

The fact is, that modern progress has evidently put such enormous power in the hand of man, that the whole earth is liable to be utterly desolated within one year at any time now; unless a corresponding intellectual and moral force should now arise, which should be capable of commanding the respect, and gaining the confidence, of the people of all the great nations, so as to hold the nations in check; and restrain them from destroying each other in the frenzy generated by war, which may arise at any time; for it is remarkable that there is probably not a single generation in all history in which war has not prevailed: why then should the coming generation be expected to escape the arbitrament of the sword? We may very reasonably conclude that we should certainly not escape now, any more than in former generations; should it be left to the intellectual and moral force of the church, or Ecclesiastical Christendom, to save us from such terrible and world-wide disaster, as would now certainly result from a serious war, which might easily involve all the great nations of the earth to their mutual destruction and desolation in a moment of passion as it were, before they should have time to reflect deliberately upon the frightful consequences of their own violence.

As the church, or Ecclesiastical Christendom, cannot, or will not, do anything effective to save mankind from such terrible disaster; the church, or Ecclesiastical Christendom, must "fall," and give place at once to an intellectual and moral force competent to do the great work now so imperatively demanded of it.

Let it be clearly understood that the "fall" of Ecclesiastical Christendom, or the church, at this time, cannot possibly be avoided; (any more than the coming of an "earthquake" can be avoided); that **consequently the only wise course possible at this time, is to do precisely as Jesus Christ counsels his people, "Come out of her, my people";** just as any sensible man would "come out of" a building about to "fall"; for his remaining within the building under such circumstances, could not possibly benefit himself, or others, whereas by coming out in good time, he might not only save himself from the disaster, but greatly benefit any number of others also.

Why shouldn't those therefore who have understanding among the clergy explain at once to their congregations that "the kingdom of God" upon earth is now evidently within their own power? as soon as they choose to exert themselves wisely in favour of it; that consequently it is henceforth sheer hypocrisy to pretend to pray, "Thy kingdom come," if they continue to make no effort whatever for that purpose. That it is now manifestly the duty of the "people" of God everywhere upon earth to advocate with the utmost earnestness the immediate abolition of warfare, by inducing the people of "all nations" to insist upon the erection of an International Tribunal sustained by the whole power of the world, that henceforth every nation may be as thoroughly protected from violence or injustice, by recognized international law and order, as individuals are at present protected in the various cities