

28 Do we ever crush bread-corn to pieces?

Nay, the threshing goes not on forever,

But when over it cart-wheels are driven,

Or sledges, our care is never to crush it.

29 This also from Jhvh proceeds:

Wonderful counsel, great wisdom has He."

For the sake of comparison the common version of the Scripture passage is given:

#### AUTHORIZED VERSION.

23 Give ye ear, and hear my voice; hearken, and hear my speech.

24 Doth the plowman plow all day to sow? doth he open and break the clods of his ground?

25 When he hath made plain the face thereof, doth he not cast abroad the fitches, and scatter the cummin, and cast in the principal wheat and the appointed barley and the rye in their place?

26 For his God doth instruct him to discretion, and doth teach him.

27 For the fitches are not threshed with a threshing instrument, neither is a cart wheel turned about upon the cummin; but the fitches are beaten out with a staff and the cummin with a rod.

28 Brend corn is bruised; because he will not ever be threshing it, nor break it with the wheel of his cart, nor bruise it with his horsemen.

29 This also cometh forth from the Lord of hosts, which is wonderful in counsel and excellent in working.

As a work of scholarship the polychrome Bible promises to be of intense interest, but its real value is likely to be small. In the first place, the theory it so laboriously represents by its multi-colored paper is at best a bold guess as to the origin of the books, founded on nothing but alleged internal evidence. And this is so uncertain that the various scholars engaged in the work of coloring the sacred pages find fault with one another. Stade, of Giessen, who prepares Kings, criticizes Budde, of Strassburg, who prepares Samuel, and Budde, in his turn, criticizes Wellhausen, of Göttingen, who prepares the Psalms. What is there, then, for the public to rely on in the various colors of which even the learned painters themselves disagree?

In the second place, to render the Hebrew in classical English even at the sacrifice of the true sense of the text is to render the Bible translation utterly useless for the purpose of ascertaining a doctrine. Were the Hebrew Scriptures nothing more than a remnant of the literature of an ancient people, elegance in translation would be necessary for a true appreciation of the beauties of the writings of that poetical age; but the Bible is more than that; it is the means by which the voice of God as heard anciently is conveyed to man, and for that reason the first consideration is a faithful translation.

On the whole, the remark is justified that this "polychrome Bible" is an effort to give a scholarly form to a fad that has not even become popular. Fashions change and fads are forgotten; the colors of the polychrome will fade and the work be looked upon as a curiosity.

#### THE MAINE INVESTIGATION.

New York, Feb. 23.—A dispatch to the World from Havana says: The situation in Havana is more grave than it was a week ago. Although the officers of the naval board of inquiry preserve an impenetrable reserve, it is learned that some of the best naval experts now believe that the explosion was the result of treachery.

They do not believe that Spanish of-

ficials were part of the conspiracy. From evidence now in their possession they believe the Spanish government, Gen. Blanco and all his military subordinates, were guiltless alike of knowledge of or participation in the crime. It is believed to have been set off by a fanatic.

Consul-General Lee has informally advised Americans not necessarily detained here to leave for home at once. Many of the families will sail by the *Olivette* tomorrow.

This is an indication that those on the ground realize the possibility of trouble arising suddenly.

New York, Feb. 25.—Regarding the ten inch loaded powder cases and the empty one, smashed and burned, recovered from the wreck of the *Maine*, Rear Admiral Erben said to a World reporter:

"I should certainly take the first as an indication that the magazine containing the ten men ammunition did not explode. I agree that if the empty powder case had exploded there would have been nothing left of it—absolutely nothing. It is more than likely that the empty case was one of those returned to the magazine after target practice. In the absence of other information than that in the newspapers we cannot tell anything definite about it, but if the magazine did not explode, what kind of torpedo could do it? Let them tell us that. No torpedo that I ever heard of could do that amount of damage."

Continuing, the admiral said:

"While I do not think much of the theory of an accident by spontaneous combustion, the statement that spontaneous combustion could not have taken place because the coal was only three months old need not be considered. I have seen the same kind of coal, lying right out in the navy yard shed, catch fire of its own accord in two weeks after it was put there."

"I have said from the first and I repeat it now that they will never find out what sunk the ship until it is raised and the sooner the wrecking companies' divers get to work the better. It is dangerous work down there in Havana's dirty bay. Ships' divers are amateurs at the business and no good results can be expected of them. Those professional men go at it in a systematic way and they are as a rule fearless men."

Regarding the moorings of the *Maine* in Havana harbor Admiral Erben said:

"I understand that the Spanish flagship when she was last in Havana was moored at the same buoy at which the *Maine* anchored. We do not know whether the harbor is laid with mines, and we probably never shall know."

"We have no right to question it any more than the Spaniards have a right to know whether this harbor is laid with mines. If it were known that there were mines laid, it would be an invitation for some crank to lay some on his own account. The pilot that moored the *Maine* was under orders from the Spanish admiral and the admiral is responsible for her safety, just as we are responsible for the safety of the *Vizcaya* while she is in our harbor."

Chicago, Feb. 26.—A Times-Herald Washington special says:

Consul General Lee has made formal report to the President that it is his opinion that the *Maine* was deliberately destroyed.

Every effort has been made to keep this information from becoming public. Even where privately circulated, the friends of the administration are trying to minimize the importance of the report by saying that it is only an expression of opinion by the consul general, unaccompanied by evidence.

The fact that Lee has never made a mistake in Cuba, however, adds much to the increased general concern

to the importance of his report, and among public men.

New York, Feb. 26.—A special copy-righted cablegram to the *Evening World* from Sylvester Scovel, at Havana says:

"Divers, working forward yesterday, found absolute proof that the forward big magazine which could have so damaged the ship, is surely unexploded. The sides and floors of this magazine are practically intact and in such shape as is impossible had an explosion within occurred."

"New York divers have so sworn today to the investigating board."

"It is now believed by experts that a big torpedo, or mine, aided by 500 pounds of saluting powder in the reserve magazine next to the big magazine, might have produced the actual results found in the wreck. Collapsed powder casks found about the magazine have hexagonal marks in the thin copper where the external pressure forces it into its contents of hexagonal powder."

Washington, D. C., Feb. 26.—The attention of naval officers has been strongly attracted to the statement made by representatives of the Spanish government to the effect that there were no mines or torpedoes of any kind in Havana harbor. It can be said that this statement exactly agrees with inquiries that have been under way for many months by agents of our government. So far they have been unable to find the slightest existence of any plan of defense in the harbor by means of mines or torpedoes, much less to locate them, as has been reported in some quarters. Officials of the navy department say the effect of this statement, if it is to be accepted as conclusive on that point, is almost certain to negative the supposition that the disaster resulted from other than accidental causes, as the almost unanimous testimony of experts here, based on the history of torpedo work, is to the effect that no single torpedo of any known type could have caused the terrific wreck of the *Maine*.

In the pursuit of details, some of the ordnance officers acting upon the theory that the large ten-inch magazine forward was not exploded, have been looking into the contents of the smaller and adjoining six-inch magazine. They find that, allowing for the amount of powder that was probably consumed in practice drills by the *Maine* before she arrived in Havana harbor, there was certainly no less than 8,000 pounds of powder in this magazine, an amount sufficient to have caused enormous destruction, had it been exploded at one time.

Col. Heywood, commandant of the marines acting under orders from the navy department, is preparing to send all the marines at Key West, survivors of the *Maine* who are able to travel, to New York where they will be placed on the ship *Vermont*, there to be held for further assignment. They will go by steamer to New York. The sailors at Key West will be disposed of in similar fashion.

The government authorities were today placed in possession of the information reaching Senor Du Bosc, chargé d'affaires of the Spanish legation, that no mines exist inside or outside of Havana harbor. This information reached Senor Du Bosc after midnight last night and was communicated to the Associated Press in a brief and explicit statement. It can be stated that this statement was made not as a matter of opinion or personal conviction on the part of Senor Du Bosc, but as a conclusion of fact ascertained from those whose official position makes them fairly familiar with every circumstance connected with Havana harbor.