

youth. That Institution, which a few years ago commenced its operations in a contracted room of an old dilapidated barn house, with a single preceptor and a few children, has become, not only a flourishing Academy with competent instructors, but has really gained the respectable standing of a chartered College, sustained by excellent Professors, with a promising train of diligent students. This Institution, like a flourishing tree, planted by a skilful hand, near a living stream, has taken deep root, and has spread its branches widely, beneath which many are enjoying a healthful shade, and are plucking precious fruit. Under the religious influence exerted at that Institution, in conjunction with the pious efforts of the Church of God in that place, one happy revival of religion has succeeded another, until, glory to God in the highest, the names and numbers of the hopeful converts can no longer be told. Those converts, wherever their lot may be cast, will doubtless be instrumental in the conversion of others, who, in their turn, will recommend religion to ages yet unborn. And as the gentle rivulet, issuing from the mountain top, is augmented by tributary streams to a mighty torrent, carrying onward every obstruction in its rapid progress to the ocean; so the salutary influence of that Institution may be augmented tenfold in revolving years, from generation to generation, until the heavens be no more. But whilst we raise our hearts to God, and offer the tribute which gratitude demands; and whilst we congratulate ourselves for having accomplished even more than we anticipated, let us not, in the overflowing of our joy, forget that the tree which has been planted and watered with prayers and tears and many contributions, still requires cultivation, or the chilling winds of adversity, if they do not eradicate it, may at least retard its growth, and render it less productive. In the promotion of education, as well as every other good work, perseverance is essentially requisite. If, through any tardiness on our part; or if from any rash and unguarded step, we should fall from the eminence to which we have attained, let us most assuredly know, that fall would involve us in consequences most fearful. Not only should we fall under the infamy of violating our pledges to the public, in failing to accomplish what we had undertaken—not only should we deprive this dark portion of the globe of one essential source of light,—but whilst we should expose ourselves to perpetual degradation, we should envelope our offspring in an impenetrable cloud of darkness. From other hands they would be doomed to receive laws, which would be rigidly enforced by those whose religious, moral, and political principles they might detest. Their spiritual guides, though indeed possessing real piety, would be compelled to retire from many a field of usefulness, and from every sphere of influence, to give place to others, who, though profound in human attainments, might be far less worthy of the sacred office. Deprive us of that Seminary now when the rest of mankind are regarding the claims of education—when our youth are ambitious of improvement—when our schools are desolate for want of teachers—when men of erudition are required in so many departments—when you yourselves are asking for an educated ministry—when millions of Heathens are calling for missionaries: and you thereby deprive us of the very life-blood of our denominational existence. Whither, then, O whither should we go; and to whom on earth should we look? Deprive us of that Institution, and you destroy the very fountain whence must proceed those invigorating streams for which you are loudly pleading. And strange as it may appear to every person of reflection, there are to be found amongst us those who are so inconsistent as to demand well qualified teachers for their children, and who approve of an educated ministry, and who prefer enlightened legislators, but who

have not the slightest advantages are to be masters of Pharaoh, forced to furnish straw for our enemies, w Egypt, will scarcely obtain knowledge, temptible denomination deprived of our Sem shall have scattered t Surely then, beloved come by such a hand, to gain such a tion to our ability, a the first place, it has Institution, similar in, letely identified with afford us delight, nor place, it claims our pr monstrations that God besides knowing the o, mplished, we have must be sustained by y and endowments. Th the Institution exists out, if we are rightly amply by tuition fees; moderate appropriation; ous in high places; tributions. It is very c em, which may be purp enses of the establishm expence per year, from ven recommended as th ful sum; which appropri whilst the more wealthy required to advance m should not such a syste measure be more equita ness. How without syst ense revenues? Are y is essential to church n ately a pauper, pay ann fund of their Society. minister, and their subs on of meeting houses, t and to every other moral which money is required. demands a reasonable pro previously disposed by th tely required for usefuln red brethren, devolves wards, of sustaining at t diligent circumstances, w throughout our own land, of young men are requir iving the requisite inte