

2d chap. 4th verse, "Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more"—and introduces his subject with the following striking and original remarks,

"There are a great many passages in Scripture, which warrant the expectation that a time is coming, when war shall be put an end to—when its abominations and its cruelties shall be banished from the face of the earth—when those restless elements of ambition and jealousy, which have so long kept the species in a state of unceasing commotion, and are ever and anon sending another and another wave over the field of this world's politics, shall at length be hushed into a placid and enduring calm; and many and delightful are the images which the Bible employs, as guided by the light of prophecy; it carries us forward to those millennial days, when the reign of peace shall be established, and the wide charity of the Gospel, which is confined by no limits, and owns no distinctions, shall embosom the whole human race within the ample grasp of one harmonious and universal family.

"But before I proceed, let me attempt to do away a delusion which exists on the subject of prophecy. Its fulfillments are all certain, say many, and we have therefore nothing to do, but to wait for them, in passive and indolent expectation. The truth of God stands in no dependance on human aid to vindicate the immutability of all his announcements; and the power of God stands in no need of the feeble exertions of man to hasten the accomplishment of any of his purposes. Let us, therefore, sit down quietly in the attitude of spectators—let us leave the Divinity to do his own work in his own way, and mark by the progress of a history over which we have no controul, the evolution of his designs, and the march of his wise and beneficent administration.

"Now, it is very true, that the Divinity will do his own work in his own way, but if he choose to tell us that that way is not without the instrumentality of men, but by their instrumentality, might not this sitting down into the mere attitude of spectators, turn out to be a most perverse and disobedient conclusion? It is true, that his purpose will obtain its fulfilment, whether we shall offer or not to help it forward by our co-operation. But if the object is to be brought