CHAPTER XVI

THE BOWLS

1. “And I heard a great voice out of the temple saying to the  
seven angels, ‘Go, and pour out the seven bowls of the wrath of  
God into the earth.’”  
  
SEVEN seals have unfolded the mystery of God.  
Seven trumpets have opened the war of Satan and of  
his Christ against the Most High. Now seven bowls  
from the temple prepare the sacrifice for slaughter.  
 How different from the Gospel times, when the  
blood of the Son of God was shed on earth for the  
forgiveness of sins, and on Jew and Gentile who believed  
“was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost”!  
  
 2. “And the first went away, and poured out his bowl into the  
earth (land), and it became a noisome and grievous ulcer upon  
the men that have the mark of the Wild Beast, and those that  
worship his image.”  
  
 “It became a noisome and malignant ulcer.”  
 This is to be taken literally.  
 That was the complaint of which Lazarus in the  
parable died. “The dogs licked his *sores*” (ἕλκη:  
the word used here). Luke xvi. 21. The leprosy took  
the form of a boil in some cases. Lev. xiii.  
 Boils have been a plague literally inflicted of God.  
 (1) They were one of the plagues on Egypt. Exod.  
ix. 8-12.