## DESERET EVENING NEWS SATURDAY JUNE 1 1907

# THE PROPHETIC AGES.

to Nehuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, the significance of the vision of the be taken to represent the existence, order of succession, etc., of the four great monarchies of Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome. The principles of interpretation thus outlined must be accepted as true ones by all Christians, nevertheless we need not conclude from this fact that no others are ever to be brought to bear upon this particular vision, provided, of course, that they vision, provided, of course, that they fo not lend us outside the limits of interpretation that were fixed for our guidance by inspiration. Commenta-tors generally, we believe, have not tried to explain why the image was supposed of metals instead of other sub-singular values, for instance; nor is it lear that the significance of the order in which the gold, the silver, the brass, the iron and the clay appear, is fully resplained when it is stated that the relative decrease in value of these me-ories a sarranged from the head to the

explained when it is stated that the relative decrease in value of these me-tals, as arranged from the head to the foot of the image, symbolizes moral de-generacy in the human race. This question, however, is passed, for the purpose of these remarks is to show that other and very important truths are taught by the order in which the metals occur in the image, and also by these particular ones. He who does all things well must have had some special purpose in view when He constructs the visioned image of metals instead . Wood or of stone; and it is suffer to con-clude that that purpose could not be made manifest by the use of any other substances, and we shall find also that by the use of metals, and by presenting then, its cut view in a certain order. He has made His purpose clearly dis-He has made His purpose clearly dis-

cernable. In order to substantiate these state-ments, a different means of interpre-tation from that is common use must be employed; and in accordance with it its time embraced from the founding of habylon to the close of the Roman do-minion will be divided into periods, or ages as follows: I, the age of gold: 2, the age of silver; 3, the age of bronze (brase); 4, the age of tron, in which batters is included the sub-age of clay.

(brase); 3, the age of tron, in which latter is included the sub-age of clay. It will be observed that the order of these different ages is exactly the same to the order in which the various metals even in the image. They will also be found of unequal duration, and thus correspond with the unequal periods of more of the four speet monarchies supremacy of the four great monarchies respectively.

#### THE AGE OF COLD.

The age of gold. The kingdom of lon was founded B. C. 2234, and Habylon was founded E. C. 2234. and ceased to exist as an independent power H. C. 538. The age of gold corresponds very closely with this same period of time. That it may be thus distinguished fustly is attested by the accounts that have come down to us of the immense hoards or gold, and othe riches also. that those ancient people possessed. of these accounts we would cer-dismiss from our minds as un-y of serious attention were they tainly dismiss from our minds as un-worthy of serious attention were they not substantiated in a great measure by writers whose veracity no Christian presumes to call in question. Taking first the statements of profane writers we find that a single temple in the city of Babylon-that erected to Belus-was enriched with vessels of gold and other gold ornaments to the value of 21.000,000 rounds sterling, or about \$100,-100,000. When Sardanapalus, of As-surbanipal, the last king of Assyria, 5. C. 747, burned himself together with a large part of his treasures, the gold alone amounted to 15,000,000,000, The substance of both these statements may be found in Rollin's Anclert His-tory. According to Josephus, Antiq, book VIII, chap, iii, the floors of Solo-mon's temple at Jerusalem were laid with plates of gold. Plates of gold were

The Prophet Daniel, who made known to Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon, the significance of the vision of the metallic image, informs us that it must be taken to represent the existence, or-der of succession, etc., of the four great monarchies of Babylon, Persia, Greece and Rome. The principles of interpre-and Rome. The principles of interpre-statements may appear to us, we must other gold utensils. Incredible as these statements may appear to us, we must admit their truth in great part for the Bible itself speaks of this superabun-dance of gold in those early times. From II Chron. 1: 15, we learn that Solomon made both gold and silver as plenteous in Jerusalem as stones. This was about B. C. 1015, Zechariah (ix; 3), says that Tyne, or Tyrus, had heaped up gold as the mire of the streets, and silver as the dust; Tyre was founded about 250 years before the building of the temple at Jerusalem, and was besieged and captured by Nebuchadnezzar B. C. 582, Croesus, king of Lydia, was, according

Croesus, king of Lydia, was, according to common repute, the richest man the world ever knew. His dominion was taken from him by Cyrus, six years before the fall of Babylon. These references must suffice since they show us very clearly that almost all the accounts of immense treasures they show us very clearly that almost all the accounts of immerse treasures of gold, as handed down to us, are referable in point of time to the days of the kingdom of Babylon. As gold is generally so much easier separated from baser materials than other metals are, it would naturally come into us-first, and when the Bible assigns the age of gold to the first period after the deluge it is scientifically correct, and in harmony with the progressive de-velopment of mineralogical knowledge. The ancients reckoned the comparative value of gold and silver as about 10 to one, and in view of all the facts there can be little or no doubt in the mind of any one that the period of which we are speaking was truly an age of gold, and hence was properly symbolized by the golden head of the image. AFTER GOLD, SILVER.

## AFTER GOLD, SILVER.

2. The Age of silver, We have seen that an age of gold, where gold abound-ed, would naturally take precedence of an age of silver; and attention will now first be directed to some of the easily discernible causes that led to the silver age next in order. As already stated, gold, in general, is quite easily separated from the sands or rocks in which it is found abundantly, and for this treason it would be sought after them, and unwarranted work, were we this reason it would be sought after first, and, as a consequence, the supply would sooner become exhausted, or at

would sooner become exhausted, or at least diminished to such an extent that silver would largely take its place. But these facts are of comparatively little weight in view of others which caused the hoards of ancient gold to disappear almost marically. The lead-ing cause that produced this state of affairs, in one word was war. A list of the wars that occurred during the ear-lier centuries of the golden age follows, and it will be observed that they are but skirmishes in comparison with the huge and deadly conflicts that were fought out later, and in these minor wars comparatively little wealth was destroyed. The list is not complete, but it will be found sufficiently so to safe-guard the statement just made.

Inter and awful wars of the eastern kings swept from sight the gold that had been amassed in times of general peace during the preceding centuries. Being the most precious metal, people naturally hid it, rather than their sil-ver, in the earth, in caves, or sunk it in the rivers, to conceal it from the grasp of the despoiler. Multitudes who doubtless took this course were killed; others were banished from their coun-try, and dying in exile never divulged the secret of their hidden wealth. Much gold was also in times of peece burled with the dead.

### MONETARY CHANGES. It can not be questioned that a great

shalige in monetary matters occurs about the time of the fall of Babyle of silver money. Eara vill, They also had some gold mon the amount is not stated. This represented the contributions Babyionians, and of the Jev which was given to aid in rel

so large an amount was donated e Jewish march to derusalero dered "that whatsoever F berabuc jurist, the scribe of the law of of heaven, shall require of y be done specully. Unto a hue this that gold as a medlum of very largely parsed out of use. The later remarks have not been offered become that an eye of she becomed a place in the p world. We act, since its the dow is still lid or did not pass through gold and another of tion wholly of view. fixes certain limits of

were we to hows beyond is. It is, however, import bounds. It is, however, important show at about what thise in the weath history the are of sliver superceded, age of gold, and that, as already po-ed out, corresponds very closely we the accession of Persis the accession of Persia to dominion over Babylon, or B. C. 538. The pres-ent interpretation of the image by ages is thus running hand in hand with the

one in common dec which a along the lines of nationalities along the Hors of nationalities. A point has now been reached in this work where well known urnths that scientific research has disch must, very largely, be taken for our guide

#### THE BRONZE AGE

3. The bronze, (brass) age. generally admitted that the "brass" of Scripture and "brouze" are one and the same substance, or alleged meta-The same substance, or alleged meta, "Brass," as we know it, did not come into use until about the time of the Roman empire, E. C. 21. The bronze age, as all are aware, precedes the pron age with no period intervening Daniel, by his arrangement of the metals of the image, is thus demonstrated to be scientifically and historically correct, and as there is no condict hermore bits

ecret of their hidden wealth. Much owe their civilization to her, did nor was also in times of peace buried pass from the bronze to the iron age simultaneously with her, that eire stance does not alter the fact that age of iron had dawned upon this world.

> separated from each other I thus: for Lanlel shows that during its whole latter must run contempo end at the same time that to age does. The period in a live is emphatically. The whole civilized attest this truth with Some, it is true, disti-tioular times as th but since steel is nothing more highly tempered, the necessarily includes the steel run their course at the same the two legs of the mu-this fact quite (leaf), consistently allow of the ment of this metal into dreds of thousands of infles or acks join distant parts of the lan together, and muscles of steel, instea of field, alone make possible the gi wantic traffic of modern times. Wire of this metal girdle the earth till it wanped around and around like a spo-of thread. Our hurs possible togeth instead of thread, Our huge merchant or thread, thir huge merchant vessels are framed in steel, and the floathus forts of the see are holdt of fl. and achieved and armed with 11. On the battle field, from is almost the sole tra-strument of death. This metal is now supremet but grand though its reign be, the end of the lease of life of the from age is almost at hand, when it shall be succeeded by anyone domined shall be succeeded by another which God, for iron, will brin and gold for brass. Isa. (x, 17

occurred during times of great trable, we may analogically infer that this last great change will also be accompanied with similar domonstrations; and such will truly be the case for the Scriptures inform us that the iron age shall come to an end amid the throes of rations and during a reign of terror, death and during a reign of terror, death and and during a reign of terror, death and losinuction. Quite a good deal of lat-titude was allowed in pointing out the transition period between the different iges; but the corresponding time for the st transition can be narrowed very

### CLAY OR ALUMINUM.

Let us now fix a time for the hegin-ning of the sub-age of clay, which, for-timately, can be done with great cer-tainty. All have noticed that there is a lack of harmony, fin a sense,) in the Biblical representation of the metallic image. There is gold, silver, branze, won and clay; wherein the "clay" of the feet is yot of a kind with the "metals." feet is not of a kind with the "inequis." How much more harmonious the sym-bolism would appear were there only a metal where the "clay" is. But right here let us make haste slowly: for metallurgist science comes to our sid to such an extent that we can brush aside the dust of the clay of the feet, and disclose to view there the beaulful, gilitering, "Clay Metal Aluminum," We thus find that the prephet, Daniel, has the image arrayed in gorgeous metals from head to foot including all parts of the latter, But why did he not say "aluminum" when he wrote his pro-"aluminain" when he wrote his pro-phecy? Simply because the metal was not known in his day, nor for long and many centuries later, and so there was I fty since A. D. 1828, and, as a conse-



could stand for R. God's own term it might have been used, but It was have been meaningless to the wor and some wiseacce soribe would na dropped if from the text without mu doubt. Instead, therefore, of model dropped if from the text without much doubt. Instead, therefore, of mysily-lug the human mind by the use of terms it could not comprehend, the Almighty adopted the comprehend of Alus-minum in its proper place in the tmage. Now, when we put the clay ore in the feet, we put there necessarily all the ore contains, which, besides the refuse, is the metal we are speaking about. The God-like simplify and the course pursued in this matter, avoiding as it does, all con-tusion or mysileism, set the seal of the this matter, avoiding as it does, all can-fusion or mysticism, set the seal of the Almighty upon Daulel's work here as something specially designed by Him to accomplish a wise purpose. But when did the sub-age of clay or of aluminum begin? In A. D. 1828, alu-minum was first separated from the chloride by Wohler, and it remained a. laboratory product until about A. D. 1858, when Deville succeeded in improv-ing the mode of reduction, since which ing the mode of reduction, since which time it has been an article of commerce. It is very evident, then, that in A. D. 1828, the iron age had so far progressed toward its end that it must thenceforth toward its end that it must thenceforth pursue its course in company with the sub-age of clay, which Daniel assigns to the feet, and to the feet only, of the metallic image, or, in other words, we have it now demonstrated by well known facts in the history of metal-lurgy, that the whole length of the metallic image, by A. D. 1828, had been consumed by the flight of time except the feet, and taking the average proportion to the whole height of the human body that the fect usually austains, we are brought face to face with the solemn iruth that more than one-half of the foot height has been reeled off into etern-ity since A. D. 1828, and, as a conse-

ence, we are standing on the verge [ anything but wilful blindness, dence, we are standing on the verse of the terrors that are to mark the close of the ir n age. One blef acrip-taral reference respecting them may be found in Dan xii. The discovery is of aluminum was a trumpet blast of warning from Almighty floid that the time for a new order of things in this world was at hand. The ancient pro-phel laid away the ore of aluminum in the feet of the image and more than 2,400 years later science found if there, and tone from it the secret if had covered up so long and guarded so faithfully. Every pound of alum-inum produced since 1828 rings out its metallic not since 1828 rings out the chime is swelling to thunder peals that erackle to the voice of Jehovah to the nations. To you, suints of God, the notes you hear from the metal in the feet of the feet of the image, are played by angle upon heavenly con-structed instruments of aluminum to warm your nearity to inspire your course afresh, to inspire your course afresh to the reaves your faith in God and His work of these latter days. Daniel says that in the days of certain kings the God of heaven should set up a kingdom that should never be thrown down. Let us paraphrase these words a little and make them read: In the days of aluminum to warm your nearity to inspire your course afresh, to invest and the note structed of the shall again come forth, never more to be driven from the earth. In A. D. 1828, aluminum was first produced. In A. D. 1829, the Church of Christ shall again come forth, never more to be driven from the earth. In A. D. 1828, aluminum was first produced. In A. D. 1829, the Church of Jeaus Christ of Latter-day Saints was established, and the pro-phetic declaration was thus fuifilled. In conclusion we shall in all charity remind our sectarian friends that the Church of use the one that was to be estab-lished at the time of its end, or when f the terrors that are to mark the lose of the troll age. One brief scrip-

the beginning of the age of iron not the one that was to be estabis not the one that was to be estab-lished at the time of its end, or when the sub-age of clay should be ushered in. This proposition is so self evident that its denial can not spring from



FUTURE CAPTAINS OF INDUSTRY OF DAVIS COUNTY.

anything but which the so-enflow Chris-as none deny that the so-enflow Chris-tian nations of this period at inving in the iron age, it follows that they form part necessarily of the iron legs of the metallic image. What question, of the metallic image. What question, then, can remain respecting their standing before God? The Almighty in His anger is about to grind the metallic ages of man to powder, but in His infinite goodness He has ap-pointed a place of refuge from the im-pending doom. The house of refuge is the Church of Jesus Christ of Lat-ter-day Saints. There is no other. The one He offers us is large enough to include all mankind—it is grand to include all mankind--it is grand enough when viewed from the inside to satisfy the righteous desires of all classes of men. No one will have to lay uside his nobility of character when he joins the household already gathered there. No one need leave his refinement behind him when he enters its

29

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