

Seminary - Jan 18th -

Rev. & Dear Sir,

If by my long silence of nearly four months you have been led to conclude that I was indifferent to your request & insensible to your kindness, I should have no cause to complain. But it may be some palliation of my neglect to observe that the multiplicity of my Seminary & other duties has greatly precluded the discharge of the more pleasing offices of a correspondent. Time & talents are required for the favorable prosecution of such a course of studies as ours, & where the latter are very ordinary, there should always be a judicious & economical disposition & employment of the former. Hence if such an one in his endeavour to fulfil paramount obligations fails in minor ones he is justly excusable - at any rate, not very culpable. This is in some measure my own case; but I would not have you infer that your guardian pupil has become an indefatigable student. As it is with College youths, so it is with theological disciples - sometimes a fit of industry will seize me, & as often there will be a relapse into - I will not say - "sleeping indolence" - but, a kind of wakeful apathy. What then are you doing? - you inquire - Well, in the first place, I am comfortably settled in my room, directly at the stair-head of the second story, where I can hear, quite plain - by ear or sight, everybody that runs up or runs down - no slight annoyance to such a quiet pursuit as my chum & myself. For books I do not want, the general library furnishing those I do not possess - thus all that is required is that I duly profit by the advantages I enjoy. Our class is now prosecuting the studies of systematic divinity, & to me they are peculiarly interesting. With Pearson, I could not but be pleased, although his quaint style, close reasoning & profound learning require considerable effort of mind & some study to enter into the spirit & meaning of the work. In connection with it on the Divinity of Christ we have taken up Beresley's Tracts. Additional interest is communicated to the studies of this department by the admirable & extensive erudition of our Professor, Dr. Wilson - one cannot but love him for his mildness of manner & sweetness of temper - one cannot but revere & honor him for his unassuming piety & distinguished attainments. In Biblical criticism & interpretation we are moving on prosperously & smoothly - save, when a gale from Dr. Turner causes a little turmoil: but whenever he gets captious we become obstinate, & afterwards quietude ensues. Hebrew! Hebrew is just becoming somewhat attractive to me, & methinks I will try to learn the language ~~as~~ I leave the Seminary, for now I perceive its utility & importance - heretofore, I have been perfectly indifferent about it. It is dull & difficult, but it is the language of the Bible, & that shd. be a stimulus.



The duties of the middle year are the most arduous of the whole course, & they are  
increased so not only by the amount of study required of us, but also by reason of  
the sermons & dissertations which are expected from us. Five sermons & five disserta-  
tions for tyros in Theology! The thought is painful to me - but my motto is - per-  
severando vinces, & I shall endeavor to test its truth - Our Seminary I need  
not tell you is prospering under the auspices of its able faculty. The addition of  
Mr. Whittingham to the Professorship of Ec. His. will give a new character to the  
Institution. He is an extraordinary man - of talents unequalled - attainments un-  
surpassed, & a active industry untiring in its labors. No one has yet been ap-  
pointed in Pas. Theo. Dr. DeLaney of Phil. is spoken of, & probably will be selected.  
Mr. Seabury is lecturing to the Jun. Class, on the evidences. Our number of stu-  
dents is considerable - I suppose about ninety. How gratifying is this to the mem-  
bers of the Church - with such a body of able men we need feel no apprehen-  
sions for the success & permanent establishment of the Epis. Church. If they  
are only sound in their views & correct in their principles, they may look  
for a rich harvest as the fruits of their labors; & if they are not so, when  
they shall have completed the studies of this Institution, it will be because they  
have made up their minds to believe absurdities, or obstinately repel the  
truth no matter how convincingly offered. But, I think, I may affirm of  
our students generally, that a spirit of love, harmony & unity prevails among  
us, but "the evil doth be ever mingled with the good". There is an increased love for  
the Church evinced by a cessation of prayer meetings &c, & the use of the daily  
morning & evening services as contained in the Prayer Book. You do not hear  
Presbyterians & other sectaries so highly lauded for their primitive sanctity &  
apostolical zeal - You do not <sup>so often</sup> see the altars of our own Mother Church forsaken  
for the communion of the 'schism-shops' of New York. Activity in S. School op-  
erations, & attachment to the Miss. Cause also characterize our students. There  
are some men of fine talents in each of the classes, & such is poor human  
nature, that they cannot help (unconsciously no doubt) giving their brethren to  
understand such to be the case. A man will sometimes become proud of his humility.  
Thus we are moving on finely in every department of study, except Pas. Theo.  
But that as yet we have no Professor - and it is matter of great regret, for surely  
it is a very important one. Knowledge without the faculty of making a ready  
& happy disposition of it, can serve no purpose but individual gratification -  
Hence, I think, three years is too short a space of time for thorough prepa-  
ration for the ministerial office - it ought at least to be extended to four. We  
can here, notwithstanding the peculiar advantages, only get as it a mere

smattering of Theology. The age & the times demand a higher standard. The Uni-  
tarian, the infidel, the papist, may mutilate, object to, & corrupt the word of God, &  
the uneducated man is to be unprepared to defend it. Thus I believe the course  
our Eastern brethren <sup>are pursuing</sup> with respect to a Seminary, is not very prudent or judicious.  
It certainly will have the effect to lower the standard of ministerial qualifica-  
tions. Let the Church concentrate her efforts upon one Institution (at least for the  
present) & we cannot doubt that the end will be gained at less expense & more ex-  
pedite. Three students from Alex. & one from Andover have joined us this year.  
Some have in view foreign fields of labour, others our western wilds - a considerable  
portion will no doubt remain within their native states. If strong inducements were  
held forth I know some who wd. willingly remove to Maryland - In our State how-  
ever, I am inclined to believe, that that Ministry only which is born & educated  
amongst her people, & can enter fully into their habits of feeling & action, can be  
eminently useful. At present we have only five candidates at the Seminary - while  
our vacant parishes are three times that number. I shd. rejoice to see St. John's  
sending forth some soldiers to replenish our ranks. Will there be none from  
the graduating Class of this year? The claims of the Church & of God shd  
be presented before them, & urged upon their sober consideration. The minis-  
terial office is not generally viewed in its proper light by youth. Of course I  
wd. not have them come unless they be actuated by the spirit of Christ, & feel the  
nature of the responsibility - Of the N.Y. Churches I have not much to say.  
Most probably a change of some kind will be effected in Trinity Parish - a dis-  
junction of the three Ch. is talked of & Dr. Wainwright mentioned as the successor of  
the Pop. who is to be relieved from parochial duty. Mr. Whittingham is preaching  
in Grace Ch. during Dr. Taylor's absence. I occasionally hear him, & can say that  
he exceeds all others in vigor of thought & power of expression. As a pulpit ora-  
tor he is far surpassed by Dr. Hawks. Dr. Milner has been laboring earnestly  
& understanding successfully in behalf of foreign Missions - but as I learn the Doctor  
has the gout!! (it is in the chest however) his efforts will be necessarily suspended  
for a while - Mr. Cooke a gentleman from the East, is his Assistant. Mr. Payne the  
rector of St. Peter's Church has resigned his charge. Mr. P. is a man of consid-  
erable learning & an excellent writer, but not always a useful parish priest, because of  
his want, not of piety, but of active zeal. Hence he did not conciliate the affections  
of the people - & the vestry dissatisfied with him, had lately an occasion of ex-  
pressing their dissatisfaction upon his preaching an abolition sermon. Mr.  
P. was thus as it were compelled to resign. In my opinion, he was not treated  
as a Rector shd. have been treated - A new Church, to be called Calvary Ch.



is erecting at the place where I am engaged in S. Sch. teaching, in the Suburbs of the City. Mr. Goddard the Superintendent, & now a student of the Sem. Class will be the rector. Bro. Davis has returned from his Europ. tour with restored health - Of my recreation &c, I have not room to say much - I visit very little in the City - not because I am careless about the matter, for there are few who delight in female society more than myself, & few more susceptible of their influence, but because of the time it consumes, & the disordered state of mind & the troubled state of soul that are always consequent upon it. My recreation then consists chiefly in walks in the City, &c.

they are  
have

To, The Rev. H. Thompson D.D.  
President of St. John's College,  
Arm of his M.D.

simp

D. Butler

visits to the hospitable mansion of Mrs Jarvis, where I am always entertained & satisfied. I was there the other evening, & she & the family are well. Please present my respectful regards to Mrs Thompson & Miss Cooke - My health is as good as usual - The weather is piercingly cold, & snow more than a foot deep lying on the ground. The merry jingling of the whip-bells quite enlivens the City - So soon as you may find it convenient, I shall be much gratified to hear from you, & all the news of College, Church, Town & State you may communicate. The good advice you may be pleased to confer, will be kindly received & duly appreciated by yours most respectfully &c Orlando Butler.



Penn in ary, May 5th 1836-

Rev. & Dear Sir,

I received in due course your last favour & derived no little gratification from its perusal. And while I greatly rejoice at the rising prospects of St. John's, I cannot but lament my inability to do any thing worthy of estimation, towards her advancement. It is an honour in which I should be proud to share. But my voice feeble as it is, will ever be raised, & my efforts puny as they are, will ever be put forth to sustain & promote her interests. Of her rapid rise & ultimate establishment I feel confident. Her claims upon the public of Maryland are just & strong, & as they are urged with propriety & force they cannot be resisted or evaded. There is one subject, however, which her friends in the ardour of their zeal & the vigour of their exertions to establish her literary, classical & scientific character, may overlook or deem disconnected with the objects of the Institution, I refer to a adequate provision for the religious instruction of her students. The nature of our government, the variety & conflicting interests of religious sects, the prevailing spirit of the age would be obstacles in the way of such a consummation, but the destiny of man, the extent of his capacities, & the nature of his obligations, can leave no doubt upon the mind of the enlightened Christian, about the course to be pursued. Shall we educate our children merely for temporary usefulness? Shall they be taught to look for popular applause rather than the approbation of God? Should not, on the other hand, the religion of the Bible be interwoven with their whole course of education? May they not derive, to use the beautiful language of Mr. Lebb, from "the sublimity of Isaiah, the pathetic tenderness of Jeremiah, the deep-toned energy of Job, the varied excellencies of the sweet Psalmist of Israel" as holy incitations to virtue & as great vigour of thought & expression as from the favoured authors of Greece & Rome? While the latter should receive attention, the former should not be neglected. I do not think it would be impracticable to unite them. At any rate the subject merits attention. My opinion of course is worth little, since I am fitted neither by knowledge nor experience to judge very correctly. Your Ws. Col. pupils & the Prop. were gratified to hear of the success of your labours. Dr. Turner desires me to present his regards to you.

Our Seminary affairs are also prospering. The new building is nearly completed & is now occupied by students. My chamber has been removed to it in order to have a room to himself & has "left me alone in my glory". I am fond of solitude & it is delightful for me to be able to retire from the bustle of meals & the tedious of recitations to my own room & be alone. The apartments of the new building



are intended for two students, each, & are without dormitories. This is a great inconvenience, for I do not think that men were ever intended to live in such close contiguity as we do here. The rooms, however, are spacious & commodious. The number of them is thirty-two, & thus, in all, upwards of an hundred students can now be accommodated. One of the wings will be fitted up for a Prof. residence & the other, for the present, left unfinished. Our Library is on the increase. <sup>The</sup> Rev. Dr. Smith has been appointed our Prof. in Pas. Theology. He will be a valuable acquisition to our Institution. Affectionate in his manner, sound in criticism, elegant & eloquent in taste he has already conciliated the students. As for myself I am much pleased with him, although he gave me a pretty severe "slashing" about the sermon I preached before him, a few days ago. We have regular exercises in reading the service & preaching. Preparation is already making for our examination in June. The readers of dissertations for the occasion have been selected by lot, but, in my opinion, very poorly represent the class. During the remainder of the term our duties will be pressing. I am looking forward to its close with anticipations of pleasure. I am nearly tired out. But the time will soon pass by. The prospect of future good stimulates us to effort.

I have been successful in making some happy arrangements for my room next year. In the first place, I shall have a very amiable little fellow, who graduates this fall at Col. Col., for my chum, & in the second place the room will be thoroughly & neatly furnished, & have connected with it an excellent library. This will save me much trouble & no little expense, & also afford me an opportunity of purchasing a few books. That to procure a good library should be the first care & effort of the young clergyman. It should supersede all other things, even that of getting a wife, which every "theological" now-a-days thinks to be his first duty after he's enrolled in his "canonicals". But as the wife may be <sup>obtained</sup> at any time, & as she is sometimes not so valuable nor so pressing needed as a library, undoubtedly the preference should be given to the latter. If the Lady should happen to be a good library in herself, then perhaps he'd do well to purchase her as soon as possible; and some few such, I believe, there are. "Circumstances alter cases," as the Lawyers in the Hall said.

Our Class has completed "that Son of Thunder, John Pearson", & is now engaged in Magee on Atonement. The work before us appears to increase rather than diminish, as we progress. I had previously no idea that Theology included in its reach difficult, learned & various subjects. A man may devote his whole life to its study, & yet at its close find much that needs investigation. Yet there is great pleasure connected with this process.

tion. They never lose their interest. While they discipline the mind they affect the heart. I have often thought how inconsistent <sup>those</sup> men are who boast much of their attainments, & yet suffer such rich stores of true wisdom to lie unsought for. Were our clergy more learned we should have a more learned clergy, & less of that enthusiasm & fanaticism so prevalent at the present day.

I know of no changes of importance with regard to the Church in the City. She continues to progress in a slow but sure manner. Each minister of Trinity Parish has <sup>his</sup> appropriate sphere of labour, Dr. Bevier is entirely relieved from duty, that is, he need not officiate when he pleases. They would like very well to get rid of him - Dr. Wainwright is expected to take charge of Trinity Church. Dr. Anthon is very highly esteemed, & is without doubt the most polished & elegant sermon writer in the City. Several of the clergy are on tour in foreign countries seeking for health - no less than five - including the Rev. Peter Williams (!). St. Peter's Church, of which you are aware the Rev. Dr. Smith is rector is increasing rapidly, & I presume they will soon commence the erection of a Church - Mr. Southgate our appointed Missionary to Persia has departed. I apprehend that he is eminently calculated to succeed in that mission. His information is very extensive & his talents above mediocrity.

besides his personal appearance will conduce much to his success, among the Orientals. Of a low stature, dark complexion, heavy brow & black hair, he is not himself very unlike an Oriental. Next week is the "Holy Convocation or Great Anniversary Week" of the religious Societies of the Presbyterians &c. An opportunity offers I shall attend them. I shall be strengthened in my attachment to the Church, if I derive no other benefit from it. In the "Broadway Tabernacle" of which you have doubtless heard by this time, a kind of a Church erected for "Brother Finney", will their meetings be held. Our Wp. has removed to Long Island, & will attend us in his department no more for the present term. He will be in the City part of the year, & have an Office for the transaction of business. I am sorry for it, but you know the cause. - I had well nigh forgotten the main object of my letter, viz, the information you request about the "Septuagint". I have inquired & find that two editions are in common use. Van Ess', octavo, <sup>1 vol.</sup> "good & cheap" \$2.50. & the Glasgow edition, 24 mo., <sup>2 vols.</sup> in bds. \$1.50. Both may be had at D. Appleton's 200 Broadway. I think the former is better. The print of the latter is small. Both however are good - I have given you the trouble of reading a long & I fear, very dull letter - but you will excuse me, in only in consideration of my aching fingers. Please present



my best regards to Mrs. Humphreys & Miss Cooke. I saw Mrs. Jarvis last evening at her new residence. The whole family were well, but not yet fixed. Washing, & sewing, & painting, & all such things, you know, must be done & well done before she can settle in any abode. I spent in her social circle some of my <sup>most</sup> pleasant hours. I feel greatly indebted to the family for this unmerited kindness to me. Miss Mott has returned to Connecticut. I should like at

To, Rev. Hector Humphreys J.D.  
President of St. John's College.  
Annapolis Md.

single

C. Shattuck

the close of the term to accept her invitation to visit New Rochelle, did I not greatly long to see my own native town, & enjoy once more the society & presence of my Annapolis friends. When you may find it convenient I shall be gratified to receive an answer. The weather at present is delightful. How pleasant the Green & the surrounding scenery must appear! Methinks I now see the verdant grass & the smiling waters, & inhale the rich fragrance of the blossoming trees. But the Hudson & its banks, & our vicinity are not without their natural beauties. Yrs. respectfully C. Shattuck.  
Rev. Dr. Humphreys