

bearing on the church of Christ. How far this last interpretation is apt and correct, the reader will judge when he comes to peruse that part of the interpretation. This scheme is maintained by Parens, Vitringa, Woodhouse, Cunningham, and Bickersteth, and many others, most of whom are Pre-millennialists. The opposite view is taken in this work

Others again, suppose this book to consist of a triple series of prefigurations, chronologically parallel with each other, and each reaching to the consummation; each, also, corresponding with those septennaries of the Seals, the Trumpets and the Vials. Vitringa combines this idea with the church scheme of the Seals. There have been other eminent men who have advocated this theory. Some writers, in addition to this triple series of prefigurations, consider the Seven Epistles as each prefigurative of successive stages of the Church. But nothing appears more plain than that the Great Head of the Church was speaking to each Church concerning its position and state at that time, or speaking of things that are, (*i.e.*, which were at that time;) and after this he said, "come up hither, and I will show thee things which shall be *hereafter*."

The Seals, Trumpets, and Vials follow in consecutive order, although one may begin before the other is entirely finished. The last Seal has been opened; the last Trumpet is pealing its awful blasts; the Sixth Vial has nearly emptied its showers of judgments, and the seventh is about to be seized by the angel hand: events are fast