

thetic nature which he possesses, which would have won attachment as well as respect, and would have infused into the breasts of the young the same living fire which burns in his own ardent generous spirit, I have not the shadow of a doubt that, by his appointment to this chair, such a new era should have been ushered in. It has not been without a pang of very bitter regret that those who cherish that assurance have seen the hope of its being realized so suddenly depart.

I am, &c., WM. HANNA.

AID TO PIOUS YOUNG MEN.—WASHINGTON'S EXAMPLE.

We quote the following letter from Spark's writings of Washington.

"Mt. Vernon, Jan. 29. 1769.

"To Rev. Wm. Ramsay,

DEAR SIR—Having once or twice of late heard you speak of the New Jersey College, as if you had a desire to send your son William there, (who, I hear is a youth fond of study and instruction, and disposed to a studious life, in following which he may not only promote his happiness, but the future welfare of others,) I would be glad, if you have no other objection than the expense, if you would send him to that College as soon as convenient, and depend on me for £25 a year for his support, as long as may be necessary for the completion of his education. If I live to see the accomplishment of his term, the sum here stipulated shall be annually paid; and if I die in the meantime, this letter shall be obligatory upon my heirs and executors to do it, according to the true intent and meaning hereof. No other return is expected or desired for this, than that you will accept it with the same freedom and good-will with which it is made, and that you will not even consider it in the light of an obligation, or mention it as such; for be assured from me it will never be known."

Yours, &c.,

GEORGE WASHINGTON."

This letter, like everything else from the pen of Washington, reveals his characteristic practical wisdom and nobleness of heart. In every community young men may be found who are gifted and worthy. If a little timely assistance were rendered them, they might become an honour to their patrons, and a blessing to the world. Many of our best men, in Church and State, have been educated solely or partly at the expense of discerning and sympathizing friends.

Are there not many of our readers who might greatly increase their own happiness, and be useful on a very large scale, by imitating the example of Washington in the case referred to above? We are aware that some of the readers of this paper have long acted on this principle; we are personally acquainted with instances where young men have been assisted in the outset of their educational struggles, and where embarrassed young pastors have had their libraries liberally furnished through the kindness and consideration of wealthy individuals. All praise to these generous men and women. But are there not many with ample fortunes who have hitherto overlooked this field of usefulness? Almost every one may find pious youth with talent, worthy of such benevolent regard; and we are sure that if patronage is judiciously bestowed, the reward of the patron will neither be small nor uncertain. Did not the merchant who educated, at his own expense, the poor and friendless Scotch boy, Claudius Buchanan, both reap an abundant reward for himself, and confer an unspeakable blessing on India and the world?

But here let us say a word to the young men, whose cause we love, now and then, to plead at the gates of the rich. Do not be disheartened. If poor, do not think your case a hopeless one. Shun, as you would the plague, a cringing, dependent spirit. If wealthy friends help you, very well; if not, be persuaded that, ordinarily, with the blessing of heaven, there is no insurmountable barrier in the way of a most thorough education. Your difficulties may be many and great, but in the end they may be found your best schools and schoolmasters. We say deliberately, that when a young man in these days expresses his desire for a collegiate and professional education, but shrinks from the undertaking, on account of poverty, we think he must either lack the will, or the brains. With average ability and the divine blessing, which is necessary to success in every case, "there is no difficulty to him who wills." Economy, industry, energy, and persistence will overcome all obstacles. Young men of piety and noble aspirations, be not discouraged at an empty purse. That barrier can be honourably removed by your own hand.—Preacher.