

There are those present before me who will doubtless see the first morning sun of the twentieth century. Some of the youngest of them may live to walk the distance of fifteen or twenty years into that second millennial — to walk with its rising generations — to talk with the prospective fathers of men and women who shall see the dawn of the 21st century. They will tell those children and heirs of that distant future of the hopes and experiences of these closing decades. They will link to theirs the chain of living memories, reaching far back beyond this present into the early years of our own century. They will recount the history of its great struggles with the barbarous genius of an older antiquity; of its decisive battles and victories, for freedom, civilization and Christianity. They will dwell, with gladly reminiscence, upon that crowning glory of this our age — the development of Christian Philanthropy into the mightiest force in human society. They will speak of its industrial organizations; of the beautiful machinery of its goodwill and good works to man; of the minute and wonderful divisions of its labor of love, so that every form of wrong, suffering and sorrow, every type of ignorance and vice, every shade and region of moral darkness, had assigned to it, a busy, hoping, praying association of men and women working for its amelioration and enlightenment.

The patrimony which this century will bequeath to the next, will be practically more than we inherited from the thousand years preceding our own. What a world of wealth shall we hand over to that unremote posterity! wealth