

And never again shall the voice of a bridegroom or of a bride be heard in thee :

For thy merchants were the great men of the earth,
And with the magic which thou didst practise all nations
were led astray.

And in her was found the blood of prophets and of God's
people 24

And of all who had been put to death on the earth."

After this I seemed to hear the far-echoing 1 19
The Inhabit-
ants of Heaven
give Thanks. voices of a great multitude in Heaven, who said,

"Hallelujah !

The salvation and the glory and the power
Belong to our God.

True and just are His judgements, 2

Because He has judged the great harlot who was corrupting
the whole earth with her fornication,

And He has taken vengeance for the blood of His bond-
servants which her hands have shed."

And a second time they said, 3

"Hallelujah !

For her smoke ascends until the ages of the ages."

And the twenty-four elders and the four living creatures fell 4
down and worshipped God who sits upon the throne. "Even
so," they said, "Hallelujah !" And from the throne there came 5
a voice which said,

"Praise our God, all you His bondservants—

You who fear Him, both the small and the great."

And I seemed to hear the voices of a great 6
Their Joy at
the Coming of
Christ's
Kingdom, and
of His Mar-
riage Feast. multitude and the sound of many waters and of
loud peals of thunder, which said,
"Hallelujah !

Because the Lord our God, the Ruler of all, has become
King.

Let us rejoice and triumph 7

And give Him the glory ;

For the time for the marriage of the Lamb has come,

And His bride has made herself ready."

24. *The blood of prophets*] A crime of which Jerusalem, rather than Rome, was specially guilty (Matt. xxiii. 29-37 ; Luke xiii. 33).

1, 3, 4, 6. *Hallelujah*] i.e. 'Praise Jah,' the last syllable being a contracted form of the name 'Jehovah.'

2, 10. *Earth*] Or 'land.'

6. *Has become King*] See *Aorist* vi. 6.

7. *The marriage of the Lamb*] Cp. Luke xiv. 16.