

ing announcements, encourages the saints to maintain the attitude of waiting for Him.

Great things are a-doing. The Church, the Jew, and the Gentile are all in characteristic activity, each full of preparation and expectancy. *But faith waits for that which comes not with such things.* The rapture of the saints is part of the mystery, part of "the hidden wisdom." The coming of the Son of God from heaven is a fact, as I judge, apart altogether from the history or the condition of the world around.

ALLIANCÉS AND CONFEDERATIONS.*

"Associate yourselves, O ye peoples, and ye shall be broken in pieces. . . Take counsel together, and it shall come to naught, speak the word and it shall not stand. . . Say ye not, A confederacy, to all them to whom this people shall say, A confederacy; neither fear ye their fear, nor be afraid. Sanctify the Lord of Hosts Himself; and let Him be your fear. . . And He shall be for a sanctuary."—Is. viii. 9-14.

Few things can be more important, or distressing in a certain sense, than the widely accepted proposal of the world's reformation by means of the mental and moral cultivation of mankind, as opposed to God's redemption by the blood of His Son.

It is nothing short of this (as an object) which

* The moment seems opportune to reproduce the above paper, written a quarter of a century ago, in view of the failure of man's latest attempt (The Peace Congress) to bring about a millennium without Christ, so fresh in the minds of all. Ed: R.