

A

MEMOIR

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.

5

TO THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D. D.

*Theological Seminary, Oct. 16th, 1825.*

MY DEAR SIR,

Our Presbytery met yesterday week; and although we anticipated a stormy time, we were happily disappointed. I do not know that we ever conducted things in a better spirit. All broke up in harmony and peace; and, for my part, I have better hopes than I have felt myself at liberty to entertain for several years. Indeed, I hope that the cloud is breaking, and that what we feared would be a storm of wrath, will be a shower of mercy. As for the other two Presbyteries, I know very little of the state of things among them. But I think that there is a redeeming energy in the principles which we hold as a church, which, under the divine blessing, will bring all things soon into better order.

Mr. Roy still goes on successfully. His subscriptions in Prince Edward and Charlotte, amount to about fourteen thousand dollars. We have retained him for a year, and I hope in that time he will establish two Professorships, and get money for a considerable contingent fund beside. We have now organized an Education Society, and I hope that it will be more efficient than it has been.

My absence from home was occasioned by an appointment given by our Presbytery. I visited the venerable Synod of North Carolina, for the purpose of awakening an interest to the South, in our Seminary. Herein I was made completely successful. The Synod did what I wished in every respect; that is, adopted resolutions which I proposed, appending to them the declaration that they were by no means to interfere with the engagements of that body to the Seminary at Princeton.

Your visit to us last summer, constitutes an epoch in the "Annals of our Parish." Things are commonly spoken of as having happened just before, or just after, or

while Dr. Alexander was here. I do hope that Providence will permit you to come among us again. And if I could have my wish, you would render your last services to the church here, and lay your bones to rest in the land of your nativity. We shall bid *James* a most hearty welcome should he come to this state; and if he likes to labour can give him work enough.

There is an opening at Milton on Dan river, just on the Carolina and Virginia line, for a young man of talents and prudence, which claims attention. It is wished that such an one should superintend a female academy, hear two recitations a day, and preach in Milton, (a growing village of about three hundred or four hundred inhabitants,) for which they will give about seven hundred and fifty or eight hundred dollars. Do you know any one to suit that place? I also want a man to live in a private family in Albemarle, and teach three small children about five hours a day, for two hundred dollars. If you know of one to fill either of these places, please to inform me by return of the mail.

We unite in best love to Mrs. A. and the children.

Most truly yours,

JOHN H. RICE.

TO MR. KNOWLES TAYLOR.

*Theological Seminary, January 7th, 1826.*

MY DEAR CHRISTIAN BROTHER,

I received your welcome letter by last mail, and hasten to let you hear from me.

I thank you, and much more I hope, do I thank God for the zealous interest you take in our Seminary. May the Lord prosper all your attempts to do good in this way!

I have learned that through this Southern country there are some fifteen or twenty young men, who have made up their minds to study divinity, and are now engaged in teaching little schools to enable them to buy victuals and clothes; while they are reading with private clergymen, who have