

SEES GOD'S HAND IN THIS CONFLICT

Rev. Dr. McAlister of Pittsburgh, a Methodist, Expresses Our Idea.

A Careful Reading of Daniel and Revelations Should Convince All Protestants God is Working Today to Destroy Romanism.

Rev. Dr. McAlister, D. D., pastor of the Eighth street Reformed Presbyterian church, delivered a timely sermon May 1, taking as a theme, "Probable Duration, Complications and Outcome with the War with Spain." The text chosen was I Chronicles, v.:22, "There fell down many slain because the war was of God." The doctor said in part: "The present war with Spain like Israel's war with the Hagarites, is of God. It will work out the divine purpose in its duration, complications and issues. What will this be? Present facts, historical antecedents and prophecy if correctly apprehended will help to a probably correct answer.

"As to the duration of the war. It may reasonably be expected to be long protracted. A naval war cannot be forced like a war on land to a great decisive battle. The field of conflict is not confined in territorial limits. It is the boundless ocean. Spain's policy is already seen to be, what naval warfare permits, to stand off, delay and prolong. She will continue to avoid the most critical engagements. By keeping away from vessels and fleets too powerful for her, preying upon weaker and isolated ships and privateering to which she may yet resort, a conflict which many have hoped to see ended in a few weeks or months may run on with intensifying bitterness and horrors for years.

"With a government saved by a foreign war from revolution at home and encouraged by the sympathy and secret aid of neighboring nations, Spain may drag along her war with us until it will become necessary to devise some other way than by scattering and indefinitely continued sea fights to bring the conflict to an end. The destruction of our commerce and the inevitable cost of a navy, ever increasing yet powerless to bring on a decisive battle will compel us to adopt a different plan of operations. But the complications which such a plan will surely occasion will make our government hesitate to adopt it. After two years or more of delay we may be constrained to force the issue and then the most serious complication will begin.

"The occupation of Cuba is a minor matter. Spain may not exert herself to resist that step. But if she can she will drive us to a war policy which would draw into active alliance with herself other nations of Europe. This will be the certain result if our government is compelled to invade Spain in order to end the war with her. That means of ending the war will first of all extend it. The Roman Catholic nations of Central and Southern Europe will in that event join our enemies. Other nations will be sucked into the awful vortex and compelled to take sides. The opposing principles of two great systems of religion cannot fail to come into conflict. Prophecy points with its sure word to such a complication in which the system of Romanism will go down in bloody strife unparalleled in the history of the world. (See Revelations xiv.:19-20; xvii.:16; xix.:17-21.) It will be allied with other enemies of enlightenment and liberty in secret machinations and traitorous uprising as well as in open warfare. Whichever side Germany may take her internal divisions will prove worse than the bombs of an internal foe. It is to be feared that in such a struggle all the powers of despotism, including Turkey and Russia, will join with Romanism against Protestant liberty

THE TRAIL OF THE JESUIT.

He Foments Trouble Behind the Mask of "Spanish Spies" and "Spanish Sympathizers."

Fort Mead, S. D., May 12th.—Troop B of the Eighth Cavalry left today for Fort Washakie, Wyo Troop K has received orders to proceed to Tongue River Agency, Montana, where IT IS FEARED AN INDIAN OUTBREAK IS IMMINENT.

Washington, D. C., May 12th —The Secret Service men have found 250 pounds of dynamite secreted in the outskirts of Washington. The belief is that THERE WAS A PLOT TO DESTROY THE GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS.

SPANISH IDEA OF CHRISTIAN JUSTICE.

Thank Dewey for Humanity and then Seek to Blow Him Up by Lying to Him.

Hong Kong, May 10.—A fresh example of (Roman Catholic) Spanish treachery seems to have come to light. It is said here that the presidents and Sisters of Charity of the Cavite hospital, in a procession, bearing crosses, etc., petitioned Rear Admiral Dewey not to massacre the sick and wounded, which, naturally, he did not do. The Spaniards, it is said, thereupon thanked the Americans for their humanity and repaid them by informing them of a narrow channel which, they said, was not mined, while the broad channel, they explained, was mined. AN INVESTIGATION upon the part of the Americans, however, REVEALED THE CONTRARY TO BE THE CASE, and the mines were blown up by the sailors of the American fleet.

and free government. A powerful ally of Great Britain and America in the distant east would be the young empire of Japan, with her dawning Christian civilization, her military genius and her naval resources. It would be difficult to conceive of any complication that would more clearly correspond to the great battle of Armageddon which Scripture vividly portrays.

"This struggle is to introduce the universal reign of Christ as King of kings. It is to be, according to the figurative meaning of the name 'Armageddon,' as on a mountain height, with innumerable masses of troops and decisive in its results. The kings and nations of the earth are gathered to the conflict of Romanism, Mohammedanism and atheism, represented by the three unclean spirits like frogs out of the beast, the false prophet and the dragon and all combined, against Christ the rider on the white horse of the pure and conquering Gospel of the Word of God, Who in righteousness doth judge and make war, and before whom all allied enemies are cast alive into the destruction symbolized by a lake of fire (See Rev. xvi.:13-16; xix.:11-20.) It is not probable that other nations of the western continent can remain neutral in such a struggle. Conflicting religious elements are ready in Mexico, Central and South America for volcanic eruptions. The world could hardly by any possibility of complications be

brought nearer to such a final struggle of despotism and freedom, truth and error, the open Word of God and its enemies, than it manifestly is by the rapidly developing complications of this struggle with Spain.

"First of all, Spain is doomed to destruction. Prophecy tells us that of the 10 parts into which the Roman empire was to be divided part would be iron and part clay. (See Daniel ii.:33-41-42.) Spain, one of those parts, is pre-eminently the clay. She is every way brittle and ready to be ground to pieces. Prophecy also tells us that in the very hour of the triumph of the truths witnessed for by the faithful followers of the King of kings, the tenth part of the mystical city of Babylon will fall in the moral and political earthquake just preceding the proclamation by great voices from heaven that the kingdoms of this world have become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ. (Rev. xi.:13-15.) No one of the parts of the old Roman empire will so probably fulfill this prediction as Spain. A careful calculation of prophetic number with the three times or years and a half of Daniel and John, (Dan. vii.:25; xii.:7, and Rev. xii.:14) the 42 months of John (Rev. xi.:2; xiii.:5) the 1290 days each day for a year of John (Rev. xi.:3; xii.:6), and the outpouring of the fifth vial on the throne of Romanism (Rev. xvi.:10-11) and the taking away of the temporal dominion (Dan. vii.:26)

all ending in 1870, and Daniel's 1,290 prophetic days ending in 1900, which period was to coincide with the triumph of the principles testified to by Christ's witness leads to the conclusion that this is 'the same hour' of Rev. xi.:13, marked by the great earthquake and the fall of the tenth part of the mystical city of Babylon or papal Rome.

"Another Bible view of this crisis is the coming out from the papal system in the breaking up of the mystical Babylon of a large part of its heretofore deluded members. (See Rev. xvi.:19; xviii.:4) In such a war as this with Spain this kind of a breaking up is inevitable. Men must choose between loyalty to Spain and the religion of that nation and its head and loyalty to our own country. Let us credit Leo and his representatives at Washington with a sincere desire for peace as a potent motive to their zeal for peace. But beyond that was their clear-sighted vision of the necessary consequences of this war in relation to Romanism. A multitude of the members of that system will prove loyal to our country, and that will throw their influence against everything that supports Spain. Others, and particularly the great mass of high ecclesiastics, will more or less secretly, but most heartily espouse the cause of our enemy. In this conflict there can be among American citizens no neutrality. He that is not for our country is against her. A crisis

and division is sure to come in our own land before the wider complications arise, and then the lines of separation will be still more sharply drawn.

"But out of all these upheavals and overturnings of thrones and despotisms will come the blessed time when the King of kings will be universally acknowledged and His law obeyed, and He shall reign as the Prince of Peace. Our chastisement as a nation will lead us to true repentance and reformation and our victory will be the triumph of righteousness and freedom.—Pittsburg Commercial.

Papal Attempts at Mediation.

The Pope seems to be spending most of his time in endeavoring to induce European powers to intervene, or mediate, or do something else to put a stop to the war between the United States and Spain. He is eager to end bloodshed. The thought of the Spanish sailors killed at Manila, with the probability that others will meet the same fate, fills him with horror and causes him to send innumerable telegrams to governments whose sympathies are believed to be on the side of Spain.

Since the Pope is so eager to prevent the shedding of blood he should have intervened when blood was being shed more freely than it is now, and when religion and humanity called on him to interpose between murderers and their victims. The Pope did not at-

tempt to intervene during the long Cuban war of twenty years ago. He did not use the power his position gives him to stop bloodshed during the war which has been going on in Cuba for the last three years.

The horrors of Weylerism drew from him no remonstrances. Spanish Catholics drove into the cities and towns at the point of the bayonet the Cuban Catholics who were living out in the country peacefully cultivating their farms. Those Cuban Catholics, cooped up in prison pens, unfed and unsheltered, died off like sheep. Two hundred thousand women, children, and old men were starved to death by coreligionists. These things were not done in a corner, but in the sight of the world. Yet the Pope did nothing. The Cardinals did not urge him to do anything. "The curse of Rome" was not launched at the Spanish Catholic butchers who were despoiling Catholic Cuba.

Nearly four centuries ago a noble hearted Catholic priest devoted himself to the cause of the Indians who were being exterminated by Spanish cruelty. He appealed to the spiritual and temporal powers for relief for the poor savages, and won eternal honor thereby, but no di nitary of the church has endeavored to intervene in behalf of the white Christians of Cuba.

So long as one set of Catholics were slaying another set the Pope had a right as the head of the Catholic church to intervene. It was his duty to do so, and he failed to do his duty. With the war between the United States and Spain he has nothing to do. That is not a religious war. No religious question is involved. The United States is not carrying on hostilities against Spain because it is a Catholic nation, but because in defiance of the Monroe doctrine it is denying the Cubans the liberty to which they are entitled, because the Maine was destroyed treacherously, by Spanish officials, and because humanity demands that an end be put to Spanish atrocities in Cuba.

The war is a political and not a religious war. The Pope is purely a spiritual potentate. He has ceased to be a temporal ruler. Therefore he ought not to attempt to thrust himself into questions which do not concern him—especially after having left undone the things he ought to have done during the three years' Cuban war.

The war will end when Spain sues for peace. Therefore, if the Pope has any influence with the rulers of that Catholic nation he should advise them, or order them, to plead for peace and thus put a stop to that bloodshed which causes him so much grief. He should advise the Spanish government to ask for leave to ship home at once the troops now in Cuba and abandon all pretense of ownership of the island. That is the limit of permissible mediation on his part.—Chicago Tribune.

Spain to Confiscate Church Property.

A dispatch from London to The Tribune of Chicago, dated May 7th, contained the following: A private letter received by the Spanish wife of a Prussian General from her uncle, who is a high Spanish official, describes the condition that the government is in and says that it has decided, after long opposition on the part of the Queen Regent, to declare all church property in Spain national property, including the golden treasures in many famous shrines and cathedrals. This action, the letter adds, has been taken in order to raise war funds. The writer estimates that the sum thus realized will amount to a milliard of pesetas [about two hundred million dollars.]

Religious Sects in Hawaii.

In Hawaii it is stated there are 23,273 Protestants, 26,833 Catholics, 4,888 Mormons (polygamy is forbidden), 44,806 of Eastern creeds, and 20,192 who declined to state their faith or possessed none.

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