

represented in this Territory today is conclusive proof of the fulfilment of this remarkable prophecy, which was uttered at a time when the Church consisted of only a few persecuted people, and the Elders had only commenced preaching in a few of the States.

REVELATION ON WAR.

On the 25th of December, 1832, Joseph Smith received a remarkable revelation in regard to war. I will read an extract:

"Verily, thus saith the Lord concerning the war, that will shortly come to pass, beginning at the rebellion of South Carolina, which will eventually terminate in the death and misery of many souls. The days will come when war will be poured out upon all nations, beginning at that place. For behold the Southern States shall be divided against the Northern States, and the Southern States will call on other nations, even the nation of Great Britain, as it is called, and they shall also call upon other nations, in order to defend themselves against other nations, and thus war will be poured out upon all nations." (Doc. & Cov., Sec. 304.)

In a communication which was written a few days later to N. C. Seaton, editor of a paper published in Rochester, N. Y., the Prophet wrote:

"I am prepared to say by the authority of Jesus Christ that not many years shall pass away before the United States shall present such a scene of bloodshed as has not a parallel in the history of our nation." (*Historical Record*, page 406.)

I will refer to another prediction on the same subject, which was made by Joseph Smith in Carthage, Ill., two days before he was martyred. A number of the officers of the troops, then stationed in Carthage, and other persons curious to see Joseph, visited him in his room. Joseph asked them if there was anything in his appearance which indicated that he was the desperate character his enemies represented him to be. The answer was:

"No, sir; your appearance would indicate the very contrary, General Smith, but we cannot see what is in your heart, neither can we tell what are your intentions."

Joseph replied:

"Very true, gentlemen, you cannot see what is in my heart, and you are therefore unable to judge me or my intentions; but I can see what is in your hearts, and will tell you what I see. I can see you thirst for blood, and nothing but my blood will satisfy you. It is not for crime of any description that I and my brethren are thus continually persecuted and harassed by our enemies; but there are other motives, and some of them I have expressed, so far as relates to myself; and inasmuch as you and the people thirst for blood, I prophesy, in the name of the Lord, that you shall witness scenes of blood and sorrow to your entire satisfaction. Your souls shall be perfectly satiated with blood, and many of you who are now present shall have an opportunity to face the cannon's mouth from sources you think out of; and those people that desire this great evil upon me and my brethren shall be filled with regret and sorrow because of the scenes of desolation and distress that await them. They shall seek for peace and shall not be able to find it. Gentlemen, you will find what I have told you to be true." (*Historical Record*, page 563.)

On the 17th of December, 1860, nearly 28 years after the above revelation on

war was given, its fulfilment commenced, for on that day a convention assembled in Charleston, S. C., which, after three days' deliberation, passed a resolution to the effect that the union hitherto existing between South Carolina and the other States, under the name of the United States of America, was dissolved. This was the beginning of the rebellion. By the 1st of February, 1861, six other States had followed the example of South Carolina and withdrawn from the Union, and a new government was formed under the name of The Confederate States of America. Not only was South Carolina the first State to commence the rebellion, but here also, as if to cause a double fulfilment of Joseph's prophecy, on April 12, 1861, the first gun was fired from a Confederate battery against Fort Sumter standing at the entrance to Charleston harbor.

The ruinous war that followed is a matter of history. The Union losses alone, according to the report of the Provost-General, amounted to 280,397 men, who were either killed outright in battle, or who died subsequently of wounds or diseases, not counting the thousands who were crippled and maimed for life. The loss on the side of the Confederates was about the same. Truly, as Joseph predicted, the United States never witnessed such a scene of bloodshed before. The losses in the revolutionary war, in the war of 1812, and in the war with Mexico in 1846 were only small affairs compared with this last and terrible war of the rebellion, so accurately predicted by the Prophet Joseph Smith. This prediction alone and its literal fulfilment should be sufficient to convince every reasonable man and woman who will take pains to investigate the subject thoroughly, that Joseph, indeed, was a prophet of the Living God.

CHOLERA PREDICTED.

In 1834 Joseph Smith marched from Ohio to Missouri, a distance of about one thousand miles, as the leader of the illustrious body of men known in Church history as Zion's Camp. On this long and wearisome journey, some of the brethren indulged in a spirit of rebellion and fault-finding, which was rebuked by the Prophet, first in a mild manner and finally very strongly, as he told the brethren that the Lord had revealed to him that a scourge would come upon the camp, in consequence of the fractious and unruly spirit that had appeared among them. Still, if they would repent and humble themselves before the Lord, the scourge might, in a great measure, be turned away, "but, as the Lord lives," he said, "the camp will have to suffer for giving way to unruly tempers." (*Historical Record*, page 582.) This prediction was fulfilled a few weeks later when the brethren had arrived in Clay County, Mo. On the 21st of June, 1834, the cholera broke out in the camp and raged fearfully for several days. Altogether sixty-eight of the Saints were attacked with the dreadful disease and thirteen died. Finally Joseph called some of the surviving brethren together and told them that if they would humble themselves before the Lord and covenant to keep His commandments, and obey his (Joseph's) counsel, the plague should

be stayed from that hour and there should not be another case of cholera among them. The brethren covenanted to that effect and the plague was stayed.

ASTRONOMY OF ABRAHAM.

July 3, 1835, a man by the name of Michael H. Chandler came to Kirtland, Ohio, to exhibit four Egyptian mummies, together with some two or more rolls of papyrus, covered with hieroglyphic figures and devices. They had been obtained from one of the catacombs of Egypt, (near a place where once stood the renowned city of Thebes) by the celebrated Antonio Sebolo, in the year 1831. Joseph Smith, upon examining the rolls of papyrus, discovered that one of them contained the writings of Abraham and another the writings of Joseph who was sold into Egypt. The whole collection was bought by the Saints, and Joseph subsequently translated the writings of Abraham which, together with a number of illustrations, were published in the *Times and Seasons*, at Nauvoo, Ill., in 1843, and which we now have in the little excellent work called the Pearl of Great Price, under the caption of the Book of Abraham. This book, besides giving a history of the creation of the earth and man, also introduces a new doctrine in regard to astronomy. It tells of a planet called Kolob, near which is the throne of God, and around which everything in the great universe revolves in regular order. At that time the generally accepted theory among astronomers was that, with the exception of the few planets (among which is our own earth) which sweeps regularly around the sun, all the heavenly bodies called stars, were fixed or stationary, and that the sun, furnishing light and warmth for our earth, besides being the centre of gravitation for our solar system, was the nearest fixed or stationary star. Hence, when Joseph Smith, in the astronomy of Abraham, introduced the doctrine that there was a grand centre set far beyond the limits of our own solar system, he was derided by not a few, who ascribed the idea to his ignorance, in not having even a superficial knowledge of the principles of astronomy. But the theories of men change as the Lord gives them more light and intelligence, and today the doctrine advanced in the Book of Abraham is a generally accepted one among astronomers. In proof of this I will introduce the following extract of a letter from Lieutenant M. F. Maury, of the United States Navy, a man acknowledged on all sides as one of the most eminent scientific men living, dated, Washington D. C., Jan. 22, 1855.

"It is a curious fact that the revelations of science have led astronomers of our day to the discovery that the sun is not the dead centre of motion around which comets sweep and planets whirl; but that it, with its splendid retinue of worlds and satellites, is revolving through the realms of space, at the rate of millions of miles in a year, and in obedience to some influence situated precisely in the direction of the star Aleyon, one of the Pleiades. We do not know how far off in the immensities of space that centre of revolving cycles and epicycles may be; nor have our oldest observers or nicest instruments been able to tell us how far off in the skies that beautiful cluster of stars is hung, whose influences man can