

that ascent, which now on smooth roads or convenient steps is only the happy pastime of an hour. It is thus in art. Over easy and discovered paths, how many generations have skipped jauntily along, with glances roving or which sought the earth alone. But the pioneers of old, with eyes fixed upon the difficult summit, against the dawning light, set their firm wills to the hardy task of its ascent, and never misconceived their lofty goal. And yet from distant ages the echoes of their brave voices still linger in the air upon the mountain side; and their treasured handiwork on wall and panel still bears witness to the master qualities of simplicity, sincerity and truth which conducted them to the mountain top, where firmly based arise the everduring pillars of the house called beautiful.

