

domestic missions, our temperance reforms, our model institutions, our simplest forms of church organization, had their origin on the very soil first trod by the Pilgrim Fathers. From them we have inherited a religion the freest, the purest, the most aggressive in the world. It has become the religion of the entire country, recognized in its laws, its constitution, its courts of justice—a religion, not Jewish nor Papal, but *Christian*, monopolized by no sect or creed, yet blessing all, and offering to all its hopes and its salvation. Thus we see, in our day, without any departure from the essential principles of our fathers, a more enlarged and comprehensive Christian philanthropy. It seems to be the American destiny, the mission which God has entrusted to us, to show that all sects and all denominations, professing the fundamental truths of Christianity, may be safely tolerated without prejudice, either to our religion, or to our liberties. Occupying such a vantage ground, having such educational privileges, such institutions, and such a religion, what is our mission to the world? "Freely we have received, let us freely give." From our high tower should be streaming abroad those mighty and manifold influences, which shall destroy despotism, and establish and vindicate the brotherhood of man. For this was America born, and baptized with God's own baptism; that in the embodiment of a vast moral power, and the movement of a tremendous moral machinery, she should solve the great problem of a world's freedom, and work out the glorious accomplishment of an emancipated race.

When this shall be, what wonders of development