

and perversion which I have pointed out shall pass away. Intemperance in every form, and cruel war, and fierce party collisions, and inordinate selfishness, and factitious and unnatural desires shall all be sacrificed upon the altar of benevolence; and man shall shake off his indolence, and ample means and motives shall be placed before the whole human family for intellectual and moral culture. Then shall such progress be made in science, literature, and art as will throw into the shade all former bright spots in human history; then will the world learn for the first time how deep has been her degradation, how incalculably valuable are the rights of which for thousands of years she has been deprived, and how truly frightful has been the waste of mind since the beginning. O, how cheering to the lover of science to look forward to those halcyon days which Christianity tells us shall assuredly come! Imagination need not fear that her most vivid colors can outdo the original; for if the little benevolence and the little knowledge which have been in the world hitherto have accomplished so much, what imagination can sketch the picture when the hearts of earth's vast population shall all be swayed by benevolence, and their minds all disciplined and expanded by science?

The institution whose anniversary we celebrate to-day is to me an earnest that such a bright period is coming on. A brief sketch of its history is, therefore, an appropriate close to my remarks.

There is a place in Essex county, called Agawam by the natives, which was visited by our pilgrim fathers nine years before the settlement of Plymouth, and of which Captain John Smith, of Virginia, gave the following account six years before the Mayflower entered Massachusetts Bay. "Here," says he, "are many rising hills, and on their tops and de-