

A

MEMOIR

OF THE

REV. JOHN H. RICE, D.D.

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

BY WILLIAM MAXWELL.



PHILADELPHIA: 

PUBLISHED BY J. WHETHAM.

RICHMOND:—R. I. SMITH.

1835.

5

not merely of seeing you, but of seeing you with renovated health, pursuing vigorously that course which will lead you to usefulness and honour in this world, and to life everlasting in the next.

Mrs. Rice unites with me in every sentiment of affection for you, in every good wish, and in every prayer for your health and hapiness; and we both join in committing you, with all that we love, to the guardian care of the almighty and most merciful God, and in imploring every blessing upon you.

I am, my dear Tudor,

Affectionately yours,

JOHN H. RICE.

TO THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D. D.

*Richmond, Dec. 13th, 1814.*

MY DEAR SIR,

I intended to have answered your very friendly and acceptable letter by Mr. Campbell. But unfortunately I missed that oportunity.

The state of religion in Virginia upon the whole is not very promising, although, in some parts, particularly Prince Edward, there is some excitement. The war bears very heavily upon us; and we are all heartily tired of it. But how to get it off our hands is the great puzzle. Here in Richmond, we are scuffling along with great difficulty.

I have a brother bishop here who attracts notice from the rich and great, but I apprehend that he will find it no easy matter to mould them into good churchmen. Yet bishop Moore appears to be a zealous and pious man, and I hope will do good among the people. He is uncommonly friendly to me, and I am resolved that it shall not be my fault if he does not continue so. I am indeed apprehensive that we shall have a controversy in this state between Episcopalians and Presbyterians; but I hope if this should

be the case, that we shall act entirely on the defensive. Controversies among christians are very rarely if ever productive of good, and among us would perhaps be highly injurious. What may be the effect of the bishop's settling here on Presbyterianism, I am not yet able to say. I hope however, that no harm will be done; perhaps just the reverse. I commit the affair to the great Head of the Church.

Remember me most affectionately to Mrs. Alexander, and to your boys. Mrs. Rice joins me in this, as also in expressions of sincere regard for yourself.

I am yours assuredly,

JOHN H. RICE.

TO WILLIAM MAXWELL, ESQ.

*Richmond, Feb. 8th, 1815.*

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Your letter has been received; and I should have answered it at an earlier period, but I have been in trouble and perplexity.

As soon as I received your favour, I determined to accept the invitation made by your society; and if nothing prevent, I will be in Norfolk at the time mentioned. But I may be prevented. On Saturday last Mrs. Rice left me in great haste, and in deep affliction, on account of intelligence from Prince Edward. Her mother, my invaluable friend, my second mother, lay extremely ill, it was thought at the point of death. I have not heard from Mrs. Rice since her arrival at her father's; but this morning an officer from Prince Edward who had gone home on furlough, passed through town, and reported that he had heard that Mrs. Morton was dead; and I fear it is so. As soon therefore as I hear from Mrs. Rice, which will be on Thursday, I expect to set out to Prince Edward. What detention I may experience there, I know not. I shall, on all the accounts suggested by you, be anxious to be in Norfolk at the time specified. But we must