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V. ZUCKER, Manager

A Fair Proposition.

"Doc" Bixby says that Will Maupin cannot give one good reason for supporting John H. Morehead for governor. As usual, the genial "Doc" Bixby is wrong. We'll give Bixby two columns in this newspaper in which to tell why he is supporting Aldrich if he'll give us six inches of space in his "Daily Drift" department of the State Journal to tell why we are supporting Morehead.—Will Maupin's Weekly.

This is an exceedingly fair proposition and we'll bet a coon-skin and skin the coon ourself, that Bixby will not accept.

THE WEATHER.

The readings below are taken at the Burlington depot, where the thermometer is placed under conditions similar to those used by the United States weather bureau.

8 a. m. 70 | 1 p. m. 73
10 a. m. 72 | 2 p. m. 75

Forecast.

For Nebraska—Cooler Monday and Tuesday.

E. P. Sheldon and wife of Nehawka, accompanied by Miss Cleo Applegate and Miss Helen Pollock, departed Friday for Knoxville, Illinois, in Mr. Sheldon's touring car. They expect to be present at the graduation of Mr. Sheldon's daughter, Miss Isadore, who completes the course this year.

W. J. Partridge and little daughter, from near Weeping water, were Plattsmouth visitors last Saturday afternoon, and remained over night for a visit with friends. "Billy" was up looking after two teams of horses that he was purchasing of the Plattsmouth horse king, James Sage. He reports everything in his locality looking fine and since the last rain all crop prospects are good.

Expensive Illness.

The treatment of diseases is more expensive from year to year. The old-time house remedies have to give room to expensive and often unreliable preparations. We firmly believe that the time is near when more attention will be paid to the prevention than to the treatment of diseases. It is a good deal cheaper. One of the best old family remedies, composed entirely of herbs and natural wine, is Triner's American Elixir of Bitter Wine. If you will use it at the first symptom of an illness you will find it the best preventive medicine. It will drive from the intestines everything that does not belong there, that is harmful, that is poisonous, that is a common source of sickness. It will heal the inflamed organs of digestion, create a good appetite, relieve headache, nervousness, colds, constipation. At drug stores. Jos. Triner, 1333-1339 So. Ashland Ave., Chicago, Ill.

J. B. Nichols of Omaha spent Sunday in Union, returning via Plattsmouth this morning, spending a few hours in this city.

COAL and FEED

We are now handling a complete line of coal. Call and let us quote you prices for your fall and winter coal. We handle wheat, oats, corn and chop of all kinds.

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LOCAL NEWS

Will Richardson sells Old Hickory Farm Wagons. 6-3-21d-21w Buy a Clark Buggy and be satisfied. Sold by Will Richardson.

William Heinrichsen visited his family over Sunday, departing for his field of labor this morning, going first to Omaha.

O. C. Dovey left for Omaha on the morning train today, where he was called on business matters which demanded his personal attention.

Mrs. John Carney and son of Omaha returned to their home this morning, after being over Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Bach.

Miss Agnes Schwartz and Miss Clara Gilson returned to Glenwood on the morning train today, after spending Sunday with their parents in this city.

Mrs. John Murray was a passenger to Omaha last evening, where she will spend a week or two with her daughter, Miss Blanche, and son, George.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Boedeker, from south of Murray, were in the city today, driving up from their home to look after some business matters and visit with county seat friends.

Misses Esther Larson, Bess Edwards, Hazel Tvey and Mr. Elmer Frans were passengers for Peru, Neb., this morning, where they will attend the summer school at the state normal.

Mrs. Koehnke of Hay Springs, Neb., who has been visiting her sister, Mrs. William Hassler, and her daughter, Miss Lula Koehnke, for a short time, departed for her home this afternoon.

Mrs. F. E. Hawkenberry, four sons and one daughter, departed for Farnam, Neb., on the afternoon train today, where they will visit relatives for a couple of weeks.

Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Karn of Nickerson, Neb., were over Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Trimpe; Mrs. Karn is Mr. Trimpe's sister. Mr. and Mrs. Karn departed for their home this morning.

Miss Messersmith of Havelock was a guest of the McKay home over Sunday, returning to her home this morning. Mrs. Maxon accompanied Miss Messersmith to Omaha on her homeward journey.

Mrs. Elias Sage and daughter, Mrs. Burnett, of Maywood, Neb., who have been visiting James Sage and wife for a short time, departed for Omaha this afternoon to visit Mrs. O. M. Straight and family for a short time.

John Hall spent Sunday with his family, departing this morning for Omaha, where he will go out again for his house, the Standard Furnace and Supply company. Mr. Hall expects to make Hot Springs, South Dakota, the latter part of the week.

William Starkjohn departed for Carter county this afternoon to look after his real estate interests. It was rumored on the street that this would probably be the last time he would have to go, and that the lady would return with him, as Mrs. Starkjohn.

J. C. Yost, from near Mynard, was in the city last Saturday, and of course paid the Journal office a brief call, renewing for the paper he sends to his daughter in Nebraska City; he also sends one to his brother, F. M. Yost, at Sargent, Nebraska, for which he has the publisher's thanks.

MYSTIC BABYLON AND DAUGHTERS

Weighed in the Balances and Found Wanting.

WINE OF FALSE DOCTRINES.

Pastor Russell Treats a Difficult Subject With All Kindness—Presents a Clear View of the Divine Message. Failure of the Completion of the Tower of Babel Explained—A Wonderful Structure and the Cause of Its Downfall.



PASTOR RUSSELL

Brooklyn, N. Y., June 2.—Pastor Russell addressed a large audience again in the Academy of Music, notwithstanding the season. His topic was, "The Fall of Mystic Babylon." His text: "Mene, Mene, Tekel, Upharsin—weighed in the balances and found wanting." (Daniel v, 25, 28.) He said:—

While our message for today is "meat in due season" to the Household of Faith and every way most important to be understood, it is nevertheless a subject difficult to treat without giving offense, without being misunderstood, without seeming harsh. Bear with me, then, while expressing what I believe to be the Divine Message, in just as kindly a manner as I know how.

The Scriptures which I may quote in support of my presentations seem harsh, almost to cruelty, but I assure you, my hearers, that I am not responsible for the language used. My responsibility is to speak the word of the Lord. In doing this I shall endeavor to present the Lord's words in as kind a manner as possible, and so far as possible explain some of the harsher expressions; but I must not shun to declare the whole counsel of God—and as fully as I believe He would now have His people understand it.

There was no Mystic Babylon in the days of Jesus and the Apostles. The expressions therefore in Revelation bearing upon Mystic Babylon, were prophetic of the Systems and conditions which have since arisen in the Church. The word "Babylon" has a double significance. It comes from "Babel." It calls our minds back to the period when the sons of Noah lost faith in the Divine, Providential care, and the promise of the rainbow, and endeavored to erect a structure for their own preservation—the Tower of Babel. This attempt led to the confusion of tongues.

Similarly, following the days of the Apostles and the persecution of the early Church, an attempt was made to erect a great religious system for the Church's protection, not waiting for and relying upon the Divine promise that Messiah in due time would come and establish His Kingdom for the world's blessing.

The religious Tower of Babel was, primarily, Papacy. It was a wonderful structure so far as it went, but it never accomplished the designs of its founders. It never mastered the situation and established the Church far above the power and influence of the civil governments and earthly monarchs.

It was when the Tower of Babel rose to a considerable height in dignity and grandeur that the Lord manifested His power amongst the workmen, and confounded their speeches. Disconcerted, the further building of the Tower ceased, and the people of the different languages set up each for himself according to the different ideals. This corresponds well with the Protestant Reformation movement, and the various denominations into which those once Catholics became divided.

Babylon and its Wall.

Another thought connected with our subject is that the literal city of Babylon was a prototype, a prophetic figure of Mystic Babylon. The name Babylon signifies, "The gate of God"—the gateway by which access to God is to be attained. This in effect was the claim made by Papacy, and the claim she still makes, that she is a great City, a great Kingdom, that she has a great wall of Divine salvation and protection about her—a great wall built of ignorance and superstition, say her enemies.

In the Book of Revelation Jesus prophetically pictured the greatness of this City, this spiritual Empire. It is essentially religious, although it includes the great kingdoms of earth, which unitedly are styled Christendom. This great City, Babylon, is represented as being divided into ten different wards, each of which represents one of the kingdoms of Christendom, and which correspond to the ten horns of the symbolic Beast. Compare Revelation xi, 13; xii, 18; xiii, 1.

And as this great City, or spiritual kingdom, thus includes the chief monarchies of Europe, so, under another figure, Babylon, Papacy, is represented as a "woman," in whose forehead was found the name, "Babylon the Great, the Mother of Harlots." Thus is shown in some manner the various Protestant systems of Christendom which separated from the "Mother Church" of Rome, still her daughters, still related to her, partakers of her character, traits and disposition. Thus Babylon

with her ten wards includes practically all of Europe; and Mother and Daughters of this same family name include nearly all of the Protestant denominations, as well as the Catholic Mother Church.

What is Meant by Harlotry?

It should be remembered in discussing this subject that the language is figurative—that it does not signify that either the Church of Rome or her Protestant Daughters are Immoral. The thought is that the Church of Christ was primarily a "virgin" company of persons, called out, separated from the world and its aims and ambitions—called to be saints and joint-heirs with Christ in His Kingdom. To whatever extent systems arose amongst the followers of Jesus and became affiliated with any of the kingdoms of this world—to that extent, Scripturally, figuratively, they committed harlotry—because they were espoused to the King of kings and the Lord of lords, and were to wait for Him, that at His second coming they might become His Bride and become associated with Him in His Throne.

It will not be questioned that Papacy became affiliated with the Roman Empire and sat down on the throne of Rome, nor that the Church of England, as one of her daughters, became affiliated with the British Government, and now sits, representatively, in the House of Lords. It would not be questioned that the Greek Church experienced a similar betrothal and marriage to the Russian Government, the Lutheran Church to the German Empire, etc., etc. It is on this account and in this sense that the Church of Rome and her Daughters—mother and daughters, organizations of Protestants, are figuratively called by the family name of Babylon.

Babylon's Golden Cup.

Under the figure of a woman clothed in purple and scarlet the Mother System of Babylon, long centuries ago, "made all the nations drunk with her wine," the doctrines which she had in her "golden cup." (Revelation xvii, 1-4.) The "golden cup" represents the Bible, the Divine Standard, or authority. It was misused when the wine of false doctrine was put into it—when the Bible was claimed as authority for various erroneous teachings of the Dark Ages. The intoxicating wine which made the nations drunk, and which led them to support the "woman" and to call themselves Christian nations, Papacy still holds in her hand, and still offers to all who will receive it. But the nations are gradually sobering up, and becoming less and less inclined to take more of the wine.

It is not necessary to suppose that every doctrine presented by Papacy was false and intoxicating. The thought is rather that of commingled wine—that a stupefying potion was put into the wine already in the cup. As the golden cup represents the Word of God and His Message, the stupefying potion may well be understood to be some of the doctrines—for instance, that God's Kingdom had already been set up, and that the papal throne in the world is the Throne of Christ, that the Pope reigns as Christ's Vicegerent, or substitute, and representative. Other poisonous elements threatened the people with purgatorial torture, or eternal torment, if they failed to keep in line with the Papal authority—this claimed Vicegerent authority of Christ.

The Protestant denominations were all born under these intoxicating influences and false theories. While they did separate from the Mother system, and did denounce her, nevertheless they held doctrinally to many of the intoxicating errors of her cup. Consequently they, too, claim that somehow, they know not how, Messiah's Kingdom is set up and is reigning. They, too, join in giving the nations some of the same dope that the Mother gave them, telling them that they are Christian nations, even though they have anything but the Christian spirit, and are building great guns and dreadnaughts to blow each other off the face of the earth.

So strong is the power of this intoxication that the inconsistencies of such theories are not discerned by the intoxicated ones. Only the few who are gradually getting free from the stupefying potion are able, by Divine assistance, to see some of the mistakes along this line. These see that neither the Church of Rome nor any of her Daughter systems are the true Church of Christ. These see from the Divine standpoint that these systems are "harlot" systems. Each of them professes to be the Bride of Christ, yet each knows that "the marriage of the Lamb" is to take place at the second coming of Christ. They have therefore very generally lost sight of the fact that the true "virgin" of Christ, a "little flock," who will be accounted worthy to share the marriage and become the Bride of Christ, must "wait for the Lord from Heaven"—must live separate from the world, keeping herself unspotted from the world, a virgin, that she may be accounted worthy to enter into the joys of her Lord, become His Queen and joint-heir in His Kingdom.

It is not to be expected that either the Mother or the Daughters, who are now claiming to reign with Christ, who are ready set up, who are now claiming that their unions with the kingdoms of this world are legitimate unions, have the Bridegroom's approval. It is not to be expected that these realize their own condition—that they are disloyal to the true Bridegroom and King, symbolical "harlots," in affiliation with the kingdoms of this world at this present time, and supporting the same and calling them by the Bridegroom's name—Christendom, which means, Christ's Kingdom.

Babylon, the Great City.

In the symbolical language of the Book of Revelation, as already indicated, the name Babylon is applied, not only to the typical woman, Papacy, and her mystical Daughters, the Protestant denominations, but also applied to the great City, Mystic

Babylon. The "woman" more particularly represents the ecclesiastical systems and the "city" more particularly represents the governmental features—the sacerdotal or religious authority to govern and control the kingdoms, the nations of the earth.

We all remember the story of history respecting the literal city of Babylon, with its most wonderful walls and hanging gardens. We all remember how it was built across the river Euphrates, which flowed through its center, and was supposed to protect it fully from the hazard of an invasion. Besides its vast storehouses of food it had the whole river for its water supply.

Babylon was therefore reckoned impregnable. So Mystic Babylon, Christendom of our day, is a most masterly organization. Its walls are built of ignorance and superstition, whose great foundations were laid centuries ago. Literal Babylon's great gates of brass, which came down to the river's level, represented in Mystic Babylon worldly wisdom, human ingenuity and dexterity of organization, to maintain the control of the "waters," and to protect the City from a possible approach from that direction.

But what is signified by the "waters," the river? We answer that in symbolical language generally, water has two distinct interpretations: (1) Water symbolizes Truth. (2) Water also symbolizes revenues, from outside peoples and kingdoms. And so in Revelation we read that the woman with the golden cup, which came down to the river's level, represented in Mystic Babylon worldly wisdom, human ingenuity and dexterity of organization, to maintain the control of the "waters," and to protect the City from a possible approach from that direction.

The Euphrates to Be Dried Up. In Revelation not merely the name Babylon is used, long after the literal city was so blotted out that for a long time its site was unknown, but the symbolical description includes also the River Euphrates, and we read (xvi, 12) of the great River Euphrates that "the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the Kings of the East might be prepared." It was as correct in interpreting these "waters" to signify revenues from all nations, what would be signified by the drying up of the River? We answer that it would imply a cessation of the revenues of Babylon, a decline in the contributions which heretofore have made her wealthy—millions coming every year from the rich and poor of all nations for her support. It is in full accord with this Divine prediction of what is yet to come that we hear cryings and distress arising from all denominations, Catholic and Protestant, to the effect that the "waters," the revenues, are being dried up, and this at the time when the world's larger population and wealth than ever before.

History tells us that the great city of Babylon was captured by Cyrus and his army after a considerable siege, which was unsuccessful until his soldiers dug a fresh channel for the river and turned its course aside. Thus was the River Euphrates dried up, and the army of Cyrus entered literal Babylon, suddenly, in the night. While these things were transpiring, the princes of Babylon, corresponding to the notables of Christendom, were holding high carnival, rejoicing in their security, boasting of the strength of their walls, and the impregnability of their gates, and the sureness of their waters.

As then they were using the golden vessels of the Lord's Temple from which to drink their wine, so now, in the hour of Babylon's fall, we may expect something to correspond to this spirit of boastfulness, of pride, of intoxication with error, apparently drawn from the Divine Word. It was at this moment of exuberance that in the banquet hall of Belshazzar a hand appeared and with glowing pencil wrote the words of our text: "Mene, Tekel, Upharsin." "Mene"—the days of your rule have been numbered by God and are finished. "Tekel"—thou art weighed in the balances and found wanting. "Peres"—thy Kingdom is divided and given to the heathen and the Medes. The strong symbolism in the language used in respect to Mystic Babylon correspond so well with the prophetic language used respecting literal Babylon that we are warranted in understanding literal Babylon to have been a prototype of Mystic Babylon, and her fall a prefigure of the fall of Christendom.

Cyrus was prophetically mentioned in the Scriptures as the deliverer of God's people from the Babylonian captivity, before his birth, long therefore before he overthrew Babylon. He was also a typical character, and doubtless represented Messiah, a part of whose work will be the overthrowing of Babylon, the giving of her over to destruction, and the deliverance of God's people out of her. As the Medes and Persians unitedly joined in the overthrow of Babylon and the kingdom which followed it, so Messiah's Kingdom will have two parts, a heavenly and an earthly, yet the two will be one in the sense that they will be under one supervision and control, and co-operating in the same interests.

"Flee Out of Babylon." In the Old Testament, when foretelling the disaster upon Babylon, the message was given to God's people, "Flee out of Babylon, deliver every man his soul," his life; and terrible descriptions were given which seem grossly exaggerated unless we view the matter from the standpoint already suggested, that the things which happened to the literal city were figurative and prophetic of the much more serious experience of Mystic Babylon, then long future. Read Isaiah xlii, 1-9. Compare Jeremiah i, 15, 23, with Revelation xviii, 6; and Jeremiah li, 33, with Revelation xvi, 12; and verse 46 with Revelation xviii, 3; and Jeremiah li, 6-3, with Revelation xviii, 4; and verse 12 of Jeremiah li with Revelation xvii, 1-15; and verses 37, 38, 64, with Revelation xviii, 2, 4, 21.

If further evidence were required in demonstration of the fact that Mystic Babylon represents a great nominal Christian system, it is found in the statement of Revelation xviii, 2, a part of which is, "Come out of her," saith the Lord, "that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues." This call must be heard and heeded before the break begins, because the break and disaster will come suddenly, as in an "hour"; and those who do not heed the separate aloof, will be involved in the disaster. And they will deserve to be, and it will be God's will that they should be involved, if after seeing the Truth respecting Babylon and its character they are not enthusiastically opposed to her deceptions and intoxicating false doctrines.

These tribulations upon Babylon will constitute a part of the "great tribulation" with which this Age will terminate and the New Dispensation of Messiah's Kingdom will be inaugurated—"a time of trouble such as never was since there was a nation unto that season." "For every shall be," said our Lord, "Let God's people awake! Let them act promptly! Let them help all others who have the spirit of the Lord, the spirit of the Truth, to see clearly the true situation and to show their courage and overcoming qualities by standing for righteousness." "Whoever is ashamed of Me and My Word, of him will I be ashamed," declared the Master. He is now testing the loyalty of those who profess to be His. He has permitted matters to so shape themselves that loyalty will mean more than words—it will include action, faithfulness, even unto death.