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END OF THE WORLD OFTEN PREDICTED

SOME WIDELY BELIEVED

Prophecy Regarding 1881 is Recalled and Events of Year Related; Other Dates and Features

Mother Shipton's famous prophecy says that:
 Carriages without horses shall go,
 And accidents fill the world with woe;

Around the world thought shall fly
 In the twinkling of an eye.
 And this world to an end shall come
 In eighteen hundred and eighty-one.

Instead of being the forecast of a witch of 400 years ago this was a spurious production of Charles Hindley about 60 years ago. Even at that the guess was remarkable, observes the Indianapolis News. The most curious thing in connection with the prophecy was that, tho the world did not quit business in 1881, it made a sort of bluff at it.

Tells of Events

A newspaper of that year has this to say of the alarming things then happening: "We have had prodigies, celestial and terrestrial, without number. The sun is covered with spots; three comets have appeared in the sky; a monarch has been assassinated; the president of the greatest republic (Garfield) has been brutally and fatally shot by the most remarkable murderer in history; the sun has been blazing the earth for three months, and after destroying the crops of a continent is now apparently determined to burn up what is left of it; along the coast of New England they are burning gas in midday; half of Michigan is being swept by forest fires which spare neither villages, crops nor human lives; Canada is in a blaze through all her primeval woods; the lakes are covered by a well of smoke that makes navigation dangerous and disastrous; the east, too, is parched everywhere and burning somewhere, and the flames of burning trees and crops sweep down to the ocean on the New Jersey coast; there are wars and rumors of wars in eastern Europe; there is no rest for men under the broiling sun, and insanity has become epidemic, as if the gods, wishing to destroy the race, were first making them mad; a volcano has broken out in Nevada, and sharks and other strange fish are being caught by hook and line from the docks of New York. To these greater, every reading citizen can add a score of lesser prodigies in his own knowledge. If the earth is not in its last throes what is the matter with it?"

Those whose memories go back to 1881 will recall the phenomenal drought of that summer, when the grass turned brown as stubble and the heavens were as brass day after day.

Panic in England

The supposed Shipton prophecy was the source of considerable alarm as the year of the fate was approached, especially in rural England, where people deserted their homes and took to the fields, praying for protection, and the unusual phenomena of the period afforded ample argument for credulity.

The world has more than once been frightened by predictions of cosmic disaster, the most notable instance of modern times being the excitement caused by William Miller in the early 30's, known in history as the Millerite craze. Miller, basing his prophecy on Scripture, set the exact day for the general windup, and thousands of people all over the country made their preparations for the event.

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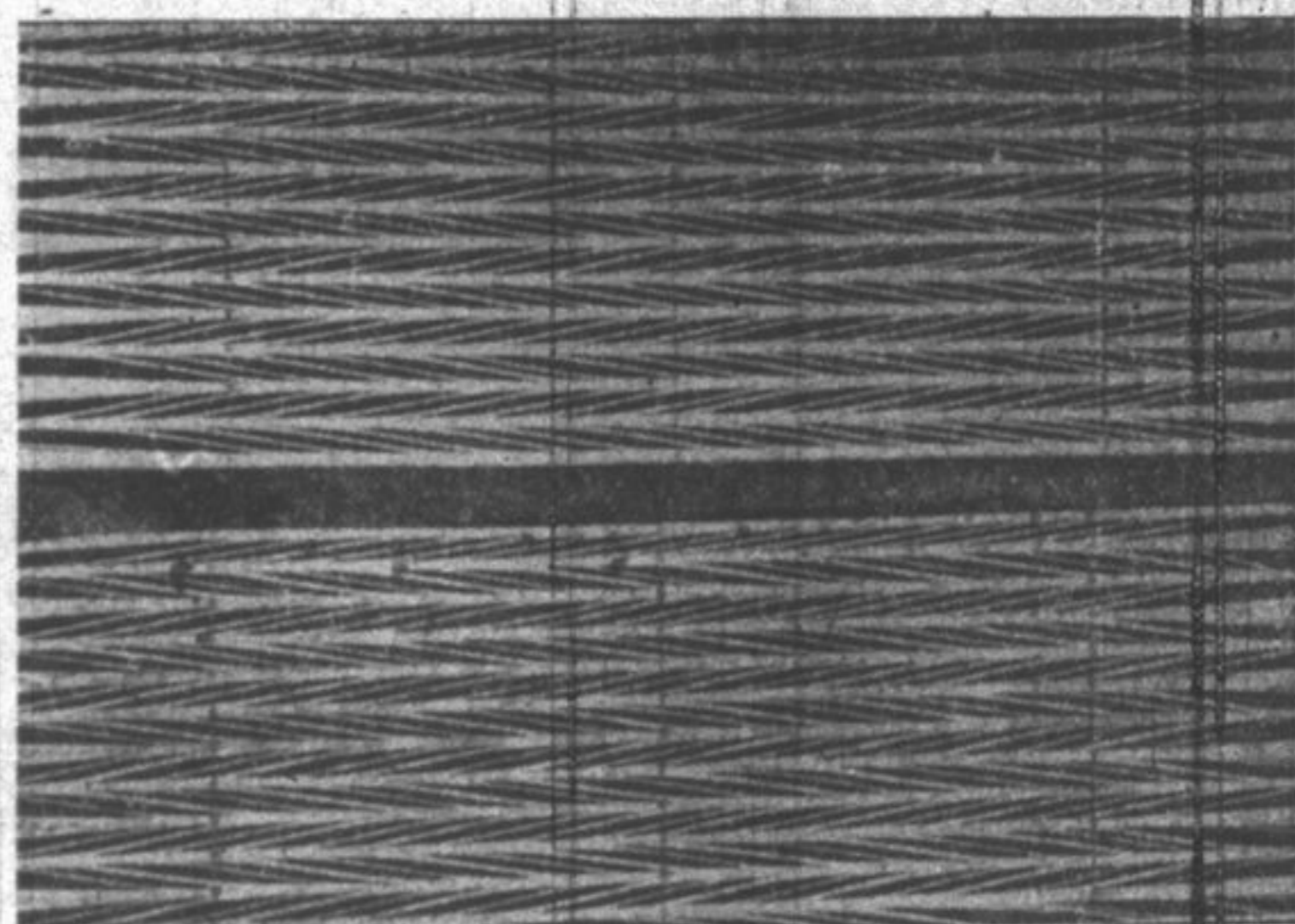
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Results of Test

Actual Movement of Upper Sill

Load Applied in Pounds	A—Lath and Sheathing Inches	B—Expanded Wood Lath Inches
200	0.06	0.06
400	0.15	0.13
600	0.20	0.20
800	0.29	0.29
1000	1.07	0.37
1200	1.93	0.51
1400	2.85	0.67
1600	5.13	0.92

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