

November 13, 1899, that heavenly wanderer will reappear and collide with the earth, causing a readjustment of conditions such as has not been known since the days of Peleg, and vying with the Deluge in the universality of its destructiveness among men, when fire, and not water, will be the agent used.

The professor says that all his prophecies are scientific predictions, based upon scientific investigations into the physical conditions of the earth. He thinks the average thickness of the earth's crust is about eighteen miles, and that the gases formed through the heat energy in the molten mass, which is subject to influences of the moon, will force an outlet when the orb of night approaches the earth under certain conditions.

It is pointed out as evidence of the professor's accurate foreknowledge that in March of last year he was invited to lecture before the Tourist Club of Vienna on the subject of earthquakes, and requested that the date of the meeting be deferred until April 13, as he expected a seismic disturbance about a week before that time, which would aid him in giving the members of the club enlightenment. As a matter of fact, an earthquake was felt all over Southern Hungary on April 8. Other cases of a similar nature are cited as evidence that in almost every instance his prophecies have been correct.

This is a good time for these disaster prophets to make credulous people believe they are in possession of superior scientific knowledge of the forces which control the earth. They pour forth predictions, and occasionally hit near the mark; then their successes are heralded abroad as evidence of their ability, while the vastly greater number of their prophecies which fail are lost sight of. It is in fact an easy matter for a shrewd and ordinarily well informed person to make as good a record as a prophet as do any of these alleged scientific "predictors." It is a knowledge common to everybody that these are days of great calamity and disturbance on the face of the earth and in its depths. For centuries the precise nature of these calamities and disturbances, as foretold by those who actually possessed the gift of prophecy, has been public knowledge. The Bible tells the story, and says that "in the last days" all these things will come to pass. It is no task at all to determine from Holy Writ that the conditions which exist today are identical with those which characterize the period of time designated as "the last days." Taking the position thus determined, and the further fact of the nature of events which are to transpire, it is no trick to fix a string of dates for earthquakes, tidal waves, or other disasters, and to get at least a few of them pretty near correct, to the wonderment of people who have not given the matter deep thought. And to add a local interest to the affair it is easy to take up a prediction, for instance one commonly repeated during the past fifty years, that New York ultimately will sink into the sea, and to attach a date for the event, as a matter of guesswork. Then a failure can be attributed to a "change of currents" or a "mistake in calculation;" while a

lucky guess on any prediction is cited as absolute proof of the maker's qualification.

These scientific disaster prophets are by no means entitled to the credit that is given them by many people. At best, they are merely trying to "steal the thunder" of more worthy persons who actually are instigated by the divine spirit of prophecy, given through the inspiration of the Almighty and not subject to man's means of figuring and cold calculations.

TO THOSE WHO NEED FOOD.

This is a season of plenty so far as the wheat crop in this part of the country is concerned, and it is estimated that not less than three million bushels will be harvested. The grain will be at a low figure, but that will make no difference to the man who is without money. If ten cents a bushel were the price, the man without the dime, so far as purchase is concerned, would be as bad off as if it were ten times that figure. And in connection with the heavy wheat crop there are two other conditions now facing the people here: First—There are a good many families without the dime, or the prospect of getting it; through lack of employment they have not been able to earn that which will be needed to supply the necessities of life. Second—There will be a vast quantity of wheat, which would provide many people with bread, wasted unless something is done at once to gather the grain; the only available means of preventing this great loss is by gleaning the fields.

There is no need of arguing that this waste should be prevented in the interest of those who are in need of winter supplies. That will be readily conceded. Now, who is to do the work? First, those who are themselves in need of employment and assistance. They can perform the work of gleaning the wheat fields, and there is no doubt but all parties who properly conduct themselves will be warmly welcomed by the farmers in performing this labor. The matter has been agitated throughout the county, and the way prepared for the gleaners. When and how shall the gleaning go on? The time is now; for delay till storms come will make it less pleasurable and profitable. Suppose, for instance, a party of men and boys combine, prepared to sleep out for a few nights, go to the fields south of town, and get the permission which will be readily given to gather the wheat left by the harvester. They will be able not only to gain fair returns in the grain collected, and get the benefit of a pleasant summer's outing, but the probability is strong that they will receive material assistance in the way of farm products, as milk, fruit, etc., during their stay, and perhaps employment for a time. At any rate they can get plenty to feed themselves during the coming winter; and if they obtain the wheat there will be a way provided whereby it may be converted into flour.

Will the unemployed men and boys in this city take this matter up, and make some move on their own part to supply themselves with food? Or will they idle their time away and ex-

pect people to contribute to their support? If the latter, the people who do the contributing will not be found over anxious to provide for those who are unwilling to take every reasonable step to earn what they eat. Instances that may be cited in this connection are the cases of two able-bodied tradesmen in this city, both out of work for some time past, and their families receiving aid. When the wheat gleaning proposition was made to them, they indignantly rejected it, saying that if they could not get work at their trade, they would not work. Such individuals as these are not likely to receive very liberal assistance while there are worthier persons in the line.

Those who may be inexperienced in this business should not have an idea that it is below the dignity of any person in this community, when circumstances require it, to earn his food by gleaning it in the field. The occupation is as honorable as any other, and has been followed by some of the best people here. There is a young ladies' association in a neighboring county which annually makes a considerable sum by gleaning the wheat fields. Its members are the leading young ladies of the town, and each season they are to be seen collecting the precious store, which they dispose of for charitable purposes. Their example in this regard should put to blush the scores of boys and men who stand idly around, disdaining to engage in such humble toil, and whose actions do not for a moment compare with the refined, noble, and truly Christian lady-like mission in which this young ladies' association is engaged. It is not long since the young ladies in a ward in this county earned their own clothing, and a good supply too, by gleaning wheat; and the girl who gleaned the most was the belle of the village.

In this same connection there is another suggestion which might be acted upon by wards and associations situated to carry it out. What is there to hinder any of these gathering up the young folks and bringing in their proportion of the thousands of bushels of wheat now lying scattered on the ground? The wards could utilize it for the support of the worthy poor, or the associations for various objects connected with their work. The grain would be saved, and the parties who did the work would be so much better off. Today is the time to act in these matters. "Wilful waste brings woful want," is an old adage which should be a rule of warning to the people. There should be no wilful waste in Utah this year, that there may be no woful want. And those who have neither money nor employment, but who know that the necessity for food and clothing is before them, should be the first in the field for their self provision and preservation by honest, honorable means.

MISCHIEVOUS PROGNOSTICATION.

An astrologer of the country, after the fashion of the ancient Chaldean soothsayers, has set the horoscopes of some of America's prominent men. President Cleveland is one of them. According to the stars, as read by the "professor," the President is destined