242 THE SCHOOL OF THE PROPHETS.

cumulated wealth; for the good reason that he has received but little, and has been but poorly skilled in keeping and husbanding that little. Being thought to be a humble man, Stewards and Committees have made him but humble appropriations. They took him to be so etherial as to need little material good. He has had an Oliver Goldsmith weakness for giving away to worthless applicants : his judgment usually suggested prudence, but his charitable and sympathetic feelings overcame his judgment. His wastefulness on designing knaves of what himself, his family, and worthier objects should have had, has been a sin before God; but it is to be hoped, as this "failing leaned to virtue's side," that while the compassionate recording angel registered each successive fault, he may have let fall a tear which blotted out the entry, so that it cannot be deciphered. Certain bodily infirmities, want of dignity, and want of capacity, have prevented his filling the highest positions in the gifts of his brethren, albeit he has not been by constitution indifferent to such expressions of confidence. As to the people, he has always been a liberal interpreter of Methodist law, and the steady supporter of all measures for advancing lay influence in the connexion; but he has always found, that the laity give the greatest honor to those who hold them most in check, and who merely make a merit of necessity, taking credit for a progressive measure when it can no longer be withheld, and who vault into the saddle and take-the management of the new steed when he is harnessed.

STEE UNIVERSITY LITERA