THE CHRISTIAN OPPORTUNITY; BEING SERMONS AND SPEECHES DELIVERED IN AMERICA

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The Christian opportunity; being sermons and speeches delivered in America by Randall Thomas Davidson

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RANDALL THOMAS DAVIDSON

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THE CHRISTIAN OPPORTUNITY



Paudall Cantuar:



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PREFACE

I can say with absolute sincerity that when I delivered, as the occasion called for them, the sermons and speeches which this little volume contains, I had no thought whatever of their subsequent reproduction in a more permanent form. Hence, in part, their character. Addressed to audiences, different though kindred, hundreds of miles apart, they naturally overlap and cover to some degree the same ground.

The request for their publication took me entirely by surprise, but it came to me from such quarters that to refuse would have been both churlish and ungrateful; the object, as I understand it, being to preserve a memento of occasions which — however inadequately I was able to use them — were some of them unique.

Out of many speeches delivered I have selected a few only, guided partly (since none of them were written) by considerations of the newspaper reports available, and partly by the general interest of the subject or occasion. Addresses of a more distinctively Ecclesiastical or "Denominational" character were given, e.g. in the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church, in the Diocesan Convention of New York, and to Deaconesses and other Church workers in various places, but on none of these occasions, so far as I know, were reporters present. I was also privileged to speak in a private session of the House of Bishops.

I should have been glad had I been able, in accordance with several independent requests, to include an address given to the students of Harvard University. No suitable report, however, seems to exist of what I tried to say on that occasion.

My general purport and aim, the thread on which the beads are strung, is indicated by the title which I have chosen.

RANDALL CANTUAR.

Steamship "Cedric," in mid-Atlantic, Oct., 19, 1904.

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