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wall must therefore be built. The time to favor Zion, yea, the set time, is come, because her servants take pleasure in her stones and favor the dust thereof.

In the name and behalf of many who have sat at your feet, I congratulate you this day on account of the good accomplished by the Head of the Church through your instrumentality in this School of the Prophets. And we humbly pray that your life and health may be long continued; that you may bring forth fruit in old age; that your last days may be your best and most joyful in God our Redeemer; and that you may receive the crown of life bestowed on all who love the final appearing of our great Judge and Advocate.

DR. HOWE'S RESPONSE.

I do not know, my brother, in what terms to reply to the language of respect and love with which you have addressed me. I believe in a Providence, a Providence which rules over all things. I believe in a special providence. And I have reason to "know that the *way* of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps." There is a power above us that stirs up our nests, and thwarts our purposes, forecast them as we will, and this, too, for our own best good. In my early manhood a malady which is most often fatal had overtaken me, and, after a partial recovery, the frosts of the succeeding winter had brought on a relapse, and my medical friends thought it necessary that I should avoid the severities of another. I came, a stranger, not without solicitude, to the port of Charleston, but only to receive the kind hospitalities of those who seemed to know how to dispel the forebodings of a stranger's heart. The Synod of South Carolina and Georgia met in the city of Augusta on the 2nd of December, 1830. Dr. Goulding had asked for an assistant who should teach the original languages of the Scriptures. My name was brought before the Synod by the Board of Directors. I was

unanimously elected to this office for the year; accepted the office, first for three months, but was prevailed upon to stay till July. Similar reasons rendered it necessary that we should again avoid the severities of a Northern winter, and on the 3d of December, 1831, the Synod of South Carolina and Georgia, meeting in this city, elected me as Professor of Sacred Literature and Biblical Criticism. There have been days of sadness and foreboding since, when even the best early friends of the Seminary have expressed their sympathy, and intimated that they would not blame me if I should abandon the enterprise. But I have not done so. The Lord would seem to say, "The new wine is in the cluster. Destroy it not; for a blessing is in it." Yes, my brother, I believe in a general and a special providence. When our Lord and Master sent forth his apostles to preach the gospel, he did not promise them a life of ease, but the reverse. They should meet with difficulties. They should be encompassed with opposers. But, says he, "Fear them not. What I tell you in darkness that speak ye in light: and what ye hear in the ear that proclaim ye upon the housetops. And fear not them which kill the body but are not able to kill the soul." "Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not, therefore; ye are of more value than many sparrows." Yes, there is both a general and a special providence. For he, our Master, ruleth both in the armies of heaven and the inhabitants of earth, and none can stay his hand or challenge his right thus to rule. There are men here to-night that can bear witness to this. The humble cottage of their fathers may have been in some defile in the distant mountains of a foreign land, by the side of some well known river of France, Germany, Holland, or some dear spot in England, Scotland, or Ireland; and here we are together this night! And what overruling power has accomplished this? We may think of the native force of our own will. But it was the overruling of him who now sits on the mediatorial throne, having *all* power in heaven and earth; controlling as well the forces of nature as those of the moral world. It was he that moved them to brave the dangers of the treacherous

deep and the stormy winds, and brought them here. It is he, my brethren, who has called *us* to *our* life-long work, will sustain us in it, and call us *home* at last, to that house not made with hands, which is eternal in the heavens, and will make us kings and priests unto God and unto the Lamb for ever. It will be so. And it must be so. God the Father is pledged to God the Son. "I shall give thee the heathen for thine inheritance, and the uttermost parts of the earth for thy possession." "Sit thou at my right hand." God the Son was pledged to God the Father. "Lo, I come to do thy will, O God," by which will we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all. And God the Spirit, our second Comforter, whom Christ has sent, to take of his things and show them unto us, all conspire to give victory to his Church, and discomfiture to all its foes. And so let us hope and labor on till our translation comes, when the Lamb shall lead us to living fountains of waters, and God shall wipe away all tears from our eyes.