The sea was God’s early scourge for the wicked. It  
was an awful object, as employing the element of *water*  
to take away animal life. But in *its second and final  
state*, it becomes the *seat of the element of fire*—“the  
Second Death.” The *sea* becomes the *lake* of fire. We  
are permitted to see it in its intermediate state in chap.  
xv., when it is “a *sea* of glass *mingled with fire*.”

“And in the midst of the throne, and round the throne were  
four living creatures full of eyes, before and behind. 7. And the  
first living creature was like a lion, and the second like a calf  
(ox), and the third living creature had a face as a man, and the  
fourth living creature was like a flying eagle. 8. And the four  
living creatures have each of them six wings; around and within  
they are full of eyes: and they have no rest day and night, saying,  
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts, who was, and who is,  
and who is to come.”

We have now arrived at the Cherubim.1  
 On the differences between Ezekiel and John, I do  
not purpose to enter. It is enough, that they intended  
evidently to represent to us the same beings. Ezekiel  
afterwards identifies the living creatures which he saw,  
with the cherubim. “This is *the living creature* which  
I saw under the God of Israel by the river of Chebar;  
and *I knew that they were cherubim*” (Ezek. x. 20).2  
Ezekiel uses “the cherubim” and “the living creature”  
indifferently. Compare i. 22; x. 1. “The *cherubim*  
were lifted up: this is the *living creature* that I saw by  
the river of Chebar” (Ezek. x. 15).  
 They are called “THE CHERUBIM” on the first occasion  
of their being named. Gen. iii. 24. This probably arose  
from the fact of their being well known to Moses’ readers.  
 The cherubim are *representatives of the animate creation  
of the globe*. They are not symbols, or emblems; they  
are *representatives*. The symbols of Rev. iv., v. are  
  
1 [Space compels the omission of an elaborate and convincing  
study of the Cherubim].  
2 There is no article in this place before “cherubim”; either  
in the Hebrew or in the Greek.