442 THE APOCALYPSE [cH. xvii. 9  
  
of St. John, proclaimed Rome as the seven-hilled city.”  
“On the imperial medals of that age which are  
still preserved, we see Rome figured as a woman on  
seven hills, precisely as she is represented in the Apoca-  
lypse.”  
~The coin of Vespasian, described by Capt. Smyth  
(Roman Coins, p 310), represented “\* Rome seated on  
seven hills; at the base Romulus and Remus suckled  
by the wolf: in front, the Tiber personified :” pp.  
279, 280.  
Horace says, “The gods, who look with favour on  
the seven hills.”  
Tibullus—“ Ye bulls, feed on herbage of the seven  
hills.”  
Propertius—“ The lofty city on seven peaks, which  
rules the whole world.”  
Ovid—“ But Rome looks round on the whole globe  
from her seven mountains, the seat of empire and abode  
of the gods.”  
These will suffice as heathen testimonies.  
The Fathers regarded Rome as Babylon. “ When I  
dwelt in Babylon,’ Jerome says, “ and resided within  
the walls of the scarlet adulteress, and had the freedom  
of Rome, I undertook a work concerning the Holy  
Spirit, which I proposed to inscribe to the Bishop of  
that city.” ;  
“ Babylon,” Augustine says, “is a former Rome, and  
Rome a later Babylon.”  
The carliest commentaries on the Apocalypse con-  
sider Rome to be Babylon.  
Many Romish writers of the first eminence admit  
the same interpretation; ‘as Bellarmine, Baronius,  
Bossuet, Hug.  
Bellarmine says, ‘‘ Moreover John in the Apocalypse  
everywhere calls Rome Babylon, as Tertullian noticed,  
(against Marcion, book 3), and as is clearly to be inferred