

THE

# CHRISTIAN BANNER.

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God."  
"This is love, that we walk after his commandments."

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### EXAMPLES OF CHRISTIAN LIBERALITY.

Mr. Cobb, a Baptist merchant in the city of Boston, resolved in his youth to devote *one-fourth* of his profits in business to benevolent religious purposes; also, that when his capital reached a certain amount, he would give *one-half* of his profits; and that when his gains, if ever they should, reach a sum that he fixed in his own mind, he would put *all* the increase of his business into the Lord's treasury. He steadfastly adhered to his resolutions during life, and enjoyed the high satisfaction of scattering the blessings of his liberality "in every direction."

"Dr. Watts gave away one-fifth of his income." Chief Justice Hale spent one-tenth of his income in benevolent objects. Doddridge and Baxter the same.

Wesley, in early life, while his income did not exceed thirty pounds, devoted two pounds of it per year to religious uses; on receiving sixty pounds, he gave away thirty-two pounds of it, still making twenty-eight pounds supply his necessities; when he received one hundred and twenty pounds, his former allowance satisfied him, and he consecrated ninety-two pounds yearly to benevolence. Near the close of his life, he thus writes in his private journal: "For upwards of eighty years I have kept my accounts exactly. I will not attempt it any longer, being satisfied with the continued conviction that I save all I can, and give all I can, that is all I have." No wonder that John Wesley has left his stamp on society in view of this single trait of character, to say nothing of his persevering activity and zeal.

The following from a merchant whose devotion was equal to his business habits may serve as a most valuable lesson—

"In consecrating my life anew to God, aware of the ensnaring influence of riches, and the necessity of deciding on a plan of charity before wealth should bias my judgment, I adopted the following system: I decided to balance my accounts, as nearly as I could, every month; and, reserving such portion of profits as might appear ade-