and a new *earth*, and that we shall rise again in our *bodies*.  
 Ere yet the new city is entered, the conqueror will  
be distinguished, as one evidently enrolled its citizen.  
 “The New Jerusalem, which is coming down out of  
the heaven from my God.”  
 Our city is, like Christ, as yet hid with God; to be  
brought forth, in all its beauty, in millennial days.  
*The tense of the participle here bears witness against  
its being applied to the Church*. The *Church has* come  
down from God long ago: *it does not habitually come  
down from Him*; nor has it, at some future day, to  
descend. Believers will have to ascend to God; but  
that is another thing.  
 “And (I will write upon him) my new name.”  
 The columns of victorious cities are oft inscribed with  
the names of conquerors, or of those to whom they  
were dedicated. In this case the conqueror should take  
the name of the God under whose commands he fought;  
of the city to which he was promoted to become a citizen; and of the Captain under whom he conquered.  
 So solemnly important to all is this, that every one  
in possession of an ear is anew invited to attend to this  
message of Christ and of the Holy Ghost. Let us not  
receive listlessly these words; they are not the words  
of men. Has it not been for want of some such pondering, that it is currently supposed, “that the concluding  
promises generally unfold only what is *common to all  
Christians—eternal blessedness?*”