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corpse. They will glut their eyes with its livid pale-  
ness. Such have often been the feelings of men in  
their most savage mood, when wrought on by religious  
enmity.  
But there is another and a very powerful reason of  
policy tending to produce the refusal of burial. By  
their remarkable history, the witnesses bring again  
before the thoughts of men the history of Jesus. They  
are prophets who prophesy as long as He did, and in the  
land where He ministered. They are crucified. They  
probably predict, as he did, their resurrection. In the  
prohibition here foretold, we see the plan of mankind  
designed to meet and confute the prediction. The rulers  
of Israel formerly took another course. They allowed  
the body of Jesus to be buried, and only watched the  
sepulchre in order to prevent any attempt of the apostles  
to carry off the body. But at this time the False  
Messiah and his counsellors will argue as follows : ‘‘ The  
Christian religion was based upon a trick of former  
times ; the disciples stole away the corpse. But we have  
the game now in our own hands: and we will be wiser.  
None saw or pretended to see Jesus rise ; nor after His  
resurrection did any but disciples behold Him. We  
will destroy any such scheme now. The corpses shall  
not be removed out of our sight. They shall be before  
the eyes of all; and if they can rise, it shall be visible  
to all; no hole-and-corner affair! Men of all nations  
shall mount guard over them night and day; and we  
will see what will become of their dreams!” But the  
Lord “ taketh the wise in their own craftiness.”  
  
10. ‘‘ And the dwellers upon the earth rejoice over them, and  
make merry ; and shall send gifts one to another ; because these  
two prophets tormented the dwellers upon the earth.”  
  
The “ dwellers on earth ” are a wider and more locally-  
scattered party than those who gaze on the dead bodies,