

27.7.0.

THE BULLETIN

—OF THE—

Western Theological Seminary

A Review Devoted to the Interests of
Theological Education

Published five times during the year: in January, February, April, July, and October, by the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Edited by the President with the co-operation of the Faculty.

Contents

Peace Through War	5
REV. ROBERT SCOTT CALDER, D. D., PH. D.	
Hebrew Spiritualism	15
REV. FRANK H. RIDGLEY.	
Greek Religion	25
REV. JOHN B. KELSO, PH. D.	
A New Grammar of the Greek New Testament..	44
REV. DAVID E. CULLEY, PH. D.	
Literature	51
Alumniana	82

Communications for the Editor and all business matters should be addressed to
Rev. JAMES A. KELSO, Ph. D., D. D.,

731 Ridge Ave., N. S., Pittsburgh, Pa.

75 cents a year.

Single Number 25 cents.

Each author is solely responsible for the views expressed in his article.

The Bulletin

• —of the—

WESTERN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

VOLUME VIII.

JULY, 1916.

No 5

Commencement and the Dedication of the New Group of Administration Buildings.

THE REV. DAVID E. CULLEY, PH. D.

The eighty-sixth annual commencement of the Western Theological Seminary was inaugurated on April 30, with the baccalaureate sermon preached by President Kelso, in the Highland Presbyterian church. In the afternoon the farewell communion service, in which the faculty and graduating class join, took place.

A new and interesting feature was introduced into the commencement season when, on Wednesday, May 3, a conference on the Country Church and Life was conducted in the temporary chapel. Rev. Dr. Warren H. Wilson presided, and able and helpful addresses were delivered by Dr. Breed, of the Seminary; Dr. Wilson, Prof. Alva Agee, Rev. W. L. Mudge, Rev. Henry A. Riddle, Jr., and Rev. Matthew B. McNutt. Lively discussion, especially during the afternoon session, lent interest to the occasion, and it was generally felt that the conference was a good thing.

Thursday, May 4, was reunion day, and the representatives of many classes gathered to help one another

Address to the Graduating Class.

THE REV. ROBERT CHRISTIE, D. D., LL. D.

My young friends, I have been asked to speak to you a few closing words, and I doubt not that you are quite willing that I put a very literal construction on the request. What I ought to put into the few minutes assigned me has caused me some perplexity. The time for instruction has gone by and, whilst advice from a veteran might be appropriate, I fear any of that article upon which I might venture would come to you like echoes from classroom or conference meetings. Yielding, therefore, to the feelings produced by the thought of this most interesting stage just reached in your course, I want to give expression to some reasons for congratulation.

I congratulate you on the time within which your ministry will fall. In some quarters you will hear much praise of "the good old times" to the disparagement of the present. The "old times", as I knew them, were indeed "good times", but for the minister the present times are far better. Indeed, I doubt whether any previous period has had advantages for the preacher equal to the present.

For example, there has come in our day an almost utter disappearance of denominational strife. What that means to the pastor in the way of daily comfort and peace of mind, only they who have felt the hampering and deadening effects of such enmities on the life of the Church can appreciate. Take an example. Your speaker, just from the Seminary, and before ordained, was called on by a minister of another branch of the Presbyterian Church. I thought he had dropped in to make a friendly call and bid me welcome; but as he rose to go he said, "Mr. Christie, you may not know it, but the state of things here is such as does not permit of any exchange of

Address to Graduating Class.

pulpits such as might take place elsewhere". He was the leading pastor of the town and almost old enough to be my father. My thought of the community was, "if the light that is in thee be darkness how great is that darkness". Such an incident is almost unthinkable at the present time. Showing how far we have moved since that, some months ago, only a few miles from where that took place, I was asked to preach for an Episcopal rector of the High Church school of theology. Not only has such unseemly strife died down, but there is on every side and within almost every branch of the Protestant family a looking to and longing for union or, at least, helpful co-operation. What that will mean in added force to Christianity, especially in mission fields, home and foreign, is something that ought to gladden the whole City of God. The sources from which come the longing and prayer "that they all may be one" are among the most cheering signs of the times in which we live.

Another cause for congratulation is that the conflict between science and religion, that once raged with such disturbing effects, has largely ceased. Theories that at one time threatened the very foundations of the supernatural are now so understood as to harmonize with the doctrines of our holy religion. There is still some antagonism in this sphere, but the points of conciliation reached have been so numerous and important that we can confidently look to the time when the present grounds of conflict will disappear. The result is that the intelligent minister of the Gospel can now go forward with a mind hospitable to every established fact of science, confident that, when the contents of the book of nature and the contents of the written Word are properly understood, apparent contradictions will pass away.

I congratulate you further on the fact that your ministry falls within a period when the exalted Christ holds almost undisputed sway in the thoughts of men. It was not so within the memory of some before me. So-

The Bulletin of the Western Theological Seminary.

called "Lives of Christ" took a form that shook the faith of multitudes. Ancient literatures of the East were brought to light, revealing sages who, it was claimed, in character and wisdom challenged comparison with Him who was born in Bethlehem. Such titles as "Christ and Other Masters" seemed to indicate that the difference was only one of degree. When you first enter the Cathedral of St. Peters at Rome, the proportions of the building are such that you are not at once struck with its vast dimensions. Coming, it may be, from such minsters as Milan or Florence, you think they are scarcely inferior. But when you have advanced from the door toward the high altar sufficiently far to leave behind space for a great cathedral, you learn that from that point to the high altar is the length of the Cathedral of St. Sophia at Constantinople. You continue your advance to a considerable distance farther and then learn that from that point to the high altar is the length of the Cathedral at Florence. Moving still onward some distance, you discover that from that point to the high altar is the length of St. Paul's Cathedral, London. And so when you have measured against Jesus of Nazareth the great sages, such as Buddha, Confucious, Zoroaster, and Socrates, they are so dwarfed that ever after you are compelled to think of them not by comparison but by contrast. Men may differ as to the nature of this incomparable exaltation, but it is an unspeakable comfort to know that it is so generally accepted.

I even congratulate you also on the nature of some of the difficulties you will be called on to face. What these are, local conditions at the present moment bear witness. The conflict between labor and capital is world wide and bitter in the extreme, but it is a comfort and encouragement to know that just in proportion as the truths you teach become vital in the lives and business of men will the causes of such strife disappear. It is one of the widespread ills for which the Gospel of Christ

Address to Graduating Class.

alone brings healing. And I doubt not that, long before some of you are called to lay down your armor, peaceful means of adjustment of such troubles will everywhere exist.

And let me beseech you not to entertain for a moment pessimistic views of the future of Christianity because of the war now raging on the other side of the ocean. Be assured that control of the nations has not slipped from Him into whose hands was delivered all power in heaven and in earth. What the changes resulting from that upheaval will be, no man can foresee. But no matter what they may be, the forces will be recombined and made to resume that forward movement that is to issue in the full establishment of the Kingdom of Christ. Be assured he was not in error who sang:

“Not in vain the nations’ strivings,
Nor by chance the currents flow;
Error mazed and truth directed
To their destined goals they go.”

Go then, in the strength of Him whose you are and who has promised to be with you even to the end of the world. May your motto in substance be:

“I live for those that love me,
For those that know me true;
For the heaven that smiles above me,
And awaits my coming too.
For the cause that needs assistance,
For the wrong that needs resistance,
For the future in the distance,
And the good that I can do.”