

earth's oldest, grayest city, older than the earth itself. Before ever our earth had been hung in its sphere, or time had begun its swift, pauseless march, or the first angel had commenced his song, it existed. It is from eternity. And when the last earthly city shall have fallen and faded into a dim memory of the past, this city will be as beautiful and stable as now, and will ring with the hymns of sanctified millions. Remotest eternity will see no dimming of its glory, no weakening of its foundations. Its spring is everlasting; its flowers are unwithering; its verdure is ever luxuriant and bright. Beautiful gardens of paradise! no wintry blast sweeps with desolating fury through its beautiful trees or over its fragrant flowers: no scorching sun burns up the shrivelled root—no pelting storm assails the tree of life! Amidst its amaranthine bowers there walks the *second* Adam awaiting the arrival of the *second* Eve, who is yet in the wilderness adorning herself with bridal purity and grandeur, and in due time she will be ready to meet her Lord, and walk with him through the unblighted groves of Paradise Regained! (Rev. xix. 7.)

The very *leaves* of the tree of life are *medicinal*. They are for the preserving of spiritual health. "They are for the healing of the nations."—*I. E.* For the *preserving*, not the *restoring*, of spiritual health; for no sickness or infirmity of mind or body is, or can be there: beneath the salutary shades of these trees no disease can ever invade any individual of the nations of the redeemed, but perpetual health shall exist and flourish in them all. This world, smitten with the blight of the curse, is full of disease. It is everywhere to be seen withering the beauty of youth and drying up the strength of manhood. But this city is a region of perfect and eternal health. There is health for souls in every breeze which fills its streets with music, in the light

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