CHAPTER XXII  
  
THE CITY AN EDEN

ITS INTERNAL RELATIONS.

1-5. “And he showed me the river1 of the water of life, bright  
as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and the Lamb.  
In the midst of its square, and on each side of the river, was the  
tree of life, bearing twelve (kinds of) fruits, and yielding its  
fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree are for the healing  
of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: and the throne  
of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and His servants shall  
serve Him, and they shall see His face, and His name shall be on  
their foreheads. And there shall be no more night; and they  
shall not have need of the light of lamp, or of the light of the  
sun, for the Lord God shall shed light on them: and they shall  
reign for ever and ever.”  
  
UNDER the Gospel, and in preparation for the Church  
of Christ—which is called out of earth to heaven—Jesus spoke of water, and was mistaken; for He meant  
spiritual waters, and they took His words literally.  
John iv. 10-14; vii. 38. Now that the time of mystery  
is over, water is taken by many spiritually, and again  
the word is mistaken.  
 The waters of the Harlot City were symbolic. xvii.  
15. Hence the angel expounds them to be nations.  
Without that interpretation, we had not discovered  
their meaning. But here no interpretation is given, for  
they are literal. No interpretation is needed: mystery  
has for ever departed.  
  
1 See Tregelles.