

**THE COMING STRUGGLE AMONG THE
NATIONS OF THE EARTH, OR, THE
POLITICAL EVENTS OF THE NEXT
THIRTEEN YEARS; DESCRIBED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH PROPHECIES IN
EZEKIEL, DANIEL, AND THE APOCALYPSE**

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The Coming Struggle among the Nations of the Earth, or, the Political Events of the Next Thirteen Years; Described in Accordance with Prophecies in Ezekiel, Daniel, and the Apocalypse by John Thomas

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JOHN THOMAS

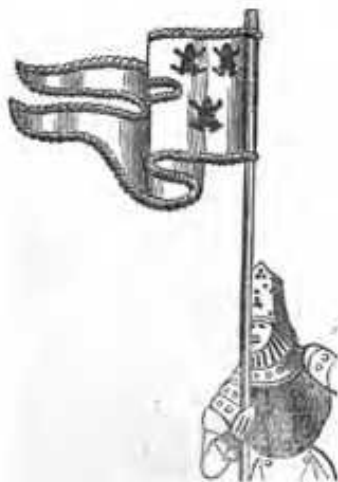
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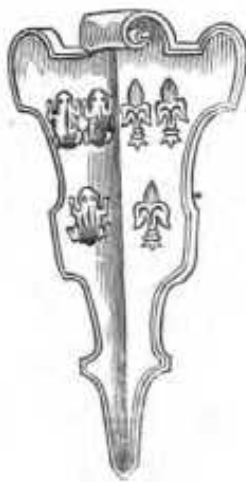
**MEDAL OF A FROG FOUND IN
THE TOMB OF CHILDERIC I.**



**THIS IS THE OLDE ARMYE
OF FRANCE.**



THE BANNER OF CLOVIS.



**ARMORIAL SHIELD OF
CLOVIS.**

THE
COMING STRUGGLE

AMONG

The Nations of the Earth:

OR,

THE POLITICAL EVENTS OF THE NEXT THIRTEEN YEARS,

DESCRIBED IN ACCORDANCE WITH

PROPHECIES IN EZEKIEL, DANIEL,
AND THE APOCALYPSE.

SHOWING ALSO

THE IMPORTANT POSITION BRITAIN WILL OCCUPY DURING
AND AT THE END OF THE AWFUL CONFLICT.

By John Thomas

TORONTO:
THOMAS MACLEAR, 45, YONGE STREET.
1853.

AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

The above is the title of the pamphlet already referred to in our strictures upon the *London Quarterly Journal of Prophecy*. There are several vulnerable positions assumed by the compiler of its pages, which it is remarkable the reviewers have not seized upon in demonstration of the supposed unscriptural conclusions it contains. But critical orthodox ignorance has been the compiler's safety. "Theology" has blinded the eyes of "the ministry" so that they cannot see afar off. "Divines," therefore, being in the dark, and the people being led by them, it is "like priests, like people;" all are in the fog, and the errors of *The Coming Struggle* have escaped detection.

In the following pages this renowned pamphlet is not reproduced as it came from the Edinburgh press. I have expurgated it of what I consider its untenable assumptions, and in so doing have converted it into a *brochure* properly my own. The original pamphlet undertook to present my views of the next fifteen years. But no one can present the views of another with sufficient precision to satisfy the original thinker. "The Coming Struggle" does not satisfy me. I have therefore revised and corrected it, as well as I could without re-writing the whole. I have made three hundred and twelve corrections on the thirty-two pages, which have materially altered the sense of the compilation in many places. I should not, however, have presumed to do this, but for the peculiar relation I sustain to the original.

I am not able to say who the artist is that has undertaken to work up my published ideas of things into "The Coming Struggle."

Some have stiled him the learned Dr. Cumming; others, "the eloquent Mr. Wylie;" others, "a journeyman printer in Edinburgh;" others again, "a disciple of Dr. Thomas," &c. Be he whom he may, he must be greatly astonished at the success of his doings. Seventy-three thousand sterling six-pences must have afforded him a wonderful profit on the copy of *Elpis Israel*, out of which he fabricated his pages. I should have no particular objection to inheriting a dividend; but hitherto the case has strictly fulfilled the saying, that "One sows and another reaps." But perhaps good has been accomplished notwithstanding the errors. In this, therefore, I rejoice; but hope that no more of the original may be sold after this revise shall appear in Britain.

JOHN THOMAS.

Mott Haven, Westchester, N. Y., June 24, 1853.

THE
COMING STRUGGLE

AMONG

THE NATIONS OF THE EARTH.

(Toronto, 1753)

Never was there a time in the past history of the world when such a terrible and universal excitement prevailed regarding political affairs, as at this moment exists in the social mind. Wherever we turn, or into whatsoever society we enter, the same restless anxiety is apparent, the same question passes from circle to circle and from friend to friend, but no reply comes forth to cheer or satisfy the alarmed interrogators. "What is about to happen?" is murmured in all the assemblies of men; and whether the sound floats along the noble halls of the great, vibrates among the rafters of the straw-roofed cottage, or wanders through mazes of tobacco smoke in a village ale-house, echo only answers. What! Conjectures, indeed, are made and opinions delivered, but as these rest solely on the shifting sand of political appearances, and assume the various aspects with which faction and party-spirit invest them, they are uttered only to be rejected; the same question is again asked by the same individual on the morrow, and with like success.

That such an excitement should prevail at the present time is not at all wonderful. The position in which the powers of Europe and Asia are placed, renders it evident to every thinking mind—and in this age of boasted intelligence all should be thinkers—that we are on the very eve of a crisis, and a crisis unparalleled in the annals of the past. It is not at one part merely, or in one or two nations, that we discern the signs of an approaching storm; but from one end of Europe to the other, the ominous cloud has gathered, and when it bursts, as soon it must, the deluge will not only be overwhelming, but universal. Such a prospect as this is entirely new. The shadows which preceded the advent of the most devastating hurricanes that swept over the world in the ages that are gone, were not so gloomy or portentous as those which now hover above our whole horizon; and as the image must resemble the reality, that reality must be awful indeed. We are in the midst of that oppressive calm which reigns when the elements are fully charged with all the ingredients of a storm, and, like the mariner, we long for its inevitable outbreak, in order that we may escape from our suspense, and learn at once how we are likely to cope with it.

But while the painful anxiety, every where visible, is, in the circumstances, extremely natural, it is not at all necessary that the equally manifest uncertainty and ignorance regarding the extent and duration of the coming struggle should remain; and were the prophetic declarations of the Bible properly understood, the inhabitants of Britain would comprehend all that is about to take place. In that Book—a book which some despise, many neglect, and nearly all misunderstand—is to be found a series of visions and prophecies, under which is symbolised the political history of the world, from the Babylonian Empire down to the Millennium, that happy era to which the human family have long looked forward with delight. Unfortunately, however, as we have said, these prophecies have been, and are, sadly misunderstood. *The authorized interpreters of God's revelations*

have hitherto failed in finding a key to unlock their mysteries; but of this we do not complain, as we are told that the vision was to be sealed until the time of the end. What we regret, however, is that in the face of this declaration, our divines should have attempted an explanation of these mysteries, before God's time for their solution was come. They have done this, and the result is, that, by their erroneous interpretations, a mass of obscurity, contradiction, absurdity, and error, has been heaped upon them, which serves completely to mystify both its authors and the world. Had Fleming and others contented themselves with tracing those parts of the prophecy which were fulfilled in their day, and left those sublime consummations mentioned in the Apocalypse to be disclosed at "the time of the end," the present generation would not now be under the necessity of throwing off a host of commentaries and opinions, which from early childhood they have considered unerring. This, however, must be done. The position of the world clearly intimates that the end has come, and events now furnish an explanation of the hitherto dark visions of Daniel and John, and by a careful examination of these and other prophets, the political history of the next 13 years is spread out before us, nay, we are enabled to pass beyond that period, and trace almost accurately the regular course of events down to the beginning of the thousand years. Dr. Thomas, of America, was the first to find the key, and they who have read his book will at once be able to understand the following description of the period mentioned. For the sake, however, of those who have not seen Dr. Thomas' work—and we believe this applies to the majority of general readers—it will be necessary to give a rapid and connected sketch of the prophecy on which the whole hangs, and point out the errors into which former interpreters have fallen.

The first intimation we have of the prophecy is in the second chapter of Daniel, where we are told that one morning during the palmy days of the Babylonian empire, Nebuchadnezzar, its