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The Eastern Question

Its Relation to the Great World War, and Its Meaning in the Light of Prophecy

By Arthur G. Daniells

THE most gigantic, devastating war recorded in the annals of the human race, suddenly broke upon the world in the summer of 1914. Into this cataclysm have been swept fourteen nations, representing three fifths of the human family, and three fifths of the land area of the world. The nations that have not been drawn into this titanic struggle are fighting to keep out. It is not without good reason that this great conflict has been named "The World War."

A Heavy Toll in Human Life

The world is staggering under the terrific blows already dealt by this great war, and the end is not yet. The reports of the casualties for the two years of unprecedented warfare are paralyzing. Four million killed, eight million wounded, four million missing—a total of sixteen million. And yet, after these fearful losses, there are still twenty millions of men under arms; and these millions, when called to the front, were in the prime of life. They were the strength and flower of the men of this generation.

Never before in the history of the world have such vast armies been assembled on battle fields, never has warfare been so deadly, never has the toll in wounded and dead been so heavy.

A TWO YEARS' WAR RECORD

Killed	4,000,000
Wounded	8,000,000
Missing	4,000,000

Total casualties	16,000,000
Cost	\$50,000,000,000

This war has filled the world with more sorrowing relatives, fatherless children, and broken-hearted widows, than has any other war since the world began.

A Heavy Toll in Money

And never before has the cost of war in money been so great. In round numbers the two years' war has cost the nations engaged in it fifty billions of dollars. The average cost has been about sixty-eight million dollars a day. At the present time it costs one hundred million a day. The total expense for operating the government of the United States during 1915 was a little more than seven hundred million dollars—the amount required to finance this great war only one short week. These figures are truly appalling.

Waste and Ruin of Previous Wars

The war now going on far exceeds, in magnitude and waste and ruin, any previous war of which we have any records.

In the Napoleonic Wars, covering a period of nineteen years (1796-1815), the losses were six millions of men, and the cost fifteen billion dollars.

The losses in the war between Great Britain and the United States (1812-14) were fifty thousand men and one hundred eighty million dollars.

The Crimean War (1853-56) cost eight hundred thousand men and a little less than two billion dollars.

The toll of the Franco-Prussian War (1870-71), which has always been considered heavy, was only two hundred twenty-five thousand men and three billion dollars.

The Boer War (1899-1902) destroyed one hundred twenty-five thousand soldiers at a cost of one and a quarter billion dollars.

In the Spanish-American War (1898) six thousand lives were lost at an expense of eight hundred thousand dollars.

The losses in the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905) were heavy—five hundred fifty thousand men, and nearly two billion dollars.

These seven great wars, extending over a period of more than a hundred years, record a loss of less than 8,000,000 men and an expenditure of less than twenty-five billion dollars—a little less than half the terrible destruction wrought in two short years by the war now in progress.

But, as Hamilton Holt truly says, "It is impossible to compute statistically the grief, misery, and want necessarily involved in these

amazing totals. Hunger and suffering do not lend themselves to the processes of arithmetic. Blasted homes are not to be expressed in algebraic symbols, and stunted lives are not to be interpreted by mathematics."

This war has filled the world with more sorrowing relatives, fatherless children, and broken-

Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States, says: "The world has never before in the history of mankind seen war on such a scale, seen war with so many terrible features, seen the sweep of destruction comparable to that which is now devastating Europe. . . . We are witnessing a cataclysm, and God only knows what the issue will be."

Always thoughtful and temperate in his utterances, William Howard Taft, former President of the United States, says of this war: "Nothing like it has occurred since the world began. It is a cataclysm. The future looks dark indeed."

Near the close of the first year of the war, an observant writer said: "The most critical moment of the world's history is upon us. . . . Events are transpiring to stun the stoutest mind. We are at time's meridian."

secretaries of foreign affairs, the ambassadors, the great generals and admirals of these warring nations, know very well what is at stake in this great conflict.

Furthermore, a world war must have a great meaning as well as a great cause. What this colossal struggle means to the world, how it will leave mankind when it is over, what will follow,—these are questions of supreme interest to the whole human race. And the meaning concerns us more vitally and seriously than does the cause.

Unquestionably this great war belongs to a series of epoch-making events which lead toward one great culminating event in the history and destiny of the human race. Only a partial explanation of its meaning can be found in the field of international policies, treaties, commerce, and the like. Not until the realm of the supernatural is entered, and the high purpose and controlling power of the Supreme Being are recognized, can there be found a full and satisfactory explanation of this great catastrophe that has overtaken us.

The insistent demand for an explanation of what is felt to be the "greatest crime in all history," has led to a most diligent study of the real cause, and to a clean-cut statement of the findings in this investigation. Members of cabinets, statesmen, and diplomats have taken the world into their confidence, revealing and explaining to them international policies, intrigues, and complications that had previously been labeled "confidential" and "secret." Editors, historians, and veteran war correspondents have dug their way into the hidden ramifications of international affairs, and have brought to the public the facts they have found.

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

"Writers who can tell a stupefied world what this fearful portent means, who can throw light on the great fundamental problems of the race, and give some hint as to its destiny, will have an attentive and even anxious audience."—Springfield Republican.

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"It is not in reality one event that has changed the world. It is a world-change that has culminated in a great event."—Dr. Hobhouse.

As a result of this thorough research and candid explanation, there is a far better understanding now of the cause of the war than there was when it broke upon the world so suddenly two years ago. And a remarkable unanimity of views regarding the cause has been reached. While it is clearly recognized that there are a number of secondary contributing causes, yet there is a general agreement that one primary outstanding cause looms above all the others.

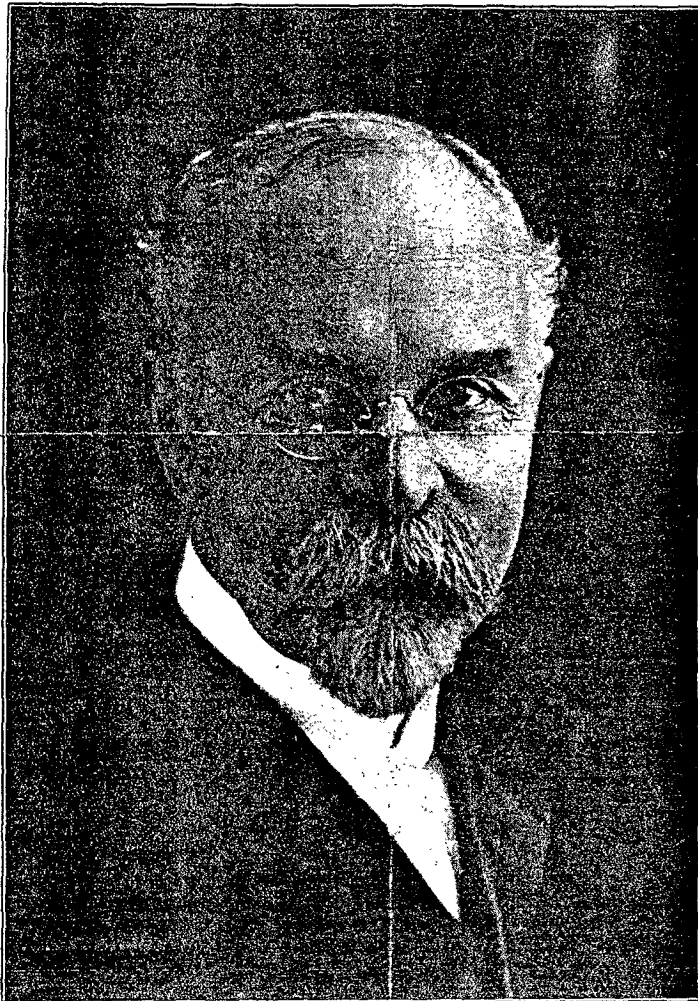
"A World-Change"

In his statement of the cause of this world conflict, Dr. Hobhouse, in "The World in Conflict," says: "It is not in reality one event that has changed the world. It is a world-change that has culminated in a great event." This is an important discrimination. The devastating war into which the world has been plunged is more than an event. It is the culmination of a "world-change" that has been effected by decades of international expansions, rivalries, and intrigues.

These world conditions that have been created by international developments are seriously conflicting. The settled, determined policies of the nations clash at so many vital points that war is inevitable, unless some of these policies are abandoned. But abandonment would mean serious loss, and the possible elimination of some of the independent kingdoms. This, none are willing to risk.

Fighting for a World Highway

Writing from the war zone to the *Christian Herald* of May 31, 1916, Maynard Owen Williams gives some very direct statements regarding the primary cause of the war. He says: "The war is being fought, not for a European capital, but for a world highway. . . . Russia is fighting for access to the Mediterranean. . . . England, through her fleet, the honeycombed heights of Gibraltar, and the sand ditch at Suez, will maintain control of the inland sea. . . . Germany is fighting to win a commercial triumph over the sea route to the East. . . . Turkey is on the shortest line between the population centers of the world. Germany is fighting for this trade route."



ARTHUR G. DANIELLS, EVANGELIST, WORLD-WIDE TRAVELER, AND LECTURER

Through the kindness of Mr. Daniells we are permitted to print his lecture on The Eastern Question, which during the past year he has delivered in crowded halls and theaters in many of the leading cities of the United States.

hearted widows than has any other war since the world began.

It would seem that the terrible destruction already wrought would so appall the rulers of the nations involved that they would find some way to bring this struggle to an end. But it does not. The combatants apparently grow more determined as the war lengthens. One writer declares that this war seems "like some infernal dream devised by the imps of hell sitting in an eternity of inventive council." Another says: "The rulers of nations are stupid. It would seem that they were blinded by the gods. It is as if madness is upon them, a fatuity, incurable; a mania, fatal, malignant, satanic."

Nothing Like It Since the World Began

There is a growing conviction that this world struggle is a far more serious affair than was at first realized. The editor of *Life* (Australia) says: "The great war grows in scale and significance as each day passes. It is plainly the war of all the centuries. . . . The war will not only give the world a new map; it will give to civilized history a new date, and perhaps a new form."

Mr. H. G. Wells, an English writer, says: "This is already the vastest war in history. It is a war not of nations, but of mankind. It is a war to exorcise a world madness and end an age."

The Cause and the Meaning

As the months have rolled by and the horrors of this great tragedy have been driven deeper into the hearts of multiplied millions, the question has been repeated with increasing emphasis: What is the cause of this war? What are these nations fighting so desperately about? What is the prize for which such heavy toll is being paid? What does it mean, and what will be the end of the struggle?

Facing these pressing inquiries, the editor of the *Springfield Republican* says: "Writers who can tell a stupefied world what this fearful portent means, who can throw light on the great fundamental problems of the race, and give some hint as to its destiny, will have an attentive and even anxious audience."

This "fearful portent" must have both a cause and a meaning, and both should be made as plain as day. A world war is not being fought without a cause. The rulers, the premiers, the

THE VITAL ISSUE

Briefly and simply stated, the Eastern Question is, What power shall control the territory along that natural waterway connecting the Black Sea and the Mediterranean?

"Access to, free passage through, or control of, the Mediterranean is the permanent objective behind the foreign policy of all the greater European powers. . . . It is an objective, however, that lies at the very industrial and commercial life of Great Britain and Russia; that is bound up with all the ambitions of Germany, and that underlies the industrial and financial aspirations of Italy and the Balkan States. For the Mediterranean is the greatest trade route in the world. It is the gateway from the Occident to the Orient."—Frederic C. Howe.

Frederic C. Howe, author of "Why War?" says: "Access to, free passage through, or control of, the Mediterranean is the permanent objective behind the foreign policy of all the greater European powers. . . . It is an objective, however, that lies at the very industrial and commercial life of Great Britain and Russia, that is bound up with all the ambitions of Germany, and that underlies the industrial and financial aspirations of Italy and the Balkan States. For the Mediterranean is the greatest trade route in the world. It is the gateway from the Occident to the Orient."

"The recent shifting of the seat of war from the French and Russian frontiers is a shifting from assumed centers of conflict to the actual center of conflict, a conflict which, under diplomatic conversations and conventions, has been going on for the greater part of twenty years. And it is a struggle almost as old as the world."

The Real Bone of Contention

It is the situation outlined in these excerpts that have led to the general statement by nearly all authorities that the Near East is the "storm center" of this great cataclysm. Prof. Roland G. Usher, of Washington University, St. Louis, says:—

"Sir Harry Johnston, a traveler, statesman, and diplomat of repute, has declared that Constantinople is really the core of the war." Then Professor Usher adds: "It should now be evident that there is much to be said for the view that the key to the present situation is Constantinople. We are dealing with a world war whose results are not expected to develop in Europe proper. The key to this situation lies in Constantinople, and the Turk holds it."

Soon after the war began, one of Europe's oldest and most experienced diplomats ventured to tell the world what this great conflict was about. Beginning with Austria's declaration of war on Serbia, he says:—

"What is the vital, paramount importance of Serbia, that Austria and Germany should have been willing to risk their very existence as nations to conquer her? What is the extraordinary value of Serbia to Russia, that, at the mere threat of war, and before a shot had been fired, the czar's armies were summoned together as hurriedly as troops can be summoned together in Russia? These are the questions that should be asked if the problem of the outbreak of the war is to be properly understood.

Constantinople the Grand Prize

"The answer is this: Serbia, a small but powerful Slav country, is the only buffer state in the Balkans that bars the approach of Austria to the Aegean Sea. Saloniki, the chief port to the northern side of the eastern Mediterranean, lies less than three hundred miles from Belgrade, the Serbian capital, which is itself situated on the very borders of Austria-Hungary. Clearly, it is all to the advantage of any great power which has interests in the Aegean, in the Balkans generally, or in Asia Minor, that Saloniki should be in its possession, and that the

THE BONE OF CONTENTION

"Constantinople is the bone of contention between Christian and infidel, between Teuton and Slav. It is a stupendous drama that is being unrolled at the Golden Horn—a modern scene of the most vivid nature, with a background crowded with memorable figures and historic events. Whatever the climax, the tumultuous happenings of these current months stir the imagination of the world, and will powerfully affect its future."—Washington Post.

way to Saloniki should be at all times open without the shadow of a doubt.

"Two great powers have vital interests in Asia Minor and the Aegean. They are Russia on the one hand, and Germany plus Austria on the other. Up to 1908, the strength of Turkey rendered the two groups impotent; they could express vain wishes without taking steps to realize them. . . .

Great Nations Speak for Themselves

Austria

THE foregoing statement of the case is supported by representatives of the different nations at war. The North American Review for September, 1914, contained an article from Dr. Dumba, entitled, "Why Austria is at War with Russia." Dr. Dumba was then Austrian ambassador to the United States. He said: "The war between Austria-Hungary and Russia may well be said to be the outcome of conflicting civilizations and conflicting aims. The controversy between the Dual Monarchy and the Serbian Kingdom is only an incident in the greater struggle between German civilization as represented by Austria-Hungary, and Russian aspirations as represented by Serbia, the Russian outpost on the southern frontier of the Dual Monarchy. . . . The natural expansion of the Germanic empire of Austria toward the Near East began

"The long struggle between the Teutons and the Slavs for the possession of the Balkan Peninsula was to be fought out. Serbia's paramountcy meant that Russia would dictate the policy of the peninsula; Serbia's decline would mean the end of Russian prestige in the peninsula, as well as the end of Serbia herself. That—the struggle for Asia Minor—is the sole reason why Europe has been plunged into war."

the Porte and without outside interference. This would mean a recognized sphere of influence from the Persian Gulf to the Dardanelles."

Russia

In explaining to the Russian Duma the dangers that threatened the empire, M. Sazonoff said: "The plans for the domination of Germany over the Turkish Empire comprised the formation of an enormous German-Mussulman Empire, extending from the Scheldt to the Persian Gulf. Such an empire, which appears in the dreams of Pan-German as a new caliphate, to which by historic analogy the name 'Caliphate of Berlin' would be adapted, is, according to them, to strike a mortal blow at the historic existence of Russia and Great Britain." It is a terrifying dream, but God is merciful!" In a recent issue of a leading Petrograd paper, Prince Eugene Troubetskoï explains Russia's

CONSTANTINOPE A KEY-CITY OF THE EARTH

The roads of the European nations cross at Constantinople; and on that cross "the peace of Europe was crucified." The sword will never be sheathed until Constantinople, the Bosphorus, and the Dardanelles pass from Turkey into the hands of some other great power or combination of powers.

"Since its foundation sixteen centuries ago, Constantinople, by position and natural destiny, has been one of the key-cities of the earth. It has been many times attacked and twice conquered. Its second conquest, like its foundation, marked the end of an epoch and changed the history of the world. Its third conquest can do no less."—London Saturday Review.

scheme, which had made considerable progress, had added enormously to the already great influence of Germany in Asia Minor. . . . British opinion no longer has any misgiving concerning the approach of Russian influence toward Constantinople. Disraeli's

policy was constructed before the first steps had been taken in Egypt. It was conservative, and the times are now revolutionary. Germany's action has revealed to us the menace of a Near East under Teuton rule, a menace which would have been far more formidable than anything which the past generation of British statesmen imagined from Russia. . . . Since its foundation sixteen centuries ago, Constantinople, by position and natural destiny, has been one of the key-cities of the earth. It has been many times attacked and twice conquered. Its second conquest, like its foundation, marked the end of an epoch and changed the history of the world. Its third conquest can do no less."

These National Viewpoints Summarized

Thus it is clear that through territorial expansion, increase of populations, agricultural, manufacturing, and commercial development, and international alliances a world-change has been effected which presents many vitally conflicting interests. These clashing interests have finally culminated in the most serious clash of nations the world has ever seen. No satisfactory adjustment seems possible. Great Britain does not consent to surrender any of the great over-seas possessions of her far-reaching empire. As long as she holds Egypt, India, and Australia, she must control the Mediterranean highway. She must

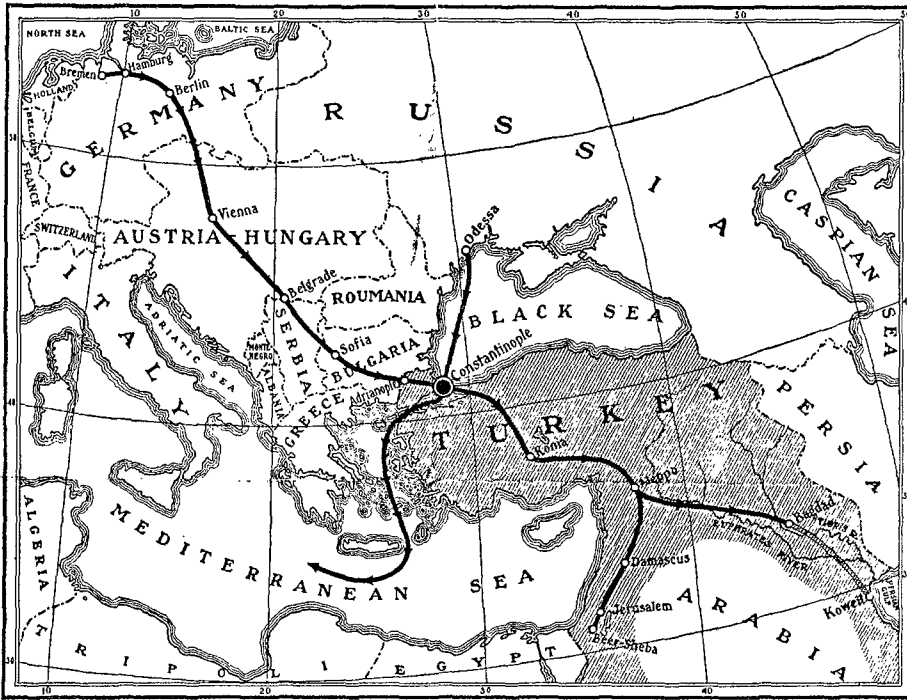
continue to hold such strategic positions as Gibraltar, Suez, the Persian Gulf, and Singapore. To surrender these would be to invite the dismemberment of her empire.

Russia's situation and policy seem equally vital to her existence. She has extended her conquests over a vast area and many peoples. Today the land area of her empire is equal to one seventh of the land area of the world, while her population is about one eighth of the world's population. Her natural resources are very great, but she requires an adequate highway to the world's markets in order to reap full benefit from them. She has been struggling for that highway for centuries. It was to secure a road through the Baltic that Peter the Great moved the capital from Moscow to the Baltic marshes and began the building of Petrograd. But Germany established her naval base in the Baltic between Petrograd and the ocean, thus placing an effectual menace in Russia's road.

Then Russian statesmen turned their eyes toward the Pacific. At great expense and toil and patience they built a steel road across the plains of Siberia to Vladivostok and Port

HANDS WIDE OPEN TO CATCH THE PRIZE

"The real bone of contention in the present struggle is Constantinople. The day of the Turk in Europe is practically at an end. In the minds of rulers—kings, emperors, presidents, chancellors—and in the minds of the leaders of the armies, 'Constantinople' is probably the slogan sounded deep down in their hearts, and kept tightly bottled up in the backs of their heads. . . . There is the real impulse of the present war. Constantinople, a position of wonderful advantage, must fall into new hands, and all are wide open to catch the prize."—Los Angeles Times, Aug. 8, 1914.



THE CROSS ON WHICH THE PEACE OF THE WORLD HAS BEEN CRUCIFIED

after the permanent expulsion of the Turkish hordes by the victories of Prince Eugene of Savoy. Parallel with the Austrian expansion southeastward went the Russian advance toward the Black Sea. In an effort to avert a clash in this parallel but gradually centering expansion, the Emperor Joseph and the Empress Catherine met late in the eighteenth century—1787—in the Crimea, and reached an agreement for the dismemberment of Turkey.

"Under this project of monarchs the western part of the Ottoman Empire, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, now the bone of contention between Austria on the one hand and Russia on the other, was apportioned to Austria. To Russia were allotted the regions now known as Roumania and Bulgaria. It was at this period that the Russian dream of the possession of Constantinople, first broached in a mythical will of Peter the Great, began to assume reality as a governing principle of Russian policy in southeastern Europe."

Count Berchtold, foreign minister of Austria-Hungary, says: "Austria-Hungary looks upon this war as a purely defensive one, which has been forced on her by the agitation directed by Russia against her very existence. Russian statesmen wish to form an iron ring of enemies around Austria-Hungary and Germany, in order that Russia's grasp on Constantinople and on Asia should never again be meddled with. . . . Germany knows that Austria-Hungary's enemies are her enemies, and that the dismemberment of the Hapsburg monarchy would mean the isolation of the German Empire."

Germany

In the Independent, Dec. 7, 1914, Dr. Bernhard Dernberg made the following statement for Germany:—

"Germany has been for about thirty-five years the associate of Turkey in developing Turkish territory, commerce, and industry. She has acquired the Oriental railways and built the Anatolian and Bagdad lines. She has established harbors and shipping companies, and engaged in mining and very extensive irrigation works. She must be left with a free hand to go on with this commercial development as far as she can arrange with the sovereign power of

policy in the following emphatic language: "Our friends and our foes alike ought to know what is the point of view of the Russian nation, as well as what is said by diplomacy, the one and only solution which accords with the state interests of Russia; namely, Constantinople and the strait must be Russian. Every other solution, whatever its nature, is impossible of acceptance by us, because every other would only make the position for us worse than it was before the war began. . . . Nothing less than the independence of Russia is bound up with this question of the strait."

Great Britain

The editor of the London Saturday Review, March 6, 1915, states the situation from the British viewpoint. He says:—

"The cause of the reversal of British policy in the Near East, which has passed almost without comment here as on the Continent, is bound up with, but plainly lies far deeper than, the Austrian ultimatum to Belgrade. The threat to Serbia was a culmination of a steady German thrust toward the East. The main difficulty in the German path in the Near East, the little kingdom of Serbia, was to be got out of the way by Austria; and, that 'necessity' accomplished, Germany would have had the clear road which she desired to Turkey, where her ambitions have grown since the visit of William II to the late sultan with a grandiose project of financial, commercial, and ultimately political dominance on the Golden Horn and eventually through Asia Minor.

"The first had been completely attained, and Germany's absolute control of Constantinople has been demonstrated to the whole world. "The second had yet to be fulfilled; but it was on the road to fulfillment. The tortuous and intricate history of the Anatolian and Bagdad railways during the last fifteen years is sufficient evidence of the gradual penetration of German influence through Asia Minor.

"The B. B. B. line—Berlin, Byzantium, Bagdad—was an instrument of German policy in which millions of German money had been invested, and in whose success the Deutsche Bank in particular was deeply involved—how deeply is still a matter of conjecture. This huge

Arthur. Here they were met by the Japanese and cut off from the ocean highway.

Again Russia turned to her natural highway, the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles, which she had been endeavoring to secure for more than a century. But here she found that Germany had all but succeeded in throwing a bridge across the Bosphorus at Constantinople which would effectually block her road through the Bosphorus and the Dardanelles to the Aegean and on to the

of the Persian Gulf. If she could establish a highway from Berlin to the Persian Gulf, she would not only secure an open road to the world, but she would place herself in a position to completely dominate Russia, and seriously threaten England's vast empire at any time it might seem necessary to her own interests. She claimed that with England's highway already established, and Russia's about to be driven through from the Black Sea to the Mediterranean, her own existence was imperiled.

Austria's situation was similar to that of Russia and Germany. Her only outlet was down the Adriatic, the lower part of which was guarded by the forts and warships of Italy. For this reason Austria has always looked to the Aegean Sea as her only safe, adequate road to the oceans. With this in view her steady policy has been to hew out a clear path to Saloniki. But the Turks and the Slavs of the Balkan Peninsula have always stood in her way. This has been true of Serbia especially.

Serbia, being supported by Russia, effectually blocked Austria in her drive to the Aegean, and also Germany in her drive to Constantinople and on to the Persian Gulf. It appeared to both Austria and Germany that this ring drawn around their eastern and southeastern boundaries meant their ruin. For this reason they decided to break it at any cost.

As for France and Italy, they both feared the results of a Teutonic victory. Their position in the Mediterranean was such that they felt safer under the paramountcy of England and Russia, and therefore joined them against the central powers.

These conditions are so vital to the very existence of these different powers that they see no way of surrendering their ground. Yet they clash so violently that it seems impossible to hold it without war. Of course in the end some or all must give way. They have unsheathed their swords to reach a settlement. The price being paid is staggering.



THE FAMOUS ST. SOPHIA MOSQUE IN CONSTANTINOPLE

world's markets. Believing that the German road threatened her very existence, Russia decided to stake all in the endeavor to prevent its completion.

This brings us to Germany's interests. She found herself an inclosed empire without what she considered suitable access to the markets of the world. Her only outlet was through the North Sea. But this was controlled by England. Thus she found herself in exactly the same position in which she had placed Russia in the Baltic. Eventually she turned eastward, and began a vast enterprise to secure possession

RUSSIAN HOPES

"The radiant future of Russia on the Black Sea is beginning to dawn near the walls of Constantinople." — Mr. Sazonoff.

"Constantinople and the strait must be Russian. Every other solution, whatever its nature, is impossible of acceptance by us, because every other would only make the position for us worse than it was before the war began. . . . Nothing less than the independence of Russia is bound up with this question of the strait."— Prince Troubetskoi.

These predictions are all clearly met in the history of Alexander's conquests, and the division of his empire after his death. Note the following historical facts:—

1. Immediately after his return to Babylon from his triumphant march through Asia as far east as India, Alexander died, while still young, and at the pinnacle of his glory and power. As he left no heir to his throne, his generals made his weak-minded half brother Arrhidaeus king. It was also arranged that if the expected child from Roxana, Alexander's wife, should be a son, he should succeed to the throne. Perdicas, one of the generals, was appointed regent; and other leading generals were appointed governors of various provinces and divisions of the empire. Roxana's child proved to be a son, but in a short time both mother and child were murdered.

2. "With the death of Alexander's son, the empire of Alexander the Great became only a geographical conception. In fact, it was split into separate parts, and the central power, continually weakened since Alexander's death, had completely vanished. The generals now regarded the provinces, which had been originally assigned to them by the higher power merely for administration, as their own dominion. It was therefore only natural that after 306 B. C. they styled themselves 'kings,' for kings they had been for years."—*The World's History*, Vol. IV, p. 134.

3. "The battle of Ipsus (301 B. C.) resulted in a permanent division of the vast empire founded by Alexander the Great, after twenty-two years of sanguinary wars among his generals, during which the whole of Alexander's family and all his relatives perished. The triumphant Seleucus and Lysimachus divided the dominion of Asia between them; Seleucus received the Euphrates Valley, north of Syria, Cappadocia, and part of Phrygia; while Lysimachus obtained the remainder of Asia Minor, in addition to Thrace, which extended along the western shores of the Euxine as far north as the mouth of the Danube. Ptolemy was allowed to hold Egypt along with Palestine, Phenicia, and Coele-Syria; while Cassander was allowed to reign in Macedonia and Greece until his death."—*Library of Universal History*, Vol. III, p. 799.

These brief historical statements record the fulfillment of every specification given in Dan. 11:4. In two hundred thirty-five years after this prophecy was given, Persia had been overthrown by Grecia; Alexander, the "mighty king," had been broken by the hand of death, and his kingdom had been divided toward the four winds of heaven, "not to his posterity," but "for others."

The King of the North, and the King of the South

At this point, two of these divisions, the east and the west, drop out of sight, while the other two, the north and the south, attain greater

king of the south" and "the king of the north." These two kingdoms, founded by Ptolemy and Seleucus, for more than one hundred years very clearly filled in the outline given in the ten verses that follow their introduction into the prophecy.

At the close of Dan. 11:15 the prophecy drops the two kingdoms of Ptolemy and Seleucus, while it traces the history of events that were to follow to the close of time. It foretells briefly the history of the Roman Empire, the great apostasy of the church during the Dark Ages, the Reformation of the sixteenth century, and the French Revolution which occurred near the close of the eighteenth century. After passing over this long period of about two thousand years, the prophet, in a very direct, positive statement, brings "the king of the south" and "the king of the north" back to the prominent place they occupied in the early part of the prophecy. The prediction is as follows:—

"At the time of the end shall the king of the south push at him; and the king of the north shall come against him." Verse 40.

French Invasion of Egypt and Turkey

It is believed by many who have given this prophecy careful study, that "the time of the end" began in the year 1798, and that the power against which "the king of the south" and "the king of the north" were to make war was France. At "the time of the end," 1798, Egypt, the old kingdom of the south, had come under the rule of the Mamelukes, while Syria, Asia Minor, Thrace, and Macedonia, the original kingdom of the north, had been for centuries the Turkish Empire.

Thus in 1798, if this exposition be correct, Egypt and Turkey were to be at war with France. It is significant that in that very year, war was begun between these three powers. On May 19, 1798, a French fleet of four hundred ships, carrying forty thousand troops under the command of Napoleon, sailed from the south coast of France for the purpose of invading and conquering Egypt and Turkey. Before the year closed, both of these countries were at war with France. This conflict seems clearly to meet the specifications of the prophecy. And just what had been foretold regarding the outcome occurred. Egypt, the prophecy declared, was to offer resistance to this invasion by France. This she did, but failed. The Mamelukes fought desperately, but they could not stand before the onslaught of the French. They

ENGLAND'S RIGHT-ABOUT-FACE

"After laying down millions in treasure and many thousands of lives in the Crimean War in 1853-1856, and after the immense and costly coups of Disraeli's statesmanship in 1878, it is now England herself who batters down the gates of Constantinople, in order that Russia may come in and possess it. Has there ever been so strange a right-about-face in the history of the nations?"—J. Chamberlain.

were terribly defeated July 21, at the Battle of the Pyramids, and the French flag was soon floating over the palace at Cairo.

Napoleon Defeated by Turkey

When the Turkish government at Constantinople learned of the French victories over the Mamelukes in Egypt, it declared war on France, September 4, and began preparing to meet Napoleon and his forces on the borders of Egypt. Learning of this, Napoleon, with his accustomed

The Eastern Question Defined

The evidence is abundant and conclusive that the storm center of this great war is the Near East. But this is not a new storm center. It has been the center of stormy conflicts for centuries. The war now raging around that center is one more added to the many that have been fought by the European powers over the long-standing dispute as to who shall possess Constantinople, the Bosphorus, and the Dardanelles. As Mr. Seymour says in "The Diplomatic Background of the War:" "It may fairly be said that during the last decade the international aspect of the Eastern Question has been the struggle of the forces of Pan-Slavism and Pan-Germanism." This war, then, is over that old, complicated, never-ending Eastern Question.

Briefly and simply stated, the Eastern Question is, What power shall control the territory along that natural waterway connecting the Black Sea and the Mediterranean? The northern end is called the Bosphorus; the middle section, the Sea of Marmora; and the southern end, the Dardanelles. On the eastern side of this great river is Asia Minor, and on the western side is the Balkan Peninsula.

This channel has been in the possession of Turkey since 1453, when the Turks took Constantinople and made it the capital of their empire. During a large portion of this period,

the territory involved has been the object of many sanguinary wars.

The nation that controls the Bosphorus, the Sea of Marmora, and the Dardanelles, must hold the dominant influence at Constantinople, and over the territory along the waterway. Absolute control of this great natural canal would mean possession of the eastern part of the Balkan Peninsula and of Asia Minor. At present this territory is in the possession of Turkey. But it is about to slip from her grasp, and the question to be settled by this war is, To whom shall this strategic position pass?

Of this controversy the editor of the *Washington Post*, Aug. 18, 1915, said: "As diplomatic and military activity increases in the neighborhood of Constantinople, the world's attention is directed more and more to the momentous events that are impending in that quarter. . . . Constantinople is the bone of contention between Christian and infidel, between Teuton and Slav. It is a stupendous drama that is being unrolled at the Golden Horn,—a modern scene of the most vivid nature, with a background crowded with memorable figures and historic events. Whatever the climax, the tumultuous happenings of these current months stir the imagination of the world, and will powerfully affect its future."

The Struggle Foretold by Prophets

It is interesting to note that this complicated problem, with which statesmen have struggled for a century and which is now convulsing all Europe, was foretold in the writings of the prophets centuries ago.

Students of the Bible and of Bible commentaries are familiar with the prophetic outlines which give the rise, history, and downfall of many of the great nations of the world. The overthrow of Egypt, Assyria, and Babylonia was foretold by the prophets long before their downfall. The place, power, and final destruction of the Medo-Persian, Grecian, Roman, and Turkish Empires are definitely and clearly set forth in the prophetic outlines.

The eleventh chapter of Daniel gives a wonderful forecast of the history of the world from the Persian Empire to the close of human history. The prophecy opens with the following statement:—

"Now will I show thee the truth. Behold, there shall stand up yet three kings in Persia; and the fourth shall be far richer than they all; and by his strength through his riches he shall

stir up all against the realm of Grecia." Dan. 11:2.

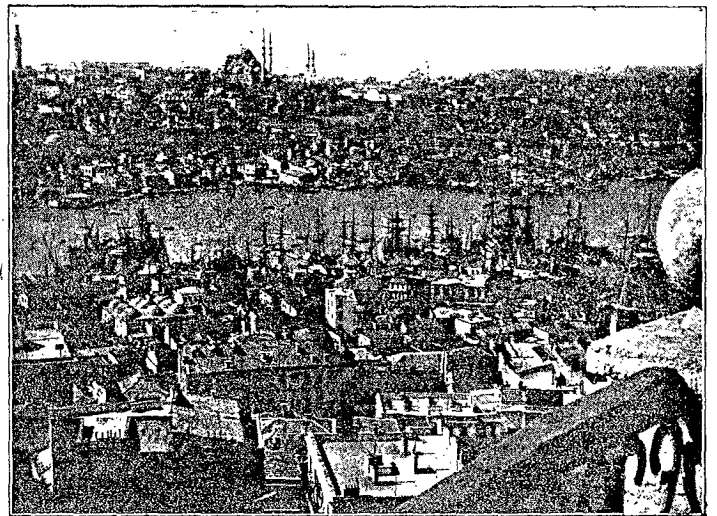
Starts with Persia

From this statement it is plain that Persia is the kingdom with which this long line of prophecy starts. Persia was to "stir up all against the realm of Grecia," but was to meet in Grecia a "mighty king" who would "rule with great dominion, and do according to his will." Verse 3.

This mighty king of Grecia, as all know, was Alexander. Of him, and the vast dominion over which he extended his conquests, the prophecy declared:—

"When he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled; for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside these." Verse 4.

Note these specifications: (1) When he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken; (2) it shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; (3) not to his posterity, but for others.



A VIEW OF CONSTANTINOPLE ON THE BOSPHORUS

prominence. The situation in the year 281 B. C. exactly meets the statement of the prophecy. There were then but two divisions of the Grecian Empire. One was Egypt, in the south, a strong kingdom; the other was the kingdom of the Seleucids, in the north, a greater and stronger kingdom, stretching from Persia in the east to Macedonia in the west. These are the two kingdoms designated in verses 5-15 as "the

promptness to act, began his march from Cairo to Constantinople. Everything along the route was taken by the French until they arrived at St. Jean d'Acre. Here he met a stubborn resistance by the Turkish forces, who were assisted by the British ships under the command of Sir Sidney Smith. With a grim determination which only a Napoleon could muster, the French laid siege to the town. The struggle was

desperate and long. But Napoleon failed; and for the first time in his career, he sounded the note of retreat, and with his army, fled before the enemy. The victorious Turks pursued him, retaking southern Palestine, wresting from the French the whole of Egypt, and adding Libya and Ethiopia to their African possessions.

How clearly Turkey's victories over the French, and her conquests in Egypt, Libya, and

TURKEY TO PERISH BY THE SWORD

"It is not the Turkish people, it is the Turkish government, that has drawn the sword, and I do not hesitate to predict that that government will perish by the sword. It is they, and not we, who have rung the death knell of the Ottoman dominions, not only in Europe, but in Asia."—Mr. Asquith.

Ethiopia, meet the predictions of the prophet! He said that "the king of the north" would come against the invader "like a whirlwind, with chariots, and with horsemen, and with many ships; and he shall enter into the country, and shall overflow and pass over. He shall enter also into the glorious land," Palestine. "He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries; and the land of Egypt shall not escape. . . . And the Libyans and the Ethiopians shall be at his steps." Dan. 11:40-43.

Turkey's history in Palestine, Egypt, Libya, and Ethiopia, from 1798 to 1825, meets every specification here given.

The Dismemberment of Turkey Foretold in Prophecy

But after foretelling these splendid victories for this power, the prophet predicts trouble and reverses, and utter ruin. He says: "But tidings out of the east and out of the north shall trouble him. . . . He shall come to his end, and none shall help him." Verses 44, 45.

Turkey had no sooner completed her conquests in the south (1825) than serious troubles arose in the north — troubles that have continued to this day. Russia declared war on Turkey in 1827, and extended her invasion and conquests as far as Adrianople in the Balkan Peninsula, and Erzerum in Armenia. Turkey sued for peace, and signed the Treaty of Constantinople, losing heavily. Here began the disintegration and dismemberment of Turkey, which has gone steadily on until she has lost nearly all her territory in Europe, and every foot of her possessions in Africa. These losses have been so great that, as the North American Review says, "There is no longer a Turkish Empire in Europe. A strip of country around Constantinople is still held by the sultan's troops; but all the other provinces of the Turkish Empire are in the hands of the Balkan Confederation."

The Death Knell of Turkey

And now the decision has been made that the Turk must leave Europe. The decree has gone forth. When Turkey joined the Teutonic powers in the war now raging in Europe, Mr. Asquith, premier of Great Britain, made the following declaration for the British Cabinet: "It is not the Turkish people, it is the Turkish government, that has drawn the sword, and I do not hesitate to predict that that government will perish by the sword. It is they, and not we, who have rung the death knell of the Ottoman dominions, not only in Europe, but in Asia."

Following this statement by the British premier, Mr. Sazonoff, the premier of Russia, in announcing certain Russian victories over the Turks, said that "the radiant future of Russia on the Black Sea is beginning to dawn near the walls of Constantinople." About the same time, Sir Edward Grey, British foreign secretary, stated in the House of Commons that England was "in entire sympathy" with Russia's plans for the settlement of the "politico-economic problem bound up with her access to the sea." And he added, "What form their realization will take, will no doubt be settled in the terms of peace."

The Program of Russia

The plainly expressed policy of Russia was well understood by both the premier and the foreign secretary of Great Britain when they made the significant utterances given above.

Writing of these important political announcements made in the capitals of England and Russia, Mr. Joseph Edgar Chamberlain says: "That the program of Russia and her allies will be carried out, and that Constantinople will become Russian, admits of little doubt. Sir Edward Grey did not name Constantinople in his remarks in the House of Commons expressing England's sympathy with Russia's aspirations, but the Duma pronouncement to which he referred did name it, and his declaration has no other meaning. It is arranged that Russia shall take the great city on the Bosphorus."—Evening Mail, London Feb. 26, 1915.

England's Policy Reversed

Students of world-wide politics are amazed at the great changes now taking place. In the Review of Reviews, April, 1915, Frank H. Simmonds says: "Thus in a single hour the Eastern Question changed its whole appearance. Thus England, at last and unmistakably, however guarded the diplomatic phrase, renounced the policy of Beaconsfield, the policy which had provoked the Crimean War, and sent the British fleet to the Sea of Marmora to destroy the Treaty of San Stefano."

In the London Evening Mail, Feb. 26, 1915, Joseph Edgar Chamberlain makes the following statement:—

"This news points to a step in history which the world has awaited with a sort of chill of horror for two hundred years; which England and France together fought one great war to prevent; and to discourage which, England has been more than once on the brink of other wars. After laying down millions in treasure and many thousands of lives in the Crimean War in 1853-56, and after the immense and costly coups of Disraeli's statesmanship in 1878, it is now England herself who batters down the gates of Constantinople, in order that Russia may come in and possess it. Has there ever been so strange a right-about-face in the history of the nations?"

Now all this is serious, very serious, for Turkey. It is the climax of the trouble she has been passing through since 1827, when Russia, her powerful enemy in the north, declared war upon her, pushed Russian victories almost to the walls of Constantinople, and compelled Turkey to sign a humiliating treaty. This was the beginning of a series of Turkish reverses which has

The Turk's Capital to be Jerusalem

The palace, it is fair to assume, stands for the dwelling place of the sovereign — the capital. At present the palace of the sultan is in Constantinople. But that is not "the glorious holy mountain" of the Bible. That mountain is Mt. Zion, where Jerusalem stands.

This is made plain by a previous statement of the prophet Daniel, in one of his recorded prayers, in which he says, "O Lord, according to all thy righteousness, I beseech thee, let thine anger and thy fury be turned away from thy city Jerusalem, thy holy mountain." Dan. 9:16. With this agree the words of Zechariah, "Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth; and the mountain of the Lord of hosts the holy mountain."

The capital of Turkey has never yet been located at Jerusalem, "in the glorious holy mountain." But it is to be placed there, if we correctly understand this prophecy.

Without question, Jerusalem is the most likely city in Asiatic Turkey for the new capital of the government.

Blotted Out of Existence

Just when Turkey will be compelled to leave Constantinople, no one can tell. Just what city or cities may be made the new temporary capital, no one knows. The prophet said the palace would finally be planted "in the glorious holy mountain" where Jerusalem is located; and everything in present-day conditions points to an early fulfillment of the prediction. How wonderfully time fills in the prophetic outlines of the Word of God!

But the prophet saw beyond the establishment of the new capital of Turkey at Jerusalem,

Peace is the beginning of his reign over his glorious kingdom of peace. The beginning of his reign is in connection with the time of trouble — the time of the world struggle of the nations. Then, in the midst of this trouble, when the Prince of Peace begins his reign, all whose names are at that hour found written in the book of

GOD'S PEOPLE DELIVERED

"At that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time; and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book"—the book of life. Dan. 12:1.

life will be delivered. They are the redeemed, and will receive the protection of him who "standeth for the children of thy people."

This is the all-important feature of the prophecy. This is its climax, its glorious consummation. This is the great objective from the first verse to the last. There is the closest possible connection between the historical events foretold in the prophecy, and the things of the kingdom which the Prince of Peace is establishing. The prophecy points out these movements in the world which in one way and another touch the work of God. When thus set forth by the prophets, these events in the world become signs, or heralds, of greater and more important events relating to the kingdom of God.

The Final Clash of Nations

According to the prophecies, the whole world will be thrown into tumult and war over disputed political questions relating to the Near East. It so happens that Turkey is the nation in possession of the territory and the interests of the Near East at the time of this conflict. To reach a settlement of these problems means to dispossess Turkey. That means her downfall. The first step in the accomplishment of this end is to foment strife and war. This has been going on for a hundred years. The next step is to wrest territory from her. This has been done until now all her possessions in Africa, and nearly all in Europe, are gone. The great deciding blow will be to drive her from Constantinople, the capital of her empire. The war now raging in Europe is designed to accomplish this; and when it is brought about, there will be but one more great act in the drama,—the final and utter destruction of the Ottoman Empire. A number of the Great Powers have agreed to and publicly announced this last act. "The universal belief is that this will soon be accomplished."

But the clash of nations that will bring Turkey's end will be the Armageddon, the battle of the great day of God, foretold by John in Rev. 16:13-17. That will be the time of trouble that the prophet Daniel says will attend Turkey's overthrow. And at that time Christ, the Prince of Peace, will establish his everlasting kingdom. Then deliverance from all the sin, suffering, and sorrow of this world will come to the people of God.

The events now taking place before our eyes are sure tokens, cheering heralds, that that glorious day is almost here.

O that the world would read the signs of the times! O that sorrowing hearts might know that the terrible events now devastating the world are omens of a better day close at hand! Let all who know the word which the Lord has spoken, proclaim it with a loud voice to all men, that they may be led to prepare to meet the Prince of Peace, who will soon bring deliverance to all his people.

A REQUEST

That every reader of this paper will consider prayerfully his duty and privilege to help place this "Extra," with its vital message for our day, in the hands of every man and woman who will accept it.

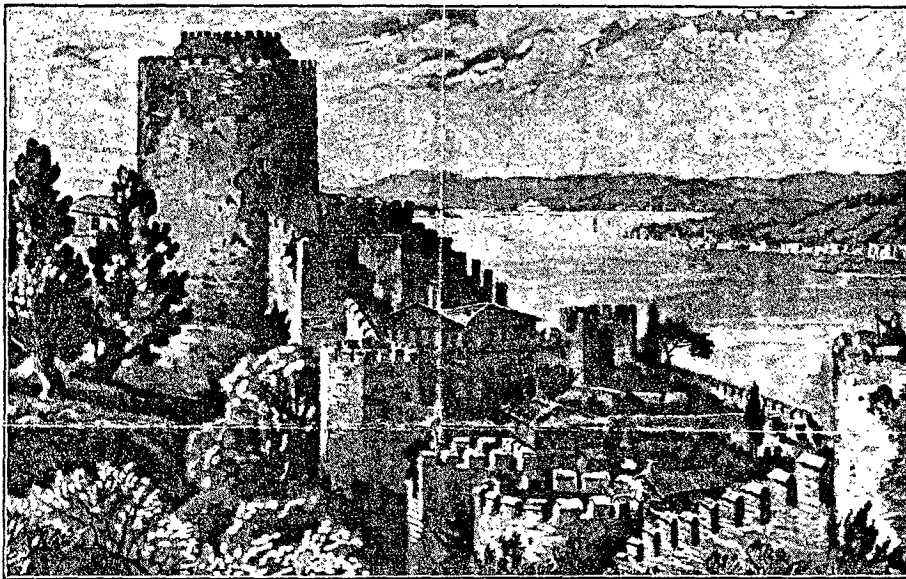
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FORTIFICATIONS ON THE BOSPORUS NEAR CONSTANTINOPLE

continued to the present time, and brought the empire to the brink of ruin.

The trouble growing out of Turkey's reverses and disintegration is not confined to the Turkish nation. It has extended to others, until it is now smiting all the nations of the world.

And there is nothing in sight that gives promise of relief. The roads of the European nations cross at Constantinople; and on that cross "the peace of Europe was crucified." The sword will never be sheathed until Constantinople, the Bosphorus, and the Dardanelles pass from Turkey into the hands of some other great power or combination of powers.

Will There be Peace?

But will that end the trouble, and establish lasting peace? How will peace be possible under the conditions that are sure to be created? According to the claims of all the Powers for a hundred years, the strong nation that possesses this strategic position will dictate terms to the rest of Europe, and that surely will not promote the peace of the world.

It requires no stretch of the imagination to see great trouble ahead of the Powers in their attempts to arrange terms of peace after the present war closes.

Discussing the question of remapping Europe after the war closes, Mr. H. G. Wells says: "To the redrawing of that map a thousand complex forces will come. There will be much attempted overreaching in the business and much greed. Few will come to negotiations with simple intentions. In a wrangle all sorts of ugly and stupid things may happen. . . . Europe will blunder into a new set of ugly complications, and prepare a still more colossal Armageddon than this that is now going on."

Some such calamity was certainly foreseen by the ancient prophets. In closing his great prophetic outline recorded in the eleventh chapter of his book, the prophet Daniel foretells the destiny of the Turkish Empire. He says: "He shall plant the tabernacles of his palace between the seas in the glorious holy mountain; yet he shall come to his end, and none shall help him." Dan. 11:45.

Two things are here foretold of the Turk: First, he shall establish his palace in the "glorious holy mountain;" second, he shall then "come to his end."

"in the glorious holy mountain." He foresaw and foretold the end — the utter ruin of the government of Turkey.

Colossal Complications at the Settlement

Looking at the serious complications already existing, and the worse tangle that is certain to follow this war, and judging of the future by the experiences of the past, how can we look for anything short of colossal trouble when these nations attempt a settlement of accounts? Divergent views, exorbitant demands, and conflicting claims are sure to prove insurmountable obstacles to the maintenance of peace.

This is the outlook presented by the prophet. After foretelling the disintegration of Turkey, the transfer of her capital to Jerusalem, and her final overthrow and ruin, the prophet says:—

"At that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people; and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time; and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book"—the book of life.

Universal Trouble and Ruin

By the connective "at that time," these two events, the end of Turkey and the time of trouble, are immediately and inseparably associated. The sign of the end of Turkey's reign will be the herald of the time of trouble. When the world sees Turkey coming to an end, all may know that the human race is about to receive a baptism of trouble such as it has never known "since there was a nation." This is surely a sad, dark outlook, but it is exactly what the world faces today.

Deliverance Through the Prince of Peace

But this is not all that the future has in store for sinful, sorrowing, ruined humanity. Thank God, deliverance is promised to all who will accept it on the conditions required by the Deliverer. Here is the promise: "At that time shall Michael stand up, the great Prince which standeth for the children of thy people. . . . And at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book." Dan. 12:1.

Michael, the Prince of Peace, is the Lord Jesus Christ. The standing up of the Prince of