THE REVIVAL OF THE FRENCH EMPERORSHIP ANTICIPATED FROM THE NECESSITY OF PROPHECY

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The revival of the French emperorship anticipated from the necessity of prophecy by $\,G.\,S.\,$ Faber

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G. S. FABER

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G. S. FABER, B.D.

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1

SIR HENRY MARTIN, BART.

MY DEAR SIR HENRY,

There is no person, whom, with more perfect satisfaction to myself, I can invite to accompany me in the prophetic consideration of a very important subject, THE REVIVAL OF THE PRENCH EMPRODESHIP.

From our frequent correspondence, I am assured of your deep interest in it: and our long friendship has taught me to appreciate the soundness of your judgment.

Through a love to my country, the topic is, to me, one of deep interest: and I well know that it is scarcely less so to yourself.

This difference, however, there is between us.

You, at your age, may well live to see the fearful events, which, if I mistake not, are now so rapidly coming upon us: I, on the contrary, in my eightieth year, shall most probably be taken away from the evil to come.

That evil is coming, I make no doubt: but it is evil introductory to great good.

When the predicted Antichristian Confederacy shall have been broken, and when (as was the judgment expressed to myself, many years ago, by the late eminent Bishop Horsley) its mighty armaments shall have perished between the seas in the mountains of Palestine: then will be inaugurated that holy and happy period, which is usually distinguished by the name of the Millennium.

In truth, unless the now too plain obstacles were removed, the introduction of that happy state upon this earth would be a *moral*, not to say a *physical*, impossibility. Some good men have imagined that, by the gradual increase of knowledge and religion, we shall glide, as it were, imperceptibly into the promised purity and felicity of the thousand years. But Prophecy speaks a very different language. Our Augèan stable must be effectually cleansed, before the World can be fit for the reception of a Pure Universal Church: and the appointed instrument of cleansing is widely-spread tribulation.

In this short Treatise, my object has been to avoid all declamation. I have wished to discuss the subject in a closely-demonstrative form: working, throughout, from historical facts; and taking, as my general basis, the declared falmary fact, that, in the time of St. John, the Roman Head or Polity, described as the immediate predecessor of the last of the Seven Roman Polities, was in actual existence. Diffuseness and declamation are here manifestly out of place. If we wish to convince, we must severely, perhaps almost scholastically, aim at from.

The general fault, so far as I can judge, of modern commentators on Prophecy, is their rapidity of jumping to conclusions.

Such a mode of writing may perhaps satisfy those, who, to save themselves mental labour, are inclined to take things for granted: but a sober inquirer after truth will eschew superficial statements and rash conclusions, too many of which it has been our lot to witness. He will demand, that a process of string should be adopted: and, if he encounters the very reverse, he will incline to a strong feeling of the *Incredulus odi*. To be useful, a man must not covet a shallow and really contemptible popularity. He must aim at better things.

Believe me, my dear Sir Henry,

Yours most truly,

G. S. FABER.

Sherburn House, Dec. 10, 1852.