

improvement and happiness. But as these teachers mused on the subject, often would the inquiry arise, How shall the blessings of our institution be perpetuated? Often, when the labors of the day were ended, and the silence of evening was broken only by the whip-poor-will's song or the distant surf breaking on the shore, would they muse upon this question until the fire burned within them, and an irrepressible desire arose to do something more than they had done for placing the means of education permanently within the reach of the daughters of America — especially those whose pecuniary means are small, but to whom Providence has made up in mind what is wanting in money. As they cast their eyes over the land, though colleges and universities met them at almost every step, not a single permanent female seminary could be found. In many places, such schools had risen up and become distinguished while some able teacher was at their head; but as soon as she was gone, the glory of the institution departed. Their own would probably share the same fate. Already did the occasional sinking of nature, under their arduous labors, remind them that those labors must soon forever cease. But could an institution like theirs be moderately endowed by a benevolent public, so that rooms, and apparatus, and books should be gratuitously furnished, the same system of instruction might pass from teacher to teacher through successive generations. After long deliberation and much prayer, one of these teachers resolved to consecrate herself for the remainder of life, if necessary, to carry this plan into effect. The other has not, indeed, been permitted to build the temple; but it was not because, like David, she was unfit, but because an enfeebled constitution has compelled her to retire from the arduous duties of public instruction; though I am happy to say that