

**THIEVES OF HOMES:  
OR, HABITS THAT  
IMPOVERISH**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649720330

Thieves of Homes: Or, Habits That Impoverish by J. M. Anspach

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**J. M. ANSPACH**

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IMPOVERISH**



LUTHERAN  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY

# Thieves of Homes;

—OR—

## HABITS THAT IMPOVERISH.

—BY—

*Jm*

REV. J. M. ANSPACH,

PASTOR OF CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH, EASTON, PA.

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EASTON, PA. :  
CHAS. A. HILBURN.

1881.

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1887

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TO THE  
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OF  
CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH,  
EASTON, PA.





## PREFACE.

The contents of this small volume, with the exception of two chapters, more secular than the others, were pronounced during the spring just past, in the shape of lectures, before the congregation to whom the author has the privilege and pleasure of ministering in holy things. By a goodly number of persons belonging to, as also by several educated and christian gentlemen not in connection with his church, who came regularly to hear them, their publication in book form, was, without conference or solicitation, suggested and advised. The reason, was that usually given for the public presentation of writings of like character—"they are calculated to do good." It is in deference to the wish so expressed, and in the earnest hope of some such result, that they are herewith submitted. If under God, who in the early



days of christianity chose "the foolish things of the world to confound the wise ; and the weak things of the world to confound the things which were mighty ; and base things of the world, and things which were despised, and things which were not, to bring to nought things that were," who still chooses, if in measure less extensive and wonderful, yet not less certain, to accomplish through humblest instrumentalities, results most precious, these simple lines are made efficacious in delivering any individual from the power of the habits designated ; persons who have already fallen in greater or less degree into their control ; or of saving others yet free of, from ever coming under their dominion ; or if to any soul interested in the work of social reform and laboring in any field or capacity for the prevalence of healthful and correct sentiment on various topics of life and morals, they shall impart any comfort or encouragement, render patient under less than expected success and stimulate further effort ; if they shall contribute, in whole or in part to such result, he, who has written them and now commends them to the press, will be content and most happy.

Seeking no intrusion beyond a limited sphere, and recognition mainly among the humbler classes ; making no pretensions specially to either elegance or ability, may not the hope of lenient judgment and opinion, with reference to this work, be entertained.

J. M. ANSPACH.

*Easton, Pa., July, 1881.*

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