13—17. REVELATION. 919   
   
 AUTHORIZED VERSION. AUTHORIZED VERSION REVISED,   
 had in his right hand seven in his right hand seven stars: and   
 stars: and out of his Pout of his mouth going forth a p te. uix.2.   
 month went a sharp two- sharp two-edged sword: 4 and his   
 edged sword: and his countenance as the sun shineth in odds tsi, 16,   
 countenance was as the sun his strength.   
 shineth in his strength, him, I fell at his VW And as \* when I And :kzu.i.38,   
 17 And when I saw him, She laid his right hand upon me, \*Ri-s!1s   
 fell at his feet as dead. saying , Fear not; \* J am the first \*=m4.m5'   
 And he laid his right hand and the last, and the living \* One; ti   
 upon me, saying unto me,   
 Fear not ; "I am the first old   
 and the last: 81 am he ily. 0.8   
 xlvili,12, xxt112 ver. 11, ultom. vio.   
   
   
 the sea, appealing to ch. xvii. 1 and xiii.1; enemies, but as speaking with his own,   
 but, as Diisterdieck remarks, there seems both in the way of comforting and of   
 to be no such allusion here, but only to the threatening: and 2) in ch. xix. 21, where   
 power of the voice as resembling the rush- this very sword is again to as slay-   
 ing of many waters. So Dan. x.6; Ezek. ing the ‘Lord’s enemies, His title as sitting   
 xliii. where the same expression is found, upon the horse is “the word of God”): and   
 i, 24, where the sound of the wings of his countenance (not. general appearance.   
 the creatures is “as the noise of great Had this been so, how should the Apostle   
 water”). 16.] And having (St. John have noted the details just mentioned ?   
 takes up the description from time to time for the whole figure of our Lord would   
 irrespective of the construction, as if with have been too dazzling for him to contem-   
 separate strokes of the pencil) in his right plate. It is natural that after deseribing   
 hand seven stars (not on his right hand, the eyes, and that which proceeded from   
 as a number of jewelled rings, but éa his the mouth, he should give the general   
 right hand, as a wreath or garland, held in effect of the countenance) as the sun   
 it. De Wette well remarks that this, which shineth in his strength (sce Judges v. 31:   
 is the more natural rendering, is also re- —that is, when unclonded and in full   
 quired by the symbolism. If the seven power: not necessarily at midday, but at   
 churches which the seven stars symbolize, any time. The construction is again   
 were on the Lord’s hand as rings, they broken: “as the sun shining” would be   
 wonld seem to be serving (adorning ?) the regular connexion). 17, 18.   
 Him, and not to be the objects of his ac- And when I saw Him, I fell at his feet   
 tion: but now that He holds them in his dead (the effect. of the divine appearance:   
 hand, He appears as their Guardian, their sce Exod. 20; Job xlii. Isa. vi. 53   
 Provider, their Nourisher: and, we may Ezck. i, 28 7 ff, ‘There   
 add, their Possessor, who brings them out is no diserepancy in this bodily action with   
 and puts them forth to be seen when He the spiritual nature of the vision, as De   
 pleases. His universal Church would Wette thinks, either here or in the places   
 hardly be thus represented, but only a where similar physical effects are described,   
 portion of it which it pleases Him to take ch. v. 4, xix. 10, xxii, 8 [Dan, vii. 15].   
 in his hand and hold forth as representing Diisterdieck well’ remarks in reply, that   
 the rest): and out of his mouth a two- the being in the Spirit does not. supersede   
 edged sharp sword going forth (compare existence in the body. Just as dreamers   
 Isa. xi. Tix, also our ch. ii. 16, and express their bodily feelings by physical   
 Wisd. xviii. 15. The same figure occurs acts, e.g. by starting or weeping, so might   
 with reference to men in Ps, lv. 21, lvii. St. John while in this eestacy : Acts ix.   
 lix. 7: and examples of it are given from 3). And he placed his right hand upon   
 the Vou. I. writings. ‘The thing signi- me, saying, Fear not (sce 3Q x. 12, Lake   
 fied inay perhaps be as in 2 Thess. ii. 8 i. 13, 30, 10, Matt. xvii. 7, Mark xvi. 6.   
 and in ch. xix. 21; but clearly we must not ‘These places, and the whole character of   
 exclude the attributes of the word of God, our Lord’s words, shew that the Apostle’s   
 Heb, iy. 12, Eph. vi, 17, And this all the falling down as dead was purely from fear,   
 more, inasmuch as 1) here the Lord is re- not, as Ebrard imagines, as an expression   
 presented not as taking vengeance on his of eestatic love); Iam the first and the