CONQUEST OF WORLD FOR CHRIST MAY BE NEAR AT HAND.

SOME SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Great Revival Within and of the Church Are Pointed to-It Is a Self-Evident Fact That the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ Is the Most Vital and Essential in the World To-day.

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Entered according to Act of Parliament of Can-ada, in the year 1904, by William Baily, of To-rente, at the Dep's of Agriculture, Ottawa.

Los Angeles, Cal., Sept. 18.-In the nature and habits of the birds the preacher finds a simile of the entrance into the church of a large accession of converts. The text is Isaiah lx., 8, "Who are these that fly as a cloud, and as the doves to their windows?'

An axiom is a self evident fact. "It is," the lexicographers say, "a pro-position whose truth is so obvious at first sight that no process of reasoning or demonstration can make it plainer." It is plainer." It is a golden truisi coined in the "mint house of max with the raised features of the Goddess of Truth stamped upon its side, even as the English shilling side, even as the English shilling bears the profile of King Edward, an American silver dollar the outstretch ed wings of an eagle, as the Roman penny once bore the superscription and image of Caesar and a Grecian coin the features of Alexander the Great. It is an aphorism, an apothegm. It is as Hippocrates once said, "A succinct saying comprehending a complete statement." It is truth in a nutshell. It is a universe of analyses condensed in an epigram. Hundreds of men are simply doing

Hundreds of men are simply doing the same thing in trying to find the reasons for the phenomenon stated by shallow observers, that the church of Jesus Christ is losing its power over men. Long lists of reasons for this waning influence are cited, whereas the writers have only to open their eyes to discover that the church of Jesus Christ is not losing its power The church of God was never so powerful as it is to-day More strong men and strong women are bowing before its altars than ev-er before. More are the church's teachings respected by statesmen and teachings respected by statesmen and in the homes and daily lives of our citizens than ever before. I have not time to go into argument to prove this assertion. I would not to-day do so if I had the time. Why? Because it is a self evident fact that the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is the most vital and essential influence in the world to-day. It is a self evident statement. All intelligent people who have looked holdly self evident statement. All intelli-gent people who have looked boldly and impartially at the facts are ready to concede that the assertion

But though the church of the Lord Jesus Christ is growing more and more powerful day by day, yet we believe that still greater triumphs are before it in the future. The vicare before it in the future. The victories already won are small compared with those which are yet to be won, when nations shall be born in a day. Josiah Strong recently wrote a book entitled, "The Next Great Awakening." I am not going to find my theme in the latest book of the famous author of "Our Country." I am going to look through the inspirated spectacles of a prophet who lived ed spectacles of a prophet who lived nearly 3,000 years ago. Isaiah took the picture of the doves flying to their some cotes in great clouds as the symbol of the church of the future gathering in its members. So I shall try to show that the "coming awakening of the church" is not only going to be a world-wide evangelis-tic movement, but also that the conquest of the world for Christ may be

near—yes, very near—at hand.

In the first place, let me say that such a movement as this, foreseen by the prophet and prefigured under the symbol of a flight of doves, is in accord with the record of history.

Again and again there have been revivals which have brought into the church vast numbers at one time.

Since the day of Pentecost, when 5,one the day of Pentecost, when 5,-000 were convected under the preach-ing of the Apostle Peter, there have been such great movements. How many were won to the truth by the teaching of Luther? What vast muldoves fly to their windows?

doves fly to their windows?

The figure is expressive not only of numbers, but of spiritual qualities. The church of the future is not to have a padded roll. It is not to be fireaching of a Wesley, a Whitefield.

THE GOSPEL TRIUMPHS and a Moody and of a Torrey and a Chapman, a Munhall and a Harrisen of the present day. We know that Peter the Hermit, clad, know that Peter the Hermit, clad, like John the Baptist, in untanned skins, walked through Europe, lifting high in his hands the crucifix, until thousands and tens of thousands of devotees were ready, in 1096, to follow this enthusiastic ascetic to Palestine as the advance guard of the crusaders. We know that thousands upon thousands of Cromarty miners used to hang upon the words of John Wesley in the early mornings at 5 o'clock, before their day's work began. We know that no building was large enough to hold the crowds who wanted to that no building was large enough to hold the crowds who wanted to hear Moody. Great halls had to be erected in Boston and New York and Chicago to hold the huge audiences. The Philadelphia depot on account of its great size had to be used in place of a church. Thousands upon thousands found Christ in the reviv-als of the seventeenth century under the preaching of the Puritans. Thouals of the seventeenth century under the preaching of the Puritans. Thou-sands upon thousands found Christ in the Methodist revivals of the eighteenth century. Thousands upon thousands found Christ in the first part of the nineteenth century; when Charles G. Finney had such power over sinners that a dying blasphemer said, "Don't let Charles G. Finney preach my funeral sermon, or he will preach my soul into heaven in of my soul into heaven in spite of my own desires." But all these gospel triumphs of the past centuries are as nothing in numbers to the multitudes Isaiah saw crowding into the kingdom of Christ. Isaiah them coming, not by the hundreds or the thousands, but by the millions. "Who are these." cried he. "that fiv as a cloud and as the doves to their

> The selection of the figure of a The selection of the figure of a flight of doves is significant. It is, above other things, a suggestion of immense multitude. But few people realize the marvelous numbers and propagating powers of the doves of elden times. Biberg, the ornithologist, estimated that if a common pair of domesticated pigeons hatched nine times a year—which number of nine times a year-which number of nine times a year—which number of hatchings is not extraordinary for an average pair of these birds—and if these pigeons laid two eggs at one time, and all the fledgelings which were hatched should live and hatch in turn, that single pair of pigeons would produce in four years nearly fifteen thousand descendants. The featundity of the dove is about as great cundity of the dove is about as great as the reproductive powers of English sparrow or the Australian rabbit. The most graphic description ever written of the innumerable multitudes of the doves was penned by Alexander Wilson, the naturalist. Statements made by this Scottish-American traveler were indorsed by John Audubon. Among the ornithological authorities there can be no better indorsement than this: "Mr. Wilson wrote that down in Kentucky, in a place which migrating doves used to visit annually, their multi-tudes were so great that they literally destroyed whole forest regions. In this tract about which he wrote the branches of evcay tree were filled with dove nests wherever a nest could be built. In many trees over one hundred nests had been constructed. Above the trees the multitudes of the pigeons' wings were so great that their flapping wings sounded like the boomings of a tornado. So great the boomings of a tornado. So great was the noise of their flapping wings that the horses of the farmers in that region often became unmanageable and could not be driven. Near Frankfort, Ky., Alexander Wilson saw a flock of migrating doves. The naturalist estimated that this single flock was two hundred and forty miles long and had an enrollment of at least 2,230,000,272 birds."
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> Isalah describing the consecrated

Isaiah describing the consecrated worshipers flocking to the millennial church could not have chosen a more expressive figure. "These that fly as a cloud and as doves to their windows." The readers of his time would realize by it what countless throngs of men he saw in prophetic vision hastening into the kingdom of God. The church of God is now God. The church of God is now great in membership, but, church members, do you not look forward in holy ecstasy to the time when the thousands who are worshiping Christ now shall be changed into the mil now shall be changed into the millions? Do you not long for the millennial day when Christ's disciples shall flock through the church's doors in innumerable multitudes "as the doves fly to their windows?".

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cause for complaint.

as the five foolish virgins of Christ's parable, lounged around and slept and had no oil for their spiritual lamps. It is not to be composed of men and women who occupy their church pews only on. Sunday and then when the benediction of the sermon is given turn and shut their pew doors and say: "Good-by, religion. I must go home now. You just stay here for a week, and next Sunday morning I will come back and see you and pat you on the back for an hour again while the choir sings and the pastor prays." But in that church which Isaiah saw in prophecy not only shall there be multitudes of warshipers, but all these multitudes shall be consecrated worshipers. These many worshipers as the five foolish virgins of Christ's worshipers. These many worshipers shall be men of living faith, to whom the presence of God is an abiding reality, influencing them wherever they go and in every moment of their lives.

But though "black eyed Susans" or the "golden spore" or the "blue eyed violets" on account of their great multitudes may be called a rommon flower—a weed—the dove, in spite of her multitudes, has never been called a common bird. The dove always has been and always will be always has been and always will be the symbol of purity, gentleness and love. This symbol was recognized in heathen times. Because the dove signified purity Venus had this bird

In the beautiful mythological legend Semiramis, the quuen, was said in her youth to have been nurtured by dove and at death to have been changed into a dove. We find, how-ever, in Christian nomenclature the dove is also the symbol of purity and gentleness and divine love. In the Bible the dove has the most hallow-ed of associations. It was as a dove that the Holy Spirit appeared at the baptism of Jesus. It was two doves that the blessed virgin presented at the temple as an oblation for her purification after the divine birth. What says the psalmist in reference to the man's redemption from sin and his cleansing through the blood of Jesus Christ? "Though ye have lain among the pots, yet shall ye be as the wings of a dove covered with silver and the feathers with yellow

gold. This migration of the redcemed and spotless multitudes of human beings to Christ's churches shall not only come with the purity of the dove, but also with the swift velocity of but also with the swift velocity of the dove. It will not come with the leadened feet of a man who, having been born in a Christian home, takes ten, fifteen, twenty, perhaps thirty years, to make up his mind to be a Christian. It will not come with the slow processes some churches have, whereby their sessions or vestries or boards of deacons place the applicant But these new accessions to the churches of Jesus Christ will come to the front rank of Christian service and worship as quickly as the name of a Saul was changed into a Paul. The new members whom Isaiah saw vision fled to Christ's altar as quickly as the doves fly to their win

The swiftness of the dove's flight is one of the greatest inspirations to me of all of Isaiah's vision. Why the swiftness? Because I know that we can come to Christ now. Oh, my

brother, it takes a swift wing for you in an instant of time to cross over all that far country of sin which separates you from God's dovecote. The distance from Arizona to New York or from St. Sebastian. to new York or from St. Sebastian, Spain, to Venice, where doves have flown, are not as far. Tell me, O man, did you not start forth on your journey of sin ten, twenty, forty years ago? Why, let me recount the ou have not seen a con nion table since your mother died. You have not made one earnest prayer for ten years. If I was to-day to count over the list of your intimate friends I would find them without exception to be men and women who have not been in the past and are not now living Christian lives. Oh, my brother, my poor sin sick brother, you have a long distance to come back to God. But you can come by divine grace. You can come now. You can come as quickly as the new converts of the church which Isaiah saw in vision came to the mercy seat. You can come with a superlative You can come with a superlative swiftness. You can come with the swiftness. You can come with the lightning velocity of a flying dove. But why talk about Isaiah's church of the future? Why caption this sermon with the title, "The Coming Awakening?" When Isaiah saw this migrating dove and used it as an emblem was he alluding only to a future church? I think not. I think as the Hebrew prophet was standing there on the mountain of inspiration looking off on what was to come he swiftness. as the heretwo prophet was standing there on the mountain of inspiration looking off on what was to come he kept saying to himself: "Why is it not possible for this vision of God's church to be materialized now? Is not God willing to bring this beatific condition to present man if the members of the children of God will to-day co-operate with the Holy Spirit? Yes, he can, he will, was the prophet's thought. I know this is the thought to-day running through many a Christian's mind. God can and God will make the prophetic vision of Isaiah come true now if we, the church members, will only truly yield ourselves and consecrate our minds and hearts to Christ's will. O man, O woman, the greatest enemy man, O woman, the greatest enemy of Jesus Christ to-day is not the infidel and scoffer outside of the church. It is the man and the woman inside the church who does not co-operate with Jesus in his purpose to save the world for Christ through

to save the world for Christ through the agency of his church. If we yield ourselves to his will even the smallest and the most insignificant can become mighty for God, for, as Joshua hath said: "One man of you shall chase a thousand, for the Lord your God, he it is that fighteth for you, as he hath promised you. Take good heed, therefore, unto yourselves that ye love the Lord your God."

The symbol of the dove which isalah uses to describe the church could not be better illustrated than by the spectacle in the great square

St. Mark, With but few exceptions I have seen all the great cathedrals of the world. Take it all in all, though it cost not nearly as much as some others, the most impressive cathedral I ever saw was that of St. Mark's of Venice.

Like unto natural scenery St.

Mark's is the Yellowstone Park, not the Yosemite or the Gothard Pass, among the cathedrals. It impressed me not with its size so much as its exquisite colorings. Its roof, its walls, its arcades all blended as the colors of a rainbow frozen in stone. The tops of its lofty columns were not hideous with grimy gargoyles. They were chiseled into flower gar-dens, which grew at your feet or with their leaves hung down from above. These different flower gardens were so perfectly chiseled that it seemed as if the winds, sweeping up from the Venetian Canals were gently swaying them as the rose-bushes bended under the touch of a summer breeze in your father's gar-den. There, within those walls, the chancel and auditorium blend in such perfect harmony that when I stood before the altar's picture of the dying Christ I felt for the first time in a European cathedral that I was in the presence of God and in the place of

But, though I saw many places in the Venice cathedral that entranced me, after all, my greatest lesson earned there was outside the cathedral walls, and not within. I learned that lesson there not from the cold stones of a building, but from the warm hearts of living doves. There, from behind the towers and from within the recesses down from the roof and the four great bronze horses, from pillars and vestibules, the doves gather around you by hundreds. They came as fearlessly to my side as my little children might come. They perched on my shoulder, on my hat. They fluttered over my head. They crowded by the hun-dreds at my feet to eat of the food I had ready for them. As they flut-I had ready for them. As they nut-tered about me I said to myself, "Would that God's sinful children might here gather about these church doors as I see my God's little feath-ered loved ones." When I spoke these words involuntarily I started. I said to myself, "Why will not God's sinful children thus come to God's sanctuaries?" Did not Isaiah in vision see them coming? Shall they not come? Will they not come now if the Christian church members feed them with the 'bread of life." as I am feeding these birds with little crumbs? Yes, they will. They will, if we Christian church members only live right and offer to the outside suffering world the right kind of di-vine sustenance. Will not you and I, O church members, by our examples and welcome and gospel food, make Isaiah's vision a possibility now? Will not you and I, as followers of Christ, beckon the sinners to him and they will come as doves come to their windows.

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Siloam Springs, Ark., Sept. 23 .-While forty men were working yesterday on an iron bridge, which is being erected over Grand River, near Grive, I. T., forty miles northwest of here, the bridge collapsed and 20 are reported killed and many others

Guilty of Manslaughter.

Halifax, N.S., Sept. 23.—The jury returned a verdict of guilty against Prefery, who was tried for man-slaughter. Prefery shot a boy at Hantsport on Hallowe'en.

Not a minute should be lost after a child shows symptoms of cholera infantum. The first unusual looseness of the bowels should be sufficient warning. If immediate and proper treatment is given, serious consequences will be averted. Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea-Remedy is the sole reliance of thousands of mothers and by its aid they have often saved their children's lives. Every household should have a bottle at hand. Get it to-day. It may save a life. For sale by all fantum. The first unusual looseness may save a life. For sale by druggists.

Lady Curzon Seriously III. Lady Curson Seriously III.

Dover, Eng., Sept. 23.—Lady Curzon of Kedelston, who was Miss Leiter of Chicago, is critically indisposed at Walmer Castle, which her husband, the Viceroy of India, occupies, as warden of the Cinque Ports. It is reported that acute peritonitis has supervened. Lord Curzon, who is overwhelmed by the sudden blow, remains constantly by his wife's bedside.

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He indulged much too freely in pie and plum cake, And during the night how his "tummy" did ache, They ran for the doctor, who knowing the fault, Without hesitation prescribed "Abbey's Salt."

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