

wondrous provision which He had made for every soul that trusted in Him, He turns their thoughts to that "city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is (no human hand nor human skill, but) God," the Creator of all things, and he says, by way of encouragement, if here we have no continuing city, no sure abiding place, if change is written upon all human affairs, let us seek that city which is to come; a home in the kingdom of God, a rest in Heaven. How plain and forcible are these words then of the Apostle, when viewed in the light of his own people, his own country, his own day; and when we look in our day at that same country now fulfilling the word of prophecy, its people scattered and peeled; the Hebrew a mere tenant-at-will of his own land; the land "trodden down of the Gentiles," and she who "sat as a queen," and "the joy of the whole earth" now but little more than a resting place for the traveller and a heap of ruins, we cannot but see how mutable and transitory are all earthly things.

This day (the 18th May) brings to our notice a contrast of a very different kind.

This day, ninety years ago, the first steps were taken, and the first efforts made to reclaim from the wilderness this locality on which our city is built. We have been in the ascending ladder. From a waste and a wilderness, where no sound was heard but the voice of the forest bird, or the roll of the waves upon the beach, the rush of waters over the falls, or the regular beat of the Indian's paddle, while the only dwellings were an occasional encampment of the wild children of the forest, we have now our present city with its thousands of inhabitants, its thirty or forty churches, its public buildings, its free schools, its courts of justice, its growing and increasing commerce; its lines of railway connecting us with the whole American continent, its steam communication with Europe; its telegraphic connection with every part of the world, and its every facility