446 THE APOCALYPSE [ou. xvii. 10  
  
It may be added, that of the two next emperors,  
Galba was slain, and Otho slew himself.  
“The one is.”  
These words refer to the time when the angel was  
explaining the vision. John wrote when the sixth of  
the emperors according to the conditions supposed by  
the angel, was alive. That head was Domitian.  
Domitian was the last of the twelve Caesars, as John  
was the last of the twelve “apostles of the Lamb.”  
Domitian was fearfully extravagant in his blasphe-  
mous usurpation of the divine titles; he also was cut  
off by the hand of the assassin.  
“The other is not yet come.”  
How long a space was to intervene ere this fullness of  
evil should appear, is not said. The seventh head has not  
yet appeared. He can appear only a short space of  
time before the true Antichrist. He prepares the way  
for the Great Usurper. He restores the lost succession  
of the Emperors of Rome. He comes only when the  
apostasy from Christianity is taking place, or has been  
complete.  
The Wild Beast was ruling in his sixth head—six  
being the number of wickedness. Then comes a gap,  
and the Woman takes the place of the heads, and rules  
by influence. The power of the sword is taken away.  
The Woman becomes the Great Harlot in the interval  
between the sixth and seventh kings. While the  
wickedness of the nominally Christian Church is coming  
to the full, the pagan Emperors of Rome are in abey-  
ance. Indeed, it is most remarkable that the first  
emperor who professed Christianity left Rome, or the  
Woman, transferring his seat of government elsewhere.  
The six emperors embodied the spirit of the unholy  
Roman empire. It was once heathen; it has become  
professedly Christian : it will become heathen again.  
The Book of Revelation does not give us, as is