AN COMING

This Year to Witness the Destruction of the World.

At Least that is what Mother Shipton Prophecied-The Fyramids and the Future-Planets Disturbances, and the Baleful Insence of Sun Spots-Pleasant Reging for Nervous People -Beeptical sentists.

THEE SHIPTON. The worl o an end shall come in 1881. So says ther Shipton in the celebrated saring her name, which has prophecy ttention all over the English. world, and has credence, notwithstanding the that the alleged prophecy prophecy at all, but the of a London Bohemian Pypretended that it dated back from the Reenth century. Whether this allegaon be true or not, certain it is that the eriod between 1881 and 1887 has long been

regarded as a time full of awful significance, whether of good or evil. The Mormons, a portion of the Spiritualists, the Second Adventists and others, hold that the millenium is near at hand, and many agree in placing it between 1879 and 1887. But the prophecies of evil seem by far the most abundant. Astrologers, wizards and soothsayers have concentrated all manner of sinister predictions upon the year 1881, and people who are not willing to admit that they are superstitious, regard the year with more or less anxious expectation and

PROPHECIES OF EVIL. The prognostigations of evil take all manner of forms and shapes, and are based upon all conceivable kinds of calculation. People were called upon, some years ago, to observe what was called the prophetic symbolism of the great pyramid of Egypt. Prof. Piazzi Smith, the English astronomer, contended that they were not only memorials of a system of weights and measures, intended to be perpetual, but that the channels of the pyramids represented the important epochs in history, and thus indicated events still to come. Starting with a proposition that an inch represents a year, it was clearly reasoned out by many that not only was the birth of Christ foretold, but the date of the year given at which Moses received his first command to take the children of Israel out of Egypt.

THE PYRAMIDS AND CHRONOLOGY. Mr. Thomas Wilson, of Chicago, it is said, recently developed a geometrical relation of the pyramid to chronology, by which a number of remarkable dates were correlated by triangulation. Dr. Everett W. Fish, of New York city, in a recent book on the Pyramids, holds that the impending wall at the south end of the grand gallery in Midlandshire, about half-past 9 o'clock in the interior of the Pyramid and the one December evening, the wearied governarrow passage beyond, symbolizes the enclosure of the present epoch and the end of sigh, feeling that for that day, at least, her the age, though not of the world. "The duties were over. narrowness of the passage out of the grand gallery," he says, "signifies great tribulation to fall upon the earth from 1881-2 to 1886. As this is the age of the great planetary perihelia, the probabilities of its correct prophecies are startling indeed."

PLANETARY DISTURBANCE. about two years ago pamphlets began to that she wanted money. appear, arguing that the most awful consequences were about to befall mankind from pocket of her dress, which she had received all the great placets reaching their periduring the day. A tradesman's bill! In helia, or nearest points to the sun, together. this letter she was politely informed that According to these prophets, the effects of unless her over-due account was paid before the perihelia were to begin making their the commencement of the Christmas holiappearance this fall, when Jupiter passed days, that the tradesman would be compelhis perihelion, and next year the scythe led to resort to the painful necessity of would begin to sweep westward, with a informing her employers, and asking them swathe as broad as the continents, until it to pay the amount out of her salary. reached the Pacific Ocean. Plagues, and tornadoes were to scourge the human already compelled to ask Mrs. Glynford to family. Yet she still dealt at the shop, she had nothing whatever to do with them; Noah and his family, to repeople the that she said to me when I did so. And earth. It was argued that the ravages of now I have nothing left-nothing more the nearly-coincident perihelia of four great | Seaton. Oh! what shall I do? Shall I go planets, and therefore similar consequences and see this man-Mr. Bingley? Shall I to her sight. She went there in early morn- a rich woman, but a large one to the poor authorities in building the new Common could be expected from the configuration of tell him the truth—how I have been com- ing, and rarely were her carriage horses to care-burdened governess. the planets now.

SUN SPOTS. B. G. Jenkins, F. R. S. A., found that the outbreaks of cholera in 1816 throughout the world were synchronous with the maxima and minima occurrences of sun spots, and predicted another great cholera season in 1883-4. He found a connection between the proximity of Jupiter to the sun and the black death, and also saw that more deplorable conditions would result from the perihelion. Mr. Proctor, the astronomer, has taken pains to show that the pretended facts upon which these statements rest are baseless, and to prove that the great planets will not be in perihelion in 1881, and they will not all be in perihelion at any time.

The Eccentric Weather.

It s doubtful whether the very oldest inhabitants remember a winter in which there was so little snow at this period of the season as there is this winter. There has been little more than three or four inches at any time. Prof. Abbe, of the United States Signal Service, Washington, in alluding to the numerous forecasts of weather, which are not verified, says: "If pretty, surely you could get married, and we find that for several months the average that during the immediate succeeding wretched too, and I am forced to take so month the weather will be the reverse, at the matter in another way. When Jan. you have some prospects before you; that that is, dry or warm. Then, we can get uary, February and March have certain some rich old man-anything is better than characteristics, the latter part of the year, October, November and December will have corresponding characteristics. Thus the weather may be foretold, in a general sense, some months ahead. But no man in or which will offer a genuine prediction for a long period in advance."

AN AWFUL PICTURE.-Mr. Wm. Donnelly fallen upon me! was a passenger by the train from the west | She rose restlessly as she made these last | requested her to do this. the other evening. The newsboy came bitter reflections. She had, indeed, no Don't be foolish," he said. "If you supposed that Miss Keane had just receivround with a book containing an account of longer time to sit still. To morrow the want people not to talk, try to stop your ed her salary, and was therefore sure to to day by the use of some lime, which he the murder of his relatives, and when Wil. bolidays began, and she was going to her the murder of his relatives, and when Wil- holidays began, and she was going to her brother's tongue by a good order. Put have notes in her possession. liam looked through the little book he sud- miserable home for a month; she had, money into a man's pocket, my dear, if denly burst into tears. The passenger therefore, many arrangements to make you want to stand well with him!" sitting next him observed that he had before she went to bed. Her packing was Mrs. Glynford accordingly took her hus- three notes and the bill, and took them to opened on the page which gave the likeness to begin, and the sooner she commenced band's advice, and the handsome order Mr. Bingley's private office—for Mr. Bingley' of his mother—one of the most execrable it now the better.

Of his mother—one of the most execrable it now the better.

But it was a weary task! The loved doubt served to soothe her brother's wounded feelings. But he did not really Mr. Bingley (who had scarcely ceased to boats.

Jolly Old Pedagogue.

Twas a jolly old pedagogue, long ago, Tall and slender, and sallow and dry His form was bent and his gait was slow, His long thin hair was as white assnow, But a wonderful twinkle shone in his eye, And he sung every night as he went to bed,

"Let us be happy, down here below;
The living should live, though the dead be dead,"
Said the jolly old pedagogue, long ago.

He taught his scholars the rule of three, Writing and reading, and history, too; He took the little ones upon his knee, For a kind old heart in his breast had he, And the wants of the littlest child he knew "Learn while you're young," he often said,
"There is much to enjoy down here below.
Life for the living and rest for the dead!" Said the jolly old pedagogue, long ago.

With stupidest boys he was kind and cool, Speaking only in gentlest tones;
The rod was hardly known in his school—
Whipping to him was a barbarous rule,
And too hard work for the poor old bones,
Besides it was painful, he sometimes said;
"We should make life pleasant down here below
"The living need charity more than the dead," The living need charity more than the dead," · Said the jolly old pedagogue, long ago.

He lived in the house by the hawthorne lane, With roses and woodbine over the door; His rooms were quiet, and neat, and plain, But a spirit of comfort there held reign, And made him forget he was old and poor. I need so little," he often said, "And my friends and my relatives here below, Won't litigate over me when I am dead."

But the pleasantest time that he had, of all, Were the sociable hours he used to pass, With his chair tipped back to a neighbor's wall, Making an unceremonious call, Over the pipe and friendly glass. This was the finest pleasure he said, Of the many he tasted here below; Who has no cronies he had better be dead! Said the jolly old pedagogue, long ago.

Then the jolly ald pedagogue's wrinkled face Melted all over in sunshiny smiles; He stirred his glass with an old-school grace, Chuckled and sipped and prattled apace, Till the house grew merry from cellar to tiles 'I'm a pretty old man," he gently said, "I have lingered long while here below; But my heart is fresh if my youth has fled!" Said the jolly old pedagogue, long ago.

He smoked his pipe in the balmy air, Every night when the sun went down, Whilst the soft wind played in his silvery hair, Leaving its tender kisses there On the jolly old pedagogue's jolly old crown; And feeling the kisses, smiled, and said, "Twas a glorious world down here below; Why wait for happiness till we are dead?"
Said the jolly old pedagogue, long ago.

He sat at the door one midsummer night, After the sun had sunk in the west, And the lingering beams of golden light While the odorous night-wind whispered

Gently, gently he bowed his head, There were angels waiting for him, I know; He was sure of happiness, living or dead, This jolly old pedagogue, long ago! -GEORGE ARNOLD.

## AGAINST THE LAW.

[A Novel-By Dora Russell.]

CHAPTER I.

In the school-room of Bridgenorth House,

ness of the family sat down with a heavy She was a pretty girl, but this night she had that unmistakable look which worry

and anxiety will give even to the fairest features. Many painful thoughts were indeed crowding on her mind as she sat there in

the dimly-lighted school-room. But her The last sentence refers to the fact that most pressing anxiety at that monent was She presently drew a letter from the

"Ah if he knew," she thought, "that I

famines, pestilences, fire, earthquake, floods have nothing to receive! That I have been race, till only a few people remained, like advance my salary, and all the cruel things the black death in the middle ages followed than what will barely pay my train fare to pelled to send all my money home to save be seen standing before her brother's door. poor mother from absolute starvation? But to tell him this-to degrade myself-how can I-how can I?" And the poor girl when a certain grim visitor, who calls on leave her money to take home-money to rocked herself to and fro, in her miserable all sets alike, appeared in the nouse above help her miserable mother, the poor invalid munificent gift of the marquis.

anxiety and doubt ..

Alas! in this disorderly scrawl there! were no fond hopes, no tender advice, no the occasion, and he told Mrs. Glynford loving counsel to her absent girl, such as most affectionate mothers write. It was when she had never been civil to "poor only the old story over again that the Sarah" for the last eight or nine years. governess read in the dim school-room, to The brother and sister, in fact, had a deepen her troubles; only the old com- serious quarrel, and Mrs. Glynford retired Miss Keane, the governess, left Bridgenorth plaint! Want of money! This was the to her carriage very red, and shedding a House to pay her bill at Bingley's shop. craving cry which this young girl constantly few tears.

received from home. means," wrote her mother, "and your sacrifice-actually driven there in the day. say, with a sneer, when speaking to his tions of dream life. At all events we carry small enclosure, dear Sissy, came just in time. It paid the county court summons, mans wil tel it all over town, and of and the butcher has agreed to give me a little more credit. But, my dear child, And, after I have done this-faced the never served behind the counter. why do you not exert yourself to end this miserable state of affairs? You are very not allow your poor mother to be degraded as she is now? And my health is so low, but I hope to hear on your return that I don't particularly like; but, for all that, I north House.

The rest of the letter was in the same strain-a selfish degrading letter, which made its reader's fair cheeks burn and blush for shame.

will foretell special storms on certain days, ness-if you would not drink everything Mrs. Glynford was very angry, but sound. away-how happy we might be! But it's always the same thing-always the same old | ing at her brother's shop; partly, because | without surprise or comment. He also,

were the images that this word

pare to go. So slowly and wearily, she knew pretty well how things went on at him. went up to the attic, where all the trunks Bridgenorth House. were kept in Bridgenorth House. Mrs. Thus he knew the governess both by notes and the account. Mr. Bingley for Glynforth would not allow one to remain in sight and name. He therefore made no receipted and stamped the account and any of the bed-rooms.

the governess, on her first arrival, "and was sent from the shop in Front street, in then take your boxes to the trunk-room. time for the child's ball at Bridgenorth examined the two others. I can allow no shabby old boxes standing House.

about my rooms!" young girl's sensitiveness about trifles governess was now unable to meet. when Mrs. Glynford made her ungracious | She had, in fact, been compelled to ask remark.

which had first come into use on her almost desperate. mother's wedding-day, twenty-three years

ever, she went into Farnhame, in the su- Glynford to pay her salary in advance, and dows, to see if there was anything likely to suit her narrow purse.

But no. Two pounds, three pounds, even four pounds, would be an impossible sum for her to give out of her expected quarterly payment from Mrs. Glynford, as her whole salary was only forty pounds a year, and Mrs. Glynford expected that she would dress well, and appear in evening costume, when she went with her pupils into the drawing-room.

Thus, with a sigh, she would turn away from the trunk-shop, and had almost given up the idea of buying one at all, when; passing a broker's shop one day, amid the strange miscellany it contained, she saw a leather portmanteau, ticketed eighteen shil-

Mrs. Glynford had unfortunately given her her salary that morning, and she yielded to the temptation of having a respectable travelling case in her possession. Yet the day did not pass without her regretting her purchase: for the night's post brought a letter from her mother, asking for the loan of ten pounds. She had received ten from Mrs. Glynford, but two were already gone. She had bought a few little necessaries and her portmanteau!

she had in her possession, and thus left herself penniless.

During the next quarter of the year, a for the occasion.

means of doing so. But after some consideration she determined to order one at the shop in Farnhame where the family gave a half-cry as she did so. A wonderful, dealt, and where she had bought the few and for a moment, she thought, a welcome trifles which she had already purchased sight met her gaze. Five fresh five pound going to ask you a question. Where did you in the town.

This shop must be specially described. It belonged to a Mr. Bingley, and-though Mrs. Glynford hoped that no one knew, or at least remembered the fact-Mr. Bingley was Mrs. Glynford's own brother.

But a considerable social step lay between them. Mrs. Glynford had been a pretty notes. girl, and had married Mr. Glynford, a widower and a coal-owner. He was fairly ot her mind, What should she do with them ! Miss Keane. well-to-do when she married him, and were drapers in a large way in the town.

But scarcely was she married when the now passed away wonderfully prosperous days of coal-owners began. Mr. Glynford rose to the occasion.

She had always been a little, vulgar, She, indeed, did this at her husband's command, who was a highly respectable man, and not ashamed to own his relations.

But Mrs. Glynford was. That shop in for her own. Front street, Farnhame, was unpleasant

She visited in "a different set," she said, last she thought. and this was actually true. But one day, the shop in Front street, and carried off sister. Then she took another letter from the her brother's wife as his prey, Mrs. Glynpocket of her dress-a letter from her ford did condescend to pay a visit of con-

But the widower's wrath was hot upon that he did not want her company now,

"We were almost entirely without her return home, "after I had made such a made no parade of his money, he used to we pay too little attention to the revelatime, though I know those spiteful Holl- neighbors of his fine relations. course recall our unfortunate relationship! cruel remarks of the world, as it were—he walked out of his private office sometimes, most cherished visions will be realized; if

insulted me!" And once more Mrs. Glynford began to cry. man, gave her no encouragement.

think he served you right."

ford. "What do mean, William?" "Simply, my dear, that as you have felt unhappy-almost guilty. chosen virtually to cut your brother and his wife for the last few years, you could one else's, she whispered to her sinking

ordered her own and her servants' mourn-

sound. She knew too well what it meant. forgive, her. He took off his hat to her look at his sister's governess since she had Her mother's bloated countenance: her with a satirical bow when she came into entered the shop) saw her give her bill and young sister, peevish and deformed! These his shop, or when he met her carriage in the notes to the man, and as the shopman the streets, but he never spoke to her. He went into the private office to get the for her. But, all the same, shemust pre- kept out of her way, but all the same he change and a receipt, Mr. Bingley follows

"Unpack your things," she had said to gave one, and a pretty, well-made dress

But it cost more than Miss Keane had in-Poor Miss Keane, the governess, had tended to pay. Altogether, the bill came shabby old boxes, and blushed with all a to eleven pounds, and this bill the poor

Mrs. Glynford to give her her next quarter's "They are indeed shabby," she thought, salary in advance, for her mother's circumlooking at the two worn out black trunks, stances were, by her own account, now

"We are starving," the mother had written, and what could the daughter do? So, during the next three months, when- | She did what she could; she begged Mrs. burbs of which town her employers lived, Mrs. Glynford had said some very rude shopman was looking at him. And, by the

impress upon you, Miss Keane," said Mrs. | popular. He paid his way honestly enough; Glynford during this interview. "Be sure but there are two ways even of paying you never have anything on credit at one's way. One is pleasant, and the other Bingley's shop. Always pay for what you disagreeable, and Bingley chose the disget at the time."

When MisKeane heard these words, she knew that she owed Bingley's shop eleven pounds. The bill had been sent in already twice, and the poor governess had intend ed to settle it when she received her money before the Christmas holidays. But now she was forced to send this money away before it was due.

She was still undecided what to do about this bill—whether to see Mr. Bingley, or to Bingley's message. write a letter asking him to wait-when she went up to the attic to bring down her boxes to pack, and her new portmanteau. She sighed regretfully when she looked

at the last named possession. If she had not foolishly bought this portmanteau, she "Whether he saw anything wrong about the was thinking, she might have had a little notes or not-but I don't know. But you

more money left. But now there was no help for this, so she carried her portmanteau down to her bed-room. It was a convenient packing. Bingley's private office. case, after all. It held her limited wardrobe, in fact, except her dresses, and these She sent her mother the eight pounds she placed in the despised black boxes.

The pockets of the portmanteau, indeed, seemed endless. There were pockets and inner pockets, and carefully examining child's dance was given at Bridgenorth these, she perceived a small slit in the House, and Mrs. Glynford said to her striped lining of one pocket. She got out governess that she hoped she had bought her needle to mend this, and in turning after him, and then Mr. Bingley's manner herself, or would buy herself, a new dress the lining back better to perform the task changed. she pulled out with it a small flat parcel, Alas! the poor girl had not now the which had been pushed up through the slit between the hining and the leather.

Naturally she opened this parcel, and bank-notes were enclosed in the little flat get these notes?" parcel that she had found, and now she knelt with these five-notes in her hand by the side of her portmanteau.

She looked at them one after the other; said. stared at them, examined them carefully; and was convinced that they were genuine Bingley. "I am not sure, but I fancy I

She had no right to them-at least, she

make them hers? She knelt there still, thinking. They ed Miss Keane, very nervously. became suddenly rich, and Mrs. Glynford must have belonged to some one; but that some one might now be dead. Some poor sailor, perhaps, and his portmanteau had poor woman; and now grew unbearably so been cast on shore, and sold by the per-"Her head is turned," her brother, the son who picked it up to the broker from draper, said to his wife; and when Mr. whom she had bought it. Thus she specu-Glynford bought Bridgenorth House, Mrs. lated. If this were the case, whose were Glynford no longer countenanced her own they? Not Mrs. Glynford's, at least, for yet if she were to tell Mrs. Glynford (so Miss Keane decided) she was sure that the

mistress of the house would claim them farms.

The temptation grew stronger. They belonged to no one now, at least, she mentally rose from her knees, and having brought her purse, placed the five notes within

CHAPTER II. AT BINGLEY'S

The next morning, about eleven o'clock

It was an imposing shop. Bingley was "To think," she said to her husband, on indeed rich, as well as his sister: but he lately, referred thus to dreams: Perhaps

But her husband, who was a sensible thing. He was talking to some ladies in ness will even follow us there. the middle of the shop when Miss Keane "Well," he said, "Bingley's your relation, entered, and the widower's look fell admirand not mine; and, moreover, he's a fellow | ingly on the pretty governess from Bridge-

Miss Keane felt very nervous. Her notes "Served me right!" repeated Mrs. Glyn- were in her purse, and the bill was in her hand which she had called to pay; but she

But if they were not hers, they were no not expect him to feel very gateful to you heart, and proceeded to produce her bill "Oh, mother, mother!" she thought; "if for paying her a visit when she was no to one of the shopmen, and then laid down more this fatal week for paying her a visit when she was no

The shopman of course took them up, miserable story; and now its weight has there was no other good draper's in the perhaps, knew the pretty governess from town, and partly because Mr. Glynford Bridgenorth House by sight; but if he thought of it at all, he must naturally have

The bill she had called to pay was eleven pounds, and the shopman lifted up

The man at once presented him with objection to Miss Keane's order, when she then glanced carelessly at the notes. But no sooner had he observed the number on one of them than he started, and eagerly

Then he opened his desk, and took out a paper. He scanned this, and then again examined the notes and a grim smile of satisfaction passed over his not very pleasant countenance as he did so.

He was a somewhat coarse self-indulgentlooking man, this Bingley, with thick lips, a reddish complexion, and reddish-gray hair. His eyes, however, rather contradicted the impression of his mouth. They were sharp, and shrewd-hard, even cold. "You can't cheat me," they seemed to say;

but his other features told a different tale. While he was looking at the notes, his she always looked into the trunk-shop win- and unkind things to her on the occasion. expression of the shopman, you saw no love "And there is another thing I wish to was lost between them. Bingley was unagreeable way.

"Johnson," he said, looking up sharply, ask that young lady-Miss Keane-who has just paid this money in to step this way for a few minutes. I want a word with her." "Very well, sir," replied Johnson; and he walked out of the office to obey his em-

ployer's commands. He felt sorry for the pretty girl from Bridgenorth House when he gave her Mr.

Miss Keane started, turned pale, and then suddenly red. "Is there anything ong?" she said. "Why does Bingley wish to speak to me?" "I cannot tell you, miss," said Johnson.

had better speak to him." Making a violent effort to control herself, Miss Keane then followed Johnson to Mr.

Mr. Bingley was standing with his back to the large fire burning grate, as they went in, and he moved forward a step, and placed a chair for the governess.

"Good morning," he said; "cold morning, but seasonable. Takea chair. Johnson, go out and shut the door."

Johnson went out, and shut the door He put on a familiar air, and with some-

thing between a leer and a sneer, he laid the three five-pound notes which Miss Keane had given the shopman on the desk before him. "Now, young lady," he said, "I am

Miss Keane flushed scarlet, but to a certain extent she retained her composure. "Why do you ask, Mr. Bingley?" she

"I have a reason for asking," replied Mr. have seen these notes before."

Then another question presented itself "But-if you are not sure?" faltered "No, not sure," said Bingley, looking proved in a circle above the Bingleys, who supposed so. True, she had bought the hard at the girl, "but still I think so.

portmanteau, and they must have been in However, you wish to pay your account when she had purchased it. But did that with these notes-wherever you cot them?" "I-I came to pay my account." answer-

[To be continued.]

Scotland.

At Inch-Ewan, in Bresdalbane, a family of the name of McNab occupied the same farm, from father to son, for nearly four centuries, till within these few years the last occupier resigned. Arace of the name of Stewart, in Glenfinlas, in Monteith, has for several centuries possessed the same

The Marquis of Bute has intimated his Twenty-five pounds! only a small sum to | willingness to give £45,000 to assist the "I wonder if I might borrow them?" at tion that the general public should within a specified time provide funds sufficient to This sum would pay Bingley's bill; would raise the substructure. Happily the senatus were enabled to avail themselves of the

On one estate at least in Sutherlandshire game preserving is said to be carried to a argued. She was wronging no one, so she great extreme, and the grumbling of the tenants is loud and deep. A farmer on the east coast is about to raise an action against his landlord for compensation for damages done by game. The case, which is one of more than local interest, will be closely watched by all who have not been benefited by the passing of the Hares and Rabbits

Dr. Aitken, Inverness, lecturing in Nairn A good many people were in the shop often betray to us what we really are. If when Miss Keane entered it. Mr. Bingley our life is blameless and single-hearted, so He will our dreams be happy, and in them our and spoke to his friends and acquaintances our life is the reverse, it is revealed to us when they came in ; but he never sold any- in all its deformity, and remorse and bitter-

FLYING FROM THE GALLOWS. Smith, the Lunenburg Murderer, Escapes

from Jail.

HALIFAX, Jan. 8 .- Robert Smith, sentenced to be hanged at Lunenburg on the 20th instant for the murder of John Huey, escaped from jail at that place shortly after midnight last night. The alarm was given by the prisoners confined in an adjacent but returned without having discovered any trace of him. Two deputy-sheriffs are now on the road. On an examination of his cell it was found that, Smith, who had been secretly provided with an old mill file, had burned the woodwork five inches thick around the staple holding the fastening of had quietly secured during a recent lime washing of the cell. The popular wish in Lunenburg is that he may not be captured

The new University boat house at Oxford has been burned, with many valuable