

ponds with the image. Men have been rolling it out from the first. The Bible, in its philosophy and in its letter, would also apprise us, that it is in the order of Providence that there should be resistance to this process. In one of those vistas, along which we are allowed to see the procedures of the spiritual world, Joshua the High Priest is presented to the notice, and Satan standing at his right hand to resist him. In other portions of the landscape, Michael and his angels are seen to fight with the devil and his angels. This is not an occasional event, but a fixed law. If not the very order of the day, it is certainly one of the most frequent of the episodes. It is this element that we have been attempting to subject to scrutiny. The struggles of opinion that began with the commencement of the Sixteenth Century, and lasted down to the death of Oliver Cromwell, may soberly be regarded as one of those hot conflicts between the powers of light and darkness.—The question at issue was, shall the roll be unfolded a little more? It was carried in the affirmative. What we complain of is, that men have been employed ever since in fighting the battle over again. Thus while they have been engaged in looking back at the beast, glorying in the wound which they consider it to have received, they have remained positively insensible to the very next fact recorded in the chronicles of the Kingdom of Light. Have they at all borne in mind the prediction that the deadly wound should be healed? Have they in any degree remembered that an image of the beast was to arise out of the earth, and that this personage too, was to perform great and evil exploits? Whilst they have stared, or triumphed, or slept, has not the enemy improved their very rejoicing in the past successes of the truth, so as to elude their notice, and bring about the very catastrophe, of whose advent they were so clearly warned? When they were feasting their