MEMOIR

A

OF THE

REV. JOHN H. RICE, D.D.

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

BY WILLIAM MAXWELL.

PHILADELPHIA: (

PUBLISHED BY J. WHETHAM.

RICHMOND :--- R. I. SMITH. 1835. Perhaps make a little trial at Washington; and then enter Virginia. I hope he will be here in two or three weeks.

We are exceedingly pleased with the North Carolina students. One of them (**) seems unable to keep up with his class. The rest are really very fine fellows. I think, too, there is a manifest growth of holiness in the Institution.

Remember us in your prayers. Let all pray that we may be very holy men. We unite here in fraternal regards to you.

Yours truly,

JOHN H. RICE.

TO THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D. D.

Union Seminary, Feb. 9th, 1828.

My DEAR SIR,

I am safe at home, in pretty good health, and found all well.

Had I passed through Princeton in returning from New York as I intended, there is one subject on which I could have wished to converse with you and Dr. Miller.

Some of my old Richmond friends have removed to Florida, among them J — and R — G — , and J — P — . J — G — and P — are members of the church; they are both intelligent, public-spirited men, concerned for the interests of education and religion. G — , who is the best acquainted with the country of any of them, says, that by proper management the direction of the literary and religious interests of that territory may be in the hands of Presbyterians. There is an appropriation of land for a University there, or for a literary fund, worth two millions of dollars. If some men of intelligence and piety do not get the management, it will be fooled away, or worse. He therefore earnestly entreats that some one or two young clergymen of high talents and attainments, of enlarged views, and active zeal, should at once be sent out to him. They

must be adventurous men, who for the accomplishment of a great good, would be willing to run some risk. But the prospect of success is such as to encourage the attempt, and fully to justify it. He advises that one should look at the map of Florida, and see what a range of influence might be established if the enterprise should succeed. A seminary of learning of high character, would draw multitudes from the West India Islands, especially from Cuba, which is to be a great country. It would also have connexion with Mexico, and all the Spanish part of North America. In progress of time, a Seminary might be got up there, to prepare Missionaries for the new Southern Republics. In a word, he says, that the opportunity is one of the fairest in the world for extensive good, and that it may be now seized and employed by the Presbyterians, if they will.

He prays, therefore, that at least one good man may be sent. We have nobody to send. The country around us will absorb all that we can raise for many years. I hope, then, that in your large number, you can find some to whom you can commit the execution of this project. G— says the health of the climate is far before South Carolina or Georgia. Where he lives the face of the country is much like Albemarle, or the middle region of Virginia.

Mrs. Rice unites with me in most affectionate regards to you, Mrs. A., and all the family.

Truly yours,

JNO. H. RICE.

TO MRS. JANE I. WHITE.

Union Theological Seminary, Feb. 13th, 1828, My DEAR JANE,

I have a thousand times purposed to write to you, since your marriage; but have never yet seen the time when I could fulfil my intentions. It was needless for me just to drop you a line assuring you of my love; for of this you know you have a large share. I wished to write something