*having seven heads*, and ten horns” (xvii. 3, 7).  
 2. But it signifies also the last or eighth head; that  
is, the individual emperor who is the Antichrist. The  
head of the empire is identified with the empire. He  
wields all its power, and expresses its spirit.  
 The former view (ver. 8) of the Special or Individual  
Wild Beast gave his *personal* aspect; this discovers to  
us his *regal*. It teaches us the place he occupies among  
the Kings of Rome.  
 “Himself is the eighth.” It is a person who is  
spoken of, not a thing.  
 The seventh head is not the Antichrist proper. He  
immediately precedes, and makes way for him, as John  
Baptist did for Jesus. He is the crowned head of  
chapter xiii., that is wounded to death.  
 The Antichrist is the eighth head. Eight is the  
number of resurrection. On the eighth day Jesus  
rose.  
 The eighth note in music is a resurrection or recurrence  
of the key-note. The eighth day is a recurrence  
of the previous first. ’Tis a new person that arises, as  
compared with the previous one. In the previous  
cases of resurrection, the same person who was slain has  
arisen. This were necessary to a perfect resurrection.  
But ‘tis not so in Satan’s resurrection. God allows  
no nearer approximation than this.  
 There are only seven kings, but behold an eighth,  
who is one of the seven. Here is an enigma of God’s  
making, a mystery. The seventh head of the Wild  
Beast will arise, reign a short time, and be cut off with  
the sword. But he will be reanimated, arise from the  
dead, and so become the eighth head. It is not strictly  
speaking a *new* head, for it is *one of the seven heads:* but  
it is a *new life;* and as death is reckoned the end of all,  
this reappearance of the seventh is regarded as the