WSPAPER: DEVOTED RELIGIOUS GENERAL

Christian Lizitor.

REV. I. E. BILL,

"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth Peace, good will toward Men."

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR

GEO. W. DAY, Printer.

The Influence of the Life.

FOR YOUNG PROFESSORS. It was in the suburbs of the Metropolis, and at the window of a pretty villa, whose sloping greensward and dark shrubs were the admiration of city pedestrians and the envy of the neighbourhood, that a young and intelligent face looked out upon the sunset. The face was the property of Bella Rooke; the sunset was a February one, attractive as the harbinger of coming glories, when winter should draw back still far her his dark veil of mist and cloud, and suffer all the grandeur of the day's decline to meet the eye of poet, tree-" painter, and friend.

Upon a table beside the window lay materials for writing and a Latin Dictionary; but a kitten was at play among the papers, and the dictionary upside down. Truth to tell, Miss Bella was no hard student, at all events, not in the presence of a crimsoned sky like that before her now.

Suddenly, however, her meditations were interrupted by the entrance of a beautiful girl some two years her senior, who bore in her arms three volumes of learned aspect and a roll of foolscap.

"Bella !" said the new comer in a tone of grave remonstrance, "I left you standing in the same spot a quarter of an hour ago.-How much have you written, pray?"

"Not a line," said her sister, turning quickly round, "Puss has been busy, you see, but I have only opened this book-and verily," she cried, laughing, " it has been wrong way up all the time."

A shade of displeasure passed over the brow of the listener.

""You are a silly child, Isabel; when will you be ready to begin Greek with me ?"

"Oh, in six months, perhaps; or, perhaps, never. I do not intend to be a 'blue,' my sweet Bertha-one such in a family will suffice 1 but I hope to be useful in the world for all that. I can learn from other things trated by the guest whom Mrs. Hales had The Theatre an Enemy of Virtue. first shrunk away into a corner; but when beside books."

so absorbed in its contents, that the quiet asked the lady, lowering her voice to an earirony of the remark was lost upon her. "Of nest whisper. "I think that nobody can be course not," she carelessly replied, as she at all good without the help of the Holy Spirit. arranged herself for a morning at her studies; Will you ask God, for Jesus sake, to forgive "there is every excuse for him." your sins, and give you that Spirit in your Certainly this was not the reply Mrs. heart?"

Hales expected, but she did not express her surprise.

"Yes, yes; I will." Just then a servant entered. She was and I will tell you what to say. Don't for-Irish, and without ceremony made known her get, little one !"

"No," said the child, "I want to go to errand. "Ah, ma'am! but the gardiner 'll make a purty miss ov yer gardin, if yer lave heaven with you; so I shall be sure to re-'im alone like this. For what shud he member!"

Just then a youth came through the gardenbe doin' but pullin' down yer beatiful rosegate. "Miss Isabel," he said earnestly," "That will do, Katherine; I dare say Miss " can I speak to you alone ?"

She followed him to the other side of the Rooke will oblige me by speaking to him for me. Give me the benefit of your taste, my garden.

" I have something to tell that will please dear young friend." "Ob, certainly; I should not allow the you," said the lad. "My mother has conrose-trees to be torn down. I am fond of sented to have family prayers every day." roses; and I should pull up all that box around "Indecd! I am delighted. Who asked the beds, and have more turf in the garden;" her?"

and Bertha turned again to her studies with "I did."

the air of one who has exhibited rare self-"You ! Ah, then, Mr. Martin, my words denial; and indeed it did appear to require were not despised?"

considerable effort to look off from her book . "No, dear Miss Isabel, how could they be when the beauty of your life came before and so long. Mrs. Hales smiled. "I fear I must ask after them with such irresistible force? Oh, you to go into the garden," she said gently; it was your bright cheerfulness, your happy "Martin is out, and the younger children smile, your faithful words, that led me first to do not understand. I am sorry to trouble see a loveliness in the religion of the Bible. And, before I read the Book, I read its teachyou." "No trouble," said Bertha, without look- ing in your daily walk !"

"Have you then obeyed that teaching ?" ing up " Miss Isabel, 1 have !"" "Thank you. Then if you will direct

him how to train the rose-trees, and say that as I am so ill, I leave it all to you-"

" Oh, certainly," muttered Bertha, who trembling rose to heaven, the heart of Isabel had not heard a word. "There is a misprint poured forth its thanks to God. To Him she here; if you will excuse me, I will get a pen -and righly gave-the glory of the work, and correct it at once." So saying, she and blessed Him that He gave her grace to retreated to the drawing-room, and was seen show to any around her the beauty and the no more till noon. worth of true religion.

Nor was this the only selfish action perpe-

invited with a view to social enjoyment.---Dr. Bellows implies that the theatre has "No doubt. But does not this butterfly Day after day did Bertha evidence how little life of yours prevent your real progress? she understood the teaching of the Matter done good in the world, and deserves the Could you not, by steadiness and application, whom she professed to serve; day after day countenance of the friends of morality. Can

SAINT JOHN, NEW-BRUNSWICK, WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 1857.

J

A Noble Resolution.

the point of death. I went immediately, but age, once attended my Sabbath-school and paralysed that he neither saw, nor heard, nor ty is taken and human life destroyed--court Bible-class. She was a most interesting child, and one who always, repeated and ruce was often lighted up with brightness as she listened to instruction; and sometimes the tears would roll over her cheeks, as the truth was illustrated by some affecting anecdote pressed home upon her heart. Her mother also attended the Church, Bible-class, the accustomed to pray with her dear child; and out, and told him that this was the Lord's do- ty the child also prayed,-not with a form, but apparently with the heart and the understanding also. Some neighbours, who were caring for their souls, were also accustomed to meet in her house for prayer.—There lived at a ness and especially for swearing. 'The father he was given account of himself unto God at was a drunkard, and the most of his children was sent one day to this wicked house with a nity. Six hours from eternity! And are were very godless and rude. This litt'e girl message. She went in; and as she was standing on the floor of the cottage, one of the sons said to her, 'You have been pray- you would stand before God, would you live ing to-day, now haven't you?' The as you are doing? Striving to grasp the child looked shy, and acknowledged that they had. He then mocked at them as a set of praying fanatics, while he stood between her and the door, and said, 'You'll swear now, would not swear, for she had been taught at your danger-repair to the cross of Calvary the Sabbath school that it was wrong to That night, as all the household knelt in swear. He said again and again, 'Swear;' prayer, and as the voice of her hostess with but the child said, 'No, I'll not swear, do what you like.' Influenced by a bad and thoughtless heart, he put up his hand and to where he stood. He made all ready as if affairs of your soul quickly; the Judge stanhe were to shoot, and cried to the little girl,

'You must swear or die." The poor thing believed that her last hour was come, and at

to cry, " Lord, increase our faith."

in Yale College !

hear,"

Ghost upon these fountains, his voice faltered,

the tears rolled down his cheeks, and, over-

come with emotion, he sat down. Ah ! said

to himself the pastor, he remembers his son

At that very moment, in New Haven, there

were assembled within the college walls, a

company met for the same purpose. And

even while they yet prayed, the Holy Ghost

swer, and while they are yet speaking I will

pray for me," was his language.

felt. He was breathing very hard, evidently records are burned, and travellers cast into as if in the death struggie. I could do nothfamily-soon to be breaved of a kind parent. l spoke a word of comfort to his wife and ment are only defied. All of this is done in children, warned all present of the uncer- the name of religion. The Saints of the Salt tainty of life, and their need of preparation Lake Valley consider that they are not bound for death and eternity. I directed them to to obey the "heathen" government of the Jesus, the fountain opened, and left deeply United States, and they presume upon their impressed by the sad scene. I met his apw/2 hope, truly converted to God. She was prentice-boy weeping at the door as I went upon their isolated position, to defy its authori-'Beho'd, I stand at the door and knock.' May he remember it long and take the warning. How suddenly this man was cut down ! About five in the afternoon he was on the street; at eight I saw him; and about eleven nations. his righteous tribunal! Reader, for aught you know you may be only six hours from eterworld, and, perhaps, within six hours of the world to come ! Not a Christian, unpardoned, unbelieving, hard-hearted, impure, ungodly, and, perhaps, six hours from eternity ! Awake, my friend, to a true apprehension of

> -repent and believe the gospel! What shall it profit you (perhaps only six hours hence) in eternity, though you had the world, if you lose your soul? Awake to righteousness, and sin not! Live as if you were but six hours from the judgment seat! Settle the deth before the door !"

Gems for Christian Ministers.

Have a care that you lose not what you he cried, 'Swear, or I'll fire,' she stood out have to say, while you are tholly taken up with heroic confidence, and with determined with considering how to sav it artfull face looked upon him and said, ' Fire, then Areadico need to ourselves, my dearest brethfors liler resolution ! She would rather suf- ren ; many ministers, who opened the way to fer death than take God's name in vain! heaven for others, are now in hell for want Her's was a martyr-courage, which shames of humility .-- Xavier. The heart of Dr. W. Gouge was so much thousands who swear and blaspheme without any provocation or temptation at all. Reader, in his work, that he often said Lord Coventry, would you rather die than swear? You are then keeper of the great seal, that he envied and objects. This is, in a good measure, true, neither possessed of true manliness nor god- not his situation .- Life. Obscurity in the discourse, is an argument liness if you would not. Christ Jesus, who loves sinners, has said 'Swear not ;' and this of ignorance in the mind .- Bishop Wilkens. The chief characteristics of the eloquence child obeyed his command. If you are a swearer, follow her example, and swear no suited to the pulpit, as distinguished from more. I might have added, that the fortitude the other kinds of public speaking, appear to of the child, fairly overcame her rough per- be these two-gravity and warmth.-Blair. An eager desire to say what is curious and secutor, and he threw by the gun, and said, uncommon, is a dangerous turn of mind in a Go away home, then, and pray again ;' and teacher of Christianity .- Dr. Ershine. t stuck to him, and he and the most of the There has seldom been an instance of a deamily might be seen afterwards in the meetclension of a minister which has not been preings in the sanctuary where the dear child ceded by too much of social festivity.-J. was taught that it is right to pray and wrong Campbell. to swear.' I prayed that the Lord would be with me, for the pulpit without him was a terror .-Answer to Prayer. Boston If Christian faith were stronger, one can-Too great a portion of time may be spent, not doubt that more frequent answers to even in innocent society .- Dr. Macgill. prayer would be witnessed. Much prayer is Ministers are under strong temptations apparently lost, but because faith, even like when called to preach on special occasions, a grain of mustard seed, is not found in the to consult human authorities instead of the heart. The following instance of immediate word of God !- J. Cooh.

VOL. X.---NO. 29

the authority of the United States, and estab-"A little girl, of seven or eight years of it was of no avail; he was so completely lished a dictatorship and despotism. Properprison, although guilty of no crime-United There officials are travial within gervint distance from the seat of government, and

The mormon delusion, with all its wickedness and enormity, has been suffered till now without interference from government. But it is evident that the present state of things cannot continue. The government must interfere, or rather it must assert and maintain its authority, or become a reproach among

It is clearly the duty of the administration to exercise its authority firm'y, decidedly, and with an adequate force, if need be, to suppress all resistance, and to keep down all rebellion. There can be no excuse for inaction on the part of government after the revelation made by Judge Drummond, of the high handed crimes committed by the leading Mormons. We believe that the administration will receive the support of every true lover of civil and religious liberty, in the exercise of prompt and judicious efforts for asserting the supremacy of law in the territory of Utath.-Boston Journal.

[For the Christian Visitor. Prospects of the Bible Union.

The American Bible Union has been closely watched through every step of its progress from the time of its first organisation until the present time. Of this its friends have no reason to complain. But, it has a just right to complain that christians, of whom they might hope to may of its success. Dut, even this has, by the over-ruling hand of God, wrought good; and the remainder of the wrath has, by him, been restrained. We may hope that this wrath has nearly spent itself; and the good and honest hearted, amongst its opponents, have been induced to examine, with more candor, its principles for many who were hostile to its operations, of various denominations, have become its friends and supporters. While the Union has endured a great fight of affliction, its Board of Officers have, with commendable patience and perseverance, held on the even tenor of their way, and said to their enemies, "We are doing a great work and cannot come down; why should the work cease while we come down to you."

gain a position in the world where you would be far more useful than in that you now occupy? Apart from study, would you not as a Christian, be more influential if you were less-what word shall I use ?-less gay ?"

Isabel fixed her eyes upon the speaker and answered calmly, "I know what you mean, Bertha, and I own that I am not so useful as I ought to be. But I should not be so ' influential' as I am, if it were not that my friends discover that my 'new religion' has augmented rather than lessened my cheerfulness, my joy. I am not Bertha. If I should assume a character, if I should put the head of age on these most youthful shoulders, if I should wrap the mantle of the learned around these restless limbs-should I do honour to the religion that, is truth ? Trust me, sweet sister mine, I can do more good by being myself-provided that self be guided always by the Spirit from on high."

" Well, well," returned Bertha, as turning her back upon her sister she busied herself in the arrangement of her books, * I only hope that while I am away you will be quiet, and study as usual. I intend to work hard at

Isabel looked up from her paper-for she had at last begun to write, and exclaimed, reproachfully --- "Surely you do not mean that, when you have been invited expressly to enliven Mrs. Hales with your society ?'

"I know why 1 am going, Isabel," re-turned the other, sharply; "but my studies are of more importance than Mrs. Hales' amusement.

"Then why do you consent to visit her? Would it not be better for me to take your place ? 1 could spare time."

"Of course you could! Study never kept you back from May Burnhain's last summer-"

"No," interrupted Isabel, "because she had no one to read to her."

"Well, that was the nominal reason. But,

ed, "I hope they would believe that the religion of Jesus is a cheerful religion."

But Bertha was too intent upon her Latin to heed the reply. Venous 100

A week had passed, and Bertha was the guest of Mrs. Hales, of F-"We have planned a delightful excursion, Miss Rooke," said Martin Hales at breakfast; "we thought it would give you pleasure to visit our waterfall, and therefore we have

arranged to hire a phæton for the day, and drive you out." It was a blunt speech, but a kind one, and the invalid by the fireside bent forward to catch the reply.

"You are very obliging, Mr Martin, but I must not waste any time. My aunt is paying large sums in order to secure me the attendance of several professors, and I must study lad."

"But surely you do not intend to apply like this all the time you are here?"

Bertha hesitated ; and, at a motion from his mother, her questioner left the room, without pressing for a reply.

"You will excuse my son," said Mrs.

did she, by her conduct, increase the distaste lect of the interests of others. She would his representations concerning it. have said that she was labouring for God in all. Alas 1 she did not understand the value is scarcely a distinguished name among the of that silent but resistless influence, a self- philosophers, legislators and moralists of the denying Christian life.

the twilight, Martin, who was a good temper- stage." Among the ancients we have testied and intelligent boy of sixteen, proposed a game which he called, "Twenty Questions," totle, Solon, Valerius, Maximus, Nasica, with especial view to the amusement of the Scipio, Cicero, Horace, Tacitus, Ovid, Senelittle ones around.

puzzle even you. I think."

I, will look on until the lamp is lighted " Then, centiousness and misery, an unchanging eneturning to Mrs. Hales, she asked with unconcious earnestness., " Are your children with you every evening ?"

" Happily, yes," leturned the lady, briefly. " Let me join in your game, dear Martin. The happiness of life is made up of little things.'

"Nay," said Bertha, seriously, " the happiness of life is the possession of religion; that is no little thing !"

"I will not argue," said her hostess, quetly; " but judging of religion by the professors I have seen, I cannot say that it appears to lead to happiness; for they are heavy, cheerless, and selfish too,

"Yes, some are so. But you have per haps known few real Christians. Before I became religious 1, too, believed it a gloomy thing; but now I think far otherwise,

Poor Bertha! could she have read the hearts of those around her at that moment, she would have discovered that her selfish indifference to return to our starting-point, what would a sto their enjoyment had done more harm in family like that at F______ think of religion one short month than she could ever undo, when they saw my butterfly sister?" Isabel's eyes filled quickly, as she answer-Her words fell upon listless ears, and were ped.

pised." "Mother," said Martin Hales when the visit of the London lady was ended, " I don't like religious people ; they are so miserable, I hope I shall never be such a mope as that

Miss Rooke." "But it is her devotion to study that prevents her being a pleasing guest," said his

mother, willing to extendate. "Yes, but she was not studying when she refused to play with us; and I say again, mother, that if that is religion, I hope I may never possess it I? It was June, and amidst the roses of the garden at F-----a laughing group were mer-

rily playing "Hide." " Ob, Bella, Bella," exclained a child of seven, with a voice that might have gladden-

never !"

"Yes, and a good singer, and a good nurse, not conformed to this world," than attending and a good every thing." sud the child eager- a theatre, we have yet to learn it. How Dr. am 1?" Hales, when he was out of hearing, "you ly, as she put her arms around Bella's neck Bellows can endorse what the infidel, David must not expect the polish of the Metropolis and kissed her ; "if you would but come here Hume, condemned, as immoral, we leave to on account of receiving a message to go with

it be that Dr. Bellay existed for three thouswhich was already entertained by hand even An the success of religious people, and even for religion itself. And yet she had the come out of it? He who is willing to stand up and endorse a vile thing, so far identifies and years, and yet affirm that any good can fullest confidence that she was right in this up and endorse a vile thing, so far identifies intense devotion to her own affairs, and neg- himself with it as to stake his character upon

Joseph Styles, Esq., remarks, " That there world but is hostile to the theatre; and they have left, by their historians, or in their writ-One evening as they sat around the fire in ings, an imperishable protest against the mony that Plutarch, Xenophon, Plato, Arisca, St. Augustine, Chrysostom, Clemens, "Miss Rooke, will you join ?" asked Min- Mutius Scaevola, Theophilus, Pegasus, Nernie, a pretty little girl of nine. " Martin will va, Eusebius and Tertullian were all opposed to the theatre as an evil. Even many pagans, Bertha looked very grave. " Thank you, it is seen, esteemed the stagea fountain of limy of virtue.

Judge Bulstode, in London, 1718, charged the Grand Jury with the opinion, " That one play house destroys more souls than fifty churches are able to save."

Rome passed a decree that "common players should be expelled from that city, as enemies to virtue." Another decree, called the Prætorian law, decided " that the stage was infamous." Scipio Nasica urged the passage of a law before the Senate, which poor pagans passed, (and Addison affirmed that the modern stage had no: half the virtue of those of Rome and Greece,) that a theatre whose foundations were laid should be stopped, and the materials sold.

The theatre has in every age been the un compromising foe to all reverence towards holy things. Profanity on the stage has been one of its chief characteristics. Among nations where God was unknown the writers and actors seemed compelled to scoff at such gods as the people feared and worship-

The theatre has ever been the great promoter of impurity of mind. Only a few weeks since, in Burton's Theatre, while " Camille" was being performed, the outrage upon common decency was so gross, that I am credibly informed, one-half of the females of the audience turned their backs upon the stage. If Dr. Bellows or any one else thinks that the theatre might become purified, let them learn the history of the Theatre of Edinburgh, for which Holmes wrote ; of the theatre gotten up by Sir Wm. Wyndham, in London; of the Federal Theatre, of Boston, and one in Philadelphia, in which the third tiers were abolished. It is said that the former is now a church, and of the latter, that if the objectionable feature was not restored the doors must be closed.

These are some few of the many facts ed a less loving heart than hers whose ear it which parents and youth would do well to reached, "you are the best player in the examine. Evangelical churches fo bid perworld ! I never saw anybody like you, sons going to the theatre to approach the communion table ; and if, after being admo-"Au," said a laughing sprite, emerging mished, they persist, they are disciplined. If had called to speak with me about the salva- C. Bancroft. fron the foliage, " so I am a good player, any one can conceive a more during act of tion of the soul. I had asked a few questions, and given some counsels, when I was compeltreason towards God's command, "Be ye

answer to prayer, should lead every Christian The divine who spends all his time in study and contemplation, on subjects ever so sub-In a New England town, the church had lime and glorious, while his people are left assembled on the last Thursday of February uninstructed, acts the same part the eagle to pray for the colleges of the land. One would do, that should sit all day staring at the gentleman was called upon to pray. He rose, sun, while her young ones were starving in and commenced his prayer. But as he began the nest .-- Horne. to supplicate for the descent of the Holy

To Preachers.

I have found the following rules to be of much service to myself, and respectfully suggest to my brethren in the ministry the propriety of testing their merits :

1. Resolve to be brief, as this is an age of telegraphs and stenography.

2. Be preach all around your text without hitting it.

came down. Many were bowed down with 3. State your propositions plainly, but do anguish of spirit. Among them was one, the not stop long to particularize.

4. Avoid long introductions; but plunge merriest-hearted, the most beloved in college, into your sermon like a swimmer in cold who had hitherto made fun of religion .---"What must I do to be saved? Brethren, water.

5. Condense ; make sure that you have an idea, and then speak it right out, in the plain-It was the son of him who had sat down, overcome, in the prayer meeting at N. Those est, shortest possible terms.

in Montreal who listened to the preaching of 6. Avoid all high-flown language; quote a late beloved minister in this city, will know no Hebrew nor Greek ; aim to be simply a how that question was answered. "It shall preacher. come to pass, that before they call I will an-

7. Be honest enough to own that you do avail yourself of help from any source .----But in using helps, be sure you never make st.lts of them, when your own legs are far

Only Six Hours from Eternity. better. " In Eastern countries the journey is reck-8. Expect the Father's blessing; you are oned by the number of hours it will take to his servant, and can do nothing without it.

9. Stop when you are done. accomp ish it. They speak of being so many Among the many rules given the preachhours from a place. I once saw a man who performed the journey from comparative er, I have found it convenient to adopt the health to death and eternity in six hours. I above, as being such as were profitable

will never forget the solemnising scene. I to me. had just reached home from the northern me-And now, my brother, if they will do you tropolis, when I was told that a young person any good, you are welcome to them .- Geo.

The Mormons and Religious Toleration.

led to dismiss the youthful inquirer, with in-It is evident, by the recent news from Utah, junctions to return and converse with me hat the time is not far distant when the powabout the all-important matter of salvation, erof the Federal government in upholding organic law in Utah will be put to the severest test. Brigham Young has virtually ignored

The friends of the Bible Union have until recently, labored alone in this noble work of giving in our own language a correct revision of the Sacred Word. But recently, a number of individuals and societies have turned their attention to the same subject. The signs of the times clearly indicate that the work of revision will go on; and, if the Bible Union was to abandon the work and dissolve their organisation to-morrow, others would take it up, and the noble enterprise is destined to a glorious triumph.

Members of the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge, have introduced the subject into that body; and presented resolutions and a scheme for carrying it into effect. Thus the agitation of the subject has provoked many; and secured to the Christian church a translation of the oracles of God into our vernacular tongue.

But, the Union are not going to abandon the work, or relax their efforts; for they believe the christian has no armour for the back. Having therefore put their hands to the plough, they are not the men to look back.

True, the Union met with a sore loss, when Cone and Colgate, two noble champions in the cause, fell. But, the mantle of Elijah rested on Elisha: and the spirit of these worthy men yet animates their associates and successors; and this stone cut out of the mountain without hands, is rolling, and is destined to fill the whole earth.

The last information received from the Board informed us that they were about to appoint the final committee of revision, for the New Testament. Most of them, we believe, are appointed already, and have signified their acceptance. So that we may soon expect to have this portion of the woru of life entirely free from the errors and sectarianism of the authorized version.

True, this appointment will increase the iabilities of the Board several thousand dollars. But, that is just what its friends have expected; and we trust will be ready cheerfully to furnish. In this and the adjacent province the friends of the enterprise have furnished substantial evidence that it was a cause in which they were deeply interested; and we hope in this emergency they will not withhold their pecuniary aid, The Board have appealed to the tried friends of the cause in these provinces, as it is a rule of the Board not to run the Union in debt. We propose to raise the small sum of one hundred dollars for this special object, by dividing it into twenty shares of five dollars each ; and earnestly invite our beloved brethren to take one or more shares; and forward or pay the same to either of the pastors of the churches in this city, or vicinity. Christ expects every one to do his duty.

