

THE WAR FORETOLD

A Remarkable Prophecy by a Sixteenth Century Monk,

Writing in the Figaro (Paris), Mons. Peladan says that when his father, Adrian Peladan, who had devoted himself to the study of prophecies, ecstasies and visions, died in 1890 he found among the documents a prophecy by Johannes, a monk, dated 1600. He had obtained it from a canon of the Order of St. Michel de Frigolet, near Tarascon, who received it from an abbot named Donat, a studious priest, who died at Beaucaire at a great age. In the Figaro, M. Peladan furnishes extracts from the prophecy, which runs as follows:

The Prophecy.

"1. It will have been thought that he, the Antichrist, has frequently been identified, for all slayers of the Lamb have a resemblance, and all evil-doers are found to be typical of the Great Evil.

"2. The veritable Antichrist will be one of the monarchs of his day, a Lutheran. He will invoke God, and claim to be His messenger.

"3. This Prince of Liars will swear by the Scriptures. He will represent himself as the instrument of the Most High for chastening the wicked.

"4. He will have but one arm; but his innumerable troops, who will take for their motto, 'God with us,' will appear as the legions of Hell.

"5. For a long time he will agitate by ruse and felony, his spies will overrun the world, and he will be master of great secrets.

"6. He will employ philosophers, who will prove that his mission is celestial.

"7. A war will cause the mask to be lifted. This will not be that waged against France, but another distinguished Power, and in two weeks this war will become universal.

"8. This war will enlist all the peoples of Christendom, Mohammedans, and even those from afar. Armies will arise from the four corners of the earth.

"9. For the angels will enlighten the souls of men, and in the third week they will recognize that this is the Antichrist, and that they will all be enslaved if they do not overthrow this despot.

"10. The Antichrist will be recognized by many indications. He will go out of his way to massacre priests, monks, women, children and the aged. He will show no mercy. He will go forth torch in hand, like the barbarians, but invoking the name of Christ!

"11. His pretentious words will resemble those of the Christians, but his actions will be those of Nero and the Roman persecutors. He will have an eagle in his coat of arms, and another will appear in that of his ally, the other bad monarch.

"12. But this one is a Christian, and he will die by the malediction of the Pope Benedictus, who will be elected at the end of the reign of Antichrist.

"13. There will no more be seen any priests or monks to absolve the combatants, for, in the first place, priests and monks will fight with other citizens, and, further, the Pope Benedictus will have cursed the Antichrist, and it will be proclaimed that those who fight will find salvation, and dying, will be straightway translated to Heaven, like the martyrs.

"14. The Papal Bull which shall proclaim these things will resound afar, and will give fresh life to the brave and bring death to the allied monarch of the Antichrist.

"15. The defeat of the Antichrist will demand the death of more men than Rome has ever contained. It will need the united efforts of all the Powers, for the Cock, the Leopard and the White Eagle will not make an end of the Black Eagle if the prayers and wishes of all humane people do not aid them.

"16. Humanity has never yet known such great peril, for the triumph of the Antichrist would be that of the demon of whom he is the incarnation.

"17. For it has been said that twenty centuries after the incarnation of the Word the Beast will, in his turn, incarnate and menace the world, with as much of evil as the Divine Incarnation brought of grace.

"18. Towards the year 2000 the Antichrist will manifest himself, his army will exceed in numbers anything that has been imagined. There will be Christians among his followers, and there will be Mohammedans and savage troops among those of the Lamb.

"19. For the first time, the Lamb will be all red. In all Christendom there will be no little space that is not red, and the sky, earth, water, and even the atmosphere will be

red, for blood will flow into all four elements at the same time.

"20. The Black Eagle will hurl itself at the Cock, who will lose many feathers, but will use his spur heroically. He would speedily be reduced but for the aid rendered by the Leopard and his claws.

"21. The Black Eagle, who will come from the Lutheran country, will surprise the Cock from another border, and will invade half the Cock's territory.

"22. The White Eagle, who will come from the northern side, will surprise the Black Eagle and the other Eagle, and invade the country of the Antichrist completely from one end to the other.

"23. The Black Eagle will be forced to retreat from the Cock in order to fight the White Eagle, and the Cock should follow the Black Eagle into the territory of the Antichrist to help the White Eagle.

"24. The battles which have taken place up till now will be insignificant beside those which will take place in the Lutheran country, for the seven Angels will pour out the fires of their vials of wrath on the impious land, which signifies that the Lamb will ordain the extermination of the race of Antichrist.

"25. When the Beast finds that she has lost she will become furious, and for some months the beak of the White Eagle, the talons of the Leopard, and the Spur of the Cock will have to rend her.

"26. Rivers will be forded by means of the dead bodies, which will divert the course of the waters. Only the way distinguished will be interred—the generals and the princes—for the carnage of the war will be heaped together with the victims of plague and hunger.

"27. The Antichrist will, on several occasions, sue for peace, but the Seven Angels who go before the Three Animals, the defenders of the Lamb, have proclaimed that victory shall only be accorded on condition that the Antichrist is crushed in the threshing.

"28. The Three Animals, agents of the justice of the Lamb, cannot stop fighting whilst there remain soldiers of the Antichrist.

"29. What makes the decision of the Lamb so implacable is that the Antichrist has pretended to be Christian and has acted in His name, and if he does not perish the fruit of the Redemption will be lost and the gates of hell will prevail against the Saviour.

"30. It will readily be seen that the combat which is fought in the places where the Antichrist forges his weapons is no longer a human war. The Three Animals, the defenders of the Lamb, will exterminate the last army of the Antichrist; but the battlefield will be made a charnelhouse as large as the greatest of cities, for the dead will have transfigured the place, making of it a chain of hillocks.

"31. The Antichrist will lose his crown, and will die in solitude and insanity. His empire will be divided into twenty-two States, but none of them will have either a fort, an army, or a ship.

"32. The White Eagle, by order of Michael, will drive out the Crescent from Europe, where there will remain none but Christians. He will establish himself in Constantinople.

"33. Then will commence an era of peace and prosperity for the world, and there will be no more war, but each nation will be governed by its conscience and will live in justice.

"34. There will be no more Lutherans nor Schismatics, but the Lamb will reign, and happiness will dawn upon the race.

"Happy they who shall escape the perils of this marvellous period, who shall taste of the fruit of the reign of the Spirit and the holy celebration of humanity, which cannot take place until after the defeat of the Antichrist."

Notes on the Prophecy.

(From the British Journal of Astrology).

In the Prophecy it appears that the symbolism applied is as follows:

The Black Eagle—Germany.

The White Eagle—Russia.

The other Eagle—Austria-Hungary.

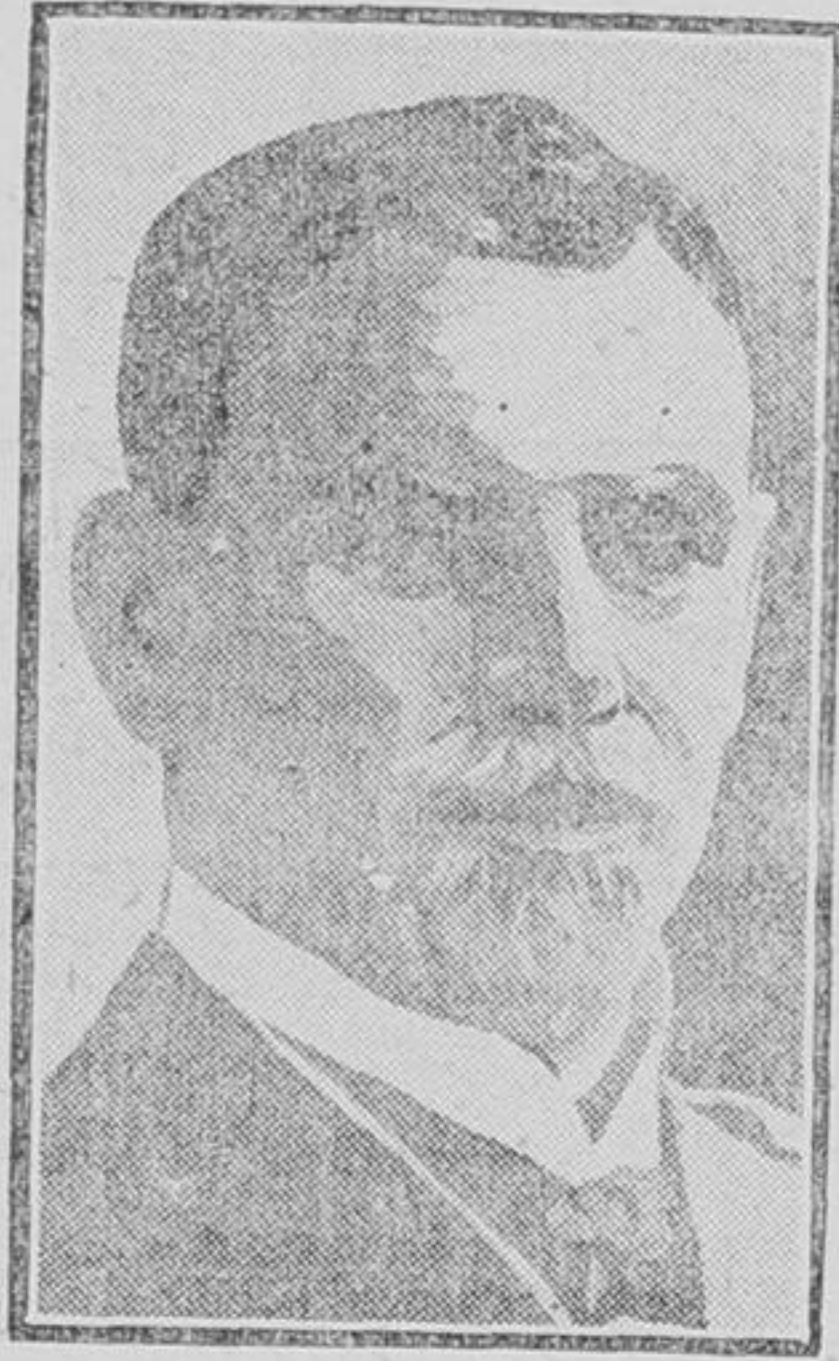
The Cock—France.

The Leopard—Belgium.

The Lamb—Symbol of the Christian faith, represented by Great Britain, under the sign of aries.

The Antichrist—The Spirit of Evil animating the Black Eagle, and generally symbolized by the Dragon or "winged Beast."

The Kaiser is the embodiment of the "Blood and Iron" cult, as opposed to that of the peaceful arts and federation. He belongs to the Lutheran Church, while many of his subjects are Roman Catholics.



Admiral Von Spee.

Who commanded the destroyed German squadron.

Attention is called to paragraph 4, in which he is said to have only one arm (the Kaiser has one arm withered and also a short leg, and he mounts his horse by the wrong side). Paragraph 10 is quite descriptive of the German method of waging war on neutrals and non-combatants. The mention of Pope Benedictus in paragraph 12 is remarkable; his Holiness of that name has but recently been elected to the Papal seat. The fact that there are many priests fighting, and fighting most bravely, in the ranks of the Allies is a clear fulfillment of paragraphs 9 and 13. All social and spiritual differences are abolished in the field. All soldiers are comrades. In the course of the present war we find striking examples of this fact in the many priests who go under fire with the greatest courage, and can fight and slay in the sacred cause of their beloved country. Paragraph 15 gives us an idea of the awful carnage that will attend this war. Rome in the second century had a population of about 2,000,000—a fact which must have been known to Friar John, who was obviously a Romanist. Paragraph 16 puts this war on its proper spiritual level. It is a war against the tyranny of the autocrat, materialistic philosophy, and the one-man creed of the German cult. It regards all humans as embodiments of spiritual forces which, at this time, are massed together for the coming "tribulation." If Truth and Equity, Peace and Justice have their representatives among men, so also have those demoniacal powers who are dominated by the Father of Lies and the Great Accuser. There is nothing specific in the date, "towards the year 2000," but the fact that we are in the twentieth century, while the writer of this prophecy lived in the sixteenth, appears at least a credible estimate. It can literally be said that blood has been shed in all the four elements of fire, air, water and earth, as stated in paragraph 19, for the hated incendiary has spared neither palace nor cottage, sacred edifice nor common hostel. All have been burned and devastated; while women and children have been slaughtered as ruthlessly as the most active troops, whose blood has mingled with the waters in

The Rain-filled Trenches.

where it has not soddened the earth about them, or been spilled in mid-air in the course of some adventurous pursuit of the enemy's air-craft. As stated in paragraph 26, the exigencies of the war and the great number of fatalities have prevented the proper interment of the dead. Often enough, especially in Belgium, the fighters have been driven out of their positions and forced to retire, leaving their dead and wounded to the mercy of the enemy. Paragraph 27 appears to give little hope of hostilities coming to an end at a near date, for the "several occasions" on which the Antichrist sues for peace must be sundery by great battles and even whole campaigns. The Spirit has entered into our troops and has impressed the minds of our rulers, so that it is a fixed determination that this war is to be one of finality, and, if need be, of annihilation, so that never again shall the ambition and arrogance of one man threaten the peace of the world. Have you put the question to yourself? What if Antichrist should win? Claiming, as he now does, to be subregulus dei, he would then claim to be a god himself, and his blood-engorged brain would present him to the world as the "Man-child ruling the nations with a rod of iron." Plutocrat and autocrat, the blasphemer would bracket his name with that of the Most High. The world would be enslaved to tyranny and oppression, and all the peaceful arts would perish. Hell would be let loose upon the earth, and the planet would be given over to destruction. "Here is the patience and faith of saints." Paragraph 30 of the prophecy tells

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us of final victory over the Antichrist, and that the tribulation is not in vain. Paragraph 31 confirms our belief in the ultimate destiny of the Kaiser and his kingdom. But it also informs us that Russia will drive out the Turks from Europe and become keeper of the gates of the East. Finally, in paragraph 34, we learn that there will be no more sectaries and schisms, but that the Spirit of Christ will animate the nations and induce a period of happiness and prosperity over the world.

Another Prophecy.

Dom Bosco, a priest at Turin, founder of the Salesian Order, who died about ten years ago, also prophesied the war. His prophecy was published in Le Matin (Paris), in June, 1901, as follows:

"A European war will break out in 1913 or 1914. Germany will be dismembered; not, however, before she shall have penetrated into the heart of France. There a mighty arm will hurl her back across the Rhine. The man of pride will see his tree shattered and crushed to the roots and trodden under foot by all. The great battle will take place between the two days of Our Lady, namely, between August 15th and September 15th, when the Pope is real and alive again. Belgium will undergo great suffering, from which she will emerge increased in strength and admired by all. Poland will regain her rights."

LITTLE ISLAND OF HERN.

Questions Asked About it in British House of Commons.

One of the strangest stories that has been given birth by the great war is that of the Island of Hern, the leasing of which to a German company was recently discussed in the House of Commons. The lease has been terminated, and British troops are billeted on the island, but the question is still being asked, why was England so lax as to rent for a song an island larger than Heligoland, within an hour's steaming of English shores.

Hern is one of the lesser Channel Islands and at one time supported a considerable population. It is a beautiful spot, with an attractive shell beach. In 1889 it was leased by the Crown for \$70 a year to the "West Bank Liegnitz, Limited," which in turn leased it to Prince Blucher von Wahlstatt, a descendant of the illustrious Blucher of Waterloo and himself a German. The Prince and his family lived quietly for years in the manor house on the island, incurring the great displeasure of those who sought to ramble over the place by closing all save one narrow pathway on the beach and plastering about many warnings to trespassers.

Children were born to the Princess there—she is of the Russian royal family—and one of these, a boy, became a naturalized British subject. At no time was the Prince suspected of using his home in any operations against England, but when the war broke out the matter became one of natural agitation, culminating in the Home Secretary being asked for an explanation by Sir William Bull.

The explanation was brief. The government knew the name of the German company holding the lease.

It knew, moreover, that the rent was about five shillings and six pence a week; that steps had been taken to cancel this document; that for some weeks British troops had been on the island. Whether Prince Blucher and family had moved from the manor house was not made clear.

The popular outcry against the Prince, in the opinion of the London press generally, is unjustified, but The Times remarks rather sarcastically that the public might be told a little more about the German company which was able to acquire so cheaply so much good farm and pasture land, together with numerous cottages, not to mention the manor house. It also is pointed out that the island is in the heart of the English Channel, within sight of the coast of France, about 70 miles from Portland and 40 from Cherbourg, it could be used as a submarine base, though nothing of the kind appears to have been attempted.

FAMINE FOOD.

What People Ate During the Siege of Paris in 1870.

In a letter by Henry Labouchere, which is quoted by Mr. A. L. Thorold in his life of the distinguished journalist, he describes, not without a characteristic touch of humor, the extremes to which the inhabitants of Paris were driven during the siege of 1870.

I went to see what was going on in the house of a friend of mine in the Avenue de l'Imperatrice, who has left Paris. The servant who was in charge told me they had not been able to obtain bread for three days, and that the last time he had presented his ticket, he had been given about half an inch of cheese. "How do you live, then?" I asked.

After looking mysteriously around to see that no one was watching us, he took me down into the cellar and pointed to some meat in a barrel. "It is half a horse," he said, in the tone of a man who is showing some one the corpse of his murdered victim. "A neighboring coachman killed him, and we salted him down and divided him." Then he opened a closet in which sat a huge cat. "I am fattening her up for Christmas; we mean to serve her up surrounded with mice-like sausages."

On January 6th, Labouchere notes: "Yesterday, I had a slice of Pollux for dinner. Castor and his brother Pollux are two elephants that have been killed. The meat was tough, coarse and oily, and I do not recommend English families to eat elephant when they can get beef or mutton. Many of the restaurants are closed for lack of fuel. They use lamps, but even French cooks when they are called upon to cook an elephant with a spirit lamp find the thing almost beyond their ingenuity. Castor's and Pollux's trunks are sold for forty-five francs a pound; the other parts of the interesting twins fetched about ten francs a pound."

Not all the strange foods eaten during the siege were as unpalatable. On the subject of donkey, Labouchere says: "Donkey is infinitely better eating than beef or mutton; indeed, I do not know any meat that is better. Let anyone who doubts the excellence of cold donkey slay one of these weak-minded animals, cook him, and eat him."

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