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#### A HOUSE OF MANY MANSIONS.

*Conclusion of Rev. A. N. Sumerville's address on the Bible, in Shaftesbury Hall, Toronto, June 28th, 1876.*

Let me close this address with an analogy. The Bible may be compared to a magnificent edifice that took 16 centuries to build. Its architect and builder is God. Like the beautiful world, the work of the same author, it bears on it everywhere the impress of a hand divine. This majestic temple contains 66 chambers, capacious, yet in size unequal,—the 66 books of the Old and New Testament. Each of its 31,173 verses is a stone, a beam, a panel of the building, which is a temple more glorious far than that of Solomon or of Zurababael, with their hewn stones from Lebanon, their pillars of cedar, their doors of olive, their floors, walls and ceiling overlaid with fine gold of Parodin, their holy places, their courts, their porticos, and gates. No portion of this wonderful structure will the Lord suffer to be mutilated or defiled.

Within the sacred enclosure dwells the whole family of God on earth. The Bible is the home of the redeemed below. When the Lord Jesus was departing from the world, He said, "In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." That house is the temple in heaven above, whence the entrant shall go no more out, and where Christ's friends abide as priests of God for evermore. But the Bible is the "house of many mansions" prepared for Jesus' disciples on earth. Here they have their residence: here they are fed; here they are strengthened, comforted and blessed; here they are nurtured for immortality.

The Bible is not merely the dwelling-place of God's people, it is the chosen abode of God Himself. Would you have fellowship with the Father? you will be sure to find Him within the precincts of this holy house. Shall we take advantage of the King's permission and step inside? We approach by the beautiful garden of Eden, with its innocent flowers, its groves and lucid streams. The first part of the building, that of the highest antiquity, bears the name of the Chambers of Law and Justice. These are five in number, the books of Moses. One of these is a sort of vestibule to the others, and resembles a long gallery hung with portraits and pictorial scenes of surpassing in-