the opposite view, makes this frank admission:

In the Bible, we think, there is no passage which can be strictly said to declare that all human souls are immortal.

The celebrated RICHARD WATSON says:

That the soul is naturally immortal,...is contradicted by the Scripture, which makes our immortality a gift dependent on the will of the Giver.²⁵⁶

²⁵³ 1 Timothy 1:17.

²⁵⁴ *Sermons*, Vol. 2.

²⁵⁵ *Commentary on 1 Corinthians 15:13.*

²⁵⁶ *Theological Institutes*, Vol. 2, Part 2, chap. 18.

H. H. DOBNEY, Baptist minister of England, says:

If in these days of multiplied infallibilities, it may be allowed us to prefer an apostolic and inspired exposition of the original record, we shall respectfully take leave to affirm that there is *no expression* on the opening page of a progressive revelation, which teaches the unutterably grand prerogative of an *uncontingent immortality* for all mankind.²⁵⁷

MARTIN LUTHER says:

But I permit the pope to make articles of faith for himself and his faithful, such as, the pope is emperor of the world, and the king of heaven, and God upon earth; *the soul is immortal*, with all those monstrous opinions to be found in the Roman dunghill of decretals.²⁵⁸

CARDINAL DU PERRON says:

Luther held that the *soul died with the body*, and that God would hereafter raise both the one and the other.²⁵⁹

A Lutheran minister denied this statement, and in endeavoring to refute it made the following admission:

The origin of this calumny is a letter he [Luther] wrote to Amsdorf in the year 1522; in which he appears much inclined to believe that the *souls* of the just *sleep* to the day of Judgment, *without knowing where they are*. He does not pretend to say that they are dead in this interval, but only lie in a *profound rest and sleep*, in which opinion he followed many fathers of the ancient church.²⁶⁰

DR. PRIESTLY says:

If we search the Scriptures for passages expressive of the state of man at death, we find such declarations as expressly exclude any trace of *sense, thought, or enjoyment*.²⁶¹

²⁵⁷ *Future Punishment*, p. 120.

²⁵⁸ *Defense*, Prop. 27.

²⁵⁹ *Historical View*, p. 344.

²⁶⁰ *Ibid.* p. 347.

²⁶¹ See *Psalm* 6:5; *Job* 14:7, *Reg. Ency.*, p. 784.

TIMOTHY DWIGHT, D. D., LL. D., says:

Among Christians, I know of but one [S. Drew] who has regarded the immortality of the soul as susceptible of demonstration. Should we believe with this ingenious writer that the soul, metaphysically considered, is so formed as naturally to be immortal, we must still acknowledge, because it cannot be denied, that its existence *may terminate at death*, or any other supposable period. Whatever has been created, can certainly be annihilated by the power which created it.²⁶²

MOSHEIM speaks of the “General Baptists,” who flourished in England in the sixteenth century, and enumerates their articles of faith, one of which he mentions as follows:

VI. They believed that the soul, between death and the resurrection at the last day, has *neither pleasure nor pain*, but is in a state of *insensibility*.²⁶³

Origin of the Immortal-Soul Doctrine

Genesis 3

⁴ The serpent said unto the woman, *You shall not surely die*:

⁵ ...your eyes shall be opened, and *you shall be as gods*.

The next who taught it were the Egyptians. HERODOTUS, a Greek, born 484 BC, regarded as the first and one of the most reliable of profane historians, says:

The *Egyptians* were also the *first* who asserted the doctrine that the soul of man is immortal.²⁶⁴

BUNSEN, in his work on Egypt, says:

The Egyptians were the *first* who taught the doctrine of the immortality of the soul, a fact mentioned by all Greek writers from Herodotus to Aristotle, and one brilliantly confirmed by the monuments.²⁶⁵

²⁶² *Sermons*, Vol. 1, p. 163.

²⁶³ *Ecclesiastical History*, Vol. 3, Book 4, p. 218.

²⁶⁴ Herodotus, *Euterpe*, Book 2, Par. 123.

²⁶⁵ Egypt in *Universal History*, Vol. 4, p. 639.

BALFOUR testifies:

Mr. Stanley says the Egyptians were the first who asserted that the soul of man was immortal, and cites in proof *Eusebius*, *Diodorus*, *Siculus*, and *Halicarnassus*.²⁶⁶

BISHOP WARBURTON says:

The Egyptians, as we are assured by the *concurrent testimony of antiquity*, were among the first who taught that the soul survived the body and was immortal.²⁶⁷

Religion of Pagan Rome Engrafted upon Papal Rome

BASSVILLE says:

The religion of the Romans appears to have been that of Greece — a mixture of Syrian and Egyptian fables. The principal gods of both people were the same.²⁶⁸

DR. GOOD says:

The philosophers of Rome present us with nothing new; for they merely follow the dogmas of those of Greece.²⁶⁹

MR. DOWLING says:

In tracing the origin of the corrupt doctrines and practices of the Romish church, we have had frequent occasion, in the preceding chapters, to allude to the fact that most of its anti-scriptural rites and ceremonies were adopted from the pagan worship of Greece, Rome, and other heathen nations.²⁷⁰

Greeks and Romans Borrow from the Egyptians

MR. ALGER writes:

It seems plain that the Greeks derived many of their notions concerning the fate and state of the dead, from Egypt.²⁷¹

²⁶⁶ *On the Intermediate State of the Dead*, p. 73.

²⁶⁷ *Divine Legation of Moses Demonstrated*, Vol. 2, p. 239.

²⁶⁸ *Elements of Mythology*, p. 244.

²⁶⁹ *Book of Nature*, p. 380.

²⁷⁰ *History of Romanism*, Book 2, chap. 2.

²⁷¹ *A Critical History of the Doctrine of a Future Life*, p. 101.

In the *Elements of Mythology*, p. 36, we find the following:

The ancient Egyptians are considered as the original inventors of the arts, science, and religion, of Greece.

The celebrated Grecian philosophers, Pythagoras and Plato spent many years in Egypt, learning of the priests and teachers there.

WARBURTON, speaking of Pythagoras, says:

He and Plato, with others, traveled into Egypt, like their predecessors. . . . The ancients tell us of their long abode there; their hard condition of admittance into the sacred colleges; and their *bringing away with them all the secret science of the priesthood.*²⁷²

DR. MIDDLETON, in his “Letter from Rome, showing an exact conformity between popery and paganism; or the religion of the present Romans, derived from that of their heathen ancestors,” concludes as follows:

I have sufficiently made good what I undertook to prove; an *exact conformity*, or *uniformity* rather, of *worship*, between popery and paganism; for since, as I have shown above, we see the present people of Rome worshiping in the *same temples*, at the *same altars*, sometimes the *same images*, and always with the *same ceremonies*, as the old Romans, they must have more charity, as well as skill, in distinguishing than I pretend to have, who can absolve them from the *same superstition and idolatry*, of which we condemn their pagan ancestors.²⁷³

²⁷² *Divine Legation of Moses Demonstrated*, Vol. 2, pp. 108, 109.

²⁷³ *Letter*, p. 280.

18. Death of Christ

IF CHRIST the divine Son of God died, both soul and body, how can any mortal man claim that he possesses a soul that cannot die? But if a divine being did not die, then we have only a human atonement.

DR. NEVIN says

The word became flesh; not a single man only, as one among many, but *flesh*, or *humanity*, in its universal conception. . . . It is sufficient to say that the *divine Logos* actually assumed a human body and soul, &c.²⁷⁴

LUTHER, MELANCTHON, and others, in their “Augsburg Confession,” make the following declaration:

Further, we teach that the Word, that is, the Son of God, assumed human nature, was born of the blessed Virgin Mary, so that the two natures, human and divine, inseparably united in one person, constitute one Christ, who is true God and man, was really born, did truly suffer, was crucified, *died, and was buried*, that He might be a sacrifice, &c.²⁷⁵

DR. CLARKE says:

A body was prepared for the eternal *Logos*, and in that body He came to do the will of God, that is, to suffer and die for the sins of the world.²⁷⁶

The *Methodist Discipline*, Article 2, says:

The Son, who is the Word of the Father, the very and eternal God, of one substance with the Father, *took man’s nature* in the womb of the Blessed Virgin; so that two whole and perfect natures, that is to say the Godhead and manhood, were *joined together* in one person, *never to be divided*, whereof is one Christ, very God and very man, who truly suffered, was crucified, *dead*

²⁷⁴ *Mystical Presence*, p. 210.

²⁷⁵ *Schott’s Augsburg Confession*, pp. 81, 82.

²⁷⁶ *Commentary on Hebrews 10:7*.

and buried, to reconcile His Father to us, and to be a sacrifice, not only for original guilt, but also for actual sins of men.

The *Methodist Hymn Book*, says:

The *incarnate God has died for me.*²⁷⁷
Christ the mighty Maker died.²⁷⁸
The *rising God* forsakes the *tomb.*²⁷⁹

Down from the shining seats above
With joyful haste *He fled*;
Entered the grave in mortal flesh
And dwelt among the *dead.*²⁸⁰

Bible Testimony

Isaiah 53

¹⁰ You shall *make His soul an offering* for sin.

¹² He has *poured out His soul unto death.*

Matthew 26

³⁸ My *soul* is exceeding sorrowful, *even unto death.*

Acts 2

³¹ His *soul was not left in hell*, neither His flesh did see corruption.

Acts 3

¹⁵ And *killed the Prince of Life* whom God has raised from the dead.

Hebrews 2

⁹ But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels *for the suffering of death*, crowned with glory and honor; that He by the grace of God should *taste death* for every man.

²⁷⁷ *Hymn 133.*

²⁷⁸ *Hymn 146.*

²⁷⁹ *Hymn 148.*

²⁸⁰ *Hymn 131.*

Philippians 2

⁶ Who, being in the *form of God*, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

⁷ But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

⁸ And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

Personality of God

Jesus was...

Hebrews 1

³ ...the express image of His person.

Man was made in the “image” and “likeness” of God.²⁸¹

That the Deity is in human form, was a part of *every* ancient faith until corrupted by the Greek philosophy.²⁸²

NEANDER says:

Many reckoned the body as belonging to the image of God, founded on the idea that the peculiar human stamp and impress of the divine life must be also represented in a bodily organism.²⁸³

Of the personality of God, NEANDER says:

It was held by Melito, bishop of Sardis in the second century, who wrote a book entitled, *Peri Ensomaton Theou* (*About God Incarnate*), which treated not, as some suppose, of the incarnation, but of the corporeity of God. . . . This view is maintained in the Clementine Homilies, and even by Tertullian; notwithstanding the depth and purity of his religious feelings, he says: “Who shall deny that God is a body, although God is a spirit.” He maintains that there is nothing uncorporeal except what does not exist. Spirit is body of a peculiar quality. . . . We remark similar repre-

²⁸¹ *Genesis* 1:27; 5:1-3; 9:6.

²⁸² *History of Denominations*, p. 440.

²⁸³ *Lectures on the History of Christian Dogmas*, p. 180.

sentations in Lactantius, who combats those who deny that God possesses form and affections.²⁸⁴

²⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 103, 104.

19. Ordinance of Humility

John 13

¹⁴ If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; *you also OUGHT to wash one another's feet.*

¹⁵ For I have given you an EXAMPLE, that you should do AS I have done to you.

¹⁶ Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him.

¹⁷ If you know these things, happy are you *if you do them.*

THE word “*ought*” in this scripture is from the Greek *opheilo*, and, according to Greenfield, means,

...to be bound to the performance of some duty, be obliged, be under obligation.

The lexicons are agreed that it has the full strength of command, duty, or binding obligation. It is so translated in the common version.²⁸⁵

DR. WAYLAND says:

“*Ought*,” puts us under obligation to act.²⁸⁶

The word is of binding force, and imposes duty.²⁸⁷

To be held or bound in duty or moral obligation.²⁸⁸

MATTHEW HENRY says:

Some have understood this *literally*, and have thought these words amount to the institution of a standing ordinance in the church; that Christians should, in a solemn, religious manner, *wash one another's feet*, in token of their condescending love to one another. St. Ambrose took it so, and practiced it in the church of Milan.²⁸⁹

²⁸⁵ See *Luke 17:10; Romans 15:27; 2 Thessalonians 1: 3; and 2:13.*

²⁸⁶ *Moral Science*, p. 54.

²⁸⁷ J. Winebrenner, *Practical Sermons*.

²⁸⁸ Webster.

²⁸⁹ *Commentary on John 13:14.*

KITTO says:

Feet-washing became, as might be expected, a part of the observances practiced in the early church. The real signification, however, was soon forgotten, or overloaded by superstitious feelings, and mere outward practices. Traces of the practice abound in ecclesiastical history.²⁹⁰

The *History of all Religions* says that the Moravians...

...observed many of the original acts of the apostles, such as washing each other's feet, after the manner of a sect which arose in the second century, called Apostolicals, because they observed the acts of the apostles.²⁹¹

The Waldenses, who are acknowledged to have come the nearest to the purity of the faith and practice of the doctrine of Christ, held feet-washing as an ordinance of the church.

We confess that feet-washing is an ordinance of Christ, which He himself administered to His disciples, and recommended by example to the practice of believers.²⁹²

In the *Cyclopedia of Biblical, Theological, and Ecclesiastical Literature*, Vol. 3, p. 616, we find the following:

The act thus performed by Christ at the institution of the supper suggests to believers at every communion this lesson of humility. It is also an *example* of humility, patience, forbearance, and charity. . . .

In the post-apostolic times, the command, "You also ought to wash one another's feet," came to be observed, not only after the spirit, but also after the letter. . . .

In the Greek Church, feet-washing came to be even considered as a sacrament.

The Church of England at first carried out the letter of the command.

²⁹⁰ *Cyclopedia of Biblical Literature*.

²⁹¹ Page 214.

²⁹² *Waldensic Confession of Faith*, p. 12.

The *Anabaptists* continued the practice of feet-washing, which in consideration of the passages *John* 13:14; *1 Timothy* 5:10, they considered as a sacrament instituted and recommended by Christ.²⁹³

²⁹³ See the *Confessio* of the United Baptists or Mennonites of 1660.

20. Miscellaneous

How to Find the Truth

1. In fact, a willingness to know and to do the will of God, implies a willingness to resort to all necessary helps for advancement in the truth, and for security against error.²⁹⁴

2. For it is indisputable that persons of piety, who are anxiously desirous of the knowledge of divine truth, are aided by the Spirit of God in searching out the meaning of Scripture.²⁹⁵

3. If a man philosophise with a pious spirit, *praying* rather than *arguing*, he will find that there is nothing conducive to the happiness of man and the performance of any duty of human life which is not, in some of these writings, laid down, discussed, and determined, in a complete and satisfactory manner.²⁹⁶

Serious Thoughts for Ministers

The grand scope of the Christian ministry is to bring men home to Christ.²⁹⁷

I see that spirituality of mind is the main qualification for the work of the ministry.²⁹⁸

Wherever you are, remember you are a minister.²⁹⁹

The readiest way of finding access to a man's heart is to go into his house.³⁰⁰

In preaching, study not to draw applauses, but groans, from the hearers.³⁰¹

A minister who is a man-pleaser is a soul-destroyer.³⁰²

²⁹⁴ *Bampton Lectures*, p. 41.

²⁹⁵ *Earnest's Interpretation*, p. 25.

²⁹⁶ Erasmus, cited in Knox's *Christian Philosophy*, p. 295.

²⁹⁷ Robert Hall.

²⁹⁸ Urquhart.

²⁹⁹ *Gems for Christian Ministers*.

³⁰⁰ Chalmers.

³⁰¹ Jerome.

³⁰² *Gems for Christian Ministers*.

Let every minister, while he is preaching, remember that God makes one of his hearers.³⁰³

Let Jesus Christ be all in all—study Christ, preach Christ, five Christ.³⁰⁴

Preach no sermon without lifting up your heart to God, both before and after its delivery, that it may be blessed to the people.³⁰⁵

One soul converted to God is better than thousands merely moralized and still sleeping in their sins.³⁰⁶

Melancthon says of Luther: “I have found him in tears praying for the church.”³⁰⁷

Advice to Preachers

1. Resolve to be *brief*, as this is an age of telegraphs and stenography.
2. Be *pointed*; never preach all around your text without hitting it.
3. State your propositions *plainly*, but do not stop long to particularize.
4. Avoid long *introductions*; but plunge into your sermon like a swimmer into cold water.
5. *Condense*; make sure that you have an idea, and then speak it right out, in the plainest, *shortest* possible terms.
6. Avoid all high-flown language; quote no Hebrew nor Greek; aim to be simply a *preacher*.
7. Make *no apologies*. They do not edify, and hence are a waste of time.
8. Desire no rapid growth. When the clock has struck twelve it does not strike thirteen next. The full moon grows no larger.

³⁰³ World.

³⁰⁴ M. Henry.

³⁰⁵ *Gems for Christian Ministers*.

³⁰⁶ Bridges.

³⁰⁷ *Funeral Sermon*, 1546.

9. Be not over hasty to combat public opinion without pressing reason. He that spits against the wind, spits in his own face.
10. Never scare off a fly with a club when a feather will do as well; and remember you can take more flies with a gill of molasses than with a gallon of vinegar.
11. Never forget that a minister's work is to break hard hearts, and to mend broken ones.
12. Avoid extremes in gesture. Do not be too stiff on the one hand, nor like a limber jack on the other; and remember that gestures are to be seen, not heard.
13. Do not try to tell all you know in one sermon. The art of condensing costs study, but when once attained its value is priceless.
14. Never talk merely to hear yourself; if you do, you will weary the hearers.
15. *Avoid levity.* Jesus was never known to laugh, but often to weep.
16. Be *natural*. Do not try to ape the tone or gestures of some great man. Be great by being yourself. Guard against what is termed "heavenly tones," a tremulous voice, and "ministerial twang."
17. Be in *earnest*. Let your hearers see that you believe what you are preaching. How can any preacher go with God's awful message to dying men and women with feelings of indifference?
18. Articulate plainly. Let every word be heard from the number of the first hymn to the amen of the benediction.
19. Consider well the best *manner* as well as the matter in your preaching.
20. Realize that unless the attention of the hearers is *fully arrested* and *vigorously maintained*, the most excellent discourses will be without effect.
21. Unless there be *deep feeling*, the object of preaching will be defeated. After the understanding is informed and the

judgment convinced, the heart and soul must be moved, or no lasting effect is produced.

22. A minister must *talk every word from his very heart*, and pour out the riches of his own knowledge upon the people round about him, by the help of the Spirit and power of God. Then every word and gesture will be free and natural, and full of life and spirit, and a deep and lasting impression will be made upon the minds and hearts of the hearers.³⁰⁸

Good Rules for Every-Day Life

DR. EDWARD PAYSON was one of the most devoted and godly men since the Reformation. He says that all difficult cases that came before his conscience he brought to the test of the following rules:

Rule I. I will do nothing of which I doubt in any degree the lawfulness.

Rule II. To consider everything as unlawful which indisposes me for prayer, and interrupts communion with God.

Rule III. Never to go into any company, business, or situation, in which I cannot conscientiously ask and expect the divine presence.

³⁰⁸ *Selected and arranged.*

