430 THE APOCALYPSE [cH. xvii, 4  
  
the heavenly blue with the earthly red of Edom. And  
at this time Rome unites the earthly and the heavenly.  
An emperor presides over the city, the centre of earth.  
The ‘“‘ Holy Roman Empire” is restored under its impe-  
rial head. And a Pope ruling there also, makes it the  
professed heavenly centre of earth.  
“ Scarlet ”’ is the colour of Popes and Cardinals. “I  
caused (says Barnes) this inquiry to be made of an  
intelligent gentleman who had passed much time in  
Rome, without his knowing my design. ‘ What would  
strike a stranger on visiting Rome, or what would  
be likely particularly to arrest his attention as remark-  
able there?’ and he unhesitatingly replied, ‘ Zhe  
scarlet colour.’ This is the colour of the dress of the  
cardinals—their hats, and cloaks, and stockings being  
always of this colour. It is the colour of the carriages of  
the cardinals, the entire body of the carriage being  
scarlet, and the trappings of the horses the same. On  
occasion of public festivals and processions, scarlet is  
suspended from the windows of the houses along which  
processions pass. The inner colour of the cloak of the  
Pope is scarlet ; his carriage is scarlet, the carpet on which  
he treads is scarlet. A large part of the dress of the body-  
guard of the Pope is scarlet, and no one can take up a  
picture of Rome without seeing, that this colour is pre-  
dominant. I looked through a volume of engravings  
representing the principal officers and public persons of  
Rome. There were few in which the scarlet colour was  
not found, as constituting some part of their apparel :  
in not a few the scarlet colour prevailed almost entirely.”  
She is “ gilded with gold.” This denotes its profusion,  
and its externality. She is not gold within, but only  
covered lightly with it. She is not incorruptible and  
eternal, but her destruction is nigh. The Pharisees were  
whited sepulchres, having one aspect outwardly, another  
within. Her “ gold, precious stones, and pearls” dis-