598 THE APOCALYPSE fon. xxii. 1-5  
the other streets, I suppose, communicate : towards it,  
as their natural centre, they tend.  
“The Plaza, being the market place, is usually a  
large open space, giving effect to the view of the church ;  
and it mostly contains a fountain of water in its centre,  
and has a row of trees round it, which also adds to ue  
general effect.”  
The very name “ plaza’’—in Italian, “ piazza’”’—seems  
to be derived from the Greek word used here (rXarteta).  
Paradise and Jerusalem are combined. As it is  
Eden, we have a river and tree. As it is a city, we  
have a throne and a street, or square. This is its  
advance upon what we read of old. ” The tree of life  
was in the midst of the garden” (Gen. ii. 9; iii. 3).  
How are we to understand “‘ the tree of life ?”’  
It is quite true, that the expression “ tree of life ” is  
used figuratively in Scripture. ‘‘ Happy is the man  
that findeth wisdom.” ‘‘ She is a tree of life to them  
that lay hold upon her” (Prov. iii. 13, 18). “The  
fruit of the righteous is a tree of life” (xi. 30). But  
in these cases every one sees that the expression is  
figurative. There is no description of its fruits every  
month, and of the uses of them.  
What shall we say of the following ? Does it speak  
of a literal tree ?  
“The tree on which the bread-fruit grows, besides  
producing two and often three crops in a year, yields a  
valuable gum, or resin, which exudes from the bark.  
It is probable that in no group of the Pacific Islands  
is there a greater variety in the kinds of this valuable  
fruit than in the South Sea Islands. The several varie-  
ties ripen at different seasons, and the same kinds also  
come to perfection at an earlier period in one part of  
Tahiti than in another ; so that there are but few months  
in the year in which ripe fruit is not to be found in the  
several parts of this island, The missionaries are ac-