

AN
HISTORICAL SKETCH
OF
MADISON UNIVERSITY;
HAMILTON, N. Y.

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AN HISTORICAL SKETCH OF MADISON UNIVERSITY.

CHAPTER I.

Origin and Object of the Institution. Location. Commencement of Instruction. Successive Names of the School. Catalogue of Educators. Extension of the Course of Studies, and Complete Organization of Departments. Admission of Lay Students. University Charter applied for and Obtained. Compact between the Education Board and that of the University. Condition and Prospects of the University in 1846.

The germ of Madison University is to be found in the Incorporation of "The Baptist Education Society of the State of New York." On the 24th Sept. 1817, thirteen brethren met at the house of Dea. JONATHAN OLMSTED, in Hamilton, Madison County, N. Y., and formed themselves into a Society under the name above-mentioned. The following is a list of the original members: Rev. DANIEL HASCALL, Rev. NATHANIEL KENDRICK, Rev. P. P. ROOTS, Rev. JOHN BOSTWICK, Rev. JOEL W. CLARK, Rev. ROBERT POWELL, Dea. JONATHAN OLMSTED, Dea. SAMUEL PAYNE, SAMUEL OSGOOD, THOMAS COX, ELISHA PAYNE, CHARLES W. HULL, AMOS KINGSLEY. Their chief treasures were in their faith and prayers. Each member was required to pay one dollar, as a condition of membership; at the close of the meeting, therefore, the amount of funds in their treasury was thirteen dollars.

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The object of this organization, as it is distinctly stated in the preamble of its charter granted by the Legislature, 5th March 1819, is, "to educate pious young men to the gospel ministry." Accordingly said charter authorizes the B. E. S. S. N. Y., to "make such Constitution, By-Laws, Ordinances, and Regulations for the appointment of officers, the Government of the Seminary, and conducting all their concerns, as to them shall appear proper."

Hence, it is evident, that the Society, thus chartered, did, *originally*, intend to *found a school* at which to educate their beneficiaries.

In the Autumn of 1819, the Education Board made the village of Hamilton, the permanent seat of the "Seminary," by virtue of a contract, of which the condition was, that the friends of this location were to pay to the Society the sum of \$6,000. This sum was actually paid, and the receipt thereof duly acknowledged.

The *work* of educating students to the Gospel Ministry, commenced as early as the 14th of Feb. A. D. 1818. JONATHAN WADE, now a very worthy and celebrated missionary in Asia, was the pupil first received. In this introductory school, REV. DANIEL HASCALL gave instruction in the English, the Latin, and the Greek Language, and REV. NATHANIEL KENDRICK in Theology.

But in the Spring of 1820, the "Seminary" was *formally* opened and instructed under Prof. HASCALL as Principal. This Institution of learning, has preserved its identity though it has borne different names, to wit, "School," "Seminary," "Hamilton Literary and Theological Institution," and, finally, "Madison University,"—all of which, have been applied to it on the occasion of certain modifications which have taken place in the progress of its improvement.

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The following is the list of officers employed in the department of instruction, from May 1820 to August 1850 :

	<i>Elected.</i>	<i>Resigned.</i>
REV. DANIEL HASCALL, A. M., Principal, and Professor of Sacred Rhetoric,	May, 1820	1836
REV. NATHANIEL KENDRICK,* D. D., Prof. of Systematic and Pastoral Theology, And President of the Institution,	Feb., 1821 1836	
ZENAS MORSE, A. M., Tutor,	1821	
REV. BERAH N. LEACH, Tutor,	1824	
“ CHANCELLOR HARTSHORN, Tutor,	1825	
“ SETH S. WHITMAN,* A. M., Prof. of Hebrew, and Biblical Criticism,	1828	1839
“ BARNAS SEARS, D. D. Prof. Lang. And subsequently Prof. Bib. The.	1829	1836
“ JOEL S. BACON, D. D., Prof. Intel- lectual and Moral Philosophy,	1831	1837
“ ASAHEL C. KENDRICK, D. D., Prof. Languages, And subsequently Prof. Greek Language and Literature,	1832	1850
“ GEO. W. EATON, D. D., Prof. Math. and Nat. Phil., and afterward Prof. Ecc. and Civ. History,	1833	
STEPHEN W. TAYLOR, A. M., Principal of the Acad. Dep't and afterward Prof. of Math. and Nat. Phil.	1834	1845
REV. T. J. CONANT, D. D., Prof. of Heb. and Biblical Criticism,	1835	1850
WM. MATHER, M. D. Inst. in Chemistry,	1838	
JOHN F. RICHARDSON, A. M., Prof. Latin Language and Literature,	1838	1850
REV. JOHN S. MAGINNIS, D. D., Prof. of Biblical Theology,	1838	1850
JOHN H. RAYMOND, A. M., Prof. Rhet- oric and the Eng. Language,	1840	1850
REV. PHILETUS B. SPEAR, A. M., Ad- junct Prof. Hebrew,	1842	
ANTHONY LAMB, A. M., Tutor G'k Phil.	1839	
REV. GEO. R. BLISS, A. M. “ “	1840	
“ B. F. BRONSON, A. M. “ Math.	1845	
“ SAM'L GRAVES A. M. “ Math. & Nat. Philosophy,	1846	
“ HEZ. HARVEY, A. M. “ G'k Phil.	1847	
“ W. T. BIDDLE,* A. M. “ Math. & Nat Philosophy.	1850	

In the year 1829, the course of studies was extended to

*Deceased.



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four years, in 1831 to six, and in 1833, an eight years' course of studies was projected. In 1835, the first senior collegiate class completed its course of studies. In 1837-8, for the first time, the three departments, viz: Theological, Collegiate, and Academic, were fully developed, the complement of classes organized, the English and Scientific departments harmonized with the Classical, two distinct Theological courses established, the one adapted to the qualifications of students from the English and Scientific course, and the other, to those who had completed the full six years' course of regular Classical studies.

In 1839, under an arrangement every way adapted to further the prime object of the Education Society, the doors of the Institution were opened to lay students. This extension of the benefits of sound learning, occasioned no change in the studies of the Academic and the Collegiate department, (these having previously been the same as in most respectable American Academies and Colleges,) no sacrifice of the accommodations for ministerial students, and no expense for additional teachers, or College buildings. On the other hand, it added to the amount of tuition bills; to the number of patrons, and to the respectability of the Institution, as a school of literature and science. Under this organization, the number of students reached its maximum, (viz: 239) in 1842.

But the Institution had not, hitherto, been empowered to confer degrees; for this purpose, therefore, it was obliged to depend on the courtesy of the Trustees of Columbian College, who, on application, were giving diplomas to such of our Classical students as had completed a full course of Collegiate studies.

In these circumstances, the Education Society petitioned the State Legislature for a University charter, and obtained it, 26th March 1846. By virtue of this instrument, the University is empowered to confer literary honors, degrees, and

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diplomas, its, literary and scientific department is subject to the visitation of the Regents of the University of the State of New York, and it is entitled to a share of State patronage.

The charter having been obtained, the relations, rights, and duties of the Board of the Education Society, and that of the University, were respectively defined in a compact between said Boards, and ratified by the Education Society in its 30th annual meeting.

In the first place, the compact reserves to the Education Society, the control of Theological Instruction, by requiring the University Board to appoint such Theological Professors only, as are nominated by the Society; and to remove from the Theological department, such Professors only, as the Society shall require to be removed. Secondly, said compact unites the Academic, the Collegiate, and the Theological Department in the same Institution, by empowering the University Board to appoint *all* the educators in the several departments, by making said Board responsible for the payment of their salaries, and by placing the several departments under the charge of one Faculty. The University Board is further required to make earnest and extended efforts for the collection of a sufficient endowment to invest and control the principal thereof, and to appropriate the income exclusively to the support of literary and scientific instruction in accordance with the University charter; and, moreover, to collect and deliver over to the Trustees of the Ed. Soc. S. N. Y., the sum of \$25,000 to be invested by them toward the establishment of adequate Theological Professorships.

To aid the University Board in sustaining, on the Society's premises, the requisite departments of instruction, the Education Society grants the use of its college edifices, library, and apparatus, to the University Board, promises, that its entire income from existing endowments for Theological educa-

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tion, including permanent funds already secured for the support of Professorships, and any hereafter to be collected, shall be paid into the University treasury, and engages to place all its beneficiaries (candidates for the ministry) at the said University, and pay, for their instruction, the ordinary Bills of Tuition. The Education Society reserves a sufficient number of rooms free of rent, for the accommodation of its beneficiaries, and the control of the principal of all endowments of Theological Professorships; and it has the right to reclaim said property and income thus granted, and to free itself from said compact, by giving to the University Trustees two years' notice of its purpose, and of its reasons for the intended dissolution.

In view of the liberal patronage and facilities afforded by the Education Society, and in the reasonable hope of legislative grants and of donations from the friends of sound learning and an enlightened gospel ministry, there could be little doubt that the University could succeed, on the one hand, in satisfying the compact with the Trustees of the Education Society, and, on the other, in giving to young men in general, who enter on and complete its instituted literary and scientific course of studies, an education so liberal and thorough, as to secure the approval of the Regents of the University of the State of New York.

In fact, the organization and arrangements for the instruction of young men in general, and for theological students, in particular, were now reckoned complete; the standard of instruction was elevated, the number of students was respectable; the Institution debt was gradually reduced from \$28,000, to \$11,500; and, by reason of the judicious and convenient division of labors and distribution of responsibilities, made practicable by the University charter, still greater efficiency, and still better results were confidently expected.

CHAPTER II.

Immediate Consequences of an attempt to remove Madison University to Rochester. The Recuperative Energy of M. U. and its Condition and Prospects in 1851. Elements of the Stability and Prosperity of the Institution.

But the prosperity of the Society and its University was destined to be much hindered from an unexpected quarter. In the autumn of 1847, there commenced a series of efforts to remove Madison University from the village of Hamilton to the city of Rochester. These efforts were continued during nearly three years, nor did they entirely cease, until restrained by legal decisions, and the influence of brethren importunate for peace. During the removal controversy, the income of the Society was diminished, its debt increased, and its affairs in general, much depressed. Many of the students quit the University; according to the Annual Catalogues, their number was reduced from 216 to 140; but, actually, in the summer session of 1850, there were less than 80 students prosecuting their studies at the University, and, at the close of this session, five members of the Faculty, a majority of the Trustees of Madison University, and the principal Agent of the Baptist Ed. Soc. S. N. Y., resigned their places and went to Rochester, to aid in establishing a *new* University, and drew after them about one-half of the Madison University students. There remained in Madison University, only two Professors and 36 students.

This allusion to the removal controversy, is not made to afford an occasion for either censuring or approving the parties concerned. It must, indeed, be equally injurious both to Madison University and to the seceders to detract anything from the reputation of the latter, for it is well known, that four of the five educators, who withdrew, had gained their entire reputation for teaching, while connected with the old Institu-



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tion at Hamilton. We would, therefore, candidly say, to the credit of both, that what Madison University has done for them, it can do for others, and what they have done for it, they can do for Rochester.

While, however, we entertain a high respect for the very worthy brethren who have left us, we have none at all for the opinion that all hope of Madison University,—nay, the University itself has fled with four or five educators. Whatever may have been the origin of such an opinion, it seems hardly possible, that many good men could adopt or express it, except through lack of consideration. Gratitude to God, the Author of good gifts, and a decent respect for the Baptists of New England and New York, bar the propagation of such an opinion. It seems to us to require nothing more than ordinary freedom from undue partiality, and prejudice—nothing more than the ordinary exercise of good sense and candor, in order to discover and admit as a moral certainty, that were all the officers now belonging both to Madison and to Rochester University, to quit at once, within one year from the date of their resignations, these Universities would be seen officered with talented, learned, pious, faithful, and efficient educators, and that too, without exhausting this kind of treasures possessed by the Baptist denomination. Nor is it to be overlooked, that a prosperous Literary and Theological Institution, which a numerous body of enlightened christians have founded, and, for thirty years, have been engaged in building, must, of course, be constructed of a great *abundance* and *variety* of appropriate materials.

But the allusion to the fact of the secession, is made in order to account for an extraordinary change in the condition of the Education Society, and to indicate fairly the stability and recuperative energy of the University.

In view of the extraordinary vantage ground, strength, zeal,

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and perseverance of those engaged in the recent fruitless effort to remove Madison University, we take occasion to say, that no human power can remove it; its stability is like that of the everlasting hill on which its edifices are founded.

In proof of its recuperative energy, we adduce the plain facts, that within less than two years from the time of its suffering the loss of patrons, agents, trustees, and educators, in number, wealth, talents and attainments, competent to found and sustain a new and respectable University, the same original Institution stands forth on a strengthened pecuniary basis, its amount of property having been more than doubled; its number of students more than tripled; its department of Natural History enlarged and much improved; its several departments completely officered; its buildings in a good degree, repaired and cleansed; in short, having its condition on the whole, actually better than at any previous period of its history, and its prospects brightening in the Divine favor.

Some of the means contributing to the extraordinary vigor and energy of this Institution, were seen to be operative in its early history, promoting its growth and hastening it to a profitable maturity. Our limits will admit only a partial recital of these means, not entirely excluding, however, such as have been added or modified by experience: A healthy climate, a beautiful and permanent location, the remarkable cheapness of goods, fuel, rent, provisions, and the consequent very low price of board,* the hospitality and generosity, the good manners and morals of the inhabitants in general, and their almost universal regard for the University, as the *chief ornament and*

*It is the opinion of competent judges, that Dry-Goods and Groceries, owing to low rents, wages, fuel, and board, are cheaper at Hamilton than they are retailed in the city of New York. In the best private families and Hotels, the highest price of board is \$2, with use of rooms; at the University Boarding Hall, good board is provided for \$1.25 a week, including lodging and washing.

See Annual Catalogue of Madison University for 1851-2.

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strength of the village in which it is embosomed; the common sense and economy, union of prayers, and benefactions in its management and support; and in view of the condition of most of the students when initiated, and the great field of labor to which most of them are destined after graduation, it has been expressed, for years, as the common belief, that no place can be named, better adapted to render their habits and manners such as they ought to possess, in order to enter, with advantage, on the active duties of life.

It has enhanced the recuperative energy of this Institution, that its *relative* action has been of a friendly character, provoking no harmful opposition to crush it in the hour of adversity. No reasonable complaint has ever been made against this, by kindred Institutions, for intrenching on their rights, for making arrogant and invidious comparisons, luring away their students, or, in any manner, hindering their prosperity.

It has fervently prayed for others, as for itself, and by honest labors, it has, under the Divine favor, *created* for itself its own patronage.

Again, though a considerable number of its former patrons and friends, have turned away, to build another University in the State of New York, yet a large body of freemen, well known for their industry and thrift, their common sense, piety, and liberality, remain to pray and labor, and, if need be, to suffer for the good old Institution at Hamilton; and it would indeed be very strange if there were not eminent contributors to the life and prosperity of the University among her fifteen hundred foster sons, who, during a longer or shorter time, were nurtured in her bosom, and of whom there may be reckoned, besides Tutors, and Principals of Academies and High Schools, four Presidents and fourteen Professors in Colleges, forty-one Eastern Missionaries, and a far greater number of Western; and more than one thousand gospel ministers. Of these, we



have the happiness to know, and thank God for it, that many are proving themselves faithful to their Alma Mater, and worthy to inherit her lasting blessing, added to the outfit of intellectual and moral wealth and power received, at her hand, under the virtual promise on their part, of remembering her and hers in their prayers, and of honoring her by their devotion to the cause of God and truth.

Madison University has still another numerous and yet increasing class of helpers: we mean those who rejoice in the existence of two Universities in the Empire State, to be sustained chiefly by Baptist patronage. Some of this class, with a generosity modified by their location and circumstances, *pray* for both and *work* for only *one*, while others of the same noble class are so favored of God, as to have hearts and means sufficiently large to enable their happy possessors to second their prayers, by their donations in *support* of *both* Institutions.

In order to disclose more fully the recuperative energy of Madison University, it is necessary to allude to a considerable number of its constant friends, who precipitated themselves into measures seeming to *imply*, at least, the *right* to remove the Institution.

This error was committed by some of these individuals, from their being confident of success in fulfilling the specified conditions on which M. U. was to be permitted to remain undisturbed, at Hamilton; by others who were influenced by a strong desire to end an unhappy and ruinous controversy; and by a still greater number, who, for the time being, overlooked the uncompromising sentinels, viz: equity and law, placed, by Divine Providence, to secure the will of the founders and patrons of the Institution against violation.

But these same individuals having honestly recovered from their awkward predicament, are *now* exercising due regard to *the design of the founders and patrons* relative to the site of



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the Institution, as clearly indicated by the plain and valid contract for its permanent location, by the application of the Education Society for the charter of a University to be maintained on the Society's premises, by the style of sundry grants and bequests, by the terms of the recent compact between the Board of the Education Society, and that of the University, and by the explicit decisions of jurists of unquestionable ability and candor. Hence, these same friends believing it wrong to separate the departments of the University, or to remove it entire, and wrong to suffer it to decline in its appropriate location, and stimulated with the recollection of the loss occasioned by their error, are exerting themselves like Christian men determined to raise Madison University even to a higher point than that from which it has been depressed, and that too, on the very foundations laid for it at Hamilton, and here to leave it to their posterity to be improved and sustained during all coming time.

CHAPTER III.

Specification of Property for the Support and Use of the Institution. Recent Subscription for the Endowment of the University. Length of Time during which the Professors have been engaged in the business of Instruction, and their present devotion to their appropriate duties. Conditions on which the Continuance of the Divine Aid and Blessing to be expected.

For the satisfaction of those who have already patronized the B. E. S. State of New York, and Madison University, and for the encouragement of those whose favor is yet to be solicited, we copy from the Society's printed Report, the following general statement of property belonging to the Ed. Soc., and annex to it a brief account of a Permanent Fund subscription intended for the support of instruction in Madison University.

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[These estimates were carefully made by a judicious Committee of Investigation, duly appointed:]

2 College Edifices, (100 by 60, and 100 by 56, 4 stories each)	\$15,000
2 Professors' Houses,	2,800
1 Cottage Edifice, (containing Lecture and Rec. Rooms,)	700
1 Boarding-House and fixtures,	4,000
University Grounds, (90 acres)	4,500
Furniture for Rooms,	1,200
Institution Library,	8000
Philosophical Apparatus,	1,500
Missionary Library and Museum,	2,058
Adelphian Soc. Library	896
Æonian, " " "	2,036
Lots in the city of Buffalo,	1,500
Wild Lands, (690 acres)	690
2 Houses and Lots,	400
Bank Stock,	5,500
Due on Mortgages, Bonds, Legacies and Notes,	9,260
" Scholarships,	7,000
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	\$67,040
Deduct on account of Institution Debts,	11,500
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Net value of property belonging to the B. E. S. S. N. Y.,	\$55,540

The Committee estimated the Institution *Society* Libraries at \$2,500 but they are found to be worth \$4,990 and are so reckoned above.

A considerable sum is due to the Ed. Soc. on Subscriptions and Notes not included in the preceding statement.

Since the Spring of 1850, the Trustees of M. U. have succeeded in procuring, for the endowment of the Literary and Scientific Institution under their care, voluntary subscriptions amounting to about \$70,000, one-fourth of which is already due, and the proper officers are engaged in collecting and investing it. Additions are to be made to this subscription.

We subjoin, for the information of those who have not received a Catalogue of our current Academic year, the following list of Officers, composing our present Board of Instruction :

MADISON UNIVERSITY—THEOLOGICAL DEPARTMENT.

Rev. G. W. EATON, D. D., Prof. Biblical Theology and Inst. in Ecc. History,	<i>Elected.</i> Aug. 1850
Rev. E. TURNER, A. M., Prof. of Bib. Crit. & Interp.	" 1850

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LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC DEPARTMENT.

S. W. TAYLOR, LL. D., President, and Prof. Math. and Nat. Phil. The Pres't now gives instruction in Int. and Moral Phil.	Feb. 1851
Rev. GEO. W. EATON, D. D., Prof. Int. and Mor. Phil. Dr. E. instructs in Civil History,	" 1850
Rev. E. TURNER, A. M. Prof. Evidences of Rev'd Religion,	" 1850
Rev. P. B. SPEAR, A. M., Prof. Heb. and Latin Lang.,	Aug. 1850
E. S. GALLUP, A. M., Prof. Gr'k Lang. and Lit.,	Oct. 1850
Rev. A. M. BEEBEE, Jr. A.M., Prof. Logic and Eng. Lit.,	Aug. 1850
LUCIAN OSBORN, A. M., Principal Acad. Department and Adj. Prof. Mathematics,	Oct. 1851
WM. MATHER, M. D., Prof. Chemistry, Geology and Mineralogy,	" 1851

We invite the attention of those who wish to understand the real state and condition of Madison University, to the fact, that the present numbers of its Board of Instruction are not destitute of the advantages of experience. The President has been a systematic and practical educator during 39 years; Dr. EATON, 25; Prof. SPEAR, 14; Prof. GALLUP, 10; Prof. OSBORN, 8; Prof. TURNER,* 1; Prof. BEEBEE, 3; and Prof. MATHER has been giving instruction in Chemistry and Natural History not less than 24 years.

For the benefit of candid inquirers after information, we, likewise, add, that in the Literary and Scientific Department there has been made no recent change in the course of studies, except to elevate and improve it; that in the Theological Department, without omission or abridgement, instruction in the full course, is, faithfully, administered; and, that the Father of Mercies in Whom is all our strength, is enabling the educators to carry into effect their unanimous and settled resolution to perform the duties of their respective Professorships, with a punctuality, a zeal, and a fidelity never surpassed in this Institution.

*Prof. TURNER, immediately after accomplishing his course of studies at the Hamilton Literary and Theological Institution, entered the ministry, and regularly discharged the duties of the Pastoral office, during 9 years.

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While we are sure that God will never suffer the wind to blow away an Institution of such attributes and strength of character as He has been pleased to give to this, yet we cannot expect the continuance of the Divine aid and blessing except through the continuance of most earnest prayer, the strictest economy, and our utmost efforts; in no other way, are we to expect to sustain beneficiaries, and pay the teachers' salaries, as there has not yet been time to collect and place at interest, anything more than a small portion of the subscription to the permanent fund. It should, likewise, be borne in mind, that in consideration of the use of property afforded to the University by the Education Board, and not otherwise compensated, the compact requires the University to collect in voluntary contributions as soon as possible, the sum of \$25000 and pay it over to the Treasurer of the B. E. Soc. of the State of New York, to be invested by said Soc. for the endowment of Theological Professorships. It still requires \$5000 to complete the proposed Alumni fund of \$10,000, and \$5000 to fill the intended subscription of \$75000 for the support of literary and scientific instruction.

CHAPTER IV.

Notice of Dr. NATHANIEL KENDRICK's Departure. Brief Analysis of his Character as especially connected with the Hamilton Literary and Theological Institution.

On the 11th of Sept. A. D. 1848, the death of the Rev. NATHANIEL KENDRICK, D. D., clothed Madison University in deep mourning. It had previously lost many sensible, pious, and beneficent friends; but never one of its Instructors.*

*The recent death of Prof. WHITMAN will receive due notice in the next Annual Report of the Education Board.



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Though the complete biography of this great and good man, is expected from an abler pen, yet it would be inexcusable in us, not to afford room in this epitome, for the mention of those points 'in Dr. KENDRICK's character which bore most intimately and effectively, on the Institution to whose interests he devoted his giant powers during the last 30 years of his life.

In order to appreciate the Dr.'s worth to our Seminary of learning, we must include, in the estimate, his private virtues, through whose every-day contact, he communicated his own spirit to those with whom he associated, and constantly fostered in them, the elements of character, which were adapted to secure correct and harmonious social action. These virtues were unimpeachable veracity and justice; charity and candor; benevolence and christian courtesy; sound discretion, consummate prudence, and practical wisdom.

Besides these, we ought, particularly, to mention his customary deliberation. Nothing could make him hurry. He inquired diligently, and then listened with impartial and patient attention, to whatever could be urged *for* or *against* any proposed measure which it was his duty to consider. Hence, the superficial and hasty were liable to mistake his views and assign positions to him, without his consent. The time wasted by the precipitate in forming and changing their purposes and conclusions, he spent in deliberate and thorough investigation, but when he once reached a conclusion, *that was finished*, and he was free for action. Though to strangers, he, at first, seemed slow, yet it is well known to his co-workers that he accomplished an unprecedented amount of work in a given time. His deliberation saved him from retracing his steps, and secured to him consistency and constant progress. When fully prepared, he moved with more than ordinary expedition and power. All that he promised to do, was done well and in due season.

But the great strength of his character was in God.

He was strong in faith, a man of prayer. He asked, expected, received, and heeded God's direction. His principles were Bible principles, and most judiciously applied. Hence, his well-known stability, and his firmness of purpose.

He had, withal, a compassionate and generous heart. When he saw the millions of our race perishing in their sins, he wept. He read, with a resistless force of felt obligation, the Divine command to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," and he lamented over the fewness and feebleness of those prepared to obey the command. But miracles having ceased, he was convinced, that men, though called of God to preach His gospel, and willing to obey, must, by thorough instruction and diligent study, be made to understand the substance of their message, and the appropriate method of communication. Wherefore, *he drank deeply into the spirit of ministerial education.* He, among the first 13, conceived it to be the will of Providence to found a Seminary at Hamilton for the very purpose of mustering and training pious young men called to the ministry of the gospel.

Possessed of such a character and entertaining such views, Dr. KENDRICK must needs inquire of the Lord, as to personal duty, and at the distinct bidding of his Divine Master, "follow me," promptly dedicate his body and soul to the cares and labors of the Hamilton Literary and Theological Institution. He, with his associates, observed and faithfully followed the leadings of Providence in the pious enterprise; and, after the well-defined organization which took place, in 1837, he regarded the object, the location, and the general plan of the school, as approved of Heaven; and, thenceforth, he, manfully and perseveringly, resisted all material changes. He deemed nothing too hard for him to do or suffer, in the good cause which he had espoused, and in which he was sure of Divine aid. Accordingly, winter after winter, and before the dawn of day, his faith hastened him to the Institution chapel for

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prayer with his pupils. He punctually, at every appointed hour, met them in the recitation and lecture-room, and conducted their exercises, with a thoroughness and zeal evincing the great strength of his intellect, and of his love to God and to man.

With the same alacrity and intensity of effort, as an agent, he exposed himself to countless hardships, and, as Corresponding Secretary, trimmed the midnight lamp. Forgetting himself and his private interests, both at home and abroad, in the social circle and in the solemn assembly, before God and before man, as long as health lasted, he thought and worked and plead for his beloved Institution.

But we are next to contemplate the strong man prostrate by the afflicting hand of Providence, and placed at the threshold of eternity, physically, helpless as an infant, yet, spiritually, increasing in strength from the invigorating breath and the fresh unction of the Holy One.


The members of the University are attracted to his room, and proffer their services as watchers, and accept his invitation to attend, with him, a few at a time, a Sabbath prayer-meeting. They are thus brought, with no formality or disguise between, near to this man of God; and while, by their generous faithfulness, under the favor of Heaven, they are contributing to the length of the Dr.'s life, they are receiving in return, no transient blessing for themselves and the *Institution*.

During successive days and nights, his pain continues excruciating, and he is sleepless except under the influence of the most powerful anodynes; yet, not a murmur escapes his lips, his Godly conversation is uninterrupted, his heart beats on with christian fortitude, and he continues to praise God for His goodness. Yes, in reply to anguished hearts craving for *his* relief, a portion of his bodily sufferings, he has grace to say,


with a smile : I have no pain to spare ; it is all an inalienable gift from my Heavenly Father Who is infinitely wise and kind, and I need the undivided use of it, in order to finish the preparation for my exit. The young men witness all this. He whispers to them of what Jesus is doing for his soul, and exhibits the unveiled actings of christian faith and love and hope. When in health, he taught in well chosen words, the great principles of Christianity, their practical application, and their historical and promised results. But now he makes manifest the *actual* results. His attendants behold concentrated, in an individual, the very facts of christianity, demonstrating its power to sustain the human soul amid the wreck of the physical constitution. They gain a deeper insight into the mystery of Godliness ; they are inspired with a stronger confidence in the gospel of Christ, and their hearts glow with a holier zeal to practice and preach it, as long as they live.

But this is not all. During three whole years, prostrate, on a bed of pain, he continued to write and pray for the University; and when his *own hand* could no longer guide his pen, his mighty mind and heart, in all their soundness and strength, ceased not from their pious toil, but through the cheerful aid of an accomplished and assiduous *amanuensis*, he dispatched his affectionate, earnest, and astonishingly successful messages to his brethren, soliciting their sympathy and prayers, together with their contributions to defray current expenses, and establish a permanent fund for the support of instruction.

Finally, when in the dark hour of extreme peril, he saw his friends in whose ability and faithfulness he had long been accustomed to confide, quitting the old Institution by scores for a new interest, and, especially, when he saw among the seceders several, who, through, his own choice and personal influence, had been promoted to the most important stations in the gift of the Education Board, he gazed intently on the mys-



HISTORICAL SKETCH OF



terious change which Providence was permitting, and, for the moment, was painfully anxious and perplexed. His frail clay quaked beneath his burdened and agitated mind. How could those cherished friends quit an interest which had never disappointed the faithful laborer of an abundance of fruits to God's glory! And yet, he uttered against them not one bitter word of reproach; he thought and spoke of the *strange facts only*. Soon, however, his christian patience and meekness, so severely tested, shone forth with unwonted lustre. He saw through the parting cloud, the controlling hand of his Father in Heaven, and he was resigned. Nay, he took courage on his dying bed, and consecrated the little remainder of his physical strength to aid a chosen friend in framing a circular to be addressed to New York Baptists, beseeching them to rally, to hasten to the rescue, and pledge themselves anew to the continued support of the school at Hamilton; and *this he confidently believed and asserted there were yet many willing to do*. But, alas, his worn out body was destined to the grave, ere that circular could be prepared—his earthly service to his favorite "School of the Prophets" was ended in a fervent and (as we trust) *effectual* prayer to His Heavenly Father, to save the dear Institution from change of place and change of purpose, and brighten it again and forever with His smile.—— No sooner had the High priest of Heaven presented the last prayer of this man of God, than the pure and earnest spirit that had uttered it, was in Paradise with his ever blessed Redeemer.

In his relations to Madison University, such was the man whose death we record. Of such, in part, are the materials of which our University has been constructed—materials which the waves of time shall never wash away. Centuries hence, whoever will examine that noble monument to the glory of God and the salvation of sinners, shall find in the foundations, placed at the corner, a large block of granite inscribed by the

MADISON UNIVERSITY.

Divine Architect: "APPROVED." On the reverse, in the same marked style, he shall read: "NATHANIEL KENDRICK."

In conclusion, the subscribers would, gratefully, acknowledge the honor conferred on them of representing those of their brethren and fellow-citizens who feel constrained to exert themselves in support of Madison University, which, being providentially, equitably, and permanently established at Hamilton, they cannot abandon without doing violence to their own consciences, disregarding the will and expectation of its founders and former patrons, impairing the reputation of its alumni, disappointing the churches of well-qualified pastors, withholding the light and bread of life from the benighted and famishing heathen, and provoking, by their ingratitude and distrust, the rebuke of their Heavenly Father, Who, ever cherishing their hope and trust in Him, has, signally, met their prayers and labors with well-timed and abundant blessings.

While thus engaged, they crave and expect the sympathy and prayers, and hope to be cheered, encouraged, and aided by the kind wishes, the counsel, and patronage of the friends of God and of man.

WILLIAM COBB,

Pres't of the Board of Trustees of B. E. S. S. N. Y.

HENRY TOWER,

Pres't of the Board of Trustees of Mad. University.

STEPHEN W. TAYLOR,

Pres't of Madison University.



