

however great, be not auxiliary; it is of comparatively trifling value, and tends as little to promote human happiness as the splendid palaces and temples, the bas-reliefs and statues of ancient Rome did to confer happiness on a people debased by vice, cruelty and superstition. I do not for a moment say that the contrast is as great between the material progress of America and its moral advancement as that presented by ancient Rome, but I do state as my deliberate conviction that the two have not kept equal pace, but that in the whirl and onward rush of events the moral element has fallen far behind the ruder energy of the material.

Leaving then this distinction for the present to be recalled hereafter as occasion may require, let us take a brief survey of that country. One of the first things which attracts the attention of any observing mind in a foreign land is of course the natural scenery—and here there is a field of immense extent and boundless variety. The country in the neighborhood of Boston, in its natural features closely resembles that with which we are familiar at home—it is however, studded with handsome residences and highly cultivated fields, and presents one of the most pleasing features of American scenery.

As we pass on by the railway to New York no striking change is visible in the appearance of the country although it lies far to the south of Boston, but as we draw near to this great metropolis, we perceive indications on every side that we are again in the neighborhood of a great city, and when at length we are fairly within the limits of Broadway a scene of architectural grandeur is presented to our view surpassing the best quarters of Boston. I will not here stop to describe the magnificent churches, the palaces of the wealthy, or the Croton waterworks more than Roman in their greatness, nor will I now point out the fearful discrepancy between all this outward splendour and the moral and political deformities of New York as I shall revert to that consideration hereafter, but I will ask