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THE DOVE.

A bird clean by the Mosaic law, and often mentioned by the sacred writers. In their wild state, they dwell principally in holes in the rocks. They are innocent in their dispositions, and make no resistance to their enemies. They are very much attached to their mates; and when one is absent or dies, the other, or survivor, laments its loneliness.

There are various allusions to the mildness, peacefulness, and affection of doves. The church is called a turtle-dove and a dove, or compared to it, Ps. lxxiv. 19. Sol. Song, i. 15; ii. 14; iv. 1; v. 2; vi. 9. Where "doves' eyes" are spoken of in these passages, allusion is made to the

meekness of their expression. It is thought by eminent critics, that Sol. Song, v. 12, is wrongly translated; that allusion is made to a deep blue colored pigeon, common in the east, and that it is meant to compare the white of the eye to milk, and the iris to a blue pigeon; and that the comparison is, "His eyes are like a dark blue pigeon, standing in the middle of a pool of milk." It was in the manner of a dove that the Holy spirit descended upon our Saviour at his baptism. Hosea compares timid Ephraim to a "silly dove without heart," and says, that when the Jews shall be called to their own land, they shall "tremble" or fly, "as a dove out of