

the politics and the governments of Europe are disturbed by that one question. There have been three great developments of this religious question. The first in the Old World was when the Church became subject to the State and to the Roman emperor; the next, when the State became subject to the Church under the Pope; and then the Reformation, bringing about the union of Church and State: and we, in the providence of God, born of such an ancestry, have been thrown far in advance, and now the problem is on our hands of the entire separation of Church and State, and the Church at the same time undertaking to begird the State and to infuse Christian principles into the State. Now, what has been done? It is not strange that intelligent men who visit us are amazed. We are amazed ourselves at what God has done in this regard—what has been done by a church that has no aid whatsoever from the State, which desires nothing but just to be let alone, with an opportunity of developing itself. And here we have for the first time a Church perfectly free and independent, with a virgin soil inviting its progress and its entrance, and the power of achievement under God is implanted in the hearts of God's own people. What has been done? Behold wondrous things! We invite our foreign friends to come and walk about our palaces, and see these churches and these schools, these colleges, these seminaries, these hospitals, which have sprung like verdure and flowers in the path of the sun as our population has been advancing from East to West.

There are those living to-day, and present here, who remember that when Home Missionaries were spoken of, reference was had to the Mohawk Valley and the shores of Lake Erie, and when, in fact, Buffalo was farther from Boston and New York than California is from us to-day.

And then, what great results have been accomplished by the power of association! Behold these associated churches! Behold these united hearts and hands in the great work of evangelizing this country, and extending out from this country into all the world! If you go to the Exposition at Philadelphia, you will see in one of the art galleries the copy of a picture from Italy, which represents that old heathen legend of the daughter nursing her imprisoned father through the bars of his cell, the emaciated form, and the daughter giving out of her own bosom the current of life to him from whom she sprang. And so this young Church is undertaking to resuscitate these old emaciated churches, and to implant the institutions of the Gospel in the Old World, the New reacting upon the Old. And how much have we occasion to be thankful to God for this day, in view of what he has done in our country by Home Missions, and to the world by Foreign Missions.

All this is just the beginning, and not the end. There is a brighter day coming. It is our religion that teaches it. These faces are bright like those that are accustomed to look at the sunrise. I do not say that the stream before us is all smooth. I have no right to say there are no grave questions before us in the future, no rocks, no breakers. I cannot say that there is no lion or scorpion or tortoise or bear in the Zodiac; but I know that the sun will keep its path as God intended it. We need not give ourselves to speculation. We believe in the promises of the God of that old Bible which our fathers carried in their knapsacks in the Revolutionary war, which is the basis of our institutions. We believe in the teaching of that Book that the kingdoms of this world are all to become the kingdoms of our Lord Jesus Christ; that He shall come down like rain on the