

builds Islands amid ocean solitudes—and man creates Babels whose fame fills the earth, whose base seems firm as the everlasting hills, and whose summits, were he wise, might reach to heaven, in the best meaning of the phrase.

A minor incident, amid the ruins and foundations of cities and empires, we find mentioned in this era. It is, that, "about the year 400, bells were invented by Paulinus, Bishop of Nola in Campania." Simple as is this incident, it appears possessed of interest sufficient to demand a passing notice. Rude as the instrument of sound, here mentioned, may be, monotonous as is its clanking music, there is perhaps more to arouse most minds in its very name, than there is in all the recollections of its gorgeous helpmate, the sacred and majestic organ. "Those who have been where bells have knoll'd to church" can well imagine the inspiring melody of this Sabbath day music. Whether the burst of the lively chimes comes gladly from an hundred spires, seeming to ripple the glassy Thames; and rousing with their sudden peal, the citizen who saunters along bank-side, enjoying the partial repose of the summer mornings Sabbath;—or whether, the tone of the village bell, coming tremulously from the little ively'd tower, starts the sparrow and martin from their seats, and gliding over meadow and corn field, falls like manna on him who strolls church ward, beneath the blossoms of the green lanes;—to all who have dwelt mid congregated christians the *bell* in its various offices, has become a sacred instrument. To every civilized and unsophisticated ear, those brazen summoners to devotion have endearing associations. They are to the Christian, as the trumpets of the year of Jubilee were to the Jew—they tell of the departed slavery, mental and bodily, of the week; they announce the holy day which sets all persons alike before the Creator; and they speak to the few whose ears are alive to heavenly music, of the peace, and freedom, and joy which await the sincere worshipper. Could Paulinus hear the united peal of Christendom on the day of worship, at the present time—would he not feel a rapturous joy at the proud advance of his early invention; and at the contrast between the time when