UNITARIAN AFFIRMATIONS: SEVEN DISCOURSES GIVEN IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

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Unitarian Affirmations: Seven Discourses Given in Washington, D.C. by Various

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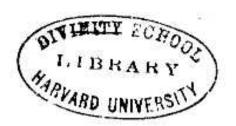
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GIVEN IN

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BY UNITARIAN MINISTERS.



BOSTON:

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1879.

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PREFACE.

THE following seven discourses were delivered on successive Sunday mornings, in the early part of the year 1879, at the new Unitarian Church in Washington City, by invitation of the paster of the Society and the American Unitarian Association. All except the first were repeated on the same Sunday evenings in the Unitarian Church of Baltimore.

The invitation was that they should be addressed, not especially to scholars and theologians, but to the people.

They were prepared independently of each other; and, for the opinions expressed, the several writers are alone responsible.

BOSTON, May 1, 1879.

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UNITARIAN AFFIRMATIONS.

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THE UNIVERSAL AND THE SPECIAL IN CHRISTIANITY.

BY REV. FREDERIC H. HEDGE, D.D.

- "Then Peter opened his mouth, and said, Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons; but in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteourness is accepted with him." — Acre x. 34, 35.
- "Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost." MATT. XXVIII. 19.

ST. PETER, if rightly reported in the passage first quoted, exhibits a breadth of view and a spirit of toleration strangely inconsistent with his conduct at Antioch, as witnessed by Paul and condemned by him in his Epistle to the Galatians. There, as we read, he separated himself from the Gentiles, and "walked not uprightly according to the truth of the gospel." Here, on the contrary, as afterward at Jerusa-