with gold. This city is built of solid gold. In Jerusalem, while Solomon reigned, silver was despised. No  
silver is used in this city. In Solomon’s time, they  
became curious in the best sorts of gold; and those  
of Ophir and of Parvaim were most in request. 2 Chron.  
iii. 6. Here is a gold beyond that of Ophir; ’tis  
transparent as glass! yet ’tis used for the least costly  
parts of the city. The Holiest of Solomon was plated  
all over with gold—a type of this.  
 The Harlot-city was “*gilded* with gold, precious  
stones, and pearls” (xvii. 4). The Bridal-city is built  
of solid gold, precious stones, and pearls.  
 Concerning the twelve precious stones, but little  
that is certain can be said. Little is known by the  
learned in general with regard to the precious stones  
now in use. Less still seems to be known concerning  
the precious stones of old, and what stones of modern  
times answer to the names of old.  
 There were twelve stones in the High Priest’s  
breastplate. I give their names as found in the Greek  
of the Seventy. Exod. xxviii. 15.  
  
 1. Sardius 2. Topaz 3. Emerald  
 4. Ruby 5. Sapphire 6. Jasper  
 7. Ligure 8. Agate 9. Amethyst  
 10. Chrysolite 11. Beryl 12. Onyx.  
  
 I will now just make a few remarks on the stones  
here named.  
 1. The first is Jasper. This, as known to the moderns,  
is believed to be a species of quartz, opaque, of various  
colours: green clouded with yellow, blue, brown and  
white. Some imagine that a diamond of a blue colour  
may be meant (*Notes to Pictorial Bible*).  
 B. Taylor, in his *Travels in Greece*, speaks of  
“huge blocks of *jasper of all imaginable hues*” (p. 411).  
 2. Sapphire. By this is meant a precious stone, of  
a blue deeper than lapis lazuli, with veins of white, or