

The artist now is sketching in  
The outlines of his broad design,  
So fast to deepen line on line,  
Till June and summer days begin.

Soon will shadow pitch her tent,  
Beneath the trees in grove and field,  
And all the wounds of life be healed,  
By orchard bloom and lilac scent.

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## Easter Fragments.

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The winter is past and gone, the snow is fast vanishing from sight—the flowers appear on the earth. We are "In the mountains," 'away back' from town and road, away up a steep slide, over or through a mile of snowed up trail, and then up, up, to a little peak all of our own. Sentinel rock—let us call it. We can see such FIELDS of mountains, such beauty of curve and slope, such grandeur of rock and precipice, such tender grace of coloring. The baby pine trees are so fragrantly pleased with their new green, and little ferns, and buds bursting on many a bush and sapling give promise of luxuriant wealth of undergrowth by-and-bye.

Below, among the trees, the snow lies thick, here is freedom and life. Let us breathe in vigor and strength and be still.

Oh, the hush from earth's annoys!  
Oh, the heaven! Oh, the joys!

But some who stayed lower down will be alarmed if left any longer. Let us be gone, and come no more hither with such laggards.

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Where are we now? In the valley, on a rocky headland jutting out into the Fraser. Its thick soft carpet of mosses has never been disturbed by human foot; pine trees shelter us from the railroad track that so mars the beauty of valley and ravine. We can gaze up the river as far as the mouth of a dark canyon, and down to where the water divides, foaming round a great island to flow together again, "strong in triumphant quiet." The river is silvery green, and though we know how swift its rushing torrent, we hear no sound. The whole scene is an embodiment of peace.

Peace beginning to be—  
Deep as the sleep of the sea,  
When the stars their faces glass  
In its blue tranquillity.

But an insistent voice begins to worry for leave to "throw down rocks into the river." Let us be gone and come no more hither with such vandals.