

UNION SEMINARY MAGAZINE

VOLUME XXIV.

1912-1913.

PUBLISHED BY

THE MAGAZINE ASSOCIATION OF UNION THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

RICHMOND, VA.

1913.

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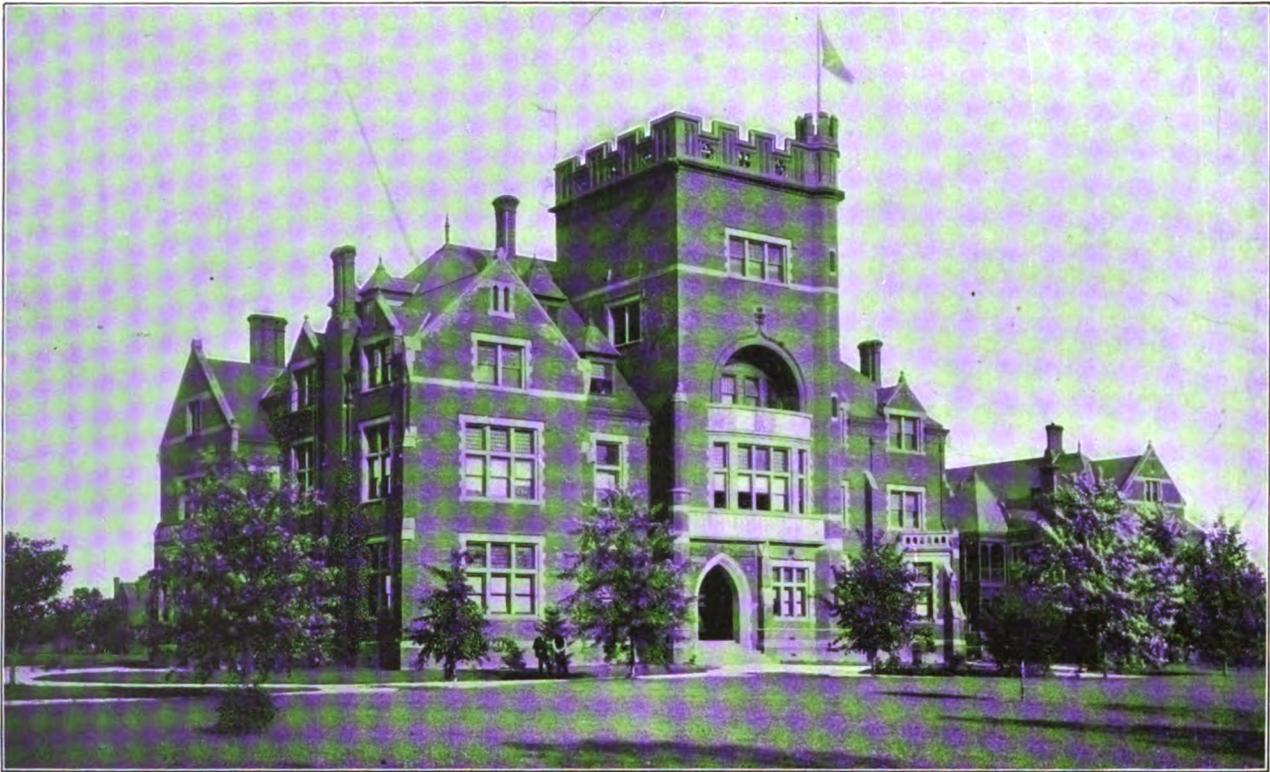
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WATTS HALL.

**Union Theological Seminary
in Virginia**

Centennial Celebration

Union Theological Seminary in Virginia

Centennial Celebration

OCTOBER THIRTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH,
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWELVE.



RICHMOND, VIRGINIA
1912.

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THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION.

The one hundredth anniversary of the founding of Union Theological Seminary in Virginia was celebrated with suitable exercises on Sunday, October 13 and Wednesday, October 16, 1912. On Sunday two addresses were delivered in the Seminary Chapel, one on "The First Fifty Years" and the other on "The Last Fifty Years."

On Wednesday, the two controlling Synods having previously taken order for a joint celebration at that time, the Synod of North Carolina came by special train from Goldsboro to Richmond, where the Synod of Virginia was in session, and the two bodies repaired to the beautiful campus in Ginter Park for the exercises of the afternoon. A large tent had been erected to afford shelter in case of rain, but it was a perfect autumn day, and on the green lawn, "under this October sun," some fifteen hundred persons assembled. One thousand of these, the more direct representatives of the Synods, wore souvenir badges in the Seminary colors, blue and white, which bore a picture of Watts Hall, the date of the celebration, and the college toast—"*Vivat, crescat, floreat Semenarium!*" One hundred wore besides on the lapels of their coats bows of white ribbon. These were the present students of the Seminary and the printed programme stated that the students could thus be identified and that they would be glad to show visitors about the grounds and buildings and to give any information desired.

The President of the Seminary opened the exercises with the following words of welcome:

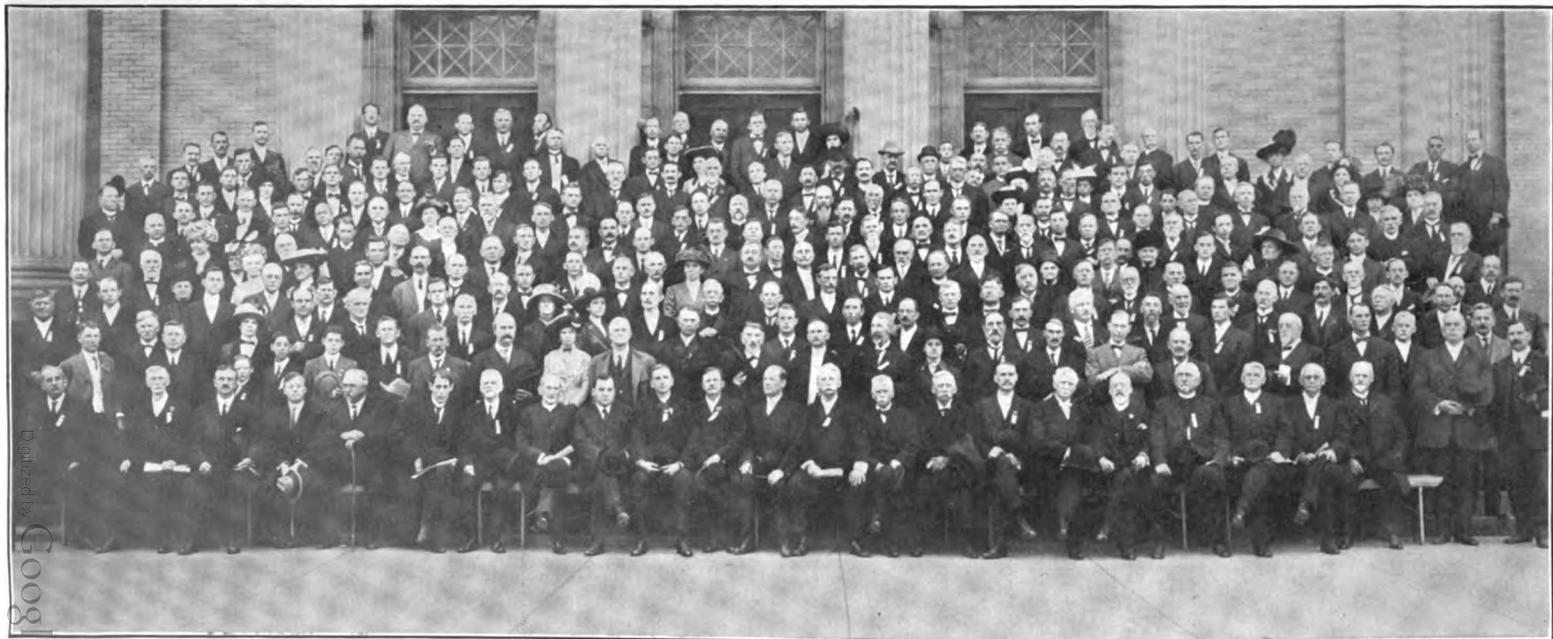
Never before in all her long history has the old Seminary had the happiness of welcoming home at one time so many of her scattered sons and folding them in her motherly embrace. In 1899 we had the honor of a visit in these halls from the General Assembly, and it so happened that nearly half of the commis-

sioners then present were former students of this Seminary. In 1905 we had the pleasure of entertaining in the same way the Synod of Virginia, three-fourths of whose ministerial members were alumni of the Seminary. But neither of those occasions equalled this in the number of old students present. To all these, her sons, who have gathered to-day under the ancestral roof-tree, she extends a loving welcome and upon all she pronounces a motherly benediction. And to those who are not her sons but her nephews, sons of her sister seminaries, she extends a welcome no less warm and cordial. To the ruling elders also of the two great Synods, to the elect ladies who have favored us with their presence in such large numbers, and to the hundreds of our visitors who have come to the Seminary's crowning to rejoice with her, she extends a glad and grateful greeting. To everyone of you she says in the genial words of Horace, "Tibi splendet focus." Nay to everyone of you she says in the warmer language of Scripture, "Come in, thou blessed of the Lord, wherefore standest thou without?"

Felicitous responses were made by the Moderator of the Synod of North Carolina, the Rev. W. McC. White, D. D., and the moderator of the Synod of Virginia, the Rev. E. T. Wellford, D. D.

Mr. George W. Watts, "President of the Board of Trustees and the greatest benefactor of the Seminary," was then presented as the presiding officer of the occasion. The hymn, "O God of Bethel," was sung, and the great congregation was led in prayer by the Rev. T. S. Wilson, D. D., grandson of the Rev. S. B. Wilson, D. D., who was for twenty-eight years a professor in the Seminary. The addresses of Dr. R. F. Campbell, Dr. D. M. Sweets and Dr. T. H. Rice on Union Seminary in the Pastorate, in Religious Journalism, and in Theological Education and Religious Thought, and the Poem of Dr. W. H. Woods, were all listened to with eager interest and are given in full in the following pages. This part of the programme was closed with the Benediction pronounced by Rev. Dr. R. P. Kerr, of Baltimore.

Refreshments were served from the Refectory from 5 to 6 o'clock, the buildings and grounds were illuminated, and a reception was given in Richmond Hall by officers of the Board



THE SYNOD OF VIRGINIA.

of Trustees, members of the Faculty, and ladies of the Seminary Community, assisted by Mrs. M.V. Terhune ("Marion Harland", of New York. It was a truly delightful social commingling, and hundreds of old friends met who had for years been widely separated.

The exercises were resumed at 8 o'clock in the City Auditorium. No other building in Richmond would have held the crowd. The city papers described it next morning as "a monster mass meeting." The Presbyterians turned out in unprecedented numbers to show what they thought of their Seminary and to listen to the various addresses. There were nearly three thousand of them, including the largest number of Southern Presbyterian ministers ever gathered in one place. After the singing of the hymn, "I love Thy Kingdom, Lord," the congregation was led in prayer by the Rev. P. H. Hoge, D. D., son of Dr. Wm. J. Hoge, one of the former professors in the Seminary, and great grandson of Dr. Moses Hoge, the first professor.

The greetings of our sister seminaries in the South were happily presented by Dr. McPheeters of Columbia, Dr. Vinson of Austin and Dr. Hemphill of Louisville, and the written greetings of thirty-five other seminaries, colleges and universities were announced by the Rev. Prof. T. R. English, D. D. Besides these there was a great number of letters from the old students and other individuals which were not intended for publication but which gave profound pleasure by their warm and affectionate greetings.

The Hon. Wm. Hodges Mann, who was introduced as the author of the statement that he regarded it a higher honor to be an elder in the Presbyterian Church than to be the Governor of Virginia, made a hearty and ringing address of welcome, to which the moderators of the two Synods responded in a way that won all hearts.

The two main addresses of the evening were made by Dr. Egbert W. Smith and Dr. James I. Vance on Union Seminary in Home Missions and Union Seminary in Foreign Missions, and are printed in full in the following pages.

Mr. John S. Munce, representing the Board of Trustees, announced that Mrs. Nettie F. McCormick of Chicago had that

day telegraphed a hearty message of congratulation to the President of the Seminary, saying that she wished to give to the Endowment \$10,000 in memory of her husband, Cyrus H. McCormick, Sr., and that Mr. George W. Watts had also marked the occasion by making, far ahead of time, the final payment of \$15,000 on the \$45,000 pledged by him for the establishment of the Walter W. Moore Foundation.

With the singing of the Doxology and the pronouncing of the Benediction this memorable celebration, successful and happy in every particular, was brought to a fitting close.

THE LAST FIFTY YEARS

BY THE REV. PROFESSOR WALTER L. LINGLE, D. D.

1 Sam. 7:12.—“Then Samuel took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

There are two ways by which I might tell my story. I might take the chronological method and divide the fifty-years into decades or certain other artificial periods of time, and then give the complete history of each period before passing on to the next; or I might choose the topical method, and then trace each topic separately through the entire period of fifty years before taking up the next topic. I have chosen the latter method, because it suits my purposes better and because every sketch of the Seminary that I have seen has been written according to the chronological method.

There are many topics of which I might speak and of which I would like to speak, but I will have to confine myself to three or four. Let me speak then of the material equipment, the faculty, the trustees, and the student body.

I. MATERIAL EQUIPMENT.

Fifty years ago the Seminary was of course at Hampden-Sidney, and its material equipment consisted of the main building, three comfortable brick residences, and another brick building, which was about the size of an ordinary residence and which has been used for various and sundry purposes. It would be very interesting to our present day students to look at the main building. It was a long, high, narrow, rectangular brick building and included in its four stories the dormitories, class rooms, chapel, refectory, and all. In addition a professor and his family lived in the east end of the building fifty years ago. The building faced towards the north and as a result one-half of all

the rooms in it have never seen a ray of sunlight. There was no steam heat, no electric lights, no bath tubs, no water works, no telephone, nor any of those modern conveniences which we have come to look upon as necessities. Those were days of plain living and high thinking. Our living is a little more comfortable, but I trust that our thinking is none the less high. The actual facts show that our students who go out from here are none the less willing to endure hardness as good soldiers of Jesus Christ, because they have had some of the ordinary comforts of present day life during their Seminary training.

The buildings which I have just mentioned are the only buildings which the Seminary had until 1880 when a rather handsome library building was built of pressed brick at a cost of about \$18,000. In 1886 another brick residence was erected. Two eight-room frame cottages were erected in 1892 and used for dormitories. They bore the good Presbyterian names "Geneva" and "Edinburgh."

I have now mentioned all the buildings which the Seminary ever had at Hampden-Sidney. These buildings with a spacious and beautiful campus dotted with great oaks made a very attractive spot. The charm of the place was greatly increased by the cultured Christian people who constituted the population of old Hampden-Sidney. The question may arise why any one would want to leave such a delightful place or move the Seminary away from a location where conditions seemed so ideal for study and self-culture. As a matter of fact I do not believe that any one ever wanted to leave or that any one ever really wanted to move the Seminary away. It was a matter of necessity. Conditions were rapidly changing. Our share of students were not coming. The young man raised in the city preferred not to go to the country for his seminary course. The young man who had been brought up in the country and educated in a small college preferred to take his seminary course in the city. Not only so but under these conditions it was becoming increasingly difficult to obtain and retain the best men in the church for our faculty. It was also increasingly difficult to persuade men of means to invest their money for the equipment and endowment of the Seminary. The church at large was at

the same time demanding that the Seminary should train her students along practical lines of work. The facilities for such training could be found only in the city. For these and other reasons too numerous to mention the Board felt the necessity of removing the Seminary from the hallowed spot on which it had stood for more than three-quarters of a century.

I find the first reference to removal in the minutes of the Board of May, 1894. It was reported that certain offers of sites had been informally made. A committee was appointed to receive and consider such offers. In May, 1895, the committee reported that several definite offers of sites had been made in two or three cities of Virginia. The Board resolved that no offer of a site would be considered unless it was accompanied by a bona fide subscription of one hundred thousand dollars. The committee was continued. The Board met in special session in Danville on October 18, 1895, and the committee reported that as many as thirteen different sites had been offered and that with the Ginter Park site in Richmond there were accompanying subscriptions amounting to as much as one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars. The Board voted to accept the offer and at once requested the controlling Synods for permission to remove the Seminary to Richmond. The North Carolina Synod was practically unanimous in its approval. In the Synod of Virginia there was a greater difference of opinion and the vote stood 100 for removal and 67 against it.

A building committee was at once appointed and in the enthusiasm of the hour it was hoped that the Seminary might be opened in Richmond in the fall of 1896. As an actual fact it was the fall of 1898 before these hopes were realized. The building committee consisted of Mr. S. H. Hawes, Chairman; Mr. C. D. Larus, Treasurer; Mr. John S. Munce, Secretary; Rev. Dr. R. P. Kerr, and Rev. Dr. L. B. Turnbull.

Contracts were let for Watts Hall, the Spence Library, Westminster Hall and five brick residences. The total cost of these buildings was about \$155,000.00. I note with interest that the block on which the Seminary stands was valued at \$20,000! I wonder what real estate men would think of that valuation now. The Watts Hall received its name in honor of Mr. George W.

Watts, now the honored president of our Board. He gave \$50,000 for its erection. The Spence Library was named in honor of a beloved Presbyterian Elder in Baltimore, Mr. W. W. Spence, who gave \$30,000 for its erection.

On October 5, 1898, these buildings were dedicated with elaborate and fitting ceremony. The Rev. Dr. Theodore L. Cuyler of New York made the dedicatory address.

At 11 o'clock on Thursday, October 6, 1898, the Seminary began its first session in Richmond with an opening address by Rev. Dr. Thomas Cary Johnson, Professor of Church History.

In 1900 our beautiful Chapel was erected. This was made possible by another handsome gift from Mr. George W. Watts. Richmond Hall was added in 1909 at a cost of about \$43,000, which was another gift from the people of Richmond, who have always been very generous to the Seminary.

In 1912 another handsome residence was added, which brings our plant to its present state of comfort and efficiency.

But the equipment of a Seminary does not consist in buildings alone. There must be an endowment and a sufficient income to support it adequately. Let us turn then and trace the story of its endowment.

At the meeting of the Board in May, 1862, the treasurer reported that the invested funds of the Seminary amounted to \$102,035.00. One would not expect this to increase during the terrible days of the civil war, and yet it did. In May, 1866, the treasurer's report shows that the Seminary had \$107,995.00 invested in Virginia and North Carolina State bonds and that \$46,000.00 had been lost in Confederate bonds and securities.

The Virginia and North Carolina bonds proved to be safe investments, but alas! in those days of war and poverty and reconstruction neither of these good States was able to pay dividends and the Seminary was left without a cent of income.

The Board met in special session on December 14, 1864, and the chief business of the meeting was "to make some particular disposition of the buildings and provision for the sustentation of the professors." Two extracts from the minutes of that meeting will give us some idea of the distress of those days. "It was resolved that for the purpose of making comfortable provision

for the support of Rev. Dr. Wilson and also for Mrs. Dr. Rice, our agent, Rev. S. J. Price is hereby instructed to make special and immediate application to such persons as he may deem advisable for donations of money and provisions." Remember that Dr. Wilson was eighty-two years of age and that Mrs. Rice was the venerable widow of Dr. John Holt Rice, who died in 1831, and you will begin to understand the meaning of this resolution.

The other resolution was as follows: "Until further ordered the professors shall be left to their own discretion as to any engagements for labor elsewhere which they may deem it expedient to make." In other words the time had come when the able bodied professors must look out for themselves.

Those were dark days, but there were brighter days ahead. I am going to let Dr. B. M. Smith tell a beautiful story first hand. You will find it in his report to the Board in May, 1866.

"About the last of June (1865) a kind Christian lady of Baltimore visited us and brought with her various evidences of the kindness and liberality of the generous people of that city already so distinguished for the relief they had extended to our suffering soldiers. She proposed that one of our number should accompany her home on her return, assuring us that by a personal explanation of our condition important aid could be secured towards keeping the institution open. The duty seemed to devolve on the undersigned (Dr. Smith). He never undertook the performance of a duty with more reluctance, but is constrained to add, he never performed one with more unmingled feelings of satisfaction and with more true comfort. From the first day on which he entered Baltimore through two months of much arduous physical service to the day of leaving that city finally in December, he remembers no incident connected with his service either in Baltimore or in New York calculated to give him pain. Nearly every donor to the temporary relief of the institution manifested as much pleasure in contributing as could be entertained by the recipients."

Dr. Smith returned from this trip with about \$8,000.00 in money, besides other supplies. This was a revelation to the friends of the Seminary. It indicated that the Seminary had

some friends north of the Mason and Dixon line, and that Dr. Smith had a wonderful genius for reaching those friends. The Board at once began to lay plans which required a daring faith. They inaugurated a campaign to raise \$100,000.00. If you will remember how much effort it takes to raise that much money in these days of abounding prosperity, and if you will remember that at that time the country was torn and bleeding and poverty stricken you will begin to realize the amount of faith that was required. The campaign was not to be confined to any particular point of the compass. Of course Dr. B. M. Smith was put in charge of it. A very striking appeal was addressed to the church and all benevolent persons. I can not resist quoting one paragraph from it. "All ultraism in doctrine and all subjects connected with political government and questions that engender strife are carefully discarded from the topics of discussion and instruction in the Seminary, and the one sole aim of its directors and professors is to prepare men for advancing the spiritual kingdom of the Lord Jesus Christ." I wish that some higher critics would tell us who wrote that appeal. Was it Dr. Smith, Dr. Dabney, Dr. Peck, or some member of the Board?

When this campaign began in 1866 the invested funds of the Seminary amounted to \$107,995.00. In 1874 the treasurer reported that the invested funds had reached \$241,030.00, a clear gain of \$133,035.00 in eight years. When we remember that this wonderful feat was accomplished largely through the labors of Dr. B. M. Smith we begin to understand what a debt of love and gratitude the Seminary owes to the memory of Dr. Smith.

There were three notable gifts made during this period. Mr. Cyrus H. McCormick, of Chicago, but a native of Virginia, in 1866 gave \$30,000.00 to endow the Chair of Oriental Literature, which was occupied by Dr. Smith. In the same year Miss Ann Brown of Baltimore gave \$10,000.00 for the erection of a library building. In 1871 Mr. Henry Young of New York gave \$30,000.00 to endow the chair of New Testament Interpretation which still bears his name.

From 1873 to 1887 the endowment increased comparatively

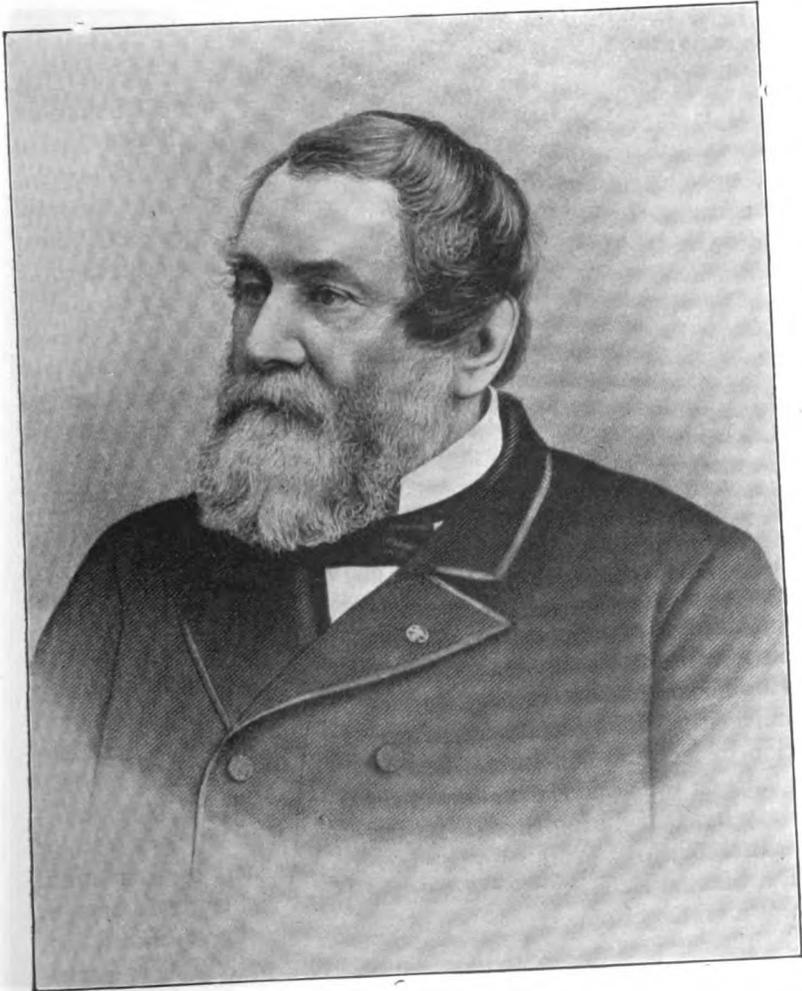
little. Steps were taken to endow the chair of English Bible in 1883, but the work did not get well under way until 1887. Under the leadership of Rev. S. Taylor Martin this work was completed by 1890 and the permanent funds of the Seminary including endowment and scholarship amounted then in round numbers to \$300,000.00.

In the early nineties while the Seminary was still at Hampden-Sidney we begin to hear of annual deficits in the running expenses of the Seminary. The income was not sufficient to meet the real needs of the institution on the most economical basis. The removal to Richmond did not decrease the annual deficit. By 1900 it was apparent that something must be done. Rev. Walter L. Lingle then of Dalton, Ga., was secured to take the Hebrew classes for six months and Dr. W. W. Moore took the field to raise funds. He met with good success.

In 1905 the Rev. A. D. P. Gilmour was secured to canvass for funds and under his direction the "Robert L. Dabney Chair of Systematic Theology" was endowed. In 1909 the Rev. R. F. Kirkpatrick became Field Secretary, but remained with the Seminary only a comparatively short time. Before the close of 1909 Rev. W. S. Lacy, now pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Belmont, N. C., became Field Secretary. He soon showed a marvelous genius for securing money. The campaign for the completion of a centennial fund of \$300,000.00 was begun in earnest. The response of the Presbyterians of the two Synods was hearty and even enthusiastic. By May, 1911 this fund had reached the gratifying total of \$322, 396.00.

There were several notable gifts. Mr. George W. Watts with his usual generosity gave \$50,000.00 for endowing the Walter W. Moore foundation. Mrs. Cyrus H. McCormick gave \$20,000. During our centennial celebration she added \$10,000 to this by telegraph. Mr. James W. Sprunt gave \$30,000 for the establishment of a lectureship foundation, which will mean much to the Seminary as the years go by. There was an anonymous donor of \$16,500.

At the meeting of the Board in May, 1912, the treasurer reported that the total endowment amounted to \$330,479.00 and that the scholarship funds amounted to \$182,062.00, making a



CYRUS H. McCORMICK.

total of \$512,541.00. Surely we can say: "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

Under the head of equipment I would like to speak at length of the history of our library and show how it grew from a few shelves full of books in a small room in the old Seminary building, to a splendid library housed in a handsome building before we left Hampden-Sidney. Then I would like to tell you how it continued to grow until we have one of the very best collections of theological books in the land, housed in a splendid fireproof building. I would like to tell you too of the services which men like Dr. B. M. Smith and Dr. T. C. Johnson have rendered as librarians. And then I would like to tell you of what I consider the greatest need of our Seminary to-day. It is that the library should have an endowment of at least \$30,000, so that we could keep the library open eight or ten hours every day with an expert librarian in charge, and so that there might be a comfortable income for purchasing new books each year. However, I must pass over all this with a mere mention and hasten to my next topic.

II. THE FACULTY.

But brick and mortar and money do not make an institution. You will remember President Garfield's saying that Mark Hopkins on one end of a log and a student on the other made a university. The faculty is the greatest asset that any institution of learning can have. Let us then take at least a hasty glance at the various members of the faculty which Union Seminary has had during these fifty years.

In 1862, fifty years ago, the faculty consisted of four men. Dr. Samuel B. Wilson, at that time about eighty years of age, was a professor of systematic and pastoral theology. Dr. B. M. Smith was professor of Oriental Literature and Biblical Introduction. His department included both Greek and Hebrew. He had been a member of the faculty for eight years, was fifty-one years of age, and in his very prime. Dr. R. L. Dabney was Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology and Sacred Rhetoric. He was forty-two years of age and had been a member of the

faculty for nine years. Dr. Thomas E. Peck was Professor of Ecclesiastical History and Church Government. He was forty years old and had been teaching in the Seminary for two years.

As a matter of fact there were only two active members of the faculty just fifty years ago. Dr. Wilson had passed his eightieth birthday and was infirm, and Dr. Dabney was Adjutant General on Stonewall Jackson's staff. One of the interesting documents of this period is Dr. Dabney's letter to the Board of Trustees, dated April 21, 1862, giving the reasons why he had accepted Stonewall Jackson's urgent invitation and left the Seminary without first obtaining the permission of the Board. He states that the call was so urgent that there was no time for consulting the Board, and then we have this paragraph: "The exigencies of the country are so unprecedented and tremendous, everything that makes our heritage as a people precious, our altars, our homes, our sanctuaries, and our seminaries are so obviously at stake in this crisis, that it appeared to me all other duties shrank into insignificance, beside the duty of rendering aid to our bleeding country, resting upon those who have the power to do so. If any modern nation can possibly be placed in the situation of Judea when oppressed by Antiochus, when the Maccabees, although priests, judged it their religious duty to take up the sword, our people are now in a case equally urgent."

But Dr. Dabney's absence was only temporary and he returned in due season to take up his great life in the Seminary, along with Dr. Smith and Dr. Peck. What a great triumvirate they made. I doubt whether any Seminary ever had a greater trio at one time. These three men gave the Seminary one hundred and two years of active service. No other member of the faculty has ever filled a chair in the Seminary as long as any one of these three. Dr. Dabney was in the faculty thirty years, Dr. Peck thirty-three, and Dr. Smith forty-three. Dr. Smith was full active professor for only thirty-five years, but he was assistant for four years, and emeritus four years.

It is not necessary that I should endeavor to characterize these three great men, as Dr. Moore did that so splendidly this morning, but I will tell a little story which my old teacher, Dr. C. R.

Vaughan, used to tell and which you will find in his biographical sketch of Dr. Peck. During the dark days of the war Dr. Vaughan was living about fifty miles from the Seminary. One day he met a man from Hampden-Sidney and inquired of him diligently about the Seminary and especially about the professors. The reply was very significant. "Well, Dr. Dabney is fighting the Yankees, Dr. Smith is hunting for provisions, and Dr. Peck is trusting in God."

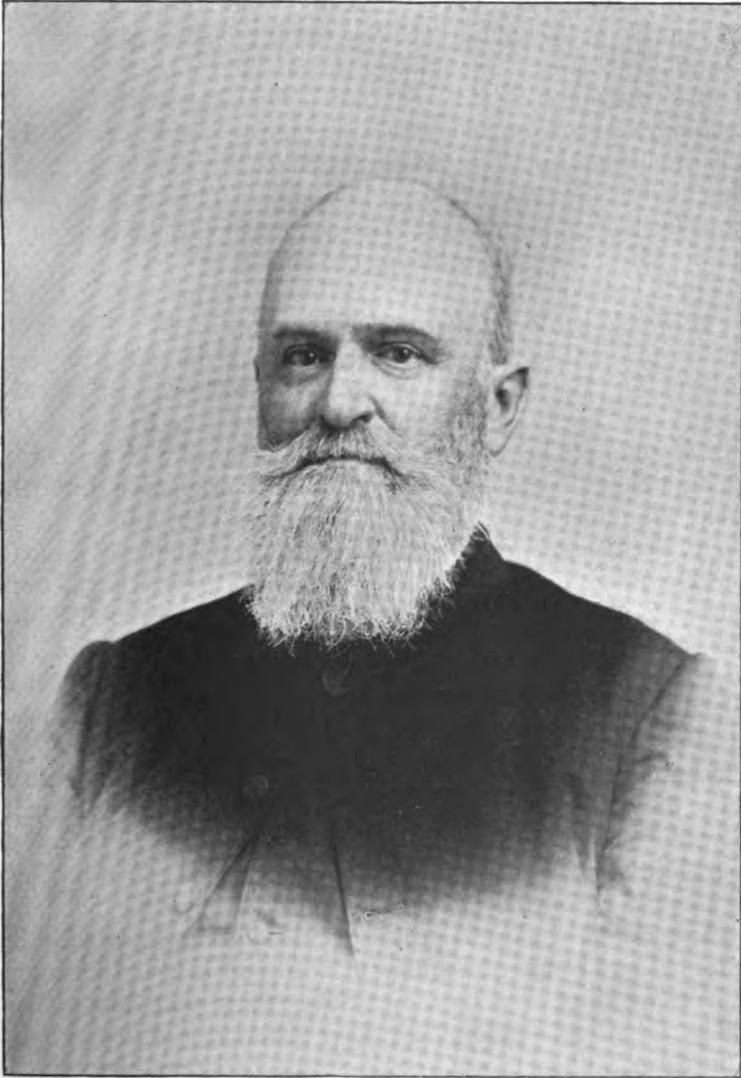
A better picture of the three men could not be given in twenty words. Dr. Dabney was the great thinker, theologian, teacher, and fighter. He not only fought the Yankees but everything which he believed was wrong. He has done more to affect the theological thinking of our church and more to keep the church to her conservative theological moorings than any other man who has ever lived in it.

Dr. Smith was the great provider. He pulled the Seminary through many a tight place. He could see a way when everybody else was standing face to face with a stone wall.

Dr. Peck was the saint, always trusting in the Lord. He was a scholar, teacher, and preacher too, but one thinks of him first as the saint. Perhaps he did more to affect the spiritual and devotional life of the church than any other man of his day.

I wish there were time to pause here and speak of Dr. Peck's home and home life, of his sainted mother, and his sainted wife, Those two faces with their heavenly halo about them will linger with me to my dying day. I wish that it had been laid upon somebody at this centennial to tell of what the women have done for Union Seminary, to tell of the part played by the mothers, wives, and daughters, of the various members of the faculty, and to tell of the gifts and prayers and labors of many other noble women, for the advancement of this institution, which has accomplished so much for the kingdom.

The first break in the original faculty came with the death of Dr. Wilson in August, 1869. Dr. Dabney at once became full professor of systematic and Pastoral Theology. In that same year the chair of Oriental Literature was divided into two departments. Dr. B. M. Smith continued to teach the Hebrew and Old Testament interpretation; the Rev. H. C. Alexander, D.



HENRY C. ALEXANDER.

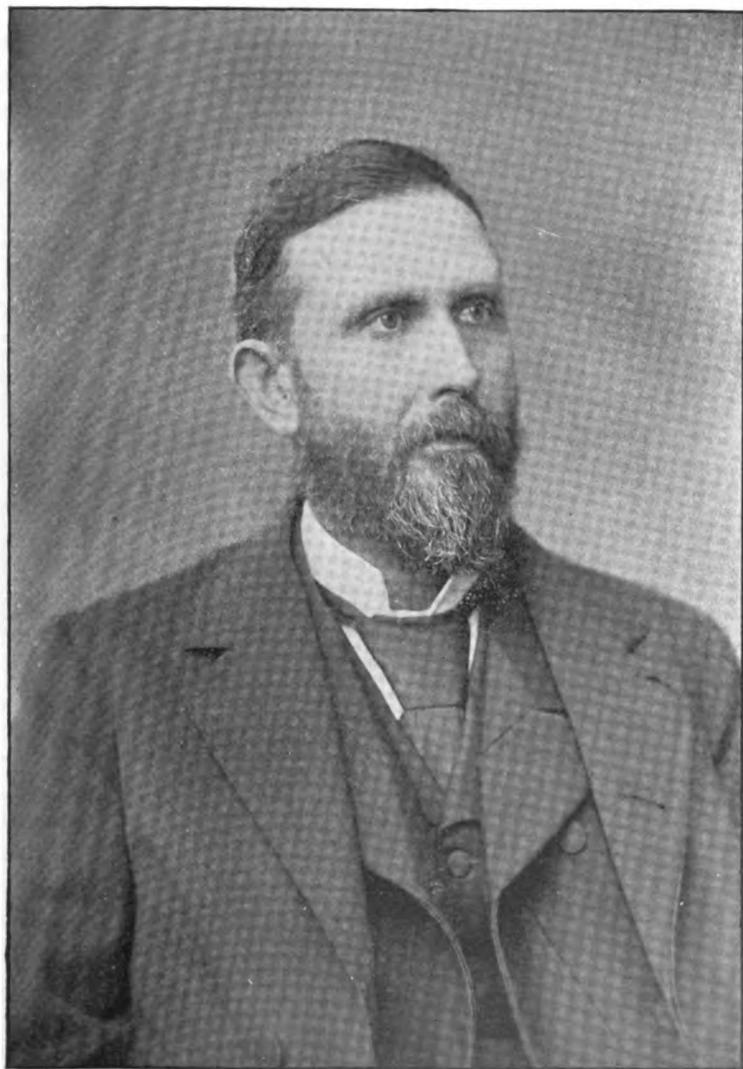
D., was elected Professor of Biblical Literature and New Testament Interpretation. He entered upon the duties of his office on January 1, 1870, and continued to fill the position until 1891, a period of nearly twenty-two years. Dr. Alexander was a man of wide culture and of thorough-going scholarship. He probably knew more of music and painting and literature than any other man who has ever been a member of the faculty. He was more widely traveled than any. As a charming conversationalist he had few equals. His name will ever be fragrant in the memory of his old students.

There were no changes in the faculty from 1869 to 1883. In 1883 changes came with remarkable swiftmess. That is the one great outstanding year in the history of the last fifty years. In 1883 Dr. Dabney resigned. This came like a bolt out of a clear sky. He was only sixty-three and still in his prime. The state of his health was the reason assigned and urged with such potency that the Board accepted his resignation, but with great reluctance.

Dr. Peck was at once transferred to the Chair of Theology, and Dr. James Fair Latimer of the Second Presbyterian Church, Memphis, Tenn., was elected to the chair of Church History. His Presbytery refused to let him come. The Rev. G. B. Strickler, D. D., of the Central Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Ga. was thereupon elected Professor of Church History, but his Presbytery declined to put the call into his hands. The Presbyteries seem to have exercised their Episcopal powers in those days. The Chair of Church History remained vacant for a year.

In 1883 steps were also taken to establish and endow the Chair of English Bible and Pastoral Theology. Thus our Seminary became one of the leaders of all the Seminaries in establishing what has now come to be a very popular chair in every Seminary.

Now we come to a most significant thing that happened in 1883. The Rev. Walter W. Moore, Pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Millersburg, Ky., was elected Assistant Instructor in Hebrew and Oriental Literature and accepted. He had been out of the Seminary only two years and was not over twenty-five or twenty-six years of age. In 1884 he became adjunct Professor.



JAMES F. LATIMER.

Two years later was made Associate. In 1889 Dr. B. M. Smith became Emeritus and Dr. Moore became full professor.

In the minutes of the General Assembly of 1885 I find this paragraph: "In addition to the three older professors whose praise is in all the churches, the institution has had for the past two years the services of Prof. W. W. Moore as instructor in the Hebrew Language. Prof. Moore has entered upon his work with great diligence and enthusiasm and has adopted the most approved methods of teaching Hebrew, and has inspired his pupils with a remarkable degree of zeal in this department."

Next May Dr. Moore will have given the Seminary thirty years of continuous service. Dr. Dabney, Dr. Peck, and Dr. B. M. Smith are the only other men in the history of the Seminary who have equalled that record. We trust that Dr. Moore is going on until he breaks all records.

I must not say much about the living to-night. I certainly must not attempt to analyze their traits and characters. That would be too much like vivisection. But there are some things that ought to be said and inasmuch as I am the newest member of the faculty and inasmuch as I was a student under most of the members of the present faculty I do not think that it is improper that I should say some of these things.

I have read every sketch of the Seminary that I could lay my hands on, I have read all the documentary history in the way of records, I have known the Seminary rather intimately for the past twenty years, I heard all that Dr. Moore had to say this morning about the great men of the past, and with deliberation, yet without hesitation, I say that the three men who have done most to make Union Seminary what it is today are Dr. John Holt Rice, Dr. B. M. Smith, and Dr. W. W. Moore. I believe that the church at large appreciates Dr. Moore's great work for the Seminary with all her heart, but I doubt if the church understands at what cost and sacrifice he has done this work.

In 1884 Dr. J. F. Latimer was again elected to the Chair of Church History and came to the Seminary in the fall of that year. He was forty years of age and seemed to be in the very zenith of his mental and physical powers. But in a very few years a fatal malady laid hold of him and after much sickness he



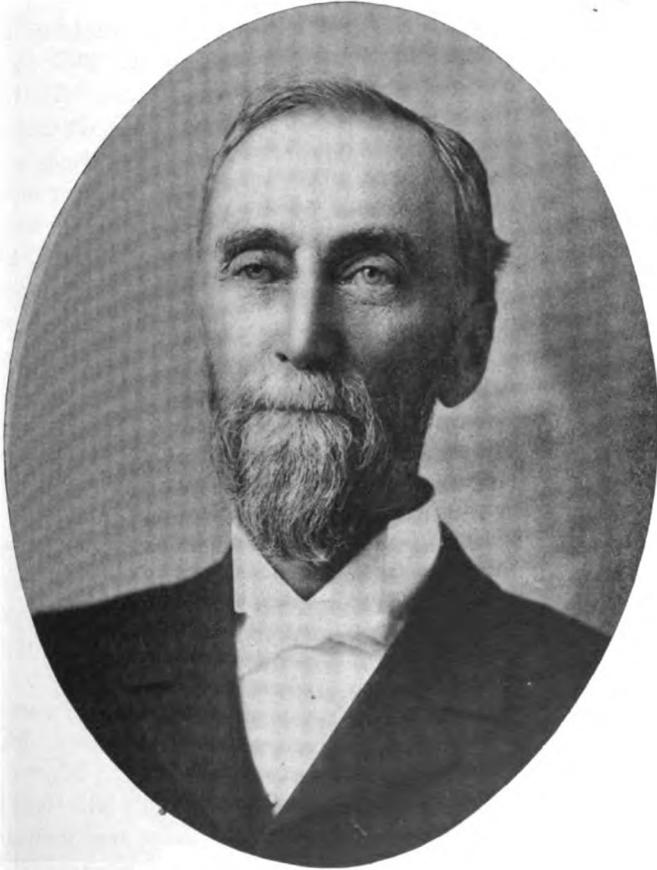
WALTER W. MOORE.

died on February 28, 1892. I think of Dr. Latimer as a man, every inch a man, but a man of God. He was a great preacher and teacher and left a deep impression upon his students.

During the two years, 1891 to 1893, there were some marked changes in the personnel of the faculty. In 1891, as already noted, Dr. H. C. Alexander resigned the Chair of Biblical Introduction and New Testament. The Rev. Charles C. Hersman, D. D., LL. D., Chancellor of the Southwestern Presbyterian University was elected to fill this chair and accepted. In 1908 Dr. Hersman became Professor Emeritus and Proctor and is still giving his valuable services to the Seminary. I once heard the late Dr. Craig, Professor of Theology in McCormick Seminary, say that Dr. Hersman was the greatest living new Testament exegete in America. Those of us who were under him in the class room and who have been thrown intimately with him can very well understand why Dr. Craig held such a high estimate.

In 1891 the Rev. Thomas Cary Johnson, D. D., was elected Professor of English Bible and Pastoral Theology. He was the first man to fill this new chair, but this was not to be his life work. Upon the death of Dr. Latimer in 1892 he was transferred to the chair of Church History, which position he continues to fill. He has now served the Seminary for twenty-one years. No more indefatigable student or worker has ever filled a chair in this Seminary, and moreover, his work has accomplished results not only in the class room but in many other lines. As an author, Dr. Johnson easily stands at the head of the list of all the men who have filled chairs in our Seminary.

In 1893 the Rev. Thomas R. English, D. D., pastor of the Presbyterian Church at Yorkville, S. C., became Professor of English Bible and Pastoral Theology. He continued to hold this position until 1908 when he was transferred to the Chair of Biblical Introduction and New Testament Interpretation, which place he continues to fill. I think of Dr. English as a man who can come as near getting at the very heart of a passage of Scripture as any man I ever knew, as one who preaches strong, practical sermons which men can live by, and as the most faith-



CHARLES C. HERSMAN.

ful man I ever knew. He never seems to forget or neglect a duty.

Dr. B. M. Smith died at Petersburg, Va., on March 14, 1893. Dr. Peck died at Hampden-Sidney on October 2, 1893. They were united even in death. The Rev. C. R. Vaughan, D. D., filled the Chair of Systematic Theology from 1893 to 1896. He was a man of vigorous mind and brilliant gifts. At the age of twenty-two he became pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg, Va. This position he filled for eight years, and then a great cross came into his life. His throat was partially paralyzed. He was compelled to give up public speaking for fifteen years. His voice was never fully restored. Yet he rendered the church a large service both with tongue and pen. He was my teacher. I revere his memory. The beautiful resignation with which he bore some of the bitterest disappointments that could come into a man's life, I will never forget.

In 1896 the Rev. G. B. Strickler, D. D., LL. D., pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Ga., became professor of Systematic Theology and is still with us. May his bow long abide in strength. The whole church has felt for many years that Dr. Dabney's mantle fell on Dr. Strickler and that he is the one man who has all the qualifications to fill Dr. Dabney's Chair. At the same time Dr. Strickler has been the most powerful preacher of his generation in the Southern Presbyterian Church.

These were the men who composed the faculty when the Seminary was moved to Richmond in 1898---Drs. Moore, Hersman, Johnson, English, Strickler. As Dr. Moore this morning called the roll of the great men of the past who have been connected with our faculty, I thought of those five men and I said, "They are worthy." Altogether they have given the Seminary 107 years of continuous service.

In 1904 the Board decided that it would be wise to elect a president of the Seminary. Prior to that date the various members of the faculty had acted as chairman of the faculty for a year at a time, rotating in order of seniority. Dr. W. W. Moore was elected president. This was a tribute that had been well deserved by his distinguished services to the Seminary.



THOMAS C. JOHNSON.

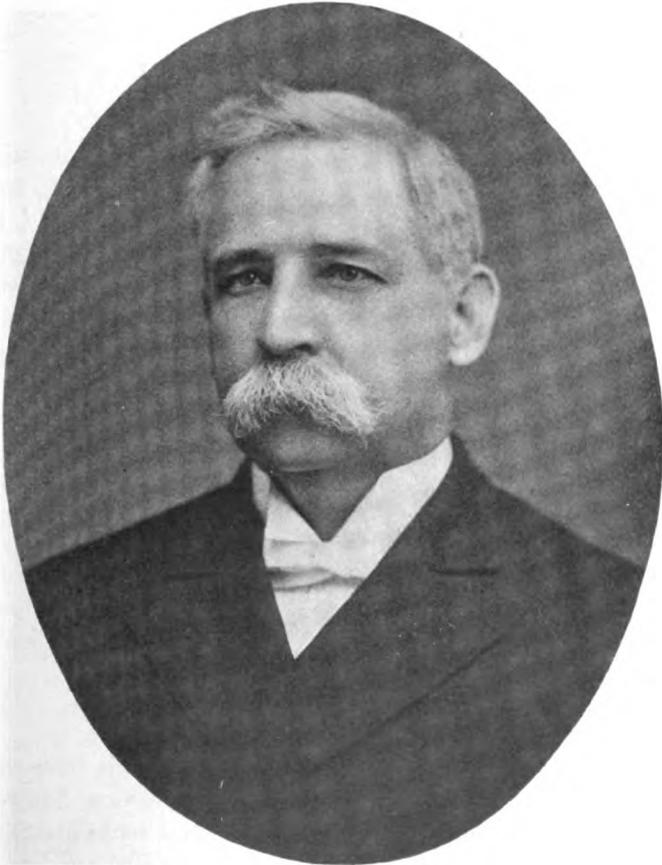
In that same year Rev. J. G. McAlister, who had been assisting Dr. Moore for a year, became Adjunct Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Interpretation. This position he laid down at the end of a year to become President of Hampden-Sidney College.

Rev. Warren H. Stuart, now of China, assisted Dr. Moore in Hebrew during the session of 1905-1906. From 1906 to 1908 the Rev. A. D. P. Gilmour, D. D., now pastor of Purity Presbyterian Church, Chester, S. C., was assistant in the Old Testament department. In 1908 he became Associate Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Interpretation, which position he filled with distinction until May, 1911. As already noted, Dr. English was transferred in 1908 from the Chair of English Bible to the New Testament Chair. The Rev. Theron H. Rice, D. D., pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Ga., was elected to the Chair of English Bible and Pastoral Theology and took up his work in the fall of 1908. It is my deliberate judgment that Dr. Rice is to-day the greatest popular expositor of the English Bible in the Southern Presbyterian Church.

In the summer of 1911 the Rev. Walter L. Lingle, D. D., pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Ga., was elected Adjunct Professor of the Hebrew Language and Sunday-School work, by the Executive Committee. At the annual meeting of the Board in May, 1912, he was elected McCormick Professor of the Hebrew Language and Literature.

This gives you in brief the story of our faculty for the past fifty years. Fifty years ago there were three active men in the faculty, to-day there are seven. In the meantime the course of study has been greatly enlarged and enriched. Two new chairs have been established, those of New Testament Interpretation and English Bible. A thorough-going course in Missions was added twenty years ago. More recently a practical course in the study of Sunday-school work has been put in the curriculum. A fuller course in Christian Sociology and Social Service is being developed. I only wish there were more time to speak of our present curriculum and to show you how the Seminary is making every endeavor to meet the needs of the present day ministry.

In these past fifty years there have been only two deaths and three resignations in the faculty. In all the years of the past no



THOMAS R. ENGLISH.

member of the faculty has been accused, or so far as I know, even suspected of any kind of heresy.

I believe that I can truly write at the beginning of this story, in the middle of it, and at the end the words which I have chosen to stand at the head of all that I shall say to-night: "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

III. THE TRUSTEES.

There ought to be time to speak of the long list of distinguished men who have served the Seminary so well and so faithfully as trustees. Their work has been a work of love. I have examined the list with care and with great interest. It contains the names of many of the most noted ministers and ruling elders our church has produced.

There are five names which I must mention, though they deserve vastly more than mere mention. These are the men who have served as treasurers of the funds of the Seminary. They are Judge F. N. Watkins, of Farmville, Va., (1845-1884); Col. J. B. Fitzgerald, of Farmville (1885-1897); Mr. Wm. C. Preston, of Richmond (1898-1901); Mr. John S. Munce, of Richmond (1901-1907) and Mr. Wm. R. Miller, of Richmond, who has been our treasurer since 1907. These men by their labors and by their wisdom have helped to bring us through many difficult places up to this good hour, and we owe them a large debt of gratitude.

IV. THE STUDENT BODY.

A volume could be written about the students who have come and gone during these fifty years. In fact a volume has been written, "The Centennial Catalogue of Union Theological Seminary in Virginia." A hundred pages of this volume are devoted to the students of the past fifty years, and no name occupies more than an inch of space. So you see what a task the historian has before him. I can speak only in the most general way.

Two quotations from the records of the Board will give us a very good idea as to the size of the student body fifty years ago.

I have already quoted from Dr. Dabney's letter of April 21,



GIVENS B. STRICKLER.

1862. Let me turn to it again: "Moreover, the most of our students of divinity are already in General Jackson's Army; and finding my occupation gone here, it seems to me most appropriate to follow them, and endeavor to watch over their welfare. From this week I should have only one pupil remaining in the Seminary in any class reciting to me. In such a case it seems a sin to be expending time here for a formality."

In the report of the faculty to the Board in May, 1862, we have this interesting paragraph: "Of the students enrolled the Board will find present at this time only the present, viz.: Messrs. (J. M.) Wharey, (E. H.) Barnett, (P. P.) Flournoy, and (T. M.) McCorkle, all of whom were in the service of their country, were made prisoners at Rich Mountain last summer, were released on parole, and have not been exchanged. The remainder left the Seminary in February or March under the urgent call of the government for more troops." In 1864-'65 there was one student at the Seminary and he was there because he was not physically able to enter the Army.

But brighter days were ahead. Twenty-four men were enrolled for the session 1865-'66. They were mature, serious minded, earnest men, who had seen hard service in the war. The tide continued to rise with the passing years until the high water mark was reached in 1785-'75, when seventy-seven students were in attendance. That is the greatest number the Seminary ever had in any one year at Hampden-Sidney. Then came the ebbing of the tide until the low mark of forty-five was reached in 1881-'82. That is the smallest number of students the Seminary has had in any one year since 1870. Again there was a gradual increase until 1893-'94 when we had seventy-four students. When the Seminary left Hampden-Sidney in May, 1898, there were sixty-eight students. In October, 1898, the Seminary began her first year in Richmond with eighty-eight students. Since that time there have been fluctuations but a steady growth. To-day we have one hundred and seven students. Since the Seminary was founded a hundred years ago about 1,525 students have entered her walls. About 1,125 of these have entered during the past fifty years.

Much of the life of the student body is reflected in the records

of the Board and the faculty and in the reports to the Synods and the General Assembly. This subject alone would make a very fruitful topic for a paper.

I have been interested to note that the fathers and brethren who now tell us of the golden age of the past, and of how much better the students were in their day than in ours, were not always as docile and tractable as we had been led to suppose. About thirty-five years ago (I must not give the exact date) the Board made this minute: "We regret to find that a large number of the students did not remain for examinations or did not attend them." There is a constant refrain of that kind in the records of those days. At the opening of the session in one of those years there were six seniors present on the first day out of a class of eighteen and there were five middlers out of a class of seventeen. The faculty and the Board of Trustees did their utmost to remedy matters, but they found it a very difficult task. That all sounds strange enough to-day. In a senior class of thirty-eight this year only one man was absent at the opening of the session and he had a good excuse. Such a thing as omitting an examination without permission of the faculty is practically unheard of. I write this, not as a criticism, but lest our fathers forget.

There was another side to the students life in those olden days as you may very well suppose.

In 1868 we have this paragraph in the minutes of the Board: "It is a ground of rejoicing and hope that five of those now graduating have it in purpose to devote themselves to the Gospel ministry in Foreign lands."

Here we see the spiritual note and the intense Missionary spirit which have always characterized the student body of our Seminary. From the beginning this has been a missionary Seminary. About two-thirds of all the ordained foreign missionaries of the Southern Presbyterian Church have gone out from Union Seminary. Scores and scores of others have gone to the most difficult fields in Home Mission work.

For over a month at the opening of the present session I roomed in Richmond Hall among the students and took my meals at the Refectory with them. The one thing which impressed me

most was the missionary spirit and the deep spiritual earnestness which pervade the entire student body. I felt this in our daily conversations, at the evening prayers conducted by the students, and in the several gatherings of the students which I was permitted to attend. It is a revelation even to a teacher in the Seminary to attend the first meeting of the Society of Missionary Inquiry in the fall and hear the students of the upper classes tell the new students of the various forms of missionary activity carried on by the student body. Some conduct Christian services at the penitentiary, some in the jails, some in hospitals, some in the almshouse, some at the soldiers home, some at the railroad shops, some at the State Reformatory for boys, and still others in many weak churches within a radius of 150 miles from the Seminary. This intimate knowledge of the inner life of the students has stirred my soul within me and I must confess that there has been a fear in my heart lest the faculty should fall behind the students in missionary enthusiasm and spiritual fervor.

For a century these earnest, spiritually minded men have been going out of the Seminary into the world to preach the unsearchable riches of the gospel of Christ. They have literally dotted the globe. Eternity alone will reveal all that has been and will be accomplished by their labors. Up in the missionary room the students have one of the most interesting missionary maps of the world that I have ever seen. They have taken the Seminary as the center and drawn red lines to every foreign mission station in the world where a Union Seminary man is at work. As you can well imagine the map is a perfect net work of red lines. What if the idea could be carried a little further and a line run from the Seminary to every place at home and abroad where a Union man labors or ever has labored. What a wonderful picture it would be. It would not take much imagination to feel that each one of these lines was a power line, over which spiritual power was going out from the Seminary to bless the world. Nor would it take much imagination to feel that over these same lines there was coming back a reflex power to bless the old Seminary.

As we look back upon the old century from the threshold of

the new, take what point of view we will, we can write over it all: "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us." By the side of this let us remember to write that other verse: "Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto thy name give glory, for thy mercy and for thy truth's sake."