

into deep falling folds, as the robes droop from a king's shoulder; all its bright rivers leaping into cataracts along the hollows of its fall, and all its forests rearing themselves aslant against its slopes, as a rider rears himself back when his horse plunges, and all its villages nestling into the new winding of its glens, and he will have as yet in all this lifted world, only the foundation of the great mountains.

"They seem to have been built for the human race, as at once their schools and cathedrals; full of treasures of illuminated manuscript for the scholar, kindly in simple lessons to the worker, quiet in pale cloisters for the thinker, glorious in holiness for the worshipper,—with their gates of rock, pavements of cloud, choirs of stream and stone, altars of snow and vaults of purple traversed by the continual stars.

"The valleys only feed; the mountains feed and guard and strengthen us. We take our ideas of fearfulness and sublimity alternately from the mountains and the sea; but we associate them unjustly. The sea-wave, with all its beneficence, is yet devouring and terrible; but the silent wave of the blue mountain is lifted towards heaven in a stillness of perpetual mercy; and the one surge unfathomable in its darkness, the other unshaken in its faithfulness, forever bear the seal of their appointed symbols:

'Thy *righteousness* is like the great mountains:
'Thy *judgments* are a great deep.'

"The hills are ordained for the help of man. The mountain of the Lord's house is established above the hills. In His hand are the deep places of the earth, the strength of the hills is His also. To the end of time will still be heard along the Alpine winds, 'Hear, O ye mountain the Lord's controversy.' Still their gulfs of thawless ice and unretarded roar of tormented waves, and deathful falls of fruitless waste and unredeemed decay, must be the image of the souls of those who have chosen the darkness, and whose cry shall be to the mountains to fall on them, and to the hills to cover them; and still, to the end of time, the clear waters of the unfailing springs, and the white pasture lilies in their clothed multitude, and the abiding of the