

the speeches attributed to Paul, interpolating into them various views which Paul would have rejected and maintains also that Luke's historical statements are many of them grossly erroneous, while another professor maintains that Matthew habitually put into Christ's mouth quotations from the Old Testament which he did not use. The crisis has come; the assault on the Old Testament has been extended to the New.

To the question whether we are bound to accept the conclusions of these critics and to surrender the general historical accuracy of the Bible, Professor Wright replies that the best antidote to the doubts engendered by these critics is to verify their references. This, he says, will readily show how baseless are their arguments and how insignificant are their objections. The great danger at the present time is that many fearful clergymen will mistake the sound and fury of the critics for real argument. In short the danger is that they will unthinkingly transfer their doctrine of infallibility from the great body of the church teachers of the past to a small body of overconfident and self-assertive critics the most of which have entirely discarded the supernatural from the Bible.

To illustrate how little foundation there is for some of the most momentous conclusions of the higher critics, Prof. Wright points out that the assertion that the Pentateuch was written after the time of Moses rests on such passages as Gen. 12: 6: "The Canaanite was then in the land," a phrase they say that would not have been used until after the time of Moses. But such an inference is entirely without foundation. The writer is speaking of the time of Abraham, 400 years before, and it is notorious that the Canaanite was then in the land.

Another argument is that the word "Israel" would not have been applied to the descendants of Jacob until after the settlement in Canaan. But this is also a false conclusion. The name of Jacob was changed to Israel hundreds of years before the time of Moses, and in one of the recently discovered inscriptions in Egypt, made by the Pharaoh of the Exodus, the "people of Ysiraal" are especially named.

There is, then, no need of retreating for the advancing forces of the critics, whose aim is, under the guise of scientific investigation, to tear down the Christian faith, but it is well worth to note that while formerly infidelity confined itself to circles outside the churches, today it lifts its head in the Christian pulpits and sits enthroned in some of the halls of Christian institutes of learning. This is significant and suggests the need to the whole world of a new witness for God, as given in this age by the Almighty through His servants.

VAIN BLUSTERING.

Some of the Spanish papers are reported to be indulging in a great deal of braggadocio about how "we defeated Napoleon and drove the French out of Spain," etc. Those editors and doubtless their readers also seem to have a decided proneness to revising history and making things appear as they think they ought to have been, not as they actually were. That they stop short of claiming that the Corsican met his Waterloo at the hands of the Spanish instead of in Belgium by the British and Prussians is, under the circumstances, to be wondered at. The papers referred to manage to weave enough truth into their boastful fab-

rics to give them a plausible appearance, but this kind of thing is sometimes worse than "going the whole figure" on false statements, because more likely to deceive.

There was a popular uprising in Spain in 1808 that was the inception of the revolution against Napoleon; this eventually spread all over Europe and led to his ultimate overthrow, but it is not the case that the Spanish defeated him or drove him from that country. Wellington made three unsuccessful attempts to accomplish that object and succeeded on the fourth one, after having been on the peninsula five years, but he was assisted so little by the Spaniards that their aid was practically of no avail at all.

Going back through this scrap of history, the Minneapolis Journal finds that in the first popular revolt a Spanish army under Castanos besieged Gen. Dupont with 20,000 men at Baylen, and finally starved him into surrender. But punishment for this defiance of the emperor was sudden and awful. Napoleon himself entered Spain in 1808, and made short work of the English and Spanish. In four days Marshal Lefevre dispersed Blake's army and Lannes overwhelmingly defeated Castanos at Tudela. On December 2 Napoleon appeared before Madrid in person, and on the 4th the city surrendered. The emperor forthwith abolished feudalism and swept the hoary inquisition out of existence. The Spanish patriots were soon crushed, except for guerilla bands, and Sir John Moore, before the combined advance of Napoleon and Soult, fell back into Portugal and embarked his troops, losing his own life in the stubborn battle of Corunna. Compelled to leave Spain by the menacing attitude of Austria, which was preparing itself for another whipping, Napoleon left Soult and Victor to preserve order in Spain. And they did for the most part until Wellington's victory at Vittoria in 1813 gave him control of the peninsula.

That is the way "we" whipped Napoleon. It is more than probable that but for Wellington and his Englishmen Spain would not have been left among the nations at all. Napoleon would have made her politically what she comes very near being naturally, a part of France. It would have been a great thing for the United States if he had.

SILVER AND LEAD.

At a time like this a considerable rise in the market quotations of silver and lead was a thing to be naturally looked for. Wars are sometimes great consumers of lead, and as they mean a steady drain on the exchequers of the nations engaging in them, that is never supplied by means on hand, however great they may be, it follows of course that all things convertible into cash are in demand; hence, there seemed a chance for silver in this country to get back a little nearer to where it started from a few years ago. In point of fact it has advanced a little, but so very little that its practical effects are quite near to nothing at all, being nowhere near the improvements which have taken place when we were profoundly at peace. Perhaps there is not yet time for the upward movement, because of the fact that the cash on hand is equal to all present or immediately prospective requirements, and the additional fact that bonds will be issued if a pressure should come, which bonds may or may not exclude silver from the transaction; if the latter should be the case, and this were assured, there would be an immediate

and steadily gaining advance in the quotations, otherwise things would be likely to remain as they are and have been for so long a time. Investors, who make a business of it, give themselves the benefit of every doubt, and until there is some assurance that our surplus silver will be utilized they will not "stock up" very largely on that article.

Perhaps the chief if not the only reason why lead clings so tenaciously to the neighborhood of the \$3.50 figure is because the war promises to be chiefly one on the water, in which a great amount of lead is not required, most of the missiles being of iron. There will be some, perhaps later on a great deal, of land work, but for the present this is most likely to be confined to Cuba. Both silver and lead, being merchantable articles, and having no valuation in their own right, depend upon extraneous agencies for a standing in the market. The quotations affixed to them simply gauge the extent to which they are or are likely soon to be demanded, and until the demand enlarges or gives substantial signs of doing so, no decided improvement is to be looked for.

Utah is abundantly stocked with both metals, but the production for obvious reasons is greatly restricted. Only those mines which yield high-grade ores, that is, those carrying heavy percentages of silver or lead or both, can be worked at a profit; even when those conditions prevail the properties are not always worked unless there is a sufficient admixture of gold to insure the workers against a deficit between income and outgo. Were it otherwise we would have a source of renewed prosperity that is at this time altogether immeasurable. As to lead, there is more hope for us in new buildings and improvements of all kinds calling for paints than there is in wars or rumors thereof; and as for silver—well, that subject might as well rest for a time.

IN THE PHILIPPINES.

News is now eagerly looked for from the Philippine islands where, perhaps, the first naval battle of the war will be fought. Manila, the capital of the group, is sixty hours' voyage from Hongkong, and Commodore Dewey's Asiatic squadron should be there tomorrow, Saturday. With Manila captured, the Spanish commerce in eastern Asia would be crippled, and most likely the whole group of islands pass from the Spanish crown.

The Philippines were discovered in 1521 by Magellan and were taken by the Spaniards during the reign of Philip V, for whom they were named. This was fifty years later. Practically nothing has been done for the education of the people. They remain ignorant, although some of them nominally are converts to the Roman faith. The history of the colony is one of almost continuous rebellion against Spanish oppression and ferocious warfare for the purpose of subjugating the insurgents. The horrors on record in those far away regions are surpassed only by those that marked Spanish rule in South America. In 1762 Manila was captured by the English and was held by them for two years until ransomed by the Spaniards. The interior of the large islands have never been thoroughly explored by travelers from civilized countries, and their geography and natural resources are almost unknown.

The advance of our Asiatic squadron on Manila should be a joyous event to