

**VANGELICAL ALLIANCE, 1873; THE
BEST METHODS OF
COUNTERACTING MODERN
INFIDELITY. A PAPER READ BEFORE
THE GENERAL CONFERENCE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649400195

vangelical Alliance, 1873; The Best Methods of Counteracting Modern Infidelity. A Paper Read Before the General Conference by Theodor Christlieb

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THEODOR CHRISTLIEB

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Evangelical Alliance, 1873.

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ESSAYS AND ORATIONS,

AND

A Sketch of the Proceedings of the General Conference

OF THE

EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE,

Held in the City of New York, October, 1873.

EDITED BY

THE REV. S. IRENEUS PRIME, D.D.,

AND

THE REV. PHILIP SCHAFF, D.D.

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Address:

HARPER & BROTHERS,
FRANKLIN SQUARE, NEW YORK.



Theodor Christlieb.

THE BEST METHODS OF COUNTERACTING
MODERN INFIDELITY.

A PAPER READ BEFORE THE GENERAL CONFERENCE
OF THE
EVANGELICAL ALLIANCE,
New York, *October 6, 1873.*

BY
THEODOR CHRISTLIEB, Ph.D., D.D.,
PROFESSOR OF THEOLOGY AND UNIVERSITY PREACHER AT BONN, PRUSSIA.



NEW YORK:
HARPER & BROTHERS, PUBLISHERS,
FRANKLIN SQUARE.
1874.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1873, by
HARPER & BROTHERS,
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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTICE.

THEODOR CHRISTLICH was born at Ludwigsburg, in the kingdom of Württemberg, on the 7th of March, 1833. He is a fellow-townsmen of Dr. David Frederick Strauss, the author of the infidel "Life of Jesus." His father is still living, as dean in Ludwigsburg; his grandfather and great-grandfather held the same position in the State Church of Württemberg.

Christlieb received his classical education at Maulbronn and Tübingen; in the former place he was a pupil of the famous Greek scholar, Dr. Baumlein. He entered, in 1851, the University of Tübingen, to which Germany is indebted for a large number of profound theologians.

His teachers at the University were Oehler, Landerer, Beck, and Baur. He learned from all of them, but followed none exclusively. They needed not to bring him to Christ, as he came to the University, true to his name (Christlieb), a lover of Christ. After having honorably passed his theological examination, he re-

turned home to Ludwigsburg, where he began to write his book on Scotus Erigena.

In 1857 he took the degree of Ph.D. at the University of Tübingen, and went for a year as private tutor to Montpellier, in France. Travels in France and Spain added to his excellent classical and professional education the broader view and the keener conception of the world and of man which are peculiar to the cosmopolitan gentleman. Nevertheless, he was ready to return to the narrow sphere of a country parson. His first official appointment was in the little village near Stuttgart. But as early as 1858 he received a call to Islington, London, to gather the Germans of that place into an evangelical congregation.

His labors in Islington bore good and timely fruit. When, after a stay of seven years, he left, the congregation was well organized, a beautiful church built, and a faithful successor secured in the person of the eldest son of the late Dr. Fliedner, of Kaiserswerth. While in Islington, Christlieb was married to an accomplished English lady of German descent, the daughter of the late missionary Weitbrecht, of India.

In 1860 his book on Scotus Erigena appeared. It won for its author the name of a thoroughly learned theologian and a strong thinker. He consequently received a very honorable call to St. Petersburg as coun-