BRILLIANTS: SELECTED FROM THE WRITINGS OF HENRY C. POTTER, PP. 11-37

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Brilliants: Selected from the Writings of Henry C. Potter , pp. 11-37 by Alice L. Williams

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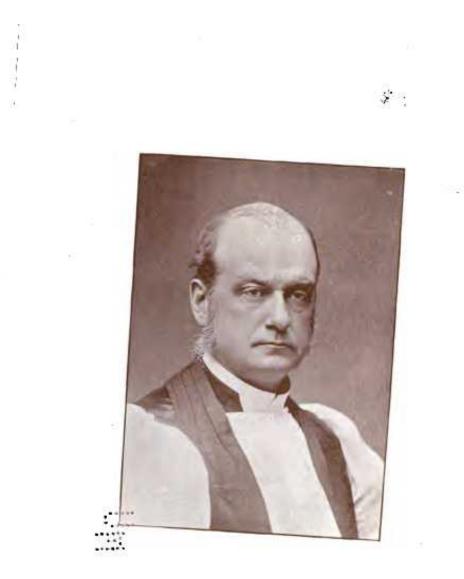
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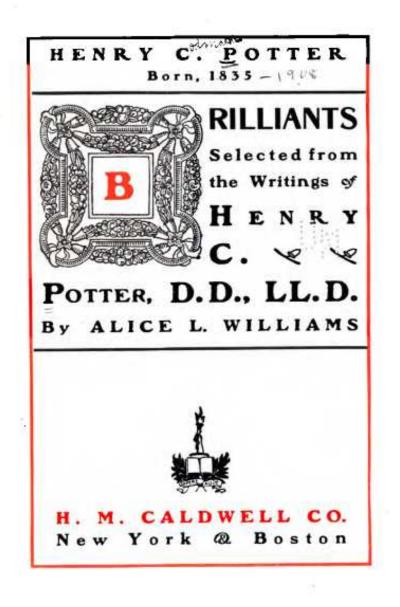
ALICE L. WILLIAMS

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FROM

BISHOP POTTER.

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It is our talent in action, in circulation, not wrapped up in a napkin, that will bless and help the world, and bless and ennoble ourselves; and that rule holds good whether our particular talent happens to be culture or the genius of organization, or the gift of sympathy, or the stewardship of money.

* * *

Christ did not merely preach the Sermon on the Mount and die on the cross. There was no disease so loathsome that He did not put forth His hand and touch it. There was no home that He went into, whether it was the home of that Pharisee whose dirty inhospitality He gently rebuked for giving Him no

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BRILLIANTS FROM

water wherewith to wash His feet, or the home of Simon's wife's mother, which He did not leave until He had expelled the fever which poisoned it and her; — there was no home, I say, which Christ entered, so far as we have any account of His ministry, which He did not leave, both physically and morally, sweeter and decenter and purer because He had entered it. And what He did, to the lame and the blind and the halt and the leper and the impure and the morally vile, I suppose that you and I who profess to be, in one sense or another. His baptized disciples, may wisely be concerned about doing also.

* * *

It was not merely for you and me that Christ died, but for humanity. Into the culture of that elder time He came to put the one ingredient that it needed supremely to ennoble it—the ingredient of a divine unselfishness. He came to make hateful and odious that cultivated self-love which cares nothing for another's welfare. He came to kill out that torpid indifference that could see



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