First Resurrection.

mankind enjoy that peace and happiness which the faith and precepts of the gospel are calculated to confer on all by whom they are sincerely embraced.

The state of the christian church say they, will be for a thousand years before the general judgment. so pure and so widely extended, that, when compared with the state of the world in the ages preceeding, it may in the language of scripture, be called a resurrection from the dead. In support of this interpretation, they quote two passages from St. Paul, in which a conversion from paganism to christianity is called a resurrection from the dead. Rom. 6: 13., Ephesians 5: 14.

There is indeed, an order in the resurrection. I Cor. 15:24: but we nowhere observe mention made of a first and second resurrection at a distance of a thousand years from each other: yet, were the millenarian hypothesis well founded, the word should rather run thus: CHRIST the first fruits, then the martyrs at HIS coming, and a thousand years afterwards the residue of mankind, then cometh the end etc.

Most, if not all the prophecies in the Revelation, are delivered in figurative language, referring to types and events recorded in the Old Testament; and in invitation of the language of the ancient prophets.

The first part of this passage, all must allow, is

47