Is there any connection between the fifteen “Songs  
of Ascent,” and the fifteen hundred miles of the city’s  
height?  
 “And her portals shall not be shut at all by day: for  
there shall be no night there.”  
 I believe that this paragraph gives peculiarly the city’s  
relations to those without. Day and night still exist  
for the world at large. Five times are “day and night”  
named in this book.  
 When the old earth is just about to be burned up,  
and Satan is cast into the lake of fire, it is said that he  
and his two coadjutors are to be “tormented *day and  
night for ever and ever*” (xx. 10). This proves that day  
and night take their turns for ever.  
 Night still exists for the nations. This we have  
inferred from their travelling by the light of the city.  
Then the word “day” refers to them too. The gates  
of the city are not shut, while the world’s sun is above  
the horizon. That shines for the nations of the earth  
and their kings. They need darkness and its attendant  
sleep still, as men in the flesh.  
 And this is very interesting, as connected with the  
twenty-four hours of our day. The two *twelves* of day  
and night, here also it would seem, are to abide: and  
to be divided as they are now.  
 When, then, it is said—“They are not closed *by day*”—it is implied that “they are closed *by night*.” And  
this accounts for the introduction of the next clause,  
“for there shall be no *night there*.” As though John  
had said—“Against the pilgrim-nations they are shut;  
for they have the alternations of day and night. But I  
do not mean to contradict what I have said of the *city’s*  
independence of earth’s sources of light. ‘There is no  
night *there*.’ I refer to the world at large.” The  
citizens, I suppose, possess the privilege to enter at all  
times.