

ces, is likened to a beautiful woman, (Solomon's Song,) and the husband, the Lord ; but the woman here described has had many lovers, and is one of the worst of characters. She has children, too, for she is the mother of harlots ; and the kings of the earth have drunk of the golden cup in her hand, and partaken of her abominations. What church does this fit but the Church of Rome ? She has left her lawful spouse and had many Popes, consequently she is a whore, and he is no apostle but a usurper. This is become so plain that little need be said about it. She had on pearls and precious stones. These made John wonder with a great admiration. The Romish Church makes her members do penance ; instead of being justified by faith they are justified by works,—by doing penance, counting beads, saying prayers (not praying)—all of which is an abomination in the sight of God, who will have all men to be saved, not by their works but by the works of his Son. He did the penance, and His are the Jewels, and his Apostles whom He sends to represent Him ; and Prophets, holy men ; these are the foundation stones, and they endure the pain and the shame, and suffer the penalty by giving themselves living sacrifices unto God. And these elect of God are led by his Holy Spirit altogether, whether to suffer or rejoice, having their hearts full of love and compassion for all men, so that they are content to do either. And for any one but these to do penance is blasphemy. This whore has daughters ; she is called the mother of harlots. After the Reformation the church was called after Luther, and she soon became barren and unfruitful. And in the Church of England this abomination is seen in Puseyism and a dry formality, and Wesley's name in the place that ought to be occupied by the name of Jesus ; these all have drunk of the golden cup held in the hand of the woman.

The Apostle Paul rejected this kind of drink. "Ye are yet carnal," said he ; "some say we are of Paul, and others we are of Cephas, and others say we are of Apollas."