PREFATORY NOTE  
  
R. GOVETT’S four volumes on the Revelation,  
in a complete set, have long been unobtainable.  
Jt is inevitable that in this abridged edition, containing  
less than a fourth of the original, much critical and even  
essential matter has had to be omitted, together with  
proofs decisive on many disputed points. So also the  
cost of printing has made it necessary to omit his  
penetrating and pulverizing criticisms of all interpre-  
tations of the Apocalypse which, by taking it as a  
huge symbol, reduce it to the unintelligible. Scripture  
quotations also, most regrettably, have had to be given  
as references only. Nevertheless, to quote Mr. Spur-  
geon, ‘‘Mr. Govett wrote a hundred years before his  
time, and the day will come when his works will be  
treasured as sifted gold”; and this exposition of the  
Revelation without a peer was never more vital or more  
urgent than in the moment when we are manifestly  
entering the penumbra of the last judgments.