

A

MEMOIR

OF THE

REV. JOHN H. RICE, D.D.

First Professor of Christian Theology in Union Theological Seminary, Virginia.

BY WILLIAM MAXWELL.



PHILADELPHIA: *(Signature)*

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(Signature)

of my own. Our brethren are not so active in this business as they should be. It is thought best not to commence the publication until the year of the Monitor shall expire, and it seems to be thought that there will be nothing to be done but at once to commence the publication of the Magazine, whereas subscriptions must be procured, contracts made for paper, &c. &c., which will require considerable activity to bring out the work at the time contemplated. I wish that some more spirit could be infused into Presbyterians in this state. We are getting very languid. The excitement which appeared to have been raised at Synod, I fear has subsided.

I get very little help for the Monitor. I wish that you would employ your leisure in writing something for it.

I write in very great haste, and can only add messages of affection, which I wish you to deliver from Mrs. Rice and myself, to Sister Louisa, Mrs. R——, and all Norfolk friends.

Peace be with you all.

Your assured friend,

JOHN H. RICE.

TO THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D.D

Richmond, August 16th, 1817.

MY DEAR SIR,

It would be, I think, a very great advantage to the interests of religion, if we could procure a suitable missionary to itinerate for six or eight months, or a year, within the bounds of the Presbytery of Hanover. If such a one as you could with confidence recommend, would come on, a few of us would guarantee the payment of a salary equal to that allowed by the General Assembly's Board of Missions. We wish a man who has the missionary cause much at heart, and who would exert himself to form Missionary Associations wherever this could be done. I believe that

much might at this time be effected for the cause of the destitute in our own country, and more for the benefit of the Foreign Missionary Society, recently established in New York. I believe this principally because of the deep interest which is taken in the affairs of South America by the people in our region. Any measure that would promise to emancipate the people of that country from the slavery of superstition and Popish jugglery, would take greatly among us. There are several other important matters which a missionary officiating as we wish might attend to. I pray you endeavour to send us one of the right stamp. Be so good as to let me know as soon as you can, whether you can point out one who would suit this climate. In the winter we would place him at Portsmouth, or in some other town, and give him quite labour enough as a stationary preacher; and during the rest of the year he might ride partly in the lowlands, and, as the sickly season should advance, up the country among the mountains. We have this scheme very greatly at heart, and look to you for aid.

Things in Richmond go on very much in the old way. We of this house love you and yours as much as ever. My brother is with me. He is very well. Sister Martha and the child are gone to Rockbridge.

Every blessing on you and yours.

As ever,

JOHN H. RICE.

TO THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D. D.

Richmond, Dec. 31st, 1817.

MY DEAR SIR,

I suppose you have heard before this of a scheme which we have in view of publishing a monthly magazine. I have intended all along to send you a prospectus, and endeavour to lay your talents under contribution. Why I have not before now made this communication, I can hardly tell: