

of hail and fire mingled with blood which left the land desolate.

In the eighth verse of the same chapter the Roman Empire is, under the type of a burning mountain, swallowed up by the sea of surrounding nations.

In the tenth verse the third angel sounds and a burning star called Wormwood falls from heaven. By turning back to Moses' prophecy concerning the Israelites (*Deut.* 29, 18-19) in the latter days we find that the wormwood is to the taste as gall and in its effects adds drunkenness to thirst, which thirst is caused by its *burning* qualities through which it has truthfully been called *liquid fire*, and is everywhere known under the name of Alcohol, which, in these last days has been diverted from heaven, that is from its legitimate use for chemical purposes to be a beverage, a curse that now destroys one-third of the waters, and many millions of men, women and children are cursed and destroyed thereby, as is well known in these last days.

The fourth angel sounds and one-third part of the sun, moon and stars are smitten, they represent the true system of government under the Pope, which, through the ignorance and wickedness of those in office was becoming powerless for good and was smitten by the reformation as seen in the defections from the civil and religious jurisdiction of the Pope, of many kingdoms, principalities and powers of the earth.

In the next verse an angel is heard flying, but it is called an *eagle* in every manuscript and version of note, of the Bible, which is remarkable in connection with the prediction of events concerning the American Republic, of which the eagle is the national emblem, and Isaiah (ch. 46, 11-13), referring to the *end of things* declares the calling of a *ravenous bird* from the east at a time when the salvation of the Israelites is not far off. This *flying messenger* proclaims with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the angels yet to sound. That threefold woe refers, first, to the United States' "War of Independence" or rebellion against monarchical government; second, their "Great Rebellion" or war against themselves; third the final overthrow of their whole system of government and destruction of the wicked by God in 1866, that the land may be cleansed from all who would hate God's laws and system of government, for he will have a willing people in the day of his power.

THE FIRST WOE.

When the fifth angel sounds (*Rev.* 9, 1-

2,) a *star* falls from heaven, and to him was given the key of the *bottomless pit*. As thoroughly proved in former numbers of this *Review* there can only be one true system of government in the universe, and that an absolute monarchy. In the American Republic the system of government is precisely the reverse, for it is a fundamental principle, embodied in their constitution or agreement of union, that every citizen is a *sovereign*, with the privilege of an absolute control, as a citizen of a State, of all the interests of that State, as a citizen of the Republic, of all the interests of all the States (or kingdoms) thereof.

All true principles emanate from the Almighty, all that do not are false, are innately chaotic and, in the language of St. John, originate out of the *bottomless pit*, and the fruits or evils resulting from trusting to them as the smoke of the *pit* which darkens the sun because it hides the truth, just as the attempt to do a question in arithmetic by a false rule leads to a perfect chaos of figures and absolutely hides all true calculation.

Thus it is seen that the angel who established false principles of government is he to whom was given the *key* of the *bottomless pit*, that is the *talent* and *energy*, therefore the power to open the *pit*, which had it been exercised in maintaining true principles of government would have preserved his country from the smoke and the torment of the *bottomless pit*. As it was through the talent and energy of George Washington that the republican system of government was established over the present United States, he was the angel St. John saw open the *bottomless pit*, which is confirmed in the eleventh verse where he is said to have been made king, that is the chief ruler or President over the people, and as the principles of government he established inevitably tend to destroy, and in its smoke to hide the fruits of truth, he is typically called Apollyon or the destroyer, which name therefore belongs to all his successors to that office. And in the fifth verse he is said to have tormented the people who believed in truth *five months* with firearms, the bullets from which strike and sting like a scorpion.

The five months are five years, and commenced with the final signing of the declaration of independence at the sitting of Congress in October, 1776, and ended with the capture of the British forces under Lord Cornwallis in October, 1781, which American historians admit virtually ended the war.

Satan calls evil good and good evil, those guided by his council follow his example, therefore they of the Republic call