# THE TEMPLE REBUILT; A POEM

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The temple rebuilt; a poem by Frederick R. Abbe

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# FREDERICK R. ABBE

# THE TEMPLE REBUILT; A POEM



## THE

# TEMPLE REBUILT

## A POEM

FREDERICK R. ABBE

A NEW EDITION, REVISED AND ENLARGED

BOSTON
D. LOTHROP AND COMPANY
1882



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A CALL FOR UNIVERSAL PRAISE . .

# PREFATORY NOTE.

The first edition of this work was prepared, for the most part, in the midst of the duties and cares of an active pastorate, and was issued in a form somewhat crude and incomplete.

It has now, with more leisure, been re-written, re-arranged and enlarged, and made, while retaining the same general course of thought, substantially a new work.

In this form it is re-issued with the hope and earnest desire that it may, in a greater measure, interest, instruct and quicken in human and heavenly things, and contribute to the great work of building up in the earth the Temple of the Lord,

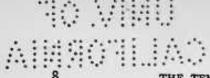
# THE TEMPLE REBUILT.

### BOOK I.

### THE EDIFICE.

The subject stated. Invocation. The dignity and worth of the soal. Of godlike faculty and rule. Greater than all material creation. Its measure-tess possibilities. Each, as kin with all, honored in all high achievements. Illustrious examples. Sovereign and subject. Not a part of a pantheistic Power. A ribald scepticism, in the guise of philosophy, rebuked. God not a law, nor a blind force, but an infinite Person. Man in his likeness, able for righteousness or sin. Immortal, and of endless growth in capacity and character.

The man renewed, the fallen soul restored
In holy beauty through Messiah slain,
Sung by the angels, and by human lips
From age to age rehearsed in hymns of praise
And grateful worship, I would celebrate,
And with melodious wisdom fitly show
The Living Temple from its ruins raised
In richer splendor to its native form.



THE TEMPLE REBUILT.

Eternal Spirit! from the throne of light, Whose inspiration is the ruin wrought In newness of the holy workmanship, And birth of glory in a life divine; Who, by the sovereign influence of that Name, Building the soul, dost from disastrous fall Raise to the shapes of immortality, Directing, by thy presence and control, The heavenly structure from the corner-stone To the last pinnacle of completed grace; Help me the theme to utter worthily, In noble measure and a nobler mood, With faith unfaltering, tender eloquence, Illumined reason, clear simplicity, Experience ripe, a witness true to all The facts of glory, that I may exalt The Heavenly Mercy, and some needy heart Bless with the cheer of this triumphant truth. Oh! touch my lips, my wayward thought inform, That not a word unworthily presume To tell the sacred story of the heavens. The high endeavor prosper to thy will; Yea, in the solemn rapture of my song, Through dark and light, in lofty ecstasy, Bear, bear me on thy wing, that I may well The wonders of the gracious way declare,

The ruin, and the rich, immortal hope In Christ the Blessed; at whose feet I lay This tribute in adoring gratitude.

Wrapped in the womb of infinite design From all the ages, in the thought of God, I came, the moment of his sovereign will, Forth in his living likeness; spirit true, Immortal essence, kin and royal sort Of the bright seraphs, sceptered mightily In a great realm of powers, which I may rule To glory or dishonor. Though a child, Before me may the hoary mountains bow, And learn their littleness, when I may lift My thought above the heavens, nor be abashed Before the soulless splendors of the sky, Greater in dignity of love and will Than all the cold creation. Starry spheres! That with your fires spangle the firmament Like sparks of lustre from Jehovah's throne, What is your light to mine? O beautiful Earth, my fair home! so richly dight In robes embroidered of the sun and air, And gorgeous with the marks of Deity; Thy flowers, his beauty, and thy choirs, his song; Thy winds, his breath; thy seasons, his survey;