

of the Middle Ages concerning the Universal Empire and the Universal Church.

Visions, do you cry? Unsubstantial as the fabric of a dream! Visions they may be, but not, I hope, without some promise of truth and reality. The conceptions of the connected progress of civil and ecclesiastical political ideas, which I have so inadequately sought to present to your minds, if true only in main outline, surely afford some solid basis for the flight of imagination. And what is imagination but another word for faith? Difficulties you may see in the pathway of the ideal, but faith can remove mountains. "Your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions,"¹⁹ cried the prophet. And the vision was to be the outcome of the outpouring of the Spirit of the Infinite upon finite souls. The ideal which is presented to you by the words "Christian Unity," is the ideal of prophet and apostle. It is the ideal that underlies the words found in both Isaiah and Micah: 'It shall come to pass in the latter days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it. And many peoples shall go and say,

¹⁹ Joel ii.