CH, viii. 8, 9] EXPOUNDED 177  
  
visited by this plague! Orchards, forests, cities,  
meadows burnt: the earth here black and smoking,  
there blood-red, soon deepening into black, with putrid  
smell.  
8. ‘‘And the second angel sounded, and as it were a great  
mountain burning with fire was cast into the sea : and tho third of  
the sea became blood; 9. and a third of the creatures that were in  
  
the sea, that had souls, died; and the third of the ships was  
destroyed.”’  
  
The Psalmist supposes that a mountain may be cast  
into the sea. Ps. xlvi. 2. Jesus supposes the same.  
Matt. xx. 21. Not that the mass here hurled into  
the main is really a mountain torn from the earth and  
cast into the waters. Itis “ as zt were a great mountain.”  
It is a meteoric stone, of the size of Mont Blanc or  
Ararat, descending from the sky. It is well known  
that from a clear sky, with intense heat, light, and  
planetary swiftness, huge metallic bodies have been dis-  
charged and struck the earth. This falls into the  
sea.  
The change of the sea, from salt water to blood,  
poisons the fish. They die and putrefy, and the bloody  
waves emit a putrid stench.  
Partly by the fall of the meteor, partly by the hur-  
ricanes let loose, a third of the ships is wrecked.  
EHlow appalling the change from the quiet green of  
the ocean, to its opposite colour, a bloody red/ He  
will—  
  
“Tho multitudinous sca incarnadino,  
Making the green one, red.”  
  
Blood, too, is liable to turn putrid, while salt water  
does not. The river of Egypt “ stank,’ when it was  
turned to blood. Exod. vii. 18.  
“The third of the ships were destroyed.” In what  
way? It is not said. Many might be sunk by the  
N