

THE CANADIAN METHODIST QUARTERLY.

VOL. II.]

APRIL, 1890.

[No. 2.

CHRISTIAN PERFECTION: ITS ATTAINMENT AND PRACTICE.

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III.

IN preceding articles on this subject we have endeavored to show, (a) that the Scriptures portray to us a pattern of life, and a moral and religious character behind that life which we may, without presumption, speak of as "Christian perfection;" (b) that this character and life is associated with, and is the result of, an experience which St. John designates as "perfect love."

Two practical questions now remain for consideration.

I. How may we reach the experience of perfect love?

II. How may this experience be made the basis of a permanent, higher and more perfect Christian character and life?

In endeavoring to answer the first question, we must bear in mind what we have already learned from the New Testament, that this experience is not presented as something generically different from the initial Christian experience of sonship, but rather as a higher degree, a greater fulness of the same blessing. If that is knowledge of the love of God in Christ Jesus, this is a knowledge that leads to all the fulness of God (Eph. iii. 17). If the first experience is "the love of God shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost," this is "perfect love,"