

THE 3RD GREAT PERIL

THE VISITATION: As dictated by George Washington to one of his men, Anthony Sherman, in the war of independence during the winter retreat to Valley Forge in 1777.

“I want to tell you an incident of Washington’s life, one which no one alive knows except myself, and which if you live, you will before long see verified”.

“When he came out, his face was shade paler than usual” A visitor appeared before him and he became transformed and unable to speak.

“I felt strange sensations spreading through me”

“gradually the surrounding atmosphere seemed to be filled with sensations that grew luminous. Everything about me seemed to rarify, including the mysterious visitor herself, becoming more airy and yet more distinct to my sight than before. I now began to feel as one dying, or rather, to experience the sensations which I have sometimes imagined accompany dissolution. I did not think. I did not reason. I did not move. All were alike impossible. I was only conscious of gazing fixedly, vacantly, at my companion.

INTRODUCTION OF THE VISION

Presently I heard a voice saying “son of the republic, look and learn” while at the same time my visitor extended her arm eastwardly. I now beheld a heavy white vapor at some distance rising fold upon fold. This gradually dissipated and I looked upon a strange scene. Before me lay spread out in one vast plane all the countries of the world, Europe, Asia, Africa and America. I saw rolling and tossing between Europe and America the billows of the Atlantic and between Asia and America lay the pacific.

THE 1ST PERIL

“son of the republic” said the same mysterious voice as before ‘look and learn’. At that moment I beheld a dark shadowy being as an angel standing or rather floating in mid air between Europe and America. Dipping water out of the ocean in the hollow of his hand, he sprinkled it – some with his right hand on America and some with his left hand he cast upon Europe and immediately a dark cloud raised from those countries and joined in the mid ocean. For a while it remained stationary and then moved slowly west ward until it enveloped America in its murky folds. Sharp flashes of lightning gleamed through it at intervals and I heard the smothered groanings and the cries of the American people.

A second time the angel dipped water from the ocean and sprinkled it out as before. The dark cloud was then drawn back to the ocean in whose heaving billows it sank from view.

INTERVAL

A 3RD time, I heard the mysterious voice saying ‘son of the republic, look and learn’. I cast my eyes upon America and beheld villages and towns and cities springing up one after another until the whole land from the Atlantic to the Pacific was dotted with them.

THE 2ND PERIL

Again I heard the mysterious voice say ‘son of the republic, the end of the century cometh, look and learn’ and this time the dark shadowy angel turned his face southward and from Africa I saw an ill omen spectre approach our land. It flited slowly over every town and city of the latter.

The inhabitants presently set themselves in battle array against each other and I continued looking. I saw a bright angel upon whose brow rested a crown of light upon which was traced the word 'union', bearing the American flag which he placed between the divided nation. He said 'Remember, you are brethren'. Instantly the inhabitants casting down their weapons became friends once more and united around the national standard.

THE 3RD PERIL

Again I heard the mysterious voice saying 'son of the republic look and learn'. At this the dark shadowy angel placed a trumpet to his mouth and blew 3 distinct blasts and taking water from the ocean he sprinkled it upon Europe, Asia and Africa. Then my eyes beheld a fearful scene. From each of these countries arose thick black clouds that were soon joined into one and throughout the mass gleamed a dark red light in which I saw hordes of armed men who moving with the cloud marched by land and sea to America, which country was enveloped in the volume of cloud. And I dimly saw these vast armies devastate the whole country and burn the villages, towns and cities that I had beheld springing up and my ears listened to the thunderings of the canons and the clashing of the swords and the shouts and cries of millions in mortal conflict.

Again heard the mysterious voice saying 'son of the republic, look and learn.' When the voice had ceased the dark angel placed his trumpet once more to his mouth and blew a long and fearful blast. Instantly a light as of a thousand suns shone down from above me and pierced and broke into fragments the dark cloud. At the same moment the angel upon whose head still shone the word union, and who bore our national flag in one hand and a sword in the other, descended from heaven attended by legions of white spirits. These immediately joined the inhabitants of America who I perceived were well nigh overcome but who immediately taking courage again closed up their broken ranks and renewed the battle.

Again amid the fearful noise of the conflict I heard the mysterious voice saying 'son of the republic, look and learn'. As the voice ceased the shadowy angel for the last time dipped water from the ocean and sprinkled it upon America. Instantly the dark cloud rolled back together with the armies it had brought leaving the inhabitants of the land victorious. Then once more I beheld the villages, towns and cities springing up where I had seen them before while the bright angel planting the standard he had brought in the midst of them cried with a loud voice 'until the stars remain and the heavens send down dew upon the earth, so long shall the union last, and taking from his brow the crown on which blazened the word union, he placed it on the standard while the people kneeling down said 'amen'.

The scene instantly began to fade and dissolve and I at last saw nothing but the rising curling vapor I had first beheld. This also disappeared and I once more found myself gazing upon the mysterious visitor, who in the same voice I had heard before said;

THE INTERPRETATION

'son of the republic, what you have seen is thus interpreted. Three great perils will come upon the republic. The most fearful is the third, but in this greatest conflict, the whole world united shall not prevail against her. Let every child of the republic learn to live for his God, his land and the union. With these words the vision vanished and I started from my seat and felt that I had seen a vision wherein had been shown me the birth and progress and destiny of the United States.