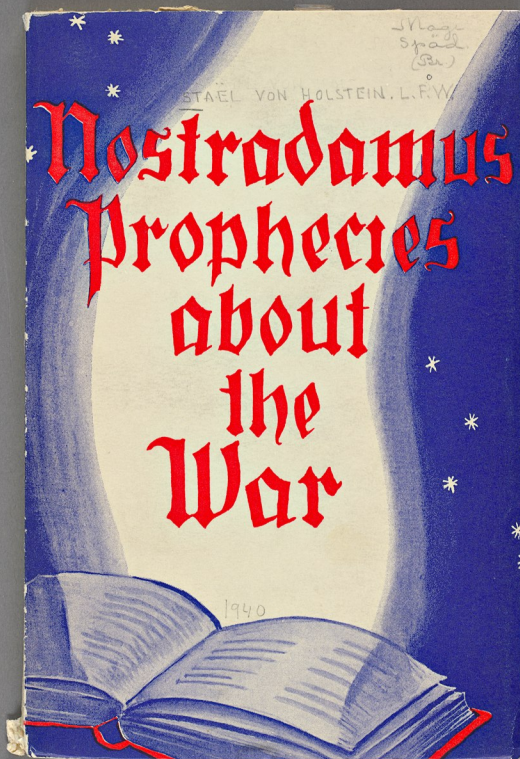


Staël von Holstein, Lage / Norab

What will happen in the near  
future :



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STAEL VON HOLSTEIN, L.F.W.

# Nostradamus Prophecies about the War

1940



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# What will happen in the near future?

For an answer we must turn to  
*"Les vrayes Centuries et Propheties de  
Maistre Michel Nostradamus"*

*The Prophecies of the  
ancient French Astrologer  
Michel Nostradamus  
and the Present War*

By

NORAB =

= Sage Stiel von Holstein



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STOCKHOLM 1940  
STOCKHOLMS BOKINDUSTRI AKTIEBOLAG




Michel Nostradamus

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I. *A Passage from Goethe's  
Faust*

eaders of Goethe's »Faust» will be familiar with the passage (Part I, Scene 1) in which Faust says:

*»And this one Book of Mystery  
»From Nostradamus' very hand,  
»Is't not sufficient company?  
»When I the starry courses know,  
»And Nature's wise instruction seek,  
»With light of power my soul shall glow,  
»As when to spirits spirits speak.»*

This is one of the numerous passages in literature in which reference is made to the celebrated work of the sixteenth-century Provençal seer and astrologer whose prophecies have aroused so much interest ever since their publication nearly four hundred years ago.

## II. *A Dramatic Accident*

**I**n July 1st, 1559, Paris was the scene of a most tragic occurrence. For many days the capital had lived in a whirl of festivities marking, with all the pomp and circumstance befitting the occasion, the celebration of a double wedding at the Royal Court. King Henry II of France, still in the prime of his life, had the rare fortune to witness on one and the same day the marriage of his sister Marguerite to Duke Emanuel Philibert of Savoy and that of his daughter Elizabeth to King Philip II of Spain. A tournament arena had been erected in the Rue St. Antoine which resounded for three days with the clash of the arms of tilting knights.

The tournament was over, when the King, riding the course in a final round, discovered two unused lances. In a high-spirited mood he challenged Count Montgomery, the commander of the Royal Guards, who was the most famous tilter of the Court, to break lances with him. Twice the Count begged to be excused, but the King insisted and ordered him to prepare himself immediately. A rare suspense gripped the onlookers. With all their might the King and the Count charged one another. Their lances were

shattered and a splinter of the Count's shaft pierced the King's golden helmet and penetrated to his brain through his right eye. Mortally wounded he died a few days later.

Was it an accident? Or the decree of some unknown Power? No one can say. The crowd stood aghast, except two among the spectators, to whom alone the tragedy had not come unexpectedly. The King's consort, Catherine of Medici, and Michel Nostradamus, the seer of Salon, had foreseen the catastrophe. Nostradamus had predicted the death of the King many years before. Both the King and the Queen, as well as various people of intellect in Paris, were acquainted with his prophecy, although it was difficult to interpret. It is contained in the 35th quatrain of the First Centuriate of his work and reads as follows:

»*Le Lyon jeune le vieus surmontera,*  
»*En champ bellique par singulière duelle,*  
»*Dans cage d'or les yeus luy crevera,*  
»*Deus playes une, pour mourir mort cruelle.»*

Freely translated this means:

»*The young lion will vanquish the old*  
»*In single combat on a warlike field.*  
»*He will split his eyes in a golden cage:*  
»*The first of two breaks, followed by death*  
*in agony.»*

Count Montgomery is the young lion and King Henry the old; the golden cage is the helmet with its lowered vizor, making the face appear as if caged behind cross-bars.

But the prophecy related to more than the King's death. Nostradamus had spoken of »the first of two breaks.« The second break refers to the fact that the House of Valois became extinct with the death of King Henry's sons, as foretold by Nostradamus in the 36th quatrain of his First Centuriate:

*»Tard le monarque se viendra repentir,  
»De n'auoir mis a mort son aduersaire:  
»Mais viendra bien a plus haut consentir,  
»Que tout son sang par mort fera deffaire.»*

In English:

*»Too late will the King repent  
»Not to have put his adversary to death:  
»A higher ruling will then prevail,  
»To extinction his whole house is doomed.»*

It is an irony of fate that the King, after Nostradamus had cast his horoscope and predicted his death in that mysterious way, should have called the seer to his Court and bestowed some high honors on him. He probably did so at the inducement of his Queen who greatly inclined toward matters of an occult nature. But what enabled Nostradamus to make his prophecies? And who was this man, so uncannily gifted?

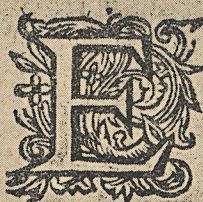
### III. *Some Dates*

**N**ichel Nostradamus, the celebrated French seer, physician and astrologer, was born at Saint-Remy-en-Craux, a small town south of Avignon, on December 1st, 1503, as the son of a notary public. His grandfather taught him the rudiments of mathematics and astronomy. He was said to have had converse with the stars even as a boy. He had a marvellous memory for figures. After leaving school at Avignon, he went to Montpellier to study medicine. Three years later, when he had just passed his first examination, a terrible plague broke out. The people were prostrate with fear. Thousands of them died and many others committed suicide or fled. Nostradamus was not one of them. For four years the young physician labored without fear in the plague-infected valley of the Garonne and saved many person from a painful death. After that, he rapidly gained one success after the other. He took his Doctor's degree at the age of twenty-six and was appointed a university lecturer shortly afterwards. But he relinquished all his appointments and spent many years travelling. During all that time he had to put up with many afflictions. Death claimed his wife and his children.

LES VRAYES CENTURIES  
ET PROPHETIES

De Maître MICHEL NOSTRADAMUS.

CENTURIE PREMIERE.



I.  
STANT assis, de nuit secret effu-  
de,  
Seul, reposé sur la selle d'airain ?  
Flambe exigue, sortant de folinde  
Fait proferer qui n'est à croire en  
vain.

2.  
La verge en main mise au milieu des branches,  
De l'onde il moule & le limbe & le pied,  
Un peur & voix fremissent par les manches,  
Splendeur divine, le devin pres s'affied.

3.  
Quand la lictiere du tourbillon versée  
Et feront faces de leurs manteaux couverts :  
La republique par gens nouveaux vexée,  
Lors blancs & rouges jugeront à l'envers.

#### IV. *Nostradamus develops his Gift of Prophecy*

**A** diversity, however, strengthened his character and developed his gift of prophecy. We know that grief and sorrow tend to bring out all that is best in us and that the afflictions of the soul may purify our mental and moral faculties even more than physical pain can do. Nostradamus himself has stated that the many blows of fate he had to endure contributed toward the growth of his prophetic abilities. We are also aware that the mysterious power of our will and our faith help to fortify us in a manner for which science has no explanation. Nostradamus escaped from the plague because of his unshakable conviction that it could not do him any harm. And has not Jesus Christ, the greatest healer of the ills of mankind, again and again pointed out the value of faith as a remedy for all ailments?

In the course of his travels Nostradamus visited all the cities of France and also parts of Italy. He settled at Salon, where he married for the second time. His wife bore him six children. Again the plague broke out and again he faced the grim de-

stroyer with a contempt for death, firmly believing that it could not hurt him. The town gratefully acknowledged his services and awarded him an annuity for life.

In the attic of his house at Salon, Nostradamus had a special room reserved for himself from which he could view the horizon. There he spent the hours of night, studied the works of the ancient Magi, calculated the orbits and the conjunctions of the heavenly bodies and, absorbed in himself, tried to foresee the future. It was there also that he wrote down his prophecies.

*»Absorbed in Nature's mysteries, I spend my nights  
»In lonely solitude on the seer's throne of brass.  
»But soon the forlorn little flame makes me hope  
»That my faith will be duly rewarded.*

*»When I hold the wand in my hands,  
»The wave soon moistens my feet and the hem of my  
garments.*

*»I listen to a Voice and turn pale.  
»The heavenly light, the Divine inspiration, has come  
over me.»*

These are the two quatrains with which Nostradamus' celebrated work opens. The first section of it was published in 1555. The success of its publication was so great that, as already stated above, King Henry II was induced to invite the author to join his Court. After the King's death, which he had

predicted, he frequently paid a visit to the Queen. Highly honored by the Court, he died in the summer months of 1566, at the age of sixty-three. Unerringly he had predicted the hour of his own death. He was buried in a niche of the Franciscan Church at Salon.

Nearly four hundred years have passed since the fame of Nostradamus first spread throughout the world. Innumerable books have been written about him and his prophecies in all countries and in all languages. Their authors are scientists, astrologers, philosophers and mathematicians. It is impossible to refer to occult science, the prediction of the future or the art of astrology without mentioning his name. He is certainly one of the greatest astrologers that ever lived, and perhaps the greatest of them all. His reputation even grows as Time advances. It can be shown that more than a hundred of his predictions have already come true. The happenings of our own days were not unknown to him. We shall hear later what he had to say about the chronicles of the nations now at war with one another.

His work is divided into ten Centuriates each consisting of one hundred quatrains. His language is peculiar. It abounds in foreign expressions, twisted meanings and odd arrangements of sentences. He uses many figures of speech which are difficult to interpret. In many instances it is only possible to do so with the aid of mythology, history or geography. At times, imagination alone will solve the

mystery, as is the case, for example, in connection with his reference to the »golden cage» and the »young lion» mentioned in the quatrain which foretells the death of King Henry II. Nostradamus evidently chose this obscure and complicated mode of expression intentionally.

The central subject with which he deals is the history of France and, indeed, that of European civilization and the European Church as a whole. His prophecies cover a period up to the year 3797 A.D. But the events hinted at in the 969 quatrains are not arranged in chronological order. There is no attempt at an orderly sequence, the lack of which has made the task of the interpreters even more difficult than it already is. For four centuries scholars have been searching for the key to the correct arrangement of the quatrains. There can be no doubt that Nostradamus has concealed it somewhere in his Centuriates.

The reason why he left it to his commentators to puzzle out his meaning is, according to his own words, his desire to prevent abuse. He adds that he could easily have indicated the dates at which the events predicted by him would take place; and this statement of his is corroborated by those few instances in which he mentions the actual dates of the happenings. This, at least, holds good for his prediction of the French Revolution of 1789; and the various dated prophecies in which he stated the correct

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year and even the correct month of their occurrence further substantiate his claim.

In a résumé of the chief predictions in prose contained in a letter of his, dated from Salon on June 27th, 1558, and addressed to »Henry Roy de France second,« he subdivides the subject into 117 parts or periods separated from each other by vertical strokes. He then gives a long description of the constellations used by him and referring in particular to one in which the dragon's head coincides with the conjunction of Jupiter and the sun, he uses these words: »sera le commencement comprenant ce de ce que durera & commençant icelle année sera faite plus grande persecution à l'Eglise Chretienne, que n'a été faite en Afrique, et durera ceste-ici jusques à l'an mil sept cens nonante deux que l'on cuydera estre une renovation de siècle.»

These words mean that the commencement of the astral period described by him will coincide with that of a serious persecution of the Christian Church which will be worse than that which took place in Africa (organized by the Moors) and that such persecution will end when the astral period named ends, i.e., in the year 1792. At that time, he adds, people will try to introduce a new era (»une renovation de siècle») or a new calendar. \*

\* When the new anti-Christian era was introduced in 1793, the beginning of the year One of the Republican calendar was indeed dated from the preceding autumnal equinox (September 22nd, 1792), so as to avoid any collision with the date of Christmas. This makes Nostradamus' reference to the event all the more remarkable.

He used the term »siècle» because it can be understood in various senses, including that of a new era. The words »que l'on cuydera» indicate that the innovation and the abolition of the Christian calendar will not be as effective and lasting as its originators hoped. The Republican calendar provided for a day of rest at intervals of ten days only; and for this and other reasons it soon became unpopular, so that Napoleon did away with it in 1804 and restored the old order.

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V. *The »Voices» from  
Heaven*

**B**ut how was Nostradamus inspired? He speaks of »voices» reaching him from Heaven and of the »Divine splendor» of the displays of light. We know that there have been people at all times and in all countries who have heard such voices which, of course, are not perceived by the ear or the other senses, but by the spirit and the soul.


Nostradamus speaks of the »fureur poetique» which inspired him and enabled him to foresee the political happenings of the future. He evidently had the gift of seeing mentally what happened or existed out of his sight. He has given us accurate descriptions of persons born centuries after his own death and has even furnished us with their actual names or the names by which they are known in history. Of himself he says: »I have written the books of prophecy after making lengthy calculations which filled my nightly studies with invigorating breath.» But his descriptions of persons and events are, for all their terseness, so plastic that they must be more than the outcome of astrological studies. His visionary powers

must have enabled him to see the images and even to hear their voices. He perceived the course of future happenings in the form of pictures which arose before his mind's eye and then passed his information on to us, not in plain language but — as it were — under cover of a veil which does not disappear until his clairvoyant visions have become hard and fast facts.

Nostradamus was a man of great piety and a firm believer in the Christian faith. Moreover, being an astrologer, he had a vast knowledge of the facts of the universe and was gifted with infinite diligence. Divine inspiration and human ability coupled with knowledge — have they not always been the sources of the successes achieved by truly great men in all walks of life?



VI. *A Prediction made Four  
Hundred Years before  
the Event*

lmost four hundred years have passed since the Centuriates were written. Many of the events, therefore, which have since taken place, can now be subjected to the test of investigation. When we apply that test, we find that the visionary of Salon has been right — not once only, but on ten and even on a hundred occasions.

Let us study a few examples. We have already seen that Nostradamus has referred to several persons by their actual names. The 18th quatrain of the IXth Centuriate reads as follows in the original French text:

*»Le lys Dauffois portera dans Nancy,  
»Jusques en Flandres electeur de l'Empire,  
»Neufve obturée au grand Montmorency,  
»Hors lieux prouvez delivré à Clerpeyne.»*

Freely translated this means:

- »*The Lily will bear the Dauphin to Nancy*  
»*And he will support the Elector of the Empire in*  
*Flanders.*  
»*Renewed imprisonment for the great Montmorency.*  
»*Outside the spot selected for that purpose he will be*  
*handed over to Clerpeyne.»*


This prediction refers to the following historical events.

The first Dauphin, Louis XIII, entered Nancy in 1633. In 1635 he pushed his armies forward as far as Flanders to support the cause of the Elector of Trèves, then in captivity. In 1632 the great Montmorency was imprisoned in the newly-built City Hall of Toulouse. It was eventually conceded to his followers that he should not be executed on the spot originally assigned for it, but in the courtyard of the prison building. The name of his executioner has been recorded by two reliable contemporary sources: it was Clerpeyne.

Here, then, we have two proper names which Nostradamus has correctly predicted, and neither of them is of common occurrence.



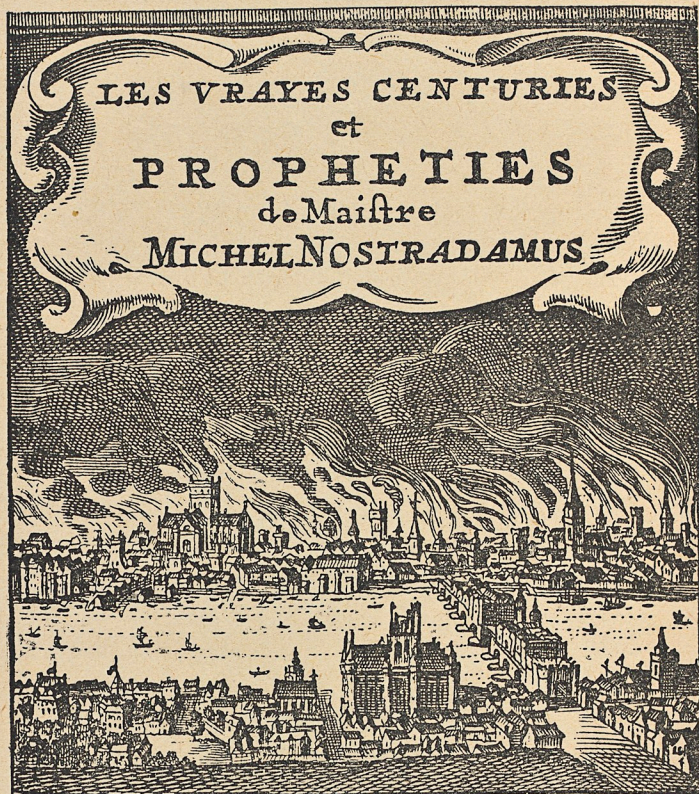
## VII. *The Tragedy of Louis XVI*

ne of the most astonishing prophecies is that contained in the 34th quatrain of the IXth Centuriate, which refers to the arrest of the unhappy Louis XVI and his family on June 20th, 1792. The text is as follows:

»*Le part solus mary sera mitré,*  
»*Retour: conflict passera sur le thuille,*  
»*Par cinq cens: un trahyr sera titré,*  
»*Narbon: et Saulce par coutaux avons d'huile.*»

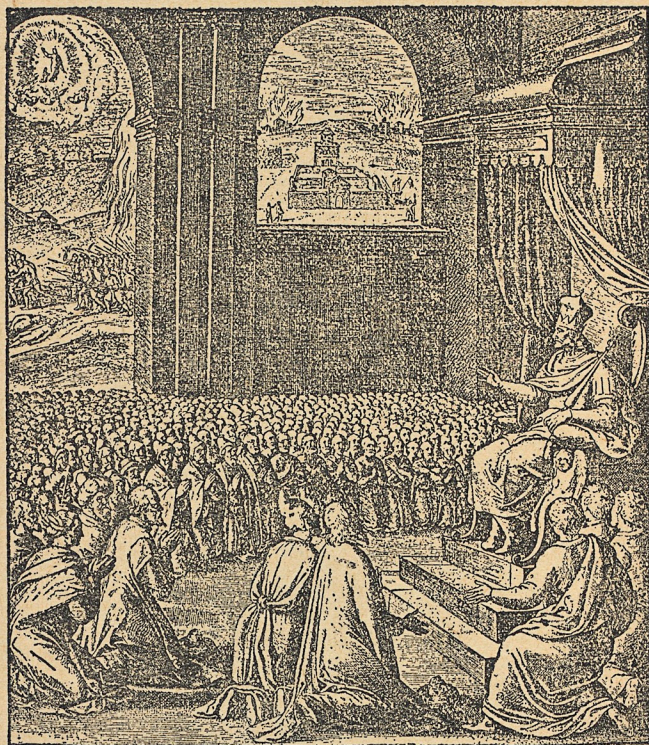
For its correct interpretation we are indebted to M. Anatole Le Pelletier, the eminent interpreter of Nostradamus, who published the results of his investigations in 1867.

The words are difficult to understand, even if interpreted in the light of subsequent events. »*Le part solus mary*» is the King. »*Solus*» is the Latin for »*seul,*» i.e., lonely and forsaken. The words »*part solus*» describe the King as the male spouse, »*solus*» being of the masculine gender in Latin. »*Mary*» is ambiguous and cannot only be interpreted as »*mar-*



*A Amsterdam Chez Jean Iansson à Wagberge et la  
Cafre du Feu Elizée Weyerstraet. l'An 1668.*


ried couple,» but is also an old form of »marri», i.e., grief, sorrow. Shortly before reaching the frontier, the King and Queen were stopped at Varennes. The King was very low-spirited because he was forced to wear a Phrygian cap throughout the return journey. This is indicated by the abrupt wording of the phrase: »sera mitré retour», »mitré» meaning »mitred.» All this was done to humiliate the King. »Conflict» refers to the march of the five hundred people of Marseilles to the Tuileries where the King was imprisoned after his return to Paris. The strange expression, »conflict passera le thuille» has always been found troublesome by commentators. Nostradamus' reference to the Tuileries is especially astonishing, as they did not yet exist in 1555, when his work was published, their building dating from 1564. They have been named after the brickworks formerly occupying the site. »Un trahyr sera titré Narbon»: One traitor will be the titled Narbonne, i.e., the Comte de Narbonne, who was the King's Minister of War from December 1791 to March 1792. Hence the Guards who arrested the King in the shop kept by the Maire of Varennes, of the name of Saulce, were acting under his orders. Although it cannot be proved for certain that the Count did betray the King, we know that the Maire — whose correct name of Saulce Nostradamus also predicted more than two centuries before these events took place — received 20,000 livres from the National Assembly by way of



*THE ANTECHRIST*

*Graving from 1595.*

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reward. »Par coutaux» are the Guards who arrested the Royal couple in the shop of the Maire, who was a dealer in oil and candles — a business which he had inherited from his ancestors. Even this was known to Nostradamus, as may be inferred from the hint supplied by the words »avons d'huile,» where »d'huile» means »oil,» whilst »avons» cannot only be taken as part of the verb »avoir,» but also — as M. Le Pelletier remarks — as a form of the Latin word »avus», a grandfather. Similar plays on the word »avus,» a grandfather. Similar plays on the work of Nostradamus and were obviously much resorted to by contemporary writers, who were fond of disguising the true meaning of their words. This prophecy is a classical example of Nostradamus' style and workmanship. When his powers as a visionary were roused, he would express himself by means of abrupt constructions ignoring all the rules of grammar after the manner of the ancient oracles. But however complicated his language might be, it always abounded in significant allusions to future events of supreme importance, and we cannot help marvelling at the accuracy of his forecasts.

The prediction just commented upon belongs to the three and a half Centuriates first published. A letter addressed by the great seer to his son César under date of March 1st, 1555, refers to it.

Hardly less surprising is the prediction contained in the 57th quatrain of the Vth Centuriate, in which

Nostradamus refers literally to the observation of the position of the Austrian Army by a Montgolfière, i.e., a hot-air-balloon:

*»Istra de mont Gaulfier & Aventin,  
»Qui par le trou advertira l'armée,  
»Entre deux rocs sera prins le butin,  
De Sext mansol faillir la renommée.»*

An English rendering would be:

*»From the Gaulfier mountain and the Aventine  
»There will rise one who, through a hole, will in-  
form the army.  
»Between two rocks the spoils will be taken  
»And the fame of the sixth Pope will decline.»*

The hot-air balloon invented by the brothers Montgolfier was first used for military purposes on June 16th, 1794. The Austrian positions in Rome, »on the Aventine hill,» were observed from the height of a Montgolfière (»mont Gaulfier» must be taken in two different senses) and then reported to the French Army. The two »rocks» were the States of the Church and Avignon, two important strongholds of Papal power. Between the States of the Church and Avignon were situated the valuable possessions of the Pope of which Napoleon made himself master upon the conclusion of his campaign against the Austrians. Nostradamus' reference to the Pope is con-

tained in the words »Sext mansol,» »mansol» being an abbreviation of »manus solus,» so that »Sext mansol» means »Sixtus the celibate.» Most curious, however, is the additional fact that the Pope Pius VI, who occupied the Holy See at the time concerned, was the first, since the publication of the Centuriates, to have the number VI attached to his name.

## VIII. *Astonishing Prophecies about Napoleon*

**N**ostradamus' prophecies also deal with Napoleon and his nephew, Napoleon III, whom he calls »le neveu du grand,» and with many other events in the history of France. About a dozen quatrains are devoted to the Corsican. His birth, his ancestry and his rise to power are predicted as accurately as his subsequent deeds as a soldier and a statesman. Even the duration of his rule was exactly known to Nostradamus.

Two of the quatrains indicate Corsica as the place of Napoleon's birth. The first of them (III, 35) reads as follows:

*»In the deepest part of Western Europe  
»A child will be born of poor parents  
»Who by his language will seduce the great army.  
»His fame will increase still further because of a  
government expedition toward the East  
i.e., Egypt.)»*

The other reference (I, 60) is this:

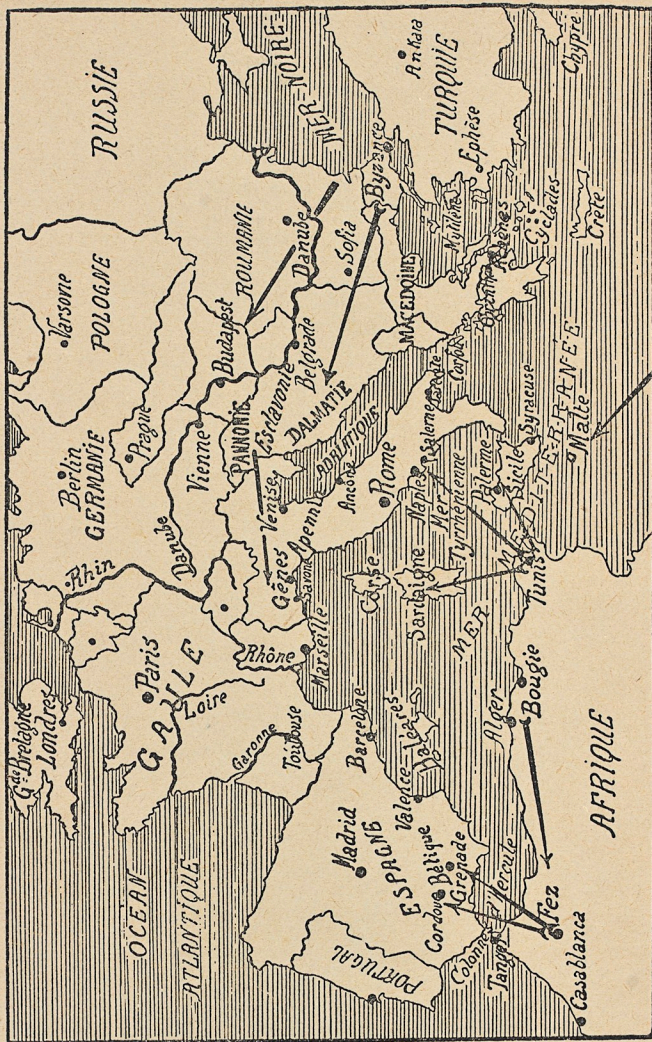
*»An Emperor will be born near Italy  
»Who will cost the Empire dearly.  
»Those with whom he allies himself will refer to him  
»As a butcher rather than as a prince.»*

The description contained in the last line may be harsh, but it is undoubtedly fairly accurate.

In connection with Napoleon, Nostradamus uses an expression which — although we have ceased to wonder — appears incredible to us. He speaks of him as a »shorn head.« It is known that Napoleon, contrary to the prevailing fashion, wore his hair closely cropped. The quatrain predicting the duration of Napoleon's rule (VII, 13) reads thus:

*»From the town near the sea from which contributions are levied  
»The shorn head will remove the satrapy,  
»Chasing away the dirt-mongers who oppose him.  
»For fourteen years he will retain the tyrant's scepter.»*

The town »from which contributions were levied« is Toulon, which was then occupied by the British. »Satrapy« (a term taken from Old Persian and meaning »governorship«) refers to the British hold on the town. Napoleon was in power from November 9th, 1799, to April 11th, 1814, i. e., for fourteen years.



The Invasions.

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Many other events in Napoleon's life were predicted by the seer of Salon including the burning of Moscow:

*»The spoiler will destroy an ancient city.  
»But it will not be in his power to extinguish  
the great fire.»*

Apart from these lines, there is another quatrain (II, 91) which also refers to the burning of Moscow. On the astrological map of Nostradamus the large North-eastern quadrant including the Sarmatian plain and the parts of Siberia adjoining it came under the sign of Aquarius and the region of Aquila. He therefore speaks of these territories as »Aquilon» or »le coing aquilonaire.» Hence, his reference is to Russia. The text is as follows:

*»Soleil levant un grand feu l'on verra  
»Bruit et clarté vers Aquilon tendants:  
»Dedans le rond mort & cris l'on orra  
»Par glaive, feu faim, mort les attendants.»*

This means:

*»A large fire will be seen in the direction of the  
rising sun,  
»Rumor and the bright light point to Russia:  
»Death, and the cry of death rule all around,  
»The aggressors will perish by the sword, through  
fire and starvation.»*



Another remarkable prediction refers to the erection of the Column of Vendôme which was demolished by the Commune on May 16th, 1871. It was some 140 feet high and commemorated on 375 bronze tablets the heroic exploits of »le grand Napoleon.» The actual building took four years, lasting from 1805 to 1810. The statue of Napoleon was not completed until 1812; and as the Empire collapsed shortly afterwards the sculptor, M. Chaudet, received no payment for his work. This quatrain (II, 43) reads as follows:

*»Avant qu'advienne le changement d'Empire,  
»Il adviendra un cas bien merveilleux:  
»Le camp mué, le pillier de porphyre  
»Mis, transmué sur le rocher noilleux.»*

M. Le Pelletier's only comment on this quatrain is that »transmué» is the equivalent of modern French »translaté» (»placed in position,» »removed») and that »noilleux» (modern French »nouveux») means »knotty,» or »gnarled.» The word »transmué,» however, can also be rendered »transformed.» Thus, the meaning would be:

*»Before the change in the history of the Empire  
takes place,  
»A strange thing will happen:  
»The field will change, the column of porphyry  
will be erected,  
»He will be transformed (or removed) to the  
knotty rock.»*

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The meaning is not very clear. We know that the Column of Vendôme had been completed by 1810 and that the collapse of the Empire took place shortly after the addition to the Column of the statue of Napoleon. Not only the site on which the Column was erected, but also the battlefield («camp») changed in appearance. First there were the defeats at Leipzig and Waterloo; in May 1814 Napoleon abdicated, and was banished to another »rocher noilleux,» i.e., the island of Elba. But after his return and during the »Hundred Days» he ordered the statue (which had meanwhile been removed) to be re-erected. This was followed, strange to say, by his final downfall and his banishment to the solitudes of the rocky island of St. Helena. He had come from the very island which had supplied the granite foundation of the Column which glorified his deeds; and after Elba, St. Helena became his last place of refuge — a place where he could meditate on his rise and fall at his leisure. His statue had surmounted a Column which, owing to the spiral arrangement of the twenty-five bronze reliefs, was of »knotty» appearance. It can no longer be ascertained whether or not the Column was really made of porphyry. It was not for nothing that Nostradamus made use of the similarity in sound between »mué» and »transmué», both expressions referring to Napoleon. We realize, therefore, that the apparent obscurity of the quatrains — for which Nostradamus has been cen-



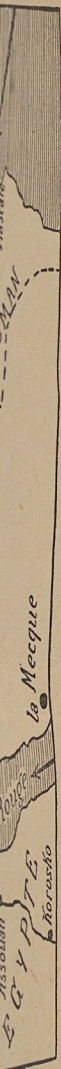
sured so often — serves a very definite purpose. The connection between the three solitudes, on the Column as well as on the two islands, is also extremely remarkable. The words »transmué sur le rocher noilleux» evidently include a reference to the twice-repeated »transformation» of the Corsican to a rocky island; but even if we ignore the reference to Elba and St. Helena, the prediction is highly convincing.

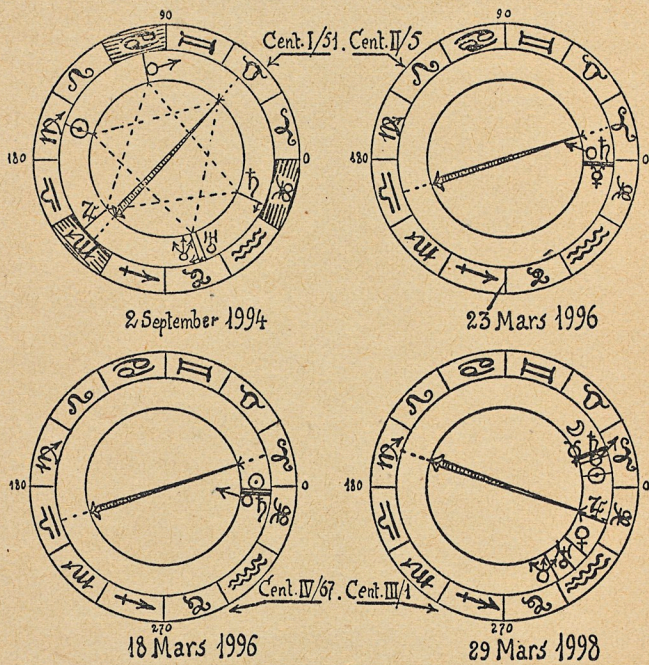
Napoleon's return from Elba is also mentioned in another quatrain (X, 24), the first two lines of which tell us that

*»The defeated Prince, kept a prisoner among the  
Italians,  
»Will proceed by sea to Marseilles via Genoa.»*

The references to Napoleon III are few, but they are very accurate. The quatrain II, 91, which contains the prediction of the burning of Moscow, is immediately followed by II, 92, which describes the disastrous defeat of Napoleon III. Nostradamus evidently had a reason for this close juxtaposition. In II, 92, he says:

*»Feu couleur d'or du ciel en terre veu,  
»Frappé du haut nay, faict cas merveilleux,  
»Grand meutre humain: prinse du grand le neuveu  
»Morts d'espactacles eschappé l'orgueilleux.»*





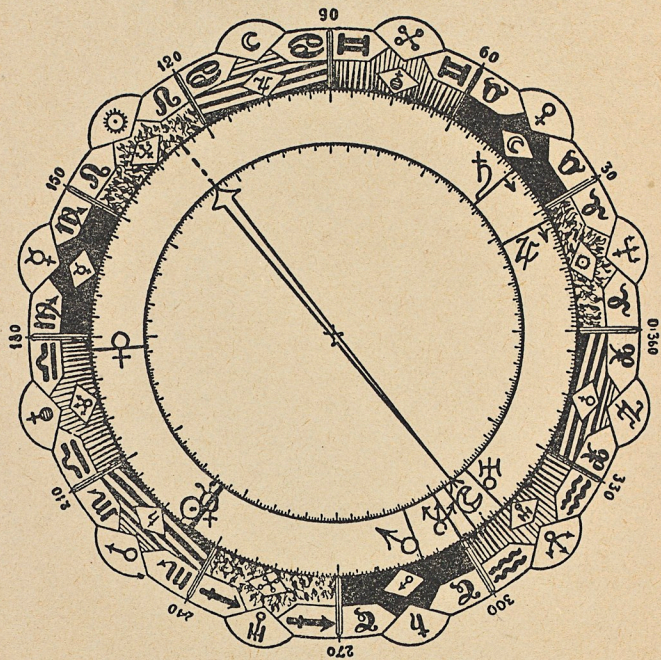
*The yellow invasion.*

Rendered into English:

- »When the gold-colored fire is seen descending  
from the sky earthward,  
»The nephew of the Great One will be defeated by  
the High-born One: a wonderful happening.  
»He will be taken prisoner in a murderous battle,  
»In this way the Arrogant One will escape a theat-  
rical death.»

This is almost a summary of the Franco-Prussian war of 1870/71, even though the prophetic images are not easy to interpret. The gold-colored fire descending from the sky to the earth is that of the August meteors, sometimes called the Laurentius current. Here we have an allusion to the time of year: The army of Napoleon III was defeated in August, and his ultimate fate was determined by the battle of Sedan on September 1st, 1870. The second line, in which King William I of Prussia is described as the High-born One is equally relevant, King William being descended from an ancient princely family. It is interesting to note in this connection that Napoleon III (the Arrogant One who escapes a theatrical death) addressed the following lines to the victor: »As Fate has not willed that I should die at the head of my army, I surrender my sword to year Majesty.»

Whereas the mortal remains of Napoleon I, although he was exiled to St. Helena, found a resting



14 November 1999.

place in the Dome des Invalides, his nephew died at Chislehurst near London in January 1873. This is predicted in VI, 22, where we read:

*»Dedans la terre du grand temple celique  
»Nepveu à Londres par paix feincte meurtrie.»*

The translation is:

*»In the earth, under the canopy of Heaven,  
»The nephew, who died near London in enforced  
idleness, will be interred.»*

The term »meurtrie» implies a sudden and violent death. It is known that Napoleon III died after an operation of the bladder.

## IX. *The Great War*

In view of these examples it can hardly surprise us to learn that the Great War was also prophesied by Nostradamus. In a serie of quatrains which contain almost exclusively statements of astrological significance, Nostradamus predicts that it will start in the early part of the XXth century. Even such minor details as the Morocco crisis, which figures among the events which led to the war, are not overlooked. One of the most interesting quatrains dealing with the Great War is III, 13:

»*Par foudre en l'arche or et argent fondu,*  
»*De deux captifs l'un l'autre mangera*  
»*De la cité le plus grand estendue,*  
»*Quand submergee la classe nagera.»*

The meaning is again far from clearly expressed. A literal translation runs somewhat like this:

»*Gold and silver are fused by lightning in the arc,*  
»*The two prisoners will devour one another:*  
»*The greatest of the extensive city,*  
»*When the fleet, submerged, will swim.»*

The first line undoubtedly refers to some matter of astrology. »Gold» stands for the sun and »silver» for the moon. The »fusing» of sun and moon indicates the two eclipses of 1914, the second of which was visible throughout Europe. It came to an end in March 1918. The two prisoners are Germany and England, one blockading the other in order to starve their opponent into surrender. The third line is particularly obscure. The »extensive city» must be London. Modern writers on Nostradamus suggest that the whole line should read: »The greatest of the extensive city will be destroyed,» and that the reference may be to the death of Lord Kitchener who is supposed to have been drowned when the cruiser »Hampshire» was sunk on June 5th, 1916. It is more probable, however, that the third line continues the thought expressed in the second, so that a possible meaning might be: The greater of the two captives (England) who is in the possession of the extensive city (London) will succeed in starving out the other (Germany). The last line is self-explanatory. It refers to submarine warfare — a matter of which Nostradamus could not possibly know anything.

The other quatrains predicting the Great War present less difficulty to the interpreter. They deal with the course of the war and its outcome. Nostradamus would seem to stress the fact that Germany would not be defeated by force of arms but by the starvation blockade. In II, 68, even the Zeppelins are mentioned:



Even the League of Nations had been foreseen by Nostradamus. In I, 47, he says:

*»The speeches delivered by the shores of Lake Geneva will cause annoyance.*

*»Days will be shortened for weeks on end,*

*»And even for months and years. Then all will secede.*

*»The governments will condemn the meaningless statutes.»*

Could anyone doubt that these lines refer to the League? The middle part of the quatrain means that days, weeks, months and years will be wasted by idle talk. In VI, 20, there is another reference to the League, which is described as »a hypocritical association» which will not last long. The same quatrain contains a reference to Signor Mussolini. After the war, it says, »Rome will have a new leopard.» For a number of years past, commentators have already pointed out that the word »leopard» should be interpreted as »leoni par,» which is the Latin for »one resembling a lion». When Nostradamus speaks of the lion, he always means a ruler. Hence, the word »leopard» can only refer to the Duce.

## X. *The Present and the Future*

**T**he prophecies with which we have dealt so far relate to events which, although they occurred long after the time when Nostradamus predicted them, are matters of past history in so far as we are concerned. To him it was immaterial whether they would take place within the space of a hundred or a thousand years, or even later still. To us, however, it is of paramount importance to know what will happen to-morrow or the day or year after.

The events of the past are no secret to us. We derive no benefit from them, with the possible exception of the lessons they may teach us. But the future is a sealed book to us. Continually alternating between hope and fear, we ask what it has in store for us. Shall we ever be able to solve the riddle? Is there such a thing as predestination? Or is it within our power to mould our destinies by our own efforts?

The question has been answered long ago. The starry courses are immutably fixed. No power on

earth can cause them to deviate from their path. Destiny, and not the mind of man, rules the universe. Human beings and material objects are the instruments with which it works.

Destiny does not allow itself to be cheated. We are but tools in the hands of a Supreme Power. A few great minds have been vouchsafed to lift the veil which hides the future from our eyes. The rest of us are without that gift. All we can do is to accept or reject the knowledge which it has been the privilege of these great visionaries to disclose.

War rules in Europe today. No nation can hope to be left unaffected by it, no matter whether it takes part in it or holds itself aloof. Millions of persons anxiously ask what will become of their country and of themselves. Who will win? And what will happen thereafter?

Nostradamus, whose incomparable visionary gifts have so often passed the test, again helps us to solve the mystery of the future. His answers to the questions which occupy our minds today are as dependable as the forecasts which he made three hundred years ago. Let us hear then what he has to say to us.

In his prose statement of 1558 he speaks of a long and troublesome period of war which will last for more than twenty-five years in the whole world. That period was initiated by the Great War; and when we bear in mind that many more wars have ravaged mankind ever since, such as those in the Far East,

Abyssinia, Spain, and Finland, it is easy to see that he regarded them as one continued series of warlike events, and it may be presumed that the present conflict — originating, as it did, twenty-five years after the outbreak of the Great War — will be the last of that series.

We know that Nostradamus was familiar with the devices of modern war. His prediction concerning submarine warfare has already been mentioned. In the prose statement just referred to, he continues his narrative of the series of wars (clause 110) as follows:


*»et avant iceux advenemens aucuns oyseaux insolites  
»crieront par l'air, Huy, Huy, et serons apres  
»quelque temps escanouys.»*

Which means:

*»and before these events take place, strange birds  
in the air  
»will utter piercing cries of Huy, Huy, and  
»after a short while they will disappear.»*

The expression »par l'air» may also be regarded to mean »by means of air.» There can be no doubt that Nostradamus was thinking of bombs when speaking of these birds and their piercing cries. We shall see later on that there is one more reference in his works to strange birds. He even mentions air-raid shelters.

## XI. *England's fateful Hour*

everal predictions unconnected with one another indicate that England's fateful hour is no longer far off. In the quatrain X, 100, Nostradamus tells us how long her world-wide rule is going to last:

»*Le grand empire sera par Angleterre*  
»*Le pempotan des ans plus de trois cens:*  
»*Grand copies passer par mer et terre,*  
»*Lcs Lusitains n'en seront pas contens.»*

The word »pempotan» must be interpreted as »pan-potent,» i.e., »all-powerful», and is repeatedly used by Nostradamus in that sense. Lusitania, it will be remembered, was the name of a province of the Roman Empire approximately identical with Portugal. Hence, the lines just quoted mean:

»*The British Empire will last*  
»*For more than three hundred years,*  
»*Its armed forces will proceed by land and on sea.*  
»*The Portuguese will not be pleased therewith.»*

England became a maritime Power during the reign of Queen Elizabeth; but it was not until 1603, when her successor, James I, ascended the throne that England, Scotland and Ireland became one constitutional unit called Great Britain and Ireland. Thus, Britain's world-wide supremacy dates from 1603.

Portugal, on the other hand, lost its status as a Great Power. The memorable discoveries made by Portuguese sailors in the 14th and 15th centuries had laid the foundations of its material prosperity. But from 1580 to 1640 the country was part of the Spanish dominions; and after it had regained its independence, it became gradually subject to British influence. Under the terms of the Methuen Treaty (1703) its economic and financial dependence on Britain was still further emphasized. »The Portuguese will not be pleased therewith.»

As already noted in connection with Napoleon, Nostradamus had a habit of reiterating his predictions concerning matters which he considered of especial importance. His references to British history are another case in point. It is not often that he quotes figures. But in the instance now given (III, 57) he even mentions a definite date:

*Sept fois changer verrez gent Britannique,  
»Taints en sang en deux cents nonante an:  
»France non point, par appuy Germanique  
»Aries double son pol Bastarnon.»*

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Rendered into English, this means:

*»Seven times changing you will see the British  
people,*

*»Steeped in blood for two hundred and ninety  
years:*

*»Not so France; by reason of German pressure*

*»Aries will lose faith in his Bastarnic pole.»*

What does Nostradamus imply when he says that England will pass through seven changes within two hundred and ninety years? As a matter of fact, this is one of his most noteworthy predictions.

Although England has been guilty of many sanguinary crimes in the course of her history, regicide figures only once among them. The sanguinary event to which Nostradamus refers is the execution of Charles I (1649) by order of Oliver Cromwell. It was to be the forerunner of seven changes within the next two hundred and ninety years. By these changes he doubtless means those in the political, economic and religious domains; and it is literally true that there have been six of them up to now. They are indicated in the subjoined list:

1. — From 1649 to 1660 England was a Republic ruled by Oliver Cromwell, the »Lord Protector».
2. — 1660: The Restoration. Charles II restored the monarchy.

3. — 1685: James II attempted to restore Roman Catholicism.
4. — 1689: This led to the »Protestant Revolution» and the accession to the throne of William III.
5. — 1711: A severe economic crisis in the reign of Queen Anne.
6. — 1714: With George I the House of Hanover acceded to the throne.

These are the six changes of which we have spoken. But which is the seventh? No matter how carefully we survey the annals of British history from 1714 on, we find nothing which could be called a fundamental change. Hence, the seventh change within the period of two hundred and ninety years is still due. The rest is child's play:  $1649 \text{ plus } 290 = 1939$ .

Again we are face to face with an uncanny fact. In 1939 England declared war upon Germany, so that 1939 is the decisive year. The calculation we have made is not a present-day invention. For a number of years past, Nostradamus' commentators — e.g., the French scholars Rochetaillée, Piobb, Le Pelletier, Dr. de Fontbrune and Marc Amiaux, their German colleagues Dr. Kritzinger and C. Loog, and also an Englishman, Dr. Rupert Taylor, have ascertained independently of one another that 1939 would be a critical year for England. Her fortunes are obviously bound up with it. Events alone can show whether Nostradamus has again foreseen the future correctly.

The quatrain in question, however, predicts still more: France will not undergo any such transformations, at least not seven. And what about Poland?

The Bastarnians inhabited, as Tacitus informs us, the country beyond the Vistula River, i.e., Poland. »Aries will lose faith in his Bastarnic pole because of the German pressure.« This means that even the zodiacal sign called Aries has no longer the power to save Poland when England's collapse has become a fact. And Poland's fate was decided by the campaign of 1939.

Referring to this prediction, one of the most famous Nostradamus' scholars, C. Loog, wrote as long ago as 1921: »Nostradamus evidently means that the last and greatest crisis in the history of England, i.e., that of 1939, will coincide with a similar crisis in resurrected Poland.« Rarely is it possible to register so remarkable a concurrence of an opinion and a fact.

## XII. *The far-reaching Consequences of the current War*

**N**ostradamus also speaks of the events of the current war in some detail. In II, 75, still referring to England, he mentions air-raid shelters and predicts a famine throughout Great Britain:

»*La voix ouye de l'insolit oiseau,*  
»*Sur le canon du respiral estage:*  
»*Si haut viendra du froment de boisteau*  
»*Que l'homme d'homme sera Antropophage.»*

This means:

»*When the voice of the strange bird is heard*  
»*Above the tube of the respiration storey,*  
»*The price of a bushel of wheat will rise so much*  
»*That men will turn into cannibals.»*

The last line, of course, must not be taken literally. When he speaks of the »strange bird,» he obviously means the squadrons of German fighter 'planes hovering over England, whose voice — i.e., the sound

made by their engines and their bombs — can be heard in the »respiration storeys,» i.e., the underground air-raid shelters. The quatrain also tells us that England's grain stores will be destroyed by bombs and that high prices and famine conditions will be the result.

In II, 83, we can read how England will lose her world-wide prestige in consequence of this war, so wantonly provoked by her:

»*Le gros traffic d'un grand lyon changé,  
La plus part tourne en pristine ruine,  
Proye aux soldats par pille vendangé,  
Par Jura mont & Sueve bruine.*»

Or, in English words:

»*The extensive trade of a great lion will undergo  
a transformation,  
And will be reduced, for the most part, to its  
volume in past days,  
A prey to soldiers plundering the country as though  
they were gathering grapes,  
Because of an oath and the Germans' rain of dust.*»

Former commentators of Nostradamus believed that the word »bruine» (literally »rain of dust») was a synonym of »ruin» or »calamity,» as they could not think that there could be any sense in the expression »the Suabians' (i.e., the Germans') rain of dust.» Today we know that the reference is to the squadrons

of German airplanes. British trade — the source of the country's prosperity — will be reduced to its volume in former days, and that will result in the loss of her world-wide influence. But what about the oath? Well, we know that England gave a solemn promise to Poland that she would come to her aid, — a promise she never kept.

It sometimes seems that Nostradamus had been an eye-witness of recent events, as his predictions are so remarkably accurate. Consider, for instance, the following one (II, 94):

*»Grand Paud, grand mal pour Gaulois recevra,  
»Vain terreur au maritin Lyon:  
»Peuple infini par la mer passera,  
»Sans eschapper un quart d'un million.»*

There is no such word as «paud» in Modern French. It stands for «paul,» an obsolete form of «pal,» which means a pale, and has «paux» for its plural. M. Le Pelletier states in his Nostradamus Glossary that «pal» may also mean a «capital I.» This statement presents us with a valuable clue, as the expression no doubt refers to the nation in whose language the first person singular of the personal pronoun is always spelt with a capital letter and whose selfishness has become a «pale» (or a thorn) in the flesh of France, as is corroborated by the remaining contents of the prediction. The «maritin Lyon» is the British lion, fear of whom is no longer justified («vaine terreur»),

and who has caused great distress («grand mal») to France:

»*A large pale, the cause of much distress for France,*  
»*Unjustified fear of the British lion:*  
»*Innumerable crowds will cross the sea,*  
»*But scarcely a quarter of a million will save them-*  
*selves.*»

This brings us to the events concerning the condition of France in the present war as Nostradamus has predicted them. In the second half of II, 99, the two halves of which are unconnected with one another, he warns her to be careful:

»*Mais nation Celtique craindra Vheure,*  
»*Boreas, classe trop loing l'avoit poussee.*»

»Boreas» is the Greek word for »north» and »classis» is the Latin word for »navy». His meaning, therefore, is:

»*But, Celtic people, thou wilt come to dread the hour*  
»*In which thou hast mixed thyself up too closely with*  
*the maritime Power in the North.*»

This is obviously an allusion to the Anglo-French alliance, which Nostradamus regards as a calamity for his country.

The following quatrain (IV, 46) is equally significant:

»*Bien deffendu le faict par excellence,*  
»*Garde toy Tours de ta proche ruine:*  
»*Londres & Nantes par Reims fera deffense*  
»*Ne passe outre au temps de la bruine.»*

Translation:

»*However good and admirable a thing it is to defend*  
*oneself,*  
»*Thou must guard thyself, Tours, against thy im-*  
*pending ruin:*  
»*London and Nantes will be defended by Reims*  
»*And will not outlast the time of the rain of dust.»*

The statement that London will not outlast »the rain of dust» (the air bombardment) is particularly significant. A similar prediction is contained in VIII, 37, which clearly refers to the surrender of London:

»*La forteresse aupres de la Tamise*  
»*Cherra par lors, le Roy dedans serré,*  
»*Après du pont sera veu en chemise*  
»*Un devant mort, puis dans le fort barré.»*

Dr. de Fontbrune, whose commentary on the predictions of Nostradamus was published in 1939, gives the following interpretation of these lines:

»*The fortress on the Thames will then surrender*  
»*And the king will be confined within:*  
»*Near the sea there will be seen one in great distress*  
»*Facing his mortal enemy, who will thereupon*  
*assume power.»*

Although the meaning of the first half of the quatrain is perfectly clear, the second half presents some difficulty, as the words used do not tell us who is meant by the words »one in great distress facing his mortal enemy«. Dr. de Fontbrune thinks that the first half refers to the surrender of London and the capture of the British Government, and the second half to the French Government which will fall into the hands of its mortal enemy (Germany) near the seashore.

### XIII. *Italy's Participation in the War*

**T**he two quatrains next given are of particular interest as they refer to Italy's participation in the war. III, 23, reads as follows:

»*Si France passes outre mer lygustique,*  
»*Tu te verra en isles & mers enclos.*  
»*Mahomet contraire, plus Hadriatique,*  
»*Chevaux & Asnes te rongeras les os.»*

Or, in English words:

»*If thou, France, doest proceed beyond the Ligurian  
Sea,*  
»*Thou wilt see thyself confined to thy islands and  
seas.*  
»*The hosts of Islam will be hostile to thee and the  
countries bordering the Adriatic Sea  
even more so,*  
»*Thou wilt pick the bones of horses and asses.»*

Here Nostradamus undoubtedly predicts the war between France and Italy, which will end in disaster for France, as she will be faced with serious famine.

The other quatrain, II, 86, even tells us that events in the Adriatic will have a decisive effect on the issue:

»*Naufrage à classe pres d'onde Hadriatique*  
»*La terre tremble esmeue sur l'air en terre mis:*  
»*Egypt tremble augment Mahometique,*  
»*L'Herault soy rendre à crier est commis.»*

Translation:

»*Destruction of a fleet near the shores of the*  
*Adriatic,*  
»*The earth trembles, there will be excitement on*  
*land and in the air:*  
»*Egypt will tremble because of a Mohammedan*  
*rising,*  
»*The herald has been instructed to proclaim it*  
*aloud.»*

Seeing that the bulk of the British Navy is stationed in the Mediterranean, it is quite possible that a naval battle between Britain and Italy will take place in the neighborhood of the Adriatic. Moreover, as the same quatrain contains a reference to a rising in Egypt (whose politics are controlled by Britain), the inference is justified that the first part foretells the annihilation of the British Navy.

XIV. *Germany victorious in  
the gigantic Struggle*

**B**ut what, we may ask, has Nostradamus to say about the part played by Germany in the gigantic struggle now raging? Here again we find that he does not fail us. Everybody knows that the will of Herr Hitler is the supreme law of present-day Germany. And his rise to power has been no secret to Nostradamus. We need only read what he predicts in II, 58:

»*Aupres du Rhin des montagnes Noriques  
Naistra un grand de gens trop tard venu,  
Qui deffendra Saurome & Pannoniques,  
Qu'on ne scaura qu'il sera devenu.*»

English translation:

»*Near the Rhine of the Noric Alps a Great One  
will be born  
Of a people which has come too late.  
He will defend Sarmatia and Pannonia.  
One does not know what he will become.*»

All commentators of these lines agree that »the Rhine of the Noric Alps» is the River Inn, a principal tributary of the Danube. Noricum, the ancient Roman province between Rhaetia and Pannonia, contains the head-waters of the Salzach, the river which joins the Inn just above the town of Braunau, the birth-place of the German Führer and Chancellor. The words »trop tard venu» should not be overlooked in this connection, as it is common knowledge that the German people achieved their political unity long after all the other nations of Europe, such as Great Britain, France, and Russia. Sarmatia is the region between the rivers Vistula and Volga, i.e., Poland. We have already mentioned elsewhere that that country is referred to by Nostradamus in connection with the current war. The last line, »One does not know what he will become,» refers to the Führer's amazing rise to power which even the German people themselves hardly thought possible before 1939.

In X, 31, Nostradamus foretells the future of Germany: »Le saint empire viendra en Germanie,» i.e., »The Holy Empire will come to Germany,» but only when »les soustenants de terre tous couverts.» Those familiar with Nostradamus' style cannot fail to interpret these words aright. »Les soustenants de terre» (»the strongholds on land») are those key positions throughout the world where Britain has established herself. When these have all been covered, i.e., when they have disappeared, the Holy

Empire will come to Germany — a prediction which no one now alive can misunderstand.

We have thus convinced ourselves that the Centuriates of Nostradamus abound in predictions of topical interest to us just now and that it is not even very difficult to interpret them. »He who hath ears to hear, let him hear.« On Nostradamus, a devout believer in the teachings of Scripture, Providence had conferred the gift of genuine prophecy — a singular gift bestowed on few mortals only. The experience of four centuries has shown that his forecasts are always true. No less a man than Napoleon, in the few hours of leisure he had, read and re-read the works of the visionary of Salon, hoping that they contained the key to his own fate. He knew precisely what was in store for him; and in spite of his gigantic efforts to divert his life from its predestined course, he was unable to do so. The power of Fate, as foreseen by Nostradamus, has always been and still is greater than the strongest human will.

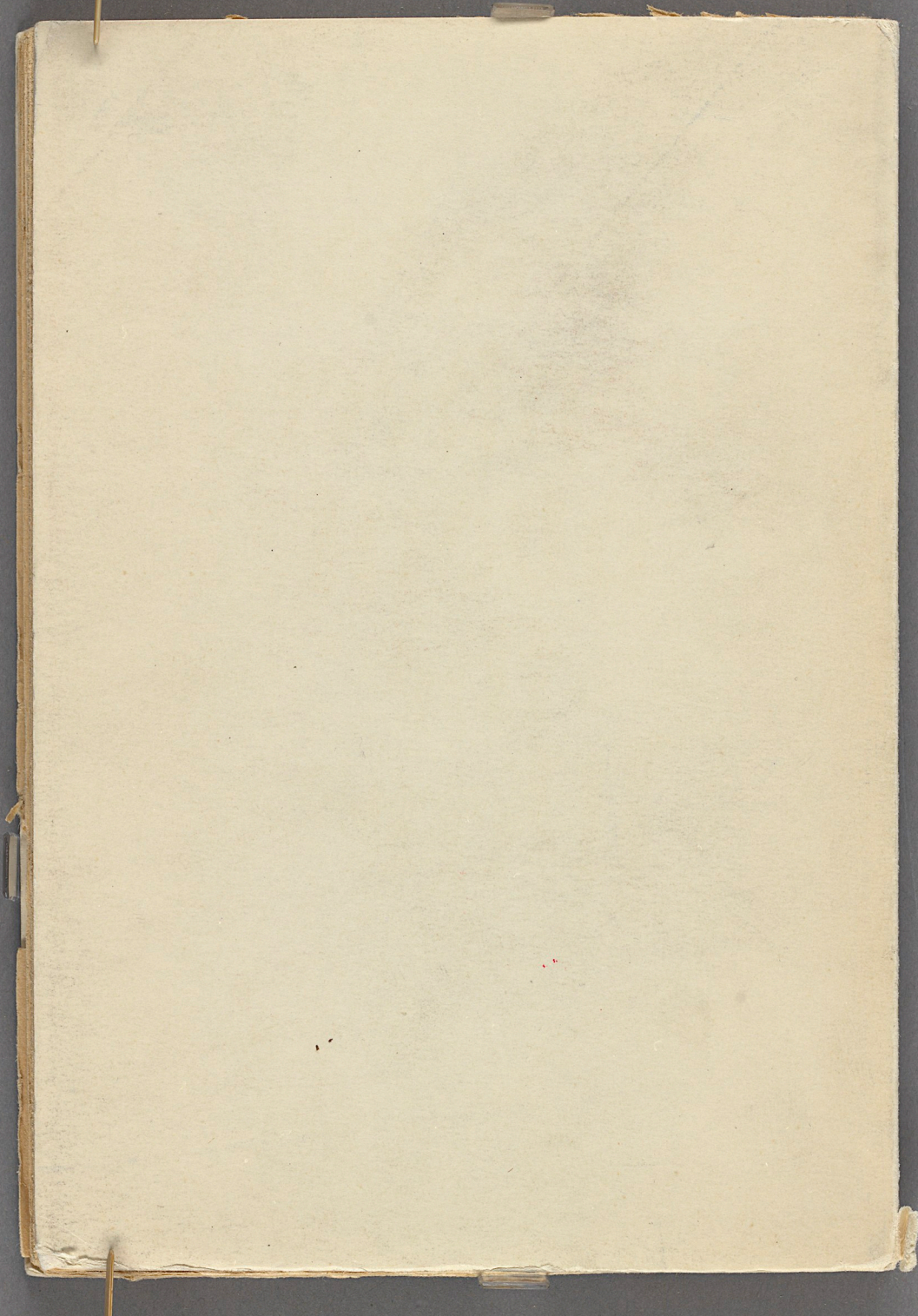
The world-wide struggle of our days, so correctly predicted by Nostradamus, affects all of us, even though we may not be directly involved in it. No one can doubt that we stand on the threshold of events immensely important to the future of mankind. Nostradamus was aware of that, and nothing can illustrate their significance more aptly than the fact that he has devoted to them more thought than to any other happenings which have taken place

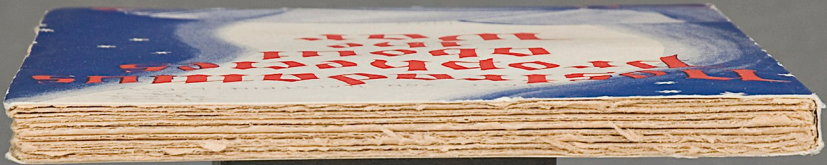
during the past four centuries. He has never been wrong — will he be right this time also? The near future will show. All of us who have been born into this tumultuous age of worry and uncertainty will soon be able to judge, from our own experience, whether the prophetic gifts of Nostradamus can stand this crucial test. A French proverb says, »Qui vivra verra» — »He who lives to see will know.»

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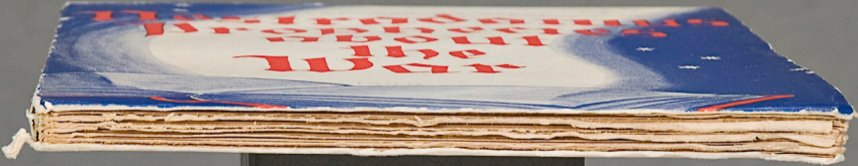
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The book cover features a complex abstract design. It consists of several horizontal bands of red lines of varying lengths and thicknesses, set against a light blue background. These bands are arranged in a way that suggests movement or a specific pattern. To the right of the main text area, there are concentric, wavy lines in shades of blue and grey, resembling ripples in water or a stylized landscape. The overall aesthetic is mid-20th-century modernist.

NOSTRADAMUS PROPHECIES ABOUT THE WAR

Handwritten notes in the top left corner of the cover.

ISAËL VON HOLSTEIN, L.F.N.

# Nostradamus Prophecies About The War

NOSTRADAMUS PROPHECIES ABOUT THE WAR



1940