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
OF THE

REV. JOHN H. RICE, D.D.

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

BY WILLIAM MAXWELL.



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not resources enough to enable him to present at least *one* new idea once a week.

As to the two first particulars, Mr. G—— would do very well. As to the third, I do not know. Indeed, I know several who would answer as to Nos. one and two. But it requires a long time to know whether a man will do for No. three.

Take care about *candidating*. It is the common way of forming parties in the church. A right sleek fellow who wanted a settlement very much, would soon find out the way to get into the good graces of all your * * * *s, and then you might object to him if you dared.

I am just about to publish an Essay on Baptism. I think it very decisive on the subject. But what others may think, I know not.

I shall shortly publish an Ordination Sermon, with an Appendix. It is to be No. II. of my Pamphleteer. But people must buy my books or I cannot write them.

Give my best love to all friends.

Yours truly,

JOHN H. RICE.

TO THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D. D.

Richmond, Oct. 11th, 1819.

MY DEAR SIR,

Mr. M—— is here, and has informed me that Mr. Nevins, whom we had calculated on as a Missionary for this region, will probably be stopped and detained during the winter in Norfolk. We wish Norfolk to be well supplied; and think it peculiarly important that, at this period, a man of warm piety and commanding talents should be employed there.

This is an important time in Richmond too. There is certainly a more than usual spirit of inquiry among the people. Mr. Kirkpatrick has gone to Cumberland; and Mr. Blair becomes more and more infirm every day. So the Presbyterian interests here, amidst the jealousies and oppo-

sition of Baptists, Methodists, and Episcopalians, are to be sustained almost exclusively through my instrumentality. And I find the burden a very heavy one. It is too great for my feeble abilities. I was elevated with the prospect of getting an active zealous young preacher stationed here, in the employ of the Missionary Society of the young men. I pray you send one, if possible, immediately. I am just now setting out for Presbytery and Synod, and I leave the place while a number of young people are in a state of considerable sensibility, and are making very serious inquiries after truth. I go as the old man in Homer, *εκὼν ἀεχοντι γε θυμῶ*. I am willing to do my duty in the judicatories of the church, but very unwilling to leave my people in their present condition. Pray send us help. Yet Oh! if you could yourself come! You would render a service of pre-eminent importance, I have no doubt, to the cause of piety.

I have heard from Doctors Miller, McDowell, and Green, that I have been honoured with a diploma from the College of New Jersey. I have never valued, and of course never coveted Academical honours. But any thing that betokens the esteem and friendship of good men, is grateful to my heart. So far as a degree betokens this, I prize it, and no farther.

TO WILLIAM MAXWELL, ESQ.

Richmond, Dec'r 30th, 1819.

MY DEAR SIR,

The articles which you were so good as to send me, came to hand in tolerably good order. The *Lute* has a number of very fine tones; but it is so new an instrument, and has been practised on so little, that I cannot certainly determine what its character will be. As far, however, as this has been developed, I entertain the very best hopes. As for the *Trumpet*, I at first took it to be a very fine instrument indeed. But on closer inspection, I detected a *crack* in it, produced, I am pretty confident, by being *blown* too much.