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SPONTANEITY IN CHRISTIAN CHAR-ACTER.

While true and efficient service may be rendered under the promptings of duty. with more or less constraint and effort, more delightful and more desirable by far the vile person shall become liberal, and the is the activity that flows from a full and churl bountiful. All other promptings to of the earth and which pours forth its life- love shall not fail, but shall be brought to Government. giving tide with happy murmur all day its most glorious perfection in every indilong; "a well of water springing up unto vidual member of the ransomed church everlasting life." There are Christians, above. Then in every heart, that love many Christians, true Christians, who pray which now seems as but a speck, shall be and who read their Bible, who attend upon the ordinances and who go about the work they do for Christ, we will not say reluctantly, but in great measure for conscience sake. They are not dragged or driven, it is true; but they do not go without a certain pressure; they are, at least, led. In their acts of liberality, they show their need of a stimulus applied from without in the shape, perhaps, of a well-introduced subscription paper. They wait until called on, and then their gifts are offered with hesitation. They originate no scheme, no method of

seek out worthy objects. Nor can they be relied upon to prompt, or to take the lead in, any movement designed for the advancement of Christ's positive, and correct, demanding that capi-

giving; they never trouble themselves to





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pendent source of energy, an inspiration, a | to his State, when he broke faith to the | to destroy. We have felt their object to | The richly engraved illustrations, the elecontagion to the rest. Love is the great nation, he avoided the great crime with which be so monstrous, so ruinous, that we prelife-power, the form in which the Holy we charge him, and maintained in spirit his ferred to sacrifice every earthly good, rather Spirit is ever communicated to the saints, fidelity to law. But this is a mere theory, than allow it to succeed. Did we esteem the well of water in them springing up into the creation of subtle minds, and adopted their crime so dreadful a few months ago, everlasting life.

There is too much of mere conscience a purpose. No one really believes that the and law in our religion. We need more of United States is or was an aggregate of that perfect love which casteth out fear. experience, to have nearer and more affect- to be law abiding, because it maintained its ing views of the great sacrifice of Calvary. own internal organization. The leader of Our relations to Christ must be more sac- a desperate mob might plead with equal ramental. It must be a personal, practical, justice that he maintained family discipline and delightful truth to us, that we are not as a proof that he reverenced the laws. our own, but bought with a price. Then The sinner against God excuses himself ing it. There never was a more scandalous ences to our whole body and the communi exactly in the same way; he claims to be duty will lose its irksomeness, or rather will cease to be recognized as duty. Then consecration will be without reserve. Then thus seeks to establish his innocence before there will be no chaffering over doubtful God. But insurrection against a higher indulgences, over concessions to the princiauthority, is virtually and impliedly insurples, fashions, and amusements of the world. rection against all below it. In point of Then the choicest years of life, the dearest idols of the natural heart, the cherished State authority so far as it suited their pride and self-righteousness, the dreams of grand purpose of throwing off the authority ungodly ambition will be freely surrendered. of the Union. They forced States, with or without the consent of the people, into Then covetousness will find its antidote, and secession. They claimed Maryland, Missouri, and Kentucky, although the people

cheerful heart. The one resembles the holiness are poor and temporary substi- of those States invariably voted against flow of an artificial fountain, precise, regular, tutes; like prophecies, like tongues, like them. And they were as ready to coerce stately, but dependent on mechanical ar- knowledge, they shall all pass away. They a State, and to scent treason against their rangement; the other is like the fresh bub- are of the earth, earthy. And when they | Confederacy and denounce it as a crime, as bling spring which bounds from the heart shall be eternally at an end, "then Divine we could be in reference to the National

They plunged into an utterly unjustifiable rebellion. These leaders knew in their hearts that they had not been wronged or oppressed under a government which they kindled to a bright and glowing flame, and had controlled from the beginning. If the every ransomed soul shall be, as it were, policy of the Government was becoming in a blaze of divine and holy love, and shall anti-slavery, that surely did not look toward remain and glow in this glorious perfection oppressing them, but simply toward the limiting of their license to oppress others. If a change was taking place in the governmetn it, was not toward the curtailment of POLICY AND DUTY OF PUNISHING their liberties, but toward the enlargement of the liberties of a class, and with them, of In the discussion of the question thus the whole nation. An attempt to justify a stated, it will be seen that we leave the rebellion on the ground that it was undertreatment of the masses who have been in taken to stop a national movement toward the rebellion entirely out of view. All justice and liberty, is only to write its conwill understand that a wide difference may demnation in larger characters, and to load safely be made between them and their it with a far heavier guilt. It is enough to leaders. As to these, the general sentisay of a rebellion that it is an unjustifiable ment of the country we believe to be clear, assault upon the law to condemn it, but here is one undertaken in the interest of

as a practical article of belief only to serve and now when it is foiled and our Union luxury of domestic happiness, for the sake saved, now when the greatest calamity that could befall the human family, the oversome thirty odd independent nations, as throw of our republic, is averted, shall its We need to feel the sweet attraction of this theory requires. A county or a city would be authors be counted guiltless, grateful love to the Saviour. We need, seceding from a State, or a ward seceding restored to citizenship and made equal to as a leading and daily element in our from a city, might just as truthfully claim those who, at the risk of everything, frustrated their diabolical scheme?

> There never was a higher crime committed in merely human relations. There never was a clearer duty laid upon the ministers of justice than that of punish- of liberal, yet pure and evangelical influor more dangerous dereliction, than for faithful in the lower relations of life, and organs of public opinion,* or preachers of the gospel, t to represent the demand for

such unpardonable crimes as a call for "vengeance." They are debauching the public conscience and insulting the majesty fact, the rebel leaders only submitted to of the law; they are prolonging, cherishing, and inoculating the very life of the people with the virus of rebellion-disrespect for law. They are sapping the foundations of justice by a most lamentable and of forgiveness, aiming grievously to cheat the people by the sophistical use of the noblest and sweetest of doctrines. We do not believe they represent the sentiment of the church or of the country. 'Hear it rather in these impassioned words from the

Louis.

"These men have avowed their crime They have filled the full possible measure of earthly cruelty and iniquity. The monuments of desolation stand on every side. The woe and wailing is universal. The innocent blood, yet wholly unappeased and unatoned, in deep red waves rolls over our country. The murderers, unawed, by hundreds of thousands stalk the land. Tell us, O, Justice! born in Heaven, and given of God to man—thou friend of innocence-defender of the weakdeliverer of the outraged and oppressed maintainer of the truth-champion of righteousness-avenger of crime! Oh, whither hast thou fled? Why haltest in the execution of thine office? A million bloody dag-gers hath treason plied with all its power, on the fair neck of liberty, and yet SHE *lives* nevices—stands up again in beauty, purity, and strength—preserved of God! O, Jus-tice! Atlas of all government in earth or heaven, why shouldst THOU perish NOW? Who thus has smitten thee? Tell us, ere thou shalt utterly expire! have all thine ordained instruments, thy sworn allies, the Church, the Court, the Rulers, who bear the sword of God—have ALL THESE conspired to

gantly ornamented cover, the heavy tinted paper and the faultless typography, serve to recommend a most truthful, practical lesson to those who deny themselves the of selfish indulgence of a taste for strong drink. It is called "Buy your own Cherries." It will be found, we doubt not, a valuable aid in efforts to reclaim the erring. In the revived and active state of our branch of the church, we may congratulate ourselves that an interest so vital as that of Publication is sharing. Let it continue to enjoy the benefactions and the prayers of the people, until it becomes a fountain ty at large.

HOME MISSIONS AND THE FREED-MEN.

No one can have read our reports of proceedings of the General Assembly without body in the spiritual condition of the Freedmen. Precisely in accordance with those views was the act of the Home Missionary Committee week before last They appointed gross perversion of the Christian doctrine Rev. J. B. Reeve, one of our worthy delegates in the Assembly, the alternate of our retiring Moderator, Dr. Brainerd, to make a three or four months' tour of observation among the Freedmen in the West and Southwest, and to see how many fields we occupant of one of the loyal pulpits of St. not seem to interfere with any other church, and how many Presbyterian ministers he

can find among the Freedmen; and also to observe how far it may be necessary to combine the school and the church in the work of evangelizing an ignorant race set free, and now most eager to learn.

They have assigned Rev. H. H. Garnett of Washington, D. C., another colored pas tor, to the same work South from Washington, perhaps as far South as Savannah. We are assured that nothing would please the committee more than to employ these and preaching the gospel, organizing schools, and doing whatever else may be done, all over the South, in organizing the religious element among the Freedmen, in the social and religious reconstruction of the South. But this we suppose is impossible. The congregations they are serving so successfully would probably withhold their consent. But we hope they will not object, nay, we think they will rejoice to spare their pastors for a few months to engage in so commendable a work. And we shall expect with a sense of the amount of work to be

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Home Missionaries, \$1 50 inadvance.

The latter part of the volume is, we think, unique in addressing young children as already converted and in counselling them as such.

A beautifully engraved portrait. by Sartain, and numerous wood-cuts adorn the volume. which is quite a credit to our Baptist brethren. They have also published an admirable tract for young men, by the same author, entitled "What I saw from Vesuvius," many thousands of which have been distributed in the army by the Christian Commission. The same fervid earnestness, and the same copiousness and aptness of illustration characterize this, as all, the efforts of Mr. Hammond for the spiritual welfare of men.

MORNING PRAYER MEETING AT CAL-VARY CHURCH.

This prayer meeting, commenced in connection with Mr. Hammond's laborers in Calvary Church, has been kept up ever since, with great spirit and success, from noticing how deep was the interest of that eight to nine o'clock, and has been much blessed to those participating in it. It has been sustained as a union effort. On Saturday morning last, the closing services were held, taking the form of a thanksgiving meeting. Rev. Mr. Saul, assistant rector of St. Clement's Church, conducted the meeting and read the 21st chapter of Revelation. Prayer was offered by Mr. A. Martin, who remembered Mr. Hammond in his requests. Rev. John W. Mears spoke of may find open to us where we can work, and the tendency to neglect thanksgiving and of the causes this church and others had for rejoicing at this time. Mr. Calkins. pastor of the church, called on those present who had recently given their hearts to the Saviour to rise, and join in singing, by themselves, the consecration hymn, "O happy day that fixed my choice," with the chorus, "Happy Day !" Some fortyfive persons, young and old, arose in response to this call, and sung their hymn. It was a beautiful sight. Among them was an individual who afterwards explained that, although he had been a member of two brethren permanently in their service, church for ten years, he did not think he had been converted until within the last few weeks.

Mr. M. W. Baldwin said, How much has this church to be thankful for ! Nearly forty expect to join us to-morrow at the Lord's table, besides others believed to be converted, who go to other churches. If one soul is worth more than all the world. what are forty worth? Who can calculate the sum? He also took occasion to thank the brethren from other churches, who had assisted in these meetings, and who had that these brethren will return overwhelmed | encouraged us by their presence and counsel. Rev. Mr. Calkins also joined in this acknowledgment, and hoped to see all unite We have but two fears touching the again in re-establishing the meeting in the the applicants for admission, to inquiries made by the session.

kingdom. The will follow, perhaps, and work earnestly and well in some line of another man's devising; but they are not like Paul, who struck out new paths and avoided building on other men's foundations. A great amount of work may be got out of diction of criminal courts, and as men and them. They can endure much ; but they rarely lead, and all their work, being more or less tormal or constrained, will be found, like their own character, to lack sweetness, heart, contagious influence upon their fellows. They are somewhat as the horse or as the mule who have no secret understanding of their master's will, but must be held Government has not commenced a single in with bit and bridle; not simply guided process or drawn up an indictment against . by the eye.

cheerfully and heartily to his work, in public or in private. His religion is a life, not a slavery. He prays because he de- we have no reason to doubt but that this sires to pray; he reads the Bible, gratefully recognizing the condescension that Government. But has such a thing as trea- incubus, and thus carrying forward its communicated authentic heavenly truth to son been perpetrated? Have the calamities grand experiment to unparalelled success men; he works for Jesus, because he hears of the last four years, exceeding any that and glory. Right here the viper of secesincessantly rising in his heart the inquiry: the nation has ever suffered, no guilty au- sion struck his fangs. It was a rebellion in Lord what wilt thou have me to do? He thors?. Is it a political campaign merely the interest of retrogression instead of progives of his substance to satisfy the benevo- through which we have just passed? We lent impulses of his renewed soul. He is think the Government will ere long give a ready for every good word or work; his right answer to these questions, but, for feet are shod with the preparation of the the present, we have much of amnesty, and as the American Revolution, is a powerful Gospel of peace. He is aggressive. He of pardon to cases excepted by the act of argument against a rebellion got up by a Beman made his very able Special Report goes out after the neglectors of the ordi- amnesty and nothing whatever of the exer- set of petty tyrants to stop a peaceful popunances. He does not wait for opportunities cise of the rigor of law. to do good ; he finds them, he makes them.

A great secret of this spontaneity is evanis still under the law. Love enfranchises produce all good practice, and every right disposition toward God and man is summed from the tree or the stream from the fountain." Love overcomes reluctance, gives wings to duty, makes crosses light, removes mountains, fills valleys, kindles zeal, imparts a stimulus, anticipates commands, prompts to sacrifices, waits not for leaders, for ex-

race. amples, for opportunities, but becomes

tal punishment should be promptly visited upon more or less of their number. As, however, our Government delays to act. and limits its processes, as far as appears, to cases which fall rather under the jurisorgans of opinion of some note and reputed loyal, are boldly demanding impunity for these wretches, it seems necessary to examine into the question. It is a startling fact that, while multitudes of rebel leaders. paroled and not paroled, are and have been. for weeks, in our power, the United States

and blessedness through all eternity."

TRAITOR LEADERS. I.

a single rebel leader for treason. There The spontaneous soul is the one that goes has been an assassination; Government has promptly followed up its guilty authors. Prisoners have been systematically starved; awful crime is properly estimated by our

the people hold, with the constitution, that | in the interest of slavery is without a praralgelical love. The merely conscientious man treason is a capital crime, and all guilty of lel in the history of rebellions. Their own it deserve to be punished as such. It is Vice President it was, who both solemnly us from this constraint, and brings us into not at all necessary to prove them guilty of asserted the beneficent character of our the liberty of the Gospel. Love itself is assassination, or of deliberately starving or government, and who, soon after, announced the fulfilling of the law. He, indeed, who shooting helpless prisoners, before it be- that the very cornerstone of the new nation has no love in his heart, has not the Spirit comes obligatory on the authorities to pun- was slavery. So that we convict them out of Christ, and is none of his. But to live ish them. They are condemned already of their own mouths, of the double charge, habitually under its guidance, is to have an for their attempt to overthrow the Govern- that it was a good government against which complete, with sales amounting to \$36,000 unfailing fountain of pure and holy action ment. Their crime is indeed worse than they rebelled, and that the rebellion was in and a total income of over \$70,000. Onein the heart. Love, says Jonathan Ed- any single infraction of law, worse than the interest of slavery. They wished to pull half of the remaining indebtedness of wards, "is a principle which, if it be im- murder, than arson, than rape; it is in down a good government for the purpose of twenty thousand dollars on the Presbyplanted in the heart, is alone sufficient to spirit and in effect, a combination of all putting a terribly bad one in its place. crimes, a violent rejection of all authority; an attack upon all the securities given by up in it, and comes from it as the fruit civil institutions to life, honor and prosperity, against crime of every sort. It is a crime known to human laws. For four appeal from right to might, reversing the

itself a standard, a flaming beacon, an inde- man, will claim that in preserving allegiance furies and the Government they were raging somest temperance tract we have ever seen. earnestness of the man.

oppression; law is not assailed because it is oppressive, but exactly the reverse.

In a word, here is a rebellion against liberty and law both.

It is not an exasperated rising of longsuffering slaves against proud and cruel masters, but rather a rising of masters against their slaves; not a rising against tyranny and intolerable public burdens, but against the most beneficent of governments, because it gave signs of becoming more beneficent still; not against a crumbling, worn-out monarchy, rotten with vice and with inveterate abuses, but against the latest, most hopeful, most elastic and buoyant, most generous and prosperous of napulses. tionalities, in the full tide of successful experiment as a free republic, and simply because it was becoming alive to the necessity of shaking off its only political

gress. Every plea that can be urged in defence and encouraging for future usefulness. of popular outbreaks against tyranny, such | Those who compare the situation at prelar movement for the overthrow of slavery. Now we hold, and we believe the mass of A rebellion against a free government

> What then is the ground for a mild treatment of these conquered traitors and rebels?

They are plainly guilty of the highest movement in the direction of anarchy; an years we have been engraving its records Committee, among which the History of interest to the themes. Every child must broadly and indellibly upon the pages of Presbyterianism, by Dr. Gillett, must stand be attracted by them. And it is a pecuwhole tendency of civilization, and risking history-for four years, with the most lavish pre-eminent in substantial value,-a work liarity of the book, as it is of Mr. Hameverything gained, by the progress of the outlay of treasure and blood ever given for which would be a credit to any publishing mond's addresses, that it is full of energy such an object since the world began, we house in any country.

True, your secessionist, or States-rights- have been standing between these lawless

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*The Public Ledger, of this city, June 12, says: "The tendency of enlightened opinion is certainly against vengeance in political prosecution †Rev. H. A. Boardman, D.D., in his pub-

be thine own assassinators?'

lished sermon, "The Peace Meaker," speaks of ministers "who have made the air ring of ministers with maledictions" instead of inculcating forgiveness toward the conquered rebels; and after a pathetic description of the desolation of the South, asks: "Can you still talk of vengeance?" Even in his sermon on the day of humiliation, June 1st, he condemns the Christianity which he says "draws its inspiration from the world . . . from the fury which at such crises influences the passion of the multitude." "It is not," he says, "for Christian men and women to adopt the principles, to cherish the resentments, and to deal out the maledictions common to those who are swayed by mere natural im-

‡Rev. F. Starr, Jr., late of Pen Yan, N. Y., now of the North Presbyterian Church, St. Louis.

THE PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

We published, in last week's paper the report of the Standing Committee on Publication to the late General Assembly. It will be seen that the position of the Permanent Committee is highly satisfactory sent with that of two years ago, when Dr. to the Assembly in this city, will appreciate the vast improvement made. That report contained the following language :-"The collections of last year, amounting to some *four thousand dollars*, to adopt no severer language, were no honor to the church. A few such efforts of masterly inactivity would ruin any specific plan ever adopted for the reformation of the world." This year, the committee report the endowment fund of Fifty thousand dollars terian House has been cancelled, and that fine property is becoming increasingly available and valuable as a source of income

done. whole matter. The first is, that suitable fall. He also presented requests for prayers, colored preachers cannot be found for this and related the touching replies of one of work ; and the second, that the churches do not realize the magnitude of the undertaking, for these Freedmen just liberated from bondage are poor, and must have aid largely from the churches. But to meet this state of things, the committee have

resolved to call on the churches for special collections for that purpose, and agents are to be sent out to solicit contributions.

We are particularly pleased with this arrangement, because there are agencies we know not how many, or how responsible. or wisely managed; we know nothing about them, scarcely, except that they are calling at the door of every church, and begging almost every minister to let them into his pulpit to obtain aid for the Freedmen. The next worse thing to giving nothing is to give distrustfully or unintelligently. But now every pastor and every church can say to every such applicant, "No: our church has taken hold of this work, through its own recognized and authorized agency, which we can trust; it will need all we can give and probably much more. Our contributions must go there."

Acting thus unitedly, and cheerfully, and intelligently, we ought to expect great humiliation it be-is a needless one. As things.

"CHILDREN AND JESUS."

This is the title of a beautiful little volume, by Rev. Edward Payson Hammond, just issued by the Baptist Publication Board of this city. It contains six chapters, in which the little ones are addressed upon a variety of topics, such as the author knows so well how to handle. and with which he has so successfully adto the committee. We have already taken dressed their consciences and their hearts. occasion to refer to the recent issues of the His thrilling illustrations give irresistible and seeks positive and immediate results. Recently they have issued the hand- In a word it reflects, in every line, the dead

The meeting was prolonged beyond the usual hour, and was an occasion of unwonted and joyful interest. It marks the first season of general religious interest in the history of Calvary Church.

Forty-eight persons united with the church on Sabbath.

A QUESTIONABLE MEASURE.-The American Missionary Association" has sent an agent to England to solicit aid in its work among the Freedmen. Considerable disapprobation of this step has been expressed. It is felt, that, in view of our responsibilities of the past toward this people, and our abundant ability for the work, we, in this country, ought to assume the whole enterprise of educating them and furnishing them with Christian privileges. It is also felt that there are reasons too obvious to require mention, and which are intimately related to the subject, why it is peculiarly undesirable to carry this application for aid to England. We confess to some sympathy with this view of the case, and we believe the humiliation-if yet there is more difficulty in procuring the right material, than the pecuniary means for the enterprise. We know that, in our own church, the main embarrassment is the want of men of adaptation to the service. Give us the men of tact, talent, industry and prayerfulness-men who will inspire givers with confidence, and the means will be forthcoming.

THE Florence Nazione publishes some details of negotiations with the Papal Court by Signor Vegozzi.

The Pope, it is stated, will appoint Bishops to the vacant Sees, but they will be pre-sented by Victor Emanuel, and will acknowledge him as their sovereign, and recognize the Kingdom of Italy. The Pope consents to the suppression of some bishoprics, and the Italian Government will have the right to prevent the return of prelates whose presence it may consider prejudicial to public safety.