**sitteth on the horse, which** (sword) **goeth  
forth out of His mouth** (see Isa. xi. 45  
2 Thess. ii. 8. De Wette remarks, that it is  
a hint of the spiritual nature of this victory,  
that no battle seems actually to take place,  
but the Lord Himself, as in 2 Thess., destroys the adversaries with the sword out of  
His own mouth. But clearly *all* must not  
be thus spiritualized. For if so, what is this  
gathering? what is indicated by the coming  
forth of the Lord in glory and majesty?  
Why is His personal presence wanted for  
the victory?): a**nd all the birds were  
satiated with their flesh,**

**CH. XX. 1—10.**] THE VICTORY OVER SATAN. The next enemy now remaining  
is the Arch-fiend himself, who had given  
his might and his throne and great power  
(ch. xiii. 2) to the beast: whose instruments the other enemies were, The blow  
given to him by their overthrow is followed  
by his binding and incarceration for 1000  
years (vv. 1–3): during which period the  
saints live and reign with Christ, and  
judge the world, and the first resurrection  
takes place (vv. 4–6). But his malice  
and his power are not yet at an end. One  
final effort is permitted him at the end  
of that time (ver. 7), and he once more  
succeeds in deceiving the nations (ver. 8),  
who come up against the camp of the  
saints, and are destroyed by fire from  
heaven (ver. 9). He is then cast into the  
lake of fire with the beast and false prophet, there to be tormented for ever  
(ver. 10).  
{1} **And I saw an angel coming down out  
of heaven** (not Christ himself, as many  
suppose, nor the Holy Spirit, as others:  
but a veritable angel, as always before in  
this book) **having the Key of the abyss** (of  
hell, the abode of the devil and his angels:  
see ch. ix. 1. For *this abyss* apparently is  
distinct from the lake of fire, a further and  
more dreadful place of punishment: see on  
ver. 10. This key had been for tho  
purposes of God’s judgments given to  
Satan (Abaddon, Apollyon), and by him  
the locusts were let forth, ch. ix. 1—11.  
Now it is entrusted to other hands, and for  
another purpose), **and a great chain in** (so  
in English: in the Greek, *resting on,  
hanging upon*, as a chain naturally would  
be) **his hand. {2} And he laid hold of the  
dragon** (already well known from ch.  
3 ff., 9; xiii. 2, xvi. 13), **the ancient  
serpent** (see ch. xii. 9), **who is the devil  
and Satan, and bound him a thousand  
years, {3} and cast him into the abyss, and  
shut and sealed over him** (shut the door  
or cover at the top, and sealed it down.  
Notice, that the same absolute use of the  
verb “*to seal*” in the active is found in  
John iii. 33, and apparently there only);  
**that he deceive the nations no more,  
until the thousand years shall be accomplished: after that he must** (according to the necessity of God’s purposes)  
**be loosed for a little time** (see below,  
ver. 7).

**4-6]** *The Millennial reign.* **{4} And I**  
**saw thrones** (combine Dan.vii. 9, and