

WEDNESDAY, - MAY 1, 1878.

DATES AND PROGNOSTICATIONS.

In the year 1854 a book was published, written by Rev. S. D. Baldwin, of Nashville, Tennessee, called "The Prophecy of Armageddon." It predicted a war to take place in 1861 and to terminate in 1865. This was fulfilled with such remarkable accuracy in the war of the rebellion, that attention is being turned to the prognostications in the book concerning the present complications in Europe, and their relation to the prophecies of Daniel. In the XI chapter reference is made to a king who, at the "time of the end," is to stretch forth his hand against the countries," etc. This is interpreted to mean Russia, and the passages in connection are explained as follows:

The two kingdoms, under the names of north and south, are to be identified by their relative positions to the Russian power, or to each other. The king, or kingdom, of the south would, very naturally, apply to Turkey, on the south of Russia; but as Turkey exists by the sufferance of France and England, it is possible that the two great Western Powers, which hold to each other the relation of north and south, may be intended. At any rate, the southern king makes a short fight of it, if anything is to be understood by the figure of butting at the wilful king, or he brings on the fight. The kingdoms of Syria and Egypt, called the kingdoms of the north and south, held about the same close relation to each other and to Rome that England and France do to each other and to Russia; only they were on the east of Rome, and the case is now just reversed. The king of the north is Great Britain. This is evident from its northern position as a Great Power, and from the immense naval as well as land forces it possesses. No nation but a very great one would attack the autocratic king, and no nation has such a navy as Britain. This northern nation was to come like a whirlwind, with his great land and naval forces, which are indicated by "many ships" and "chariots" and "horsemen." The attack was to be great and furious, and finally unsuccessful; for the autocrat moves right on to his purpose, and more than gains it according to the prophet.

"He shall enter into the countries, and shall overflow, and pass over." His entering the countries intimates that this was his original design, in which he had been interrupted by the two great Powers that had confederated against him. England and France, or England and Turkey, will unite against Russia. And it seems that a considerable effort was to be made to check Russia's designs; yet Russia is to take the countries this side of the crossings, and then to pass over into Asia, it would seem. The word "overflow" signifies the great increase of his armies and triumphs. To "pass over" implies the advancement of conquest, by some great crossing, into a new scene of warfare.

"He shall enter the glorious land." This at once reveals his advancement into Palestine, and shows that the passing over related to the conquest of Asia Minor and the Turkish Empire generally.

We do not insert the above to endorse the explanation of the writer, but as a matter of interest to many who regard the events now transpiring in Europe as a fulfillment of scripture predictions, and the means in the hands of Providence to bring about the restoration of Palestine to the Jews and the great collision of nations which is to immediately precede the coming of the Son of Man.

We will add, however, that, according to the book referred to, the accomplishment of the things predicted by Daniel was to commence in 1876, continue through 1877, and close by the end of April, 1878. It is evident that this is an error,

whatever may be said about the other part of the interpretation. But it frequently happens that explanations of Scripture prophecy, which are correct in fact, fail altogether, when dates are affixed. Many things which have been revealed from heaven have been made plain as to events but kept hidden as to exact periods, "neither the day nor the hour" being made manifest. It is never safe for man to affix dates which God has withheld. Those who take pleasure in unraveling the hidden meaning of heads and horns and signs and wonders, may arrive at some understanding of facts and circumstances therein foreshadowed, but when they attach the times and seasons, the years and months and days, they generally make sad mistakes, and their efforts, instead of inducing faith tend to foster incredulity and throw doubt upon the main features of the prophecies under consideration. All commentators on the holy Scriptures, therefore, should be very careful to abstain from adding to, or taking from the words of any prophecy given by inspiration of God.

"CHRISTIAN" CONSISTENCY.

A new departure in the mode of attacking "Mormonism" has been inaugurated by a Presbyterian minister. At morning service, a few Sundays ago, in Creamridge, Hornerstown, Monmouth County, New Jersey, he announced to his congregation that he wished to raise a sum of money to fit out a lady missionary to go to Utah, for the purpose of converting the "Mormon" women from the error of their ways. On the following Sunday he announced that he had secured the missionary, and all that was wanted was to secure the money. This it was expected would be subscribed, so the sisters may look for the coming woman.

This is a much better plan than the usual method employed by Christian opposers of "Mormon" doctrine and practice. In the early days of this Church, Presbyterian, Baptist and Methodist ministers endeavored to convert the "Mormons" by rifle force, and the arguments of house-burning, mobbing, whipping, driving and murdering. The press and the pulpit united in misrepresenting, ridiculing and denouncing the doctrines, and slandering and abusing the leaders of the Church. Physical onslaughts were only abandoned when the "Mormons" grew strong enough to defend themselves; the libelling and false witness against them has continued even unto the present day.

The new plan is praiseworthy. If the Presbyterians have something better than we have for a creed, let them show it to us. If we are in the clouds of error, they should try to disperse the mists with gospel light instead of a bayonet or a club. No missionary who comes to Utah with the sincere object of converting us by fair argument or prayerful persuasion, will meet with any opposition different from his own mode of procedure. He may run against stiff reasoning which he will find difficult to controvert, but will not receive anything contrary to kind treatment.

The mistake made by most of the clerical gentlemen who have favored Utah with a passing call, has been in their estimate of their own superior theological wisdom and the mental calibre of the "Mormon" people. And when they have found that their popgun artillery has had no effect upon the bulwarks of our faith, they have become angry and untruthful, after the fashion of the Rev. J. P. Newman, the deposed chaplain of the Capitol, the removed preacher of the church with the chimes, the disappointed political priest and traveling consul-general.

We hope the ladies will receive the missionary, to be sent for their special benefit, with becoming courtesy and thoughtful consideration. They have excellent facilities to place at her disposal for reaching the "Mormon" women whom it is her mission to proselyte. And as "one good turn deserves another," it will be their duty, which we are sure they will perform with pleasure, and for which we know many of them are abundantly qualified, to enlighten

the lady in regard to many true principles of which she is very likely to be in as great ignorance as she supposes they are concerning the doctrines of Christianity.

But does it not seem that there are fields of labor for eastern Christian ladies with benevolent impulses, close to their homes, which require attention and demand their energies far more than the valleys of distant Utah? Are there no Magdalenes in New Jersey? Are there no fallen women floating into the vortex of destruction and sinking into the depths of dark despair, within the sound of the preacher's voice who calls for money to help convert the women of Utah?

Oh! "Christian," surface piety, how blind you are to fair consistency! Oh, pampered priest, and silk-clad, genteel church-going professor, how deaf you are to the calls for help close to your very ears! But you seek for fame rather than the answer of a good conscience, and the applause of the world rather than the plaudits of heaven. Therefore in looking for openings for "Christian" labor, "distance" lends enchantment to the view," and you would sooner spend your means and efforts on a people who have no need of your sympathies, on women who are stronger believers than yourselves in the precepts of the Master, on a land measurably delivered from the evils that curse your own towns and cities, than to look at home and cleanse the inside of your own platters, and raise your own fallen from sin and misery!

CORRECT.

We are always more pleased to give credit for good, than to find fault with evil; therefore we are gratified in being able to clip something from the Beaver Square Dealer, which we have been compelled frequently to correct, that we can commend to our readers and endorse without reserve. The following, in reference to the late silly attack on certain county and city officers, is from that paper of the 20th inst.:

"While it is absolutely necessary to have the accounts and doings of the county, city and territorial officers examined in the interest of the public, nothing can be more absurd than the appointing at random of four or a half dozen unskilled individuals to overhaul the whole machinery of civil government in a dozen counties for a dozen years. The smallest allowance of common sense, it seems to us would suggest the appointment for this work of skilled accountants aided by legal counsel. In no other way can a report worthy of public confidence be obtained. There is not much doubt about the committee's report being intended mainly for political effect at Washington. The Utah Judiciary have expressed themselves on the situation, hence these startling revelations."

WAR PROSPECTS AND PREPARATIONS.

WHEN diplomats talk of peace, then look for war. When arrangements are kept dallying for a congress or conference of disputing Powers, then watch the movements of their respective forces. On the surface it appears as though England and Russia were about to take it out in talk; but under the polish of smooth words there are to be seen the clearest evidences of an approaching struggle, fierce, desperate and tremendous.

In addition to the immense preparations for war which have been for some time in progress in England, a new army corps is now forming, and according to our latest dispatches, the officers at Aldershot have received secret instructions which have created great sensation and bustle, as well as orders to hold themselves in readiness for active service.

The naval resources of England are now prodigious. New vessels, iron clads, monitors, corvettes, rams, torpedo-ships, &c., are being placed in condition for action and immense stores of ammunition,

provisions and other supplies are ready for shipment at a moment's notice. An invention for the protection of torpedo boats has recently been perfected, and experiments made which tested its powers and demonstrated its success. The boats are covered with an elastic coating like india-rubber. When rifle bullets pass through, the coating closes, thus preventing the ingress of water and saving the boat from sinking. The new Whitworth projectile, of which large quantities have been ordered by the British Government, is the most powerful of any in use, excelling either the Krupp, the Gruson or the Armstrong. New devices for storming and new railway appliances for intrenchments and fortresses are being manufactured.

At no period of her history has England been so well prepared to strike a decisive blow upon an enemy as to-day. Her strength consists not so much in the magnitude of her army and navy, as in its thorough organization and the completeness of all the details of arrangements necessary for modern warfare. She learned a lesson in the war of the Crimea, which is seen in the present efficiency of her commissariat, the medical and hospital departments, the means of transportation and those subsidiary necessities to armies and navies which least appear in announced results, but which enter so much into the essentials of a campaign.

Alone, England is more than a match for the conqueror of the Mussulman. But should war ensue, as appears now almost inevitable, it is very unlikely that it will be a duel. The part to be taken by other Powers does not yet appear, and therefore any anticipations of the result would be premature and unreliable. One thing, however, is sure: England means action. Russia must either recede and consent to the demands of the British Government, or enter into a struggle compared with which the war with Turkey was but a game of bagatelle.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"Dead hair" is an article of extensive export from France. Ladies, how do you fancy "adorning" your heads with tresses cut from dead bodies? Lots of you are doing it, every day.

The people of the Samoan Islands have decided that they do not want to live under the English flag. The stars and stripes may yet float over them as well as several other islands in the Pacific Ocean.

A Brazil paper gives a frightful account of the famine in Aracaty in that Empire. The death rate is from 60 to 70 a day. Over 500,000 people are perishing for lack of food and the destitution is extending into the province of Piauchy.

A destructive red bug is attacking the leaves of the orange groves of Los Angeles. If the people there are not more vigilant than the Salt Lake over the codling moth, the orange groves of California will soon share the fate of the apple trees in Central Utah.

Buffalo hunting with telescopic rifles is being carried on in Texas, and forty or fifty from one herd are sometimes shot down in a short time, as when one is killed, the others will paw around smelling the blood, oblivious for awhile of the sound of the guns. It is terrible butchery, and a shameful waste.

During last month sixty-five business failures were reported in New York City, the liabilities being about \$7,000,000 while the assets reached only \$3,000,000. The failures in February were fifty-seven, and the liabilities \$1,000,000. If they increase in future in the same ratio as from February to March, the whole city will soon become bankrupt.

A new beverage has been produced in France and is used extensively in Marseilles. It is distilled from the leaves of the eucalyptus, is said to be very pleasant, not injurious to health, and is stimulating and medicinal. It is called eucalyptin. If it will only supplant absinthe it will be a great boon to the French "drinking" population. If it is only intoxicating enough California will soon be doing a big business in eucalyptin, the "blue gum" has been extensively planted in that State.

Local and Other Matters.

FROM FRIDAY'S DAILY, APR. 26.

Removed.—The City assessor and collector of taxes has removed into his new office, in the room lately occupied by the Territorial Library in the City Hall.

District Court.—This morning, in the District Court, in the case of Selah Chamberlain et al, vs. Clara C. Darling et al, judgment by default, as prayed for by plaintiffs, was entered.

From Sunset.—Moroni S. Hess, son of Bishop John W. Hess, of Farmington, arrived, the other day, from Sunset Settlement, Arizona, on the Little Colorado. He reports a good prospect for crops there.

Will Continue.—The Fourteenth Ward Young People's Improvement Association purposes keeping up its meetings during the summer season, the interest of the members appearing to be unflagged.

Return It.—The person who picked up a Colt's double-action, nickel-plated, 38 calibre pistol to-day, will please leave it, for the owner, at this office. It was lost by Robert C. Fryer, between the Deseret Wagon Shop and the B. Y. Lower Mill.

Change of Climate.—In consequence of the delicate condition of his health, Major C. H. Hempstead purposes paying occasional visits to California, a lesser altitude than that of Utah, being more favorable to his condition. Salt Lake City, however, will essentially continue to be the Major's home.

Aid for the Welsh.—Parties holding funds to be applied in aiding to emigrate the poor Saints in Wales, will please forward the same, without delay, to Morris & Evans of this city. It is intended to put the means to the use for which it is intended as soon as practicable, that those assisted may come with the earlier emigrant companies.

Well.—William Calton, of the First and Thomas F. Thomas, of the Twenty-first Ward, have been awarded the contract to dig, by hand labor, for the artesian well near the cemetery, to the depth where the boring with machinery will begin. They commenced digging yesterday and erected their hoisting apparatus.

New Music.—The Theatre orchestra has been performing a number of new and popular pieces lately. Some time since Prof. Thomas received, from Paris, two sets of books, containing 75 numbers, 33 in one and 42 in the other. These comprise waltzes, quadrilles, polkas, etc. The band has been playing mostly from these selections for the past three months.

Potatoes.—Recently Bishop Thorn, who is one of the most successful raisers of potatoes in the Territory, shipped a carload of that product to Omaha. We understand they brought him seventy-five cents a bushel, loaded upon the cars in this city.

Utah potatoes cannot be beaten except with a masher.

Street Railroad.—The Street Railroad Company are completing a new switch, in the 11th Ward, between Seventh and Eighth East Streets. The switch at Ninth East Street has been taken up.

The company are only running two cars on the First South Street branch of the line now, in place of three, which latter was the number until lately.

Wanted.—The following are from the *Millennial Star*:

"Information of James Pettigrew, living somewhere in Utah, by Richard Chalder, Sea View, Green Hill, Murton Colliery, Durham, England.

Also the address of Simon (last name lost), a carpenter, who left Liverpool for Utah, in 1854 or 5; also of Richard Hall, mason, once in the employ of the Liverpool Dock Co., both by Robert Eden, of Liverpool. Direct to him, care of 42 Islington, Liverpool."

In Memory.—A handsome monument will soon be erected at the tomb of the late President George A. Smith, of respected memory. Over the grave will be placed a large stone slab, 7 feet long by 4 feet wide, and upon it will be a granite base, which will be surmounted by a monument of polished Italian clouded marble. Surmounting the whole will be an elegantly cut urn. The structure