

# The Deseret Weekly.

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## JOSEPH SMITH A PROPHET.

A CORRESPONDENT who resides in Alleghany County, Pa., makes some enquiries regarding the "Revelation and Prophecy on War," given through Joseph Smith the Prophet Dec. 25th, 1832. He wishes to know whether it has been published to the world, in what papers and on what dates.

The answer is that the prophecy in question has been published broadcast, commencing shortly after it was given. It would take more time than we could give to the subject to hunt up the dates, and ascertain all of the journals and books in which it has appeared, but the fact of its having been given wide publicity, especially in this country, is beyond question. According to our recollection it appeared, shortly after being delivered through the Prophet, in the *Times and Seasons*, at Nauvoo, Illinois, and also appeared in and was commented upon by other newspapers about the same time, in various parts of the country. Outside of the community of Latter-day Saints, it was generally treated with derision. Some journals—rare exceptions—took the matter seriously and asked the question, "Have we a real Prophet among us?" It was published, many years before the breaking out of the War of the Rebellion, in the *Millennial Star*, constituted a feature in a standard work entitled, "The Pearl of Great Price," and "Answers to Questions," and was subsequently incorporated in the compilation of laws, commandments and revelations entitled the "Book of Doctrine and Covenants."

Shortly before the breaking out of the war Apostle Orson Pratt, on a mission in the United States, published the prophecy in question in the *Seer*, besides travelling through the country and proclaiming in public places that the time was about come for its fulfilment, so far as regarded the deluging of the country with blood by the division of the Northern and Southern States. His

message was treated with contempt, and his declarations as the utterances of a fanatic.

The inquiry of our correspondent suggests the propriety of quoting from some of the prophetic portions of the revelation. Herewith is given the introductory part of it:

"Verily, thus saith the Lord concerning the wars 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 this 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 shall be poured out upon all nations."

Nothing could be clearer than the fulfilment of this prediction so far as its verification has extended. The Prophet indicated the precise locality where the bloody struggle which has passed into history, should open, together with its horrifying results. He pointed to the fact that Great Britain should be solicited by the Confederacy, for assistance. Mason and Sliddell were sent for that purpose, having been accorded full discretionary powers to treat with the Court of St. James in London. The United States government understood the nature of their mission, and the British ship *Trent* was boarded by the officers of a United States war vessel who made prisoners of Mason and Sliddell. Subsequently a demand for their release on the ground that there was no difference between British soil and the deck of a British vessel, was acceded to by the government of this country. The solicitation for assistance for the South from Great Britain was unavailing, but the request was made, thus verifying the prophecy.

The revelation forecasts further trouble to this nation on account of the race whose presence and condition precipitated the great secession struggle. They are to be "marshaled and disciplined for war" and inaugurate further scenes of blood. Those who are watching the signs of the times may well ask themselves some serious questions regarding the probable results of race outbreaks, and the complications likely to arise out of the passage of the "Force Bill," which would in many sections give the white population of the South the alternative of negro supremacy or a sanguinary war of races.

Another quotation is here inserted:

"And thus, with the sword and by bloodshed, the inhabitants of the earth shall mourn; and with famine and plague and earthquake, and the thunder of heaven and the fierce and vivid lightning also, shall the inhabitants of the earth be made to feel the wrath and indignation and chastening hand of an almighty God, until the consumption decreed hath made a full end of all nations."

The last few years might appropriately be termed an epoch of storms, and phenomenal electrical disturbances. Vivid and fierce lightning is a marked feature of atmospheric commotions. News is flashed over the wires from various parts of the earth every few days bearing the statement that during the prevalence of storms the deafening thunder and brilliant, streaking lightning were unprecedented.

We observe that, a short time ago, the "Revelation and Prophecy on War" etc., appeared in the columns of the *New York Sun*, accompanied with brief comments by a correspondent of that paper. So far as constituting evidence of the authenticity of the claim to inspiration made by Joseph Smith is concerned, it is, so to speak, but a drop in the bucket. There are proofs in that direction almost without number. We are living in the midst of the fulfilment of prophecies which were given through him. But little heed is taken of them, however, outside of the community who have accepted of the religion—claimed to be the gospel of Christ revealed anew to prepare the way for the coming of Messiah—of which he was the founder. It may be truthfully said likewise that many professing to be Latter-day Saints are not fully awake to the signs of the times. The future is pregnant with events of great moment.

## AGAIN ON THE RAMPAGE.

THE announcement that Judge Carlton, formerly of the Utah Commission, would have a three column article on "Fair Play for the Mormons" in the *National Democrat*, has thrown the editorial blackguard of the *Tribune* staff into one of his frequent fits of fury. Fair play for the "Mormons" is more than gall and wormwood to his bilious and alcoholic stomach. There is no fanaticism so ferocious and unreasonable as the anti-"Mormon" species, as developed in this scribe or "scrub," as he would write the word; for every person who differs with his views, particularly in reference to the "Mormons," is, in