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MEMORIAL VOLUME  
OF THE  
SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY  
OF  
REV. MOSES D. HOGE, D.D., LL.D.  
AS  
PASTOR  
OF THE  
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

*A friend of Dr. Hoge, through personal regard for him, and to perpetuate the memory of an interesting event, has published a limited edition of this volume.*

*As the preface states, it is not for sale or general distribution, but for the libraries of such friends of Dr. Hoge as he chooses to present with a copy.*

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Very sincerely yours,  
Moses J. Hoyer.

# FIFTY YEARS A PASTOR.

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AN ACCOUNT

OF THE

OBSERVANCE OF THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

OF THE INSTALLATION OF

REV. MOSES DRURY HOGE, D. D., LL. D.

IN THE

PASTORATE

OF THE

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

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RICHMOND:  
1895.

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THIS BOOK

IS DEDICATED TO

**Miss Bessie Hoge,**

DAUGHTER OF REV. DR. MOSES DRURY HOGE,

WHO,

THOUGH AN INVALID FOR MANY YEARS,

HAS SINCE HER MOTHER'S DEATH BEEN HER FATHER'S BEST

HELPER, RELIEVING HIM OF WHAT WORK SHE COULD,

EVER SEEKING TO BEAR A PART OF HIS BURDEN

OF CARE AND RESPONSIBILITY,

ENTERING SYMPATHIZINGLY INTO THE CORE OF HIS LIFE AND

ENCOURAGING AND SUSTAINING HIM BY AN EXTRA-

ORDINARY EXAMPLE OF INDUSTRY,

PATIENCE AND PIETY.

HER'S HAS BEEN A BEAUTIFUL AND USEFUL LIFE

OUT OF THE SIGHT OF THE WORLD.

## P R E F A C E.

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The observance of the fiftieth anniversary of the installation of Dr. MOSES D. HOGE in the Pastorate of the Second Presbyterian Church of this city, in February, 1895, was, so far as we know, an event altogether unique in history.

Catholic and Protestant, Jew and Gentile, churches of varying creeds, military and civic organizations, social, literary, industrial and philosophic societies—in a word, nearly every kind of association that could be represented, united in doing honor to a man who they believed had endeavored to serve and advance every interest by which mankind could be benefited.

Thus it seemed due, not only to Dr. HOGE, but to our city and Commonwealth, and to the religious world as well, that some other record than that which was given in the daily newspapers at the time of the celebration, should be made of an occasion so memorable, and of incidents so notable, and so creditable to our species.

Hence, this little book, which we aspire to make not merely a souvenir of the semi-centennial celebration, but a compendium of facts worthy the attention of the readers of the present day, and of use to historians and biographers in the years to come. Here is given, in concrete form, information concerning one of the most remarkable men of our age—a man distinguished not merely for long and successful pastoral service and as an orator of the first rank, but as an example and preceptor of that religion which offers its comforts and extends its promises to all the people of the earth.

Only a limited number of copies have been published—none for sale or general distribution—only enough for the libraries of Dr. HOGÉ and of such of his friends as he may choose to present with copies.

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# MEMORIAL VOLUME.

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## CHAPTER I.

A SKETCH OF DR. HOGE'S LIFE — ONE OF A FAMILY OF GREAT PREACHERS — HIS COMING TO RICHMOND — PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS — TRAVELS ABROAD — HIS EMINENCE AS AN ORATOR AND WRITER — FORTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

On the 27th day of February, 1895, Rev. Moses Drury Hoge, D. D., LL. D., had been the pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church fifty years. He is the only pastor this church ever had. It was his first and only church.

When he came to Richmond, direct from the Theological Seminary, the lot on which his church now stands was a vacant piece of ground. He gathered the little congregation in a lecture-room there, and it was composed of the following members :

*Elders.*—John B. Martin, Michael Gretter, Guernsey L. Denison, and Richard Sterling.

*Deacons.*—Robert McClellan, Robert Cochrane, John M. Sheppard, and Robert A. Payne, Sr.

*Members.*—Mrs. Sarah Ann Anderson, Miss Martha W. Armistead, Mrs. Sarah C. Atkinson, Philip August, Jr.,

William H. Brander, David Bridges, Mrs. Martha Bridges, Mrs. Mary D. Bridges, Mrs. Lucy Brockenbrough, Mrs. Rebecca Cardwell, Miss Lavinia B. Claiborne, Miss Betsy Claiborne, Robert Cochrane, Mrs. Mary Cochrane, Thomas Crouch, Mrs. Molly B. Crouch, Guernsey L. Denison, Mrs. Mary G. Denison, William Edwards, Mrs. Winifred Edwards, Mrs. Elizabeth Forbes, Miss Charlotte Forbes, Miss Mary Forbes, Miss Elizabeth Forbes, William A. Forbes, George Gibson, Mrs. E. W. Gibson, Nathaniel Gordon, Michael Gretter, Joanna Gretter, David B. Gretter, Mrs. Martha J. Gretter, Mrs. Sarah Hendree, John A. Hicks, Miss Isabella P. Hillman, Mrs. Susan M. Hoge, Edward P. Jones, John B. Martin, Robert McClellan, William McClellan, Miss Mary E. Mitchell, Mrs. Jane Morton, Mrs. Elizabeth Nottingham, Miss M. McC. Nottingham, Miss S. T. Nottingham, John Pattie, Robert Pattie, Mrs. Mary Pattie, Robert A. Payne, Mrs. Ann C. Payne, Robert A. Paine, Jr., Mrs. Carolina N. Pollard, Miss Ella C. Pollard, Peter W. Ralston, Mrs. Ann Ralston, Mrs. Julia A. Richardson, Benjamin Sheppard, John M. Sheppard, Mrs. C. S. Sheppard, Miss Lucy B. Sheppard, Mrs. Lelina R. Sizer, Miss S. A. Smith, Richard Sterling, Mrs. Marion L. Sterling, Mrs. E. Templeman, Adam Turner, Mrs. E. Turner, Mrs. Eleanor Yass, Mrs. Margaret Wight, William S. Williams, Mrs. Susan A. Williams, Miss Virginia E. Woodson, V. Emeline Woodson, and Mrs. Ann E. Wright.

Now his is one of the finest church buildings here, and few churches in the city have a membership so large: none, probably, has sent out more branches, and not many

have equalled it in its contributions to the general cause of spreading the gospel at home and abroad.

During this half century of complicated labor, Dr. Hoge's health and strength have been wonderfully spared him, despite a most prodigious amount of work.

Besides the performance of almost innumerable, but often unnoticed, pastoral duties, he preaches regularly twice on Sunday, frequently the third time in some other church than his own; every Wednesday night; often is found officiating at funerals and marriages; attends many board and committee meetings; delivers lectures, addresses and sermons on special occasions in different parts of the country, and yet finds time to answer scores of letters.

Indeed, he has distinguished himself almost as much as a writer of notes and letters—a difficult art—as by preaching. Not one man in a thousand can seize pen and paper and on the instant hurry off such a graceful note as Dr. Hoge. These notes he writes in great numbers. Thousands of people hold them as precious treasures and they are at once models and memorials.

Dr. Hoge's residence is at the northeast corner of Main and Fifth streets, on a lot adjoining his church. The house was long years ago the home of Major Gibbon, a Revolutionary soldier, who led the forlorn hope at Stony Point. It is a four-story brick building, with spacious back porches, from which the James river is in plain view as it winds through fertile lowlands and by fringes of woods, until it disappears beyond historic Drewry's Bluff.

The Doctor's study is a room on the south side of the second floor. Every night between twelve and two o'clock,

as the newspaper reporters, printers, telegraph operators, and other late workers climb the Main-street hill going to their homes up town, they look up to the window of this room, and if, as is generally the case, they see a light burning there, some one is likely to say, "Well, we are better off than Dr. Hoge; he isn't through his work yet."

Dr. Hoge is a late worker. In the far hours of the night, when callers no longer ring the door bell; when the hurry of travel is over; when even the street-car men have gone to rest; when a solemn hush holds the city, and the people are in dreamland, he sits down to study, and then finds that quiet and privacy denied him in the day; but what is wonderful, he seems to rise with the sun. At any rate, about seven o'clock he is seen on horse-back galloping along country roads or through by-paths in the woods, drinking in inspiration for those soul-refreshing thoughts that illumine his discourses.

These are his studies for pictures of the sun dawning upon the earth; of birds beginning their morning carols, and of the music and perfume that comes from nature when the murmuring brooks first break the day's silence and the dew lies sparkling upon the grass—studies which will be used in some glorious thanksgiving to the Lord, or in words of comfort to those who have strayed into the despond of sin. Indeed, as a comforter the Doctor greatly excels. His illustrations come from the Bible and from nature, and his language soothes the aching heart and refreshes the fainting wayfarer. This ability to comfort is one of his great gifts, and he can exercise it in giving out a hymn, in selections from the Scriptures, in prayerful

petitions, in sermons, and in his quiet talk—no matter whether he meets one in our crowded streets or in the dim light of the sick-room.

Whether on horseback or afoot, Dr. Hoge is a striking figure. He is full six feet in height, straight and lithe, without a pound of surplus flesh. He has the bearing of a military man, but with the air of gentleness substituted for that of sternness. His head is poised high above the shoulders. His complexion is dark, and for many years he has worn a closely-trimmed moustache. The face is a notable one, blending piety and intelligence, sweetness of temperament and delicacy of feeling.

The good wife, who was so long the joy of the Doctor's life, has been lying in her grave in Hollywood Cemetery more than twenty-five years. His four children still reside with him. His eldest son, Moses D., Jr., is a doctor of medicine, and the youngest, Hampden, is in a business employment. His daughter, Mary R., is the wife of M. M. Gilliam, Esq., and is active in assisting her father in his work. His daughter, Miss Bessie, is a lovable and helpful companion of the doctor, and takes a keen and active interest in all his church work.

Rev. Dr. Moses Drury Hoge was born in 1818, in the county of Prince Edward, Virginia, and is descended on his father's side from ancestors who emigrated from Scotland and settled in Frederick county, Virginia, in 1736, on the domain of Thomas Lord Fairfax, of colonial memory. His grandfather was Dr. Moses Hoge, President of Hampden-Sidney College, one of the best men who ever lived, and one of the most eminent among great and

good ministers who have so richly blessed the Presbyterian Church in Virginia.

John Randolph says in one of his letters that he was the most eloquent man he ever heard in the pulpit or out of it. Three of his sons became ministers of the gospel, viz.: Dr. James Hoge, of Columbus, O.; John Blair Hoge, of Richmond, Va., and Samuel Davies Hoge, Professor of Natural Sciences in the Ohio University at Athens. The last named died early in life, leaving two sons, who became ministers of the gospel, the younger of whom was the late Rev. W. J. Hoge, D. D., and the elder is the subject of this sketch.

The youngest son of Dr. Moses Hoge, of Hampden-Sidney College, was Dr. Thomas P. Hoge, the only one of his four sons who did not become a minister of the gospel. He was a popular physician, and at one time a large planter in Halifax county, and an elder in the Presbyterian Church. He had two sons, both of whom (one of them captain of an artillery company while a mere lad), were killed in the same battle during the war.

When Dr. Hoge's uncle, Dr. James Hoge, was a young man, he removed to Ohio, then a frontier state. He went as a domestic or home missionary, and settled at Franklinton, where there had been a fort for protection against the Indians. He purchased a farm on the opposite side of the Scioto river, and built the first house where the city of Columbus now stands. It was through his influence the asylum for the deaf and dumb and other philanthropic institutions were built in Columbus. He induced Dr. Hoge's father soon after he had been licensed to preach,

to remove to Ohio. He was a man of such studious habits, of such conciliating manners and ability as a preacher and college professor, that he would have attained great distinction but for his death at thirty-three years of age. After his death all of his family returned to the South again.

On the maternal side the subject of our sketch is descended from the family of Lacys, who emigrated from England to Virginia in early colonial times. His grandfather was the Rev. Drury Lacy, D. D., President of Hampden-Sidney College, a minister of great eminence and worth. Two of his sons became ministers—the Rev. William S. Lacy, of Louisiana, and Rev. Drury Lacy, D. D., formerly President of Davidson College, and late of Raleigh, N. C. Many of the remoter descendants of both Dr. Hoge and Dr. Lacy have also entered the office of the ministry. On both sides, therefore, Dr. Hoge is emphatically of the tribe of Levi.

Dr. Hoge's ministry began in Richmond in 1844. Invitations to the presidency of Hampden-Sidney College and other literary institutions; to become a pastor in Lexington, Va., St. Louis, Brooklyn, New York, Nashville, Philadelphia, New Orleans, Charleston, and elsewhere have never tempted him from the field of his first labors.

During the first year of the civil war, Dr. Hoge was a volunteer chaplain in the Camp of Instruction (Camp Lee), where the Exposition buildings now stand. He preached to the Confederate soldiers two or three times a week without discontinuing his services in his own church.

In 1862 he ran the blockade from Charleston, and went

to England by way of Nassau, Cuba, and St. Thomas, to obtain Bibles and religious books for the Confederate army. Lord Shaftesbury, the president of the British and Foreign Bible Society, gave him a hearty welcome, and invited him to make an address to the society in explanation of the object of his mission. The result was a free grant of 10,000 Bibles, 50,000 Testaments, and 250,000 portions of the Scriptures (single Gospels, Epistles, etc., in black, glazed covers, with red edges and rounded corners), just what was most convenient to put in the soldiers' pockets, in all worth about £4,000. Dr. Hoge remained during the winter in London superintending the shipment by the blockade runners to the Confederacy. He also obtained a large supply of miscellaneous religious books adapted to camp life, which were sent over in the same manner, and most of them came in safely.

On his return from England he delivered an address at an anniversary of the Virginia Bible Society in St. Paul's church to one of the largest audiences ever assembled in that spacious building.

By invitation of the Virginia Legislature, Dr. Hoge delivered an oration at the unveiling of the Jackson statue, presented by English gentlemen to Virginia, in October, 1875. The ceremony took place on the Capitol Square, where there had gathered an immense throng of people, and the scenes and incidents of the memorable day are yet fresh in the minds of hundreds of Virginians who were present.

Dr. Hoge has often been appointed to positions of honor and responsibility by the Southern General Assembly of

the Presbyterian Church. In 1875 he was unanimously elected to the moderator's chair in the Assembly which met in St. Louis. In 1876, in the Assembly convened in Savannah, Ga., he advocated, and carried by overwhelming majorities, two measures greatly opposed at that time by some of the most distinguished members. These were the establishment of "fraternal relations"—not "organic union"—with the Northern Presbyterian Church, and the sending of commissioners to represent the Southern Church in the Alliance of the Reformed Churches of the world. In 1877 he was a delegate to the Pan-Presbyterian Council, which met in Edinburgh.

A very graphic letter was written by Moncure D. Conway, and extensively published in this country, describing Dr. Hoge's appearance and the effect of a speech he delivered in the council, especially the impression produced when he spoke of the old Bible which one of his family ancestors, fleeing from persecution, had carried to Holland—the Bible often wet with the salt spray of the sea and the salt tears of the sorrowing exiles, its leaves yellow with age, and the names in the family register faded and dim, but bright, as the speaker believed, in the Book of Life.

Dr. Hoge was also a delegate to the meeting of the Evangelical Alliance, which met in New York in 1873, in which he made an address in vindication of the civilization of the South. Also to the Alliance of the Reformed Churches of the World, which met in Copenhagen in 1884, where he made an address which obtained for him an invitation to visit the Crown Princess of Denmark at the palace.

He was sent as a commissioner to the Alliance of the Reformed Churches which convened in London in 1888, and the subject of his speech before that body was "The Antagonisms of Society and How to Reconcile Them."

His last mission of the kind was five years ago, when, at the Conference of the Evangelical Alliance in Boston, he delivered a speech which was pronounced by the press of that city to have been one of the most effective of all that were made at that meeting, and extracts from which have been frequently published and commented on by the newspaper press.

While at home Dr. Hoge usually occupies his own pulpit during both services on the Sabbath, though it would often give him rest were he to invite some other minister to take his place. Until recent years he preferred to go abroad for recreation. The bracing effect of the sea-voyage and the mental and physical invigoration derived from the social life and the ever varying scenes and incidents of travel in the Old World, secured for the over-worked pastor, not only needed rest, but fresh stores of information which he turned to good account on his return, for the benefit of his own people at home.

His longest absence was during the year 1880, when he visited Egypt and Palestine, returning through Bulgaria and Hungary by way of Rustchuk, Bucharest, Buda-Pesth and Vienna to Paris. This tour embraced the Oriental cities of Cairo, Jerusalem, Damascus, Constantinople and Smyrna.

The church of which Dr. Hoge is pastor was dedicated in 1848, and was enlarged and beautified in 1873. Among

the young men reared and trained in it a large number have entered the gospel ministry. The Fourth Presbyterian Church of this city was a colony from Dr. Hoge's church, and another is the Old Market-Hall Mission. This has been one of the latest and most successful enterprises of Dr. Hoge's life.

About nine years ago he commenced services in the spacious hall over the Old Market, and they were successful from the first.

So large did the work become that Dr. Hoge found it impossible to continue to preach three times every Sunday and personally to satisfy the requirements of two congregations, as he wished to do, and in consequence the Rev. L. B. Turnbull was called as an assistant to Dr. Hoge, his chief charge being the Old Market-Hall Mission.

Mr. Turnbull became pastor of Old Market-Hall Church after its organization, and it flourished greatly under his care. Owing to impaired health he was compelled to resign his charge, and Mr. James E. Cook, one of the young ministers who grew up in the Second Presbyterian Church, and who has just completed his theological course, has been ordained and installed as pastor of the Old Market-Hall Church, and has entered on his work.

Dr. Hoge is thoroughly orthodox. No member of the Westminster Assembly was more so, nor more devoted to the Presbyterian policy, but he has nothing of the narrowness of a sectarian. His Christianity is broad enough to embrace all who love Christ. As a consequence he is beloved and admired by all denominations, and members of other churches are constantly found among his congrega-

tions. His success as a preacher is due to a variety of causes, all of which conspire to make him a great pulpit orator. His profound Christian experience and his thorough knowledge of the human heart enable him to suit the gospel message to every class of sinful humanity.

His mind is eminently logical, but his reasoning is overlaid with an exquisite rhetoric, which, while it detracts nothing from its strength, imparts to it a never-failing charm.

A ripe scholar, he enriches his discourses with treasures gathered in every field of knowledge, and whatever passes through the mint of his mind comes out impressed with the stamp of his genius. His unerring judgment and taste enables him to select for his quotations the best thoughts of the best authors, and his illustrations beautify, while they illumine his subject. He keeps fully abreast of the times, and invariably recognizes and attacks the multiform foes of a pure Christianity whether they be open or covert.

Dr. Hoge excels in his powers of description. With a few bold strokes, and with the hand of an artist, he brings out his pictures with wonderful distinctness and power, and adds the shading with a delicacy of touch which bespeak the master. He speaks without manuscript, and this gives full play to a voice and action which are exactly suited to be vehicles of his eloquent thoughts. He fixes the attention of his audience with the first word he utters, and thoroughly commands it to the last, while he presents the grand truths of revelation with a power, a pathos, and a freshness of statement peculiarly his own. In a word,

his preaching satisfies both the intellect and the heart, however enlarged they may be.

No more conclusive evidence of his power as an orator could be given than the eagerness with which the people among whom he has always ministered, crowd to hear him. They never tire of his preaching, and no stranger who may occupy his pulpit, however great his reputation, can draw the extraordinary congregations of the pastor.

Dr. Hoge possesses the accomplishment, not common with fine speakers, of being also a fine writer, and as such, earned a wide reputation during the five years he was associated with Dr. T. V. Moore in editing the *Central Presbyterian*. His discourses, when stenographically reported as he delivers them without manuscript, are finished specimens of composition, and could hardly be more admirable were he to write them out before delivery.

The degree of D. D. was conferred on Dr. Hoge by Hampden-Sidney College in June, 1854; the degree of LL. D. by Washington and Lee University at the commencement in June, 1886. That commencement was a centennial celebration. At the invitation of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Hoge delivered an historical discourse. There was a peculiar propriety in selecting him as the representative of the University on that occasion, as his grandfather, Dr. Moses Hoge, was a member of the first class on which degrees were conferred by that institution (successively known as Liberty Hall, Washington College, and Washington and Lee University), one hundred years before.

In February, 1890, the forty-fifth anniversary of Dr. Hoge's pastorate being near at hand, the session of his

church made arrangements for a public celebration of the day (27th), and it was agreed that the chief ceremonies should take place in the Academy of Music. And so on that occasion that spacious edifice was crowded to overflowing with an audience thoroughly representative of the worth and intelligence of the city and country, and among the distinguished people occupying seats on the platform, were the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor of the State, the Mayor of the city, and representatives of the various religious denominations. Governor McKinney presided, and addresses of congratulation were made by the Hon. W. W. Henry; Rev. John Hall, D. D., LL. D., of New York; Rt. Rev. A. W. Wilson, D. D., of the Methodist Episcopal Church South; Hon. J. L. M. Curry, LL. D., of the Baptist Church; Rt. Rev. A. M. Randolph, of the Protestant Episcopal Church of Virginia; Rev. R. P. Kerr, D. D., of the Southern Presbyterian Church, and the following also had places on the programme of exercises of the evening: Rev. H. C. Alexander, D. D., Rev. J. C. Stewart, Gov. McKinney, Lt. Gov. J. Hoge Tyler, Col. C. R. Barksdale, Rev. P. H. Hoge, D. D., and Rev. H. H. Hawes, D. D.

The concluding oratorical effort of the evening was that of Dr. Hoge, returning thanks for the congratulations extended to him, and reviewing briefly, but with exceeding eloquence, the chief events of his pastorate.

Altogether, the celebration of February 27, 1890, was a great popular recognition of the services of Dr. Hoge, and an unmistakable expression of the public's belief in his piety, zeal, and ability.

The success of this celebration was the talk of the day, and an account of it, in book form, was issued. But great and impressive as was the observance of the forty-fifth anniversary of Dr. Hoge's pastorate, it was transcended by that commemorating his fiftieth anniversary. The dissimilarity between the two was remarkable, great care being taken to avoid the repetition of anything that occurred at the former anniversary. Each was unique in itself, and each of its kind was an unsurpassable tribute of admiration and affection to a minister in whom the world finds a rare combination of goodness and greatness.

There is much else of interest in Dr. Hoge's life which could be profitably recorded, but the limits of this work forbid further enlargement on the subject here. However, our succeeding pages are replete with reminiscences and incidents of Dr. Hoge's life, while they record the main features of the celebration of the fiftieth year of his pastorate.



## CHAPTER II.

THE LADIES OF THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY ORIGINATE THE MOVEMENT FOR THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION — MALE MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION ACT — PROGRAMME AGREED UPON — A MASONIC TRIBUTE — THE SEVERAL COMMITTEES.

The movement to celebrate in some appropriate manner the fiftieth anniversary of Dr. Hoge's pastorate, originated with the Ladies' Benevolent Society of his church, and first took definite shape in April, 1894.

It was decided then by the society to issue a handsome and durable souvenir of the event, and to have some public demonstration. The memento—manufactured by Tiffany—wrought in gold and silver, presented on one side a high relief bust portrature of Dr. Hoge, with the inscription, "Rev. Moses D. Hoge, 1845-1895," and on the reverse the words, "Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Va."

The question of the details of the public celebration were not settled, however, until some time in January, 1895, although several programmes were prominently suggested, and among them was one similar to that with which the forty-fifth anniversary was observed. But

Dr. Hoge would not consent to a repetition of the details of the former celebration, and arrangements were made for a more informal programme.

The idea, therefore, of a repetition of the programme of the forty-fifth anniversary, especially such features of it as embraced addresses, was abandoned in deference to the wishes of Dr. Hoge, and a reception was finally agreed upon. At first the intention was to hold the reception on Wednesday night, February 27th, that being the anniversary proper, but in view of the fact that nearly all the churches have Wednesday night services, it was thought best to change the reception night to Tuesday, the 26th, and on the night following have a service in the church, at which Dr. Hoge would deliver a discourse, reviewing the half century of his pastorate. This conclusion having been reached, the society was divided into working committees, who immediately addressed themselves to the task of making the necessary arrangements.

In the mean time the gentlemen of the church were not idle. They determined to raise a purse to be presented to their pastor, and appointed a committee to take charge of the movement.

The committee issued a circular setting forth what it was proposed to do, and asking for contributions from the male members of the congregation, and in response a handsome sum was realized. Many persons outside of the congregation, though not asked to do so, contributed to the purse. The circular said :

“ The fiftieth anniversary of Dr. Hoge’s pastorate of the Second Presbyterian Church, in this city, will occur on the

27th day of February, 1895. As is well known, Dr. Hoge has given his whole ministerial life to the services of this one church, and it is universally conceded that no church ever had a more faithful and devoted pastor. In our service, by unremitting toil and the best use of his great talents, he has won a fame and renown as a preacher second to few men anywhere. In this service he has mingled in all our joys and sorrows, and in the performance of his duties to us, and to the people of Richmond, he has never spared his strength or any other means he could command to advance the spiritual and material interests of our church and city. The occasion we are soon called upon to celebrate will be, as far as we know, unparalleled and unique, and we think such an occasion, and such services and sacrifices as Dr. Hoge has rendered to and made for us, demand some fitting recognition at our hands."

Récognizing as they did that there would be an immense crowd at the reception, and having decided to give a banquet to specially invited guests and serve refreshments to all others who might attend, the ladies were somewhat perplexed over the question where to hold it. Eventually the Masonic Temple suggested itself as the most conveniently-arranged structure for such an affair, and a committee of the society waited upon those having charge of the building for the purpose of securing it. The use of the Temple cannot be given free for any purpose, but that difficulty was soon overcome by the Masons themselves, and in a manner that embraced a high compliment to Dr. Hoge. The cost of the hall was paid by members of the

fraternity. A subscription paper was circulated in Masonic circles, which was in the following words, and the necessary sum was soon raised:

“The undersigned Masons of the city of Richmond hereby agree to contribute one dollar each towards paying the rent of the Masonic Temple for the use of the friends of the Rev. Moses D. Hoge, D. D., February 27, 1895, on the occasion of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of his ministerial labors in our city. We do this as Masons, in recognition of the liberal and catholic spirit which has always been shown by that distinguished gentleman.”

One object of the programme determined upon was, as above indicated, to avoid addresses, and this was accomplished as far as possible. The entire Ladies' Benevolent Society resolved themselves into a committee of arrangements for the reception, and from this organization were made up the following special committees:

*Reception Committee.*—Mrs. W. W. Henry, Mrs. S. H. Hawes, Mrs. James Lyons, Mrs. James Pleasants, Mrs. John A. Coke, Mrs. M. M. Gilliam, Miss Mammie Gilliam, Mrs. R. C. Morton, Mrs. W. Miles Cary, Mrs. Alex. Cameron, Mrs. Percy Montague, Mrs. Jackson Guy, Mrs. Alfred Harris, Mrs. C. R. Barksdale, Mrs. T. Wm. Pemberton, Mrs. Frank Binford, and Mrs. James E. Blair.

*Banquet Committee.*—Mrs. Ida Ellerson, Mrs. John A. Coke, Mrs. Jackson Guy, Mrs. Elizabeth C. Waller, Mrs. S. H. Hawes, Mrs. J. Allison Hodges, Mrs. James Pleasants, Mrs. Charles Watkins, Mrs. H. L. Valentine, and Mrs. F. D. Barksdale.

*Supper Committee* (to take charge of refreshments for the public).—Mrs. M. V. Kellogg, Mrs. Fannie Glover, Mrs. James Grigg, Mrs. H. G. Cannon, Mrs. J. E. Blair, Mrs. Walter J. Blunt, Mrs. Littleton Fitzgerald, Mrs. Maxwell T. Clarke, Miss Bettie Crenshaw, Mrs. C. L. Bigelow, Mrs. E. A. Catlin, Mrs. Fannie Seayres, Mrs. Rosalie Bowman, Mrs. L. P. Ecker, Mrs. George Street, Mrs. Kate Noland, Mrs. David Lumsden, Mrs. Frank Potts, Miss Cudlipp, Mrs. J. E. Goode, Mrs. V. M. Wooldridge, and Mrs. H. E. Nowlin.

*Table Committee* (ladies to preside over the several public tables and be assisted by the Young Ladies' Society of the church).—Mrs. T. E. Ballard, Mrs. Edmund Waddill, Mrs. C. M. Zirkle, Mrs. Walter McBurney, Mrs. E. T. Page, Mrs. W. M. Parrish, Mrs. Mildred Carrington, and Mrs. W. J. Francis.

*China Committee*.—Mrs. H. H. Wallace, Mrs. H. E. Nowlin, and Miss Mary Camp.

*Decoration Committee*.—Mrs. John A. Coke, and Mrs. S. H. Watt.

The invitations to the banquet for specially invited guests, were beautifully printed in white and gold, colors that predominated not only at the banquet but at the reception.

## CHAPTER III.

## THE BANQUET AND RECEPTION — IMMENSE THROUNG AT THE TEMPLE — TESTIMONIALS FROM THE SOLDIERS HOME VETERANS, HOLLYWOOD MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION AND BETH AHABA CONGREGATION — THE MILITARY REVIEW.

In accordance with the programme heretofore outlined, the formal celebration of the anniversary began at 6 o'clock Tuesday evening, February 26th, with the inauguration of the social features. All during the morning, however, Dr. Hoge was constantly receiving letters and telegrams of congratulation, and not a few of his admirers sent him individual tokens of remembrance.

At the hour named the private banquet for specially invited guests took place in two of the private dining rooms adjoining the great banquet hall of the Temple, the two private apartments having been thrown into one by opening the folding doors between. The guests were seated at small tables in one of these rooms and were served from a large table in the other. The latter table was exquisite in respect of decorations. The predominating colors were white and gold, as represented in double jonquils and marigolds and hyacinths, but this effect was toned by the disposition here and there of clusters of violets and red roses. The centre and corner pieces were large cornucopia

vases filled with double jonquils, and at each of the four corners the cloth was looped with golden ribbon gathered to a rosette studded with violets. The candelabra were all gilt, and these, with much of the silver and gold plate service were heirlooms in some of the oldest families in the State. Gold butterflies were scattered profusely over the cloth. The drapery of both rooms consisted of lace curtains and golden silkline, caught up with jonquils, violets and roses, thus carrying out most harmoniously the general decorative scheme. On one of the large frosted cakes were fifty golden candles, and the understanding was that this cake would be left untouched, and be sent after the banquet to Miss Bessie, Dr. Hoge's invalid daughter.

Suspended from the lintel of the folding doors was a large globe of double yellow jonquils, over which drooped streamers of gold tinted satin ribbon, bearing in rich embroidery the dates 1845-1895, and the familiar quotation from the hymnology of the world, "Blest be the tie that binds." Against the north wall of the room in which the guests were seated, was a large gilt cornucopia exfoliating flowers ingeniously arranged to represent fruits, while the central decorative idea was further manifested in the combination white and yellow shades over the electric lights.

The menu embraced delicacies of every available market, prepared by Richmond housekeepers who were inspired by love as well as by pride to make the banquet what it really was, one of the most elegant ever served in Virginia. Nothing that taste, refinement and experience could suggest failed to contribute to that end. The waiters were colored, butlers of private families in Dr. Hoge's congrega-

tion, Dr. Hoge's own faithful butler, Daniel, occupying the position of chief, and each was in full dress, and wore the double jonquil as a boutonniere.

Aside from Governor and Mrs. O'Ferrall, and the clergy of the city, the only person from Richmond invited was Mr. George Gibson. That gentleman is a deacon in the church, and the last remaining member of the original organization who was present at the installation of his beloved pastor. Much of the handsomest wood work in the church building was wrought by Mr. Gibson's own hands. Of Dr. Hoge's family there were present at the banquet, Dr. M. D. Hoge, Jr., Mr. Hampden Hoge, Mr. and Mrs. Marshall M. Gilliam, Miss Mary Marshall Gilliam, Mr. Hoge Gilliam, Rev. Peyton H. Hoge, and Mr. Ernest B. Marquess. There was no formality about the affair. When the guests had assembled, Dr. Hoge, in a few cordial words welcomed them, and presented Rev. Pike Powers, who asked the blessing. The viands were then served by the waiters, under the direction of the banquet committee.

The public reception followed immediately after the banquet. It was intended that this should continue only two hours—between 8 and 10 o'clock, but that restriction proved utterly impracticable. The heart of the whole people, irrespective of religious affiliations and convictions was in the movement to do Dr. Hoge honor, and until nearly midnight there was a surging throng pressing through the portals of the Temple to meet him, to greet him, and testify their love and respect for him. The occasion was made a testimonial of affection and admiration for the eminent divine such as it falls to the lot of few

men to receive. Indeed it was a grand civic and military demonstration that would be unique in the history of any city and State—a centering of all creeds, all classes, all professions, to bear eloquent witness to the fact that Dr. Hoge belonged to the entire community.

At times the Grand Lodge Room, the stairway, the corridors and the grand banquet hall of the Temple were so crowded that it was almost impossible for one to move a step in any direction. But still an eager throng endeavored to press in from the street, and only the best of police regulations prevented an accident. The people came from all parts of the city, and it is estimated that over fifteen thousand persons passed through the building and that thousands of others were not able to gain entrance.

The Grand Lodge Room in which Dr. Hoge received, had been most artistically decorated. Here, as elsewhere about the building, the florists of Richmond vied with one another in doing their part towards making the occasion a memorable one. To the front of the stage, and screening off a place for the musicians, was a border of palms and ferns, out of which peeped azalias and lilies, and in the recesses of the windows and angles of the room were banks of palms and foliage plants similarly relieved. On the chandeliers and gas brackets, and in the shades of the globes of these, the white and gold were the ruling colors.

Dr. Hoge received under a canopy of gold and white placed over against the south wall between the two large windows. Over the window to the east of the canopy, was the date 1845, and above the window to the left, was the companion date, 1895. To the left of Dr. Hoge during

the reception, stood the Elders and Deacons of the church, to his right the ladies of the reception committee, and back of him his immediate family, the back ground to the group being a mass of potted plants and flowers.

The first impressive formal function of the reception was the passing in review before Dr. Hoge of a delegation of the veterans of Lee Camp Soldiers Home, headed by the commandant, Captain Charles P. Bigger. As the veterans marched past, each gave the doctor a hearty handshake, and one of them presented him, on behalf of the Board of the Home, with a handsome bouquet, while another handed him, as a testimonial from the inmates, a large silk handkerchief, bearing in embroidery the State and the Confederate colors.

A few minutes later, the ladies of the Hollywood Memorial Association entered the hall in a body, and after they had been grouped in a semi-circle in front of the canopy, Mr. Joseph Bryan, speaking for them, presented Dr. Hoge with a superb gold-lined solid silver berry bowl. The bowl is a unique and artistic example of the silversmith's art. The sides are fluted, and rise to a rim of repousse open work, and on the bottom of the testimonial is this inscription :

REVEREND MOSES D. HOGE, D. D.,

FROM

THE LADIES OF THE HOLLYWOOD MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION,

In loving remembrance of his devotion to the Confederate cause, and  
in grateful appreciation of his valuable assistance to them in  
perpetuating the memory of the Confederate dead.

February 26, 1895.

Judge E. C. Minor held the bowl, and in performing the office of presentation, Mr. Bryan said :

DR. HOGE :

No exercises in commemoration of your labors in behalf of the cause of Christ, and for the good of your fellow-men, could be complete if a recognition of your services to the Confederate soldiers were omitted.

I shall not attempt to recite them, but I doubt sir, if in the retrospect of your life, your memory will recall any events with sweeter or sadder satisfaction than those in which it was your mission to look in the pale, wan face of the dying soldier, and commend his soul to the God who gave it, and afterwards piously, and with sacred service, to lay his body, cold in death, within the bosom of our mother earth. While this sir, has been no uncommon experience with you, I vouchsafe to say that it was a service you never rendered without a renewed sense of its sacredness, and a fresh glow of patriotic devotion to your state and her noble defendants kindling in your heart.

To the ladies of the Hollywood Memorial Association was committed the holy trust of keeping green, to the living eye, the turf that wraps the clay of those, our never to be forgotten heroes.

The members of this association sir, since its first organization, nearly thirty years ago, have always felt that in you they had a true and tried, and strong friend. They have never felt that they were imposing anything but a duty gladly done when they have asked your counsel or your aid, and freely has it been asked, and as freely has it been given.

On this occasion, sir, they desire to unite with others of your friends to congratulate you on this anniversary of the commencement of your notable life in this city, but they desire especially to pay a tribute of love and gratitude to you for your services to the Confederate Soldiers, and to the guardians of their graves, the Hollywood Memorial Association.

As individuals they have united to procure, and they now desire me to present to you, this silver bowl as a mark of their esteem and gratitude.

You have, sir, been spared the labor and sorrow which is the usual lot of those who have passed three score years and ten, but "underneath you were the everlasting arms." May you like the great prophet of Israel live on with your eye undimmed and your natural strength unabated, until there comes

"Sunset and evening star,  
And one clear call for thee,  
And may there be no moaning of the bar  
When you put out to sea."

\* \* \* \* \*

"And though from out our bourn of time and place  
The flood may bear thee far,  
You'll see your pilot face to face  
When you have crossed the bar."

In accepting the bowl and responding to Mr. Bryan, Dr. Hoge said :

MY DEAR MR. BRYAN :

This is one of the most delightful surprises of this memorable evening. Had I anticipated such an honor as the gathering of these ladies of the Hollywood Memorial Association, and the presentation of their beautiful gift in words as kind as those you have addressed to me, I surely would have tried, at least, to frame some response worthy of the occasion. But you must take what springs spontaneously from my heart, deeply moved as I am by this token of regard from an association which we have all learned to appreciate as one of the noblest ever formed, both in its character and purposes.

There are many renowned cemeteries in the world, which attract travelers from all lands, because of the immortal dead who have found their last resting places within their enclosures, but there is one cemetery, the very mention of which, awakens our tenderest memories, and which is endeared to us by the most sacred associations.

In Hollywood are to be found the stately monuments of some of the great leaders of our Confederate struggle; upon the shafts

which rise above them are engraved the inscription which tell us of their courage, their patriotism, and sublime devotion to duty; but what shall I say of the wind-swept hill, where we find what we call the "Soldiers' Section," where lie whole battalions of the men who sleep in lowly graves, unmarked by stately shafts covered with memorial epitaphs? I will say this: but for the heroic and self-sacrificing spirit of the patriotic privates who fought in the ranks, there never would have risen over the dust of the great leaders to whom I have referred, the sculptured monuments which celebrate their deeds and perpetuate their fame.

It has been owing to the untiring efforts of the ladies of the Hollywood Memorial Association, that the remains of the fallen Confederate Soldiers have been gathered from all the battle-fields, from Manassas to Gettysburg, that they might have their final resting places side by side, even as during life, they marched together, fought together, and together fell on the field of their fame and glory.

My honored friend, you have not exaggerated my admiration for the Confederate soldier. When I meet one of the old battle-scarred veterans on the street, as I extend my hand to grasp his, sometimes the expected hand is not placed in mine. His good right arm was shattered in the fight. He now wears an empty sleeve. The empty sleeve! The sight of that empty sleeve makes my heart full. I salute that sure credential, bearing its mute testimony to the fact that he, at least, has done his duty.

I have not made a response worthy of your congratulation, or of the splendid testimonial of the Ladies' Memorial Association, which I will ever value for its intrinsic beauty, and still more because of the inscription it bears, for which I shall be forever grateful.

When the members of the association had withdrawn, R. E. Lee Camp, Confederate Veterans, of which Dr. Hoge is an honorary member, paid their respects to him in a body, and immediately after that organization came the

Board of Managers of the congregation of Beth Ahaba, which is constituted of Messrs. Moses Millhiser, president; N. W. Nelson, vice-president; William Lovenstein, secretary; Julius Straus, treasurer; Isaac Held, financial secretary; Jacob May, E. Gunst, Isaac Thalhimer, E. Bottigheimer, Jacob Ebel, and Israel Stern.

These gentlemen were present to perform one of the most interesting ceremonies of the evening, which was opened by Senator Lovenstein stepping forward and saying:

DR. HOGE:

We are here as the Board of Managers of the Congregation Beth Ahaba of this city to present to you the resolutions adopted by the board, and which are not only expressive of their sentiments, but of those of every member of our congregation. We can assure you, my dear sir, that while we are representatives of another faith, there are no citizens of this city who more heartily join in congratulations to you on having reached the fiftieth year of the pastorate of your church, and are proud of being residents of the same city which you have graced so long with your many acts of kindness, love, and affection. I cannot at this time detain this vast concourse who desire to pay their respects to you, but as we have expressed in those resolutions, we wish you many more years of usefulness and honor in this community.

The resolutions are exquisitely engrossed on parchment and inclosed in a massive natural wood hand-carved frame overlaid with gold leaf. They read:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 26, 1895.*

The Board of Managers of Congregation Beth Ahaba deem it a pleasure and a duty alike to give expression to the sentiments of its members on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Moses Drury Hoge.

It is by the infinite grace of God that Dr. Hoge has been permitted to fill out fifty years of pastorate, and with one congregation, the Second Presbyterian congregation of the city of Richmond. Though connected with one congregation, Dr. Hoge belongs to all men. The half century of his ministry has been filled with earnest and fruitful work, done in the service of God and for the happiness of man, through all which time the distinguished jubilate, while never for a moment untrue to his own convictions, yet has so served the community at large, that the followers of all faiths have enjoyed the fruits of his scholarship, his eloquence, his broad and generous sympathy ; and it is hereby

Resolved, That Congregation Beth Ahaba most heartily joins in the jubilee celebration given in honor of Rev. Dr. M. D. Hoge, and through its Board of Managers gives voice to its appreciation of the noble and unceasing labor which Dr. Hoge has performed, not only for his own congregation, but for the city of Richmond.

Resolved, That it tenders to Dr. Hoge this expression of these sentiments, with the heartfelt wishes for his continued health and strength, and the deep and earnest prayer that he may be spared for many, many years to prosecute the noble work in which he is engaged.



EDWARD N. CALISCH, *Rabbi*,  
 MOSES MILLHISER, *President*,  
 WILLIAM LOVENSTEIN, *Secretary*.  
 ISAAC HELD,  
 JACOB EDEL,

*Committee.*

Dr. Hoge was visibly touched by this tribute from his Jewish friends and fellow-citizens, and responded to Senator Lovenstein's address as follows :

MY HONORED FRIEND :

It is not only personally gratifying to me that one with whom I have so long had such pleasant relations, should be the organ of the Congregation of Beth Ahaba in presenting their con-

gratulations and kind wishes, but I regard it as a high compliment that they should be tendered to me by one who has himself been honored for so many years by our fellow-citizens with positions of high trust and responsibility, and who has so faithfully discharged the duties entrusted to him as to merit the confidence and appreciation of our whole people.

I assure you that these testimonials of the esteem of the congregation you represent have deeply touched my heart, and will be a memory to be cherished by me to the end of life.

You have been pleased to state that the resolutions of respect and affection adopted by your board come from the representatives of a faith different from my own, but allow me to assure you that this makes the compliment all the greater, and gives me a stronger reason for appreciating it.

In my travels over the world, I have visited many of the great libraries, which contain the accumulated treasure of the world's best thought, but in each library, I have found one book which is filled from beginning to end with the histories, the prophecies, the psalms, and the epistles composed by Jewish authors. These are of the writers who have made the most ineffaceable mark on the mind and heart of the world, and who have been the sources of those divine influences which have contributed most largely to the world's true progress.

In accepting the testimonial you have so kindly presented, be assured that it will have a conspicuous place in my house, and will form one of the most valued of my family treasures.

Ere this ceremony was over, the military, consisting of the First Regiment, the Howitzers, the Stuart Horse Guard and the Blues, had arrived, and were endeavoring to make their way into the building, and through the dense crowd.

Doctor Hoge stood the ordeal of hand-shaking wonderfully, and had a word for each and every one presented.

Gradually an avenue was opened through the great

throng, and the military review which followed was one of the most attractive features of the reception. The color guard of the First Regiment, of which regiment Dr. Hoge is chaplain, formed around him, their flags drooping over him, and to the roll of the drums the march past began. First came Brigadier-General Phillips and Staff, and the field officers of the cavalry and artillery in irregular order; next Col. Jones and Staff, and then the line officers and men. This scene, as witnessed from the gallery of the Grand Lodge Room, was indeed inspiring.

The Governor, accompanied by the resident members of his staff in full uniform, Col. C. O'B. Cowardin, chief of staff, Col. John S. Harwood, Col. Fred Pleasants, General Charles J. Anderson, Col. Jo. Lane Stern, and Col. C. E. Wingo, formally paid his respects to Dr. Hoge. In speaking of the reception after it was over, Governor O'Ferrall said it was the grandest affair of its character he had ever witnessed.

As soon as both the individual visitors and organizations had greeted Dr. Hoge, they moved up-stairs to the Grand Banquet Hall where the refreshments for the general public were served from tables arranged around the walls. Here also the white and the gold predominated in the matter of decorations. The tables were six in number, and though the banquet hall was at all times densely crowded, all comers received careful attention and a plentiful repast.

The music was furnished by the Howitzer Band, and all the details of the affair were managed with consummate judgment. There is no question that the occasion was

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made one of the most remarkable demonstrations that have ever occurred in any city. It has been well said that it rises to the plane of an event in the history of the commonwealth. It has also been well said that it would have been futile to attempt a list even of the most prominent persons present.

The several committees of the Ladies' Benevolent Society enumerated elsewhere, and their assistants, the members of the Young Ladies' Society, were indefatigable in their work, and to them too much credit cannot be accorded.

## CHAPTER IV.

## A LAUREL WREATH FROM THE CHOIR — PRESENTATION OF THE PURSES — A GENUINE SURPRISE — THE REMEMBRANCE OF THE CHURCH OF THE COVENANT — ADDRESSES AND RESPONSES.

The second day of Rev. Dr. Hoge's jubilee, Wednesday the 27th, was a continued ovation.

From early morn until late in the afternoon tokens of affection and telegrams and letters of congratulation poured in upon him.

These came from persons of every shade of religious conviction and every class. Before breakfast his son-in-law, Mr. Marshall M. Gilliam, and his son, Dr. Moses D. Hoge, Jr., presented him with a beautiful set of gold-mounted harness for the Doctor's mare, Lucille. Mr. Gilliam made the presentation without any formality, simply remarking that the family desired to keep the Doctor in harness, and let him continue to hold the reins.

Another beautiful token—the first to reach the Doctor—was a massive gold-lined silver “loving cup,” the gift of a gentleman and his wife who have always borne the warmest attachment for the Doctor.

A little later Dr. Hoge received from the organist and

choir of the church a most artistically-wrought Lorber Kranz (laurel wreath). The wreath was tied with a broad band of pink ribbon, on one end of which, in gold letters, was "1845—February 27—1895." On the other also embroidered in gold, was "Rev. M. D. Hoge, D. D., LL. D., from organist and Choir." Accompanying the wreath was a card, bearing in gold letters the following:

"1845—February 27—1895."

To Our Beloved Pastor:

Let this Lorber Kranz be to you an emblem of the love and affection of your organist and choir.

C. W. THILLOW, *Organist.*  
 DORA DENZLER GILMAN,  
 M. R. BINFORD,  
 LAURA REHLING,  
 H. L. REESE,  
 E. B. MARQUESS,  
*Choir.*

There was an impressive scene in the parlor of Dr. Hoge's residence on the day after the anniversary. The occasion was the presentation of three testimonials to the beloved pastor, and there were present Mrs. James Pleasants, Mrs. John A. Coke, Mrs. George Watt, Mrs. Truman A. Parker, Mrs. B. S. Scott, Mrs. Charles Rous, Mrs. M. M. Gilliam, Miss Mary Gilliam; Messrs. Oscar Swineford, F. W. Cone, A. C. Young, James Pleasants, M. T. Smith, George L. Christian, Charles Lorraine, Jervis Storrs, J. L. Anderson, Dr. Isaac Curd, W. J. Blunt, Samuel H. Pulliam, M. M. Gilliam, Charles S. Crenshaw, Rev. Peyton H. Hoge, John S. Munce, Hampden Hoge, Dr. Moses D. Hoge, Jr., W. S. Copeland, and Dr. G. Watson James.

When Dr. Hoge had greeted the assembly, Mr. James Pleasants, after a few gracefully expressed congratulations, read the following letter, which was in gilded script:

RICHMOND, VA., *February 27, 1895.*

TO REV. DR. MOSES D. HOGE:

On this, the golden anniversary of our pastor's faithful and successful ministry among the people of his love and choice, we, the ladies of the Benevolent Society, desiring to bear some testimonial of our affection and appreciation of his labors and life amongst us, do send this purse of gold, begging his acceptance of it as a token of our love for him, with the wish and belief that the Mighty God who has been his refuge and strength in the past, will be his portion now and forevermore.

With congratulations and grateful hearts,

THE LADIES OF THE BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

Mr. Pleasants then handed to Dr. Hoge, on a silver waiter, the purse, which is made of silk and is handsomely embroidered.

Dr. Hoge, in accepting the testimonial, said:

I do not know of any one through whom I could have received this token with more pleasure. I say this because, aside from my esteem for you, you are the son of a father whom I loved and honored. It is therefore peculiarly interesting and grateful to my feelings that you should be the organ of the ladies who have presented this gift.

As for the gift itself I feel that it would have been more worthily bestowed if it had been appropriated to any one of the benevolent enterprises to which the Ladies' Society is accustomed to give its generous support; but as they have willed otherwise, I accept it gratefully. No agency of the church has given it more prosperity than the ladies of this society, and I regard the organization as one of the most important factors in our church work. I can also appreciate their desire that their pastor shall share in the fruit of their labors.

You, sir, very properly called this my golden wedding, for fifty years ago I was indeed betrothed to the church, and since then it has had my best love and my constant service. I desire, through you, to tender my heartfelt thanks to these ladies for this expression of their regard.

Mr. S. H. Hawes then, on behalf of the gentlemen's committee, read the following, which is engrossed upon parchment under a pen-and-ink sketch of the Second Church building:

1845.  
Fiftieth

1895.  
Anniversary.

RICHMOND, VA., *February 27, 1895.*

REV. M. D. HOGE, D. D.,  
OUR DEAR PASTOR:

We congratulate you upon your fiftieth anniversary as pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, and we congratulate the church upon retaining in its pastorate for so long a period one so gifted and beloved.

The pastor's only church—the church's only pastor.

We hope and pray that your useful life may be spared many years to continue the noble work you are doing for the Master's cause.

We are requested by the members of your church and congregation and your friends, to present this purse of gold, and trust its acceptance will afford a like pleasure to that we have in presenting it.

With best wishes we remain, sincerely your friends,

S. H. HAWES,  
M. T. SMITH,  
JOHN A. COKE,  
W. J. JOHNSON,  
JAMES LEWIS ANDERSON,  
A. C. YOUNG,  
SAMUEL H. PULLIAM,  
W. M. PARRISH,

CHARLES S. CRENSHAW,  
OSCAR SWINEFORD,  
JAMES PLEASANTS,  
F. W. CONE,  
W. D. CHESTERMAN,  
E. D. TAYLOR,  
W. J. BLUNT.

Mr. Hawes added a few well-chosen words, and as he concluded, Mr. Edgar D. Taylor, passed to him a chamois-skin bag containing a large sum in twenty-dollar gold-pieces, and Mr. Hawes, in turn, passed it to Dr. Hoge.

Dr. Hoge, in receiving the purse, said:

This is, indeed, a remarkable coincidence. Just a moment ago I referred to the fact that the pleasure derived from the ladies' gift was intensified by reason of the medium through which it came, Mr. Pleasants being the son of one who was very dear to me. Now let me say that your honored father went North with me to secure the plans for our church, and with that church will always be indissolubly associated the name of Samuel P. Hawes.

The country has been greatly excited of late by the discussion in Congress with regard to a single or double standard. This is not the time or place for discussing financial questions, but this is not my silver wedding, and you all seem at present to be of one mind in your determination to place me on a gold basis. I have in one hand a purse of gold, and in the other a letter expressing your affection for me. I can sincerely say that if I had to decide between the two, the letter is the most gratifying to me. Love is more precious than rubies, and all the gold of Ophir cannot be compared to it.

Here, Dr. Hoge thinking the purpose of the visiting committee had been accomplished, turned to enter into general conversation with the friends surrounding him, but a genuine surprise, and one that deeply affected him, was still in store, because of his absolute ignorance that anything else was to come.

He was in the act of making some remark to Judge Christian, when Mr. John S. Munce stepped forward and said that he and several others were there as representatives of Old Market Church. The congregation was poor in worldly goods, but rich in affection for the Doctor.

They remembered how he had organized the church, and how for three years he had labored to increase its membership, to develop its spiritual life, and to promote its efficiency, and that too at a time when his own church seemed to demand his entire attention, and when he was so constantly called on to give his aid to numberless enterprises of a philanthropic character in which the whole community was interested.

As Mr. Munce closed his address he presented Dr. Hoge with a Morocco bound volume, on the vellum leaves of which, and within whose gold-bordered pages was engrossed the following :

RICHMOND, VA., *February 27, 1895.*

REV. M. D. HOGE, D. D.,

DEAR DR. HOGE:

On this, your ministerial jubilee, we, the members of Old Market Presbyterian Church, at a special congregation meeting, resolved to express our thankfulness to Almighty God for your long and useful life, spent in His service, and earnestly pray that you may be spared for many years.

With gratitude and love we remember that the beginning of our church was due to the Sunday-night services you began in Old Market-Hall eleven years ago, bringing to a part of our city (at that time spiritually destitute) the Gospel of the grace of God.

We rejoice that through your faithful preaching many who were walking in darkness saw the light of God's love, and found the way of life eternal. And we also remember that, notwithstanding the heavy duties of your own pastorate, no call of the sick or helpless in our community was neglected by you, and that by personal visitation many sad hearts were cheered and comforted.

We thank God that under your care and direction the work so prospered as to necessitate a church organization, and we feel

assured that your loving sympathy, counsel, and help, which has always been extended to us, will never be withheld.

We ask you to accept this sincere expression of our love and affection, as we add our tribute to the many tendered you on this, your crowning day—your jubilee—earnestly praying that you may find the years to come full of “the peace that the world cannot give, nor take away.”

Our hearts acknowledge the debt we owe to you, as God’s messenger of salvation, and to us your name will be a sweet and everlasting remembrance.

The address is signed by the pastor, elders, deacons, Sunday-school teachers, and members of Old Market Church, and the volume is sumptuous in all of its mechanical details. On the inside of the front lid is stamped in gold the seal of the Southern Presbyterian Church.

As soon as Dr. Hoge could control his voice, he said :

After the experiences of the hour so full of demonstrations of affection, it might be supposed that he could not be surprised by any new manifestation of kindness, but it was not so. This token of regard from the Old Market-Hall Church was something that could not have been anticipated, nor could he imagine how it could have been more tenderly conveyed to him. No book in his library could awaken remembrances so interesting as the one just presented. It would recall the time when the circumstances having made him acquainted with the physical and spiritual destitution of the crowded population in the vicinity of the Old Market, he determined to commence a mission there. That undertaking was crowned with success from the beginning. The very class of people came to the services for whom the mission was intended. The size of the audience was limited only by the sittings in the spacious hall. Conversions multiplied ; some reformations occurred among those whose cases seemed hopeless, and so marked was the change effected in that community that it was mentioned by judges on the

bench, pastors of other denominations in the pulpit, and frequently made the subject of comment by the city press.

He was largely indebted for his success to the efficient co-operation of the intelligent and zealous elders, and to the unremitting toil of two ladies whose services had been invaluable. The predictions of over-anxious friends that he would find the work at the hall too great for his strength in addition to that he was doing in his own church, were never fulfilled. If he felt a little jaded by preaching morning and afternoon in his own church, he was recruited and refreshed by preaching a third sermon at the Old Market.

After the expression of earnest and affectionate wishes for the representatives of that church, and thanks for their visit, Dr. Hoge concluded his remarks with a benediction and the company withdrew.

This closed for the day the formal presentations, but on the following evening (Thursday, February 28th), there was another most interesting one.

About six o'clock a committee from the Church of the Covenant, formerly the Fourth Presbyterian Church, called at the residence and requested an audience with the Doctor. The committee consisted of Rev. J. Calvin Stewart, pastor of the church, and Messrs. R. H. Gilliam, Calvin Wilson, George W. Parsons, H. L. Denoon, W. J. Epps, Robert Lecky, Jr., and W. L. Wade.

When Dr. Hoge entered the parlor, Mr. Stewart advanced to meet him, and after passing a few words of greeting, read the following:

*February 27, 1895.*

TO THE REV. MOSES D. HOGUE, D. D., LL. D. :

In behalf of the Church, allow me to present this testimonial of their affection and hearty congratulation on this (the fiftieth) anniversary of your pastorate.

We come as the representatives of the first body which went out from your church to establish for itself an independent life and home, now more than twelve years ago.

We recall with tender and grateful appreciation all that this church has cost you in personal care and oversight; all of the long and severe toil that was necessary for you to bear in order to preserve and further its life. We remember those patient labors each Sabbath night at the old John Minor Botts house (now Elba). We recall the unflagging zeal with which you followed the work and the workers to the new location, in the basement of the then Sidney Methodist Episcopal Church, on west Main street. We remember in grateful thought, indeed, how the work had now so grown that, by your personal efforts, aided by the generous Dr. James McDowell, and, also, by the Ladies' Benevolent Society of your church, a sum of money was raised sufficient to secure a lot and erect a neat brick structure thereon. In 1890, seconded and encouraged by your counsel and approbation, the pastor secured a new site, aided largely by Mathew Gilmour, Esq., and on December 13, 1891, you preached the dedication sermon of the new and handsome chapel. We are now a strong, happy, vigorous church. Your long toil, your unceasing prayer, and your patient ministry have had their blessed fruits.

Our heartfelt prayer is that you may be long spared, not only to your beloved church and people, but to us also—to watch yet with us, to pray yet for us, and to minister from time to time in the Word to the children's children.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

At the conclusion of the reading of the address, Mr. Gilliam handed Dr. Hoge a beautiful gold traveling-clock, on the top of which is engraved: "1845, Rev. Dr. Moses D. Hoge; From the Church of the Covenant; February 27, 1895."

Dr. Hoge had received no intimation of the visit of

this committee, but he was equal to the occasion, and in responding said :

The coming of your committee is the continuation of the favors which have made the three days devoted to this anniversary season so wonderful to me, filled as they have been by successive manifestations of good will on the part of all classes of my fellow-citizens. While you were reading your letter I was carried back in thought to some months of toil, during which I had to wait patiently for any recompense. The most difficult labor of my life was in the first movement for sending out a colony in the west end of the city. It began with the gathering of a Sunday School, of which the late Judge Ould was superintendent, and in holding a night service in a gloomy building called Elba, which stood in an old field, and which was difficult of approach. A good name for it would have been Bleak House. During the winter we labored there, the weather was fearful. I frequently said to my family on returning from the mission that there was consolation in the knowledge that the next time I had to visit the place there could not be as bad a storm. But when the next night came the weather would be worse than ever. One night as I was driving through the storm I was caught in a deep snow drift, and had to be extricated by the help of a passing colored man.

There was a class in the Sunday school, composed of the worst boys I ever saw. Paul says he fought with beasts at Ephesus. I think I would rather have met the enemies Paul encountered than these boys. Yet, by infinite patience we conquered, and the class, instead of consuming the time in yelling at one another, fighting among themselves, and running in and out, became quiet, orderly, and attentive.

You have referred to the upbuilding and development of your church. To me the most important move you made was to go to your present location. I have a very earnest wish in regard to the church. It is that the building to be erected in front of the present structure shall be worthy of that beautiful part of the city and of the zeal of your pastor. Greatly would I rejoice to have the honor

to dedicate such a church. When I look at the beautiful clock you have presented to me, I am reminded that I have been speaking five minutes. The token reminds me of the value of minutes, and teaches how the hours should be filled up with work that will honor God and bless mankind. I shall ever associate it with you, your church, and your pastor.

After the response a few minutes were spent in conversation, and the committee withdrew.

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On Tuesday evening, February 19th, Major Lewis Ginter gave a dinner in honor of Dr. Hoge, which was a fitting prelude to the public demonstration.

Those present were Rev. Moses D. Hoge, D. D., Rev. R. P. Kerr, D. D., Rev. Hartley Carmichael, D. D., Rt. Rev. A. Van De Vyver, Rev. J. J. Gravatt, Governor Charles T. O'Ferrall, Dr. Hunter McGuire, Mr. James Pleasants, Major F. R. Scott, Mr. John Dunlop, Mr. Joseph Bryan, Dr. W. P. Palmer, Mr. Robert T. Brooke, Mr. William Wirt Henry, Mr. Alexander Cameron, Col. A. S. Buford, Major Lewis Ginter and Mr. John Pope.

The dinner was perfect in all its appointments. The floral decorations, chiefly of La France roses, were exquisite.

Pink silk badges, with the legend in gold letters, "1845—February 19—1895," were at each plate, and broad silk sashes crossed the table from end to end having the same inscription in large characters. Dr. Hoge will preserve them as a memento of the happy occasion.

On Friday evening, February 29th, Mr. Alexander Cameron also gave an elegantly appointed dinner in Dr. Hoge's honor. The decorations, which were in exquisite taste, were in gold, and in addition to Mr. and Mrs. Cameron and several members of their family, and Dr. Hoge, there were present Colonel Richard Lathers of New York, Judge Waller R. Staples, Judge Hunter Marshall, Mr. James Pleasants, Colonel Archer Anderson, Major Charles S. Stringfellow, Judge James Keith, Major John P. Branch, and Mr. John Dunlop.

## CHAPTER V.

THE EXERCISES AT THE CHURCH WEDNESDAY NIGHT —  
ANOTHER IMMENSE THROG — DR. HOGE'S HISTORIC  
SERMON — A REVIEW OF HIS FIFTY YEARS PASTORATE —  
BELOVED CONTEMPORARIES — LETTERS FROM CONFED-  
ERATE GENERALS.

The formal celebration of the semi-centennial anniversary closed on Wednesday night, February 27, in a manner that was a fitting finality of the two day's jubilee, and the demonstration passed into the history of Richmond as constituting a tribute to a citizen seldom if ever equalled in the experience of a community.

The programme which was carried out at the church consisted of elaborate music, devotional exercises, and a reminiscent discourse by Dr. Hoge.

There was another vast outpouring of the people, but, it is needless to say, after the evidence afforded Tuesday night of the place Dr. Hoge occupied in the hearts of all classes, that hardly a tithe of those who surged to the church succeeded in gaining admittance.

The building was opened at seven o'clock, and in less than a quarter of an hour was literally packed. Every seat in the pews and on the benches around the pulpit was

occupied, and hundreds of ladies were standing in the aisles of both the main auditorium and the galleries. A number of seats along the centre aisle had been reserved for the clergy, who were largely represented.

There were no decorations, except that to the right and left respectively of the pulpit settee, and upon the paneling appeared the date 1845-1895, woven in yellow jonquils.

Before Dr. Hoge and his brother officiating ministers, Rev. Dr. Landrum, Rev. Landon R. Mason, Rev. J. J. Gravatt, and Rev. Dr. Kerr entered, the first part of the musical programme was rendered as follows—this, as was all of the music, being under the direction of Professor C. W. Thilow, who has been the faithful and honored organist of the church for over a quarter of a century :

Coronation March (*Prophet*) - - - ORGAN.  
 PROF. C. W. THILOW.

Quartet : Gloria in Excelsis, - - - H. WILSON.

MISSES ROBINSON, M. KNOWLES, MESSRS. CLOWS AND LOHMANN.

(a) Prelude, Harpe eolienne, arranged for - ORGAN.

(b) Song of the Toreador (*Carmen Bizet*) arranged for - - - ORGAN.  
 PROF. C. W. THILOW.

Quartet : Jesus Lover of my Soul, - - W. C. WILLIAMS.

Ave Maria, composed by C. W. Thilow, - ORGAN.  
 PROF. C. W. THILOW.

The officiating clergy entered the church by the door to the left of the pulpit, and as they ascended the steps of the platform, the quartet and full choir sung these two verses of Hymn 483, to the air "America :"

Here give Thy word success,  
And this Thy servant bless,  
    His labors own ;  
And while the sinners' friend  
His life and words commend,  
Thy holy spirit send,  
    And make him known.

May every passing year,  
More happy still appear,  
    Than this glad day ;  
With numbers fill the place  
Adorn Thy saints with grace,  
Thy truth may all embrace  
    O Lord, we pray.

Dr. Hoge repeated the Lord's Prayer, after which the choir sang "Gloria Patria." Rev. Mr. Gravatt then gave out part two, of Psalm 100, which was rendered by the quartett, choir, and congregation. Dr. Landrum read the 133d Psalm. The quartet sang "He waiteth nigh," and prayer having been offered by Dr. Kerr, Dr. Hoge delivered his discourse as follows :

As I stand in this pulpit and look over the silent throng which crowds these pews and galleries and aisles, I am reminded that there are occasions when it is not true that "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Deep emotion, so far from inspiring ready and fluent utterance, often makes silence more natural than speech. I find it difficult to express in words the commingled emotions awakened by this anniversary. I can only say that the first and most fervent feeling that fills my heart

is one of gratitude to God for sparing me to this happy hour—gratitude for permitting me to serve him for half a century in the ministry of the Gospel, and gratitude for the unbroken harmony which has existed among the members of my charge and between my people and myself, without a ripple of discord to mar it; gratitude for the kind regards of the religious denominations of this city, manifested to me in so many ways; and for the unity and brotherly love which have made their relations to each other so delightful. It would be impossible to enter upon the discussion of any of the topics appropriate to this anniversary without first tendering my cordial thanks to the people of Richmond for the splendid reception accorded to me last night; to the Masonic fraternity for the gratuitous use of their spacious temple; to the regiment of which I am chaplain, for its attendance in recognition of my interest in all that concerns its efficiency and honor, as well as for the coming of the Howitzers, Stuart Horse Guard, and the Blues; to Lee Camp, worthy of the illustrious name it bears; for the visit of the veterans of the Soldiers' Home; for the splendid testimonial of the Ladies' Hollywood Memorial Association; for the Beth Ahaba's congratulation, exquisitely engrossed on parchment and richly framed; to the Governor of the Commonwealth and the resident members of his staff, and for the many official letters from churches and societies containing the resolutions adopted by each, and presented by some eminent representative; to the delegation from Hoge Academy, Nottoway county; to my ministerial brethren of every name, whose congratulations have made my

heart happier and my hands stronger for the furtherance of the hallowed work in which we are all engaged ; and, lastly, to my honored friends, who have come from different parts of this State and from other States to grace this occasion by their personal participation in these services.

Had I chosen to deliver a regularly constructed sermon to-night I could easily have found more than one text in the Holy Scriptures which I could have used as the foundation of my discourse. I might have selected the injunction of Moses to the people whom he had led on their magnificent march from the land of bondage to the land of promise, when he enjoined them to remember all the way along which the Lord their God had conducted them, and then made "memories of the way" my theme ; or I might have chosen the impressive act of Samuel when he took a stone and set it up between Mizpah and Shen and said, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us," for holy remembrance of the way along which God guides his people excites devout gratitude, and the monumental stone bearing the inscription "hitherto hath the Lord helped us," is a perpetual acknowledgment of the great truth that all spiritual prosperity is to be ascribed to Divine power and love. I trust that the spirit of both of these passages of Scripture will pervade all that I have to say at this hour, but the freedom and familiarity of an address rather than the formality of a sermon will enable me to introduce topics and personal reminiscences of men and events which could not logically be deduced from any text. I therefore crave your indulgence and sympathy while I undertake the delicate and difficult task of trying to frame a discourse

full of personal recollections without egotism or assumption.

If such a feeling were to arise in my mind, all self-gratulation would be instantly rebuked by the remembrance of the accumulated responsibility incurred by a ministry of fifty years. When I call to mind the fact that I have preached to more souls now gone to their final account than are to be found in this great assembly of the living to-night; when I review the imperfect manner in which I discharged my trust to those who are now beyond the reach of any influence; when I am startled by the solemn conviction that my ministry would have been more useful, both to the living and the dead, had I preached more faithfully, tenderly, lovingly—while the solemn weight of thoughts like these oppress my spirit, be assured there is no room for assumption or vain glory, whatever room there may be for penitence and tears. If, then, I speak of much that is personal, I beg you to ascribe it to the only purpose I have in so doing, which is the better to enable me to portray the history of the church to which I have so long ministered, and to illustrate God's providence and grace in His dealings with pastor and people.

It was a singular providence that brought me to this city. As I drew near to the end of my course in the Theological Seminary, a little country church in Mecklenburg county signified its wish to engage me as its pastor as soon as I obtained my license. Its attention was called to me, no doubt, chiefly because it bore the name of both of my grandfathers; it was called the Lacy-Hoge church. About that time, however, the venerable Dr. Plumer, then pastor

of the First Presbyterian church in this city, made a visit to Prince Edward, and told me I would probably be invited to this city to become his assistant. I assured him of my preference for a small country charge—at least until I gained some experience and had composed some sermons. The Doctor requested a meeting of the faculty of the Theological Seminary, explained his wishes to them, and sent for me. They united in advising me to go to Richmond in case I received an invitation. There was another small church in another county to which I had been recommended, but all prospect of my settlement there was blighted by an influential elder, who frankly told the people that he did not think me qualified for the position. Thus in two instances my desire to become a country pastor was disappointed.

I was licensed to preach at a meeting of Presbytery in Lynchburg. The circumstances were without any parallel. It was the same church in which my father was licensed, and what made the event unique was the fact that *his* father was the moderator of the Presbytery, and gave the charge to his son. Thus three generations of the same family were connected by this strange sequence of services in the same church.

In the year 1844 I was invited to Richmond by the session of the First Presbyterian church. The invitation was accepted, and the arrangement made by which I was to become the assistant of Dr. Plumer until a lot could be purchased and a small building erected, with the view of ascertaining whether another congregation could be collected in a new locality. The lot on which the building

in which we are now gathered, was purchased, a lecture-room built, a congregation gathered, and on the 27th of February, 1845, I was installed as pastor—the Rev. Dr. Leyburn preaching the ordination sermon. Dr. Plumer delivering the charge to the pastor, and the Rev. William Lyon the charge to the people. In a few months it was found that the lecture-room was too small for the needs of the congregation, and plans were adopted for the erection of a more commodious house of worship. Mr. Samuel P. Hawes, the father of one of the officers of this church, and myself went to New York to obtain a model for the new church building; an architect of that city was chosen, who drew the plans, in accordance with which it was erected. It was dedicated to the worship of Almighty God in the year 1848, a dedication hymn having been composed by the late John R. Thompson, and introduced into the hymn-book subsequently authorized by our General Assembly. In the process of time the edifice was found too small for the requirements of the congregation, and it was enlarged by throwing a transept across the eastern end, thus adding two wings to the building, enlarging and beautifying it at the same time. This was done in the most satisfactory manner by Mr. George Gibson, the only member of this church present at my ordination who is here to-night.

An incident connected with the early history of the enterprise illustrates the growth of our city westward. When the officers of the First Presbyterian church proposed to purchase the lot on which this edifice stands, it was earnestly opposed by an influential member on the

ground that it was too far up town, and that a congregation could not be gathered at this remote region. Now this church stands in the centre of the city—equi-distant from the Lee statue on the west and the Soldiers and Sailors monument on the east.

When a church has increased in wealth and numbers to a strength justifying such enterprise, it is made still stronger and more efficient by sending out colonies to establish new organizations. In the year 1882 this church sent forth its first colony. It occupied the building erected on west Grace street near the Richmond College, the chief contributor being the late Dr. James McDowell, son of Governor McDowell, of Rockbridge county. Its first pastor was the Rev. Peyton Harrison Hoge, under whose ministry it was steadily advancing, until his removal to Wilmington, N. C. He was succeeded by the Rev. A. R. Holderby, now a happy pastor in Atlanta, Ga. Its third pastor is the Rev. J. Calvin Stewart, under whose administration another locality has been chosen and a new church edifice erected, with the prospect of another structure, I trust, in the near future, worthy of the admirable position it will occupy and of the zeal of its beloved pastor.

The second colony sent out from this church found its quarters in the Old-Market Hall. It is now an organized and prosperous church, with a little colony of its own. The history of this enterprise is too well known to need rehearsal here. So much has been already published about it in the newspaper-press all over the country that its name has become familiar to thousands, and its story better

known than that of many of the old and wealthy churches of our great cities.

One of the peculiar honors with which this church has been crowned is the number of its young men who have become eminent and successful ministers and missionaries of the Cross. I need not enumerate them, but I may say they are to be found occupying conspicuous positions and everywhere recognized and honored for their successful labors. One of the most distinguished of these, of whom I must say a few loving words, was the late Edward Lane, missionary to Brazil. The literal history of his life would read like a romance. He seemed to possess all the endowments needed for the work to which he consecrated his life. It was one of noble Christian chivalry. He died like a hero, at the post of duty. It was my privilege to render him a small service at a critical time in his life, which he abundantly overpaid by his loyal affection. He was my guest during his last visit to Richmond. As we parted he told me that should he be disabled by any cause from service in the missionary field, he would come back to me and connect himself with my church again, and spend the remainder of his days in the humblest work I chose to assign to him. Alas, that he never came— or rather, blessed be God, that he never came, for when his earthly work was done, he had a higher call, and went up to engage in the nobler service which God assigns to those who have been faithful unto death. Four of the former members of this church, three of them women, are now in the foreign field.

And of the men trained here for the ministry in the home field, I may mention that of the four sons of my ever-lamented friend and elder, John B. Martin, three still survive, honored and useful in their respective charges.

With humble and devout gratitude, I thank God for making me the pastor of so many young men who have become leaders in the sacramental host both in the home and foreign field.

In this connection I yield to the impulse which constrains me to pay an affectionate tribute to the memory of two of the most remarkable women that ever took part in the benevolent work of this church. Mrs. Elizabeth H. Brown, wife of the late Dr. William Brown, secretary of our Ladies' Benevolent Society, had the capacity, beyond that of any woman I ever knew, of carrying more things at one time in her mind and heart and of attending to them all, with the most wonderful success, without confusion, without embarrassment, without waste of time, and without forgetfulness. There was no society organized for benevolent purposes in which she was not the inspiration and the most earnest worker; and yet for twenty years of physical weakness there was probably not a day when she was exempt from pain. She assisted her husband in the *Central Presbyterian* office all the forenoon of every day, visited the afflicted, the lonely, and the poor in my congregation every afternoon, and at night wrote innumerable letters of business and friendship. I once advised her to take every Sunday afternoon for quiet physical rest in her own chamber. "What," said she, "in my room at the very hour when all my friends are worshipping in our church!

Oh, no! After the toils of the week and Sunday forenoon worship, the services of the afternoon give him my most delightful repose. I find my best refreshment and invigoration in waiting upon God at the second service." It was thus that she prepared for the toils of the secular week and for the heavenly rest.

During the late war between the States, rarely did a train, an ambulance, or a messenger leave this city for the lines that did not convey some parcel of clothing, or of books, or of something prepared by her own hands that might minister to the comfort of her soldier boys in camp; or if these could not be sent, then, remembering how many a young man in his hours of loneliness, privation, and home-sickness would be cheered by letters filled with sympathy and encouragement from a Christian woman—perhaps the friend of his mother or sister—she sent, in numbers never to be known, messages of comfort whose value can never be estimated.

She died in Fredericksburg, but it was every way fitting that she should be buried in Hollywood Cemetery, and that she should be followed to her last resting-place by a great retinue of weeping friends to whom her life had been a benediction.

Another remarkable woman who lived and died in the communion of this church, was Mrs. Jane Schoolcraft Howard. Not one of those who daily met this plain-looking, plainly-dressed little woman on the streets of Richmond, intent on some benevolent errand, would have dreamed that her life had been one full of dramatic in-

terest and strange vicissitudes, such as fiction sometimes invests with romantic charm.

During the reign of Queen Anne an English gentleman of the name of Schoolcraft, of distinguished lineage and aristocratic bearing, emigrated to America. One of his descendants was Colonel Lawrence Schoolcraft, an officer of great capacity and courage during the Revolutionary war. The youngest son of this officer was Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, the renowned explorer of the head waters of the Mississippi river, the ethnologist, antiquarian, and historian. He published a work on the Indian tribes of North America, and another entitled, "The Myth of Hiawatha." He gave to Mr. Longfellow the suggestion on which he founded his beautiful poem of Hiawatha. While residing near Lake Superior Mr. Schoolcraft became acquainted with John Johnston, Esq., an Irish gentleman of great culture and courtly manners, a kinsman of the Attorney-General of Ireland. During Mr. Johnston's residence in the vicinity of Mr. Schoolcraft's, he was attracted by the great beauty of the daughter of the renowned chief of the Chippewa nation, and married her. His eldest daughter, Jane, was sent to Europe to be educated, and on her return her charms of person and character won the love of Mr. Schoolcraft, who married her. Of the four children born to this pair one was Jane Schoolcraft, who became the wife of the late Benjamin S. Howard, who died last year at his old home, in South Carolina. Mrs. Schoolcraft, her mother, through pride in her descent from one of the native kings of the country, perfected herself in the knowledge of the Indian languages. Her daughter, Jane,

our Mrs. Howard, assisted her father in all of his literary work, and became acquainted with many of the distinguished statesmen and scholars, who were frequent visitors at her father's house after his removal to Washington city.

Among the remarkable incidents of her life was the frequency with which she came near to the possession of great wealth without obtaining it, and the grace with which she afterwards submitted to a life of poverty after a youth spent in affluence. I cannot relate the history of the manner in which her father lost his interest in a great domain belonging to the Indian Princess, her grandmother, through the trickery of land agents, and which, had it been secured, would have enriched the entire family. Nor can I take time to speak of the loss of another fortune which seemed to be within her reach. Mrs. Howard was never heard to murmur at these great reverses. Poor in this world's goods, she was rich in faith and in good works.

For many years she was the efficient teacher of the children's department of our Sabbath school. She was the secretary and treasurer of the Ladies' Benevolent Society, which she maintained in a state of the highest efficiency. Mind and heart were devoted to the advancement of the welfare of her church, in all the departments of industry and enterprise, and she found in toil an inexpressible delight.

It is worthy of notice that she rarely referred to her distinguished ancestry, even among her most intimate friends; rarely mentioning the names of the eminent literary men with whom she associated in her youth at her father's home in Washington, and never complained of the great reverses of fortune to which she had been subjected.

A great audience gathered at her funeral, and many were the tears shed when her remains were carried from the house in which for thirty years she had worshipped. It was a coincidence grateful to many that the place of her burial was close to the grave of Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, who had held the same offices which Mrs. Howard subsequently filled, and the memory of whose pious labors is still cherished with undying respect and affection.

One of the most eminent men ever connected with this church was Judge Robert Ould. In early life he chose the profession of the law, which he preferred above all others, save one, which in later life he ranked above any secular calling, and his choice was a noble one. "Our human laws," says a modern writer, "are but copies, more or less perfect, of the eternal laws, so far as we can read them." Law has been called the perfection of reason. It is the visible impersonation of justice, the tangible embodiment of right. Law touches society at every point; guards property, life, and character; it curbs license, circumvents fraud, protects the feeble; honors good faith, and binds the turbulent in chains. It secures social order, shields domestic happiness, and makes national prosperity possible. Such was the noble profession of his choice. Two of my barrister neighbors and friends, neither knowing what the other had said, declared to me that they regarded Robert Ould as possessed of the finest intellectual powers of any man in the Commonwealth.

A great and eventful change took place in his life soon after he became a regular attendant on the services in this church. He became a communicant, and then a ruling

elder. After his conversion he took up theology as he would a new treatise on science or international law, but with a reverential interest such as no secular studies could have awakened. He became a teacher of a Bible-class, for which he began to prepare his lectures on Monday morning, lest the pressure of profession engagements should hinder his study of the lesson for the following Sabbath at the close of the week. He became an earnest student of polemics and church government, and came to an unalterable conclusion as to the scriptural origin of the creed and confession of the church of his choice. He became occasionally a delegate to church courts, in which he was always heard with deference, because of his familiarity with ecclesiastical law, and his fair, lucid, judicial style of discussion. He was a generous contributor to all the benevolent enterprises of the church, and a regular attendant upon all of its services—twice on the Sabbath, and once during the week—even when failing health made his regular attendance difficult and hazardous. Never did pastor have a more appreciative, loyal, loving ally in all his work; never did death deprive one of a more trustworthy friend and efficient helper.

In this connection, I come now to speak of my relations to other churches and to the eminent pastors of my own and other denominations. I have never bounded my social relations or friendships by denominational lines. It always seemed absurd to me to allow our honest differences of opinion with regard to forms of church government and modes of worship to control our associations and intimacies with persons of kindred tastes and congenial qualities of mind and heart.

Only those who have had similar experiences can know how much a young minister who is conscious of his crude and callow performances in the pulpit can be helped by a few kind words of encouragement. During the first year of my ministry in this city, having to preach alternately with an eminent divine like Dr. Plumer, I was often depressed when my time for conducting the service came, in thinking of how severely I was taxing the generous forbearance of those who had to listen. All know what a trial it is to a novice to preach to a cultivated audience, and all know, also, what trial it is to such an audience to listen to the novice! The first note of cheer was given in an article which appeared in one of the daily papers, written, as I afterwards learned, by Mr. James E. Heath, a member of the Episcopal church, and a gentleman of cultivated and refined literary taste. The next was an editorial by Mr. John Hampden Pleasants, in the *Richmond Whig*, who afterwards became an attendant on my ministry and a cordial friend. The last sermon he ever heard I delivered in my little lecture-room.

During the war with Mexico a son of the Hon. John Minor Botts died in that country, and his remains were brought to Richmond for interment. At that day it was the custom to preach funeral sermons, a custom now happily abandoned, and the venerable Dr. Empie, rector of St. James church, hearing that the relatives of the deceased, who were his parishioners, wished me to deliver the discourse, invited me to occupy his pulpit that I might perform that office; and thus my friendship with that aged servant of God, whose tremulous tones in reading the ser-

vice still sound in my ears, began. These were among my earliest encouragements, and they did not come from Presbyterian sources.

My most intimate friend among our Presbyterian divines was Dr. Thomas Verner Moore, whose name is still like fragrance from a garden of spices, and whose distinction it was to possess an unusual variety of gifts, all so harmonized as to produce a character of rare and beautiful symmetry.

Next to him my most pleasant associations were with the versatile and eloquent Dr. Duncan, of the Methodist church; and then later in years, dear old Dr. Minnigerode became one of my most intimate friends. The last letter I ever received from him, and probably one of the latest letters of his life, was written from Alexandria on the 20th of July, 1894, and in its conclusion he makes such a reference to this anniversary that I will reproduce it here: "I wish, my dear brother, we could meet occasionally, but my roaming days are over, and I can do no more, even on the fiftieth anniversary of your ministry in your own dear church, than remember you lovingly and rejoice in all your happiness and blessings." He cannot remember me tonight, unless the memories of earth are perpetuated in heaven, where there is no night! His letter is written in a tremulous, wavering hand, but there was no wavering in his affection for me, and no kind wish for my welfare which I did not return with all my heart.

Richmond, for more than a century the social as well as political capital of the Commonwealth, from its earliest history has been the home of men whose distinction in the

learned professions, or whose reputation as jurists, patriots, and sages, has given lustre to the State and to the republic, has gained for itself a prominence not accorded many cities of our land far surpassing it in wealth and population. It has also been the home of a long line of eminent ministers of the gospel, whose piety and usefulness conferred dignity on their calling while they lived, and now that they have been removed to a higher sphere of service, we who survive cherish their memories with undying affection and perpetuate the story of their toils and triumphs for the study, the imitation, and the inspiration of the generations to come. Among these, in addition to those I have mentioned, we hold in grateful remembrance the cheerful and pious Buchanan; the amiable and gifted Blair; the venerable Bishop Moore; the learned and eloquent Rice; the fervid John Kerr; and Armstrong, of sweet, apostolic piety; and Empie, grave, dignified, and courteous; and Woodbridge, the upright man and model pastor; and Norwood, cordial, earnest, loyal to his Lord; and James B. Taylor, the holy man of God; and Stephen Taylor, full of faith and the Holy Ghost; and Stiles, full of heroic ardor and consecrated enthusiasm; and Jeter, famed for candor, courage, and steadfast devotion to truth; and Doggett, philosophic, administrative, and studious; and Father Courtney, with the silver hair and heart of love; and Burroughs, many-sided, philanthropic, diligent; and Peterkin, always reminding one of the disciple whom Jesus loved, and who reclined on the bosom of his Lord. How rich is our inheritance with the memories of these saintly men treasured in our hearts!

In this connection, among the most impressive scenes connected with the hundreds of funerals at which I have officiated, I recall most vividly all that occurred when we gathered in the First Presbyterian church to pay the last tribute of our love to Dr. Plumer, just preceding his interment in Hollywood. He was laid, I might say, in state—the coffin-lid removed, revealing that majestic face and form. There we saw that strange, sad charm which the repose of death gives to the face in its final aspect of rest and peace; the silver beard covering the breast like a wreath of snow; every feature distinct in its marble purity and strength, yet softened as if by the gentlest touches of the sculptor's chisel. Many affecting scenes did I witness in that edifice, standing then on the ground where the City Hall now rears its imposing front, but none fuller of solemn and tender impressiveness than when these obsequies were held within its walls. None who were present will ever forget the hour; the vast assembly so hushed and still, the silent tears that fell, the tributes of affection from the lips and hearts of representatives of different denominations. My brethren, denominational barriers get very low in the presence of the sainted dead!

In this connection, too, I may allude to the event which stirred the heart of all the city more deeply than any other since the burning of the Richmond Theatre, when the play of "The Bleeding Nun" was so quickly followed by the tragedy of bleeding hearts. The calamity to which I now refer is oftenest called the "Capitol disaster," when sixty-five persons were killed by the breaking down of a floor, and two hundred wounded, many of them maimed for life.

In the public meeting held in the Capitol Square immediately after the catastrophe there was one of the most wonderful testimonies borne to the supreme importance of religion known in our annals; for there, before the southern portico of the Capitol, under the open sky, were assembled thousands of citizens, not only hushed and reverential, as is this audience to-night, but listening to appeals coming—not from clergymen—but from members of the legal profession, not one of whom was then a church-member, importuning their hearers to attend at once to the great duties of repentance, faith, and preparation for eternity. It was as when the Spirit of God fell on Saul, placing him for the time among the prophets, enabling him to speak with the awful tones of a prophet's voice, with a prophet's authority and power. These laymen, under the overwhelming influence of the solemn Providence impelling them, urged those to whom they spoke to humble themselves under the mighty hand of God; to avoid the fatal error of presuming on to-morrow, and at once to begin the needed preparation for the eternal future. The following Thursday was set apart for religious observance in all the churches. Sermons on the Capitol disaster were preached by many of the pastors. What a spectacle did that Thursday present! Had that public religious observance been assigned to the Sabbath there would have been nothing unusual in the silence of the city; but on a week-day, a secular day, what a strange event it was in a busy, commercial community, to find all business suspended, all public offices and places of amusement closed, the houses of God alone open, and thronged with people of every age

and class; subdued by a common sadness, the entire population of the city bowed in penitence before the Lord!

I have made these references to the Capitol disaster because of the illustration it affords of the way Divine Providence often overrules great calamities for the spiritual welfare of the whole people. The influence of that dispensation of sanctified bereavement is still felt in this city. At the time of the disaster the dark cloud that hovered over us was converted into a pavilion for prayer. Its borders were fringed with a holy light, drops of mercy fell on the mourning people, and the impression then made of the transcendent importance of eternal things abides to this day.

Another memorable event, never to be forgotten, was the evacuation of the city near the close of the war. It is not my purpose to reproduce the lurid picture which that night of terror presents; the thunder of military wagons over the stony streets, the flame of burning bridges and warehouses, the deafening detonations of exploding shells, the canopy of dense smoke hanging like a pall over the city—ah, no, let me drop the curtain on that scene of desolation and woe and turn to the consideration of what more especially relates to this present hour.

When the Confederate struggle commenced I became a volunteer chaplain in the camp of instruction, occupying what are now called the Agricultural Fair Grounds, without resigning my pastoral charge of this church. In order that I might preach to the soldiers every Sunday afternoon, Dr. Moore, then pastor of the First Presbyterian church, occupied my pulpit at the same hour when I was holding

my service with the soldiers in the camp, and I officiated, in return for his kindness, in his church at night.

Camp Lee, as it was called, was the camp of instruction, where newly-enlisted regiments were drilled and equipped for the field; some of them remaining there for a few weeks, others for several months, as the exigencies of the case might demand. A hundred thousand men passed through that camp during my connection with it. A hundred thousand men was a large number to become acquainted with. The acquaintance was largely on their part, it is true; they all knew me as their chaplain; my regret is that I could not know every one of them by name. I preached there once every Sabbath, and oftener during the week, visiting the hospitals as I had opportunity. I then learned what a fearful destitution of Bibles there was among our soldiers. I sent to Nashville and Charleston for as many as could be spared from those cities, and made an appeal to the Virginia people for the gift of as many Bibles as could be spared from their own families. The supply was not sufficient for the ever-increasing demand. On one occasion, when I had received a box from the West, after my sermon was ended I stood on a caisson, and with the Bibles and Testaments before me, announced that I was ready to distribute them. There was an immediate rush of men with extended hands for the precious volumes. Many on the outer verge of the crowd, fearing the supply would be exhausted before they could reach me, cried out, calling me by different titles, "Parson," "Doctor," "Chaplain," "Save one for me." Alas, for the number who were disappointed!

It was at this juncture that the Virginia Bible Society proposed that I should make a voyage to England for the purpose of obtaining a supply from the British and Foreign Bible Society. A voyage to England is ordinarily an easy and pleasant affair—I have made it many times; but then it was a very different matter. I got ready in a single day and night. I left Richmond in the dead of winter, and had to run the blockade in going from Charleston to Nassau; from Nassau in a little schooner, to Cuba; from Cuba to the Danish Island of St. Thomas, in a coasting vessel; and from St. Thomas to Southampton in the Tasmania, of the Royal Mail Line, from Brazil to Southampton; thus reaching England by four successive voyages.

The Hon. James M. Mason was then in London, awaiting the recognition of the Confederate Government—a recognition that never came. Mr. Mason was well acquainted with the Earl of Shaftesbury, and one day, in making him a visit, he told his Lordship of my arrival, and of the purpose of my coming. “Ask him to come and see me,” was the response,” “and I will do what I can to make his errand a successful one.” I gladly availed myself of the unexpected and unsolicited invitation of the president of the British and Foreign Bible Society. He was kind enough to call a meeting, and on introducing me courteously requested me to take time to state whatever I might consider interesting in reference to my errand. As I was the first and only person from the South who had addressed that body, I could not complain of want of attention, coming, as I did, from the beleaguered capital of the Confederacy, and during the most critical period of the history

of the great conflict. The result of my appeal was a free grant of 10,000 Bibles, 50,000 Testaments, and 250,000 portions—that is, the Psalms, Proverbs, and Gospels—bound separately, in glazed covers, with red edges and rounded corners—just the thing to put in the jackets of the soldiers. The value of this grant was £4,000 (\$20,000), the best fee I ever got for a single speech!

I remained in London several months, superintending the shipment of the boxes containing these Bibles on the Confederate Blockade-runners. Only a few boxes could be sent at a time, as all the space of these swift little vessels was needed for the transmission of provisions and munitions of war. Of course, many of these vessels were captured, but at least three-fourths of the Bibles reached the Confederacy. This was during the third year of the war; and I had my reward on my return in visiting the camps and hospitals, and in riding along the lines, where I saw so many of the men, waiting to be called into battle, reading these little red-edged volumes.

One day it occurred to me to send a copy of these Bibles to several of the great leaders in our Confederate army, accompanied by a note to each, explaining that they were brought from England by the blockade-running vessels. The result was deeply gratifying to me, as I was rewarded by receiving letters of acknowledgment (which have never been published); and the originals having been carefully preserved, I regard them as the most precious relics of the war and of the noble men who wrote them. The significance and value of these letters consists in the tribute they pay to the excellence of the Holy Scriptures as the guide

of life, and they illustrate the devout spirit of the great leaders in our Confederate army.

[Here the letters, at Dr. Hoge's request, were read by Rev. Dr. Kerr, of the First Presbyterian church.]

CAMP, ORANGE COUNTY, *March 10, 1864.*

MY DEAR SIR:

I received some time since your very kind note of November last, accompanying a specimen copy of the Bibles you obtained during your late visit to England. I am very much obliged to you for so acceptable a gift, and pray that I may be able to practice its holy teachings. The success which attended your expedition and the number of books of Scripture you procured is a subject of devout thanksgiving to God, and of hearty congratulation to yourself.

With feelings of gratitude for your prayers, and kind sentiments and earnest wishes for your welfare, I am, with great respect and esteem,

Very truly yours,

ROBERT E. LEE.

REV. M. D. HOGE, D. D.

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CHARLOTTESVILLE, *November 27, 1863.*

REV. MOSES D. HOGE, D. D.,

MY DEAR SIR:

I have received your kind letter, accompanying a copy of the Bible. Please add to the value of the gift by joining in my prayers that I may be assisted in following the precepts of the Divine Word, and that I may be guided by its wisdom.

I am about starting for the army, having been detained by an injury to my leg.

RICHARD S. EWELL.

## HEADQUARTERS RODE'S DIVISION,

*November 25, 1863.*

MY DEAR SIR :

Captain Smith delivered to me a few days ago the tasteful and valuable present you did me the honor to make me.

I assure you that such a gift at your hands gives me great pleasure. I will prize it highly, and read it, I hope, with profit to my soul. I feel sure that my promising you this in good faith will convince you that I appreciate your kindness, and that I am sincerely obliged to you for the interest you have taken in my welfare.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

R. E. RODES.

REV. M. D. HOGE, D. D., *Richmond, Va.*

## NEAR ORANGE COURTHOUSE,

*November 21, 1863.*

MY DEAR SIR :

Please accept my grateful acknowledgments for the very neat and serviceable edition of the Holy Bible which I received by the hand of Colonel Pendleton.

I had the good fortune to hear General Lee read your letter to him, in which you speak of having secured a large amount of valuable religious literature in England for the use of the Confederacy.

Please find enclosed \$36, which I wish expended for detached portions of Scripture—the Gospels preferred—which I wish to distribute among my friends in the ranks.

With best wishes for your continued welfare and usefulness, permit me to remain,

Your servant,

J. E. B. STUART.

Dr. Kerr said Dr. Hoge sent General Stuart the copies of Scripture he asked for without using the check, which he still keeps as a souvenir and greatly prizes.

DALTON, *February 15, 1864.*

MY DEAR SIR :

I have had the pleasure to receive from our friend, Colonel Ewell, the Bible presented to me by you.

I assure you that no gift has ever before afforded me so much gratification. My father's children were taught to venerate the name you bear, and I know that you bear it worthily. It is, therefore, a source of great pleasure to find that you thought of me beyond the Atlantic.

Receiving this Bible revived the feeling you gave me almost two years ago by saying that I was remembered in the prayers of those who meet in your church to pray.

I know that it would gratify your goodness to believe that the reading of this book will not be neglected. Be assured that it shall not, but that I will strive to read it in the spirit of the poor republican's prayer.

Sincerely yours,

J. E. JOHNSTON.

Rev. MOSES D. HOGE.

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Dr. Kerr then said: General Jackson's reply to Dr. Hoge's letter is not in this collection, but I hold in my hand an order such as General Jackson was not in the habit of issuing, and probably Dr. Hoge is the only man for whom General Jackson ever wrote such an unlimited order. It is this :

HEADQUARTERS VALLEY DISTRICT, NEAR RICHMOND.

Permit the bearer, the Rev. Moses D. Hoge, to pass at pleasure from Richmond to any part of my command.

T. J. JACKSON,  
*Major-General.*

The reading of these letters having been concluded, Dr. Hoge proceeded, saying :

When the war was over, and when the melancholy days of reconstruction came, it was a significant fact that so many of the Federal officers in command of this military district attended my church. Knowing as they did my devotion to the Confederate cause, one would have supposed that they would prefer the ministry of some one whose position had not been so pronounced. Not one of them, so far as I know, held me in less respect on that account. General Patrick and General Schofield both took pews in my church. General Patrick and myself had some candid discussions about the war, but they never interfered with our pleasant intercourse, though he told me one day that it grieved him to find me so inflexible. In a family affliction sustained during his administration it would not have been possible for any one to have shown me more sympathy and considerate kindness. We never came any nearer to agreement on one subject, but we became fast friends, notwithstanding.

My personal relations with General Schofield were also both harmonious and happy, and I cherish a lively remembrance of the assurance he gave me of his personal regard when he came to bid me farewell on being relieved of his command in this district.

I cannot forget that I am delivering an historic address, which, with all its demerits, will go on the permanent records of this church, and be referred to when its hundredth anniversary shall come. Your descendants will wish to

know the materials of which it was composed, the character of the congregations gathered at its services, the kind of officers that managed its affairs, temporal and spiritual, and the causes of whatever measure of prosperity it attained.

I will, therefore, in the briefest way, leave as a legacy to those who care to inherit it in after times, these statements:

1. It was a church which for fifty years had no feuds or factions in it; a church that had no disturbing waves on the tranquil current of its corporate life.

2. Its officers were men who were elected because those who called them to bear rule believed them to be men of sincere piety and consecrated lives. They were men of good repute in the community, entitled to confidence and respect, because of their intelligence, education, and social standing. From the time of its organization there was always wonderful harmony in the body of men forming what we call the church session, composed of the pastor and ruling elders; never having had a dissension among them, but always agreeing in the measures adopted for the promotion of the peace, the purity, and prosperity of the church entrusted to their care.

3. The pastor was never hampered or interfered with in his special department of service, but treated with a generous confidence that left him free to make such disposition of his time of rest and of labor as best suited his own health and comfort, and to conduct the services of the church in the way he thought most conducive to its spiritual advantage.

4. The deacons and board of finance, having charge of

the temporal affairs of the church, always gave to it their time, their generous support, and their co-operation in all the matters by which its outward and material prosperity might be secured and advanced.

5. The female members of the church were characterized by their intelligent and zealous and hearty devotion to the work of the different societies organized among them for benevolent purposes of every kind, and no other agency has accomplished more for the prosperity of this church or for the great enterprises of Christian philanthropy, by which the world is benefited and blessed.

One of the advantages I have enjoyed—one which my clerical brethren will appreciate—has been that in the congregations to which I have ministered during all these years there has been such a large proportion of educated men, many of them conspicuously eminent and distinguished in their respective professions.

Among these I may enumerate the judges of the Court of Appeals and of the Federal courts; physicians of national renown; lawyers whose genius and learning gave them widespread and deserved celebrity; nearly all of the Governors of our Commonwealth since the year 1848; editors whose pens illuminated their columns, and whose ability and fairness in discussing public questions invested them with an influence that was felt all over the Union, and many successful teachers and professors in our schools and colleges.

Chief-Justice Chase, though belonging to another denomination, regularly attended the services of this church, and the last sermon he heard was in one of the pews immedi-

ately before me. During the war our great military leaders often worshipped here, as well as the secretaries in the different departments of the Confederate Government.

This was never called "The Church of the Strangers," but it is the church in which thousands of strangers, spending a Sabbath in Richmond, have found a welcome, thus vastly increasing the number of those to whom it had been my privilege to proclaim the great truths of the Divine Word.

It was my purpose to conclude this address with a somewhat extended reference to what I hope I have gained as a pastor by my frequent visits to the Old World, but I have more than exhausted the time allotted to this service. Foreign travel, not for the mere gratification of curiosity, but for the study of institutions, race diversities, schools of art, modes of worship, and the influence of different religions on practical morality; all this may become an important part of a minister's education and preparation for the pulpit. This is especially true of travel in Oriental lands, and, above all, in Palestine.

My ever-to-be-lamented friend, the late Dr. Henry Alexander, once told me that when lecturing to his class in the Theological Seminary when he came to speak of memorable places in the Holy Land, or when he attempted to trace the journeys of our Lord, he sometimes felt like abruptly leaving the lecture-room and taking the first train for New York, that he might embark for Palestine, and explore the country personally, so that he might not thereafter have to get his information from books that others had written, making it necessary to go before his class

with second-hand knowledge, but that by personal exploration of the land he might learn for himself what he had to teach others.

There are many who have a similar yearning; but let me say for the comfort of those who can never hope to enjoy a personal inspection of the land where the Bible was written, and where their Lord was born, that they may console themselves somewhat for the want of actual sight by the remembrance that—

“Faith still has its Olivet,  
And love its Galilee,”

for those who never get a glimpse of either. I say, console themselves somewhat, for it is unquestionably a privilege to “see the goodly land that is beyond Jordan,” and to walk over the acres once trodden by the feet which were “nailed for our advantage to the bitter Cross.”

I can never forget the thrill experienced on the bright morning when from the deck of the steamer I caught sight of the dim outlines of Mount Carmel, and the blue hills of Judea, and the promontory on which Jaffa stands, and the low-lying coast fringed with yellow sand, and when the irrepressible exclamation came, “There is Palestine, at last!”

Hundreds of times my memories of scenes, events, or experiences in that land have influenced trains of thought in my sermons or given me confidence in speaking of its physical aspects and sacred localities. My Oriental tour, made possible and pleasant by the dear friends who accompanied me—Mr. and Mrs. Pemberton—took in the cities of Alexandria, Cairo, Jerusalem, Beyrout, Damascus,

the ruins of Baalbek, Tyre, Sidon, and Ephesus, and the cities of Rhodes, Smyrna, and Constantinople.

It is no small advantage, either, to have had the opportunity of hearing the great divines in the chief cities of Europe and in the British Isles.

Some of you have asked me to give you my recollections of those whom I have heard preach and with some of whom I became acquainted. Three of the most interesting of these were Drs. Cæsar Malan, of Geneva, Bersier, of Paris, and Cook, the great polemic, of Belfast.

Several times I heard Dean Stanley in Westminster Abbey. One day, in speaking with the Dean of a visit I was about to make to Scotland, he said: "If you have never heard Dr. McGregor, of St. Cuthbert's, in Edinburgh, be sure to hear him this time, for I regard him as the most eloquent divine in Great Britain." I heard him during that visit, and was not disappointed. But for Dean Stanley's well-known freedom from denominational bias in his estimate of men, I might have been surprised at his eulogium on a Presbyterian divine. I asked him whom he regarded as the most eloquent preacher in the Church of England. Without a moment's hesitation, he answered: "Dr. Magee, Bishop of Peterborough."

I also had the opportunity of hearing Maurice, Liddon, Farrar, and the Bishop of Canterbury, Dr. Tait; and of the Presbyterian Church, Cumming, Candlish, and James Hamilton, of Regent Square, and A. H. K. Boyd, author of "Recreations" and "Graver Hours of a Country Parson."

During my visits abroad, covering a period of thirty years, I often heard Spurgeon, and always with the greatest

delight; and once the fervid and eloquent Punshon, of the Wesleyan church.

I have now enumerated the most eminent teachers in what I tried to make my theological school in the Old World, most of whom have entered on their eternal rest and reward.

I have never been in any city where the average standard of ministerial merit was higher than in Richmond, and never one where pastors and people lived and labored together in more delightful harmony.

This church, I am grateful to say, has been a sort of religious exchange for nearly half a century. At our afternoon meetings, especially, all denominations have met and mingled. The ever-increasing manifestations of regard on the part of my ministerial brethren to me is a source of the purest happiness. And yet had I purchased it by the sacrifice, or even the compromise of any truth of revelation, whether of doctrine, church government, or modes of worship, I would have purchased it at a cost which would have made me bankrupt forever. "Whether it be right in sight of God" must ever be the minister's great inquiry. Whatever may be the fluctuations of public opinion, whatever the clamoring voice of the people, whatever the revolutions in creeds and theories of inspiration, the minister must listen to one voice alone as finally authoritative. When the sea is agitated with storms the waves make a great tumult; but when the voice of thunder comes rolling across the storm, then all the din of the waters is hushed by that mightier voice, and so when God speaks the response must ever be, "Speak, Lord, Thy servant

heareth." "It is Thine to command; it is mine to obey." But I have ever believed that the highest loyalty to truth and duty is consistent with the sweetest charity—the charity that is the crown and flower of all the graces. Conscience itself sees the truth more clearly in an atmosphere of love. At my forty-fifth anniversary the bishop of one of our Virginia dioceses was kind enough to say that the harmony between our churches was due in a measure to the afternoon services of this church, and that the influence of its pastor had helped to educate our people in the great principles of practical Christian unity. If I have contributed at all to this result I am profoundly grateful to the great author of peace and lover of concord, and to His name be the praise.

And now, my friends, this memorial service is ended. How can I sufficiently express my gratitude to the thousands who have come to celebrate this golden wedding with such unanimity and cordiality. I call it my golden wedding, because fifty years ago I was united in holy bonds with this church. I was then in the springtime of life, hopeful and expectant. It was a spring followed by a glowing summer. The summer has been succeeded by a golden autumn, enriched by the fruits of the Divine favor, all the more precious because all unmerited. Since the first year of my betrothal to this church I have seen many and great changes—changes in the church, changes in the city, changes in the country, and in the world. But there is one change which I never saw; I have seen no change in the abounding love and care of One who is "the same yesterday, to-day, and forever." I stand here to testify, as

I never could so gratefully before, that amidst all the vicissitudes of mortal life, "His loving kindness changes not!"

And, now, in the possession of a common faith in one Lord and in the hope of one Heaven of harmony and love, let us ascribe to him, as is most due, all honor and blessing and glory, evermore. Amen.

Dr. Hoge spoke about one hour and a half, and was never in better voice or more earnest in delivery. He literally held the great assemblage spell-bound.

At the conclusion of the discourse, Mr. Mason gave out, "Blest Be the Tie that Binds," and, the congregation rising and uniting with the choir, the hymn was sung with thrilling effect. It is doubtful if this grand old anthem was ever rendered with more fervor, and the great volume of melody as it rolled over and almost drowned the notes of the organ will ever be an inspiring memory to all who heard it.

The hymn was sung through, the earnestness of the immense gathering increasing with every stanza, and then the services were closed with the benediction by Dr. Landrum. As the congregation left the church, Professor Thilow performed on the organ Wiegand's Grand March (Philadelphus).

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NOTE.—In his sermon the following Sunday evening, Dr. Hoge referred to his discourse of Wednesday night, and said if in speaking of the long line of distinguished ministers he had been privileged to know, any one was disappointed at the omission of names of those dear to them, that person could see on a moment's reflec-

tion that all could not have been mentioned unless he had devoted much more time to that particular subject. He had not mentioned his own brother, who had assisted him for two years; or his uncle, John Blair Hoge, who was pastor of one of the Presbyterian churches in this city. He had not spoken of Doctors LeRoy M. Lee or Rosser, or Dibrell who gave up his charge and went to the relief of those stricken with yellow fever in our sister city of Norfolk. The last named perished in the noble cause in which he labored. The speaker further said the Methodist ministers in the period of his pastorate had numbered, perhaps, 300, and the church, which was his nearest neighbor, now had its tenth pastor. This sufficed to show that all could not have been enumerated. But he felt compelled on this occasion to speak of his first two elders, who had rendered him such loving and efficient service, and whose lives were worthy to be memorized—John B. Martin and Michael Gretter. The former was a portrait-painter, and not always having sufficient work of this kind to employ him, he engraved a great deal, and close by the tools he used would be found a copy of the New Testament, which was his study day by day, a verse at the time, until it was by prayer and meditation understood to his satisfaction. This enabled him to become a clear and most wonderful expounder of the Scriptures. Mr. Martin had dedicated his four sons to the ministry, and expressed the hope that he might live to see his desire fulfilled. He lived to see three of them ordained ministers, and the other one at the Theological Seminary. Thus God honored his faith.

Of Mr. Gretter it could be said his life was like a hymn of praise to God.

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## PRESS COMMENTS.

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Dr. Hoge's jubilee not only attracted the attention of the press throughout this country, but was the occasion of comment in leading journals abroad.

From the many editorial notices of the demonstration, the following few are selected as representing the spirit in which it was treated.

### A PLEASING CEREMONY.

[London (Eng.) Telegraph.]

A pleasing ceremony has just been solemnized at Richmond, in Virginia, which recalls tender memories of the American civil war. The Rev. Dr. Moses D. Hoge celebrated, together with a large and devoted body of friends, the fiftieth anniversary of his assumption of the duties of pastor to the chief Presbyterian church in Richmond. Not the least grateful of his reminiscences was the fact that, on the rare occasions when the stern exigences of war permitted General Stonewall Jackson to visit Richmond, he never failed to attend service at Dr. Hoge's church.

Perhaps there never yet was a war in which so many

clergymen took an active and distinguished part as the great fratricidal strife which, between 1861 and 1865, came so near rending the United States in twain. To begin with, hostilities had scarcely broken out before Bishop Leonidas Polk threw aside his episcopal robes and replaced them with the uniform of a major-general. For three years he took part with characteristic courage in the fray, until at last, in June, 1864, he was killed by a shot from a Federal battery at Pine Mountain, in Georgia. In Virginia the staff of General Lee, General Jackson, and General J. E. B. Stuart contained members who had taken holy orders, and were ministers of religion. General Lee, for instance, was always accompanied by General Pendleton, a clergyman of the Episcopal Church, who performed service in camp on Sunday whenever the enemy's operations permitted General Lee and his troops to enjoy the Sabbath's calm. The Rev. Dr. R. L. Dabney was chief of staff to Stonewall Jackson, while Dr. Hoge was a constant visitor to the camp of that miracle of energy. When in October, 1876, the life-size bronze statue of Stonewall Jackson, designed by Foley, and presented to the State of Virginia by the late Mr. Beresford Hope and a band of English subscribers, was unveiled at Richmond, the orator of the day was Dr. Moses D. Hoge.

For these reasons some sympathy and interest will be felt in this country when it is known that Dr. Hoge is still living, and that the fiftieth anniversary of his taking holy orders has just been celebrated with enthusiasm at Richmond. One striking incident in his life has escaped general attention, even among his own compatriots. Some

few survivors still remain of those who welcomed Dr. Hoge to this country in 1862, at a time when the Confederate States were closely blockaded by land and sea, and it was no easy matter "to run the blockade." Nothing daunted by difficulty or danger, Dr. Hoge took passage upon an outward-bound blockade-running vessel, and starting from Charleston, in South Carolina, made his way to Nassau, in the Bahamas. His object was to proceed to England, where his friends—and no man ever made more in a short time—soon sent him back to the Southern States, furnished with 10,000 Bibles, 50,000 New Testaments, and 250,000 pocket editions of the Holy Scriptures. With this precious cargo, the much-beloved Presbyterian divine again ran the blockade successfully, and, landing at Wilmington, in North Carolina, soon distributed the sacred volumes among the Confederate soldiers serving under Lee and Joseph E. Johnston. Of the prominent generals who fought on either side in the great convulsion which ended at Appomattox Courthouse, just thirty years since, the scythe of death has spared few. Among southerners, General Longstreet survives, in poverty and old age; while General Fitzhugh Lee has lately given to the world an excellent history of that consummate master of the art of war, his uncle, General R. E. Lee. To those, however, who were present in Virginia during the never-to-be-forgotten scenes of that vast military drama, it will be pleasant to learn that Dr. Hoge is still living; for so long as he ascends the pulpit which he continues to adorn, thoughts of Lee and Jackson, of Grant and Sherman, and of the hosts of heroes who under them "marched to death with

military glee," will be perpetually renewed. Nor should we omit to state that both in the northern and southern armies ministers of religion belonging to all denominations vied with each other in devotion to the cause which they respectively served. The Catholic clergy, for example, were permitted by the Federal and Confederate leaders alike to cross the lines on errands of mercy, without check or molestation. General Lee, General Longstreet, and the officers around them abounded in perpetual homage to the Episcopal Church, while the prayers and hopes of the Presbyterians followed the Puritan hero, Stonewall Jackson, into the field. Finally, it is refreshing to add that, in the tribute just paid at Richmond to Dr. Hoge's pure and exalted character and career, North and South, forgetting their ancient enmities, were alike proud to join hands.

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**REV. MOSES D. HOGE, D. D., LL. D.**

[Cincinnati Herald and Presbyter.]

The fiftieth anniversary of the pastorate of Rev. Dr. M. D. Hoge, who was installed February 27, 1845, over the Second Presbyterian Church of Richmond, Va., was fittingly celebrated. It was a notable occasion. Dr. Hoge's installation and ordination occurred on the day of the organization of the church, so that the church has had no other pastor, and the pastor has had no other charge.

During all these fifty years both pastor and church have been growing in power and influence. The church was organized with sixty-three members, and now has over six

hundred, while two organizations have gone out from it in the meanwhile. Dr. Hoge is admired and beloved by all classes throughout his city, the entire South, and the North as well. There is perhaps no minister in the United States more widely known. Not only in this country, but in Europe, has he been heard, always preaching the gospel in its purity and power.

Such a ministry is most gratifying as an exemplification of the influence that may be exerted by a man who steadily devotes his life to the interests of the kingdom of Jesus Christ. Dr. Hoge's eloquence and many of his personal endowments are of a very high order, but that which makes them all effective in so eminent a degree is his well-balanced and steadfast Christian character. During these years he has stood for the gospel of Jesus Christ, and his preaching, to rich and poor, in city and country, at home and abroad, in church and chapel, has been the one message and story of the word of God. Therefore has he the respect and affection of all who love the Lord Jesus Christ.

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#### INTERESTING CELEBRATION.

[Belfast (Ireland) Witness.]

We give elsewhere an article from the *Daily Telegraph*, which makes some comments on a most interesting celebration which took place recently in Richmond, Virginia. The Rev. Dr. Hoge, of that city, who had completed his jubilee, was the subject of a series of demonstrations and congratulations, which testify to the universality of his

popularity. Dr. Hoge is a Presbyterian minister in Richmond, and has served not one, but two generations faithfully and ably in that capacity. But during the American war he proved not only a minister but a hero, from the fearless manner in which he bore the brunt of the dangers of battle to minister to the soldiers, and also for his mission to England in the interests of the Confederate cause. The war can never be forgotten, but its animosities are buried, and all sections combined to do honor to the marvellous man. Dr. Hoge was a delegate to the Pan-Presbyterian Council in Belfast, and formed many attachments during his visit on account of his personal character and talents, and his historic achievements. He preached during the visit in the Portrush Presbyterian Church, and the impression his powerful preaching produced was long remembered.

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#### A GRATIFYING EXHIBITION.

[New Orleans Presbyterian.]

The *Central Presbyterian* and the *St. Louis Presbyterian* of last week both have portraits of Dr. M. D. Hoge, of Richmond, accompanying the account of the celebration of his fifty years' pastorate. It was a remarkable and gratifying exhibition of the esteem and affection felt for Dr. Hoge in the city in which he has been so long identified. No man can ever expect a more eventful pastorate than that which embraced the tremendous struggle of the

civil war; yet in these days of peace, some of the warmest tributes to the southern pastor come from northern papers.

This event is a good test of the power of a long pastorate. To remain in constant service with the church which was first organized as his own charge, and to have such a hold not only on his own people, but on the whole population, shows the influence of a consecrated life upon men. Dr. Hoge is popular with all. His genial, friendly nature, his oratorical power, and his hearty faith give the impression of a man who exemplifies what embodied Christianity ought to be. May his strength long be spared, and the autumn of life bring forth for him yet more abundant and precious fruitage.

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#### DR. HOGES JUBILEE.

[New York Evangelist.]

The jubilee of Dr. Moses D. Hoge, in Richmond, Va., is a rare occurrence in these days of change. Fifty years of the Second Church, with but one pastor, whom it still holds in highest esteem and whom the whole city delights to honor! This brings out a family characteristic. In 1845, Dr. Hoge, of Columbus, Ohio, still reigned as a prince of the pulpit, "walking through High Street once a day to keep the town in order," and his brother, the President of Ohio University of Athens of that State, was an object of State pride and of deep and wide personal interest and affection. His grandfather, Moses Hoge, long presided at Hampden Sidney College. These were men of might,

positive, popular, and enduring. For all his years of toil and almost uninterrupted preaching in Richmond, Dr. Hoge seems to be in his prime, holding three services each Sabbath, and commanding his great congregations by his mental vigor, spiritual force, and magnetic speech, as if it were "a fresh man every time." There is hardly a parallel case within the great Church which he represents, nor indeed in any other. The man seems to be utterly beyond exhaustion, with nerves of steel that are yet sensitive as harp-strings, responsive to the lightest touch, harmonious to highest truth, capable of infinite expression. Those who know Dr. Hoge best admire and love him most. May he live and labor, for he could not be idle, yet many, many years!

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**MOSES DRURY HOGE, D. D , LL.D.**

[Philadelphia Presbyterian.]

The fiftieth anniversary of the installation of the Rev. Dr. Hoge, as pastor of the Second church of Richmond, took place on the 27th of February. It was one of the most remarkable tributes paid to singular worth and protracted service this generation has seen. It practically began several days before the interest culminated in the service held in the church where Dr. Hoge has ministered, the only pastor—to a church organized at his coming to the capitol of Virginia, fifty years ago. The banquet at the Masonic Temple, on the evening of February 26th, and the congratulations extended the distinguished min-

ister, every class and every creed, every civic and military organization of the city, being represented; telegrams sent from many parts of the country, and from Great Britain; several thousand persons grasping the hand of Richmond's most distinguished divine; others waiting in vain for an opportunity to express their appreciation of his work, and utter some word of cheer—all this, so far as we know, has not been paralleled in the experience of any clergyman of this country. Such a ministry and such a people are rare in this world of imitation, an average pastorate not exceeding five years, the relation of the pulpit and the pews readily dissolved, and the continuance of whatever is valued being of uncertain tenure. Dr. Hoge has had many flattering calls to churches in the North, and to churches in the South, but on through all the years, whether dark or bright, of cruel war or grateful peace, of toilsome breaking up of fallow ground, or the gathering of glorious harvests, he has abode with his people, and his people have girdled him with sympathy, helpfulness and unwavering love.

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#### AN INSTRUCTIVE OCCASION.

[Baltimore American.]

We recall no anniversary in recent years more instructive in a broad sense than the semi-centennial of Rev. Dr. Moses D. Hoge as pastor of the Second Presbyterian church, of Richmond. Dr. Hoge has often spoken to crowded

congregations in this city, and it is not necessary to eulogize his great ability and his eloquence. What was remarkable about the occasion was the universal testimony to the man and his work.

One of the first telegrams was a message of congratulation from Cardinal Gibbons. The citizens, without respect to denomination or party, united in a banquet and a reception. The Governor was there, and all the leading men of the city were there with their families. There came a delegation from the principal Jewish synagogues with a series of resolutions praising the noble and unceasing labor of Dr. Hoge, who, "while never for a moment untrue to his own convictions, yet has so served the community at large that the followers of all faiths have enjoyed the fruits of his scholarship, his eloquence, his broad and generous sympathy." After that came the deacons from the leading Baptist church, and so on until the day was exhausted, and fifteen thousand people had paid their tributes to the modest man whose gospel of love had got into the man as well as into the sermons.

The little people in the pulpits who are forever boasting their own denominations and arousing contentions ought to study this splendid life. Fifty years of it has been spent in the one church—the only charge he has had—and every year has made him dearer to the heart of everybody. A life like this is worth living.

**A CHURCH GOLDEN WEDDING.**

[Richmond Christian Advocate.]

On the 27th day of February, 1845, the Second Presbyterian church, of this city, had installed as its pastor Rev. Moses D. Hoge. It has had no other pastor and he no other charge. The 27th day of February, 1895, found them still in the same relation. After all the changes, sad, momentous, wonderful, individual, social, national, glorifying to God and instructive to men, of a half-century, the venerable man of God, prophet of the Most High, is preaching from the same pulpit to the people known by the same collective name, in the same house.

These joined to each other by a voluntary tie, which either might have broken at will, but which both preferred to preserve and retain—these souls ecclesiastically wedded to each other, have celebrated their Golden Wedding in fine style, with much rejoicing, with great honor (so well deserved) bestowed upon the pastor by all classes of society and all bodies of Christians as well as by his own people, and as we trust with impressions deeper than ever of the blessedness of the Christian religion, the power and influence of the Gospel Pulpit, and the priceless value of a consistent Christian life devoted to the highest ends.

**THE CITY OF RICHMOND AND DR. HOGE.**

[Central Presbyterian, Richmond.]

The demonstration of esteem and affection accorded Dr. Hoge last week by the whole population of this city was

very remarkable in its great extent, its many forms of expression, and the deep and tender emotions of grateful affection shown by representatives of all classes and conditions of people. A rich reward many faithful Christian ministers have enjoyed beyond all power of utterance when the people to whom they directly minister have gathered about them in love and honor. But the testimonial brought to Dr. Hoge last week was not only that of his congregation, nor of the Presbyterian churches, nor yet of many Christian churches, but was literally that of the whole city to which he has given fifty years of love and toil.

Into the details of this demonstration it is impossible for us to enter. The daily papers have given pages of matter that might make a book to be placed in the historical archives of the city, and on the shelves also, that tell of ministerial service and reward. At the reception in the large hall of the Masonic Temple an immense concourse of people poured for three or four hours by the man they wished to honor, and a large portion of the multitude failed to reach him, and some failed altogether to get access to the building. The Governor of Virginia and his staff, the Mayor and the City Council, the old soldiers from the Soldiers Home, the Confederate veterans of Lee and Pickett camps, the First Virginia Regiment, with the Howitzers, and the Cavalry, and the military band, the Ladies of the Hollywood Association, officials of the Beth Ahaba Hebrew congregation, the pastors and delegations of many Christian churches, and the long stream of people, rich and poor, came for themselves and for every home in the city to do him honor.

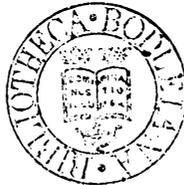
This was the only demonstration we have ever heard of, in which Jew and Gentile, Catholic and Protestant, civil officials and military, all religious denominations, all philanthropic institutions and societies united in doing honor to a Christian minister whom all hailed as their friend, and acknowledged some obligation for service rendered to them. Letters of congratulation uncounted and telegrams of greeting have come from all parts of the land, from friends in England, Scotland, Ireland. It was a demonstration altogether unique and remarkable.

Some reflections on this impressive occasion are worthy, we think, of distinct expression. A faithful and earnest Christian minister after fifty years of service in this city is hailed as its first citizen, a public counsellor, and the friend of all the people. Into this public relation he has grown while loyal to his sacred trust and most untiringly faithful to every ministerial obligation.

In touch with all that concerns the interests of the city and its people, religious, charitable, legislative, literary, commercial, educational, military; we know of no such example of the influential relation of a Christian pastor to every true interest of a people, so well sustained, so ably and so acceptably filled. And in all this service so cheerfully rendered at every public call, in no degree has there been any surrender of his exalted position as a minister of the gospel. In all this useful service of the city and the people never has there been any lack of dignity, any use of meretricious art, any condescension to schemes of popularity. He has not courted popularity by the advertisement of odd and sensational subjects. He has

not seized upon issues of ephemeral value on which to exalt himself before the public eye. He has never departed from the simplicity of the gospel by the use of music or rites or adornments other than those of the Church of his fathers. For fifty years he has held his pulpit with firmness and earnest conviction to the great doctrines of grace, and found in them, and not in human sentiments or speculations, not in novel questions, or hints of heresy, the themes that stirred his heart and gave his tongue its loftiest eloquence. It is an example that may well be held before all Christian ministers. He who first honored God, in His word, in His law and His gospel, God has honored in giving him the affection and confidence of a great multitude of people.

The life and ministry of Dr. Hoge have been distinctively marked by the widest catholicity of spirit, bringing him into the closest contact with the ministers and people of all churches. He has lived out the truth which he was ordained to preach. In many ways he has exhibited that large and generous spirit which belongs to the Church of which he is a member, and won for a faithful Presbyterian minister the most remarkable tribute we have ever known given to any man.



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## CONGRATULATIONS.

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The congratulatory letters and telegrams received by Dr. Hoge on the occasion of his jubilee would make a large volume in themselves. From the great number, the following have been taken for publication as presenting a suggestive index to the whole:

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*From Church Associations.*

RICHMOND, VA., *February 25, 1895.*

The Presbyterian Ministers' Association of Richmond, Virginia, in regular session, Monday, February 25th, wish to extend to their brother and friend, the Rev. M. D. Hoge, D. D., their most affectionate congratulations on the fiftieth anniversary of his pastorate in this city.

They rejoice that he abides in strength and comfort, and that Divine favor rests in such large degree upon his ministry.

To him they acknowledge their personal indebtedness for all that his example, counsel and ministry have been to them; and with sincere and hearty affection, they ask for him the continuance of God's richest benediction in years made golden indeed by the light of His countenance.

And that the secretary read this resolution at the public meeting to be held in the Second Presbyterian church, February 27, 1895, at 8 o'clock P. M.

J. CALVIN STEWART,  
*Secretary Presbyterian Ministers' Association,*  
*Richmond, Va.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *February 23, 1895.*

Rev. Dr. MOSES D. HOGE,

DEAR BROTHER :

At a meeting of the Second Baptist Church, held last Wednesday evening, it was unanimously resolved to adjourn on the evening of the 27th of this month in honor of the celebration of the jubilee year of your pastorate at the Second Presbyterian church. At the same time we, whose names are attached, were appointed a committee to express to you the sentiments of our brethren touching your character and career as a Christian minister in this community.

A half-century of service in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, such as you have enjoyed, is a rare privilege and honor ; a half-century of service with one church in one community in this changeful age is conspicuously rare ; a half-century of such service as it has pleased God to enable you to render not only your own church, but, in many important ways, the entire Christian population, is without a parallel in Richmond, and seldom found any where else in the world. For all this we bless the Great Head of the Church, and congratulate you and the members of your charge.

Those whom we have the honor to represent have had numerous opportunities of proving the excellence of your character as a Christian, the signal abilities displayed by you as an expounder of the Word and as a shepherd of souls, the loyalty and large heartedness of your course as a citizen, your intelligent and comprehen-

sive zeal as a philanthropist, and your uniform and self-sacrificing spirit as a friend and brother towards your brethren of other denominations. Our own church has enjoyed many kindnesses at your hands, which we shall never forget.

And now, honored brother, on behalf of the Second Baptist Church, which it has often been your pleasure to call your nearest ecclesiastical neighbor, we beg to assure you of our fraternal love and admiration, and of our sincere prayers that God may bless you with continued health, may prolong your days, increase your efficiency, multiply souls as a reward for your labor, and fill your heart and mind with the peace of God which passeth all understanding.

With all possible good wishes, we are cordially and fraternally yours,

WILLIAM W. LANDRUM,  
J. TAYLOR ELLYSON,  
JACKSON B. WOOD,  
E. D. HOTCHKISS.

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RICHMOND, VA., *February 26, 1895.*

REV. MOSES D. HOGE, D. D., LL. D.,  
*Richmond, Va.,*

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER :

At a regular monthly meeting of the vestry of St. John's German Evangelical Church, held Friday evening, February 22, 1895, the undersigned pastor and officers of the congregation were directed to express to you the warmest congratulations and sincere good wishes of your German brethren of our denomination on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of your pastorate in our city.

Although we are fully aware of the fact that what we all feel on this occasion will be expressed in much more eloquent words by others, still we trust that you will kindly accept this simple token of our high esteem and heartfelt sympathy.

With all the thousands of our Christian brethren in this our Dear Southern Home, we praise the Lord for all the blessings which He has bestowed upon you and through your ministry upon so many who have had the privilege to know you, to hear you, and to feel the beneficent influence of your warm Christian heart.

We humbly pray to Him that He may bless, keep and strengthen you yet for many years to come, and that you may daily and abundantly enjoy the happiness of those whom the Master acknowledges as His truly faithful servants.

May the Lord be your shield and your exceeding great reward, now and forever!

Very respectfully yours,

REV. PAUL L. MENZEL, D. D.,  
*Pastor of St. Johns G. E. Church.*

H. G. MILLER,  
*President St. Johns G. E. Church.*

G. C. DIETRICH,  
*Secretary.*

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CONGREGATION BETH AHABA,  
SECRETARY'S OFFICE,  
RICHMOND, VA., *February 25, 1895.*

Rev. DR. HOGE,

MY DEAR SIR:

At a meeting of the Board of Managers of the Congregation Beth Ahaba, held on January 13th, the fact of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of your pastorate was brought to the attention of the Board, and a committee was appointed to draft suitable resolutions to be presented to you on that occasion. This has been done, the resolutions have been engrossed and framed, and with

your permission will be sent to the Masonic Temple to-morrow evening, that all who call to do honor to you may see these expressions of love and affection in which you are held by your friends of the Ancient Faith. In communicating to you the official action of our Board, allow me to add my personal regards and appreciation of your many good deeds, and the hope that you may be spared many years to continue your works of usefulness.

Yours very sincerely,

WM. LOVENSTEIN,  
*Secretary.*

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MILWAUKEE, *February 19, 1895.*

MY DEAR DR. HOGE:

The people of Immanuel Presbyterian Church, Milwaukee, Wis., unite heartily in congratulating you upon the completion of fifty years of such eminent service to humanity through the church of the living God. May the great head of the church spare you for many more years of service, and crown your life with an abundant entrance to the higher service above.

Cordially,

WM. CHESTER,  
*Pastor of Immanuel Presbyterian Church.*

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CHATTANOOGA, TENN., *February 22, 1895.*

REV. MOSES D. HOGE, D. D.,  
*Richmond, Va. :*

MY DEAR DOCTOR :

Permit me, on behalf of the session and congregation of the First Presbyterian Church in Chattanooga, Tenn., to tender our most hearty congratulations on the conclusion of your fifty years

of service. With you, we magnify the grace of God, which has enabled you to stand so long as a faithful witness and herald of the blessed gospel of Christ. We rejoice exceedingly that your eye is not dimmed and your natural force is not abated. May your bow continue to abide in strength and all the people continue to love you.

Wishing you grace, mercy and peace, I am,

Fraternally yours,

J. A. CALDWELL,  
*Clerk.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *February 25, 1895.*

Rev. M. D. HOGE, D. D.,

MY DEAR BROTHER:

The First Baptist Church desires to offer to you and your people its hearty congratulations on the fiftieth anniversary of your pastorate. It was decided to omit our usual Wednesday night service, and the following brethren were appointed to express the pleasure we feel in the occasion thus gladly recognized by us: Rev. W. D. Thomas, D. D., Rev. H. A. Tupper, D. D., Brethren R. W. Powers, John C. Williams, C. H. Winston, and T. C. Williams, with the pastor. When fifty years ago you began your work in the city, Dr. Jeter was our pastor, and our church on the sixty-fifth year of her history. It is pleasant to remember that during all these years the most pleasant relations have existed between us, and the fellowship of our life and work in Christ has had many occasions of mutual joy. With our congratulations we join our prayers to our common Lord that he may crown the happy occasion with many tokens of favor.

With sincere respect and high regard, I am yours,

GEORGE COOPER, *Pastor.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *February 25, 1895.*

THE GRACE STREET PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH TO THE SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH—GREETING :

DEAR BRETHREN :

In view of your semi-centennial memorial service, we desire to express our fraternal feelings, and to participate with you in doing honor to your long cherished pastor. As a citizen, and as a patriot his name will long be associated with valuable service, and many interesting historical events. As a minister your celebration will be the strongest testimonial to his value. As a pulpit orator his fame has extended beyond our country to distant lands.

Under all our varying circumstances he has stood in the front rank of the Presbyterian host, and has always been stalwart and true to the interests and standards of our church, in doctrine showing uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, sound speech that cannot be condemned.

Rarely are husband and wife spared to each other long enough to celebrate the golden wedding; rarer still is the opportunity afforded for pastor and flock to unite in a semi-centennial memorial. May the goodness and mercy of God which have brought you to this happy celebration, still attend you, and may pastor and people long have occasion to say, "the lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage."

By order of session,

HUGH BLAIR,  
*Clerk.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *February 26, 1895.*

REV. MOSES D. HOGE, D. D.,

DEAR BROTHER :

The undersigned were appointed by the Methodist Preachers' Meeting of Richmond and Manchester, a committee to convey to

you the accompanying resolution passed by that body on yesterday.

We feel honored in being the vehicle for communicating this expression of congratulation from the Methodist churches on the happy occasion which your congregation and the citizens of Richmond generally are on the point of celebrating, and we beg to be permitted to add our personal congratulations, and to give utterance to our pleasure in knowing that by the Divine mercy and love you have been spared to sustain a pastoral relation for so many years to the church over which the Holy Spirit made you overseer half a century ago.

Invoking the Divine blessing upon you and your charge, we are, very truly, your friends and brethren in the bonds of a common faith,

PAUL WHITEHEAD,  
R. T. WILSON,  
JESSE T. WHITLEY,  
JNO. MORTON,  
D. R. MIDYETTE,  
*Committee.*

*Resolved,* By the Methodist Preachers' Meeting of Richmond and Manchester, assembled on Monday, February 25, 1895, that on behalf of ourselves and our churches in this community, we hereby tender to the Second Presbyterian Church of Richmond, and to its venerable pastor, Rev. Moses D. Hoge, D. D., our congratulations on the near approach of the Fiftieth Anniversary of his pastoral connection with that church, and unite with them in earnest prayer for the Divine blessing upon their pastor and themselves, in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Attest :

S. C. HATCHER,  
*Secretary pro tem.*

*From Ministers.*

LOUISVILLE, KY., *February 22, 1895.*

TO THE SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH,  
*Richmond, Va. :*

HONORED CHRISTIAN BRETHREN :

I thank you for the invitation to unite with you in celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of your distinguished pastor's installation, and I regret that I cannot be personally present. The pastor and the church have set a notable and noble example for these years of restlessness and frequent pastoral changes. I thank God for Dr. Hoge's great talents, admirable character, and life-long devotion. Having occasion to meet him annually for some years past in the committee which selects the International S. S. Lessons, I have been delighted to observe the sustained and brightened health, the kindling enthusiasm and glowing force which he has manifested in private and in public. And I do not believe that so long and happy and useful a pastorate can ever be due simply to the pastor's own qualities and labors, however admirable. There must have been much stability of character in your membership, many Christian men and women possessing strong as well as beautiful traits, much love for the unchanging and ever precious gospel. I think, with cordial pleasure and gratitude to God, of such a church and such a pastor. I pray that you may be spared to each other through yet other years of loving co-operation, and that some who have long listened with pleasure to the eloquent preacher without receiving his message into heart and conscience, may now at last be moved to lay hold on the faith and hope of the gospel.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN A. BROADUS.

[Dead.]

AUSTIN, TEX., *February 20, 1895.*

Rev. M. D. HOGE, D. D. :

DEAR BROTHER :

I have heard with pleasure of the approaching anniversary of your fifty years of pastoral service. I wish I could be among your friends to join in their expressions of satisfaction and thanksgiving for this long and useful term of service to our common Master. But distance, blindness, and the infirmities of age, make it impossible to be with you. I am glad the great Disposer of good seems to allow you such continued vigor. I think our years are nearly equal—a fortnight hence I shall be seventy-five.

My memory runs back over nearly sixty years of unbroken friendship, marked by many pleasant instances and the reception of many graceful kindnesses from you and from your wife. I suppose many will say to you at the approaching meeting, that they wish you many more years of active usefulness in your present honored sphere—so say I, if the Lord will; but my experience teaches that unusual old age brings so many separations and infirmities, that an earlier release is rather to be craved as a boon, under due submission to the wisdom of our Heavenly Father. My brother William has just passed away, after a long season of infirmity, at eighty-five. I have been since the beginning of the year a close prisoner in my dwelling.

With the sincerest good wishes for yourself and your beloved children, I am

Faithfully yours,

R. L. DABNEY.

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UNCAS, MECKLENBURG COUNTY, N. C.,

*Thursday, February 21, 1895.*

As I am one of probably the very few still living who were present and witnessed the ordination and installation of the Rev. M.

D. Hoge, D. D., LL. D., as pastor of the Second Presbyterian church, Richmond, Va., it is with peculiar regret that, while heartily thanking the congregation for their kind invitation to me to be present on an occasion so very interesting as the fiftieth anniversary of the event, I am constrained to express my inability to attend.

With precious memories of, and with great affection for the church and pastor of my fathers and of my childhood, I remain,

Very truly and respectfully, yours, &c.,

ROGER MARTIN.

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PRINCETON, *February 22, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

MY DEAR MADAM :

I am deeply gratified with the invitation to the Masonic Temple, and being quite unable to attend, want to be represented among you all in my warm appreciation of this very remarkable pastorate in your city. It is a rare accomplishment in our great American denominations, where the average pastorate does not endure as long as the limited pastorate of our Methodist brethren, for any pastorate of ours to beget a semi-centennial. It is rarer still for such a pastorate to be beset with calls all through its history to larger cities and to more conspicuous positions, and to have considered its great call to be to stay where it began and to keep unbroken its old and warmly cemented attachments, and its long chain of patient and eagerly pursued plans of usefulness.

When I remember the very incipiency of this Second Church undertaking, and how this strong State centre grew out of the toil and purse and subsidiary fees of a teacher, that made four fine church possible, I find it perfectly easy to lay my tribute upon your table, and hope you will have Virginia in her best Christian

people lifting up both her hands in attestation of what Dr. Hoge has done solidly and through all these years for Richmond and for the State, and for the church of God.

I am too old myself to have such a dream, but I wish it were in the borders of fancy to imagine our reverend friend and another semi-centennial.

Yours, with many thanks for your card,

JNO. MILLER.

[Died April 14, 1895.]

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BLUEFIELD, W. VA., *March 2, 1895.*

Rev. M. D. HOGE, D. D., LL. D. :

MY DEAR FATHER IN CHRIST :

The great excitement and press are over, so I can edge in a word or two.

Your Ladies' Benevolent Society sent me an invitation to come to the anniversary, but, as I replied, it was not possible. I was "with you in spirit," however, all the way through, and have read with great interest the published accounts of the proceedings.

It is needless to assure you of my pride and joy in all that has come to you. It is the honor which God has put upon a servant who did what he could. That was much! Few men have stood where God endowed you to stand, or walked such a path as that into which his providence and grace sent you. And now he has crowned you. It is but the reflection from that other crown which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give unto all who love his appearing. But some crowns will be brighter than others. May God be yet more to you than in all the past, and truly, your last days be your best. With the love of half a century,

Yours in Christ,

HERBERT H. HAWES.

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RICHMOND, VA., *February 26, 1895.*

DEAR DOCTOR :

Your kind invitation to be present at the banquet this evening at six o'clock has just been received. I regret that a marriage ceremony at 6:30, and a now unavoidable meeting at 7, prevent me from joining the clergy of the city in doing you a well-deserved honor.

Accept my sincere congratulations and heartfelt wishes for a long, happy life.

Yours faithfully,

A. VAN DE VYVER,  
*Bishop of Richmond.*




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DURHAM, N. C., *February 27, 1895.*

MY DEAR DOCTOR HOGGE :

As I cannot be present to-day to offer my congratulations in person, I want to add another letter to the hundreds which you have received and will receive upon this the fiftieth anniversary of your eventful pastorate.

During the few years I was associated with you in Richmond, I learned the secret of your great career, and I am not surprised at the phenomenal ovation with which the populace celebrated this occasion. It would be strange if they did otherwise. I heartily congratulate you upon realizing your hopes in being spared in full vigor to see this your fiftieth anniversary, and I trust you may celebrate many more, and that you may continue to reap yet more abundant returns from your long and faithful service in these, the latter years of your ministry. With kind regards, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

L. B. TURNBULL.

DAYTON, OHIO, *February 22, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,

*Richmond, Va. :*

DEAR MADAM :

I have received the invitation of the Second Presbyterian Church, of Richmond, to attend the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the installation of its honored pastor, the Rev. Dr. Hoge. My delightful acquaintance with Dr. Hoge, and the warm personal love I bear toward him, lead me to regret deeply that I cannot be present to share with your people the pleasure of so rare an occasion. Permit me, therefore, to say that my thought of your congregation, and, more broadly, of the people of Richmond, is best expressed by the words of the Queen of Sheba to King Solomon, when she said : " Blessed be the Lord thy God, which delighted in thee, to set thee on the throne of Israel ; because the Lord *loved Israel forever, therefore made he the king*, to do judgment and justice." I think the Lord must have had some such thought as this, and intended especially to favor your congregation, and the people of your city, when he called to your service the young man whose long life has since proved a continued benediction to you all.

Accept the assurance of my warmest congratulations on this auspicious event, and of my earnest wish that your congregation may yet long be blessed by the wise counsels and the affectionate admonitions of your beloved pastor. Believe me, very sincerely,

Yours,

D. BERGER.

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ROME, *March 28, 1895.*

MY DEAR SIR AND HONORED BROTHER :

This very morning I have read in *The Herald and Presbyter* that you have celebrated, on the 27th of February last, the fiftieth anniversary of your pastorate in the Second Presbyterian Church

of Richmond. I wish I had been in Richmond to witness such a rare event. Fifty years in one church! I congratulate you heartily and thank God with you for such a remarkable blessing. \* \* \*

May the Lord spare you many years still for the gathering of many more sheaves in God's granary.

With respectful and fraternal regards, yours sincerely in the Gospel's bonds,

MATTEO PROCHET.

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BRAEHEAD, NEAR FREDERICKSBURG, VA.,

*February 20, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,  
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA. :

Let me, with as little delay as practicable, acknowledge the receipt of your courteous invitation to unite with the congregation of the Second Presbyterian church, Richmond, Va., in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the installation of their pastor, Rev. Dr. Moses Drury Hoge, on Tuesday evening, February 26, 1895.

To be able to attend would give me a very high pleasure, but it will not be in my power to do so in person. But, in the spirit, I will be with you.

Dr. Hoge has been for many years a friend and Christian brother for whom I have cherished warm admiration and regard.

For more than twenty years I was under his pastoral charge as a member of his church. He baptized all my children. My family took pleasure in the companionships thus arising.

And during that time I had full opportunity for knowing how much of self-denial and devoted purpose of duty he exercised in declining the many and strong calls to more wealthy churches that he received, and in continuing his ministrations to the pastoral charge to which he was first called.

God has honored his work, and blessed, in a very wonderful

manner, the flock over which he has been pastor. It is graceful and appropriate that you should thus celebrate the semi-centennial year of his pastorate.

May the benediction of the Divine God—the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit—continue to rest upon you, and upon your congregation, and your pastor.

Very faithfully yours in Christian love,

R. R. HOWISON.

NEW YORK, *February 20, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,  
RICHMOND, VA. :

MY DEAR MADAM :

I am in receipt of your invitation to attend the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the installation of Doctor Hoge as pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church in your city. I regret my inability through illness to be present in body, but I certainly will be with you in spirit.

It is a most extraordinary experience in these days of restlessness and change that a man should be permitted to occupy in peace and continual prosperity one pulpit for a full half century. Both pastor and people are to be congratulated on the condition of affairs which renders this fact a possibility.

I need not say that for Dr. Hoge personally I entertain the very highest regard. He is from my point of view the model Christian pastor. May he be spared many years to bless with his wisdom, piety, learning and noble Christian character the church over which he has so long presided, and the city of which at the present time he is without doubt the most distinguished citizen.

With thanks for your kindness in sending this invitation to me, believe me,

Yours very truly,

B. B. TYLER.

NORFOLK, VA., *February 20, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, 106 EAST  
FRANKLIN STREET :

MY DEAR MADAM :

Please accept my thanks for your kind invitation to the occasion in honor of my friend and brother and your beloved pastor, the Rev. Dr. Hoge. It would be a genuine pleasure to me to be with him and with his people who have been true to him through the long years of his blessed ministry in Richmond. But public engagements will deprive me of the privilege. Will you give to him my loving congratulations, and accept for yourselves my sincere sympathy in the honor you are paying to his distinguished abilities and his faithful ministry of a half century among our people in your city.

Very faithfully yours,

A. M. RANDOLPH.

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GREENSBORO, N. C., *February 19, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

MY DEAR MADAM :

I beg gratefully to acknowledge the receipt of an invitation to unite with the Second Presbyterian church, Richmond, Va., in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of your pastor's installation. Dr. Hoge is associated with many pleasant memories of the years gone by in my earlier pastoral life in dear old Virginia, my native State, while resident in Pittsylvania and Halifax counties and in the city of Charlottesville. Many years have passed since then. I have become one of the old pastors myself, and can enter into the feelings characteristic of such an anniversary, for, if my life is

spared to the 20th of April, I will have completed thirty-six years of pastoral life in Greensboro, N. C. I can understand the mingled feelings of joy and sorrow that must be awakened in Dr. Hoge's bosom as young and old greet him.

I will not be able to be present except in spirit. I joy and rejoice with him and with all his congregation. I invoke the continued blessing of God upon my old friend, your beloved pastor, that God's smile and favor may increase and brighten and bless all the years that may remain to him and to his people in his union with them.

Fraternally yours,

J. HENRY SMITH,  
*Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Greensboro, N. C.*

CHARLESTOWN, W. VA., *February 20, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,  
 SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA. :

DEAR MADAM :

I appreciate very highly your kind invitation to unite with you in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the installation of Rev. Dr. Hoge, and it would give special pleasure to be with you on this happy occasion, but circumstances will render it impossible for me to unite in person with you.

With all my heart I congratulate you and your church on having enjoyed the ministry of such a pastor for so unusual a length of time. There are some men whom we esteem yet do not love, and some whom we love and yet do not esteem, but in your distinguished pastor there is one whom we all both admire and love for his work's sake, and for his rare personal graces and attainments. Every honor he receives at home or abroad gives me pleasure. The devotion of a grateful people is his just reward for the present,

and I trust that hereafter he will receive the testimonial of a great multitude who have been instructed and saved through his ministry, and better still the approbation of that Lord whom he has served so faithfully, so long, and with so much ability.

May his eye be long undimmed, and his bow yet abide in strength for many years, and may all those who have sat so long under his ministry rise up to call him blessed.

Yours truly,

A. C. HOPKINS.

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ROME, *March 15, 1895.*

Rev. DR. MOSES D. HOGE,  
*Richmond, Virginia:*

MY DEAR DR. HOGE:

Our common friend, Dr. Curry, who is here, sent me some slips of Richmond newspapers with accounts of the celebration of your semi-centennial as pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church, and I beg you to accept my warm congratulations on your long and useful service in my native city, and on the vigor which you still enjoy. My letter is somewhat belated, but it enables me to felicitate you also on the very remarkable manifestations of reverence and love extended to you by the people of Richmond, without any distinction whatever of sect or party. You may well be "a wonder to many," as you certainly are to me, since you came to Richmond when I was a little boy, and now that I begin to admit myself an old man, there you are still, preaching with augmented power. May our father grant you yet many years of service. Please present my regards to your son whom I remember at the University. Of course no answer to the present is due, or expected by, dear Dr. Hoge,

Yours sincerely,

GEO. B. TAYLOR.

NEW ORLEANS, LA., *February 21, 1895.*TO THE CONGREGATION OF THE SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA :

DEAR BRETHREN IN THE LORD :

In response to your kind invitation just received, permit me to say that few things would afford me more pleasure than to unite in person with you in doing honor to your noble pastor on the fiftieth anniversary of his pastorate. It is not often that such an event is celebrated, and still more seldom after such an illustrious career. Among the survivors in the Southern Church, I would rank Dr. Moses Hoge as one of "the first three" in King David's host. Other "thirty honorable captains" there are, whom the Church delights to crown with the homage of her praise, who yet, for length of service and brilliancy of reputation, do not "attain to the first three." When he shall ascend to dwell with the immortals, he will leave to you and your children a rich legacy in his labors and in his name. And when you and they shall sit down with him upon the Mount of God, there will be a grand swell in the hallelujahs of heaven as your commingled memories are poured out into songs of triumph and of joy. Tender to him my congratulations that he has been spared to see this happy day, and ask him to think what it will be when the joy of this festival shall brighten into the applause of heaven.

Most respectfully and truly yours,

B. M. PALMER.

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BROOKLYN, *March 11, 1895.*

MY DEAR BROTHER HOGES :

None the less hearty is my greeting that it comes to you after the cyclone of congratulations has somewhat spent its force upon your honored head. But I have been away from home, and since

my return have been very busy in writing and in the unprofitable occupation of *coughing*—the legacy of my fight with that Virginia blizzard last month.

Well, my dear brother, you ought to be about the happiest man in the Old Dominion. To only one in five thousand ministers comes the golden crown of a half-century pastorate in the same loving flock. I am just entering the fiftieth year of my ministry, but it has embraced three installed pastorates.

The best thing I know about the good people of Richmond is that they love you none the less, but all the more, because your preaching is “an old story”; and the best thing about you is that you have adhered to the dear “old story,” and have never lowered the Pauline standard of loyalty to the precious Gospel a single hairs’ breath!

In these days of invertebrate and mucilaginous theologies, such a splendid career of fidelity is a joy and inspiration to us all.

God bless you on and on, more and more; and may your silver trumpet “give no uncertain sound” until your ears are greeted by those other trumpets that welcome the faithful servants of Christ *beyond the river!*

Affectionately yours in love and labor,

THEODORE L. CUYLER.

NEW YORK, N. Y., *February 23, 1895.*

THE PRESIDENT, &C.,

DEAR MADAM:

I appreciate your kind invitation for the 26th, but I regret that engagements made and announced, prevent my sharing in what, I am sure, will be a delightful meeting. Dr. Hoge has my cordfal admiration, confidence and affection. I thank God for his long and useful period of service.

Yours faithfully,

J. HALL.

BROOKLYN, *February 21, 1895.*

CONGREGATION OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA. :

DEAR FRIENDS :

Regretting that I cannot be present at the Fiftieth Anniversary, I take this opportunity of salutation.

Doctor Hoge's name long since became a synonym for Christian eloquence, a life consecrated to everything good and noble, a gracious personage, a fame wide as Christendom. Though different from all other men he is an example for all. The North as well as the South blesses him.

My love and congratulations, and prayers.

T. DE WITT TALMAGE.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., *February 27, 1895.*

MY DEAR DR. HOGE :

I am truly pained that your great anniversary should have passed without any word of congratulation and affectionate honor from me. But the recent weeks have been weeks of unusual and almost unbearable pressure with me, by reason of incessant calls for public and private service—much of it bad—and I have had no spirit or strength to write anything beyond the curtest indispensable note now and then.

But I am sure that you know, without my having said it, how sincerely and how earnestly I have joined in heart with the multitudes who have offered you their glad and loving tributes, and how fervently I praise God for the kind wisdom which has kept you so long in health, vigor, the opportunity and the power of grand usefulness. I am not far behind you, as you know, in the pastorate of this church; and as we look back to the early days when you and I first met in Richmond, how supremely rises before us the

permanence and glory of the Gospel which we both have preached, and what reach of influence we can humbly but thankfully trace from our respective pulpit-centres! All other things change and pass, but "the kingdom of God remaineth!"

Will you present my thanks to the committee of your congregation who so kindly advised me of their coming celebration, and invited me to join in it, and will you express to them my regret that my acknowledgment of their courtesy has been so long unavoidably delayed? And believe me always, my dear brother, with affectionate remembrance and warmest regard,

Faithfully yours,

R. P. STORRS.

CHICAGO, ILL., *February 19, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

MY DEAR MADAM :

I have received the very kind invitation tendered by your congregation to unite with you in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the pastorate of Dr. Hoge, on Tuesday evening next.

It would give me very great pleasure to accept your invitation. Like many others outside of your congregation, I would have much satisfaction in testifying to the kindly influence which from time to time Dr. Hoge has exerted upon me personally. I know of but few men in the ministry of to-day whose pastoral influence is so wide as his. His devoted parishioners are by no means all enrolled in your church, and many of them are to be found within the ministry itself, and on this occasion would feel themselves entitled to share in your rejoicings. If only Chicago and Richmond were not so far apart, I am sure that you would find a hasty acceptance of the invitation for next Tuesday evening from here.

Trusting that the occasion will in every way celebrate the event and that God may spare your pastor for many years to come, I am,

Yours faithfully,

W. S. PLUMER BRYAN.

BALTIMORE, MD., *February 19, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

DEAR MADAM :

I regret that I shall not be able to share in the pleasures of commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the pastorate of Dr. Hoge. So fruitful a life and fresh and vigorous age are worthy to be brought to public notice.

May the occasion be rich in enjoyment and in good results to him and his flock, and to the community.

Very truly yours,

A. W. WILSON.

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NEWPORT, R. I., *February 19, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY  
OF THE SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA. :

DEAR MADAM :

Though it will be impossible for me to attend the services of thanksgiving and congratulation at the completion of the fifty years ministry of Dr. Hoge, I thank you for the invitation to be present. From my home on "the bleak New England shore," I send my hearty Christian salutations. The story of pastor and people united in loving, Christian service for fifty years, seems like a record from the olden time.

Could the other fourteen members of the International Sunday School Lesson Committee speak with me in sending a message to our associate of the Second Presbyterian Church in Richmond, I am sure it would show the high esteem in which we hold him. From year to year he comes to us with step as quick and eye as bright and mind as clear and keen, and heart as full of hope as

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when we knew him first. And all this we know must, in no small degree, come from the influence of the Church, which keeps "the due of youth" so continually upon him.

Happy the pastor who has such a people, and happy the people who have such a pastor. And what a preparation such a church-life as you have had must be for the higher life of the triumphant church in heaven.

Most sincerely and truly yours,

WARREN RANDOLPH,  
*Secretary of the International Lesson Committee.*

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MONTCLARE, N. J., *February 26, 1895.*

MY DEAR DR. HOGE:

Among the very many friends who are rejoicing with you at this time over the long life, usefulness and honor which God has granted to you, I beg the privilege of sending my congratulations.

Separated as I have been for some years, from our church, it has been a great gratification and pride to hear your name so often mentioned with admiration and esteem in places where sympathy and interest would not be looked for.

May all your "evening time" be full of "light," and may the Master's voice calling you "up higher" be heard only after his grace has crowned your last years with blessings and successes richer than all that have gone before.

Fraternally, and with sincere affection and esteem,

Yours,

W. F. JUNKIN.

RICHMOND, VA., *March 2, 1895.*

MY DEAR DOCTOR HOGÉ :

The invitations to your reception came during my absence from Richmond, and hence I found it out of my power to join the almost unnumbered host of your affectionate and admiring friends in showing, by a personal call, their love and respect. This I had sought to do in the paper, and I now beg leave, in this way, to again extend my heartiest congratulations, not only upon the completion of your full half century of abundant and successful labors, but also upon the almost unexampled place in public esteem and affection which these labors have earned for you.

I remain, my dear and honored sir and brother,

Yours in Christ,

R. H. PITT.

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DANVILLE, *February 20, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

MY DEAR MADAM :

I have the honor to acknowledge through you an invitation to attend the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Dr. Hogé's pastorate.

It would be indeed highly gratifying to me to be able to attend on an occasion so notable and auspicious, and to add my felicitations to those of so many others, but a recent severe attack of sickness will make it impossible for me to leave my room for some weeks to come.

Recognizing the fact that, as a citizen of Virginia and a preacher of the gospel, Dr. Hogé's fame and influence extend far beyond the bounds of the Commonwealth, and that abroad as well as at home his name represents the highest type of pulpit power, gra-

ciousness and fidelity, I should esteem it an honor to be permitted to take any part in doing honor to such a man, and profoundly regret that under the circumstances, as just indicated, I am not allowed the privilege.

Believe me, Madam, with most respectful consideration,

Very truly yours,

ALEXANDER MARTIN.

[Died March 4, 1895.]

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CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA., *February 22, 1895.*

PRESIDENT LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,  
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH :

DEAR MADAM :

Please accept my hearty thanks for the honor you have done me in your invitation to be present at the reception tendered your pastor on the fiftieth anniversary of his pastorate.

I had fully purposed doing myself the pleasure of being present on the occasion, but I very much regret to say, the time for holding a series of special services here had to be changed and fixed for a time which will conflict with your celebration. But "though absent in body I shall be present in spirit," for no one has a higher appreciation of your beloved and honored pastor than myself, or congratulates the church more warmly on having been able to retain him through this half century of growing usefulness.

I first met Dr. Hoge when he came to deliver our final sermon at the University in 1858, and from that day I have been one of his warmest admirers, and have esteemed it a high privilege to count him among my friends.

Dr. Hoge does not belong alone to the Second Presbyterian Church, nor to his own great denomination, but to our common evangelical christianity, and men of every creed come on this happy occasion to congratulate his church and himself, that he

has been spared so long to Richmond, to Virginia, to the world, and to offer the fervent prayer that there may be for him yet many more years of health, happiness, and usefulness among the people whom he has loved so well and served so faithfully.

His distinguished, and lamented brother, Dr. Wm. J. Hoge, wrote of a visit he made to Fredericksburg during the great revival in Barksdale's Miss. Brigade, in the spring of 1863, held in the Episcopal Church: "Dr. J. L. Burrows, of the Baptist Church, was to have preached on this occasion, but as he was to remain some days, and I could only stay that night, he courteously insisted upon my preaching. And so we had a Presbyterian sermon, introduced by Baptist services, in an Episcopal church, under the conduct of a Methodist Chaplain. Was not that a beautiful solution of the vexed problem of christian unity?"

How often have I seen Dr. Moses D. Hoge solve the same problem in the same way? One of the glories of Richmond is that her christian people so beautifully "keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace," and it is to me a precious memory that I was permitted to know, and co-operate with, such men as Doggett, Duncan, Granberry, Edwards, Minnigerode, Peterkin, Dashiels, Whittle, Jeter, Burrows, James B. Taylor, Robert Ryland, Plumer, Moore, Read, Moses D. Hoge, and other honored brethren who have done so much to bring about this happy state of things, and to advance the common cause of our common Master.

With hearty congratulations that your celebration is to come off under such happy auspices, and with best wishes for its complete success, I am,

Very truly yours,

J. WM. JONES.

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*From Associations.*

RICHMOND, VA., *February 26, 1895.*

REV. DR. M. D. HOGE :

MY DEAR SIR :

Accompanying this are some flowers sent to you by the Board of Visitors of "Lee Camp Soldiers Home," as an evidence of their high appreciation of yourself, who for fifty years have watched over your flock with a shepherd's kindly care, and who so often have cheered the heart of the veterans of this home with words of wisdom and comfort.

I am grateful at being the medium through which the board sends this tribute to your faithfulness ; since my childhood days have I heard of, and known you.

The evidences of the esteem of the many friends who will to-day exhibit their admiration and affection for you is heartily joined in by

Yours most sincerely,

CHAS. P. BIGGER,  
*Commandant Lee Camp Soldiers Home.*

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RICHMOND, VA., *February 26, 1895.*

REV. MOSES D. HOGE :

MY DEAR SIR :

Add the felicitations of the Hebrew Ladies Memorial Association to the numberless good wishes which greet you to-night.

We congratulate your congregation that it has been so blessed as to be under the guidance of such a leader for so long a time, and we rejoice with you, who, at the end of a fifty years occupancy of the pulpit of the Second Presbyterian Church, still possess the

health, the strength, and the capacity to discharge, in their fullest sense, the duties which your holy office demand.

It is our earnest prayer that your useful life may be prolonged for many years, and that through all of them you may be accorded the thorough ability to perform the work which you have so faithfully and successfully executed for the past half century.

Very cordially yours,

HEBREW LADIES MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION,  
R. C. LEVY, *Secretary.*

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*From Universities, Colleges and Schools.*

UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,  
RICHMOND, VA. :

I beg to acknowledge, with sincere thanks, the invitation from the congregation of the Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond, to unite with them in celebrating the Fiftieth Anniversary of the installation of their pastor, the Reverend Dr. Moses D. Hoge, on the 27th inst.

I hold Dr. Hoge in such profound esteem and reverence that few things would afford me more satisfaction than to contribute my humble aid to this well deserved testimony which his people propose to render, but the state of my health and very imperative engagements besides concur to render it impossible for me to be present on the occasion.

With the greatest respect, I remain,

Very truly, your obedient servant,

JOHN B. MINOR.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY,  
LEXINGTON, *February 21, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

MY DEAR MADAM :

I deeply regret that my exacting duties at home will prevent me from uniting with the Second Presbyterian Church of Richmond in expressing my high appreciation of the honorable life and useful service of my valued friend, the Rev. Moses D. Hoge—my friend for a half-century.

I came to the bar in Richmond about a month before Mr. Moses D. Hoge assumed the pastorate of your church. I knew him then, and have cordially esteemed ever since ; and though never a member of his congregation, I knew him through private and pastoral relations to many of my own family, who were members of his church, and to many who were not. Indeed, for several generations before me, an ancestor and another kinsman of Dr. Hoge, held close relations, personal and religious, to my own ancestry and kindred.

The work of a minister of the gospel is unquestionably the noblest and most beneficent of all human labors ; but when it is devoted for a half-century to one people, it speaks volumes for the powerful mutual influence for good done to pastor and people through nearly two generations. This is a rare and signal instance of the solid and permanent effect of a pastor's piety and thoughtfulness upon the life of a people.

The little building in the rear of your present spacious edifice was the home of that little colony from Dr. Plumer's church, which has grown to numbers rivaling the mother church. Yet mother and daughter separated are still linked together in the unity of the spirit, in the bond of peace and in righteousness of life.

The extraordinary power and influence of Dr. Hoge in your church, and in the Presbyterian Church, and in the universal

church, has arisen from the entire consecration of all his wonderful gifts to the service of his Divine Master. Eloquence, skill in administration as well as in preaching, as in pastoral duty ; tact in devising measures which make for peace, and in avoiding those which tend to discord ; learning and versatile resources, laid under tribute to increase the force of the pulpit and the personal influence of the pastor ; these would all be as nothing had they not been combined with a conscious self-devotion of all under the inspiration and control of Divine Grace to the advancement of the kingdom of God.

Broad and catholic in Christian sympathy, yet firmly fixed in the doctrines of faith taught in his own church, Dr. Hoge has been a chief in the pulpit, chief in the councils of his own church, and chief in the charity which binds all who love the Divine man into supreme union with and through Him, in consummating his purpose for the redemption of mankind.

May the life of your pastor be long spared to promote and confirm his great work in the church of Christ ; and to transmit to the generations to come its blessed influence upon your people and the world.

Be pleased to consider me present in spirit in the tender of my affectionate felicitations to your noble pastor and teacher, for his past work, and for his future personal and pastoral success and happiness.

Believe me, in the assurance of warm and affectionate sympathy with you and your people in the appropriate tribute you pay to your pastor and his wonderful work.

Very truly your friend,

J. R. TUCKER.

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CENTRAL UNIVERSITY,  
RICHMOND, KY., *March 2, 1895.*

MY DEAR DR. HOGE :

I was from home last week, but it is not too late I hope for me to add my congratulations to the great number you are receiv-

ing from friends all over the land on the completion of your fiftieth year as the honored and successful pastor of the Second church. Your only church and the church's only pastor.

And what a splendid record of work, so varied and often difficult and yet so faithfully and so lovingly performed.

May God's rich blessing continue to rest on your honored head.

Very sincerely, your friend and brother,

L. H. BLANTON.

---

FRANKLIN AND MARSHALL COLLEGE,

LANCASTER, PA., *February 22, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, RICHMOND,  
VA. :

DEAR MADAM :

I felt highly honored when, a short time ago, I received an invitation to unite with the Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Va., in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the installation of their pastor, the Rev. Moses Drury Hoge, D. D., LL. D., on the twenty-sixth of February. Nothing could afford me greater pleasure than the privilege to join in a celebration so eminently proper. But circumstances will not permit me to enjoy the privilege of being present in person, and therefore I beg leave, through you, to congratulate both the congregation and the pastor upon the completion of half a century in a relation fraught with such delightful fellowship and experience both in joy and in sorrow, and productive of so much good in the life of the community and the church.

In any case the pastoral relation between such a man as Dr. Hoge, so eminent for learning and eloquence and every virtue of the courteous, chivalrous christian gentleman, and a congregation like the Second Presbyterian Church of Richmond, would be something

to contemplate with pride and pleasure. But where such a relation has been maintained for fifty years, and the vicissitudes of life during one of the most stirring periods in the history of the world, have brought all hearts into closer communion and more tender fellowship, every year, in the bonds of the gospel, the preciousness of it is great beyond expression. Permit me, therefore, to say that I rejoice in spirit with you all, and I pray that the Great Head of the church may cause His face to shine upon His people, and that He may richly bless His servant, so eminent among those who labor in the Master's Vineyard, with all temporal and spiritual blessings, until the fellowship so sweet on earth shall come to its full fruition in heaven.

With best wishes for pastor and congregation, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

JOHN S. STADE.

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THE EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY AND  
VICTORIA COLLEGE ENDOWMENT,

TORONTO, *March 2, 1895.*

REV. MOSES D. HOGE, D. D.,  
RICHMOND, VA. :

MY DEAR DR. HOGE :

I have been on the wing for the last ten days, which has prevented me from writing, as I should have done so that my letter would have reached Richmond at the time of your jubilee celebration. I was glad to see, however, in the *Richmond Dispatch*, that Dr. Randolph in a semi-official way voiced the sentiments of the International Lesson Committee.

Please accept my sincere and hearty congratulations on the wonderful record of fifty years pastorate in the Second Presbyterian Church of Richmond. Judging from your vigor, both physical

and mental, I think it may safely be predicted that you have before you several years of active service for Christ and His church.

I remember with what loving esteem my brother Frank used to speak of you as a man and as a minister, and although Thomas is an Episcopalian, he writes of you almost as if he were one of your flock.

Long may you be spared to preach the glorious gospel of the blessed God.

Ever yours,

JOHN POTTS.

---

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY,

BALTIMORE, *February 23, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

MY DEAR MADAM :

My acquaintance with Dr. Hoge dates from nearly fifty years ago, and the friendship formed in the latter half of 1845 has remained unbroken to this first half of 1895. While life lasts I shall never forget his kindness to me in my eager and aspiring boyhood, when he received me into his study as a companion and graciously effaced the difference in years and attainments; nor shall I forget his ministrations to the beloved members of the Richmond household in the day of sorrow and the hour of death. My wife regrets as I regret that we cannot show by our personal presence the affection and veneration we feel for a man whose influence for good has permeated the life of the last half-century, and whose noble gifts of intellect and power of eloquent speech are paired with quick sympathy and generous deeds.

I am, yours sincerely,

B. L. GILDERSLEEVE.

## VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY,

NASHVILLE, TENN., *February 22, 1895.*

MY DEAR DOCTOR HOGGE:

I have received an invitation to the celebration of fiftieth anniversary of your pastorate. Let me assure you that I enter heartily into the spirit of that occasion and regret that I cannot be present. Few men have served their generation as successfully as you have done, and in company with your friends everywhere I rejoice that you have been permitted to see this hour. We still remember your inspiring sermon in our chapel and hope we may have the pleasure of seeing you in Nashville again before many years.

With sincere regards,

Very truly yours,

J. H. KIRKLAND.

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## PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE,

GETTYSBURG, PA., *March 11, 1895.*

MY DEAR DR. HOGGE:

I was away from home seeking rest and recovery from sickness when the kind invitation to your golden jubilee was sent to me. Hence acknowledgment of it was overlooked. Since the date of the notable occurrence I have received a Richmond paper giving account of it. Surely it was a grand occasion that must have stirred your whole nature. Rarely does such an occasion come to a mortal, and seldom, if it comes, is it so grandly celebrated.

Allow me, at this late hour, thanking you for the invitation and the account of the jubilee, to join my congratulations with those of the multitudes who took part by presence or by letter.

May your love abide in strength, and "the peace of God, which

passeth all understanding, keep your heart and mind through Christ Jesus."

Very truly, your brother and co-worker in the kingdom of Christ,

H. LOUIS BAUGHER.

EPISCOPAL HIGH SCHOOL;

NEAR ALEXANDRIA, VA., *February 25, 1895.*

MY DEAR DOCTOR HOGE:

I am probably not among those from whom, in connection with your semi-centennial in Richmond, you expect to hear, but I venture, nevertheless, to express my interest in it, and my congratulations on the anniversary.

I thank God that you have been so long spared to preach the unsearchable riches of Christ, and in saying so am reminded of your sainted brother, William, who in my University days I heard not infrequently. It is more than thirty years since he was translated from earthly to heavenly ministry and reward, but his persuasive eloquence still lives in my memory. I recall his tones and gestures still, especially one by which once (when preaching for his noble brother-in-law, Dabney Carr Harrison), he expressed the following of our Lord by St. Peter "afar off." It has come back to me very often.

I heard you preach first one bright Sunday afternoon in the spring of 1854—just 41 years ago—in your own church, though repeatedly since. Your text was Paul's reasoning before Felix—"and as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance and judgment to come, Felix trembled." It made a deep impression, for except one from your old friend, Dr. Minnigerode, the text or the matter of scarce any other sermon so far back sticks by me.

I heartily wish you as many years of continued usefulness and happiness as possible, and am always,

Respectfully and warmly yours,

L. M. BLACKFORD.

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE,

FULTON, Mo., *February 22, 1895.*

PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION, SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA. :

DEAR MADAM :

I have received an invitation to unite in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the installation of the Rev. M. D. Hoge, D. D., LL. D., as pastor of your church. I desire very heartily to return through you my thanks to the congregation for this invitation and to express my regrets that my engagements are such as to prevent my attending. I cordially join with you in devout prayer to God that your pastor may yet be very much longer spared to you in a full measure of strength and usefulness, and that the church he has so long and faithfully served may continue to grow in numbers and in all the gifts and graces of the Spirit of our God.

With great respect, I am,

Yours faithfully,

E. C. GORDON.

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QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY,

KINGSTON, CANADA, *February 23, 1895.*

MY DEAR DR. HOGES :

Having accidentally noticed in a paper this morning that you are to have a jubilee commemoration next week, my mind turned to the visit and very pleasant day I spent with you in the spring of 1878, on my way back from the International S. S. Convention at Atlanta. I beg now to be allowed to congratulate you on the happy occasion of your jubilee, and to supplicate the richest blessings of the Divine Master, whose we are and whom we

serve, to rest on you in the time to come. May the Lord bless and keep you, and make the evening of your days bright with His love and joy.

At the time I visited you I had a pastoral charge in the western part of Ontario, which I had to leave in the end of 1881, owing to weakness of the chest, which made preaching difficult. Next year I was offered the situation of Registrar of this University, and I have been living in Kingston since that time. I am happy to say that my health is generally good, and now, in my seventy-sixth year, I am still able to attend to the duties, though sometimes pretty heavy.

With very kind Christian regards,  
Yours faithfully,

GEORGE BELL.

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HAMPDEN-SIDNEY COLLEGE,

HAMPDEN-SIDNEY, VA., *February 22, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,  
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA. :

MY DEAR MADAM :

I beg gratefully to acknowledge the courteous invitation of the congregation of the Second Presbyterian church of Richmond to attend the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the installation of Dr. Hoge as their pastor, and to express my sincere regrets that I shall not be able to be present on the interesting occasion.

I congratulate both Dr. Hoge and the people of his charge on this interesting event and trust that he may be long spared in health and vigor to bless the church of God.

Very sincerely yours,

RICH'D McILWAINE.

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HOGE ACADEMY,  
BLACKSTONE, VA., *February 26, 1895.*

OUR REVEREND AND BELOVED PRESIDENT :

We, the faculty and students of the academy which is privileged to bear your name, which is fostered by your care, and which has been securely established under God's providence by your wisdom and liberality, greet you joyfully on this happy occasion ; we pray that your life in its noble vigor and blessing may be continued long to your church, your city, and our commonwealth ; we invoke your care and abiding prayer for our institution and ourselves, in our time of training for the duties of life. We trust too to so apply ourselves to the discharge of duty as to make our institution a worthy monument to him whose name it bears.

S. J. COFFMAN, *Principal.*  
R. RANDOLPH JONES, *Assistant,*  
T. P. EPES, *Rector,*  
J. M. HARRIS, *Treasurer.*

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PRESBYTERIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY,  
CHARLESTON, S. C., *February 22, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

MY DEAR MADAM :

I feel highly honored by the invitation of your society to join in the semi-centennial celebration of the pastoral relation of my esteemed friend, Dr. Hoge. His picture hangs on the wall of my study, and an upward glance at his benignant and intellectual face has often caught an inspiration from his grandly useful and beautiful pastoral and public life. It was his own gift as a token of esteem, and it has been sacredly treasured.

Be assured, Madame President, that I cordially sympathize with the object of this noteworthy occasion in giving honor to whom

it is so richly due, and sincerely regret that class-room engagements nearing the close of the session, render it quite impossible for me to be personally with you. Allow me to assure you that it will, doubtless, be the common opinion that the congregation will honor itself on this occasion quite as much as the distinguished pastor for the Second Presbyterian Church and the city of Richmond are not the exclusive shareholders of this bonanza of consecrated influence, but our common country and the entire kingdom of our Blessed Lord have with you a joint and several interest—a *living interest*. The sunset glow and the curfew are not yet.

Faternally,

S. S. LAWS.

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PRESBYTERIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY,  
LOUISVILLE, KY., *February 21, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,  
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA. :

DEAR MADAM :

I am in receipt of your kind invitation to attend the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Dr. Hoge's ministerial labors among you, and I beg to thank you most sincerely for this courtesy and remembrance.

I regret that it is not in my power to attend and enjoy the celebration of so rare and significant an event. Fifty years in a single pastorate is a very unusual event, well worthy of fitting recognition.

I beg to congratulate both Dr. Hoge and your church, and to wish you much blessing, as well as to join in thanksgiving to God for all his goodness to him (Dr. Hoge), and you as a people.

Yours faithfully,

FRANCIS R. BEATTIE.

HAMPDEN-SIDNEY, *February 19, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY  
OF SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND:

I hereby acknowledge receipt of your complimentary invitation to attend the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Dr. Hoge's official connection with your church. My official engagements preventing my personal attendance, I desire to express my full sympathy with the interesting occasion before you. Knowing the gifted and honored object of your veneration for more years than the long term of his pastoral office, I heartily share in the admiration of his genius, prudence, fidelity and success. Taken all together his has been the most blessed and fortunate career I have ever known. Long may it continue to bless the church on earth before it reaches the highest point of its grace-giving favors in the vision of eternal peace.

Yours truly,

C. R. VAUGHAN.

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*From Friends.*

TORONTO, *February 23, 1895.*

THE REVEREND M. D. HOGE, D. D., LL. D.,  
*Richmond, Va. :*

MY DEAR DR. HOGE :

It was very kind indeed of you to think of me and send the invitation to be present at the fiftieth anniversary of your installation as pastor. This is truly a splendid record, and I am so pleased that your people have taken advantage of it to render you the honor that is your due. In this age of restlessness it is so pleasant to see one that has so much of the sweet spirit of content. I trust

that you will have a most pleasant and profitable meeting, and that you yet may be long spared to your congregation. I should sooner have answered the invitation but that I have just returned from a three weeks' visit to Jamaica.

With every good wish for a still prolonged pastorate, believe me,

Faithfully yours,

S. H. BLAKE, M. B.

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NEW YORK, *February 15, 1895.*

THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,  
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA.:

MY DEAR MADAM:

I accept with pleasure your valued invitation to join with you on the 26th instant in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the installation of your pastor, the Rev. Moses Drury Hoge, D. D., LL. D.

It is one of the lovely, but rare occasions, when a pastor and his flock are so worthy of each other enjoying so long a tenure of mutual support and confidence, a happy lot rarely experienced by the most favored church organisms. You have survived the many inevitable exigencies of human infirmity, and the disorganizing effect of civil war from which you have immersed a united and loving flock under the guidance of a pastor whose life and conversation reflected the teachings of his pastor, Jesus Christ our Saviour. A minister in whose piety, patriotism, and popularity, seems to have concentrated in one character, and the *survival of the fittest* to be justified by the Providential extension of his useful life and pastoral tenure to your church as well as a prominent example of a christian gentleman, in social as well as in public life, and patriotic duties to his state and nation.

I am, my dear madam, yours truly,

RICHARD LUTHUS.

LONDON, ENGLAND,  
32 PRINCESS GARDENS, S. W., *March 2, 1885.*

DEAR DOCTOR HOGE:

Although time and space have been measurably annihilated, yet the invitation to join in the golden wedding of your heart and soul in the divine service with your congregation of the Second Presbyterian church at Richmond did not come to me until the morning after the celebration.

Truly, dear and reverend friend, I should have felt it a great and impressive privilege to have been present in that assembly, and near you in soul commemorations. If it can be done without difficulty, I should like to have an imprint of what you then said.

London is a marvelous centre in which the heights and depths of human nature appear. I hope, dear Doctor, that during my term of service here I may be enabled to take your hand and welcome you.

Believe me, with steadfast regard and respect,

Sincerely yours,

T. F. BAYARD.

*The Rev. Moses D. Hoge.*

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SAVANNAH, GA., *February 26, 1895.*

Accept, dear Dr. Hoge, our congratulations and our warm good wishes on this day so deeply interesting to you and to your many, many friends. Our earnest prayers ascend for you, and our thanksgiving to Him who gave you and who has kept you so wonderfully, leading you in that path which shines brighter and brighter as it goes onward. Long may its light yet continue ere it merges into the perfect day.

Your ever faithful and attached friends,

SARAH A. LAWTON,  
A. R. LAWTON.

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NEW YORK, *March 4, 1895.*

REV. MOSES D. HOGE, D. D., LL. D.,

MY DEAR DR. HOGE :

I cannot refrain from extending to you my cordial congratulations on the occasion of your attainment of the fiftieth anniversary of your installation as pastor of the Second Presbyterian Church in Richmond. I should like very much to have been present at the celebration, and have been extremely interested in the account of it which I have seen in the Richmond papers. It must be a great satisfaction to you to look back upon the long series of years during which you have done so much for the benefit of that vast number of people who have come within the sphere of your influence. The intimacy which has existed in the past between yourself and members of my own family, gives me the right and the privilege to rejoice in your welfare almost as if I belonged to your immediate circle.

Please accept from me my most sincere wishes for your continued health, happiness, prosperity and usefulness, and believe me,

Faithfully yours,

JAMES W. ALEXANDER.

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303 WEST 145TH STREET, NEW YORK CITY.

REV. M. D. HOGE, D. D.,

DEAR SIR :

Please receive my heartfelt congratulations on this your fiftieth anniversary as pastor of your, of our, beloved Second Presbyterian Church, and may you be spared many years yet.

Five years ago, after the speakers at your forty-fifth anniversary had finished, you said that was what you ought to have been, but one part was not told yet. None of those men could know what a warm friend you were to many humble people, foreigners who had

no manner of claim upon you, and how kind you were to them. Laying aside your elevated position and helped and sympathized with them in their troubles.

Pardon me for telling my feelings once on this great occasion. Of course I have in mind the pure friendship which you have bestowed on us for these thirty-eight years, and here let me express my heartfelt thanks for the same.

Seldom is it the good fortune of people of our station, yes, of an humble, lowly emigrant girl to have such friends and thoughts as bestowed upon us.

Judge F. R. Farrar, at the close of his writings in the *Dispatch*, pictures what an assembly it might be if all who had come under your influence could meet to-night, and I am glad that my family would be there too!

After your teaching, we have endeavored to live, for which I owe you a great debt of gratitude.

May you be spared many years yet, and be loved by every one that comes under your influence.

Your sincere, grateful friend,

PHILIP DIACONT.

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CHARLOTTE, N. C., *February 23, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY:

If I could follow my own inclination I should certainly be with you on your interesting anniversary of next Tuesday, but as this is impracticable I can only offer my heartfelt congratulations to you and Dr. Hoge, and pray that our kind Heavenly Father may continue His goodness and loving kindness in sparing His faithful shepherd to lead his flock so long and so gently.

Invoking God's richest blessing upon your celebration, I am,

Yours sincerely,

M. A. JACKSON.

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NEW YORK, *March 11, 1895.*

MY DEAR DR. HOGE:

Noticing by the papers that the date of your jubilee had come, I venture to join my voice with those of thousands of others in congratulating you that you have lived to see the close of fifty years of so great usefulness. Your name will be cherished as a historical memory throughout our church's existence. I am confident that I am justified in saying that the entire Presbyterian Church of the North, as well as that of the South, rejoices to do you honor.

With hearty good wishes that you may live to see many years of added usefulness, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

W. VAN NORDEN.

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RICHMOND, *February, 1895.*

REV. MOSES D. HOGE, D. D. :

DEAR DOCTOR :

We greet you on the attainment of the semi-centennial year of your pastorate.

Having, as all who know you believe, complied with the injunction of the Apostle, to be "Steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord," thereby carrying out the command of the Saviour in His sermon on the mount, to "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in Heaven," we may reasonably expect that after you have finished your pastorate in the church Militant, you will be translated to the church Triumphant, and the fulfillment there of the promise made in Revelation, that "being faithful unto death, a crown of Life will be given you."

We hope, sincerely, that it will be many, many years before your earthly pastorate will be terminated, and that a continuance of health and strength may be vouchsafed for your labors here.

The inscription upon the accompanying token, as succinctly as we can make it, conveys our sincere devotion to, and affection for you.

Most truly,

JAMES E. AND EMMA T. GOODE.

---

STAUNTON, VA., *March 3, 1895.*

DEAR DR. HOGE :

I have just spent two hours reading in the Richmond papers all I could find about the great gathering last week in connection with your "golden wedding." Very much to my regret, I was prevented, by circumstances over which I had no control, from being present, but I must write what I would have been so glad to speak with your kind hand clasped in mine.

There are few of your friends who had for you warmer congratulations and more hearty good wishes than have I. There are few who admire and respect you more, and none can more sincerely invoke the blessing of our God upon you and your work. That He may keep and honor you through many more years of devoted service is the prayer of a sincere friend.

T. C. MORTON.

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BALTIMORE, *February 27, 1895.*

REV. DR. MOSES D. HOGE,  
*Richmond, Va. :*

DEAR SIR :

Will you allow General Johnson and myself to join the throng around you who are congratulating you on the fiftieth anniversary of your life among your people?

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Not many men can look back to fifty years well spent in the service of the Master, or begin to look forward to the opening of a new and more glorious life.

May God bless you, and when the order comes, may the life begun then be a grand consummation of the life that now is.

Your friends,

GENERAL AND MRS. BRADLEY T. JOHNSON.

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PRINCETON, N. J., *February 22, 1895.*

PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY :

MY DEAR LADIES :

I thank you for kindly remembering and inviting me to the celebration of Dr. Hoge's semi-centennial. I was living in Richmond when this now historic period began, and having myself enjoyed his earliest ministrations, and having in the persons of both of my brothers and all of my sisters sustained to him for more than four-fifths of this long term a loving relationship as friend and pastor, I would, if it were possible, be with you now. I would gladly join the small band of my contemporaries, who, inside the throng of succeeding generations, stand nearest the great preacher, and bear the longest and fullest testimonials to his arduous labors through all the thousand agencies of the pulpit, and of the school, of the press, and of the platform. And I would count it a rare privilege to unite in the thanksgivings of the assembly, for what God has wrought by the hand of his honored servant, in all the great interests of his native State, to which he is intensely loyal ; in the grand old church which he has served with ever-increasing devotion, and reaching upward to a yet nobler object and a yet more expansive interest in the advancement of the Cause and Kingdom of Christ on the earth, to which, from the morning to

the evening of life, he has given, without stint of all the talents entrusted to his keeping.

With warm sympathy in your celebration, which I hope will gratify all your wishes, I am,

Most cordially yours,

S. C. P. McDOWELL MILLER.

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WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 27, 1895.*

MY DEAR DR. HOGE :

I have it in my heart to send you a line of kindly greeting and congratulations upon this day, so auspicious to you and to your people, and to express a sincere hope that your days may be lengthened and full of blessings.

I am, most sincerely yours,

FLORENCE STEELE VANCE.

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NORFOLK, VA., *February 25, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT AND LADIES OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT  
SOCIETY, RICHMOND, VA. :

I have had the honor to receive to-day your card of invitation to the reception about to be given in commemoration of the semi-centennial anniversary of the pastorate of the Rev. Dr. Hoge in the Second Presbyterian Church of Richmond.

I am grieved that I shall not be able to be present on so marked an occasion. I would be glad to testify by my presence the respect I feel for so true a type of the Virginia man as Dr. Hoge is, as bred before the civil war, and as deporting himself since during the Confederate struggle, and in the more trying times that have succeeded that period.

I cannot determine whether I the more respect, in Dr. Hoge, the Virginia man and patriot, the conservative and apostolic divine, or the eloquent but solidly conservative orator. In these respects, if there be any equal in our times of Dr. Hoge, there is certainly no superior to him.

I am respectfully and most sincerely yours,

ROBT. W. HUGHES.

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NEW YORK, *February 26, 1895.*

REV. DR. MOSES D. HOGG:

MY DEAR SIR:

Having seen in the newspapers that your fellow townsmen were going to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of your ministry, I congratulate you with all my heart on the long, useful and most honorable term of service in the noblest and highest work ever given man to do, but I congratulate your people and city more. Your example of consecrated, unselfish ministration through all these unbroken years; your eloquent effective preaching and noble example of sanctified citizenship, have been a blessing and benediction beyond anything words can express. It is delightful to know they are so fully appreciated. How delighted you must feel at the just appreciation you are held in, and may the Almighty shower on you his choicest blessings, and spare you for many years to come is the sincere prayer of your friend and admirer,

JACOB L. SEIXAS.

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*March, 1895.*

THEODORE MONOD  
PASTEUR

Si jubilas, ego jubilo.

7, RUE DE LA CERISAIE, PARIS.

SWALLOW COTTAGE, GREEN ISLAND, *Feb. 13, 1895.*

REV. M. D. HOGE, D. D.,  
*Richmond, Va. :*

REVEREND AND DEAR SIR :

It is with heartfelt pleasure that your old friends at Green Island are able to congratulate you on the attainment of the fiftieth year of your ministry.

What a noble and useful life has been yours! We hear your voice no more, but it brought a light and life into our souls that we will cherish to the last day we live.

We desire to unite with your loving people in the prayer that you may be long spared to them, and with kindest regards from Mrs. Fiskén, myself, and your many friends here, and in tenderest affection, believe me,

Yours sincerely,

ABR. FISKÉN.

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NORFOLK, VA., *February 15, 1895.*

Mr. and Mrs. George Tait acknowledge, with grateful thanks, the invitation of the Second Presbyterian Church, to attend the fiftieth anniversary of Dr. Hoge's pastorate.

It would afford them unmingled pleasure to be present on that occasion, and assist in honoring one so much beloved by them, but they fear that for reasons beyond their control, it will be impossible for them to leave home at that time.

They can assure you, that if not present in the body, yet their thoughts and loving wishes will be with the distinguished man of God, who has been spared so long to be a blessing and an honor, not only to your church, but to the whole Christian world, and they trust that this coming mark of his people's love, may gladden *his* heart, and bind *them* closer to him.

AYLETT POSTOFFICE, KING WILLIAM COUNTY, VA.,

*February 14, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY, RICHMOND :

The invitation to attend the fiftieth anniversary of the Rev. Dr. M. D. Hoge's service as pastor at the Second Presbyterian Church, has been gratefully received. But for contract duties of my profession, to be performed that day and the next, in court, I should esteem it one of the great privileges of my life to be present and to aid in doing honor and reverence to such a man. All my life I have made it a point to hear his utterances whenever I could. The sunset of his good, great and useful life, will send forth rays that will reach the homes and hearts of his admirers throughout all christendom.

Respectfully,

WM. R. AYLETT.

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ANCHORAGE, *March 5, 1895.*

REV. DR. M. D. HOGE, D. D.:

It would be hard to tell you how my heart rejoices in the honor the people delight to crown you with at this interesting era of your life. How pleasant it is that you stayed by your own first charge all these fifty years and declined the many flattering calls to other churches. Success and fame would have awaited you in any field, but the most beautiful and unique celebration could then have never taken place, and you would have missed an experience that few have ever been permitted to enjoy. Indeed I think I cannot be wrong in saying that in many respects no other golden anniversary has ever occurred in which there were such a number of unusual and tender memories, and recall where a whole city were in sympathy with the event.

You have been more to Richmond, probably, than any other living minister. For while there have been many who have done

much for her in times gone by, I know of no other who is so universally called upon on all sorts of occasions to comfort or to counsel, to pray or to preach, to warn or to lead the way as yourself; and not for a few years only have you been an element in Richmond's history but for over half a century.

What is of far more worth than this proud record of service is the enduring and growing affection of the citizens for their oldest pastor. If you have been loyal to them, they in return have showered upon you every token of love that could well be devised, and have not waited till too late to "say so."

I truly longed to be present at the happy gathering, and to hear from your lips the stirring words I have enjoyed reading from the printed pages, but it was rendered by circumstances impossible for me to be there in person, though my thoughts were with you those memorable days.

I trust you may long remain to be a blessing to your family, your church and your city, and when at last you are called up higher may you have after an "honored life, a peaceful death and Heaven to crown it all."

Your attached and ever grateful friend,

E. L. IRVINE.

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PHILADELPHIA, *February 21, 1895.*

TO THE SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA. :

Allow me to thank you for extending to me so kind an invitation to be present at the celebration—the fiftieth anniversary of the Rev. Moses Drury Hoge, D. D., LL. D. I regret that I cannot be with you in person—be assured I will in my heart. There is no man living for whom I entertain more respect.

Believe me most cordially,

MRS. D. HAYES AGNEU.

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CLIFTON HEIGHTS, PA., *February 27, 1895.*

Rev. M. D. HOGE, D. D. :

DEAR BROTHER :

I congratulate you on reaching this golden anniversary of your ministry. I remember the impression made upon me twenty years ago, on my first visit to Richmond. The sermon on Felix left a lasting impression, and still more the audience of young people. I carried away the feeling that I had never seen an audience so representative of a city, and that had been gathered by a faithful ministry. You seemed to me the religious teacher of the rising generation of the capital city of the South, and every succeeding visit increased the impression that not only the young, but the whole city listened to your voice. Since that time, I have felt that you, with good Dr. Peterkin, were the Jachin and Boaz of evangelical religion in your city and section. I rejoice to-day that your influence has not reached only your own denomination, but all denominations and sections, and that you feel cheered by the support and prayers of all Christians of your vicinage.

To you is this grace given to declare the unsearchable riches of Christ. To-day it is mellowed by the reflection that the fifty years are gone. But it is a jubilee, and, thanks be to God, that whatever sadness may mingle with it, because death has left you alone of those with whom you labored in the beginning of the cause, yet there remains always a brighter prospect beyond, both in this world as well as in that to come. That you may be spared to enjoy the reward of your labors in honors from your friends and grace from our Lord Jesus Christ, is my prayer.

In my future visits to Richmond, it will always be one of my anticipations that I may see and hear and remember you as a faithful and fruitful minister of the gospel. Accept the hearty good wishes of a stranger, who would, if he could, add a little to the joy of your jubilee.

Yours truly,

JACOB WEIDMAN.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., *February 26, 1895.*

DEAR DR. HOGE :

I write a line to send you my warm love and congratulations. You know one who is gone would have done so.

May God bless you and add many souls to your crown of rejoicing.

Affectionately your friend,

Mrs. CHARLES MINNEGERODE.

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*February 14, 1895.*

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,  
SECOND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RICHMOND, VA. :

LADIES :

It is with great regret that I will be unable to accept your polite invitation to unite with your congregation in celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the installation of my former pastor, the much esteemed and greatly blessed Moses D. Hoge, D. D., LL. D. It is with sincere wishes that the occasion may be a happy one, and that he may be long spared to you to carry on the unprecedented labors for his Divine Master.

Very respectfully,

RUSSELL MURDOCH, M. D.

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RICHMOND, *February 27, 1895.*

MY DEAR PASTOR :

On this interesting memorial anniversary, may I not add a cheerful chirp to the chorus of congratulation that swells around you in honor of your golden jubilee?

But what can I say to express my mingled emotions in the retrospect of days forever fled! And how difficult it is to realize that more than fifty years have elapsed since I first made your acquaintance in Prince Edward county. Yet, the swift glance of the mind reverts instinctively to the scene at Hampden-Sidney College, when I listened to your valedictory oration, and united in the aspirations of the hour, in regard to the *first honor man* in the graduating class of 1839—whose *name* secured the pressage and pledge of an honored career in years to come.

But in recalling an occasion so brilliant, how subduing is the thought that of all the eager crowd that then filled the college church, only two or three survive to enjoy the fulfillment of their hopes in the phenomenal celebration to-day.

But in the distant past, there is another picture upon which memory loves to linger—I mean the never to be forgotten occasion, soon after you entered upon your ministerial work in our city—which assembled so bright a circle at “Poplar Hill,” to celebrate the event which crowned your earthly happiness with Heaven’s best gift. The time is long past, but it seems as yesterday. Yet, as I remember the joyous throng of relatives and friends that then graced the family mansion, not one of whom now remains on earth, the eye is moistened and the heart is sad.

And now, would that I could dwell upon your life-work in Richmond in building up the Second Presbyterian Church, and your labor of love in the Old Market Mission enterprise, in all which I have been privileged to sympathize and rejoice. But, is not the history thereof written in the hearts of the present generation, as well as recorded above? May I not, however, congratulate you, while remembering the even tenor of your way—and how, amid

every toil and discouragement in the Master's service, you have "thanked God and taken courage, without abating one jot or tittle of heart and hope," until the successful issue?

And to your ever devoted flock, which gathers around you to-day, how pleasant and inspiring the thought that amid the vigorous health with which you are so exceptionally gifted, they may still rejoice in you as their *life-long pastor*.

Would that I could personally participate in the wondrous ovation that awaits you from loving hearts in your happy household of faith, and from your appreciative friends and fellow-citizens of all classes and creeds, which, I doubt not, will prove more glorious and heart-stirring than the triumph of an ancient conqueror.

But I must forbear the pleasure, and hoping that in long years to come your future may abound in faithfulness, and that upon your path way the shadows may gently fall, believe me as ever,

Your friend,

MARY MAXWELL.

NOTE.—Mrs. Maxwell is the venerable widow of the Hon. William Maxwell, who was the President of Hampden-Sidney College when Dr. Hoge graduated. She is one of the few survivors of the commencement of 1839, and the only one living who was present at his marriage, so far as known.



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 Telegrams.
 

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BALTIMORE, MD., *February 26, 1895.*

REV. DR. MOSES D. HOGE,  
*Richmond, Va. :*

I beg to congratulate you on this auspicious occasion.

JAS. (CARD.) GIBBONS.

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BALTIMORE, MD., *Feb. 26, 1895.*

REV. MOSES D. HOGE, D. D.,  
*Richmond, Va. :*

Loving greeting and congratulations. Happy pastor, happy church, happy city.

W. U. MURKLAND.

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LOUISVILLE, KY., *February 26, 1895.*

REV. DR. MOSES D. HOGE,  
*Pastor Second Presbyterian Church, Richmond, Va. :*

Faculty and students of Louisville Theological Seminary tender warmest congratulations. Genesis xlix : 24.

WILLIAM HOGE MARQUESS,  
*Chairman of Faculty.*

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GALVESTON, TEXAS, *February 26, 1895.*

REV. DR. MOSES D. HOGE,  
*Richmond, Va. :*

Our hearty congratulations. Read Genesis xlix : 24.

WM. N. SCOTT.

NEW YORK, *February 26, 1895.*REV. MOSES D. HOGE,  
*Richmond, Va. :*Love and congratulations. Better fifty years of Richmond than  
a cycle of Cathay.A. D. F. RANDOLPH.  

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ALEXANDRIA, VA., *February 26, 1895.*PRESIDENT LADIES' BENEVOLENT SOCIETY,  
*Richmond, Va. :*Cherished to last moment hope of coming. Duties forbid. Please  
accept my grateful acknowledgments, and present to your happy  
pastor and people my congratulations and regrets.THERON H. RICE, JR.  

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NEW YORK, *February 26, 1895.*Dr. MOSES D. HOGE,  
*Richmond, Va. :*

Hearty congratulations and kindest and best wishes.

ELISE &amp; DALLAS FLANNAGAN.





