

# HOW THE WORLD IS TO END

THE terrible catastrophe in Italy which caused the inhabitants of the ill-fated city of Messina to believe that the end of the world had come is only a foretaste on a small scale of what many eminent scientists believe will be the end of the world. That eternal problem of how the world will end is, in the opinion of many, a matter

for scientific investigation, and it is curious that the majority believe that the earth will open up and try to pieces in the most gigantic earthquake ever known; an earthquake that will wipe all life from the globe before the actual destruction of the earth is complete. H. G. Wells, whose scientific prophecies are well known, is, however, of a different opinion. The world will end,

he declares, by its becoming entirely frozen over. It is a well-known fact that every year more ice accumulates around the poles, in short, many millions of tons of ice in excess of that of the year previous settle about the earth's extremities each year, and in Mr. Wells' opinion this will gradually extend until the whole world is frozen over and every living thing is thus destroyed. Several scientists are of the opinion that we shall perish by fire, and this old world of ours with us. Nikola Tesla, the great American, is convinced that the atmosphere of the world be-

ing so fully charged with electricity, the result will be a gigantic explosion by spontaneous combustion, when the world will be entirely encircled with flame, which, in the space of a few seconds will destroy all life. Two of the world's greatest scientists firmly aver that the end of the world will be brought about by astronomical conditions. Take Professor Marienberg, the noted Austrian student. In his opinion the earth will fly from its orbit, and come in contact with one of the other planets that may chance to be in a direct line. The earth, being comparatively small, will, of course,

get the worst of it, and split into fragments at the collision. But of course, directly the world swerved from the orbit all living things would die, and such an earthquake take place which would completely put the Italian catastrophe in the shade. Just as interesting is the prognostication of M. Camille Flammarion, one of the greatest living scientists. After many years of study he has arrived at the conclusion that the world will in the twenty-fifth century come across the path of the comet, Bella, which crossed our line a few years ago. On this occasion, however, a collision will

take place, and Bella being infinitely greater than the earth, a shock may be expected which, he calculates, will be 865 times greater than the shock caused by the collision between two trains each travelling at 65 miles an hour.—Pittsburg Gazette-Times.

## ORIGIN OF THE ANVIL

The anvil was known in the earliest times, being spoken of in the Bible, the prophet Isaiah saying (chapter 47, verse 7): "So the carpenter encouraged the goldsmith, and he that smoothen with the hammer, him that smiteth the anvil." It is not known who first used it, but of course the anvil was perfected by modern workmanship. It is a boot-shaped piece of metal, however, in a section of oak or metal, larger or smaller it is used by the smiths. The anvils made in this country are commonly made of cast iron, and are of the shape of a parallelepiped form with a steel cone or "horn" at one end and a "handy hole" for inserting a chisel or other tools at the other end.—Boston Globe.

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