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EUGENE C. CALDWELL, *Editor-in-Chief*

F. E. MANNING, *Business Manager*

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J. C. WOOL, Asst. Business Manager

Each contributor is solely responsible for the views expressed in his article.

EDITORIAL NOTES

INDEX TO VOLUME XXXV.

The index to Volume xxxv of THE REVIEW has been printed in a separate folder and inserted in this issue. Published in this loose form, it may be pasted in at the end of No. 4 of Volume xxxv or bound together with the four numbers forming Volume xxxv—October, 1923, and January, April and July, 1924.

REPRINT OF THE LATE DR. B. B. WARFIELD'S ARTICLE.

The article on "The Millennium and the Apocalypse," by the late Dr. Warfield, which appeared in the October number of THE REVIEW, has been published in pamphlet form by the

used in the two other books. In this book of 400 pages, the subjects that were uppermost in the mind of Paul, subjects to which he devoted all the powers of his trained mind, are treated with an understanding of Paul that few students have.

These books have blessed the ministry of two generations of preachers. A safe prediction is they will enrich the ministry of future generations of preachers. They are the attempts of a profound student to set forth Christianity as its founder and His greatest interpreter conceived it. They deal with principles and doctrines that the pulpit cannot neglect and fulfil the divine commission.

JAMES SPRUNT, LL. D.

Address by Rev. W. W. Moore, D. D., LL. D., at the Memorial Service in Schauffler Hall, October 12, 1924.

ANCESTRY.

Alexander Sprunt, the father of Dr. James Sprunt, was born in Perthshire, Scotland, and educated in Edinburgh. After his graduation he went to the West Indies and became junior partner in the firm of Reid, Irving & Company, of London and Trinidad, off the coast of Venezuela. He had charge of the business of advancing supplies to the planters of the Spanish main and far up the Orinoco River. His sterling qualities were promptly recognized, and as early as 1841 he is spoken of as a merchant of high standing, a queen's commissioner or magistrate, and a ruling elder of the Presbyterian Church in Trinidad. When the British Parliament freed the slaves in the West Indies the planters were ruined, and the occupation of the merchants was gone. Having lost in this way all the property he had accumulated in his fourteen years there, he returned to Scotland, and after some ineffectual efforts to re-establish himself in the old country, he moved to North Carolina, whither his brother, Rev. James M. Sprunt, D. D., af-

terwards well known as pastor at Kenansville, as principal of Grove Academy, and as chaplain in the Confederate Army, had preceded him. Securing employment in Wilmington as an accountant and evincing quickly an extraordinary capacity for business, he had begun to mend his broken fortunes when the outbreak of the Civil War again brought him up short.

Meantime, on a visit to Scotland, while still at Trinidad, he had married Miss Jane Dalziel, a lady of rare intelligence and charm and exceptionally beautiful Christian character. They were blessed with a large family of sons and daughters, whose influence in the business world, the religious world and the home circle has had few parallels.

BOYHOOD.

One of these sons, the one in memory of whom we hold this service tonight, came to manhood in a troubled time. As a boy he had studied at various preparatory schools: one year at Glasgow, Scotland; one year under his uncle at Kenansville; four years at Jewett's Academy, Wilmington; one year at Col. Radcliffe's Military Academy and one year at Mr. Mengert's School—eight years in all—and being very apt, he had made excellent progress. But in his fourteenth year, under the pressure of circumstances, he was put to work with Worth & Daniel. This, however, was not allowed to arrest his education entirely. He attended night school under Professor Tallichet in French and English Literature, and also, as he had a desire to serve the State at sea, he studied navigation under Captain Levy, a former United States naval officer. From the time he was old enough to go with his father to his office he responded to the appeal of the sea. He was fascinated by the busy life that he watched from the window overlooking the harbor of Wilmington, where hundreds of vessels of all flags and nations discharged and loaded cargoes all day long and where he heard the uncouth cries of sailors from foreign lands, speaking in unknown tongues. His mother, from whom he inherited his extreme sensitiveness, understood perfectly not only his delicate constitution, but also his delicate thought and

fancy. She was the gentle intermediary between the somewhat austere but sterling character of the intensely practical Scotch father and the imaginative boy whom the whole world of romance beckoned from the harbor. It is not meant that there was any lack of practical qualities in his make-up. The fact is, he had in an intensive form that strangely blended Scotch temperament of vision and judgment, of poetry and hard-headed business sense. James Sprunt became one of the truly great business men of the age, but he was very far from being a mere business man.

"In his father's house every Scot who made the port was welcome. Their talk was all of foreign things and as broad as Her Majesty's wide dominion. The home conversation took all the family back to Trinidad, to Glasgow, to Edinburgh, to Arran off the coast of Scotland, to the highlands of song and story. The call of the world that lay beyond the sea made a mighty appeal to the imagination of James Sprunt and quickened his application to the study of the French language and to the mastery of naval science. He was being led imperceptibly but surely to that life which never lost its attraction for him."

SERVICE AFLOAT.

In the third year of the Civil War, at the age of seventeen, he took passage on a blockade runner to Bermuda, with the promise of a position on the *North Heath*, a vessel then building on the Clyde. When she arrived at Bermuda Captain Burroughs appointed him purser, but after sailing they encountered a terrific storm and narrowly escaped being shipwrecked and had to put back into Bermuda for repairs. There young Sprunt had a long spell of fever and the *North Heath* sailed without him; but a little later he was appointed purser of the steamer *Lilian*, and on this vessel "he passed through all the dangers and exciting experiences of a daring blockade runner."

The value of the service rendered to the South by these swift

and beautiful steamers that ran the blockade of the Carolina Coast can hardly be overstated. It was the Northern Navy more than anything else that brought about the final defeat of the Confederacy. At the beginning of hostilities the South did not possess a single ship of war, and her inability to buy or build an efficient navy proved irremediable and fatal. It was the blockade runners that enabled the South to continue the unequal conflict as long as she did. One of them, for instance, after a hair-breadth escape, delivered 900 barrels of gun-powder to the Confederates at Wilmington, and this ammunition was used afterwards by General Albert Sidney Johnston at the Battle of Shiloh. It was "this remarkable traffic (through the beleaguered city of Wilmington) which almost wholly sustained the Confederate States commissariat during the last two years of the war."

Among the official records of the war at Washington are the reports of the United States Steamship *Shenandoah*. Her log of July 30, 1864, off Cape Lookout, says, "Sighted a steamer burning black smoke to the eastward; made all sail in chase. At 4:30 P. M. made stranger out to be double smokestack sidewheel steamer, apparently a blockade runner, standing to the northward and westward. At 5:45 P. M. he showed rebel colors; called the first division and the powder division to quarters and began to fire at him with the 30 and 150-pounder rifle Parrott . . . At 8 P. M. stopped firing, gave up the chase, stopped engines." Of this record Dr. Sprunt wrote half a century afterwards: "This matter-of-fact entry, read at random from the official records of the war, stirs my blood, because I, then seventeen years of age, was purser of that blockade runner, and it was I who hoisted those rebel colors on that eventful day, fifty-five years ago, and thereby hangs a tale." Then follows the blood-stirring story of the *Lilian* loaded with powder for Lee's army; of her chase and bombardment by the *Shenandoah*, of the young purser's sensations as the hurtling shells passed only a few feet from his head, of the crippling of the *Lilian* by the bursting of one of her boilers, reducing her to a desperate condition, and apparently making her cap-

ture inevitable, of her wonderful escape by a clever expedient, and her safe arrival at Wilmington.

It requires some effort of the imagination to connect these perilous adventures in war with the personality of the quiet, courtly, silver-haired gentleman so vividly remembered by many of us as the leading citizen of Wilmington, but the qualities which made him a good soldier of his country sixty years ago are the same qualities which in the piping times of peace gave him the pre-eminent position which he held in the business world, in social life, and in religious activities—honored and beloved on every hand, North and South, as patriot, scholar, philanthropist and man of God.

On the third outward voyage the *Lilian* was chased, bombarded for five hours, disabled and captured, and James Sprunt, sharing the fate of his associates, became a prisoner of war and was confined for some time in a casemate of Fort Macon. In company with Pilot J. W. Craig he escaped from prison and they made their way to Halifax, Nova Scotia. Attempting to return to North Carolina, he was shipwrecked on Green Turtle Cay in the Bahamas, and it was eight months before he got back home to his anxious parents. His last service afloat in the war was as purser of the Confederate steamer *Susan Beirne*, of which Eugene Maffitt was chief officer, and he continued on this blockade runner until the fall of Fort Fisher.

THE FOUNDING OF THE FIRM.

After the war Mr. Alexander Sprunt and his son James, who was then nineteen years old, established a small commission business on South Water Street in Wilmington. The determining factor in this venture was five bales of cotton, all that remained of twenty-four bales which James Sprunt had taken in exchange for some sugar in which he had invested all his earnings as purser. These twenty-four bales had been sent up the country for safety, but they were caught in the zone of the ravages of the great incendiary, Sherman, whose raiders burnt twelve of the bales. Seven of the rest were stolen. With

great difficulty five bales were saved, and after the surrender they were sold for cash at 48 cents a pound. With the proceeds the firm of Alexander Sprunt & Son was founded in 1865-66, and although, like others, it has suffered the vicissitudes of changing conditions, it has successfully weathered business storms, repaired disasters and surmounted difficulties. Always adhering to the principles of its wise and righteous founder and his two like-minded sons, it has under their masterful direction prospered, continually increasing in wealth and reputation until it has attained a unique position in the business world.

FOREIGN CONNECTIONS.

Soon after the war Mr. Alexander Sprunt made a trip on which he effected the arrangements by which the modest business began to deal direct with ports in Great Britain instead of through New York agencies, and that visit of his paved the way for the trip made by his son James a few years later. On this trip James was absent five months and he spent in that time only \$450. He went to Europe on a third-class passage, but, on the other hand, he always put up at the best hotels for the sake of being thrown with the kind of people whom he wished to cultivate. Being more adventurous than his father, he went over to the continent, to Holland, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland, seeking other business connections. During these five months he was enlarging his information, studying conditions, making acquaintances and meeting incidentally important people "who seemed always to take a fancy to the keen-faced, red-headed young Scot doing business in America. During the seventies and the early years of the eighties his business life was a monotonous grind of clerical duties on a small salary." His father said that if James had insisted upon marrying before he was thirty-six the firm could never have been established, because at no time in those frugal years could they have afforded greater expenditures in living. He and his father did all the work.

In his twenty-fourth year, in 1870, he united with the

First Presbyterian Church, and in 1873 he was made a deacon, and with this office came also the responsibility of serving as church treasurer.

Thus the seventies were full years, packed with business development, with far travel, with intimate association with the best minds personally and through books, and the assuming of religious duties tactfully fostered by Dr. Joseph R. Wilson, former professor in Hampden-Sidney College, later pastor at Staunton, Va., and professor in Columbia Seminary, and then pastor of the church at Wilmington, whose son Woodrow was an intimate friend of the Sprunts. Dr. Wilson saw deep into the possibilities of the gifted young men of his congregation like James Sprunt, Edwin A. Alderman, and his own son, of whom he used to say, "I expect Woodrow will be President some day." Of James Sprunt he seemed to expect a great deal in the business and religious world.

THE LOSS OF HIS FOOT AND HIS SYMPATHY WITH CRIPPLES.

In 1882 occurred the accident which gave him his great handicap and influenced strongly his outlook on life. He was driving with his youngest sister Jeanie (Mrs. J. A. Holmes) to the Sound when the horse became frightened and ran away. Mrs. Holmes was thrown out, but not seriously injured. James got his foot entangled in the buckling of the reins, and in the accident which followed his foot was crushed. He was taken to a nearby house, and doctors were sent for. There was a distance of eighteen miles to go through heavy sand. There were poor facilities—an uncertain kerosene lamp, the rude kitchen table, and by chance a bolt of new cloth that the lady of the house had bought to make into underclothes. The foot had to be amputated. There followed a long period of convalescence retarded by blood poison. When the wound was healed and the limb was able to bear the strain, he was taken North, where he bought an artificial foot, and the skill of the manufacturer was shown in the success of the mechanism, for he was able to walk with only a slight limp all his life, and he was always quite willing to mount stairs, which in his case

would have seemed a difficult feat. After the operation the surgeon said to him: "Well, Jimmie, it is the arm-chair for you the rest of your life"—a prediction that proved to be wide of the mark, thanks to the courage, activity and enterprise of his patient. But the subject of physical pain now claimed a large share of his thoughts and affected no little his outlook on life. Because of his infirmity every cripple called forth his sympathy, and about fifteen years later, when his means could justify it, he and his wife undertook the treatment of the deformed and crippled children in the Delgado mill settlement at Wilmington with a view to eliminating by operation the cases of curvature of the spine, club-foot and other disabling infirmities. The children were sent to Baltimore for these operations. Many cures were effected, and there are boys and girls today who walk and run because James Sprunt remembered the days before he lost his foot and wished that every crippled child who came under his observation might walk and have a better chance at life.

GROWTH OF THE BUSINESS.

The year 1884 was a momentous year in the history of the Sprunts. That is equivalent to saying that it was a momentous year in the history of business in the city of Wilmington and the State of North Carolina, and in the history of the work of the Presbyterian Church at home and abroad. Mr. Alexander Sprunt died and James was left to face the whole responsibility of a business that was hampered by antiquated methods and needed to expand its cotton business on a tremendous scale. James Sprunt took into junior partnership his youngest brother, William, and adopted the policy for the firm which was to determine to such a large extent its later greatness. The two brothers made perfect partners. They were admirably adapted to the two definite sides of the cotton exporting business. William Sprunt, fitted so well by nature to deal with the man on the street and the countryman on his farm, bought the cotton in the interior through agents, with whom he kept in the closest daily contact by mail and wire,

James Sprunt, with his foreign knowledge, sought markets for the commodity and carried on the business of handling the export from embarkation to delivery. And these two definite lines of work, carried on by each and consulted over together by both, worked out happily from first to last.

What James Sprunt thought of that brother of the cheery disposition and unshakable faith is indicated in the following lines written in pencil found among James Sprunt's papers after his death, and probably intended to be used as a toast at an annual firm dinner:

“To my youngest brother and life partner, William Hutchinson Sprunt,
Whose is the highest place in the respect of his people, in the affection of his family,
The just meed of his kindness and forbearance,
His dignity and simplicity.
His unwearied industry,
Unawed by opinion,
Unseduced by flattery,
Undismayed by disaster,
He confronts life with antique courage
And death with a Christian's hope.”

“To the day of his death James Sprunt reached out after his brother ‘Will’ just in the same way that he reached out for his indispensable stick.”

EXPORTING COTTON.

Soon after his father's death, James Sprunt, having secured the necessary passports, visited Russia and Poland and made connections for his firm wherever opportunity offered. In all he established in this and in succeeding efforts about 100 agencies through which Wilmington compressed cotton could be marketed in Europe. In 1891 the firm seemed to turn the corner. It is well known in business circles that cotton houses have a transitory existence and seldom weather the vicissitudes

of a single generation. The nervous nature of the cotton business with its frightful stakes and its opportunities to make fortunes overnight attracts speculators, but there is the more stable side of dealing with the actual cotton and engaging in legitimate business. The principles of integrity which furnished the basis for the firm in the days of the father were maintained by the sons, and, avoiding the pitfalls of wild speculation, they built upon the sure policy of buying on a close margin and selling whenever possible at a profit. In the end honesty, caution and perseverance established confidence and brought success. "It is a remarkable fact that from the beginning of the firm in 1865-66 up to the present time, although hundreds of millions of dollars have passed through the main office in Wilmington and their branches in Boston and Houston and Liverpool and Bremen and Havre, not on any occasion has their paper ever been dishonored." A London banker once described a visit he paid to the governor of the Bank of England to ask for assistance at a time of financial panic. The governor said he was quite ready to render assistance if the applicant could furnish satisfactory securities. The banker presented gilt edge securities, stocks and bonds, but the governor insisted upon commercial paper. "Give me," he said, "some of that Sprunt paper, and I shall be entirely satisfied."

The sound principles and business sagacity of James Sprunt meant a vast deal to his home town. During the half century covering his activities, Wilmington has made remarkable progress as a business center. There have been many contributing causes of this expansion, but no other factor has been so effective as the business inaugurated by his firm. "The combined production of cotton in North Carolina and South Carolina in a good season is approximately two and a half million bales, of which the local mills take by far the greater part. Of the residue the Sprunts buy from the producers directly through their local agents at 115 interior stations about half a million bales. These large exports, of the value of thirty million dollars, pay tribute to Wilmington to the extent of over a million dollars annually in railroad freight, in handling ex-

penses, trucking, compressing and storing, and besides from \$50,000 to \$100,000 are left by the trans-Atlantic steamers in the Port of Wilmington for port charges and expenses. Moreover, the 800 employees of this company, white and black, contribute much of the money in circulation in Wilmington that supports the retail trade."

James Sprunt revered superiority of mind or character and had an extraordinary list of personal friends. He appreciated also youthful promise of every kind and was truly a helper of many. He was generous with praise and lavish with encouragement. Many a useful man is in the ministry today in the home field and in the foreign field because of the help given directly by James Sprunt in securing an education. One of the young fellows whom he urged to stick it out at Annapolis when the boy was discouraged was Edwin Anderson; and he lived to see Anderson the commanding officer of the Asiatic fleet the summer of Japan's awful earthquake. He would take the greatest pains to get a promising boy enrolled at West Point or Annapolis and was always eager that they might have what he felt he had been denied.

JAMES SPRUNT AS THE FRIEND OF THE NEGROES.

His helpfulness knew no color line. He was the friend of the black man as well as the white. The Negroes never had a better friend. This was signally shown at a critical time in the political affairs of Wilmington. Urged on by certain politicians who were then in positions of importance in the State, a small group of unscrupulous white men sought to capitalize the Negro vote. Their wild talk and indiscreet actions inflamed the Negroes, and it was hardly surprising that the public conduct of some of them became insupportable. A white person was apt to be treated with indignity wherever he appeared, and white women scarcely dared walk the street in daytime unaccompanied. The crisis came almost like a clap of thunder; the white men of the community suddenly realized that it was a question of race supremacy, and they made their plans to make an appeal to arms if that should be necessary.

They laid their plans well, for not even their immediate families knew of them until the day came to disclose them, and that day was the fateful morning when a citizens' committee waited until 10 o'clock to receive from the colored editor of the local Negro newspaper a complete retraction of statements recently published reflecting upon white women and expressing certain evil aspirations towards the white race. The retraction was made, but stupidly mailed instead of being sent as directed by hand. So when the clock struck and the letter did not come, the committee went to the printing plant, according to their promise, and began to dismantle the press, as they had declared they would do. Unfortunately, some one set fire to the building, and as it was an old ramshackle affair, it was soon in flames, and those flames like a signal fire shot up into the sky as a call to all the white men of Wilmington to come and defend the honor of their homes. Many things of interest and importance to the well being of Wilmington were done that day, and it might be instructive to record them, but this is not the time nor the place; the facts that really matter here are those connected with the cotton business of Alexander Sprunt & Son. The firm had in its employ hundreds of Negroes. Most of them had been long in the business and were respected for their integrity. A careful supervision was held over the crews of stevedores and ordinary laborers as well as over the cotton classers, as the work was important and had to be absolutely protected from fire on account of the inflammable nature of cotton. The men, on the whole, were far superior to the element that was fomenting the trouble. They had become panic-stricken when they heard that the building in which the obnoxious printing press was located had been burned, and they determined to "knock off" work and seek refuge in their own homes. It was the height of the "busy season"; several ships were in port awaiting cargoes. James and William Sprunt went down to the wharves to try to pacify their "hands." They pledged protection if they would stay quietly at work. They did not know how difficult it would be to redeem this promise. In time of riot, passions easily ride the saddle. A

company of hot-headed men under violent leadership, estimating all Negroes alike and declaring that no group of them should assemble in any place, trained a machine gun on the crowds of Negroes at the compress and ordered them to run. At this very time the Sprunt brothers were among their men speaking to them and reassuring them. They were interpreting the real mind of the committee of safety, but, unfortunately, the passions of the multitude had been roused. The machine gun was meant for use and not for threats. When it became evident that his men would be fired on, James Sprunt had himself hoisted upon one of his big uncompressed cotton bales and said, "Shoot if you will, but make me the victim!" The white men were brought to their senses. Thus was the pledge of safety to the Negroes redeemed. They were permitted to go in peace and were unmolested throughout the whole time of terror.

When I entered the church on the day of his funeral the thing that struck me most was a body of about 100 Negroes who had been given some of the best seats in the church close to the pulpit on the main floor, and this on a day when all the business houses in Wilmington were closed and when the people lined the streets, and when there was insufficient room in the church even for the white people who wished to do honor to his memory.

This is the proper place to state that the hospital for the colored people at Wilmington was built by Mr. William H. Sprunt.

AUTHORSHIP.

It is a striking proof of Mr. Sprunt's versatility that, in addition to his large and varied activities as head of what is probably the largest cotton export house in the world; as British Vice Consul; as German Consul (and, by the way, his efficiency in this capacity was so marked that he was decorated by the notorious Kaiser, who later plunged the nations into the World War); as host-in-chief to distinguished visitors in Wilmington; as leading citizen, munificent philanthropist, and active Christian and church officer—I say it is a striking proof

of his versatility that, in addition to all these activities, he should have achieved distinction in the realm of letters. In 1914 he published a portly volume of more than 600 pages entitled "Chronicles of the Cape Fear River," which was pronounced at the time the most notable book that had been published in North Carolina in many years. A second edition, greatly enlarged, was brought out in 1916. All through life he loved that river. His hopes and fortunes have been singularly associated with it. Not only his business, but the pleasures and the happy incidents of his daily life, have been so blended with its waters, so to speak, that he cherishes a warm affection for the historic stream itself. That book, therefore, was written out of his very heart, and it contains a wealth of historic information concerning this romantic region such as can be obtained nowhere else. Shortly after the publication of it the University of North Carolina conferred upon the author the degree of Doctors of Laws. In 1920 he published another volume, also the only one of its kind, entitled "Derelicts," an account of ships lost at sea in general commercial traffic, and a brief history of the blockade runners stranded along the North Carolina coast, 1861-1865. As an example of the kind of catastrophes described in this book, it may be mentioned that about forty years ago the fine British barque "David G. Worth," staunch and strong in every respect, commanded by Captain Thomas Williams and owned by Mr. Sprunt, sailed from Wilmington with a full cargo of naval stores. The captain's wife accompanied him, and the crew numbered sixteen. From the day of her departure from Wilmington bound to Bristol, Eng., up to the present time not one thing has ever been heard of her. She and her captain and his wife and her crew of sixteen and her cargo vanished absolutely from the face of the ocean.

He wrote copiously on other subjects. For example, he published in the Union Seminary Review in January, 1920, an article of forty-five pages on "The Restoration of Jerusalem," matter sufficient for a small volume. In this article he described conditions in the Holy City at the time of the World

War and after, and discusses Zionism and other theories of the probable future of the Jews in Palestine. His facility in writing was remarkable. It resulted partly from exceptional native ability and partly from constant study of literary masterpieces—the Bible, Shakespeare, Milton, Montaigne, Macaulay and others. He had a retentive memory, and he quoted copiously at will from his wide reading.

FRIEND AND HOST.

One of his most notable traits was his genius for friendship. He had in extraordinary measure the faculty of attracting to himself the best spirits, who, under the influence of his kindness, courtesy and comradery, his broad culture and sparkling humor, and his delight in whatsoever things are pure and lovely and of good report, soon passed from the stage of pleasant acquaintance to that of warm and abiding affection, and no man I have ever met has seemed to me to derive more pleasure from his friendships, and certainly none has *given* more pleasure to his friends. Any one who has ever been his guest in the historic house which was his home in Wilmington, the house once occupied by Governor Dudley, or in his lovely colonial mansion at Orton Plantation down the river, cherishes the memory of it through life as ideal Christian hospitality. Many of those whom he favored with his friendship will recognize the picture given by one of his nieces of his walking at the front of the procession at the New Year's reunion of the Sprunt clan to the chapel on his great plantation with the gray banners of the moss-hung live oaks streaming above his snow-white head, and the blue river sparkling at the foot of his terraces, and of his limping down that sunny path with the help of his cane. There he loved to gather his friends. Several persons in this audience tonight have unfading memories of those house parties at Orton. In speaking of his hospitality as *Christian* hospitality, the term is advisedly used.

CHRISTIAN CHARACTER AND BENEVOLENCES.

It was not for nothing that he learned in childhood that man's chief end is to glorify God. When asked on one occasion what suggestion from his experience in life he would offer to the young, he replied, "Unswerving integrity, sobriety, perseverance, out-of-door exercise, and faith in the goodness of God." The main interest of his life was religion. All his multifarious activities were suffused with the Christian spirit. Like Abou Ben Adhem, he was "one who loved his fellowmen," but he was no mere humanitarian. The mainspring of his abounding beneficence was his gratitude and love to our Lord. It would require more time than we have at command to describe even sketchily the constant and generous outflow of his Christian liberality in the relief of all manner of suffering and need, in the establishment and maintenance of Christian ordinances, on his own estates and in his own community, in the erection and equipment of numerous churches, in the support of various missions at home and abroad, and in his gifts to the seminal work of Christian education. But we may mention specifically a few of his many good works. The buildings which he erected for churches, manses, schools and hospitals were attractive in appearance as well as substantial and conveniently arranged. He built the beautiful Immanuel Church and manse in Wilmington. He built the lovely Winter Park Church in the suburbs of Wilmington, in memory of his eldest sister, Mrs. B. F. Hall. He built the exquisite church at Chapel Hill, the seat of the State University, in memory of his wife, and also the chaste Colonial Chapel at Orton overlooking the river. In 1903, in memory of their little daughter, he and Mrs. Sprunt built in the Delgado settlement a schoolhouse to be used in conducting a day nursery and kindergarten for the children of the mill operatives, their hearts having been touched by hearing of several fatal accidents of burning in the homes of the employees who had been obliged to leave their children in the houses while they worked in the mill. He built the Marion Sprunt Annex to the hospital at Wilmington, in

memory of the same little daughter, who died in her twelfth year. He erected the James Sprunt School for Boys and the Luola Sprunt School for Girls (in memory of his wife) at the Kiang-Yin Mission in China, as well as homes for the missionaries at the same station. He greatly enlarged and improved the Sunday-school building and session room of the First Presbyterian Church at Wilmington. He and his brother William built jointly the infirmary of the Barium Springs Orphanage in North Carolina. They built jointly also the truly magnificent Church of the Covenant in Wilmington, in memory of their father and mother, and installed there a set of chimes— which, by the way, played softly the hymns of the Christian's hope, "Lead, Kindly Light," "Abide With Me," "How Firm a Foundation," as his funeral procession passed the church on its way to the cemetery. During the Laymen's Missionary Movement in the Southern Presbyterian Church he paid the salary of Rev. J. Campbell White. For many years he furnished half the support of the large mission station at Kiang-Yin, China. He established at the University of North Carolina the James Sprunt Historical Monograph, which enabled the University to publish important articles and sketches for which no funds were available. At Davidson College he established a loan fund for young men who desired to study for the gospel ministry. When he heard that certain members of the faculty of this seminary were not able, at a time when the war and other conditions had increased greatly the cost of living, to provide comfortably for their families, he supplemented their salaries in order to relieve the difficulty.

THE JAMES SPRUNT LECTURESHIP.

In 1911 he gave to the trustees of Union Seminary the sum of \$30,000, since increased to \$50,000, for the purpose of establishing a perpetual lectureship which would enable the institution to secure from time to time the services of outstanding ministers and authoritative scholars in addition to the regular faculty as lecturers on subjects connected with various departments of Christian thought and Christian work. In ask-

ing him to establish this lectureship, we pointed out to him that it would not only afford fuller training to the students for their future ministry, but would create a sound and permanent Christian literature, which we believe to be one of the desiderata of our time. As a result of this far-reaching benefaction, the following volumes have been published in the twelve years since the establishment of the lectureship:

"The Sermon, Its Construction and Delivery," by Dr. D. J. Burrell, of New York;

"The Bearing of Recent Discovery on the Trustworthiness of the New Testament," by Sir Wm. M. Ramsay, of Edinburgh, Scotland;

"Christian Psychology," by Professor James Stalker, of Aberdeen, Scotland;

"God's Book and God's Boy," by Dr. A. F. Schauffler, of New York;

"The Religion of Power," by Dr. Harris E. Kirk, of Baltimore;

"Keynote Studies in Keynote Books of the Bible," by the late Professor C. Alphonso Smith, then of the University of Virginia;

"Guiding Boys Over Fool Hill," by Dr. A. H. McKinney, of New York;

"The Ministry of the Word," by Dr. G. Campbell Morgan, of London;

"The Origin of Paul's Religion," by Professor John Gresham Machen, of Princeton;

"In His Image," by Hon. William Jennings Bryan;

"Being a Preacher," by Dr. James I. Vance, of Nashville;

"The Mystery of Preaching," by Dr. James Black, of Edinburgh."

The thirteenth series of lectures on this foundation was given last October by Dr. Francis L. Patton, of Bermuda, on the subject of "Fundamental Christianity." The fourteenth series will be given in the latter part of January by Professor L. A. Weigle, of Yale, on "The Christian Education of American Children." As will be seen later, the name of Dr. Sprunt's benefactions is legion. But numerous as they are and far-

reaching in their beneficent influence, the one by which more than any other, he will continue to reach the largest number of leading minds throughout the future is this lectureship. It puts a new volume in the hands of the Christian public every year.

The Richmond News Leader, in an editorial published at the time of his death, made this statement, "Wise in many things, James Sprunt in nothing better disclosed his sound judgment than in the selection of the trustees for his benefactions. The foundation he created for the lectureship has been made worth many times the \$50,000 he invested in it, if for no other reason than that it has been at Union Seminary. The institution, in choosing the speakers, has brought before the student body notable men who have presented brilliantly themes on which millions have been thinking. Mr. Sprunt could not have been otherwise than proud of the manner in which the Seminary discharged his trust." To which it may be added that he has often stated emphatically that no investment that he had ever made had given him more satisfaction than this. In his will there was a bequest of \$10,000 to the Seminary for its library fund. We have every reason to remember him most gratefully.

Nor is it only on account of his munificence that we cherish the memory of the Sprunt family at Union Seminary. For thirty-nine years it has been represented on our Board of Trustees, first, by Alexander Sprunt, the founder of the firm (1880-84); second, by Mr. B. F. Hall, his son-in-law (1884-1916); third, by Rev. Alexander Sprunt, D. D., now at Charleston (1891-92), and finally by James Sprunt himself from 1916 to 1919.

AT THE TIME OF THE WORLD WAR.

As soon as the United States declared war on Germany, Dr. Sprunt's son, Laurence, enlisted, and was stationed a long time with the British Grand Fleet at Scapa Flow. James Sprunt placed at the disposal of the government his speed yacht, "The Luola," and also gave the use of his private wharf

at the foot of his garden. He was chairman of the New Hanover Committee of the Council of Defense and served untiringly on the Sailors and Soldiers Committee which sought to aid the local enlisted men and later all the drafted ones. He was also chairman of the Memorial Committee and kept the names of the heroes from New Hanover County before the public through the newspapers, calling attention to their supreme sacrifice whenever the death of one of them was reported. Among the first victims of the influenza in Wilmington was Miss Kelley, the trained nurse who had charge of Dr. Sprunt's little grandson and namesake. She died within three days after she was stricken. There were some 10,000 cases at one time in the community. The plague had subsided on the day that the Sprunt firm (always advised in advance by their foreign connections) received the joyful news that an armistice had been declared. That meant for James Sprunt that the war was over, that the slaughter of four years was ended, that God had spared his son, and that business could resume a more normal course. He turned to his secretary and said, "In recognition of God's great mercy, I will present to the First Presbyterian Church a new organ to sing His praise." Forthwith he dictated a letter to this effect, which brought his pastor around within an hour; the matter was formally presented to the Session for their approval and the organ was ordered. It cost \$17,000, and no expense was spared to install it to the best advantage.

THE DEATH OF A GREAT CHRISTIAN.

In 1910 he had a fall and broke the hip that supported the mechanical contrivance that held in place his artificial foot. It was a long time before he could get about at all after this accident, and he often said that his "harness," as he called it, pressed upon the delicate and tender spot involved in the break and made him uncomfortable and restless nearly all the time. It is wonderful that any man of his sensitive temperament could endure the discomfort that this incessant irritation caused. Early in 1924 he had an attack of lumbago which set-

tled in his lame side and caused continual suffering. He was no longer able to attend church regularly, but going one Sunday morning about this time, he heard of the plea of the committee from the mission station in Kiang-Yin entreating the congregation of the mother church to give them additional housing facilities. They reminded the First Church people that in the last year they had increased their working force (of the number, Rev. Charles W. Worth, Jr., one of the recent graduates of our Seminary, and Mrs. Worth had gone to the station supported by Mr. Sprunt), and although some of the workers were always on furlough, there were not enough rooms for each missionary to be accommodated within the station. James Sprunt went home and, calling up his pastor, Dr. Gilmore, asked him to come to see him, and then and there offered to give personally the required amount, \$7,000, for the erection of a double residence to be named for his mother, Jane Dalziel Sprunt. This was his last undertaking. But in his will, in addition to the bequest to Union Seminary already mentioned, he left a generous legacy to Davidson College, and provided liberally for the First Presbyterian Church of Wilmington and for the mission station at Kiang-Yin, besides making provision for all his nieces and nephews, other relatives and a few friends.

An unfortunate fall on the steps and an automobile accident followed one after the other, and an organic condition, aggravated by both and dating from the time of his broken hip in 1910, made it unavoidable to seek relief through an operation. Shortly before his seventy-eighth birthday surgeons who had been brought down from Baltimore for the purpose performed the operation at his home, but two months later, on the 9th of July, he passed peacefully to the "inheritance of the saints in light."

James Sprunt was a great Christian. He had been brought up on the Bible and on the Shorter Catechism. When he was called upon to lay away the wife he so tenderly loved, he asked his pastor to use as the committal service those two statements in the Catechism which have to do with the believer's future,

and when his own tired body was laid to rest, his honored brother, Dr. Alexander Sprunt, in tones that faltered and then rang clear, recited the same great words of faith:

“The souls of believers are at their death made perfect in holiness, and do immediately pass into glory; and their bodies being still united to Christ, do rest in their graves till the resurrection.

At the resurrection believers, being raised up in glory, shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the day of judgment, and made perfectly blessed in the full enjoying of God to all eternity.”

For much of the matter used in this address I am indebted to Miss Jane D. Wood, Dr. Sprunt's secretary, who has not only assembled the materials with marked skill, but has stated the facts in such clear and felicitous terms that in many instances I have taken over her statements with almost no change.

JESUS OF NAZARETH AND THE WAR PROBLEM.

BY REV. D. P. MCGEACHY, D. D.,
Pastor First Presbyterian Church, Decatur, Ga.

It would be more than strange if Jesus had said nothing about war. He could just as well have ignored marriage or money. War bulks too big in humanity's experience for Him to pass it by in silence. Winston Churchill is almost right in his statement, “The story of the human race is war.” Probably President Harding was making an over-cautious estimate when he said that 85 per cent of our national income is spent for war. Ninety-five per cent would be nearer the truth. The Lord of Life is likely to have something to say about a situation like that.

Let us begin our study by a consideration of the fact that many good people have thought that Jesus expected wars and fightings to go on to the end of time. They base their opinion on a sort of general impression that wars and rumors of wars