

approach now affects the mind of its chief authority.

The Prophet Nephi had a desire to understand the great things which, by the power of the Almighty, had been manifested to his father Lehi. The Lord granted his desire, he being shown much of the future of the world, by an angel, after the manner in which similar information was conveyed to the Apostle John on the Isle of Patmos.

In the glorious prophetic vision brought within the scope of Nephi's spiritual gaze was the birth of the Redeemer; also His ministry and crucifixion, the organization of the Church which He established, and the labors of the ancient Apostles in carrying the Gospel to the nations. The foundation, in the course of time, of the Roman Church was shown him; likewise the course of that religious body toward the Saints, in making war upon them. The discovery of this continent and the settlement made by the Puritan Fathers was included in the vision, also the Revolutionary War; the gradual subjugation of the aborigines and their retirement before the march of development, pushed forward by the white race. The restoration of the fulness of the Gospel and the establishment of the Church of Christ in the latter days, formed a part of what was exhibited to Nephi, one of the greatest Prophets guided by the inspiration of the God who called them. The sad experiences of the Saints are tersely delineated. He pointed to the time when the great Catholic Church would make war upon the Saints, who would then be clothed upon with righteousness and "the power of the Lamb."

The Roman Church had been so consistent and conservative heretofore with regard to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, that it seemed naturally as if the neutral position she had assumed in that respect would be continued indefinitely. Her course toward the "Mormon" people has been commendable compared to the attitude of most other denominations. The condition of neutrality on her part, however, has been rudely broken. She has, to an extent, declared war against the Saints.

This new and threatening position was assumed last year, through the medium of a work entitled, "Our Christian Heritage," of which Cardinal Gibbons is the author. He makes a direct attack upon "Mormonism," placing it first among five evils, which he con-

tends threatens the Christian civilization; and which should, in his view, be blotted out.

Closely following this declaration of that high Catholic ecclesiastical authority came the resolutions, adopted in November, 1889, by the Catholic Laymen's Conference, held at Baltimore. They embraced precisely the same ground as that assumed by Cardinal Gibbons, adopting almost his identical language. It was also expressed as a proper position under the circumstances, that good Catholics could consistently unite with the non-Catholics in seeking to produce such legislation as would be commensurate for the work of obliterating "Mormonism." This anti-"Mormon" cry has been taken up by various Catholic newspapers, the position assumed at Baltimore being by them unqualifiedly sustained.

These pronounced expressions may be taken as the inauguration of that attitude of belligerency on the part of the Catholic Church towards the Saints as vividly foreseen and portrayed by the Prophet Nephi. The same inspired messenger of God beheld that when active steps of opposition should be established by the Romanists against the Church of Christ the wrath of the Almighty should be visited upon the persecutors. Every nation where their influence should be potent, should be visited with divine wrath. These are to come in the shape of wars and commotions of various kinds, involving tremendous destruction and misery.

Is it not within the scope of consistency for those who have faith in the great latter-day work established through the instrumentality of the Prophet Joseph Smith, to believe that presentiments of genuine coming trouble are taking possession of the mind of the Pontiff in advance? Doubtless he or his successor will be a conspicuous figure in the world's crisis which is steadily, nay, rapidly approaching.

Nephi predicted another important phase of the marvelous work of the latter times which is to be contemporaneous with the visitation of wrath upon the Roman Catholic Church—the fulfillment of the Divine covenant in relation to the gathering of Israel from the long dispersion. In the times of these troubles the remnants of the ancient people are to begin to look for the Messiah and gather to the lands of their fathers, there to await the appear-

ance of the Deliverer. Then will come the completion of the times of the Gentiles and the dawning of the day of Israel.

The chapters of the Book referred to can be closely and profitably read and reflected upon by those who believe in the authenticity of the record. The predictions are stated with refreshing plainness, and those whose eyes are open to the signs of the times can clearly see the unfolding of their verification.

PRUDENT AND PACIFIC.

MR. SHOWELL pursues a very proper course in relation to nuisances. When a person complains to him of something malodorous that ought to be removed, he does not go to the individual concerning whom the information has been laid and tell him who made the complaint, but proceeds straightway and ascertains whether or not a nuisance exists. If so, he becomes the prosecuting witness, in case of non-removal of the noxious rubbish. He does all this officially, without the individual, whose premises are subjected to inspection, being advised as to who imparted the information.

This is a judicious course to take, as numbers of people would prefer to be subject to conditions opposed to the principles of sanitation than enter complaint against those who create the wrong and then have the neighbor hang on to his ears, so to speak. An officer can go ahead in the performance of his duty without any result of that kind, that being the purpose for which he is appointed.

Mr. Showell is to be commended both as an abater of nuisances and, in the same capacity, a prudent conservative of the peace.

OTHER CORPORATIONS.

WE HAVE frequently insisted that the special anti-"Mormon" enactments, and certain judicial decisions based upon them, would not end in their application to the people against whom they are aimed; they will, as a natural consequence, detrimentally affect the entire commonwealth of the country. Numbers of journals of strong anti-"Mormon" tendencies are expressing the same view, among them the Springfield, Ills., *Republican*, which, in the course of a lengthy article upon the recent decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in relation to the dissolution of the corporation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-