INTRODUCTION. ] REVELATION. (on. xx.   
   
 confident assertions which Liicke and others are in the habit of making   
 respecting the testimony of the Apocalypse itself.   
 84. Liicke begins this portion of his Introduction by setting aside at   
 once the evidence of Justin Martyr and Ireneus, on the ground of   
 supposed inconsisteney with the testimony of the writer himself ;—he   
 cannot be the Apostle and Evangelist, “because he plainly distinguishes   
 himself from the Apostles :’—referring back to a previous section for the   
 confirmation of this assertion. On looking there, we find, “In ch. xxi. 14,   
 in describing the heavenly Jerusalem, he speaks expressly of the twelve   
 Apostles of Christ and their names on the twelve foundation stones of   
 the cclestial city, but apparently in such a manner as not in any way   
 to include himself among them, but rather to exclude himself from them,   
 and to speak of them as a higher and special class of servants and   
 messengers of God.”   
 85. Now let the reader observe that the “apparently” of the former   
 section has become “ plainly” in the latter: for it is thus that even   
 the best of the Germans are often apt to creep on, and to build up a   
 whole fabrie of argument upon an inference which at first was to   
 themselves merely an uncertainty.   
 86. In this particular case, the original assertion has in fact no   
 ground to rest upon. ‘The apocalyptic writer is simply describing the   
 heavenly city as it was shewn to him. On the foundations are the   
 names of the twelve Apostles of the Lamb. Now we may fairly ask,   
 What reason can be given why the beloved Apostle should not have   
 related this? Was he who, with his brother James, sought for the   
 highest place of honour in the future kingdom, likely to have depre-   
 ciated the apostolic dignity just because he himself was one of the   
 Twelve? and on the other hand, was he, whose personal modesty was as   
 notable as his apostolic zeal, likely, in relating such high honour done to   
 the Twelve, to insert a notice providing against the possible mistake   
 being made of not counting himself among them ?   
 87. So that the first tentative introduction, and the very confident   
 after-assertion, of this testimony of the book itself, are alike groundless,   
 A similar instance will be found below, when we come to discuss the   
 time and place of writing, of confident assertion respecting two sup-   
 posed notices of date contained in the book itself. They turn out to be   
 altogether dependent for their relevancy on a particular method of   
 interpretation, not borne out by fair exposition,   
 88. The notices contained in the Apocalypse respecting its writer   
 may be stated as follows:   
 First, his name is John, ch, i. 1, 4, 9, xxii. 8,   
 89. Secondly, he was known to, and of account among, the churches   
 of proconsular Asia.   
 90. Thirdly, he was in exile (for so we submit must the words of   
 326