OH. xiv. 12} EXPOUNDED 381  
  
rears its head, in a degree of daring impiety never  
realized before.  
“Here is the patience of the saints.”  
These words, repeated from xiii. 10, are designed to  
refer us back to that point. There, resistance to this  
dread potentate by force of arms is forbid: God has  
given this Terrible One authority over all the earth in  
this hour of darkness. Iniquity is to prosper, to try  
the hearts of men. Then rise “ the days of vengeance,”  
patient endurance alone is left then to the saints. Luke  
xxi. 19. They must “resist unto blood, striving against  
sin.” ‘“ Worship, or be slain!” is the cry. They may  
not fight : they are patient sheep, ready for the slaugh-  
ter. But they know the limit of these awful days:  
they have but to wait 1,260 days, and “this tyranny will  
be overpast.” —  
They stand between two fires. “\* Of two evils, choose  
the least.” Which is the most to be feared ? the Wild  
Beast or Jehovah ? The horrors of the damned are  
sketched, to make men feel how beyond all measure  
dreadful are the threats of the Great I Am. Luke  
xii. 4, 5.  
Whoever stands out against this blaspheming usurper  
is a saint : as whosoever receives him is asinner of deep-  
est dye. Saints are of two classes.  
Some keep “the commands of God. When the  
commands of Satan and of Antichrist are in full force,  
they refuse to obey. This class will include the Jews  
who hold to the Law and the Prophets, and the Gentiles  
who obey the proclamation of the first angel.  
But some keep “the faith of Jesus.” This may  
mean either their belief in Jesus, or the articles of faith  
delivered by Jesus. Hither way it seems to prove,  
that there are those once members of the Church of  
Christ still on the earth ; as well as Jewish believers in  
Jesus, occupying the position taken by the twelve