

A SIMPLE INTERPRETATION.

"The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave unto Him, to show unto his Servants things which must shortly come to pass."—REV. I. 1.

PART I.

THE latter part of the first verse informs us in what manner this Revelation was communicated to the Apostle John: "Jesus sent and signified it (*i.e.*, represented it by signs, ἐσήμανεν) by his angel unto his servant John."

The first sign which the Apostle saw was "seven golden candlesticks; and in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle; his head and his hairs were white like wool, as white as snow, and his eyes were as a flame of fire; and his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters: and he had in his right hand seven stars, and out of his mouth went a sharp two-edged sword, and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength."

In the last verse of this first chapter we learn that "the seven candlesticks" represent "the seven churches," and what more suitable symbol could be chosen? "for as when a candle is placed in a candlestick it freely sheds its light on all around," so it was intended that the churches (or companies of true Chris-

(All Christendom during the seven periods
of the Christian era)