

PREFACE TO FIRST EDITION.

THE following Interpretation contains a general outline of the history of the whole world from the apostles' days until the consummation of all things about two thousand years hence.

The Interpretation of the Revelation which refers to events already *past*, may be compared with the *past* history of the world, and thus proved to be correct.

The Revelation which refers to the *future* history of the world is so clear as to need no interpretation. But there is a part of the *future* history of the world, the particulars of which are not revealed in the Revelation; for "when the seven thunders had uttered their voices," the apostle is commanded to "seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not" (Rev. x. 4).

"Those things which the seven thunders uttered" refer to the time which is destined to intervene between the conclusion of the "time, times, and an half" (*i.e.*, the "forty-two months," or the "1260 days" which are so often spoken of in the prophecies—see Interpretation, Rev. xi. 2, 3; xii. 6, 14; xiii. 5, pp. 55, 62, 63, 65, 68),¹ and the establishment of the millennium in the earth; *i.e.*, to the seventy-five years which intervene be-

¹ And he shall speak great words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until *a time and times and the dividing of time*.—Dan. vii. 25.

And I heard the man clothed in linen, which was upon the waters of the river, when he held up his right hand and his left hand unto heaven, and sware by him that liveth for ever, that it shall be for *a time, times, and an half*; and when he shall have accomplished to scatter the power of the holy people, all these things shall be finished.—Dan. xii. 7.