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INAUGURATION

OF

JAMES MCCOSH, D.D., LL.D.,

AS

PRESIDENT OF

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THE COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY,

PRINCETON. Um

OCTOBER 27, 1868.



NEW YORK:
ROBERT CARTER AND BROTHERS,
No. 530 BROADWAY.
1868.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES,

BY

THE REVEREND CHARLES HODGE, D.D., LL.D.

REVEREND AND HONORED SIR,—The Trustees of the College of New Jersey tender you their cordial salu-We regard your accession to the presidency of this institution as a most auspicious event. In no case within our knowledge has an academic election been received with such unmistakable evidence of public approbation. High expectations are entertained of your success in the career on which you are about to enter. Why this is; why such hopes are cherished, it would not be proper for me, in your presence, to state; suffice it to say, that the high positions which you have successfully filled in your own country; the world-wide reputation secured by the productions of your pen; our personal knowledge of you as a Christian gentleman and faithful minister of Christ, are rational grounds for the hope that your presidency will constitute an epoch in the history of Nassau Hall. How these expectations are to be realized, what measures are to be adopted to increase the efficiency and enhance the reputation of the College, we leave to you and your able coadjutors of the Faculty to determine. We would in a single word state what it is we desire. It is that true religion here may be dominant; that a pure gospel may be preached, and taught, and lived; that the students should be made to feel that the eternal is infinitely more important than the temporal, the heavenly than the earthly. We are deeply convinced that all forms of knowledge without religion become Satanic. The ground of this conviction is not the perceived causal relation between impiety and immorality; nor solely the lessons of experience, but the revealed purpose of God, that those who refuse to acknowledge him, he will give up to reprobate mind.

But religion and science are twin daughters of heaven. There is, or there should be, no conflict between them. We earnestly desire, therefore, that all departments of knowledge embraced in the curriculum of such an institution, should be here so cultivated as to secure the highest measure of mental culture, the richest stores of acquired knowledge, and the formation of the best habits for future study and future action.

One sentence more. We earnestly desire that the governing principle in this institution should be love; that the teachers may love the students and the students love their teachers; that these young men may be led by the cords of affection into the ways of order, self-control and diligence.

It is with the confident hope of seeing these ends accomplished we inscribe your honored name to the list

of the Presidents of this College. Your predecessors in that office form one of the brightest galaxies in the ecclesiastical and literary firmament of this western hemisphere—beginning with Dickinson, the foremost man in our church, in his generation, and ending with Maclean, than whom no man living among us is regarded with deeper reverence or more sincere affection.

We commend you to the grace of God, and the guidance of our great God and Saviour, Jesus Christ, for whom this College was founded, and to whom it inalienably belongs.