

**THE CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN: A
SERIES OF ADDRESSES TO YOUNG
MEN, DELIVERED IN THE YOUNG
MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
HALL, CLEVELAND, OHIO**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649745401

The Christian Gentleman: A Series of Addresses to Young Men, Delivered in the Young Men's Christian Association Hall, Cleveland, Ohio by Louis Albert Banks

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

LOUIS ALBERT BANKS

**THE CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN: A
SERIES OF ADDRESSES TO YOUNG
MEN, DELIVERED IN THE YOUNG
MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION
HALL, CLEVELAND, OHIO**

THE
CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN

BY

REV. LOUIS ALBERT BANKS, D.D.

AUTHOR OF "CHRIST AND HIS FRIENDS," "HERO TALKS FROM SACRED
STORY," "IMMORTAL HYMNS AND THEIR STORY"

A Series of Addresses to Young Men

DELIVERED IN THE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION HALL,
CLEVELAND, OHIO

FUNK & WAGNALLS COMPANY
NEW YORK AND LONDON
1898

ALD
BJ
1671
.B3
1898

COPYRIGHT, 1898, BY
FUNK & WAGNALLS COMPANY.
REGISTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL, LONDON, ENGLAND.

Printed in the United States of America.

TO
MY FRIEND
DOREMUS ALMY HAYES,
A GENTLEMAN OF THE CHRISTIAN TYPE,
This Volume
IS LOVINGLY DEDICATED BY THE
AUTHOR.

THE CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN

I

THE CHRISTIAN GENTLEMAN IN THE TEMPLE OF THE HUMAN BODY,

WHEN dealing with a man the first thing that confronts you is his body. This is true of all men—good, bad, and indifferent. A series of discussions intended to inspire thoughtfulness tending toward a well-rounded and thoroughly developed manhood, that did not give earnest heed to the physical basis of such a creation, would be lame and faulty in the extreme.

A man's body, however it may come to appear to him in old age, when the lighthouse of the home harbor is in sight and he is about to tie it up to the dock like a weather-

beaten ship, is of the highest importance throughout the working years of his life. If life is compared to a voyage, the body is the ship in which the heart and soul, the intelligence and emotion, which make up the inner and controlling manhood, are to sail. The winds and currents that sweep across the sea of life are to test the vitality and endurance of this physical life-ship which carries so precious a cargo. If a wise captain is careful that his ship shall be built of strong timbers, well framed together, thoroughly seasoned, and rigged in the manner best adapted to safety and speed, and makes sure that no barnacles are hanging to her hull to retard her onward progress; surely the young voyager on life's sea, having but this one ship, and but the one chance to sail between time and eternity, cannot afford to be careless of the building, the equipment, or the skilful management of the vessel which carries the precious freightage of his life.

All upward aspiration, all noble ambition, all hope of great intellectual or spiritual attainments, must take into account the condi-

tions of the physical body. The body is the background of all the achievements of a man's life. As Jacob, in his dream at Bethel, saw a ladder standing on the ground, but reaching up to heaven, and angels ascending and descending upon it, bringing him into fellowship with highest and noblest things, so it is the privilege of our human bodies to be the temples of the Holy Spirit. Thoughts born in our brains, affections conceived in our hearts, climb the ladder of hope and faith and love, aspiring toward and entering into fellowship with God. But let us never forget that one end of the ladder of all our hope and faith and dreams of holy achievement, so long as we live in this world, has its resting-place in our physical condition. A diseased body may hamper, or thwart, or even dethrone the most brilliant and noble intellect.

Paul, who was a virile and in every way a manly man, compares the body of a good man to a temple. He says, "Your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost." The thought of the body as a temple is very noble in its suggestion. In all ages, among all peo-

ple, it has been regarded as a foolish and wicked thing to profane or desecrate by mean and vulgar usage a temple which has been consecrated to the worship of God. Paul's idea is that the human body of a man who has a worshipful spirit is such a temple. It has been dedicated to high and noble uses, and should be watched and guarded from anything that would profane its holy character.

Reflection and observation will show us that, other things being equal, a man who has a healthy, well-developed body, disciplined for the work of life, will have an immense advantage in undertaking any useful career. The men who have made their mark most strongly on the generation just passing out have been almost universally men of remarkable physical equipment.

Among statesmen they have been men like Gladstone, with a body which, from the strong hand and arm that can swing the ax in the forests of Hawarden to the voice which eighty years and more have not been able to rob of its music, has been the perfection of physical