

A

MEMOIR

OF THE

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Calvinist if he chooses; that they profess Socinian tenets, and make that profession the only bond of union. They have taken in all the Marshallites in Kentucky, and have made some progress there. In New York, they publish a periodical work, called the Herald of Religious Liberty. He states too, that they are increasing rapidly, and in some parts utterly subverting the faith of many. Have you heard any thing of all this?

TO THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER.

*Charlotte, July 15th, 1810.*

I feel myself, since my last journey, less tied to the spot on which I live, than I did before. Or rather, I feel more ready to go wherever the providence of God may open a door for greater usefulness in the church than appears to lie open before me here. I am now quite reconciled to your living in Philadelphia. It matters but little where we are, so that we are doing the work of the Lord.

I have written my Presbyterial sermon over again, and without doing it any injury, I have reduced it from fifty-nine to thirty-nine pages. I hope that you will do me the favour to accept of a copy when it is printed, and, if you think it worth your while, take half a dozen, and distribute them as you like best.

I am zealously engaged in the study of Hebrew this summer. I am determined to master it if possible. Would I could get a Syriac New Testament such as yours! I am anxious to be an Orientalist. *Who knows but that I may yet be a professor in a Theological school!*

TO THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER.

*Charlotte, Sept. 4th, 1810.*

I have a very strong inclination to represent Hanover Presbytery in the next General Assembly, and to represent the next General Assembly in the Association of Connecticut.

I do not know yet that I can have sufficient interest to secure my election; but I feel pretty much resolved to make the attempt. My health has been so much better this summer than usual, that I cannot help thinking it probable that if I could have spent two or three months longer travelling in the spring, I should have become quite fat and hearty.

Yes sir! if it pleases God to give me health and strength, I am resolved to be master of those languages in which the truths of divine revelation were originally recorded; and I am very anxious to get all the helps in these studies that can possibly be procured. I must beg your assistance in this business. If you will accept of it, I hereby give you a *carte blanche*, a full commission to buy for me at any price you think proper to give, any book that you can find, that will in your opinion be important for me to have. I am very anxious to get Horseley's new translation of Hosea. Be on the watch if you please for a Syriac New Testament. I do not know whether it is worth while to mention Calacio's Concordance, or Michaelis' Hebrew Bible; for I question whether they can be obtained. I am sure that you will do all you can for me; and that you will excuse my troubling you in this way.

The state of religion amongst us is perhaps better than when we were in Philadelphia. I saw Mr. Lyle at Charlotte court yesterday. He is more encouraged than I have seen him for several years. Very probably he will write by Mr. Read, and give you a particular account of the state of affairs. Mr. Hoge wrote to me yesterday, that he thought there was a growing attention to religion about college. I attended a sacrament at Old Hat Creek on Sabbath with Mr. Le Grand. There was a large and very attentive congregation, and much affection. Some few additions were made to the church. My Cub Creek people seem to be considerably *stirred up*, and we are all in hopes that the Lord is about to visit these desolations, and build up our ruins. I

think that a spirit of prayer is in some degree poured out, and that at least a few are wrestling with God. The missionary business is going on with some success. Clem. Read, Charles Kennon, and James Wilson, are riding very constantly between this and Petersburg. Kennon writes that immense crowds attend him almost constantly, that the cry for preaching is great, and that it is recommendation enough for any man that he is a Presbyterian. We want preachers, we want a great many more preachers!—preachers of zeal and of talents, who will give themselves up with unreserved devotion to the great work of preaching salvation. But I shall make a fuller communication on this subject before long to the Committee of Missions.

TO THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER.

*Charlotte, Oct. 17th, 1810.*

I believe that when I last wrote, I observed that the cause of religion was looking up. Although we have nothing that can be called a revival, yet we are still more encouraged. I think that Christians are in some degree revived. Many seem to have a spirit of grace and supplication, and are wrestling with God in prayer. There have been more added to the church at our last sacraments than usual. Numbers in Cub Creek, Briery, and Cumberland, seem to be anxiously inquiring on the subject of religion. You remember that in Virginia there was a class of persons who never went to church at all; they thought it beneath them. That class is diminishing in numbers pretty rapidly. And now and then, persons of this description are entering into the church. Mrs. Judith Randolph, of Bizarre, lately made a profession of religion. I have been much in her company since, and I think her among the most truly pious in our country. John Randolph attended the sacrament when his sister joined with us, and seemed to be much impressed. He invited Mr. Hoge home with him, and conversed much upon religion. Mr. Hoge is fully persuaded that he is, as it