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## SERMONIC.

### THE BIBLE A BOOK FOR ALL NATIONS.

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*The law of the Lord is perfect.*—Ps. xix: 7.

A VERY interesting meeting of the Bench and Bar of the American Association closed its sessions in this city last Friday morning. Among the proceedings of that association, I noticed that resolutions were adopted in memory of a distinguished jurist, one of whose distinctions was his loyalty to the Word of God, his hearty belief in its inspiration and its efficiency, and whose last hours on earth were cheered and tranquilized by the blessed hope which the Gospel of Jesus Christ alone can inspire. Thinking of this, I am reminded of a meeting which I attended a few months ago in the city of Richmond—a meeting of the Bench and Bar to commemorate the virtues of the late lamented Judge Moncure, who, for thirty years, was the President of the Virginia Court of Appeals. One of the speakers on that day, in paying a tribute to his memory, said that a young man about to commence the study of the law, once asked the venerable judge

what book he had better take up first. The answer was, "You had better begin with the Bible." Well did he say that; for well he knew that the Bible was the foundation, not only of all true morality, but of all just jurisprudence; and it was by its divine teaching that that venerable man walked throughout his long career, wearing his judicial robes spotless, until he went up to put on bright robes in heaven.

And, my friends, I may ask, Of what is not the Bible the foundation and the inspiration? What department of public, social, or domestic life may it not penetrate and purify? Of what science is it not a friend? Of what art is it not a patron? What literature is not made more noble by its influence, and more healthful? What form of government is not made more symmetrical and more enduring by its power? To what interest in human life does it not give its great benediction? Thus it has been from the time when this Book came in its perfected beauty from the hand of its divine author, and thus it will continue to be until the great drama of this world's history is completed.

My subject this morning is, **THE BIBLE: A BOOK FOR ALL THE RACES OF**

[The first several sermons are reported in full; the remainder are given in condensed form. Every care is taken to make these reports correct; yet our readers must not forget that it would be unfair to hold a speaker responsible for what may appear in a condensation, made by another, of his discourse.]