WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY

LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA

HISTORICAL PAPERS

No. 2.—1890

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1. THE FOUNDERS OF WASHINGTON COLLEGE: AN ADDRESS BY HON. HUGH BLAIR GRIGSBY, LL. D. DELIVERED JUNE 22, 1870.

2. ADDRESS BEFORE THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON COLLEGE, BY THE REV. ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D. D. DELIVERED JUNE 29, 1843.

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PREFACE.

We now publish the address of the Hon. Hugh Blair Grigsby, LL. D., on the "Founders of Washington College," delivered at the commencement on the 22nd day of June, 1870. The manuscript was retained by Mr. Grigsby for the purpose of completing it, but he died without doing so. We have added brief sketches of those omitted by him. The address is now published for the first time, and will be read with much interest by the friends of the university, and especially by the descendants of those who aided in founding this noble institution, which has attained proportions they little dreamed of.

We also publish with it the address of Dr. Archibald Alexander, delivered in 1843, which attracted so much attention when delivered and first published.

Other numbers of these Historical Papers will be published as soon as the material can be prepared.

WILLIAM MCLAUGHLIN,
WILLIAM A. GLASGOW,
HENRY ALEXANDER WHITE,
Committee.

WASHINGTON AND LEE UNIVERSITY,
October, 1890.

CONTENTS.

THE FOUNDERS OF WASHINGTON COLLEGE.

Mr. Rector and Trustees, Mr. President and Professors, of Washington College:

I have come in obedience to your request to aid you in commemorating the names and services of the good and great men who were the early patrons and friends of your institution, who, as Trustees, held the reins of government, or as Professors, filled your chairs, and who in the silent lapse of generations, and under the pressure of the ever-living and engrossing present, have almost passed from human memory. Your noble design to rescue from oblivion what might yet be known of your early founders, met with a cordial response from my heart. Your trustees were among the most eminent men of the age in which they lived. They were men whose valor won fields of battle, whose voices decided the fate of the greatest political measures which preceded the Revolution of 1776, who made and ruled the Revolution itself, and who aided in devising those measures necessary to secure the blessings achieved by that event. And when asked by our children to recount their deeds, and we turn to our histories, and even to the dictionaries of biography, we find but a meagre account of any one of them, and respecting the greatest number nothing at all. The task which I have undertaken involves some toil and research, but I felt in executing it that I was performing a filial duty. For if I be not a son of the Valley, I am a grandson, and as I pass from the Natural Bridge to Lexington I can trace the early homesteads cleared from the primeval forest by the hands of my fathers, and on an eminence overlooking the road is the grave of my grand-

mother, and at Falling Spring I read the inscriptions on the tombs of my great-grandfather and great-grandmother, of uncles and aunts, and cousins of every degree; and the cemetery of this town holds the dear ashes of my beloved kindred, and has just received the fresh dust of a dear aunt who went down to the grave at the age of 96.[1] And I felt assured in the well-known courtesy of yourself and your associates, that you would be more inclined to approve what I have done, than to blame me for what I failed to do.

The theme presents three well-defined historic periods: From 1749, the foundation of Augusta Academy—for Rockbridge had not then been set apart from Augusta—to 1782, when the charter was granted to Liberty Hall Academy; from 1782 to 1860, the beginning of the late war; and from 1860 to the present date.

Of these three great epochs you have assigned the first to me, and I have come to perform the office in what manner I may. And I think it just, not only to myself, but to this large and imposing auditory, to say at once that mine is not the office of the orator, but that of the historian. It is not mine to imitate the example of those who are wont to address you, on these festal days of the College, and to choose some fascinating theme from the realm of philosophy or from the kindling topics of the hour, to embellish it with flowing periods and striking illustrations, to amuse the mind with the play of logic or to regale the imagination with the creations of fancy, and to seek the applause justly accorded to him who touches the heart and fills the mind with pleasing images, and with the grace of action and with the witchery of words casts a spell not willingly to be dissolved over all who hear him. My office is strictly historical. I come to speak of the men and things of a time when forests covered nearly the whole of this beautiful and flourishing land, where so many cultivated farms delight the beholder, where so many handsome dwellings are seen, where so many human beings are gathered together, and are engaged in the various pursuits of human industry; where a single library under the guardian care of its venerable high priest now contains more books than then existed from the Blue Ridge to the Pacific Ocean,

[1] Mrs. Martha Trimble.—EDS.

and from the Pennsylvania line to the Caribbean Sea.[1] I am come to speak of a time when the proudest building in the vast region sweeping from the Blue Ridge to the Mississippi was built of logs or of rough rocks; when the rich and the poor—if indeed the word rich can be applied to any of the brave and pious settlers of this region—lived in log cabins; when the dwelling house, the school house and the church were log cabins; and when this hill, now adorned with its numerous and elegant structures, and overlooking a compact and busy population, was one unbroken solitude. I come to speak of some of the men who felled those forests, who cleared these lands, who built the first churches, who opened the first schools, who laid deep in the general heart the love of letters and the fear of God, and who impressed on the minds of their children the elements of their own pure and lofty character. Let us inquire who they were; let us follow them through their varied course; let us observe their early and unabated efforts to build up a virtuous and enlightened State, and let us pause as we pass at their humble but honored graves, and thank God that our fathers were just such men as they were, and that their dust—ever to be approached with grateful tears and honored with the voice of praise—still reposes in our soil.

It is obvious that each of the three great periods which I have mentioned would require nearly as many hours as I have minutes at my disposal; and it has occurred to me to be the best on the whole, after giving a synopsis of the first period, to recur to the Trustees of 1776 and those of the charter of 1782.

Before we speak of the origin of this institution, let us take a rapid glance at the character of the people who reared it, and who have made so great a figure in the Colony and Commonwealth of Virginia. They were mainly what is commonly called Scotch-Irish, and were professors of the Presbyterian faith. But who were the Scotch-Irish? Who were the people, that, wherever they were borne on the tumultuous tides of a various and constant emigration that rolled through the channels of centuries, carried with them a stout and stalwart frame of body, a clear head, a

[1] Mr. John W. Fuller, for more than half a century librarian of the Franklin Society, in the town of Lexington.—EDS.

physical courage that quailed not in the presence of a mortal enemy, a moral courage superior to disaster, indomitable industry, a scorn of ease, the love of letters, a thirst for freedom, and who inscribed on their banners the name of the Lord God of Hosts? To confine ourselves to the region of recorded history, we traverse a space of two thousand years, and read in the thrilling narrative of Cæsar his conflicts with the native Britons, and we take our seat in the trireme of Agricola as he coursed for the first time around the island of Britain, and gather from the pages of Tacitus the lineaments of that picture which the Roman general presented to his son-in-law, and which now thrills us with the intensity of its colors. From the Roman invasion to the date of the Norman Conquest in 1066, a period of a thousand years, both North and South Britain were subdued and overrun by the various hordes of the Scandinavian family; and as the Scottish rivers were as easily accessible by the ships of the piratical Northmen as the British, the Forth and the Tay were invaded simultaneously with the Humber and the Thames; and the names of places which were given by the Northmen still indicate the great historic era. I may mention the names of the craigs of East Binney and West Binney near the Forth, which were bestowed probably five hundred years before the Norman Conquest and still retain their Saxon inheritance. After the Norman Conquest, Scotland received a large accession of Anglo-Saxons from the South, who sought to escape the grasp of the conqueror. And thus, while the Southern part of the island was becoming modified in the course of generations by the blood and the language and the habits of the Normans, the simple Anglo-Saxon tongue and tastes prevailed in Scotland. Hence the purity of the Scotch language in its Anglo-Saxon aspect above the tongue of the English, which had become mixed with the dialects of the Latin race, and which is the boast of the Scotch to this day. I have mentioned these facts in order to set aside the common error of regarding the Scotch as wholly Celtic or Ancient British, instead of being in the main a component part of the Anglo-Saxon family.

The history of Scotland from the first landing of the Anglo-Saxons to the reign of Mary, Queen of Scots,—an interval of more than fifteen hundred years—presents the saddest portraiture of ignorance and blood and rapine and violence, variegated indeed

at intervals with passages of extraordinary splendor, which the historic muse ever drew for the warning and instruction of mankind. It was a scene of perpetual war—war within and war without. Its chiefs after the Conquest were Normans, such as Bruce, Wallace, Randolph, Campbell, Maxwell and the Stuarts; and they assumed a jurisdiction little less than kingly. Even the present Queen of England, though she succeeded to the crown on the right of her Scotch ancestors, has in her veins the blood of William the Norman. Feuds existed for generations, and were handed down with the sword and the helmet of the ferocious ancestor. This pugnacious trait of the Scotch receives an illustration from the name of Blair, which signifies an open place; but as every open place in the course of centuries had been the scene of a desperate rencounter it came to mean a field of battle.

Now the grave question arises, how from such a people, whose hands were stained by the gore of two thousand years, could spring that type of character which we call Scotch-Irish? How could spring a people, who as we know them, have ever built in the same enclosure the fortress, the school house and the church; who, during the succession of more than two centuries have held the sword in one hand, the Bible in the other; whose valor subdued the foe in the open field and in the recesses of the forest, and whose piety filled their humble temples and homesteads with prayer and praise? What produced so great a transformation in the character of the Scotch?

One great era wrought the change and one master spirit ruled the decisive hour. That era was the establishment of the Reformation in Scotland, that master-spirit was John Knox. That tall, gaunt man, sprung from the people, without a dollar of income save from a miserable stipend, surrounded by warlike nobles who were insensible to religious appeals, so unterrified by authority that it was said over his corpse by the regent Morton, "There lies one who feared the face of no man living,"—this man assailed the supremacy of that venerable religion whose foundations were laid deep in the old past, whose subjects were kings, and whose power, consolidated by the respect and piety of ages, embraced the entire realm of Christianity. Let us not be unjust to the Catholic Church. It unquestionably exerted a beneficial influence for many

centuries on the Scotch people. Apart from its invaluable services in preserving the records of the past, and in fostering a taste for letters, it was the only source whence, during the dreary millennium of the Middle Ages, the blessings of Christianity were conveyed to the people. It presented the only curb to the despotism of the feudal system, and softened its atrocities. It was kind to the peasant, and in his defence placed its finger not unfrequently on the crest of the haughtiest baron, and laid on monarchs the weight of its hands. In the valleys of Scotland that church raised those stately cathedrals whose very ruins excite the awe of the modern traveller, and even in the distant Hebrides it reared its magnificent structures, and on their altars kindled a flame that shone far and wide over those stormy seas; and the iron kings of Northern Europe beheld it and trembled, and with their dying aspirations implored that their bones might repose in the crypts of the temple of Iona.

It was during the fearful conflict with this church that the Scotch character was developed such as we have known it since. Intelligence is the soul of Protestantism; for it is needful first to know what a thing is, before we essay to make it what it ought to be. Hence the Scotch reformers taught their flocks with an earnestness and ruled them with a rigor unknown in our times. But Knox well knew that generations, however enlightened, pass away, and that Protestantism would pass with them unless the young were instructed with care in the rudiments of knowledge and in the doctrines of the faith. Hence the zeal of Knox in obtaining from the Scotch Parliament that ever memorable act which required a school to be kept in every parish, and which gave a new direction to the fervid genius of the people.

Both local and general causes stimulated the feelings and intensified the enthusiasm of the people. It was declared by a high authority that the Presbyterian form of government was the model of the purest republican simplicity, and that it was hostile to the genius of a monarchial system. The origin of the Reformation in Scotland also differed essentially from the origin of the Reformation in England. In the latter it proceeded from the King; in the former from the people. James, accordingly, on ascending the British throne made an early effort to remodel the Presbyterian

church. Then came in due succession the appointment of the thirteen Bishops, the assertion of the King to convoke at pleasure the General Assembly of the church, the banishment of one of the Melvilles and the imprisonment of the other, the Five Articles of Perth, and the Act of Uniformity. These and similar measures wrought the people to madness. And in the midst of this excitement was passed by the Scotch Parliament the Act of Security for the military organization of the realm, which made the people of Scotland a regulated army. Then look at the civil and religious contests of the reign of Charles the First, and the Protectorate. Look at the bloody persecutions of the Restoration, and especially during the viceroyalty of the Duke of York, when not less than 20,000 men, women, and we might add children, were put to death in a time of profound peace on account of religious nonconformity; and the earlier and the later emigrations to Ireland, where the colonists were beleagured by a hostile church, and a hostile population. Thus from the period of the Reformation to the date of the departure of the Scotch-Irish for the shores of the New World, a period of a century and half, while the Scot clung to the Bible as the sheet-anchor of his faith, the fleshly weapon was rarely out of his hand; and it was during this long and terrific struggle that the Scotch character was developed such as we have known it since.

In the early part of the 18th century, there came a pleasing vision over the minds of the Scotch-Irish. They had ever been devoted to the employments of rural life, and to the doctrines of political and religious freedom, at least for themselves. They hailed with one accord the Revolution, which they termed glorious, and which placed William and Mary on the British throne. They cherished the tenderest affection for the House of Hanover, as did their descendants of Augusta down to our own Revolution, as their public documents of that period demonstrate. But during the reign of Queen Anne, and of the first and second Georges, though active persecution on the part of the British government no longer existed, the Scotch-Irish felt the cinctures of a religious policy that bound them severely. They were encompassed by the Catholic pale, by the pale of an established Protestant church to which they did not belong and which they were compelled to support, and by laws that bound the soil in perpetual entail; and they resolved to

go abroad. They had heard the history of the land of Penn. They were fascinated by reports of a vast territory resting on the sea in the East, and on a majestic river in the West, abounding in fertile valleys, in mountains that would remind them of their ancestral land, in mighty streams and bays penetrating into the recesses of the distant interior, and they heard, above all, of the glorious liberty of worshipping God without the interference of human authority. And they flocked by hundreds to the shores of the New World. It was vain to talk to them of savages. For two thousand years the Scotchman had rarely been without a weapon on his person or within his grasp. Fearlessly they plunged into the depths of the forests, settled farms, built forts and school houses and churches, and presented a formidable barrier to the progress of the Indian invader.

Such a population it ought to have been the pride of Pennsylvania to foster and increase. But in the progress of years there arose in that province a struggle for political power; and it was feared that the Scotch-Irish and the German immigrants would outnumber or control the proprietary element; and the results were taxes on immigrants, which were opposed by the cautious and far-seeing Franklin, a shameful and degrading inequality of representation in the Assembly, and a failure on the alleged ground of principle to protect the outer settlements from the ravages of the Indians. And thus the emigration to Virginia began and was quickened. To learn what the character of the Scotch-Irish of Pennsylvania was, what those people did to build up a great commonwealth in all the elements of knowledge, wealth and piety, we need only recall the names of those who distinguished themselves during the eighteenth century. What an instructive list is spread before us! Tennent and that log college that has done more to enlighten the human mind and to promote sound morals than the noble structure of Magdalen or of Christ's, whose towers have been pointing for centuries to the skies; Samuel Blair, Samuel Davies, who, though born in Delaware, was educated by Blair, John Rodgers, John Blair, Samuel Finley, Francis Allison, Robert Smith, Samuel Stanhope Smith, John Blair Smith, James Smith, who signed the Declaration of Independence, James Ross, John Rowan of Kentucky, Thomas McKean Fulton, the ancestor of the inventor of the steam engine,

at least in its application to boats, David Ramsay, Hugh Williamson, and hundreds of others of whom I have not time to tell.

How mysterious are the ways of Providence! Had the policy of Pennsylvania been liberal, very few of the Scotch-Irish family would have left her borders. She possessed thousands of acres of fertile lands; and the clanship of the Scotch would have kept them together. And there was religious freedom, not restrained, as with us it was, by the cautious provisions of the Act of Toleration, but without bound or measure. There would have been no emigration. The Valley of Virginia would have been kept back for more than the third of a century. There would have been no people from this region to have fought at Point Pleasant, on the heights of Saratoga, or at King's Mountain, or at Guilford, or at Eutaw, or at York. That those battles were fought by the aid of Valley men we owe to the fact, that the government of Pennsylvania was proprietary, and not, like our own, governed by the immediate representatives of the King and founded on the basis of a liberal county representation.

Simultaneously with the flow of the Scotch from Pennsylvania, there was a stream of emigration from our own East. Of these immigrants some were Scotch, who, under the patronage of Dinwiddie, sought to build up homes in the Valley; and some were English, who, having early settled in the counties of the seaboard, the society of which had become somewhat stereotyped in the forms of old England, desired fresh lands, comparative freedom from taxes, and a greater enlargement of religious privileges than were readily available under the established religion. Of the English who thus entered the Valley, were my own paternal ancestors. But the Scotch-Irish element predominated, and gave its hue to the general complexion of the settlement.

We now approach an event of as great significancy as any recorded in the annals of a peaceful community. In 1749 was opened the first classical school west of the Blue Ridge. To teach the rudiments of the mother tongue, to teach the reading of the Bible, the Longer and Shorter Catechism of the Westminster Confession, those consummate achievements of human intellect, regarded only in a secular sense; to worship God in sincerity and truth—these were the first and natural impulses of a pious people.

But to mingle the music of Virgil and Horace, of Livy and Tacitus, of Homer and Sophocles, of Herodotus and Thucydides, of Demosthenes and Aeschines, with the clangor of the axe felling the forest trees, with the crack of the rifle and the yell of the Indian, and with that grander melody which flowed from the harp of the royal singer of Israel, was an event, if not wholly without precedent in the circumstances of the case, worthy of immortal praise. The site of this classical schoolhouse was two miles southwest of Greenville in Augusta, as Augusta then was, and which included Rockbridge, and its first teacher was Robert Alexander. That school was the origin of the noble institution whose massive buildings cast their shadows from this glorious eminence, whose professors have been for more than a century men of high intellect, of fervent piety, and of ardent patriotism, and whose pupils have upheld the torch of knowledge, of religion and of a generous civilization throughout our wide territory, and have shone in the sphere of private life, at the bar, in the pulpit, in the Senate, and in the courts of Europe.

And who was he who taught the infant mind to know those immortal productions of Greek and Roman genius which still surpass the finest achievements of later times, in that log house near the village of Greenville? His name was Robert Alexander. He was a man of thorough training in the schools, and he was a man of prayer. It is to the honor of the Scotch-Irish race that, as one of that family was the first to establish a classical school in the Province of Pennsylvania, so another of the race was the first to establish a classical school in the Valley of Virginia. And when I speak of that race, I wish it to be distinctly understood, that though myself Scotch on the maternal side, my ancestor, who was borne to this lovely country on the Virginia and not on the Pennsylvania stream, was English, and was sprung from an ancestor who came over to the colony at the date of the Restoration. I have already spoken of the various elements that made up the Scotch-Irish people. This is strikingly shown in the name of Alexander. It is the type of three or four distinct civilizations, which extend from the days of Homer to the present day. It recalls the palmy civilization of Greece, to which it belongs, a helper of men. From the Greek it passed into the Roman civil-

ization; and thence it passed from the banks of the Tiber on the lips of Augustine to the banks of the English streams; and many generations later than St. Augustine, it received a fresh introduction into Britain by the Norman, who, though originally a Northman, adopted the tougue of the Latin race. And so popular did it become in Scotland, that, as the Englishman is known by the sobriquet of John Bull, and the Frenchman by that of Johnny Crapeau, and the American by that of Brother Jonathan, so the Scotchman is known by the name of Sandy and Sawney, the popular abbreviation of Alexander.

But who was Robert Alexander? He was a descendent in the fourth degree from that Archibald Alexander who, during the middle part of the seventeenth century, went over in a general emigration from Scotland to Ireland. A son of this Archibald had a son named William, and this William had four sons; one of whom died, and the other three, Archibald, the grandfather of the late Archibald Alexander of Princeton, William, and Robert of whom we are now speaking, emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1736, and after a short sojourn in that province, two of them, if not all, came through the Valley to Virginia in 1743. Robert was educated at Edinburgh, where the Latin and Greek classics and Mathematics were thoroughly taught, and he was probably as well qualified to discharge the duties of a professor in the languages and in mathematics as any professor in our own times. His age I do not know exactly, but as he came over in 1736 and died in 1787 it is probable that he lived beyond the period of the Psalmist. It is the duty of all of us to mark the grave of such a man with a durable and appropriate monument.

The successor of Robert Alexander was the Rev. John Brown, who was graduated at Princeton in 1749, and was a licentiate of Newcastle Presbytery. He was called to Providence and Timber Ridge Churches in 1753. The roll on which are inserted the names of those who called him has been fortunately preserved, and presents an interesting memorial of that generation. The names are 112 in number, and it is remarkable that nearly all of them are Saxon or Norman, though the Scotch-Irish blood has a great preponderance. It is stated that the academy in the time of Mr. Brown was successively removed a few miles westward, first to

near Old Providence, and then shortly before the Revolution to Mount Pleasant, near Fairfield, in the present county of Rockbridge. He conducted the school until 1774, when he was assisted by William Graham, who, two years later, became the principal. Of Mr. Brown it is proper to say that he remained the pastor at New Providence forty-four years, that he married a daughter of John Preston, and that in his old age he removed with his sons to Kentucky, where he died in 1803, at the age of 75. His five sons were educated here and at Princeton. John was a member of the Continental Congress and of the first Congress under the present constitution. William, who was a promising physician, died early, in South Carolina; Samuel was an eminent professor in the medical school of Transylvania University, while James may be recalled by some now present as having performed a prominent part in public life, as the first Secretary of State of Kentucky, as the Secretary of Louisiana Territory, as a member of the Senate of the United States for ten years, during a part of which time he was the Chairman of the Committee of Foreign Relations, and as the Minister of the United States at the Court of France for six years. He died in Philadelphia suddenly on the 7th of April, 1835, in his seventieth year; and the students of Washington College may proudly claim him as one of their most distinguished alumni.

On the 6th of May 1776, the Presbytery of Hanover, under whose direction the school had been established, determined to remove the Augusta Academy, as it was then called, from Mount Pleasant to Timber Ridge, where a tract of eighty acres was offered as a site of the institution by Capt. Alexander Stuart and Mr. Samuel Houston, "the neighbors offering to build a hewed log-house, 28 feet by 24, one story and a half high, besides their subscriptions, and assuring of the probability that fire-wood and timber for building will be furnished gratis for at least twenty years." The body appointed the Rev. Wm. Graham, Rector, and Mr. John Montgomery his assistant; and chose a board of trustees consisting of—

1. Rev. John Brown,
2. James Waddell,
3. Charles Cummings,
4. William Irvin,
5. Rector *ex officio*,
6. Mr. Thomas Lewis,

7. Col. William Christian,
8. Gen. Andrew Lewis,
9. Col. William Fleming,
10. Mr. Thomas Stuart,
11. Mr. Samuel Lyle,
12. Mr. John Grattan,
13. Col. William Preston,
14. Mr. Sampson Matthews,
15. Col. John Bowyer,
16. Maj. Samuel McDowell,
17. Mr. William McPheeters,
18. Capt. Alexander Stuart,
19. Capt. William McKee,
20. Mr. John Houston,
21. Mr. Charles Campbell,
22. Capt. George Moffett,
23. Mr. William Ward,
24. and Capt. John Lewis,

at the Warm Springs, of whom seven should constitute a quorum. The Presbytery also reserved to themselves the right of visitation forever, as often as they should judge it necessary, and of choosing the Rector and his assistant. And early in 1777 the Academy was removed from Mt. Pleasant to Timber Ridge. And at a meeting the Trustees on the 6th day of May 1776, "incited by the patriotic spirit of the day, directed that the record for that day be entitled Liberty Hall, as this Academy is hereafter to be called instead of Augusta Academy." In 1785, the Academy was again removed to near Lexington, to a stone building, which was destroyed by fire in 1803[1] but the picturesque ruins of which may still be seen. It was then removed to its present site within the limits of Lexington. In 1782, the Academy received a charter of incorporation, and was thenceforth under the legal control of the Trustees appointed by that instrument. The Trustees named in the charter of 1782 are:

Rev. William Graham, *Rector*.

Arthur Campbell,	William Christian,
Andrew Moore,	William Alexander,
Joseph Walker,	Alexander Campbell,
John Wilson,	John Trimble,
John Hays,	John Bowyer,
Samuel McDowell,	George Moffett,
William McKee,	James McCorkle,
Samuel Lyle,	Archibald Stuart,
Rev. Caleb Wallace,	Rev. John Montgomery,

Rev. William Wilson.

[1] The Honorable Sidney S. Baxter informed me that the Academy was burned about Christmas, 1802. He said either the day before or the day after Christmas, I have forgotten which.—W. A.

From the date of the incorporation of the Academy to 1796, the most important incident in the history of the College was the gift of one hundred shares of the James River Company bestowed by Washington on the institution, which occurred in the latter year, and soon after the name of Liberty Hall was changed to that of Washington Academy. The letter addressed to Washington, which presented the claims of the Academy to this generous endowment, and which doubtless influenced the mind of the Father of his Country in bestowing it upon the institution, was drawn by Graham, and is a masterly production. On the 25th of September of the same year, Graham in a letter to the Trustees resigned the office of Rector, which he had held for twenty-two years.

Such is a brief outline of the Academy from its foundation in 1749 to 1796, a period of forty-seven years; and if it had then ceased to exist—if the plough had passed over its foundations—if its charter had been given to the winds—it had accomplished an amount of good, which it would be difficult to overestimate. It directed the attention of a rising community, under circumstances the most unpropitious, to a large and liberal moral and intellectual culture. It sent forth hundreds of educated men who taught schools, who filled professorships, who brought the aid of science to the cause of the Revolution, who diffused in the domestic circle the blessings of learning and religion, who filled pulpits, who shone at the bar, in the halls of legislation, and at foreign courts, and whose influence on the mind and heart of man is felt at this moment, and will be felt in time to come.

WILLIAM GRAHAM.

The facts of the life of this great man are few. He sprang from a family which for a thousand years had been conspicuous in the annals of Scotland from the hovel to the palace, in arts, in arms, in eloquence, and in song. It was a daring man by the name of Graham that first broke through the wall of Agricola, which the Roman general had built between the firths of Clyde and Forth to keep off the incursions of the Northern Britons, and the ruins of which, still visible, are called to this day the ruins of Graham's Dyke. They were borderers, as distinguished from Highlanders,

and on one occasion three hundred of the family were banished to Ireland; and it is not improbable that the blood of the fiery moss-trooper flowed in the blood of our Founder. One of the fairest personifications of the race may be seen from the pen of Sir Walter Scott in the Legend of Montrose. Michael Graham, the father of our William, emigrated from Ireland to Pennsylvania between 1720 and 1730; and on the 19th of December, 1746, in Paxton Township, about five miles from the present capital of Pennsylvania, William Graham was born. His parents were poor, and lived on the outskirts of civilization; and young Graham had none of those early advantages which are so efficient in developing the faculties of the mind. He attended the common schools of the neighborhood when any such existed; and until his 22d year he worked in the field with his father. Two things are told of him, that have no relation to each other, but which showed their effects in his subsequent life. He was fond of dancing; and he probably engaged in a Highland fling, or cut a pigeon wing, or danced a hornpipe, as readily as any of his ancestors, who were famed for dancing, ever did before him, and with as much ease and grace as he afterwards displayed in solving by methods of his own the most abstruse problems of metaphysics, or in explaining a dark allusion in Juvenal, or a doubtful passage in Tacitus. The other was, that as his frontier home was ever liable to the inroads of the savages, he learned the use of the rifle, and he was as familiar with it, as he subsequently became with those other instruments of science which Hanover Presbytery and the good people of Augusta had procured in the midst of war and in the sacrifices of a mountain life, to promote the cause of a generous education. On one occasion at night the dogs about his father's frontier cabin began to bark, and one of his sisters detected the movements of Indians; and the family determined to leave the house and make for the fort. With his musket loaded, and prepared for instant fight, young William headed the sally, and conducted the family in safety to the fort. And in this stern school of courage, he acquired that wonderful faculty, so often exhibited in his career, of stripping a subject of its present and temporary difficulties and of looking to distant results, which marked his course in the greatest political crisis of the age in which he lived.

At one-and-twenty that religious change which, at a later day, came over the gigantic mind of Chalmers, and which led the Scotch divine to lay all the wealth of the stars and the greenest garlands of philosophy at the foot of the Cross, came over the mind of Graham. He determined to study theology, and with only his own exertions to support him, and with only the light of a pious mother's love as a lamp to his path, he began the study of Latin. He first attended the school of the Rev. Mr. Roan and ultimately became a pupil of Finley. When he had mastered the elementary studies, he entered Princeton College, which was then radiant with the fame of its distinguished President, and with the genius of its students in the the different classes of the institution. Witherspoon, who was to sign the Declaration of Independence and the Articles of Confederation, and who looked with kind feelings on the descendants of his own ancestral land, had the peculiar gift of inspiring young men with the love of study; and in the Senior Class was Gunning Bedford, who was to sign the present Federal Constitution; Hugh Breckenridge, James Madison and Samuel Spring; in the Junior Class was William Bradford, afterward a Judge of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and Attorney-General of the United States; Aaron Burr, afterwards Attorney-General of New York and Vice-President of the United States, who now, after a stormy life, sleeps beside the dust of his venerable father in the shadow of the vales of Princeton, and William Smith Livingstone, also prominent in public affairs; and among his own classmates were Henry Lee, of Legion memory; Morgan Lewis, afterwards Governor of New York and a member of the Senate of the United States; Aaron Ogden, afterwards Governor of New Jersey and a member the United States Senate, and John Blair Smith, afterwards President of Hampden Sidney—a name still held in tender and affectionate remembrance in the region of Virginia in which I live, and ever to be held in honor by every lover of learning and piety in this Commonwealth. He took his degree in 1773 with his class, and it was observed that he held the same rank among his fellows that he afterwards maintained in every sphere in which he happened to move. And it should also be observed for the encouragement of genius struggling with those difficulties which so often attend it, that he mainly defrayed his college expenses by his

own industry. One incident near the close of his college life is so well told by Dr. Foote and is so honorable to the parties concerned, that I ought not to pass it over. At the approach of the final examination, your distinguished father, Mr. President,[1] who I have already said was a classmate of Graham, proposed to Graham that they should review their studies together. Graham, who was afraid that the lively genius of your father might lead him astray, was disposed to decline the invitation; but young Lee persisted and Graham consented, with the condition that no conversation should be introduced during the hour of study. When the examination was over, Lee came to his friend Graham's room, and said to him: "Well, Graham, I have passed a glorious examination; and I know that I am indebted for it in a great measure to you. What recompense shall I make you?" "None at all," said Graham. After some conversation Lee left the room and soon returned; and laying on the table Belshaw's Lectures on Natural Philosophy, immediately departed. Upon opening the volume Graham found a black line had been drawn through the name of Henry Lee, and underneath was written William Graham. The volume, says Dr. Foote, is still preserved by Graham's connections in Virginia. On leaving college Graham returned to his father's house, and entered on the study of theology, under his pastor, Mr. Roan, and in 1774 he was invited to engage in a classical school in Augusta, under the direction of the Rev. John Brown of whom we have already spoken, and accepted the invitation. In 1775 he was received as a minister of the Presbyterian Church by the Presbytery at Timber Ridge, and on the 6th of May, 1776, the headship of the Academy devolved upon him, with the title of Rector, and Mr. John Montgomery as his assistant. The system of teaching pursued by Mr. Graham during the twenty years that he presided in the Academy was well designed to develop the faculties of the mind, and to prepare young men to engage with efficiency in the active duties of life. He always insisted "on the importance of classical literature as the proper foundation of a liberal education," and a thorough training in mathematics, and the sciences and knowledges dependent upon

[1] Gen. Robert E. Lee was on the platform when this address was delivered.—EDS.

these two great departments. He also taught moral and intellectual philosophy, not as sciences complete in themselves, but as an introduction to theology, being the gates called Beautiful, leading to that glorious temple not built with human hands, and whose foundations are laid in the Divine Will. While he was familiar with the existing writers on the subject, and especially with the sermons of Bishop Butler, and had introduced into the school the manuscript lectures of Dr. Witherspoon, which he had studied in Princeton, he adopted the authority of no master, and worked out an elaborate system of his own, which no less a judge than Dr. Archibald Alexander declared "to be in clearness and fulness superior to anything which has been given to the public in the numerous works which have been recently published on the subject." When we reflect that Graham had only a few imperfectly educated students from the neighboring hills and homesteads around him, and in the absence of all emulation put forth his powers so grandly, we can readily imagine what he would have done if, like Dugald Stewart, or Thomas Brown, or Thomas Chalmers, he had been surrounded by classes of hundreds of highly educated young men and a daily auditory of eminent men, to quicken his powers, and to give full scope to the excursions of his genius. And while we concede that just supremacy to the skill of Graham which it so eminently deserves, it is proper to say that he was assisted by some competent tutors, among whom the name of James Priestly should not be omitted. He was a Rockbridge boy of poor parents, whose genius was detected by Graham, who was instructed by him, and who, having been chosen a tutor in 1783, devoted his talents to Latin and Greek literature, in which he acquired great eminence. He possessed the faculty of inspiring his pupils with a love of literature, and Dr. Archibald Alexander ascribes his love of study to the instruction of Priestly. This remarkable man became the president of the Cumberland University, and died while president of that institution.

During the Revolution, while Graham was engaged in teaching his scholars, and in preaching on Sundays, he was not indisposed to unite with his countrymen in repressing the inroads of the enemy. He regarded that contest as involving religious as well as political freedom, and believed it to be the duty of

all to sustain the common cause. There has ever been a strong spice of war in the Scotch clergy. When Gibbon assigned to Buchanan the credit of having first put forth the doctrine that Christianity might be defended by the sword, he overlooked the history of that church which, during the dismal millennium of the Middle Ages, diffused from its magnificent temples, whose ruins still interest the traveller, the light of Christianity over Scotland—a light, it may be, not as pure and as brilliant as it might have been, but still a blessed and glorious light in the midst of general darkness. On one occasion when a draft was to be made from the militia of Rockbridge, and when volunteers were backward in coming forth, Graham stepped forward and the complement was soon filled. He was elected captain, but the company was not called into service. It would be interesting to inquire what would have been the result if the genius of Graham had been turned to war. He had been inured to personal danger from his infancy, he was a strict disciplinarian, and he was better versed in the sciences than most of the officers of the Revolution. He might not have met with opportunities of distinction; or, like George Rogers Clark, who was teaching a school on the Rappahannock on the breaking out of the war, he might have added an empire to his country. His character would lead us to believe that he would have accomplished all that skill, patriotism and valor could achieve in the sphere in which he happened to move. Let us rejoice that his destiny confined him to the pulpit and to the professor's chair.

After twenty years of faithful service he resigned the office of Rector. He was induced to take this step from the want of adequate support for his family. The prime of life was gone, and he was poor. When he had paid his assistants, he had but little left for himself. He had reached the age of fifty, and had devoted his great talents to the cause of education; and he was solicitous to make some provision for his large and helpless family, before the approach of old age. With this view he purchased land on the Ohio; and it was his design to settle there with some chosen friends; and it was on business connected with this settlement that he rode on horseback from the Ohio to Richmond, where he was taken ill soon after his arrival, and died at the house of his friend, Col.

Gamble,[1] on the 8th of June, 1799, at the age of fifty-three. Near the south door of the Episcopal Church on Church Hill, within the walls of which Patrick Henry uttered those memorable words, "Give me liberty, or give me death," and near the ashes of George Wythe and Edward Carrington, now repose the mortal remains of your illustrious Rector.

He was above the middle stature, rather delicate than muscular in his proportions. His eyes were dark, and when he was roused, were brilliant and piercing. There was ease and grace in all his movements, and never for a moment did he lose the full command of his faculties. He had a great fund of wit, and his sarcasm was said under provocation to be scathing, and was a formidable weapon in debate. He was most amiable in private life, and was tenderly beloved by his friends. He possessed in a remarkable degree that moral courage, without which neither battles are won, nor colleges built, churches gathered together, nor opposition overcome, nor triumphs worth the winning ever won.

The character of Graham presents to the observer three distinctive aspects, which require a passing notice: that of a preacher, that of a professor, and that of a politician. As a preacher, he did not possess that blazing eloquence with which Massillon and Bourdaloue and some even of his own contemporaries kindled the passions of their auditory, and which filled the church with those eager and bustling crowds that were wont to witness the magical action of a Garrick or a Kean, or were overawed by the dignity of a Talma or a Kemble. There was a mixture of statesmanship even in his preaching. He looked to the law and the gospel as the rule of instruction. He saw neither the conflagration of Tully, nor the torrent of Demosthenes, nor the glow of passion, nor the polish of a dazzling rhetoric, in the Sermon on the Mount; and he brought to bear upon his audience the same conclusive demonstration of doctrine that from the chair of the professor made the darkest problems of moral and intellectual philosophy clear to the dullest comprehension. It is an eloquent testimony of the mind as well as the preaching of Graham that the profound sermons of Butler were his favorite contemplations. He was not, however, wholly insensible to the influence of the moment; but on venturing into

[1] An alumnus of the Academy.—EDS.

the realm of the passions it was plain that he felt that he was a trespasser and a wayfarer there, and his stern sense of duty rebuked him back into the region of demonstration and argument. The sermon which he preached at Briery in 1789 was never forgotten by those who heard it. It remained with them through life, and the recollections of it lived after they were within their graves. The beautiful text, "Comfort ye, comfort ye my people," is still known in the neighborhood of Briery, after eighty years, as Mr. Graham's text. But it was reason, not passion, instruction not declamation, that marked his preaching. "As a clear and cogent reasoner," said a distinguished pupil, "he had no superior among his contemporaries."

The chair of the professor was the throne from which Graham wielded his greatest influence on the minds of his generation. It was the main business of his life to teach, and he sought the best means of developing the faculties of the young. He was no pretender. He sought no royal, no rapid roads to knowledge. Nor did he seek to teach many things. He thought the great object of academical education was to discipline the powers and not to fill the mind with a multiplicity of acquirements. His great object was to form the mind, and to make it work out its own victories. He saw the force of language as an element of power in the affairs of men, and the advantage of a thorough mastery of his native language by every student; and he studied the proper mode of teaching it. He saw that the Greeks, who have left us the purest specimens of writing, studied no other tongue than their own; but he saw at the same time, both that their language was the most perfect that existed, and that, though resting on a Pelasgian foundation, the old dialect had been lost in the lapse of ages and a perfect tongue had taken its place. He saw that the Greek studied no other tongue than his own, because that tongue was in the main homogeneous and had attained to perfection. But in looking at the teaching of the Romans he saw that the policy of teaching a single tongue did not apply, and that the Roman student studied the Greek tongue with all his diligence from earliest youth, and studied it as a model to his dying day. And he saw the reason of this devotion. The Latin was a compound language. It rested indeed on an Etruscan base, but it borrowed from all literatures,

and especially from the Greek. Nor did it possess those models of eloquence, and history, and poetry, in which the Greek abounded; and he saw that the ablest orators and poets and historians of Rome were those who were most intimate with the beauties of Greek literature. He then looked into the elements of our own tongue. He recognized it as not only the youngest in the family of languages, but that it was made up of more languages than any other; and that it demanded a more critical study than had been devoted either in Greece or Rome to a foreign tongue. And, looking to the example of England, he observed that that system of education which had produced her Bacons and Newtons and Lockes embraced a thorough study of the Latin and Greek classics and of the mathematics between the ages of eight and eighteen. Hence he taught the Latin and Greek languages, and, as far as he could, the languages that lean upon them, and the mathematics, and, as far as he could, the sciences which lean upon them, with his utmost energy,—believing that a youth who was thoroughly drilled in those two great departments had laid a foundation on which he might raise any superstructure of active or of studious life that might be desired. Once especially did he rebuke from his presence that weak and wretched philosophy which impels a parent to seek instruction for his child in those elementary departments alone which may be supposed to bear upon the destined professions of the child, and, overlooking that broad and generous culture which is best adapted to develop all the faculties and to brace the mind for its highest achievements, to doom a son to inferiority through life, and to grovel in the lower regions of that system of society of which he might have been one of the proudest columns and most honored ornaments. Such was the system of Graham—a system which bore rich fruits in his own day, and which is felt through his distinguished pupils in our own times.

Eminent as Graham undoubtedly was in the pulpit and in the professor's chair, those who look closely into his character would be apt to conclude that, had his lot been cast at the bar and in the Senate, he would have been more eminent still. He lived at a time when all the intellectual men were in a greater or less degree politicians. The questions that brought on the Revolution of 1776, were almost wholly theoretical. We suffered from no act of posi-

tive oppression. When independence became imminent, the clergy took an active part in the contest. One of the profession was a member of the convention of 1776; another became a general; and others engaged directly or indirectly in active service during the war; and in the convention of 1788 there were two clergymen in the body. I have already mentioned the election of Graham as captain of a company. On another occasion he led a company to the seat of war. But the question which particularly interested clerical men was our legislation in respect of religion. When the scheme of an assessment for the support of religion was brought forward, and was sustained by Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee and other prominent men, Graham, who viewed even religious questions with the eye of a statesman, was not indisposed to approve it, and he was governed by the same reasons that led Henry to favor the policy.

The Revolution had almost entirely stripped the churches of their pastors. "At the beginning of the war," says Bishop Meade, "Virginia had ninety-one clergymen officiating in one hundred and sixty-four churches and chapels; at its close only twenty-eight ministers were found laboring in the less desolate parishes of the state." Patrick Henry saw this destitution and sought to relieve it by levying an assessment to be assigned by the taxpayer to what church he pleased.

To say that it was an Episcopal measure because Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee and other Episcopalians supported it, would be as far from the truth as it would be to assert that the Virginia resolution of independence, which was drawn, was reported to the house, and was carried by Episcopalians, or that the Declaration of Rights, which was also drawn, reported and carried by Episcopal votes, was an Episcopal measure. Had this scheme been adopted, our numerous church buildings would have been saved from ruin; an intelligent and pious clergy would have dispensed the word of life to thousands who remained for an entire generation without the offices of religion; and our people would have been prepared in some degree to withstand that torrent of infidelity which a few years later swept over Christendom, and the influence of which was felt in every corner of our territory. When, however, the religious controversy assumed a broader ground, he maintained the

widest views of religious freedom, and with his friend and neighbor, Andrew Moore, who represented Rockbridge in the Assembly, earnestly advocated the passage of the Act concerning Religious Freedom.

When the new State of Frankland, so called in honor of Franklin, whose advice was invoked in its hour of difficulty, was meditated within the corporate limits of North Carolina, Graham was requested to draught a form of government, and he prepared a paper for the purpose. He had ever regarded with profound admiration the genius of John Locke. Indeed, in the simplicity of their domestic habits, in the plainness and severity of their reasoning, in their superiority over the formal modes of the schools, there was a strong resemblance between them. In 1689, the year after the great British Revolution, Locke had drawn a constitution for the Carolinas, and Graham was called upon a century later to draw a plan of government for a part of the territory embraced by the constitution of his great predecessor. The constitution of Locke has come down to us; and it may be mentioned as an illustration, not of the age in which it was written—the age of Somers and of other great lawyers who were prominent in the British Revolution—but of the peculiarities of Locke, that his constitution declares that "it is a base and vile thing to plead for money or reward" in a court of justice. Graham's plan is lost, unless it was the scheme that was adopted by the new commonwealth, and such may have been the case. But although it attracted great attention, and led to some noisy demonstrations, we do not know positively that it was laid before the convention of the new State. In that convention John Sevier, a Valley boy, and a hero of King's Mountain, presided. David Campbell,[1] another Valley boy, was one of the three judges elected under the constitution, and Landon Carter, a tidewater boy from the banks of the lower James, was the speaker of the first Senate of the new government. These were friends and neighbors of Graham; and he did not hesitate to assist them in preparing a plan of government.[2] To carve a new

[1] An alumnus of the Academy.—EDS.

[2] Samuel Houston, a pupil of Graham's, was a member of the convention and consulted him as to the constitution. Samuel Doak, an alumnus of the Academy, was also a member.—EDS.

State out of the territory of a State without the authority of law would be a grave and unjustifiable procedure in our own times. But in the case of Sevier and his associates it was substantially a work of self-defense. They were separated by hundreds of miles from the settlements; they were surrounded by savages who awaited a favorable moment of attack; they were beyond the protection of the laws. They had not a dollar in coin to pay taxes. And when the new government was established, its officers were paid mainly in the skins of wild beasts—the governor and the judges in fox skins, the sheriff in those of the mink, and other officers in those of coons and opossums; and though this gradation is not strictly correct, it is unquestionable that skins, domestic cloth, bacon, tallow and whiskey, according to a rate fixed by law, composed the main currency of the infant commonwealth. At all events, to justify Graham in his course respecting Frankland, it is sufficient to say that, four years later than the date of the birth of Frankland, in the Virginia Convention of 1788, Patrick Henry threatened to form a state out of the lower western tier of our own counties on the North Carolina line and of these identical counties that composed the State of Frankland. He preferred the solitudes of the interior, abounding in dark forests and untravelled streams, and inhabited by fierce savages and beasts of prey, with the protection of a flag of a single star on its folds, to the cultivated plains and magnificent waters of the East under the full blaze of the new federal system.

A fine exhibition of the ready tact and ability of Graham may be seen in the letter which he prepared in compliance with an order of the Board of Trustees with a view of laying before Gen. Washington the claims of Liberty Hall Academy to the benefaction which the Father of his Country designed, to use his own words, "to the use of a Seminary, to be erected in such part of the State as they (the Legislature) should deem most proper." Here it is plain that there was no original purpose in the mind of Washington to fix upon a particular site. He left that question for the decision of the Assembly. But the letter of Graham settled it forever. That letter displays the qualities of a scholar, a patriot, and a statesman. It is wonderful to contemplate with what accuracy he foresaw the future and pictured before the imagi-

nation of Washington the very scene that is now before us. It is enough to say that the letter produced its desired effect; and that liberal benefaction was made which yields at this day three thousand dollars annually to your funds.

An incident grew out of the Washington endowment which throws so strong a light on the genius of Graham as to require a passing remark. At the session of the General Assembly succeeding that event, the General Assembly passed an act converting the Academy into a college bearing the name of Washington, and appointed a full board of visitors for the government of the same. This was done without the knowledge or consent of the Trustees incorporated by the act of 1782, and was wholly unconstitutional. It divested the institution of its lawful property and committed it to the control of others. It was plainly designed as an act of kindness by the Assembly. It raised the institution from an academy to a college, and it nominated a board of trustees of which any college might well have been proud. This act was the law of the land; and if the trustees appointed by its provisions had sought to take possession, we should have had the celebrated Dartmouth College case by anticipation by more than a score of years. The trustees of the Academy took the subject into consideration, and adopted a protest against the proposed change. That paper was drawn by Graham, and the arguments are those which were afterwards used by Daniel Webster in the case above mentioned. It must be stated, however, that though the present Federal Constitution was then in operation, Graham never could have consented to try a question of Virginia law before a Federal tribunal. The act was repealed at the next session of the Assembly. And it may be proper to say that a committee consisting of J. Wilson, Benjamin Grigsby and S. Houston, was instructed to have the title of Liberty Hall changed into that of a college, but for some reason the change was not made by the Assembly, though the name of Washington Academy was adopted; and it was not until 1813 that the name of the Academy was changed into that of Washington College.[1]

[1] Mr. Grigsby is in error in attributing the authorship of this protest to Mr. Graham. Mr. Graham had severed his connection with the Academy before the obnoxious act was passed. The protest was drawn by the Rev. Samuel Brown,

But the most important political topic which engaged the attention of Graham was the expediency of adopting the present federal constitution. That was the first great event of a strictly political nature that stirred the American mind from its innermost recesses. The Declaration of Independence was a great conjuncture; but it came when actual war had been raging more than a twelvemonth, and when the practical question of self-preservation and defense against the greatest military and naval power of the globe overruled every other. The federal constitution was framed by the general convention which held its sessions in Philadelphia from May to September, 1787; and was immediately reported to the States for their action upon it. Virginia called a convention to assemble in Richmond, in June, to take the new plan into consideration. In the interval of the two conventions, the State became one vast battle-field of debate. The most accomplished speakers appeared on the rostrum, in the pulpit after preaching was over, in the court yard and at the barbecue. It was seen soon after the smoke of the first sharp volleys had cleared away and left the scene open to the observer, that, with some remarkable exceptions on either side, the statesmen who had engaged actively in the Congress of the Confederation, who had presided on the bench of our new judiciary, and had taken an active part in the field, were inclined to support the new system; while those eminent men who had swayed the councils of the colony and the commonwealth from the dawn of the revolution to the present date, and who were then in the full vigor of their faculties, were opposed to the adoption of the constitution without many and very thorough modifications. With the first party, at the head of which was Washington, the public men of the Valley took their stand. What the considerations were that impelled them to that course, I will state at length when I come to treat of one of your trustees, Gen. Andrew Moore. But Graham took sides with Henry, Richard Henry Lee, George Mason and others, at whose feet Washington sat, as Paul sat at the

a member of the Committee of the Board of Trustees, and the manuscript draft is in the possession of his son, the Rev. William Brown, D. D. The points made in the protest as to the unconstitutionality of the act are substantially the same as those made by Mr. Webster in his great speech in the Dartmouth College case.—EDS.

feet of Gamaliel, for a quarter of a century then past. I may say in passing, as an element of no little influence in the case, that, with certain exceptions, the religious denomination to which Graham belonged adhered to the side of the constitution; while the Episcopalians and the Baptists leaned to the other side of the question. My present office is to point out the considerations which induced Graham to bring all his abilities to bear in opposing the adoption of the constitution. Like every other Virginian of that era, he loved the union of the States, and no one could see more distinctly than he did, the absolute necessity of that union to the preservation of public liberty. It was the general conviction of that day that the treaty of peace was only a truce on the part of Great Britain, who still held the western parts in palpable violation of the treaty of Paris, and was engaged in deep intrigues with the western tribes. The question then was, not whether there should be a union with the Northern States, but what should be the terms of that union, and whether those terms were contained in the instrument proposed for adoption. Graham thought that they were not, and he brought to the discussion all the researches of his industry and all the resources of his genius. He looked at the vast territory of Virginia, stretching from the Atlantic to the Mississippi, and from the Ohio to the North Carolina line; and he saw in our fertile lands, in our mineral wealth, in the number and grandeur of our streams, in our accessibility to the sea both on the west and on the east, and in our delightful climate, the elements for the formation of a mighty commonwealth.

He saw too, that in spite of the losses sustained by the war of the Revolution—losses in population, black and white, losses in all securities, losses in a currency which, having fulfilled its office of securing the public freedom, had sunk to nothing, and losses in many other things—that the State had been steadily advancing in wealth and numbers, from the date of Independence to the year 1788, with a rapidity then unknown in her history; and that her great seaport, which had been reduced to ashes at the beginning of the war, had risen in five or six years, as if touched by the wand of a magician, into four times her former dimensions, and into twenty times her former wealth, and presented to the eye a harvest of shipping which had never before been gathered in the harbors of

the new world. But Graham possessed a quality in an eminent degree which but few statesmen of any generation possess, that of embracing all the facts of a great era in all their significance; but he worked out the legitimate results of those facts for half a century to come; and when he had ascertained them with the accuracy of deliberate calculation, he brought them palpably before him with all the distinctness of a present spectacle. But the foundation of all that prosperity rested in his view upon the right of Virginia to lay her own taxes and to regulate her own trade at her own discretion. To surrender those powers so essential to the prosperity of a State, to any authority beyond her own limits, and especially to States whose white population exceeded her own at the date of cession, and which was likely to increase in a rapid ratio, while a large part of our own population was excluded by compact from all political significance whatever, seemed to Graham a sacrifice without precedent in history, and to the last degree dangerous. Nor did he overlook the fact, that the Convention which framed the new plan of government had been convoked expressly to amend the existing confederation, and that to sanction the action of such a body was substantially to surrender all hope of amending hereafter an existing form of government under special instructions to the representative. Hence, while John Blair Smith, the rival president of Hampden Sidney and his intimate friend, advocated the constitution in opposition to Patrick Henry on the court green of Prince Edward, and while there was an almost unanimous approval of that instrument by the religious denomination to which Graham belonged, he opposed it with all his zeal. And when, during the session of the Virginia convention, it was apparent that a great change had taken place in the public mind, and that efforts were making by the people to instruct their delegates in that body to vote against the constitution, he entered warmly into this mode of opposition and succeeded in obtaining a majority of the voters of Rockbridge opposed to that instrument, and forwarded the instructions to Richmond. The representatives of the county were Andrew Moore and William McKee, and both refused to obey them.[1] Had the delegates from

[1] Andrew Moore and William McKee were elected delegates to the Convention as advocates of the adoption of the Constitution. William Graham and

Rockbridge voted against the constitution, and had the delegates of only two of the other counties who represented constituents hostile to the instrument followed their example, that constitution would have failed to receive the sanction of the body, until it had received such amendments as were deemed indispensable by its opponents. Of the course of Gen. Moore and Col. McKee in refusing to obey the will of their constituents, I will speak presently. For his course on this occasion, Graham appealed to the verdict of posterity. Almost three generations have passed since the date of his action. We are now on the very hill from which he waged his war of opposition. Yonder is the highway along which the surging streams of voters from every homestead of the county rolled on their way to the court-house to record their names on the instructions. And we are that posterity in whose unborn bosoms he lodged his appeal. The experience of eighty-two years, pronounced by the tongue and the pen and the sword, is before us. And may we not declare, whatever may be our opinion on the question of the propriety of adopting the federal constitution, that the course of Graham was marked by profound ability, by a far-seeing statesmanship, and by a love of country, which neither the authority of great names, the blandishments of applause, the fear of present unpopularity, the frowns of the church to which he belonged and of which he was a devoted pastor, nor a sense of personal interest could intimidate or impair?

Such was William Graham. Cradled in the forests of the extreme frontier of civilization, and perpetually exposed to the incursions of savages, he spent his youth and early manhood in the toils and perils of the farm. Resolved to preach the gospel, and without the means of obtaining a liberal education, he sustains himself by his industry while he pursues his elementary studies. Having entered college, and called upon with his imperfect preparation to put forth all his powers to accomplish his daily task, and withal compelled to earn the means to defray his daily expenses, he wins the applause of Witherspoon, the warmest affections of his classmates, and takes his degree with the highest honors of the

John Hays were the opposing candidates. They were opposed to the adoption of the Constitution, and were defeated by a small majority.—EDS.

institution. Devoting his talents to the pulpit and to the chair of the professor, he becomes one of the most eminent divines of the age; and he solves the most abstruse problems in mental philosophy with a skill that has been praised by some of the most famous professors of that science in our own day. Living at the epoch when Virginia was passing, amid the shock of arms, from the colony to the commonwealth, and when republican institutions were to be established, he was as ready to march to the field of battle as he was to discuss schemes and to decide upon the best means of upholding the government in a time of peace, bringing to the discussion of every political question the ability and the wariness of the statesman, and advancing in his course, alike undismayed by the voice of authority and undazzled by the specious splendor of political systems. And while performing the great business of his life, in the double capacity of a servant of his Heavenly Master, and as a professor in various departments of science, and impressing on the minds of thousands the cardinal doctrines of the Christian faith and the elements of a large and generous education, and building up an institution which should continue the good work for generations to come, this great man closed his career. And, as if the lesson of so pure and so august a life should be purified from the dross of selfishness, he died poor. The talents which would have wreathed his brow with the laurels of the forum and the senate, and filled his coffers with the glittering rewards of successful industry, were spent in a private sphere, and were devoted to his country and his God. The mere worldling—the man who regards riches as the grandest of earthly distinctions—may turn with disgust from the modest, self-sacrificing course of Graham, and even laugh at his folly. But compare the two men, and mark the result. Both look steadily to the distant future. The rich man who curls his lip at the moral beauty of a career devoted to science and religion at the sacrifice of his dazzling treasures, lays his own plans of immortality. He counts his houses, and he numbers the acres of his farms, and he tells over every dollar of his hoards, and he assigns to each of his children a sum which he deems sufficient to place them hereafter within the circle of a wealthy society. Death knocks at his door, and he is laid away amid the trappings of a costly mourning; and the pon-

derous marble is evoked from its mountain bed, and, invested by the chisel with the blazonry, it may be, of an ancient and honorable line, is placed over his ashes. But he dies as the fool dieth. His memory, unredeemed by a single spark of intellectuality, or by a feeling of kinship with his race, beyond the narrow confines of his family, decays with his body, and will be dwelt upon by the world at large with no more respect and affection than that of the beasts that bore his flouting cerements to the grave. How unwise in a moral and even in a pecuniary view the conduct of such a character! He forgot altogether that he was a man and that the concerns of his fellowmen should find a lodgment in his bosom. He forgot that riches have wings and are ever ready to fly away. He forgot that the wealth of an ancestor, however vast, unless replenished by the industry of successors, rarely descends, under our institutions, to a third generation; and that his children's children, but for the generous liberality and noble philanthropy of him whose poverty he rebuked from him, would be denied the privilege of sharing the choicest blessings of knowledge and civilization; and he thus becomes in a few short years, in the persons of his descendants, a suppliant for the charity of him whose poverty was his scorn.

How different is the fame of a great Teacher, whose faculties, irrespective of the lucre that perisheth, at the sacrifice of private fortune, have been faithfully devoted, through a whole generation, to the moral, religious, and intellectual improvement of his race! What a fragrance the memory of such a man sheds, not only around the sphere of his immediate labors, but over the State, and over the nation, whose ornament and dear delight he was and ever will be! His field, in the impressive language of scripture, is the world. He makes the age in which he lives his own, and his fame looming grandly through the mists of centuries gains fresh sublimity from the progress of years, and shines with an ever increasing brightness on future generations. Though dead he yet breathes and moves in our midst in all his majesty, and he speaketh from the chair of authority, and with the lips of persuasion. Posterity bends with reverence at his grave, and looks with interest on the mouldering ruins of his infant seminary, and performs the delightful office of tracing the career of the thousands whose genius was

kindled by his instructions, who have cast the benignant light of letters and love around many a domestic hearth, whose swords have flamed on the field of battle, and whose enginery has crushed the beleaguered castle, whose eloquence has been heard in the pulpit, at the bar, and on the floor of deliberative assemblies, and decided the questions of the age, and whose patriotism, waked into vigor by his voice and example, has been the bulwark and the pride of their country. Future generations will delight to ascend the hill on which rested, amid the fallen trees of a primeval forest, and the narrow outspread of a sparse population, whose only defence was the log fort and the rifle, his humble Academy, and will delight to stray through the numerous edifices and the spacious halls which have arisen in its place; and when they pause to inspect the instruments of philosophy or the monuments of literature and science that are garnered in your treasuries, and behold the hundreds of pupils, the future guard and grace of their country, who have come hither from every part of our beloved south, and the able and accomplished men who filled the chairs of the institution, and recall the illustrious services rendered by them to their country amid the tempest of our great revolution, and in every sphere of intellectual exertion, they will feel and declare that all the glories which they behold, abounding and resplendent as they are, but serve to reflect with renewed brightness the genius of Graham, and that one of the fairest jewels in your crown of rejoicing, and in the treasury of his country, is the memory of your illustrious Founder.

JOHN MONTGOMERY.

John Montgomery, whose name is both on the Presbyterial and the chartered list of Trustees, was born in Augusta, and a graduate of Princeton in 1775. He was ordained as a minister in 1780, and accepted a call from Winchester, Cedar Creek and Opequon. After a residence of seven or eight years in this charge, he removed to the Pastures in Augusta, where he had inherited some property, and there spent the remainder of his life. Before he entered the ministry he was associated with Mr. Graham as a tutor in Liberty Hall. He is reported to have been a sound scholar, a popular

preacher, and always ready to promote the interest of the Academy. He lived to a good old age, and left numerous descendants.

JAMES WADDELL.

As I close, Mr. President, this sketch of Graham, and look over the honored names which are written on the roll of Trustees of 1776, names all of which are justly the pride of Western Virginia, and so many of which still live in their worthy descendants, I feel that the task of giving a meagre account even of their services is far beyond the limits of an occasion like the present, and that all that I can do is to take a passing glance as I go along. And after the name of the venerable Brown, the first of all is James Waddell. The pen of Wirt has made his name familiar to every reader, and I rejoice to say that it is still borne by worthy descendants. He was born of Scotch-Irish parents, in Ulster, Ireland, in July, 1739, and in the fall of the same year was brought over by them to Pennsylvania, in which colony he was educated under favorable auspices. Like Graham, he had the inestimable advantage of a pious mother whose religious training he never forgot. He made fair progress in his studies; but at the age of fourteen he met with an injury which incapacitated him for active labor, and led his parents to afford him the opportunities of a thorough education. He was hunting with his brothers, and chased a hare into a hollow tree. In the excitement of cutting him out, as his brother, says Dr. Foote, was bringing a blow with his axe, James thrust his hand under the edge, and in a twinkling it was severed almost in twain. Hastily gathering up the fingers and part of the hand, and pressing them to the stump, he ran to his parents. The mutilated hand was bandaged, and the wound healed; but the fingers and the lower part of the hand never afterwards increased in size, and were capable of very little action. Thus, as in the case of his eloquent contemporary, Drury Lacy, who lost his left hand in his youth by the bursting of a gun, the Virginia pulpit received two of its most distinguished ornaments.

He attended the Log College of Dr. Finley at Nottingham, Pennsylvania, and studied under the Rev. Mr. Campbell, who was noted for his skill in Greek. Young Waddell thus acquired

that skill in Latin and Greek, and especially in their prosody, which he retained through life, and a knowledge of the Hebrew. At the age of nineteen he left home to teach a school in South Carolina, and on his journey through Virginia called on the Rev. Samuel Davies. The immediate result of the interview was that Waddell agreed to accept a position as assistant in the school of the Rev. Mr. Todd, in the county of Louisa, and to study for the ministry. Another result was that he had the privilege of hearing Samuel Davies, and of lighting his own torch, as Patrick Henry had done before him, at the shrine of that brilliant luminary of the Presbyterian Church. An affectionate friendship existed between them, until it was ended by the early death of Davies.

In 1761 he was licensed by Hanover Presbytery to preach the gospel. His preaching became instantaneously popular. Before the end of the year he received four or five invitations to accept a pastoral charge. In the following year he accepted a call from Lancaster and Northumberland counties, where he remained until 1778, when he was called to Tinkling Spring, and afterwards divided his services between that church and the church at Staunton. After an interval of seven years, influenced by family attachments and domestic causes, he removed in 1785 to the then county of Louisa, near the present Gordonsville, where he remained till his death, which took place in September 1805, in his 66th year; and there he was buried.

In Waddell we have a fair specimen of the Scotch-Irish clergy, to whom Virginia is so deeply indebted on the score of education, of sound scholarship, of vital piety and of generous patriotism. He was critically skilled in Latin, Greek and Hebrew, and it is believed in French also, and in the literature of those tongues. It is to the immortal honor of the Scotch-Irish, that, cumbered as they were by the embarrassments of a new settlement in a wilderness distant from the sea, and exposed to its imminent dangers, they would not place the hands of their Presbytery on the heads that would not learn and could not teach, but guarded their pulpits with zealous care, and exacted a high order of attainments from every candidate for the ministry. It would form a characteristic picture of that era to present on canvas a committee of a Scotch-

Irish Presbytery, convened, it may be, in a log house, or in a building rudely constructed of the stones round and about, examining, hour after hour, a candidate for the ministry in the peculiarities of the Latin and the Greek and the Hebrew, in the metaphysical refinements of theology, and in a knowledge of general literature, before he was permitted to enter on a career that then frequently involved personal danger, at all times untiring and self-denying labors, and almost always limited comforts, if not positive poverty, to the very gates of the tomb. Excellent men! We now enjoy the results of their far-sighted wisdom and of their glorious self-denial. They thought not of present gain, but of the temporal and eternal welfare of those whom Providence had committed to their charge. They only thought of pure morals, of skill in interpreting the oracles of God, and of the diffusion of sound instruction and a pure religious faith among men. Let us ever respect the legacy which they have left us in their glorious example.

Waddell soon became known for his flowing eloquence and his apt illustrations drawn from his general reading. His tall and graceful form, his high pale forehead, his light blue eyes and his fair complexion, all heightened by a sympathetic feeling for that sad injury that had maimed him for life, arrested attention; and his voice, full and sweet, filled pleasantly the ear; and his action, at this period of his course, was polished and animated. From childhood his nervous system was delicate. At one period he could hardly lift a tumbler of water to his lips. But the great ailment of his life was the weakness of his eyes. Then came a cloud over his vision, and the researches of learning, and the light of day, and the faces of his wife and children could be seen no more. In this extremity the members of his family would read to him by turns; and in preparing his discourses he would choose his text, and have the context read to him, and the parallel passages from Cruden; and then "he would lie at full length, his right arm thrown carelessly over his head, his long fingers moving in measured beats, noting the vacuity or fulness of his thoughts, and the passage of time." After many years of total blindness there came a momentary relief. Seven years before his death, he visited Fredericktown, Maryland, with a view of being operated upon for cataract. "The

immediate effect of the operation," says Dr. Foote, "was less encouraging than had been anticipated, and he returned to his family with scarce the feeblest hope of ever seeing them, and the sweet light of heaven, again. After some time, when removing the bandages from his eyes, he thought he saw with some distinctness the divisions of the window sash, and called one of his daughters to pass her finger along the divisions of the window. By trial, he became convinced that he saw the outlines of objects correctly, though dimly. The excitement in the family was great as the word flew from child to child, '*Father can see!*' The servants caught the excitement, and '*Master can see,*' passed swiftly from mouth to mouth. He caused them all to pass in review before him that he might refresh his heart with a dim sight of those he had ever been used to look upon; and might gain some faint image of those who had been added to his household after the doors of vision had been shut, and of those too whose young bodies were rapidly increasing with their years. That was a day of rejoicing at Belle Grove. The eyes gradually recovered the power of vision sufficient for the ordinary purposes of life, and to enable him to read with properly fitted lenses. But this visit of the blessed light of heaven was of short continuance; the cataract returned."

It was after this return of his blindness that Wirt heard him preach, and wrote that animated account which is printed in all the school-books, and is the staple of one of the most charming letters of the British Spy. Waddell is described in old age as being very tall and spare; his visage long, his forehead towering upward, his face thin, and his eyes blue. He wore long white top-boots, small clothes buckled at the knees, a long loose straight-bodied coat, and a white wig. He was seldom vehement in delivery; often excited, but never boisterous; often deeply pathetic in tone and manner; very courtly in his manners, and used much gesture with both hands.[1] Such was James Waddell, one of the first trustees of your infant institution.

The late Gov. James Barbour is reported to have said that Waddell was the most eloquent man he ever heard with the exception of Patrick Henry.

[1] Dr. Foote's Sketches of Virginia, p. 384.

THE REV. CHARLES CUMMINGS.

Next to Waddell on the list of the trustees appointed by the Presbytery stands the name of the Rev. Charles Cummings. He was in truth a representative of the Scotch-Irish race to which he belonged, of the clergy of the era in which he lived, and of that abnormal magistracy which was maintained during the Revolution in the shape of Committees of Safety, and which was the efficient means for promoting the public as well as the local interests of that struggle. He was born in Ireland about the year 1743, and in early manhood emigrated to Lancaster county in this state, and studied theology, and probably taught, in the family of Dr. Waddell. In 1765 he was licensed by Hanover Presbytery to preach the gospel, and in May 1767 he was called to "Major Brown's meeting-house" in Augusta, where he was duly ordained and installed. As a mark of his early promise it may be said that he received invitations to three different places before he was licensed. In 1773 he accepted a call from the congregations of Ebbing Spring and Sinking Spring on the Holston. The names of those who invited him to this charge have been preserved by the care of the late Gov. David Campbell, and are published by Dr. Foote in his second volume. They are one hundred and thirty-eight in number, and embrace not only the ancestors of the people of Southwest Virginia, but of thousands in all the Southern States. It is a valuable document in the genealogy of the Commonwealth.

Before leaving the Northern Neck Mr. Cummings had married Mildred Carter, a daughter of John Carter of Lancaster; and in 1773, then about thirty years old, he with his family took up his abode in the wilderness of the Holston. His congregations were liable to daily attacks from the Indians. Every Sunday morning, having neatly attired himself in the dress of a minister, he put on his bullet pouch, and with rifle in hand he rode to the meeting-house. There more than a hundred brave men, equipped for instant battle, with their families, were ready to greet him. A guard was set around the house, and Mr. Cummings ascended the pulpit, and taking off his bullet pouch, and carefully placing his rifle within easy reach of his right hand, conducted the usual services. Nor were these precautions idle. During the summer

months the Indians were very troublesome, and the families of the Holston Settlement were collected in log forts for safety. "The one," says Dr. Foote, "to which Mr. Cummings always carried his family was on the land of Capt. Joseph Black, and stood on the first knoll on the Knob road, south of Abington, and on the spot where David Campbell's gate stands. In the month of July, 1776, when his family were in the fort, and he with a servant and wagon and three neighbors were going to his farm, the party were attacked by Indians, a few hundred yards from the meeting-house. Creswell, who was driving the wagon, was killed at the first fire of the Indians, and during the skirmish the two other neighbors were wounded. Mr. Cummings and his servant-man Job, both of whom were well armed, drove the Indians from their ambush, and with the aid of some men from the fort, who hearing the fire, came to their relief, brought in the dead and wounded. A statement has been published in a respectable historical work that on this occasion Mr. Cummings lost his wig. I speak from the information of an eye witness [says Gov. Campbell] when Mr. Cummings came into the fort, in saying that the story has no truth in it." Throughout the Revolution Mr. Cummings was an ardent and active patriot. He was a member of the Fincastle Committee of Safety, and when the county of Washington was organized he was the indefatigable chairman of the Committee of that county.[1] Nor was he averse to actual war. When Col. Christian, in October, 1776, made a campaign against the Cherokees, Mr. Cummings attended the troops, preaching at the stations on the route, his rifle ever at his elbow, and thus was the first preacher of the gospel within the limits of the present Tennessee. As a preacher he was most successful in swelling the number of his flock. He preached for many years, and until very old, "to one of the largest, most respectable, and most intelligent congregations ever assembled in Western Virginia." He continued to preach at Holston until near the time of his death, which occurred in March, 1812, in his eightieth year, and left a large number of

[1] He was also a member of the committee, of which Col. William Christian was chairman, which reported the patriotic and independent address of the Freeholders of Fincastle, on the 20th of January, 1775, to the Continental Congress.—EDS.

respectable descendants. Gov. Campbell, who knew him personally, and had been brought up under his eyes, thus described him: "He was of middle stature, about five feet ten inches high, well set and formed, possessing great personal firmness and dignity of character. His voice was strong and had great compass; his articulation was clear and distinct. Without apparent effort, he could speak to be heard by ten thousand people. His mind was good without any brilliancy. He understood his own system well; spoke always with great gravity, and required it from all who sat under the sound of his voice. He could not tolerate any movement among the congregation after preaching commenced. He uniformly spoke like one having authority, and laid down the law and the gospel with great distinctness as he understood them." And we are told elsewhere that he was a rigid Calvinist of the Old School, strict and even stern in the observance of the Sabbath, and faithful in teaching his children and servants the catechism. For the rest, he has left behind him a gracious memory in the records of his church and in the annals of the Commonwealth.

COL. WILLIAM FLEMING.

Few men served their country with greater zeal and ability than Col. William Fleming, of Belmont, the name of his seat in Botetourt, which he had chosen in honor of one of his ancestral seats in Scotland, and which was added to distinguish him from William Fleming of Cumberland, whom some present may recall, as he was in his latter years on the bench of the Court of Appeals. William Fleming, though not Scotch-Irish, was Scotch, and was born in the town of Jedburgh, on the 18th day of February, 1729. His father was of the noble family of Fleming, who held the barony of Fleming and the earldom of Wigton, and were long famous in Scottish annals. The Flemings were Catholics, and embraced with eagerness the cause of the beautiful Queen of Scots; and in the civil dissensions of her reign were so conspicuous that Sir Walter Scott introduces not only a female of the race as one of the confidential ladies of the Queen, but the then Lord Fleming as one of the chiefs who received Mary on her escape from Lochleven. When the titles of Lord Fleming and Earl of Wigton became extinct by the death of the last possessor without a lineal

male heir, it was believed that the claims of Col Fleming, if properly urged, would have been sustained by the House of Lords; but our old patriot, who had voted to abolish entails in Virginia, when urged to prosecute his cause was wont to say that he had two objections to such a course: the first was that he preferred the institutions of a republic to those of a monarchy; and the second was, that he had no idea of sacrificing his other children for the sake of his eldest son who was already well provided for. It is only necessary to say that the earldom of Wigton became extinct, and that at a subsequent period the title of Lord Fleming was revived in favor of one of the family.

Col. Fleming received a thorough training in Latin at a time when Greek was hardly known in the Scotch universities, and in some of his writings which I have seen shows some skill in philology. Having resolved to study medicine he entered the University of Edinburgh, where he completed his course. From his youth he seemed fond of adventure; and having obtained the berth of surgeon's mate in the British Navy, was in a sharp action with a Spanish man-of-war, during which he received a cut on the face that was never obliterated. His vessel was captured and was taken into a Spanish port, where he and his comrades were treated with great barbarity. It was his good fortune to receive occasional supplies from a noble Spanish lady, whose name he could never learn; and he has been heard to say in his latter days that he would never turn a human being from his door, if for no other reason lest such a person might possibly be descended from the Spanish lady. In his 26th year, impelled by a desire to visit new countries, and perhaps by the influence of the Scotch friends of Gov. Dinwiddie, who was then governor, he determined to visit Virginia, and reached James river in the summer of 1755, when the spirits of the people were depressed by the defeat of Braddock, and when it was believed that the western country would be the seat of a long and bloody war between England and her colonies on one part and France and probably Spain on the other. Within a month after his landing he resolved to lay aside his medical profession and embark in a military career. On the 25th of August, 1755, about six weeks after the defeat of Braddock, he received from Governor Dinwiddie the commission of ensign in Col. George Washington's Virginia regiment, and served under that officer throughout the whole

of that perilous period. In 1762 he was commissioned by the Governor lieutenant, and served under Major Andrew Lewis, at Fort Chizwell, and in several expeditions of that officer; and in the same year he was appointed by Gov. Fauquier a captain in the regiment commanded by Col. Adam Stephen. In 1774 he was appointed colonel, and led his regiment to the Ohio with others under the command of Col. Andrew Lewis. At the battle of Point Pleasant he acted a prominent part. It is well known that Col. Andrew Lewis, chief in command, sent forth his brother, Col. Charles Lewis, and Col. Fleming, with a strong detachment in the direction of the approaching enemy, who received them with a destructive volley fired from their hiding places. Both Col. Lewis and Col. Fleming were wounded at the first fire; but as Col. Lewis and other wounded officers were carried from the ground, Col. Fleming determined to remain at all hazards. When Col. Lewis was brought to the fort, it was soon seen that he was mortally wounded, and that gallant officer died in the course of the morning. The condition of Col. Fleming seemed equally desperate. He received three balls, one of which was in the wrist of the right arm, breaking the bone; the second was higher up on the same arm; and the third was in the breast. In his efforts to rally the men, he greatly aggravated the wound in the lungs. When he reached the fort surgical assistance was deemed useless; and the attention of the surgeons, who were few in number, was directed to cases not thought wholly desperate. Meantime Col. Fleming, who had sunk from exhaustion, rallied a little, and by the aid of his servant dressed his own wounds. The ball in his lungs was never extracted, produced at times acute suffering as long as he lived, and disqualified him entirely from active military service. Whenever he exerted himself, the ball, which had made a cell for itself in the lungs, would appear to move upward the height of two inches, and then fall back again, inflicting severe pain in its progress.

Although unable to endure the active labors of war, he was engaged in the civil service throughout the Revolution. On the 4th of April, 1776, he was appointed by the Committee of Safety Lieutenant and Commander-in-Chief of the County of Botetourt. On the formation of the constitution of the State, he was elected

to the Senate from the counties of Botetourt, Montgomery, Washington and Kentucky. He was thus a member of the first General Assembly of the State, and voted in favor of Mr. Jefferson's bill to abolish entails, and of other measures designed to accommodate our institutions to a republican model. At a later period he was appointed by the Assembly one of a commission to adjust disputed land titles in Kentucky, and to settle all claims against the State of Virginia. He was chosen in 1780 a member of the Council and rendered efficient aid in rescuing the public archives from the torch of Tarleton.[1] In 1788 he was a member of the convention of that year called to decide upon the present Federal Constitution and for reasons already assigned voted in favor of the adoption of that instrument. This was his last act of public service. He had now reached the seventh decade of life, and his health had been much impaired by the exposure and the wounds of a military career on the land and on the sea. With the exception of occasional trips to Kentucky, where he owned much valuable land, he spent his last days in the bosom of his family at Belmont, and with the surroundings of a wealthy patriarch. In all his domestic relations he was truly fortunate and happy. Before his removal to Botetourt he married a daughter of Israel Christian of Augusta, one of the early settlers of Augusta, and the father of Col. William Christian, of whom I will speak presently. Seven of Col. Fleming's children reached maturity and survived him. And of these, two, a son and a daughter, were living in 1860.[2] Col. Fleming died at Belmont on the 5th of August, 1795, aged 66, and was buried in the family burial ground, where his grave, enclosed by a stone wall, may now be seen. It is especially due to the memory of Col. Fleming in its present connexion to state that he was a warm friend of schools and colleges. He took an active part in the success of Hampden Sidney. He urged upon the Assembly the expediency of a high school for the county of Kentucky, which was incorporated with the name of Transylvania, and he was a cordial friend and trustee of this institution. He was a

[1] As a member of the Council he acted as chief executive of the State for a time in 1781, in the temporary absence of Mr. Jefferson from Richmond.—EDS.

[2] One of his daughters married the Rev. George A. Baxter, D. D., for many years President of Washington College.—EDS.

lover of books, and owned a good library for that day. His copy of Tillotson, carefully read and annotated by him, is in the possession of his descendants. In stature he was about the middle size; his forehead broad and massy; his nose Roman; his profile strongly marked; his eyes were blue; and his hair dark until touched with years. His teeth were sound to his dying day. He was a patriot without reproach, a brave officer, of great eminence as a physician and surgeon, one of the best of husbands and fathers, and a man whose name and virtues would confer merit on any institution with which he was connected.

COL. WILLIAM PRESTON.

One of the early trustees of Liberty Hall before its incorporation was Col. William Preston, a name then confined to the straggling settlements of the Valley, but now well-known throughout the present Union. Who was William Preston? Come with me over the one hundred and thirty-five years last past, and I will answer the question. Let us attend the organization of the county court of Augusta, the Augusta of that day, stretching along the Blue Ridge to the North Carolina line, and from the Ridge to the Ohio and the Mississippi—and a glorious principality it was! That court was held on the 9th day of December, 1745, in the village of Staunton, which was so called, probably by John Lewis, in compliment to the wife of Governor Gooch, who had granted their patents to the early settlers; but whether the maiden name of Lady Gooch was Staunton, or Staunton was the name of her English home, I am unable to ascertain. The commission from the Governor was read; and it appeared that John Lewis was appointed the presiding justice of the court. He was then 67 years old, but he was to live seventeen years more, and to see other counties carved out of his own. Born in the reign of Charles the Second, this venerable patriarch saw the entire reigns of James the Second, of William and Mary, of Queen Anne, of George the First, and of George the Second, and was to count two years of the reign of George the Third—the first king born on the soil of England since the birth of Edward the Sixth—and closed his career at Bellefonte, where his ashes now repose, at the age of

84. By the side of John Lewis sat Hugh Thompson, Robert Cunningham, James Kerr, and Adam Dickinson. John Madison, the father of the future bishop and the uncle of the future president, rises in his place and reads his commission from Thomas Nelson, Secretary of the Colony, as clerk of the new county; for it was not until the date of the Revolution, thirty years later, that the courts assumed the power of appointing their own clerks. The court proceeded to appoint a sheriff, and John Patton was invested with that office. Thomas Lewis, another of your trustees, then in the full flush of manhood, having entered his 27th year, steps forward, and reads his commission as surveyor of the new county, under the sign-manual of President Dawson of William and Mary College, the successor of the venerable Blair in that institution, and is approved by the court. The court holds its sessions from month to month, and at the May term of the following year, 1746, occurred an incident which it is my present province to notice, and which I shall read in the words of the record.

"John Preston came into court and prayed leave to prove his importation, which was granted him; and thereupon he made oath that, at his own charge, he had imported himself, Elizabeth his wife, William his son, and Lettice and Ann his daughters, immediately from Ireland into this colony, and that this is the first time of proving his said right, in order to partake of His Majesty's bounty for taking up land."

As we contemplate this December and May session of Augusta Court, how devotedly we wish that those patriarchs of our modern State, surrounded, as they then were, by the toils and the dangers of a savage wilderness, could have had a glimpse of the future of a century of years; could have known that the record of a part of the proceedings of that day should be read on such an occasion as the present; could have known that the name of Lewis would be honorably connected in peace and war with the greatest civil and military revolution of the eighteenth century; that the name of Preston would be wreathed with the glories that genius and eloquence and valor could cluster about it; that the names of Patton and Thompson and others would be more generally known than in their own time; and that the name of Madison, which was

known in the colony even before the massacre of 1622, would shine with a radiance as enduring as the records of history!

We thus see that Col. William Preston was born in Ireland, and, as we have reason to believe, in the city of Dublin; that he may have spent his first years in the shadow of Trinity College, where he played his pranks on that beautiful green which still attracts the admiration of the traveller. He was the only son of John Preston named in the record, who resided in Dublin,[1] and was engaged in mercantile pursuits, and who married a sister of Col. James Patton, of Donegal, Ireland. Col. Patton was a man of enterprise and vigor and was possessed of considerable wealth, and emigrating to Virginia before 1745 obtained from the governor for himself and his partners a grant of 120,000 acres of land in the Valley. He fixed his residence on the south fork of the Shenandoah, and also took up land in the present county of Montgomery; and in 1755, while on a visit to his lands in that region, was slain by the Indians at Smithfield. The fate of John Preston was hardly more fortunate than that of Patton. He first settled at Spring Hill, afterwards occupied by Dr. Waddell, the blind preacher, and about the year 1743 purchased and occupied a tract afterwards owned by the late General Baldwin. Here in 1747, the year after he had proved his claim to land in virtue of his emigration, he died suddenly, and a neat monument now marks his place of burial. He left a widow and five children, all but one having been born in Ireland. One of his daughters married Robert Breckenridge, the grandfather of Robert and John Breckenridge, those eloquent divines of our own times. Another daughter married the Rev. Dr. John Brown, your second rector, whose eminent sons I have spoken of in their proper places, and concerning one of whom I may now say that, as the representative of the United States at the court of France, he announced to Louis the Eighteenth the celebrated utterance of his government commonly known as the Monroe Doctrine. Another daughter married Mr. Howard, whose eldest son was the first governor of Missouri; and another married Mr. Smith and was the grandmother of the Mar-

[1] Mr. Grigsby is mistaken in saying that John Preston resided in Dublin. He was from Londonderry.—EDS.

shalls of Kentucky. Thus it seems that though John Preston lived but a short time in the new world, his posterity may be counted by hundreds.

But it is William, the only son of John Preston, that now demands our attention. He enjoyed those advantages of education within the range of a frontier settlement, and especially, as we may suppose, the instructions of Dr. Brown, his brother-in-law, who conducted your Academy. He soon exhibited talents which placed him in after life on a level with the prominent men of that day. At that era, prowess in Indian campaigns was one of the main tests of character, just as in our late contest a wound on the battlefield was a passport to the smiles of beauty. One of his early engagements was that of a surveyor under Washington, and there arose from this connection a friendly feeling between them that was cherished by Washington after the decease of Preston. In 1756 he accompanied Maj. Andrew Lewis in the Shawanese expedition, or the Sandy Creek voyage, as it is sometimes called, which involved greater hardships than any other of our incursions into the Indian territory, and which, though no enemy was present, had nearly resulted in the destruction of the whole party by starvation. The object of the expedition was confined to the breast of Major Lewis; but its aim probably was to build a fort between the Shawanese towns on the Ohio, to destroy those towns, and to punish a race of Indians, who, for a third of a century later than 1756, committed cruel murders within the settlements of Virginia. Of this expedition we fortunately possess an account from the pen of Col. Preston himself. It consisted of about 340 men, commanded by Captains Preston, Hays, one of your trustees, John Smith, Archibald Alexander, the grandfather of the celebrated divine, Robert Breckenridge, Woodson, Overton, Montgomery, and Dunlap, with Capt. Paris at the head of a number of friendly Cherokees; Maj. Andrew Lewis holding the chief command. Maj. David Stuart, the father of good old Col. John Stuart of Greenbrier, accompanied the party. It set out from Fort Frederic on the 18th of February, and passing the Bear Garden and Burke's Garden reached the head of Clinch on the 26th, and on the 28th the head of Sandy Creek, which was so crooked that in

15 miles the men were forced to cross it sixty-six times. Their stores were soon exhausted, and their numbers were too great to be fed by hunting. After enduring the utmost extremity of hunger, the men on the 13th of March refused to proceed further, and resolved to return home. Capt. Preston, though feeble from famine, and though his entire company (except the officers) had determined to return, was resolved to carry out the expedition, and proposed the killing of the horses for food; but the men replied that horseflesh might answer, if they were returning, to support them home; but that it was not proper diet to sustain men enduring every hardship on a long march against an enemy. The failure of the expedition was attributed partly to the foul play of the guides; but a sufficient explanation may be found in the fact that so large a body of men left Fort Frederic in winter for a journey of hundreds of miles through a trackless wilderness with provisions for sixteen days only. In this trying scene the conduct of Capt. Preston deserves the highest praise. Neither famine, nor the severities of the season, nor the toil of climbing mountains with tottering limbs, sufficed to dismay him. It was in such a school that Andrew Lewis learned that discipline which enabled him eighteen years later to conduct his army through forests equally dense and over mountains as rough, and at the end of a weary march to gain the battle of Point Pleasant; that Hays, your trustee, learned that intrepidity with which he led his Rockbridge boys to ply the rifle on the heights of Saratoga; and that Preston was taught those lessons of self-command which subsequently marked his course, and which were seen in his march against the Cherokees, at Whitsell's Mills, and at Guilford.

In May, 1774, he was a member of the House of Burgesses; and when Col. Christian was advised by Lord Dunmore to return home, and to use his endeavors to prevent the inhabitants from deserting their homes from fears of the Indian war then impending, and to collect forces for the emergency, he called Col. Preston to his aid, and spoke in warm terms of his energy and skill on that trying occasion. Col. Preston also marched with Col. Christian to the head of Clinch, and remained in active service until the close of October, when the troubles were for a time appeased by the suc-

cessful issue of the battle of Point Pleasant.[1] In 1780 he was engaged with Col. Christian and Col. Arthur Campbell in their respective expeditions against the Cherokees. He was also at the battle of Guilford, and received the congratulations of Gen. Greene for his gallant conduct. Such was the efficiency of his service in protecting the frontiers of Virginia and North Carolina, that the latter state gave him in conjunction with Col. Campbell a vote of thanks for his energy and enterprise.

He lived to see the close of the war of the Revolution, and died at Smithfield, in June, 1783, aged 53 years. He was said to have been a man of imposing presence and of a pleasing address, and to have maintained a serene temper amidst the worriments of the forest and of the field. His height exceeded six feet, his complexion was fair and florid. Like his father, who won the hand of an Irish heiress by the beauty of his person and the elegance of his deportment, Col. Preston was regarded as remarkably handsome. His disposition was humane, as was shown by his treatment of the Indians and the Tories. He was a member of the church; and while living at Smithfield, in Montgomery, would ride once a year as far as Staunton to commune in the Presbyterian church in that town. The style of his letters and of his other writings that have survived him evinces good taste; and a library quite respectable for the times attested his love for letters. Some verses of his which have been seen by persons now living are said to show that he was no unsuccessful votary of the Muses. He married and left eleven children, all of whom have held a high place in the esteem of the world. Of these, five were sons: John, Francis, the father of the late William C. Preston, of South Carolina, James, William and Thomas; and six were daughters: Mrs. Madison, Mrs. McDowell, Mrs. Hart, Mrs. Lewis and Mrs. Floyd.

COL. ARTHUR CAMPBELL.

The name which holds the first place on your roll of incorporated trustees, and which justly maintains a prominence on the

[1] He was also a member of the committee of which Col. William Christian was chairman, which drafted the address of the Fincastle Freeholders in January, 1775.—EDS.

score of age and public service among his distinguished contemporaries, is that of Col. Arthur Campbell, of Washington county. He was the son of David Campbell, whose progenitor emigrated from Ireland to Pennsylvania, and thence to Virginia; and in 1742, in the present county of Augusta, Arthur Campbell was born. When a youth of fifteen he was engaged in protecting the settlers from the Indians; and having been stationed at a fort near where the road from Staunton to the Warm Springs crosses the Cowpasture river, when on one occasion he and his companions sallied forth on a short excursion, was taken prisoner by a party of Indians and remained with them for three years, traversing in that interval the entire region now forming the states of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. This incident, which withdrew him from the opportunities of education and which subjected him to innumerable hardships, was overruled for the advancement of his own reputation and for the benefit of his country. He became intimately acquainted with the geography of the Northwest Territory, which Virginia afterward gained by her arms, and not, perhaps, without his counsels; he learned the habits and the language and the tactics of the Indians and acquired the capacity of enduring fatigue, which was beneficial in his subsequent career. It was also observed that some traits of character, which were ever afterwards observable, might be traced to this period. On his return home to his parents, who had long mourned him as dead, he applied himself to learning, with the energy of a fully developed character, and made remarkable progress in his studies. He had run off from the Indians on the northern lakes, and made his way through a wilderness of two hundred miles to a detachment of the British army that was marching into the Indian country, and he was immediately engaged as a guide. It was his mingling with the British officers, perhaps, that first led him to perceive the importance of knowledge to the attainment of permanent and thorough success. For his conduct in guiding the army he was presented with a thousand acres of land near the present town of Louisville, Kentucky. He pursued his studies with such success as to become in due time a ready and correct writer, and from his early manhood seems to have been a favorite with the General

Assembly, and to have received every manifestation of regard from the people.

A few years before the Revolution he removed with a brother and sister to a farm called the Royal Oak on the Holston river, then a wilderness and an Indian hunting ground; and in 1776 he was chosen by the county of Fincastle, which had been separated from Botetourt four years before, a delegate to the Convention of Virginia, which met in the city of Williamsburg on the 6th day of May. That body, which dissolved the relations of Virginia with the British crown and declared her absolute independence, which instructed her delegates in Congress to bring forward a similar measure in that body, and which framed the first written constitution of a free commonwealth, holds a distinguished place in human history. To have been one of its members, and to have aided in attaining its valuable results, is an honor beside which an inscription in the roll of Battle Abbey dwindles in the comparison, and which will be a pleasing and glorious record for ages to come. And it should be said in honor of your then infant institution, that not less than four of its trustees—Thomas Lewis, John Bowyer, Samuel McDowell, and Arthur Campbell—held seats in that Assembly. And although we know from private letters that there was a disposition on the part of some of the members to shrink from the decisive action of the hour, we also know that the trustees of Liberty Hall acted with the most determined men on that occasion.[1]

Col. Arthur Campbell was also a member of the first House of Delegates under the constitution, and was deeply interested in the religious and political questions discussed during that session, embracing those liberal views of which Mr. Jefferson was the representative.

On the organization of Washington county in January, 1777, he was appointed county lieutenant and commander-in-chief; and in 1779 joined Col. Sevier after the battle of Boyd's Creek with a regiment of Virginians, scouring the Cherokee country, and destroying their habitations. He returned home with a firm assurance that the punishment inflicted upon the Indians would secure

[1] He was also a member of the committee that drafted the address of the Freeholders of Fincastle in January, 1775.

the settlers for some time to come. In 1781, at the head of seven hundred mounted riflemen, he led an expedition against the Cherokees, which was entirely successful, and was the first experiment on a large scale of that mode of warfare. The result of the expedition was the negotiation of the Cherokee treaty of that date. His conduct on this occasion was reported to Congress by Governor Jefferson in most flattering terms, and was warmly praised by Girardin in his History of Virginia.

For thirty-five years Col. Campbell resided on his estate on the Holston, and during that time was county lieutenant and the commander of the 70th regiment. He then removed to Yellow Creek, Knox county, Kentucky, where he died of a cancer in the face at the age of sixty-nine. He married the third sister of Gen. William Campbell, the hero of King's Mountain, with whom in peace and war he was so intimately associated. Two of the sons of Arthur Campbell lost their lives during the war of 1812: Capt. James Campbell, who died at Mobile, and Col. John B. Campbell, who fell at Chippewa, where he commanded the right wing under Gen. Scott.

Col. Arthur Campbell was six feet in height, of a grave and dignified demeanor, firm and positive in action, utterly regardless of the ordinary means of acquiring popularity, and though he had some bitter enemies he counted some of the first men of the age among his personal friends. His conversational powers were said to be unusual; and from his temperate mode of life, his presidency for the third of a century in a court of justice, his correspondence with eminent men, and his habits of study, his intellectual faculties were preserved in fine play to the end of his life.

COLONEL WILLIAM CHRISTIAN.

Among the earliest trustees of Liberty Hall, and second on the roll of the incorporated institution, stands the name of Col. William Christian. It was for almost an entire generation one of the foremost in war and peace in the annals of the west, when the west was within the limits of Virginia, and was bounded by the Ohio and Mississippi. He was the only son of Israel Christian, who was among the earlier settlers of Augusta, and was of Scotch-Irish

extraction. Israel Christian followed the business of a merchant, founded a large family, which was united in marriage with the most conspicuous persons of that era, and accumulated a fortune ample enough to endow his children with respectable wealth. He was esteemed by his fellow-citizens, and represented the county of Augusta in the House of Burgesses in 1758, when George Mason was a young member from Fairfax, and Edmund Pendleton was another young member from Caroline, and George Washington was another young member from Frederick. This session of the House was one of the most important ever held in the colony, and was composed of the ablest men who had ever assembled in our councils. Of the proceedings of the body I have spoken elsewhere. Israel Christian died, I believe, before the Revolution, and left, besides his distinguished son William, several daughters, one of whom married Col. William Fleming, of Botetourt, one of your trustees; a second married Judge Caleb Wallace, another trustee; a third married Col. William Bowyer, of Botetourt; and a fourth married Col. Stephen Trigg, of Kentucky. Three counties in Kentucky named in honor of his son and two of his sons-in-law—Christian, Fleming and Trigg—afford a pleasing and lasting remembrance of family worth and distinction.

Col. William Christian was born in Augusta in 1743, was educated with great care by his father, and arriving at manhood was soon employed in the active schemes of offence and defence against the incessant attacks of the Indians. On the organization of the first two Virginia regiments in 1775, he was chosen lieutenant-colonel of the first, of which Patrick Henry was the colonel. To such distinction did he attain as a military man that in May, 1776, he was appointed colonel of the first battalion of Virginia militia, and commander-in-chief of an expedition against the Overhill Cherokee Indians, the troops under his command consisting of two battalions from Virginia and one from North Carolina, which, with other men necessarily employed, composed an army of 1600 men—an extraordinary number for that period. Again in 1780 he commanded another expedition against the Cherokees, and at Double Springs was joined by troops from North Carolina under Col. Sevier, whose original name of Xavier shows his French extraction, and who was a son of the Valley of Virginia. These

marches against the Indians were always successful. In 1781, after the successful expedition of Col. Arthur Campbell against the Cherokees, when it was decided to make a treaty with those Indians, and when it was then not known to whom the authority belonged to make treaties with Indians who roamed through the territories of several states, an application was made to Gen. Greene to appoint a commission for the purpose; and that officer complied with the request, and placed Colonel Christian at its head. It consisted of Col. Christian, Col. Arthur Campbell, Col. William Preston, and Col. Joseph Martin, of Virginia, and of some able men from North Carolina.

But though called into military service at every emergency, he was a member of the House of Burgesses, and participated in the various stages of the disputes that led to the Declaration of Independence. In May, 1774, while in Williamsburg, when the Indian troubles were brewing that led to the Battle of Point Pleasant, he was earnestly entreated by Lord Dunmore to leave his seat in the house and hasten to the West to provide against the threatened danger. He accordingly hastened to the mountains and collected troops with which he marched to the seat of war. When he had successfully accomplished the object in view, he hastened to unite his forces with those of Col. Andrew Lewis; but before he reached Camp Union, the present Lewisburg, Col. Lewis had marched to the Ohio. It is stated by Campbell, though not sustained by other authorities, that if Christian had united his forces with those of Lewis, the chief command would have devolved upon him. He hastened his march, but did not reach Lewis until the midnight after the battle of Point Pleasant, when he found that every arrangement was made for the renewal of the fight next morning. Next day he marched to meet the enemy, who had withdrawn early at the close of the fight the evening before, leaving thirty-three dead bodies which they had not been able to throw into the Ohio.

Like most of the prominent military and political actors of his time, he owned large possessions in Kentucky, whither in 1785 he removed with his family and settled on Bullskin creek, and afterwards on Oxmoor creek, an estate which is still in possession of his family, near the site of the present city of Louisville. Here

his career was destined soon to end. In the year after his arrival a party of Indians stole a number of horses in his vicinity, and he determined to pursue them. He reached a spot near where the town of Jeffersonville in Indiana now is, where he overtook two of the Indians. Col. Christian was riding in front, and was followed by Col. Bullett, his son-in-law, and Major O'Bannon. As Col. Christian dismounted, preparatory to firing, he was shot and killed by one of the Indians; and at the same instant both of the Indians were shot and mortally wounded by Col. Bullett and Maj. O'Bannon. One of the company of the name of Kelly, who ran to tomahawk the Indian whose gun had not been discharged, but who had been mortally wounded, was shot dead by the Indian, who in a dying state sprang to his feet and discharged his rifle. The body of Col. Christian was conveyed home, and was buried in the graveyard on the plantation which is still owned by his grandson. A plain slab marks the spot, and is inscribed: "Col. William Christian was killed in an action with the Indians April 9, 1786, aged 43. This monument was erected to his memory by the filial piety of his son John Henry Christian, who died Nov. 5, 1800, aged 19." So with the century expired the last male heir of William Christian.

When the intelligence of his death was spread through Kentucky, which was then a part of Virginia, and through Virginia proper, and especially in the Valley, where his talents and services were so well known and admired, grief for the sudden extinction of such a master-spirit was profound and general. None felt the loss of such a man at such a conjuncture more keenly than his brother-in-law, Patrick Henry, who wrote to his sister in a strain of pious eloquence which had probably never before fallen from his pen, and which shows that the heart of the orator responded to the tenderest emotions of domestic love. "Would to God," said the sympathizing brother, "I could say something to give relief to the dearest of women and sisters. My heart has felt in a manner new and strange to me, insomuch that, while I am endeavoring to comfort you, I want a comforter myself. I forbear to tell you how great was my love for my friend and brother. I turn my eyes to heaven where he is gone, I trust, and adore with humility the unsearchable ways of that Providence which calls us off this stage

of action at such time and in such manner as its wisdom and goodness direct." And he concludes his letter: "For, indeed, my dearest sister, you never knew how much I loved you and your husband. My heart is full. Perhaps I may never see you in this world. Oh! may we meet in that heaven to which the merits of Jesus will carry those who love and serve him. Such is the prayer of him who thinks it his honor and pride to be your affectionate brother."

Such was William Christian—a successful soldier, where other men would have yielded to despair, and a wise statesman. After the untimely death of Gen. Andrew Lewis, he was regarded as the first military genius of the West, to whom all eyes were turned at the approach of danger. Had he lived to behold the administration of Washington, who greatly esteemed him, he would have been appointed by acclamation to command those expeditions against the Indians which in other hands resulted so disastrously. It is pleasing to state that his descendants in Kentucky are numerous and respectable, and that the estate on which his ashes repose is still owned by his grandson.

GENERAL ANDREW MOORE.

The third name on the roll of incorporated trustees is that of one who long lived in this town, who often ascended this hill and mingled in your deliberations, who fought long and bravely in the armies of the North during the Revolution, who represented Rockbridge many years in the House of Delegates, who was the first representative of Rockbridge in the House of Representatives of the United States, who was the first representative of the Valley in the Senate of the United States, who spent his last days in the shadow of your college, and whose honored dust rests in yonder cemetery. Such a description can apply to one man only, and that man is Gen. Andrew Moore.

His grandfather was one of nine brothers who came over to this country from Ireland between 1740 and 1750, most of whom settled in South Carolina, and all of whom served in the war of the Revolution, in which more than one of them are believed to have fallen. When the brothers came over to America they brought with them an aged female ancestor who could remember the siege of

Derry, during which she had been driven under the walls of that city by the generals of James the Second—a policy which that cruel king adopted with a view of forcing the besieged to surrender; and she used to tell her descendants of the dead bodies beneath the walls, some of them with tufts of grass in their mouths, which they had torn from the earth to appease their hunger.

The father of Gen. Andrew Moore was David, who was an upright and industrious farmer, and who lived at a place in the northern part of Rockbridge, then Augusta, now called Cannicello, where in 1752 Andrew was born. His mother was Miss Evans, who was of Welsh descent. He probably received his early training at the Academy before it assumed the name of Liberty Hall, under the Rev. Dr. Brown, and in early life taught school for a short time; but seeking a more active sphere, he made a voyage to the West Indies, and was cast away on a desert island, where for three weeks his companions and himself were forced to feed, in the extremity of their hunger, on a species of lizard that abounded in the island; but were relieved from their fate by a passing vessel which brought them to the United States. He now turned his attention to law, and, either in the office of Chancellor Wythe in Williamsburg, or under his advisement, pursued his legal studies, and about 1774 obtained a license to practice law. But the courts were soon closed by the Revolution; and in 1776 young Moore entered the army as a lieutenant in a company that was afterwards attached to Morgan's Rifle Corps, of which John Hays, one of your trustees, was captain. It should be observed in passing, as creditable to Rockbridge, that as soon as Moore obtained his commission as lieutenant he went to a log-rolling in the neighborhood and enlisted nineteen men in one day, that being the whole number present capable of bearing arms. He soon obtained his complement of one hundred men, and was ordered to march to the North. Nearly his whole military life was spent in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York. In the last mentioned state he was actively engaged in the capture of Burgoyne's army, and was present with his company as a part of Morgan's corps in the battle of Saratoga, which resulted in the surrender of the British forces. After having obtained the rank of Captain, and having served three successive years, as there was a great number

of supernumerary officers, he resigned his commission, and returned home. He now entered the House of Delegates as one of the representatives of Rockbridge, and was a member when the Assembly was driven from Charlottesville by the cavalry of Tarleton.

He was now placed in a position in which he was to acquire his most shining titles to the public regard. The legislature of Virginia from 1780 to 1789, when he retired from the body, was one of the best schools of statesmanship ever offered to a young politician. In that interval nearly all the great questions of that era were discussed and decided. All the leading topics of a republican system in relation to foreign and domestic affairs came before the body. The expediency of a church establishment, assessments for the support of religion, paper money, the payment of taxes in kind, the confiscation of British debts, the regulation of the customs which each State controlled according to its interests, the new judiciary system, the expediency of forming the Articles of Confederation, and at a later day, of amending them, instructions to the delegates in Congress which involved a full discussion of foreign affairs, the mode and means of conducting the war, the military expeditions of the West, the disposition of the public land which extended to the Mississippi and the Northern lakes, the navigation of the Mississippi itself, were some of the topics which tasked the wisdom and the patience of the men of that era. And although our limits will not allow us to trace the course of Gen. Moore through this period with any degree of minuteness, it is due to his memory to say that, while he particularly distinguished himself in support of the act concerning religious freedom in all the phases through which it passed and recorded his name among those who carried this measure on its final passage, his votes on the test measures of that day, which were presented in the action of the House of Delegates on the bills of the revisors and otherwise, are most honorable to him, when viewed in the light which the experience of almost ninety years has cast upon them. He was a member of the Assembly when the resolution convoking the meeting at Annapolis to propose amendments to the existing Articles of Confederation was adopted, and when subsequently the resolution inviting the meeting in Philadelphia of the convention which framed the present Federal Constitution passed the House; and

when that instrument was presented to the States for approval, he was a member of the convention which in June, 1788, met in Richmond to discuss it, and voted to ratify the same in behalf of Virginia. One incident that occurred during the session of the Convention in 1788 is so illustrative of character as to require a passing notice. As the debate in the convention proceeded, the State at large shared in the excitement of the body. The opinions of the members were scrutinized by their constituents; and it became known in Rockbridge that Moore and his colleague, McKee, who was also a trustee of yours, were determined to vote for the adoption of the constitution. Accordingly the majority of the freeholders of the county, who were opposed to that instrument, drew up instructions to Moore and McKee, requiring them to oppose the constitution at all hazards, and forwarded them to Richmond. Those instructions Moore and his colleague refused to obey, and voted to ratify the constitution.[1] This was the first deliberate refusal of a representative to obey the instructions of his constituents that had then occurred in our history, and its flagrancy was the greater, as, unlike the cases of ordinary acts of Assembly, the deed was irrevocable. On his return home he gave his constituents an opportunity of punishing him by appearing as a candidate at the next election; and the result was that he received three votes to one of the opposing candidates. Had Moore and McKee, of Rockbridge, and Thomas Lewis, of Rockingham, Archibald Stuart and Zachariah Johnston, of Augusta, and William Fleming, of Botetourt, all of whom were trustees of Liberty Hall, voted against the ratification of the Federal Constitution, the fate of that paper would have been sealed. It is a fact in the history of this college and of the State, that the Federal Constitution was carried by the vote of the Trustees of Liberty Hall.

At the first election of members of the House of Representatives under the Federal Constitution, he was chosen from the Rockbridge district, and was successively elected till 1797, a period that embraced the entire administration of Washington. Being an active member of one of the two great parties that then divided the

[1] In the election of delegates to the convention the issue of the adoption or rejection of the constitution was distinctly made, and they were therefore clearly justified in refusing to obey instructions subsequently given.—EDS.

country, he declined a re-election to Congress, and with Madison and Giles entered the House of Delegates of Virginia, which was thought a more efficient field for fighting the battle which should determine the fate of the administration of the elder Adams. During his term in Congress he often spoke with ability on the complicated and irritating questions of the day, and ranged himself with the party which was then called Republican. It would be an interesting office to record his speeches and votes as I have traced them on the journals, but our limits wholly preclude the task. In 1798–'99 and 1799–1800, he sustained in the House of Delegates the resolutions of John Taylor, of Caroline, which were drawn by Mr. Madison, and the famous Virginia Report which has held so large a place in our political annals. On the election of Jefferson to the Presidency he returned to Congress and took his seat in the House of Representatives in 1803, in which he remained one year, when he was chosen by the General Assembly a Senator of the United States, in which office he served until 1809, when he withdrew from the body, and was soon after appointed United States Marshal for the district of Virginia, and held that office until his death, on the 14th day of April, 1821, in the seventieth year of his age.

Gen. Moore was in his day the representative man of the West. Every civil and military office within the gift of Virginia and the people was freely bestowed upon him. His public career began in 1776, and from that time to the date of his death, in 1821—a lapse of forty-five years—he can hardly be said to have been out of the public service. As a soldier, as a member of the House of Delegates, as a member of both Houses of Congress, as a brigadier and major-general, and as the United States Marshal of Virginia, he performed his various duties with the approbation of his country. Though passing the ordeal of twenty-nine elections in the course of his life, he was invariably successful, excepting that he failed to be elected a member of the former Executive Council by a single vote—an office which, had it been conferred upon him, he would have promptly declined. At an early date he was chosen brigadier-general, and in 1809 he was chosen major-general. He was a most successful lawyer; and there is now living a venerable

lady,[1] at the age of ninety, who can recall his return from distant courts with his saddle-bags full of coin, which he would empty on the bed, and, casting a corner of the quilt over the glittering mass, would leave it in charge of his wife. He was a man of a large frame, not above the middle height, with dark gray eyes, and at special times paid much attention to his dress, as was the case with all whom he associated with abroad. Towards the close of the last century and in the early part of the present, he wore ruffles not only on the breast, as was common in our own times, but at the wrists; and shorts buckled at the knee, and long silk stockings. When he took his departure for Congress, which held its sessions during his term of service in New York, Philadelphia and Washington, there was quite a stir in your pleasant town. A coach with four spanking bays would be driven up before his door, and on the box, neatly attired for a journey and skilled in the mysteries of the whip, would be seated Jim Berry, a white man, and in the rear of the coach would follow the baggage wagon, driven by one of his slaves. He married Sally, the eldest daughter of Col. Andrew Reid, who long survived her husband, and was known and loved by many within the sound of my voice. He was always the advocate of a thorough education, and observing the dawning genius of his young neighbor, Archibald Alexander, afterwards so celebrated as a divine, he earnestly exhorted him to proceed to Princeton and to pursue his studies in the college of New Jersey. And I may mention here a fact which has an intimate connection with this institution. It happened that when Washington received the grant of the James River shares from the State of Virginia, Moore was a member of the House of Representatives, and was sent for by the Father of his Country to be consulted about appropriating the shares to the use of some literary institution above the falls of the rivers. Gen. Moore presented the claims of Liberty Hall, and after a consultation with his colleague from the Washington district, the late Gen. Francis Preston, who united with him in urging upon Washington the claims of the Academy, he wrote to the trustees, who presented their case in the able argument already noticed in the sketch of Graham, and received that generous benefaction

[1] Mrs. McCampbell, the sister of Mrs. Moore.—EDS.

which you still enjoy. I may also add that he probably drew your charter, and certainly guarded and guided it in its passage through the Assembly. It was my fortune to see and know this noble patriot in his venerable old age. Rather more than half a century ago, and not long before his death, he visited Norfolk on official business, performing, by the way, the whole journey on horseback; and, young as I then was, I shall never forget the pleasing impression which he made upon me. He was the first human being I ever knew who was born west of the Blue Ridge, and who lived in the mountains; and to my simple inquiries about the mountains and the Indians he made kindly answers that gratified me much. He was cheerful in conversation, and although he was employed during the day with the perplexing details of business, in the evening at the house of my mother he appeared free from care, and with his pleasant address and charming talk gained the regard of us all. He ever enjoyed the cordial and unbounded confidence of Jefferson, Madison and Monroe, all of whom survived him several years.

Such was Andrew Moore. Sprung from the Scotch-Irish race, he was ever true to its leading characteristics. His private life was without a blemish. In the flush of youth he participated in the battles fought in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and he saw the flag of Britain lowered on the hills of Saratoga, and the proud and confident hosts of Burgoyne with all their artillery and baggage the reward of the first great victory ever won by the arms of his country—a victory in the winning of which the corps to which he belonged rendered essential service. In the House of Delegates he was the constant friend and earnest advocate of civil and religious liberty, and actively upheld those laws that constitute the base of a Republican system. And in Congress, in both houses of which he held a seat for years, he never uttered a sentence or gave a vote that did not reflect credit upon his head and his heart, and that his descendants may not contemplate with a becoming pride. It is grateful to know that the name of such a man has been illustrated in the persons of his children, and is known and honored in our own times.

COL. SAMUEL MCDOWELL.

We come to a particular name in the roll of the incorporated trustees which will ever be held in grateful remembrance in the Valley. Take from the history of this beautiful region the name of McDowell, and its connections with the Greenlees, the Reids, the Moffetts, the Prestons, the Moores, and others of whom I have not time to tell, but which your own memory will supply, what a blank would appear in that catalogue of stars whose light shines upon us so delightfully from every sphere of genius, moral worth, valor, true piety and high statesmanship, and which, we fondly hope, will shine upon our children for generations and ages to come!

The ancestor of the McDowells was Ephraim, who with his wife, both well stricken in years, with his daughter Mrs. Greenlee and her husband, and with his sons James and John, came from Ireland, by the way of Pennsylvania, to Augusta in 1737. They were of the Scotch-Irish race. The venerable parents went down to the grave early and in peace. John, the younger son, married Magdalene Woods, and was a skilful surveyor and man of business; and while engaged under favorable auspices in founding a fortune for his posterity, was slain suddenly by the Indians in 1743, near the junction of the North River with the James, near where the Paxton farm now is. Thus was he cut off, after a brief residence of six years in his new home. He was buried in the cemetery surrounded by a stone wall, which may still be seen near the main road leading from Staunton to this town, and in which a rude contemporaneous head-stone bears the inscription: "Here lies the body of John McDowell, deceased December 1743." He left two sons, Samuel, your trustee, and James; and a daughter Martha, who married Col. George Moffett, another of the worthiest of your trustees. Of James, the younger son of John, I will only say in passing that he married Miss Cloyd, and died in 1770, at the age of thirty-five, leaving three children, one of whom, James, married Sarah Preston, the granddaughter of John Preston, the ancestor of the Prestons, and the daughter of Colonel William Preston, another of your trustees, and whom you will recognize at once as the well known Col. James McDowell, whose dignified person was to be seen at your board at the annual celebrations of forty years, and

whom I can recall in his handsome suit of blue and buff as he entered your hall or sat on your platform nearly half a century ago; and whose memory will ever be fresh not only on account of his long and faithful services as a trustee of the college, but as the father of that eminent and ever to be beloved and lamented christian statesman, the late Gov. James McDowell, whose eloquence, uttered on the floor of Congress, has been likened to that of Fisher Ames when the illustrious orator of the north spoke in defence of the British treaty, and drew tears from the accomplished Winthrop then filling the speaker's chair as it has rarely been filled before or since; who, like his father, was a pupil and a trustee of your institution, and whose memory, as fresh and as perennial as these lovely mountains that look down upon his ashes, has woven one of the brightest chaplets for the brow of his *alma mater*, and for the brow of another, greater still, the common mother of us all.

But our present office is with Samuel, the eldest son of John, who was one of the trustees of 1776, as well as one of those of the incorporated institution. He was born in 1733 in Augusta, studied law, and, like most of his contemporaries of that era, took an active part in the different expeditions against the Indians. He was at the battle of Point Pleasant, where with his comrades he fought bravely. At the mature age of forty-one, after having served a period in the House of Burgesses, and witnessed the parliamentary conflicts that preceded the Revolution, he took his seat in the March convention of 1775, and brought with him to that body in connection with his colleague Thomas Lewis the truly patriotic resolutions drawn by the Rev. Mr. Balmain, and adopted by the freeholders of Augusta on the 22nd of the previous month, which made a decided protest against the right of parliament to tax the colonies, and highly approved the conduct of the first delegates to the Congress. These resolutions, strong and patriotic as they were, very wisely abstained from the introduction of topics which were then deemed premature, and had no direct relation to independence. They took the true ground held in the state papers sent forth by Congress and the House of Burgesses at that immediate period. Indeed, at that session of March, 1775, so far from thinking of independence, the convention adopted a resolution of thanks to Lord Dunmore which I now read: "Resolved,

unanimously, that the most cordial thanks of this colony are a tribute justly due to our worthy governor Lord Dunmore, for his truly wise, noble and spirited conduct on the late expedition against our Indian enemy; a conduct which at once evinces his Excellency's attention to the true interests of this colony, and a zeal in the Executive department, which no dangers can divert, or difficulties hinder, from achieving the most important services to the people who have the happiness to live under his administration."

Colonel McDowell was also a member of the convention of July of the same year, when the troubles were darkening, and when the animated contest occurred on the resolutions of Patrick Henry for putting the colony into a posture of defence, and in support of which he uttered his famous exclamation, "Give me liberty, or give me death." Believing the plan of Henry to be more in unison with the demands of the moment than the grander and more costly scheme proposed by Col. Nicholas, he voted for the creation of the first two Virginia regiments and for Henry as commander-in-chief. On his return home he had a tall poplar tree cut down and skinned, and set up in his yard as a liberty pole—the first visible standard of opposition to the British government ever reared in the Valley.

In the Convention of December, 1775, he again took his seat, as the senior member of the Augusta delegation. The death of Peyton Randolph, who had presided in the previous conventions, and who had received the special thanks of Augusta, occurred in October, and the first duty of the body was to elect a successor; and when Paul Carrington proposed the name of Col. Pendleton, McDowell cast his vote for that gentleman. A few days after the meeting the battle of the Great Bridge took place, and Col. McDowell was one of those who gave cordial praise to Woodford for his gallant conduct on that occasion. Though Col. McDowell had approved the scheme of Henry in preference to that of Col. Nicholas at the preceding session, he now deemed war as imminent, and voted to raise seven additional battalions, and for the officers who should command them. He also voted for the reappointment of the Committee of Safety, which was charged with the executive duties of the Colony.

But it was in the May Convention of 1776 that Samuel

McDowell had the opportunity of connecting his name with some of the most memorable transactions of the eighteenth century. He and his colleague Thomas Lewis had brought with them from the county committee of Augusta a representation, as it is called on the journals of the Convention, which deserves a notice even in the rapid review which I am compelled to take of the most important events in our annals. It is the first deliberate expression of the policy of establishing an independent State government and a permanent confederation of the States which our parliamentary journals contain; for, although several counties had expressed a resolution to sustain the Conventions in all measures which should be deemed necessary for the public weal, and had shown a spirit equal to every emergency, none had made so direct and so explicit a representation of the mode of redress which the crisis required. I quote the abstract of the representation which was offered by the Augusta delegates on the 10th of May, 1776, and which is thus rather rudely condensed on the journal of the Convention: "A representation from the Committee of the County of Augusta was presented to the Convention and read: Setting forth the present unhappy situation of the country; and, from the ministerial measures of revenge now pursuing, representing the necessity of making the confederacy of the united colonies the most perfect, independent and lasting; and of framing an equal, free and liberal government, that may bear the test of all future ages." This memorial was presented five days before the grand committee which had been previously appointed made that report recommending a declaration of independence and the formation of a State government wholly independent of the British Crown. This memorial from Augusta, as read to the House, I have never seen, nor do I believe that it has been seen by any one now living. It may possibly be found in the clerk's office of the present Augusta county, or in the archives of the clerk of the House of Delegates in Richmond, and deserves to be stereotyped as the Magna Charta of the West. It was the fortune of Samuel McDowell to vote in favor of a dissolution of the union with Great Britain, of the Declaration of Rights, and of the first written constitution of a free commonwealth. In all the measures of that

epoch he displayed wisdom and courage, and was most zealous in making preparation for the war then impending.

In October, 1776, he was a member of the first House of Delegates under the constitution and cordially coöperated with Jefferson and George Mason in carrying through the bill abolishing entails, and in regulating religion, and in putting the new State on a republican tack. This was the most important session of the Assembly which had then been held in the colony, and it is proper to say that Samuel McDowell embraced and carried out the broadest views of a Republican system. A single illustration will show that the impolicy of such laws as those which regulated entails and the right of primogeniture was no new thought of his. On the death of his father in 1743, more than the third of a century before the passage of the acts regulating descents and abolishing entails, he became the sole heir of all his lands; but instead of appropriating the whole to his own use, as was then invariably done by common consent, he divided the patrimony equally with his brother and sister. After leaving the Assembly he was employed in the military service; and at the battle of Guilford, where his eldest son John was also present, commanded a regiment from Augusta. During the engagement he showed great gallantry, and had the men under his command behaved with equal spirit, Cornwallis, who was nearly taken as it was, would have given us no more trouble. On that field McDowell beheld the daring valor of the British Colonel Webster, who was the life and soul of the opposing host, and who was destined to end his career on that field; and though we should speak in a subdued tone of a generous enemy, as Webster assuredly was, it is due to the truth of history to say, what has never before been uttered to the public ear, and what I have from the best authority, that, although that officer did not fall by the aim of a Scotch-Irish rifle, he yielded to the ball and eight buckshot of a long ducking gun fired by a Presbyterian elder, the late Col. William Morton, of Charlotte, whose father, little Joe Morton, of pious memory, was the first to receive Samuel Davies on his first visit to Charlotte, then a part of Lunenburg.

At the close of the war Col. Samuel McDowell removed to Kentucky, which, it must be kept in mind, was as much a county of Virginia as the neighboring county of Botetourt now is, where

he was chosen the circuit judge of his district, and served a long term on the bench, dying on the 25th of October, 1817, at the age of 84. At the time of his death it was estimated that he had more than one hundred descendants in Virginia and Kentucky. He married in early life Mary McClung, and a daughter of this marriage married Col. Andrew Reid, one of the heroes of Point Pleasant, and a lifelong patron of your college. And a son of Andrew Reid was that excellent citizen whose name has been so long bound up with that of Lexington far and wide, the late Col. Samuel McDowell Reid, who was for an entire generation the clerk of the court of Rockbridge, as his father had been before him, who was the ornament and dear delight of the social sphere, and who has but lately departed from us in the fulness of years and in the possession of those precious treasures which patriotism and unblemished worth and generous piety lead in their train; nor should I pass over a sister of McDowell Reid, who married Gen. Andrew Moore of whom I have already spoken at length, and who has not many years gone from us; and one of whose sons, having the full name of his great-grandfather Samuel McDowell, I had the honor of acting with in the public counsels of forty odd years ago, but whose full name I shall not mention, because he is living, and is sitting by my side, and seems to wax strong even in the midst of the years. Nor can I pass over a sister of McDowell Reid,[1] who at the age of ninety is still living not far from my own residence in Charlotte, and from whose words I have gathered many things which had otherwise been lost forever, and who presents to our modern eyes something of the image of her venerable ancestor.

GEN. JOHN BOWYER.

But, as the time presses, I must give my likenesses of the venerable founders of your institution on a smaller scale; and I now introduce a name which has been familiar in our councils for more than a hundred years, and which still exists among us. I speak of General John Bowyer. His ancestors emigrated early into Augusta, and were of the Scotch-Irish race, though, like most of

[1] Mrs. McCampbell.—EDS.

that race, they were from an Anglo-Saxon stock, and appear in the secular and religious records of the time. Michael Bowyer was one of the committee that reported the famous memorial of the freeholders of Augusta of February 1775, was a member of the House of Delegates under the new constitution, and ten years later voted for the act concerning Religious Freedom. But our present purpose is with Gen. John Bowyer, your trustee, who was born in Augusta, as Augusta then was, and received a liberal education. In his young days he taught school for a season, but after his marriage devoted his time to agriculture and to public life. In 1775, and subsequently, he was appointed by Presbytery to collect funds and perform other offices connected with the establishment of the Academy, and was one of the trustees of 1776, as also one of those under the incorporated institution.

He was now to enter on a political career that continued with occasional intermissions to the close of the century. In the March convention of 1775, he, with Andrew Lewis for a colleague, represented the county of Botetourt, and in the July and December conventions of the same year he also appeared as a representative from Botetourt, and thus bore a part in all those important measures that led the way to independence, and which I have mentioned already in detail. And in the memorable convention of May 1776, he took his seat with Patrick Lockhart as his colleague, his old associate Andrew Lewis having been appointed brigadier-general by the Congress. I have already intimated that there was a disposition shown by some of the members to recoil from the decisive measure of a declaration of absolute independence of the British Crown; but of this question, as well as of all others brought forward by the leaders of the Revolution, Gen. Bowyer was a consistent and steady supporter. When the first Assembly under the new State constitution met in Williamsburg in October 1776, he again took his seat in the body, and gave a cordial support to Jefferson, Mason, and Wythe, in devising and adopting those measures which a change from a monarchial to a republican system had rendered indispensable. He continued in the Assembly at intervals until the adoption of the Federal constitution of 1788, and cordially supported the bills reported by the revisors. As I have more than once detailed the nature of the bills passed

by the Assembly from the adoption of the State constitution to the close of the century, I will merely say, by way of a schedule of the public life of Gen. Bowyer, that he voted for the celebrated resolutions of Patrick Henry for putting the Colony into a posture of defence, and for organizing the first two Virginia regiments, and for the bill creating seven battalions, for the establishment of the Committee of Safety, for casting off the allegiance of Virginia to the British Crown, for the Declaration of Rights, and for the Establishment of a Commonwealth under a written constitution of its own; for the bill abolishing entails, and for other measures equally important in the organization of a republican government; closing his political career by recording his vote in favor of the resolutions of '98-'99, and for the famous report of '99–1800.

When the federal government went into operation, he acted with the Republican party, and opposed some of the leading measures of the Washington and Adams administrations. After the close of the eighteenth century he did not leave his beautiful home on Thorn Hill for any public employment, so far as I can ascertain, and died at an advanced age.[1] Though married twice, he left no children, and bequeathed his estate to his nephew. Yet, though the direct line of descent was broken, it may be observed as a historical fact, that in every organic State convention of Virginia since his decease the name of Bowyer has been borne by an able and patriotic representative.

THOMAS, ALEXANDER AND ARCHIBALD STUART.

We now come to a name which was borne by three friends and trustees of the Academy; and as they were closely connected by blood and were united in life in their affections to each other and to this college, so I will join them in the same sketch. Stuart is one of the oldest and most exalted names of Scotland; and if it cannot vie in antiquity with that of Douglas, "the dark gray man" of the Scottish legends, it rose higher in the scale of office, and for more centuries than I can tell, furnished kings for the throne, and

[1] He died in 1805.—EDS.

heroes for the field, and dames whose beauty flashed for a season from the throne of France as well as of Scotland, and dazzled every beholder, and impelled brave men and wise women to deeds which sicken and sadden our hearts to this hour.

The first of the race in Scotland was, as the name implies, a steward, a master of the household of the sovereign, an office which your Academy had in its earliest days and which my own grandfather filled; and so faithfully did the Scotch steward perform his duty, that his descendants occupied that throne before which the ancestors had bent the knee; and as he was a faithful steward so we may say that those who have borne his name in this lovely Valley have not forgotten the virtues of their distant progenitor, but have ever approved themselves most competent and faithful stewards of the interests which the people have committed to their charge. The Stuarts, not the men that our British ancestors expelled from the British throne, but your trustees of whom I have to give an account, are Thomas and Alexander Stuart, and Archibald, the son of Alexander. Thomas and Alexander were the sons of Archibald Stuart, who was of Scotch-Irish extraction, but was born in the north of Ireland, and when of age became concerned with one of the Irish *émeutes* of the earlier part of the eighteenth century. Compelled to leave Ireland, he came to Pennsylvania, where he remained seven years; but having been relieved by a general act of amnesty, he sent over for his family, and in 1738 removed with them to the present county of Augusta. His wife was Janet Brown, a sister of the Rev. John Brown, the second Rector of the Academy. He was an industrious and successful farmer, and left to each of his children, as appears by his will on record in the clerk's office of Augusta, a competent estate; having died in 1759. Of the three sons whom he left behind him, Benjamin, Thomas and Alexander, were descended many of those who have so long borne the name in Eastern as well as in Western Virginia. Thomas, whose name precedes the others on the roll of trustees, was born in Pennsylvania about 1732, and coming to Virginia with his father engaged in farming, and spent a useful and pious life, leaving a large family of sons and daughters, one of the latter of whom became the wife of the Rev. Dr. Henry Ruffner, who was

the sixth Rector of the college, and whose learning and abilities were so much admired by his contemporaries.[1]

Major Alexander Stuart, the second of your trustees of the name, was born in Pennsylvania, in 1735, and at the age of four accompanied his father to Virginia. It is probable that he was a pupil of the Academy under Brown or Graham. When the war of the Revolution began, he entered warmly into the military service, and was a major of a regiment of Rockbridge and Augusta men at the battle of Guilford, and from some accident to the colonel led his men into the battle. During the engagement, in which he behaved with great gallantry, as I know on the authority of the late Gen. Blackburn who was present on the field, he received several wounds, had his horse killed under him, and fell to the ground. While thus prostrated and unable to extricate himself, he was made a prisoner, and was conveyed to one of the prison-ships lying off the coast of North Carolina, where he was confined for six months. He endured great hardships during his imprisonment, but was at length exchanged. He was a man of gigantic stature, and of extraordinary strength; and his sword, a most unsightly and ponderous weapon which common men would wield with difficulty, is still preserved, with the pistols which he used at Guilford, among the heirlooms of his descendants.

After the close of the war he lived quietly on his estate, ever attending punctually to the duties assigned him in relation to the Academy, and died in a good old age, beloved and respected by all; leaving four sons and several daughters. These sons were Judge Archibald Stuart of Augusta, Judge Alexander Stuart of Missouri, Robert Stuart of Rockbridge, and James Stuart whose descendants live in Mississippi. Before I speak of Judge Archibald, your trustee, I pause for a moment, under the impulse of a patriotic feeling which I am sure will not be censured here, on the name of the second son Judge Alexander Stuart. This gentleman was the father of the late Archibald Stuart of Patrick, who was in Congress from the district of that name, who was long a member of the General Assembly, and was a member of the Virginia Convention of 1829–'30. I was with him in public life forty odd

[1] Mrs. Ruffner was the grand-daughter, not the daughter, of Thomas Stuart. Her father was Captain William Lyle.—W. H. R.

years ago, and recall with interest his stalwart form, his manly bearing, and the fearlessness with which he expressed his opinions in debate. And he has another claim to our recollection—a claim that will never be forgotten—as the father of Gen. James Ewell Brown Stuart, who has a brilliant place in the history of that great contest which has recently closed—the grandest in the history of the race to which we belong, and which will be studied by posterity with feelings of admiration mixed with the tenderest emotion. And it may be stated at this literary celebration, as a coincidence in the ancestral relations of two of the gallant generals of the Southern Confederacy, that, as the ancestor of Gen. Joseph E. Johnston gave to the college of Hampden Sidney the land on which it was built, so the ancestor of Gen. James Ewell Brown Stuart bestowed upon your institution the ground which it occupied on its transfer to its present site, and of which Dr. Campbell has left so graphic a description.

But of the Stuarts on your roll the name of Judge Archibald Stuart holds the foremost rank. Your college was his *alma mater;* and as he grew in years and renown you called him to her side. Though thirty-eight years have passed since his death, there are some now present who can remember his dignified presence at your annual commemorations. He was, as before observed, the eldest son of Maj. Alexander Stuart and of Mary Patterson of Augusta, and was born about nine miles southeast of Staunton on the 19th day of March, 1757. His boyhood was spent in Augusta, but his father having removed to the neighborhood of Brownsburg in Rockbridge, Archibald became a resident of this county, and was one of the pupils of the Academy before it had assumed the name of Liberty Hall. In the fall of 1776 he became a student of William and Mary College, and was during a part of his college course an inmate of the family of Bishop Madison. In connection with the late Chief Justice Marshall, the late Judge Spencer Roane, the late Bushrod Washington, with Samuel Hardy, who died abroad suddenly in the public service and whose name Virginia has given to one of her counties, with John Nivison, and others who became eminent in the field and in the council, he aided in forming the Phi Beta Kappa Society, which gave a branch to Harvard, which still flourishes in other northern colleges, and which, though for

more than half a century extinct in the seat of its birth, has been reorganized in its early home. When lower Virginia was overrun by the enemy, and the college exercises were suspended, young Stuart was the president of the Society, and as such was entrusted with the seal of the institution. Having been forced to leave Williamsburg, he went to North Carolina, and joined the army a short time before the battle of Guilford, and under the command of his father was present in that engagement. During the battle he had the seal of the Phi Beta Kappa in his possession; and, as the Society became extinct in the college, he retained it during his life; and it was not until many years after his death that it was found in a secret drawer of an old escritoire, and was then restored by his son the Hon. Alexander H. H. Stuart to the Society, which, after a lapse of seventy-five years, had been revived in that college.

After leaving the army young Stuart pursued the study of the law with Mr. Jefferson, and, having obtained his license, settled first in Rockbridge. In the Spring of 1783 he was a candidate for the House of Delegates, and lost his election by thirteen votes; but visiting Botetourt on business two or three days after his defeat, the citizens of that county insisted on his being a candidate on the ensuing Monday, and elected him one of the members of the county. He took his seat in the House of Delegates in 1783, and was returned in 1784 and 1785 from Botetourt, when he removed to Augusta, which was his abode for the rest of his life.

The years which he spent in the House of Delegates were those in which, as we have stated more than once already, the test questions of a political system were to be discussed and decided. Mr. Jefferson, on leaving the State for the French mission, committed the revised bills which he had reported from the committee of revisors to the charge of Mr. Madison, and that gentleman was their coryphæus on the floor. There was an able and active opposition, especially on the subjects of religious assessments and religious freedom. Indeed, of all the acts reported by Mr. Jefferson, hardly excepting the statute of descents, the act concerning religious freedom was the most important. And after a tedious postponement its fate was to be decided at the session of 1785. Mr. Madison put forth all his powers in its support; and although not a word of the debate which took place on the 17th day of December

has come down to us, there is a recollection of an uncommonly tall young man with long dark hair and dark eyes, who wrestled manfully with the opponents of the bill, and sustained Mr. Madison through that perilous day. That young man was Archibald Stuart. The bill passed the House of Delegates by a vote of 74 to 20, and among its friends were three trustees of Washington College — Andrew Moore, Zachariah Johnston, and Archibald Stuart, all having been pupils as well as trustees of the institution. He represented the county of Augusta in the House of Delegates in 1786 and 1787, during which were passed the memorable resolutions convoking the meeting at Annapolis, and afterwards the convention in Philadelphia, which framed the Federal Constitution.

Having by his vote on these resolutions laid the corner-stone of the new federal system, he beheld with absorbing interest the progress of the superstructure; and when the new plan, which seemed so beautiful to the eye, with its checks and balances, was published to the world under the auspices of Washington, he resolved to enter the convention which Virginia had summoned to decide its fate. He was accordingly returned to the convention of 1788 by the county of Augusta, and voted in that body in favor of the constitution. A single fact will show the zeal which he displayed in securing the adoption of the Federal Constitution. Learning only a day before the election that the candidates for the convention in Botetourt would be chosen without an explicit pledge to vote for the ratification of the constitution, he mounted his horse and rode night and day, a distance of seventy-five miles, until he reached the court-house of that county. The poll was already opened, but he sought an intermission of the voting until he could address the people on the impolicy of sending uncommitted delegates to the convention; and such was the effect of the speech that the voters exacted from the candidates a pledge to sustain the constitution, which they faithfully redeemed.

On his return from the convention, he withdrew from public employments, and devoted his energies to the practice of the law, in which he was uncommonly successful. He watched, however, with intense solicitude the workings of the new Federal Constitution to which he was so much attached; and in the interpretation of its

powers coincided with the views of Mr. Madison, with whom during his term of service in the Assembly and in the Federal convention he had formed an intimate and affectionate friendship. Accordingly, in 1797, when it was seen that the battle for supremacy must be transferred from Congress to the legislatures of the States, he was chosen by the republican party to a seat in the Senate of Virginia; and in 1798–99 gave a cordial support to the resolutions of John Taylor of Caroline, which are now known to have been from the pen of Madison; but he did not vote upon the celebrated report drawn by Madison and adopted by the Assembly in the following year, as he had been elected in the interval a judge of the General Court.

On the bench of that court he sat for nearly the third of a century, and performed the duties of the office with ability and integrity and to the general acceptance of the people. It was the frequently expressed opinion of the late Judge Briscoe G. Baldwin, who was himself distinguished at the bar, in the Senate, and on the bench, and whose manly form and genial spirit I recall as I visit this region of our State of which he was so long the bulwark and the dear delight, that "the judgment of Judge Stuart was but little if at all inferior to that of Chief Justice Marshall; and that if he had been placed in a position to require the constant exercise of all his faculties, he would have been one of the most eminent judges of his time."

It may be observed that, as Albemarle was one of the counties of Judge Stuart's judicial district, he often spent a night at Monticello with Mr. Jefferson, whose revised bills he had so earnestly defended on the floor of the House of Delegates, and whose administration he had so ably upheld. Their relations were intimate and confidential; and the form of a constitution for Virginia which Mr. Jefferson communicated to the Judge is still preserved among his papers. He was the Madison elector in 1808 and in 1812; the Monroe elector in 1816 and in 1820; the Crawford elector in 1824; and the Adams elector in 1828. When the judicial circuits were reorganized in 1831, he declined a reëlection to his seat on the bench, and on the 11th of July of the following year this excellent man passed away.

'In the intervals of his busy and arduous career he cultivated a

taste for literature and science. To him Mr. Wirt is indebted for some exceedingly graphic sketches of Patrick Henry and his contemporaries, with whom he had lived in intimate connection; and it was from his reputation for mathematical science that the Assembly appointed him a commissioner with Gen. Martin and Chancellor Taylor to run the dividing line between Virginia and Kentucky, and that in early life the mathematical chair in the College of William and Mary was offered for his acceptance. And I have always understood that he was one of those brilliant writers whose articles gave to the first volumes of the Richmond Enquirer, published in the earlier part of the present century, a reputation previously unknown in the annals of American journalism.

He never entirely relinquished the dress which was popular among gentlemen in the early days of the republic, and especially among those who were in the public councils, and from whom was exacted a stricter attention to the toilet than from the worthy burgesses of our own times. His hair was usually combed back from his forehead and ended in a queue. Until a short time before his death he wore breeches that buckled at the knee, and fair topped boots. In his latter days, his once dark hair had become white, and his appearance was commanding and venerable. In the general aspect of his person he is said to have had a strong resemblance to General Jackson, but was on a much larger scale. It was only in his old age that I saw and knew personally this estimable man. His appearance made a deep impression upon me, and his conversation was most engaging; and as you listened to his clear and instructive talk, and especially as you rose to take leave of him, the feeling of respect and veneration which he inspired was softened by the reflection, that he was one of the few survivors of those great men who laid the foundations of our institutions, and gave them their form and presence, and nearly all of whom had gone before him, and that he could abide but a short time longer with us. And this fear was soon realized, as before the lapse of two years he departed from us. He married, in 1791, Miss Eleanor Baldwin, a daughter of Col. Gerard Briscoe of Frederick county, Virginia, formerly of Montgomery county, Maryland. Her two sisters married Dr. Cornelius Baldwin and

Judge Hugh Holmes—names well known to our State in literature and in law.

THOMAS AND ANDREW LEWIS.

And now, Mr. President, pausing for a moment at the name of the Rev. Charles Cummings, who was of the Scotch-Irish Pennsylvania stock, and who preached on the North Mountain, at Hebron, and at Bethel, and of William Irwin, of the same Pennsylvania stock, where his name still abides with honor, we come to the names of two brothers, who were prominent in their own day and generation in the East as well as in the West, and whose memory deserves to be held in lasting remembrance. What a crowd of recollections come upon us at the mention of the names of Thomas Lewis and his brother Andrew! They too were of the Scotch-Irish stock, at least on the maternal side, and came to the Valley by the way of Pennsylvania. They were sons of John Lewis, whose ancestor fled from France during the religious persecutions of the Protestants which culminated in the reign of Louis the Fourteenth, and, it is believed, some time before the revocation of the edict of Nantes, and settled first in Wales, and then in Ireland where John was born, and grew to manhood, and was the head of an interesting and prosperous family, when the rapacity and violence of his landlord forced him in self-defence to do a deed which drove him from his home, first to Oporto, and thence to Pennsylvania, and thence in the summer of 1732 to Virginia, bringing with him his wife and children. Thomas, who was born in the country of Dublin on the 27th of April 1718, and was the oldest son, was then fourteen years old. Let me say that the whole country west of the Blue Ridge on the arrival of John Lewis was then called Orange, and that it was not till 1745 that Augusta was set apart as a county. When that event occurred, John Lewis was one of the magistrates that arranged the county, and John Madison, the father of Bishop Madison and the uncle of the president, was the first clerk, and Thomas Lewis, your trustee, who was then twenty-seven years old, was appointed to the office of the first surveyor, then and long subsequently the highroad to wealth and distinction. We have no means of knowing his early

opportunities of acquiring knowledge; but it is probable that he received a good elementary education in Ireland, and that his father obtained in his forest home the services of some redemptioner who drilled his children in the languages and mathematics; for it is an indubitable fact, that Thomas Lewis was not only well skilled in the sciences but was a good belles-lettres scholar. It so happens that I can take you into his library and read over the titles of some of his books to you. On one shelf was Clarendon, and Bishop Burnet's history of the Reformation of his own times, and Baker's Chronicle, and the volumes of Rushworth, which our revolutionary fathers were wont to search for precedents in their early warfare with the pen; and on another were Tillotson and Barrow and South, and the Bayle Lecture; and on yet another were Milton and Dryden and Shakspeare, and the early dramatists, and the novels of Fielding and Smollett, which Lewis read, as we read the novels of Scott and Cooper, as they appeared from time to time. And I will tell you further, if you will promise not to mention it, that after the death of Colonel Lewis, his excellent wife—who was a strict member of the Episcopal church to her dying day, and who survived her husband thirty years—having the good of her grandchildren in view, quietly took down from the shelf Tom Jones and Roderic Random and put them into the fire. This was the best collection of the English classics which had then been made west of the Blue Ridge.

But it is as a public man that we must present Thomas Lewis before you. He early entered the House of Burgesses, and voted for Henry's resolutions against the Stamp Act, and for the separation of the office of Treasurer from that of Speaker, two of the test questions of that age; and he was a member of the Convention of 1775, when Henry's resolutions for arming the militia were adopted, and of the Convention of 1776, in which he presented a petition from the people of Augusta "representing the necessity of making the Confederacy of the United Colonies the most perfect, independent and lasting; and of framing an equal, free and liberal government, that may bear the test of all future ages" —the first petition for absolute independence and for a permanent confederation of the colonies as States, presented to the Convention or to any other public body of that era. I call your attention to

this remarkable paper, not only for its political significancy, but because it was drawn and signed by the people of Rockbridge as well as of the present Augusta; for it was all Augusta then. In the Convention of 1776, Thomas Lewis was placed on the ever memorable committee which reported the declaration of independence of the 15th day of May, and on the committee which drew the Declaration of Rights and the first constitution of an independent state ever recorded in the annals of nations. Throughout the war of the Revolution he remained in the civil service, and conducted the affairs of the county with diligence and skill. In 1788 he was chosen a member of the Convention which ratified the present Federal Constitution, and voted in favor of the adoption of that instrument by the body for the reasons which I will detail in another place. This was the last public act which he performed; for in the space of eighteen months after the adjournment of the body, at the age of 72, on the 31st of October 1790, this good man passed away. He died at his home on the Shenandoah three miles from Port Republic, where his remains now repose.

He was a fine specimen of the physical man. I can almost imagine that I see him before me. His height was six feet, his frame large and sinewy, without a pound of useless flesh. His form was erect even in old age, and his walk was grave and stately. In early youth his hair was jet black; his eyes were also black, but throughout life he was so short-sighted as to require glasses, and he was thus prevented from taking that active part in the field which forms the principal characteristic of his gallant brothers. He was a model in all the domestic relations. The head of a family of thirteen children, whom he lived to see attain to maturity, he not only gave them the privileges of a liberal education but inculcated upon them by word and example the strictest principles of morality and religion. He was attached to the Episcopal Church, and in drawing his will, when he pointed out the place of his grave, he requested that the beautiful burial service of that church to be read over his coffin.

You are fortunate in having such a name on the roll of your trustees. If any one should inquire of a son of Washington College who Thomas Lewis was, let him answer that he was an

accomplished gentleman, an elegant scholar, a true patriot, and a liberal christian; that his single vote in the House of Burgesses carried triumphantly through the fiercest resolution of Henry against the Stamp Act; that he was a member of that illustrious committee which reported Virginia's Declaration of Independence of the 15th of May 1776; that he aided in drawing the Virginia Declaration of Rights; and that he was a member of the committee which reported the first plan of government of an independent state recorded in human history.

ANDREW LEWIS.

But Andrew Lewis, the next name on your roll of trustees, won in his own day a reputation that eclipsed, at least in the eye of the multitude, the quiet intellectual fame of his elder brother Thomas. As he was the third son of the patriarch John Lewis, he was probably born about 1722, in Ulster, Ireland, and was doubtless well grounded in the elements of knowledge before he left the old country, and completed his course in Augusta in association with Thomas. At all events he was well instructed, and such was his standing that in 1775, when with Col. John Bowyer, another of your trustees, he took his seat in the convention of that year as a member from Botetourt, he was placed on the most important committees of the body. His military talents soon became conspicuous. He volunteered in the expedition to take possession of the Ohio region in 1754; was with Washington at Fort Necessity; commanded a company at Braddock's defeat;[1] commanded the Sandy Creek expedition in 1756; was made prisoner in the unfortunate enterprise under the British Major Grant against Duquesne, but was released when the French abandoned that post,[2] and vindicated on the spot the good name of the Virginia soldiers from the expressions of the British major. In 1768 he was a commissioner on the part of Virginia to conclude a treaty with the Six Nations at Fort Stanwix, New York, and in

[1] The Dinwiddie papers show that General Lewis was not at Braddock's defeat, but was on other duty. Capt. Peter Hogg probably commanded the company from Augusta. See Waddell's Annals of Augusta, p. 64.—EDS.

[2] See American Cyclopedia, article Lewis.

1774 he commanded the forces at Point Pleasant, and gained a victory which thenceforth freed our soil from the regular incursions of the savages. The effect of the battle of Point Pleasant has not been fully portrayed in our history, nor have I time to dwell upon it at present. The confluence of the Kanawha and the Ohio afforded the best point for the concentration of the Indians from the extreme South, and from the extreme North—from the Gulf of Mexico to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It was computed by a British writer, the year of the battle, that the number of Indian warriors within that vast territory could not fall short of one hundred thousand, and it was believed by prudent statesmen that England and France and Spain had each distinctive reasons for uniting the savages against the Colonists during the war of the Revolution; and it is not improbable that, but for the decisive battle of Point Pleasant, innumerable hosts of Indians would have poured down from the Alleghany and the Blue Ridge, and that the battles of that era would have been fought in the shadow of the mountains. That battle, decided by the genius of Andrew Lewis, was conclusive; and it may be a subject of just pride to Washington College, that not only the commanding general on that occasion, but several of the principal officers also, were her early trustees—among them, the modest and able Fleming, who received a wound from which he never fully recovered, and Col. William McKee; and that another of the trustees, Col. Christian, who would have been commander-in-chief if he had arrived earlier, came to the field of battle at its close with reinforcements.[1]

When the war of the Revolution began, Andrew Lewis was in the civil service of Virginia. As before observed, he was a member of the Convention in 1775, but when the military arrangements were made, he was called into the field. He received the appointment of brigadier-general from Congress, and commanded the forces that drove Lord Dunmore from Gwynn's Island, pointing with his own hand the piece that was first discharged against the British encampment. It was the eager wish of Washington that Lewis should have received the appointment of major-general instead of the officer who was appointed to that station, and he wrote most

[1] Capt. John Lewis was also there.—EDS.

earnestly to him to waive for the present the question of rank. But Lewis was of too lofty a spirit to overlook so manifest a slight, and in 1777 he resigned his appointment. He was then engaged in the civil service of the state, and in 1780, in returning from a visit to the seaboard, with a constitution impaired by exposure, he was taken ill and died before reaching his home, in his 58th year.

It was observed of the Virginians who composed the Congressional delegation of 1774, that they were fine specimens of the human form. Washington, Patrick Henry, Richard Henry Lee, who looked like a representative of the old French noblesse; Harrison, whose grand figure seemed more fitted for the field than the council; Pendleton, whose tall and elegant person and graceful deportment, which were so conspicuous in the chair of a deliberative assembly,—were men of imposing stature; but it is doubtful whether any one of them approached the standard of Andrew Lewis. "He was," says Col. John Stuart, who married one of his sisters, and who knew him intimately, "upwards of six feet high, of uncommon strength and agility, and his form was of the most perfect symmetry. He had a stern and invincible countenance, and was of a reserved and distant deportment which rendered his presence more awful than engaging. It was observed by the Governor of New York, at the treaty of Fort Stanwix, that the earth seemed to tremble under him, as he walked along. His independent spirit despised all sycophantic means of gaining popularity, which never rendered more than his merits exacted."

Should posterity, as they behold his stalwart statue on the Washington monument in Richmond, where he is to be seen in a hunting shirt and with a rifle in his hand, as a representative of Colonial Virginia—for this great man did not live to read the Treaty of Paris, in which Great Britain acknowledged the independence of his country—infer that he was the mere warrior, a Daniel Boone on a large scale, they will do great injustice to a character that only required a wider sphere to exhibit the heroism and the brilliant hardihood of antiquity. He held in the West the same elevated position as a soldier and a leader as Washington held in the East, and on him the eyes of the people were turned at every conjuncture. Before our recent troubles there was a scheme to rear a monument over his unmarked grave near Salem, in the

present county of Roanoke, then Botetourt, and I sincerely trust that it will be renewed and accomplished. And it should then happen that the history of Andrew Lewis, which is now only to be found in meagre and scattered details, be permanently recorded in a form acceptable to the people.

Such was Andrew Lewis—the companion of Washington in all his Indian campaigns, the hero of the most conspicuous Indian battle ever fought on our soil, and the man that Washington is reported to have said should have taken his place as the commander-in-chief of the armies of America.

SAMUEL LYLE.

Samuel Lyle was also a trustee of 1776, and a trustee of the incorporated institution. His immediate ancestor came from the North of Ireland and settled in Augusta between 1730 and 1740, and was a member of the Presbyterian church. Like the Lewises, the Lyles came from France to England prior to the revocation of the edict of Nantes. The name is wholly French, and was originally written with an apostrophe between the article and the noun that compose the word. It is not unworthy of note, as an element in the formation of national character, that the Lewises, so conspicuous for valor and statesmanship, and that the Lyles and the Lacys, so eminent in the pulpit and in the school—the last of whom are inserted on the roll of Battle Abbey, and all of them the early and steady trustees and friends of your institution—should inherit the blood of the Latin race, and be able to trace their ancestral abodes to the land of the fig and the vine. On the list of names appended to the call of the Rev. Dr. Brown in 1753, your second rector, which is the Battle Abbey roll of Rockbridge, there are four Lyles, and among them is Samuel your trustee. He showed an intelligent zeal in promoting the welfare of the Academy in its earliest stages; for he was not only a trustee but its treasurer; and even in his old age he might have been seen driving up this hill swathed in flannel and in large warm overshoes, being quite infirm and crippled with rheumatism, and bearing the purse of your institution in his hand. He married Miss McClung, and a daughter of his married the Rev. Matthew Lyle. He was noted for his piety, and was for many years an elder in the church.

WILLIAM IRWIN.

He was a member of the Scotch-Irish family. His ancestors were from Pennsylvania, and settled in Rockbridge as Rockbridge now is. He was called to the congregations of Rockfish and Mountain Plains in 1772, and in that position he spent his entire ministerial life. He withdrew from the active labors of the pulpit in his latter years. It was in a case before Hanover Presbytery in which Mr. Irwin was concerned, that Dr. Waddell delivered in his defence a speech which is referred to in our own times as an extraordinary effort of parliamentary eloquence.

CHARLES CAMPBELL.

Among the Presbyterial trustees of 1776, and also the chartered trustees, was the venerable Charles Campbell. He was the son of Charles Campbell whose remote progenitor was Duncan Campbell. This Duncan, who never left Scotland, had three sons, Dougald, Robert and John, who removed to Ireland in 1700, and settled in Coleraine in the county Derry. Most of the descendants of these three brothers, between 1730 and '40, emigrated to Pennsylvania, and thence came to Augusta as Augusta then was. The descendants of Dougald are said to have settled in what is now Rockbridge; and three brothers, sons of Robert, namely, Hugh, John and Charles, settled in Augusta proper. Charles Campbell, your trustee, the son of Charles, was born in Rockbridge in 1741, married Mary Ann Downey, and both husband and wife lived to an advanced age, she dying in 1824, aged 82, and he in 1826, aged 85. Charles Campbell did not actively embark in political affairs, but commanded a company at the siege of York; and he delighted in old age to recount the details of the siege. He was noted for his piety, was fond of books, encouraged literary institutions, and trained his numerous sons and daughters in sound learning. One of his sons, Dr. Samuel L. Campbell, who was a pupil of the Academy, a trustee, and for a short period its rector, was a good scholar, and a correct and graceful writer; and we owe to his pen not only a graphic account of the infant academy and of its early pupils, but a valuable historical memoir of the battle of

Point Pleasant. Charles Campbell, your trustee, who lived as late as 1826, is well remembered by many now living. He was about the middle size; and in his old age, as he sat as an elder in the New Providence church on the left of the pulpit, with his white hair flowing, decrepit with years, but firm in faith and zealous for the glory of God, he was a striking figure. He was long a magistrate, and did not hesitate to use the whole rigor of the law in repressing violations of the Sabbath. At your annual celebrations the good old man drove from his residence twelve miles distant to this hill in his carriage drawn by two rather old white horses, who rejoiced in the names of Grey and Goody, and listened with rapt attention to all the exercises of the day. He left numerous descendants, among whom is my valued friend Charles Campbell, who truly represents the literary zeal and the sterling integrity of his ancestor.[1]

JOHN AND SAMUEL HOUSTON.

The name of Houston has been intimately connected with the Academy and the College from the beginning to the present day. It was Samuel Houston and Alexander Stuart that bestowed upon it forty acres of land each, for its site at Timber Ridge. John Houston, a trustee of 1776 and also of the incorporated body from 1784 to 1791, was of Scotch-Irish origin, and was one of the early settlers of Augusta. He cultivated his plantation on Hays's Creek, and lived a life of industry and piety.[2] It has been said that the true life of an ancestor is seen in his descendants; and if this be true, John Houston was fortunate. His attachment to the seminary was shared by his son Samuel, who was one of its pupils and for more than a third of a century one of the most influential trustees of the Academy and the College. Few men have left upon society a more pleasing impression than Samuel Houston. Soon after reaching manhood, he shouldered his musket and marched on foot from this town to Guilford Court House, and in the battle in that vicinity fired his rifle fourteen times. At the close of the

[1] Charles Campbell was High Sheriff of Rockbridge 1808–10, and a member of the Virginia House of Delegates 1788–9.—EDS.

[2] He was High Sheriff of Rockbridge 1786–'88.—EDS.

war, he entered the ministry of the Presbyterian church, and was settled in the High Bridge and Falling Spring congregations, in one or other of which he remained as long as strength allowed him to perform the duties of a pastor. In later life he was in appearance the model of a christian teacher and gentleman. He died in 1839, at the age of 81.

SAMPSON MATHEWS.

Among the trustees of 1776 is the name of Sampson Mathews. It is remarkable that for more than two hundred years the name of Mathews has held a prominent position in every great crisis of our history. During the protectorate of Cromwell one of our best colonial governors, and one of our thriftiest tobacco planters, was Capt. Samuel Mathews, who was said to have "kept a good house, lived bravely, and to be a true lover of Virginia." And during the Revolution of 1776, Col. Thomas Mathews not only held a respectable military command in the field, and was a major in the artillery regiment of practice commanded by Col. Thomas Marshall under the training of M. Loyauté, but was the speaker of the House of Delegates for many years; and so acceptable were his services in war and peace, that the General Assembly named a beautiful country overlooking the blue waters of the Chesapeake in his honor. But those of the name most conspicuous in the Valley at the birth of your institution were George and Sampson Mathews. Their ancestors were among the early settlers of Augusta, and were of the Presbyterian family. As they were not connected with the blood of the good old governor, or with that of Col. Thomas Mathews who had come over from St. Kitt's not many years before the Revolution, they probably came from Ireland and were of the Scotch-Irish race, but I cannot speak positively on the subject, as nothing exists in print bearing upon it, and I failed to obtain any family traditions. Of Gen. George Mathews I will only say in passing, that he was probably a pupil of the Academy under Alexander or Brown, that he fought bravely at Point Pleasant, at Brandywine, Germantown, and Guilford Court House; that he removed from Augusta to Georgia, where he was elected governor of that state and a senator of the United States, and through-

out whose whole course the moral and religious training of the Valley was ever to be seen.[1] But the sphere of Sampson Mathews, your trustee, was confined to Virginia. He too was born in Augusta, was a pupil of the infant academy, and mingled freely in politics. His name has become honorably connected with the Revolutionary era, not only from his active military and civic labors, but from the fact that he was one of the committee which reported to the freeholders of Augusta the patriotic resolutions of February 1775, of which I have spoken more than once. In 1778 he was elected to the Senate of Virginia by the Augusta district, and devoted his abilities to the performance of those difficult and delicate and most painful duties which devolved upon the Assembly before the victory of Yorktown had cheered the hearts and brightened the hopes of our people. As he was a pupil of the Academy in its leading stage, so he was an active friend of the institution in its more expanded state, and was chosen by the Presbytery one of its trustees. On withdrawing from the public councils he spent a quiet life on his estate, though of his latter days I have no specific information.[2] And I may mention by the way, that a descendant of his[3] was a member of the House of Delegates in 1798–99, and 1799–1800, and that he voted, in company with George Keith Taylor, Gen. Blackburn, and Miller and Breckenridge and others whose names we cherish with a grateful pride untainted by political difference, against the resolutions of Col. John Taylor and the report of Mr. Madison.

COL. WILLIAM MCKEE.

Col. William McKee was another of the trustees of 1776 and of the incorporated institution. He was of Scotch-Irish descent, was born in Augusta, was a pupil of the Academy under Brown, and became Sheriff of Rockbridge when a sheriffalty was the turn-

[1] Governor Mathews was never a senator. He was a member of the House in the first Congress.—EDS.

[2] He was the first High Sheriff of Bath county.—EDS.

[3] Sampson Mathews, Jr., an alumnus of Liberty Hall, who with Gen. Blackburn represented Bath in the House of Delegates. Sampson Mathews, Sr., was the ancestor of Prof. A. L. Nelson of Washington and Lee University.—EDS.

pike that led to fortune. But though he accumulated a handsome property he never for a moment forgot the claims of his country. He marched with Col. Andrew Lewis, who engaged the services of Capt. Arbuckle, whom I well remember in his venerable old age, as a guide through the unbroken forests and dreary mountains, to Point Pleasant, and shared in the laurels of that glorious fight.[1] He entered the House of Delegates from Rockbridge, and was the colleague of Gen. Andrew Moore in the Virginia Convention of 1788, when he united with that gentleman in voting for the ratification of the Federal Constitution in opposition to the positive instructions of his constituents, who subsequently approved the act. I think I have said before that the votes of Thomas Lewis, William Fleming, Archibald Stuart, Zachariah Johnston, Andrew Moore, and William McKee, all of whom were your trustees and four of them pupils of the Academy, secured the ratification of the Federal Constitution by Virginia. Without their votes that instrument would have been rejected by the state. When, after the adoption of the Federal Constitution, the great hegira to Kentucky, which had begun some years before, was quickened and stimulated, and thousands bent their way to "the bloody ground," Col. McKee united with many of his neighbors and removed to the promised land. And there he spent his latter days. I have been told by one who saw him that he was a man of middle size, that he lived on Kerr's Creek,[2] and that he had a very long nose and a sharp chin, which might well become a keen Indian fighter who, having flogged the Indians in his youth, was ready to encounter the risks of Kentucky savages in his old age. He was a successful financier, and an able friend of the Federal Constitution.[3]

[1] Although a mere youth, he was in Washington's battalion at Braddock's defeat.—EDS.

[2] He lived three miles west of Lexington, on the farm afterwards owned by Dr. Baxter, President of Washington College.—EDS.

[3] Colonel McKee died in Garrard county, Kentucky, in 1816, in the 84th year of his age. His son Col. Samuel McKee, an alumnus of Liberty Hall, represented Kentucky in the United States Congress 1809–17, and was also United States District Judge. His son Col. William R. McKee fell at the head of his regiment at Buena Vista; and his son Lieutenant Hugh W. McKee of the United States Navy was killed in a fight with the Coreans in 1871.—EDS.

COL. GEORGE MOFFETT.

Col. George Moffett was also one of the trustees of 1776 and of the incorporated institution, and well may his descendants cherish the merits of such an ancestor. He was the son of John Moffett, who came over from Ireland in 1730 and settled in Augusta near the Stone Church, and Mary Christian. He left four sons, Robert, John, George, and William, and one daughter, Mrs. Estill. He died while on a short visit to North Carolina, and was there buried. Our present office is confined to the third son George, who was born on his father's farm in Augusta in 1735, was probably taught by Mr. Alexander, the first rector of the Academy, and having laid the foundations of a good education, early embarked in active life. His first employment was that of Deputy Sheriff of Augusta. After his marriage with a sister of Col. Samuel McDowell, he engaged in agriculture, and being pious from his youth became a member of the Presbyterian church, and was actively engaged in missions of benevolence and piety. He is said to have been a man of fine personal presence. He took up his residence on Middle River, where he resided until his death in 1811. In 1760 he received an appointment which enabled him to render valuable service to his county. He was chosen captain of a military company, whose duty it was to protect the settlement against the Indians and recover from them their prisoners and stolen effects. In the discharge of these duties, which extended through a number of years, he had some severe fights, the bloodiest of which took place on the Falling Spring farm in Alleghany county. In 1774 he was at the battle of Point Pleasant. He was a true patriot, and engaged actively in the war of the Revolution. He accompanied his brother-in-law Col. McDowell, when that officer led the Augusta troops to the South, and fought gallantly at the battle of Guilford. But it was in his character as the chief of a band of active young men defending the county from the frequent incursions of the Indians that he gained his great distinction as a soldier. Forty years ago, as the traveller wandered through the county of Augusta, he soon found that one of the most popular themes of the aged people was the exploits of Col. Moffett, and especially his rescue from the possession of the Indians of his own

sister, Mrs. Estill, the mother of the late Judge Estill, and of others who had been captured at the same time. He overtook the Indians in a dense forest near the present Beverly, W. Va. There was another trait in the character of this good man worthy of notice. He was truly conscientious, and having some doubts on the subject of holding slaves as property, he emancipated his own. It is said that the experiment was not favorable to the blacks, and that he was afterwards inclined to approve the views held by his kinsman, Gen. Moore, who in the Assembly opposed the policy of emancipation as injurious to the liberated slaves themselves, so long as a general status of slavery existed in the commonwealth. He was always a pious man. In the incipient stages of the Academy he was appointed by the Presbytery to various offices which he fulfilled most scrupulously; and he was a member of that religious community; but, entertaining some scruples on certain points of doctrine, he withdrew from it; but at a later period, on mature reflection, he returned to the fold of his ancestors. He is described as being of commanding presence, of bland and genial manners, of pleasing address, and of great personal popularity.

He died in 1811, in his 76th year, universally esteemed, and left four sons, John, James, Samuel, and William, and four daughters, Mrs. Gen. McDowell who died in Kentucky, Mrs. Dr. James McDowell of North Carolina, Mrs. Kirk of Kentucky, and Mrs. Jas. Cochran of Augusta county. He was buried at Mount Pleasant, his residence.

MAJOR JOHN HAYS.

John Hays, one of your incorporated trustees of 1782, was a descendant of one of the men whose name is written on the Brown roll of 1753, and in early manhood was actively employed in defending the frontiers of Augusta. On the first outbreak of hostilities in 1776, he was appointed a captain, and, at the head of a company of young men recruited within the present limits of Rockbridge, with young Andrew Moore as his lieutenant, he marched to the North, and fought in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York. Nor did he return home empty-handed. He married a beautiful wife in Maryland, and pitching his tent on Hays's Creek in this county, turned his attention to the peaceful

pursuits of private life. Before the close of the war he rose to the rank of Major. I can not fix the date of his death, which was on his farm in Virginia, according to one authority, while another affirms that he removed to Tennessee, where his descendants now live.[1] But we know enough to honor his memory when we can say in a single sentence that he was a son of an early settler of Augusta, that he was a pupil of your infant institution, that he led his band of Valley boys gallantly in the contested fields of Pennsylvania and New Jersey under Washington, that under Gates he helped to achieve the victory of Saratoga, and that he was a trustee of Washington Academy.

WILLIAM WILSON.

William Wilson was a clergyman. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1751, and soon after was brought to Virginia by his father, who was of the Scotch-Irish race, and who settled about twelve miles east of this town. Young Wilson soon entered the Academy, then at Mount Pleasant, and was a most promising pupil. He was equally well versed in the languages and in mathematics, and at a later day students of theology applying for admission to the ministry dreaded his critical inquisitions. In 1780 he was ordained as the pastor of the Stone Church in Augusta, and there he spent his life in the zealous and able discharge of his ministerial duties. There was connected with him a singular mental phenomenon. He fell ill of an epileptic attack, and on his recovery he had for a season almost wholly forgot his mother tongue. As he had been a good Latin and Greek scholar before his illness, so the knowledge of these languages remained, and he was compelled to use them in seeking his daily wants, until he gradually recovered his English. He was skilled in mathematics, and solved problems for intellectual recreation in his old age. He belonged to that class of our early Presbyterian preachers who made their preparations carefully in the study, but took with them into the pulpit the heads only of their discourse, relying wholly on

[1] Maj. Hays died in 1808, on his farm on Hays's Creek, where A. A. McCormick now lives.—EDS.

the inspiration of the moment for their words and illustrations—a mode of speech which may serve to explain the effect and animation of the eloquence of our early preachers. He preached at intervals to a short time before his death. One of his last sermons was listened to by Dr. Speece, who succeeded him in the Stone Church, and that critical judge pronounced it "not inferior in vigor of thought, methodical arrangement, or animation of manner, to any that he had ever heard from him."

JOHN WILSON.

There are two gentlemen named Wilson who were appointed trustees by the Presbytery and by the Assembly, that deserve a more respectful mention. It must have already appeared to you that to give a full description of your trustees, is to put forth some of the most interesting portions of the history of the colony and the commonwealth for more than the whole of one century and the third of another. The Wilsons were of the Scotch-Irish race, and were among the early settlers of Augusta. A representative of the race soon rose to prominence and distinction in the public councils. Our grandfathers had their local as well as general topics of contention as well as ourselves. In 1748 there was a serious project of removing the capital from Williamsburg. The country had enjoyed an unusually long interval of peace under the administration of Sir William Gooch, and the pugnacious propensities of the people impelled them to seek a vent in some quarter or other. Candidates were chosen with an especial view to remove the seat of government, and as Augusta seventy years later than 1748 sent the late Briscoe G. Baldwin to remove the capital to Staunton, so their ancestors in 1748 chose John Wilson to perform the same office, that is, to remove the seat of government, though I hardly think, to Augusta, where the Governor would be liable to be roasted whole, the Speaker of the House of Burgesses to be tomahawked, and the members to run the gauntlet through the Indian villages. The Augusta delegates did not succeed in their plans: the scheme was defeated; but John Wilson and John Madison had the opportunity of expressing their parting salutations on Sir William Gooch, who was then about to depart for Europe after a most popular

administration of twenty-two years. Ten years rolled on, and there came the most violent tornado of death and destruction that ever swept the Valley. In 1755 Braddock had been defeated, and then Grant was equally unfortunate, and consternation and slaughter universally prevailed. The Indians, stimulated by the French, had become most daring, passing by our forts, and carrying off women and children into a captivity little less formidable than death itself. The letters of Washington written at this period melt our hearts and draw our tears after the lapse of one hundred and twelve years, and are the most touching ever traced by his pen. He declared that he would most willingly yield up his own life as a sacrifice for a cessation of bloodshed and for peace. At this emergency, when the settlers were rushing from their Valley homes—for France as well as the Indians were fighting us—the people were determined to choose an Assembly of the ablest men whom the Colony contained. Then for the first time George Mason appeared in the public councils, and Pendleton and Washington himself, then at the age of twenty-six, were also chosen. It is recorded by Burke that it was the ablest body of men that had ever met in council in America, and he has put down the name of every member on his pages. To this body Augusta looked with an anxious eye, for she composed with Frederick the only two counties in the Valley, and she chose John Wilson and Israel Christian as her delegates. It is enough to say that her representatives performed their duty, and aided in taking those measures which ultimately led to the expulsion of the French from Canada, and the annexation of that province to the British dominions.

Sprung from such a stock, John Wilson, your trustee, evinced the deepest interest in your Academy as long as he lived. In 1770, being engaged in mercantile affairs, he was a member of the Merchants' Association, which was assembled in Williamsburg to take measures in defence of the rights and interests of the Colony, and carried into effect the resolutions of the body in Augusta. At his death he left a son, the late Captain William Wilson, who was the Treasurer of the Academy and the College for forty years.[1]

[1] John Wilson was a bachelor and the uncle and guardian, not the father, of Capt. William Wilson.—EDS.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER.

The name that stands fourth on the list of the incorporated trustees would, if treated in the length and breadth of its antecedents and consequents, alone consume the time allotted to me at present. What a host of associations are conjured up by the name of Alexander! But I can dwell but a few moments on its history. William Alexander, your trustee, was the eldest son of Archibald Alexander, who came over from Ireland to Pennsylvania in 1737, and removed to Augusta in 1747. William was born near Nottingham, Pennsylvania, in 1738, and was nine years old when he came to Virginia. He grew to manhood amid the hardships of a frontier life. He embarked in mercantile pursuits, and kept a store at the Point; but as all business was broken up by the Revolution, he acted as deputy to his father, who was sheriff of the county. He never engaged in public affairs. He is reported to have been in the Sandy Creek Voyage under Maj. Andrew Lewis; but it was his father and not himself who encountered the fearful exposure of that disastrous expedition. He was ever a warm friend of the Academy, which, on its removal to Lexington, was built on his grounds, and he was its treasurer as well as trustee for a number of years. He married Agnes Ann, a daughter of Andrew Reid, and left a family of three sons and five daughters, the last of whom has but recently deceased. He was a man of small stature, with black hair and black eyes, and on special occasions he was attentive to his dress. He was quick in his movements and talked very rapidly. While he lived in Lexington, his residence was not far from the site of the present Presbyterian church, if not directly upon it. In his old age, as he was walking in the street, he was struck by a stone thrown by an idle boy on one of his eyes, and he lost the use of it forever. We like to know how looked and walked and dressed and talked a man who was the father of the Rev. Dr. Archibald Alexander of Princeton, and the grandfather of two such men as James Waddell and Joseph Addison Alexander.

CALEB WALLACE.

Caleb Wallace was a remarkable man among his contemporaries, and well deserved a position in the incorporated board, which he had already held by the appointment of Presbytery. The tide of Scotch-Irish emigration from Pennsylvania coursed mainly along the Valley, but there was a lesser stream that ran along the eastern base of the Blue Ridge to the county of Charlotte, and thence farther south, which bore on its way a number of worthy families, which were to send forth their representatives to succeeding times. On this eastern tide came the ancestors of the late Mr. Calhoun and of Caleb Wallace. Caleb was born in the county of Charlotte about the year 1750, on a creek which still bears his name, was graduated at Princeton in 1770, where he had the late ex-president James Madison as a college mate. Both were pious young men during their college course, were among the best scholars of their class, and enjoyed the confidence of Witherspoon. Both excelled in that cool and clear argumentation which was an invaluable weapon in the early stages of our Revolutionary contest and both brought their utmost powers to bear upon the question of a church establishment and religious freedom. When Wallace finished his course at college, he studied Theology and became a licentiate of the Presbytery of New Castle. In October 1774, he was ordained as the pastor of Cub Creek and Little Falling Run congregations. At the meeting in October, 1776, of the first general assembly under the constitution, he repaired to Williamsburg, and bore with him the memorial of the Hanover Presbytery, which professed the warmest zeal in the support of independence, but protested with equal earnestness against the continuation of the Episcopal church as an establishment. And here it should be said that the objections of the Presbytery lay not against the Episcopal church as a true church of our common Lord and Master, but against that or any other church whatsoever, even their own, as an establishment. Indeed Davies and Waddell and Graham have more than once expressed publicly their approval of the doctrinal articles of the church of England. It should seem at this day that the fourteenth article of the Declaration of Rights had settled the

question of church and state conclusively; but it was soon seen that a bill to continue the establishment was introduced in the House of Delegates. Mr. Wallace exerted all his industry to prevent its passage, and, it is believed, appeared before the Committee on Religion and argued the question at length. In the prosecution of his purpose he remained eight weeks in Williamsburg. In 1779, having lost his wife, who was Miss Sally McDowell of Rockbridge, he removed from Cub Creek to Botetourt, where he remained until the close of the war. During the Revolution he upheld the cause of his country by his tongue and his pen. Several of his letters still extant attest his patriotic fervor. Writing in 1777 to the Rev. Mr. Caldwell of New Jersey, a noble Virginian, who fell untimely near the end of the war, and who, by the way, used to preach with pistols in his belt, as a price had been set on his head by the British,—Wallace says: "An American ought to seek an emancipation from the British king, ministry, and parliament, at the risk of all his earthly possessions of whatever name; nor is it the fear of danger that has prevented my preaching this doctrine in the army at headquarters." He adds: "I meddle very little with matters of civil concern, only to countenance the recruiting business, as far as I have it in my power; and sometimes I have a fight with the prejudices—I would rather say the perverseness—of such as are inclining to toryism among us; but we have reason to rejoice that we have few such cattle with us."

In 1782 he removed to Woodford county, Kentucky; and withdrawing from the ministry, he studied law, rose to distinction at the bar, and was chosen a judge of the Supreme Court of that State. He was appointed by the Assembly one of the Commissioners to settle the numerous claims in Kentucky against Virginia —a very delicate office, which he and his colleagues Fleming and McDowell executed promptly and satisfactorily. He married for his second wife a daughter of Israel Christian, and his descendants still reside in Kentucky. He possessed fine powers of disquisition, was a ready speaker, and maintained intimate relations with the first statesmen of the Revolution. He attained to a good old age.

JOHN TRIMBLE.

The eighth of the incorporated trustees was John Trimble. He was the son of James Trimble, who with his two brothers Alexander and John emigrated from Ireland to Pennsylvania. Alexander remained in Pennsylvania, and John settled in Kentucky, where his descendants still flourish. James, who was the eldest brother, came to Virginia not later than 1750, and settled on the farm and built a house not one hundred yards distant from the residence of Joseph Steele, Esq., one of your trustees for thirty years past. James died early and left a son John who was your trustee. John did not survive his father more than ten years, and died not very long after the date of the charter, leaving a widow who has recently departed from us in her 97th year.[1] He is still remembered as a man of the kindest feelings, of warm attachments to his relations and friends, and pure in all his transactions with the world. Some striking acts of his generosity are fondly remembered by his collateral relations. He was of the Scotch-Irish race, and was an advocate of churches, schools and academies. The fact that his name was enrolled in the charter is sufficient proof of his standing and moral and intellectual worth.

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL.

Of Alexander Campbell, the sixth on the roll of incorporated trustees, I learn that he came from Pennsylvania, that he lived on Timber Ridge, that he always came on sacramental and academical occasions to Lexington, where he was the guest of Col. Andrew Reid, that he was a pious man and much interested in

[1] Mr. Grigsby has confounded John Trimble with Alexander Trimble, the husband of the lady to whom he refers, and who was his (Mr. Grigsby's) aunt. John Trimble married Mary Ann Alexander, the half-sister of William Alexander. She removed to Tennessee soon after the death of her husband. Her grandson John Trimble was Judge of the Nashville district, and represented the Nashville district in the United States Congress for several sessions. He died a few years ago at Republican Hill, near Nashville, at an advanced age.—EDS.

the cause of education, and that he lived until near the beginning of the present century.[1]

ZACHARIAH JOHNSTON.

Among the trustees who, though not mentioned in the charter, were elected under its provisions a short time after its date, stands a name that was so long connected with the political and religious questions of that era, that I may be excused for dwelling a moment on it. I allude to Zachariah Johnston. He was born in Augusta between 1750 and '60, of parents who emigrated from Ireland and chose their homes in Augusta, was a pupil of the Academy as well as a trustee, and gave indications of a strong and discriminating mind. He entered the House of Delegates during the Revolution, and gave up all his faculties to the purpose of shaping the new measures to a republican model. He accordingly supported with great earnestness the revised bills reported by Mr. Jefferson, which it was the policy of their opponents to keep on the table, or if called up, to emasculate them of their wisest provisions. It is well known that Mr. Jefferson, when he withdrew from the House to embark for France, left the care of the revised bills to Mr. Madison, who fully redeemed the confidence of his friend by the tact and patience and ability which he displayed in effecting their passage. He had indeed most strenuous coadjutors, and among those was Zachariah Johnston. His simple and unadorned but caustic and fearless logic, which was in strong contrast with the deep and elaborate speculations of Mr. Madison, was ever ready and was always effective. It was in 1785, when the act for establishing Religious Freedom was on its passage, that he made a capital speech, in which he took the ground which I have mentioned already more than once, and which was that the hostility of the Presbyterian population of the Valley to an establishment had no bearing upon the Episcopal church as a church of Christ, but that it was directed against an establishment of any church, even their

[1] Mr. Campbell died in 1805. He was for many years Surveyor of Rockbridge County, then an office of great importance. The late John L. Campbell, LL. D., Professor of Chemistry and Geology in Washington and Lee University, was his grandson.—EDS.

own, in connection with the state. A single passage only of Johnston's speech in the debate has been preserved, and I quote it to show not only his line of argument but his style of thought. "Mr. Chairman, I am a Presbyterian, a rigid Presbyterian as we are called; my parents before me were of the same profession; I was educated in that line. Since I became a man, I have examined for myself, and I have seen no cause to dissent. But, sir, the very day that the Presbyterians shall be established by law, and become a body politic, the same day Zachariah Johnston will be a dissenter. Dissent from that *religion* I cannot in honesty, but from that establishment I will." And his name goes down to posterity in favor of the passage of the act for establishing Religious Freedom. He was the colleague of Judge Stuart in the Federal Convention of 1788, which ratified on the part of Virginia the present federal constitution, and made an animated speech in its favor, which has been preserved entire, and which will speak for itself. Mr. Johnston was a man of religious temperament, of great simplicity of manners, and utterly void of hypocrisy and deceit. I wish I were able to present a domestic portrait of this good man; but my knowledge in that respect is very limited.[1]

GEN. WILLIAM CAMPBELL.

As the student wanders through the gallery of the portraits of the early friends of Washington College, and gazes with fond delight on the faces of Graham, of Thomas Lewis, of Andrew Lewis the hero of Point Pleasant, of William Christian, of William Preston, of William Fleming, of Arthur Campbell, of Andrew Moore, of the Stuarts, father, brother and son, and of their well-known associates,—he seeks with eager interest another face, the face of a noble patriot who was connected with them all, not only in the political and military events of their age, but in their affection for your institution; and inquires, with a faltering voice: Where is Gen. William Campbell, and why is it that the

[1] Mr. Johnston removed from Augusta to Stone Castle, two miles south of Lexington, in 1793, and represented Rockbridge in the House of Delegates in 1797–8, and was chiefly instrumental in securing the repeal of the obnoxious act of 1796 before referred to. He died at Stone Castle, January 7, 1800.—EDS.

Hero of King's Mountain is not found among his compeers? Sad as the answer is and ever will be to the patriot heart of our country, it must be told. He was a pupil of the Academy, and displayed the deepest interest in its welfare and a magnanimous pride in his *alma mater*, but when, in 1782, the friends of the institution were seeking among our chief citizens for the names to be recorded in the charter, they thought of the name of Campbell, and then it came over them with all the intensity of a recent affliction, that the Hero of King's Mountain had gone down to his grave a few months before. While in command of his regiment at the siege of York, he was taken ill of a fever, and even before the flag of Britain was lowered on the ramparts, he fell, after a short and severe struggle with the most insatiable and remorseless of all conquerors. But though he died before the trustees were enrolled in your charter, where our fathers would have delighted to place him, let us perform that office in their behalf.

Gen. William Campbell was the son of Charles, who was of the race of the Campbells of whom I have spoken elsewhere. Charles Campbell married Margaret Buchanan, and died young, leaving one son, the hero of King's Mountain; and four daughters, one of whom married Col. Arthur Campbell who is the first named of the charter of 1782; a second married Capt. Taylor, the father of the late Judge Allen Taylor, another trustee of the College; a third married Mr. Richard Poston, and a fourth married Mr. Thomas Tate.

Gen. Campbell was born in the county of Augusta as it then was, in 1745, and was one of the early pupils of the Academy. On reaching manhood he was prompt to join in the measures of defence and attack against the Indians who infested the new settlements on the Holston, whither, on the death of his father, he had removed his mother and sister; and we trace him in the bloody fight at Point Pleasant, as marching in the respective campaigns of Col. Christian and Col. Arthur Campbell against the Cherokees, and in other actions on the frontier, which called forth a vote of thanks from North Carolina. But it was on the seventh day of October 1780, that Col. Campbell and his gallant colleagues from North and South Carolina achieved that distinction which has connected his name inseparably with the war of the Revolution. I

cannot here say one word of the battle of King's Mountain, more especially as the affair has been so eloquently detailed by his distinguished grandson now living,[1] and have time to speak of its ever memorable effect on the spirits of the people. When Campbell and his colleagaes led their forces against Ferguson, the South was almost conquered by the British. Despair darkened every bosom, and hope seemed to have gone out. Charleston had been taken in the preceding May, and on the 29th of the same month Col. Buford was defeated at Waxhaw, on the 16th of the following August Gen. Gates lost the battle of Camden, and on the 18th of the some month Sumter was surprised, and South Carolina was under the heel of Cornwallis. Amid such a scene of gloom and disaster the victory of King's Mountain shone forth like a rainbow in a tempestuous sky. Let dates, which are stronger than words, tell the wondrous tale. It was on the 7th of October, 1780, that Col. Campbell received from the hands of Capt. Dupeister, the senior officer on the death of Ferguson, the standard of England, which Ferguson fondly hoped to wave over the Valley of Virginia; on the 17th of the following January, Morgan fought the battle of the Cowpens; on the 15th of March occurred the battle of Guilford, which resulted in the retreat of Cornwallis to Wilmington; on the 8th of the following September, the immortal field of Eutaw was fought and won; and on the 19th of October, Cornwallis surrendered at York.

But the services of Col. Campbell did not close with the battle of King's Mountain. He marched with his regiment to Guilford, and aided materially in that engagement. And in 1781 he joined Lafayette at Albemarle Old Court House and marched to the siege of York, but he died suddenly before the surrender. This last triumph was not reserved to the patriot, and at the age of thirty-six he was laid in his grave. That funeral was a solemn scene. The young and heroic Lafayette was seen bending in grief and tears over the coffin of his friend. That scene he never forgot. Forty-three years later he described to one of the descendants of Campbell that touching spectacle. Col. Campbell was buried at Rocky Mills, in Hanover, and when after many years his remains

[1] General John S. Preston.

were removed to his home in Washington, it was found that time had dealt gently with them.

In stature he had the proportions of a hero. He was over six feet in height; his frame was large and compact and muscular; his hair was inclined to red; his eyes were gray or a deep blue; his features were prominent, and his profile was said to be symmetrical. Indeed we are told by elderly men who knew him, that his grandson the late Col. William Campbell Preston of South Carolina was in his figure and movements a fair image of his illustrious ancestor. Col. Campbell was an affectionate son. Letters still extant show his tenderness to his mother and his generous conduct to his sisters. He married in 1775 a sister of Patrick Henry and left at his death a son, who died young, and one daughter, who married Gen. Francis Preston, second son of Col. William Preston. Of the children of this marriage, of whom the late Col. William C. Preston of South Carolina was one, there survive Col. John S. Preston of the same State, Col. Thomas L. Preston, and Mrs. Gen. Carrington of Albemarle county. I have said that he married the sister of Patrick Henry, who is said to have possessed the genius of her illustrious brother. Gen. Campbell is said to have been a man of quick and stern temper and was the terror of Tories, with whom, if caught in the act of treason, as at the battle of King's Mountain, he dealt peremptorily and condignly; but he never allowed himself to show any excitement in the presence of his wife.

WILLIAM MCPHEETERS.

William McPheeters, a trustee of 1776, was born in Pennsylvania in 1729, and was a son of a gentleman of the same name, who came from Ireland to Pennsylvania, and emigrated to Augusta about the year 1740. He settled at Bethel on the waters of the Middle River, near the North Mountain. He was a truly pious man, was an elder in the church of which the Rev. Archibald Scott, one of your trustees, was the pastor, and was a magistrate of Augusta and High Sheriff of that county 1788–90. His life was spent upon his farm in the employments of agriculture and in the interchange of good feelings with his neighbors. Like his Scotch-Irish brethren, he was impressed with the importance of education,

and especially of an educated ministry, and took a peculiar pride in fostering the Academy, of which his son, so long and so favorably known in Virginia and North Carolina, was a pupil.[1] He has left numerous descendants, the death of one of whom, who was remarkable for his genius and eloquence, has been lately lamented by the lovers of eloquence and piety in Missouri, and Kentucky, and Virginia.[2]

CONCLUSION.

And I come to a close. And when I had finished my specific task of recording the services of your early trustees and professors, I could not withhold a glance at their immediate successors Samuel L. Campbell, and Baxter, and Marshall, and Vethake, and Ruffner, and Junkin,—all of whom but one I knew, and all of whom are gone. And as I called up their images before me, it seemed as if I felt their living presence, and could behold the genial smile as they looked down on their beloved institution in its present palmy state—a state those good men longed to see but died without the sight—and could gather from them words of gratulation and cheer for every student within your walls and for every officer within your courts; and while they uttered words of encouragement and praise to all, I could catch from those lips, now touched with earthly guile no more, one glorious accord concerning him who led our armies through the late perilous war, and—the grandest of all his victories—made a lodgment in the inner hearts of a whole people; that in training the youth of his beloved country in the ways of wisdom and knowledge and peace, and in the "love of God that passeth all understanding," he is winning a wreath as worthy as ever rested on his brow—a wreath whose beauty will not only shine in the eyes of living men, but will endure forever.

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[1] The Rev. William McPheeters, D. D., a distinguished Presbyterian minister, and a trustee of Washington College 1807–12.—EDS.

[2] The Rev. Samuel Brown McPheeters, his grandson, the distinguished Presbyterian minister of St. Louis, Mo.—EDS.

APPENDIX.

This valuable address was retained by Mr. Grigsby for several years after its delivery in 1870, to enable him to complete it by giving sketches of all the early trustees. He died, however, without doing so. We now add brief sketches of those omitted by him.—W. McL.

JOHN GRATTAN.

Among the trustees appointed by Hanover Presbytery in 1776 to manage the Academy was John Grattan. He was born in Ireland, and was said to be of the same family with Henry Grattan the Irish Orator. While quite a young man he went to Scotland and there married a Miss Brown and soon afterwards came to America and settled in Philadelphia, where he resided several years. He moved to the Valley of Virginia and became a merchant in the town of Staunton. He participated in the meeting of the freeholders of Augusta, held on the 22nd of February, 1775, which passed the celebrated resolutions referred to by Mr. Grigsby.

While he was too old to bear arms during the revolutionary war, he was an ardent whig, and supported the cause with all the ardor of his nature. His son John Grattan was an officer in one of Virginia's regiments, and died in service in Georgia. He patented a large tract of land on the north branch of the Shenandoah, in what was then Augusta county, but afterwards Rockingham county. He built the first flour mill west of the Blue Ridge. The mill is still standing, and the old homestead, where he spent the latter part of his life, is owned by his grandson Judge George G. Grattan. When the county of Rockingham was formed in 1778 his residence fell into the new county, and he was commissioned one of the justices of the county court, being fourth on the list. He was a Scotch-Irish Presbyterian of the old Covenanters faith, and was for many years an elder in old Augusta Stone Church. He died about 1790, leaving a son and several daughters. His son Robert Grattan commanded a company of cavalry that was sent to quell the whiskey insurrection in Western Pennsylvania. His son Maj. Robert Grattan remained at the old homestead in Rockingham, and was elected a Trustee of Washington College in 1854, and served until his early death in 1856.

One of the daughters of John Grattan married Col. Robert Gamble, an alumnus of the Academy and a distinguished officer of the Revolution. He commanded one of the companies that stormed Stony Point, and was the first to enter the fort when it was captured by General Anthony Wayne. One of Col. Grattan's daughters married the celebrated William Wirt; another married William H. Cabell, Governor of Virginia, and for many years a Judge of the Court of Appeals of Virginia.

SAMUEL DOAK, D. D.

Samuel Doak was one of the trustees appointed by Hanover Presbytery in 1782, to supply vacancies in the body appointed in 1776. He was the son of Samuel Doak (the ancestor of Gen. Robert Doak Lilley, who served the University so zealously and efficiently as general agent) and Jane Mitchell, who emigrated very young from the North of Ireland and settled in Chester county, Pennsylvania. After their marriage, they removed to Virginia and settled in Augusta county near the present village of Greenville. Their son Samuel was born in 1749. At the age of sixteen he was admitted to full communion in the Presbyterian Church of New Providence; and soon after commenced a course of classical study with Robert Alexander, who resided about two miles from his father's house. He continued in the school after it passed under the care of the Rev. John Brown, who was assisted by a Dr. Edmondson and Ebenezer Smith. In October, 1773, he entered Princeton College, where he graduated in 1775. Returning to Virginia, he married Esther Montgomery, sister of the Rev. John Montgomery who was appointed a trustee at the same time with him. Shortly after, he became a tutor in Hampden Sidney College, and pursued divinity under the Rev. John Blair Smith the President of the College. He was licensed as a preacher by Hanover Presbytery in October, 1777. He commenced preaching in Washington county, Virginia, and after remaining there some time he removed to Washington county, Tennessee, where he organized several churches and an institution of learning, which was chartered by the Legislature of North Carolina in 1788 under the name of Martin Academy, and was the first literary institution established in the great Valley of the Mississippi. In 1795 it was changed into a college and received the name of Washington. He continued President of the College until 1808, when he resigned in favor of his son, the Rev. John M. Doak, M. D., and removed to Bethel. During his presidency the College prospered

greatly and supplied the opportunities for education for ministers, lawyers and doctors in the early days of Tennessee. At Bethel he opened an academy to prepare youth for college, and named it Tusculum, where he passed the remainder of his days in usefulness and honor. He was a distinguished preacher and teacher, and died on the 12th day of December, 1830, in his eighty-second year. Foote, in his Sketches of North Carolina, quotes a gentleman who knew him well as saying: "His praise is in all the churches. During the Revolutionary War, he was a warm, decided, and uniform friend of civil and religious liberty, took part in the defence of his country, was a member of the convention that in 1784–5 gave rise to the insurrectionary state of Franklin; was upon the committee that reported an article of its constitution making provision for the support of learning; and to the close of life was still its devoted servant, advocate and patron. A rigid opposer of innovation in religious tenets; very old-school in all his notions and actions; uncompromising in his love of the truth, and his hostility to error or heresy, a John Knox in his character, fearless, firm, nearly dogmatical and intolerant; but no one has been more useful to church or state, except it be Hall or Coldwell in North Carolina, or Waddell in South Carolina and Georgia. A volume would not exhaust the incidents of his life."

REV. EDWARD CRAWFORD.

Edward Crawford was one of the Presbyterial trustees appointed in 1782 and was also elected a member of the incorporated body in 1791, and served until 1795. He was born in Augusta county, near Buffalo Gap, and was the son of Alexander Crawford and Mary McPheeters. He was a student at the Augusta Academy when under the care of the Rev. John Brown, and subsequently entered Princeton College, where he graduated in 1775, in the same class with Samuel Doak. He was a member of Lexington Presbytery at its organization on the 26th of September, 1786, and was the moderator of the Presbytery at its meetings in April and September, 1792, at Lexington and Harrisonburg. He preached in Randolph county and then in Botetourt. About 1795 he removed to Tennessee, and greatly assisted his old friend and classmate, Samuel Doak, in the conduct and management of Washington College, Tennessee, of which he was one of the chartered trustees. He preached for many years in Tennessee, and was a useful citizen, and especially a friend of education. The date of his death is unknown.

REV. ARCHIBALD SCOTT.

Rev. Archibald Scott was born in Scotland and emigrated to Pennsylvania at an early age. He was an agricultural laborer, but his religious deportment and the studious employment of all his leisure hours in the acquisition of useful knowledge attracted the attention of Dr. Cooper, a Presbyterian minister. Upon further acquaintance he encouraged him to commence a course of study for the sacred ministry. He pursued his classical studies under a Mr. Finley, whose course of instruction was extensive though principally confined to the classics. He then came to the Valley of Virginia and entered Liberty Hall Academy under Mr. Graham. In 1777 he was licensed to preach the gospel with Edward Crawford and Samuel Doak. He became the pastor of Brown's Meeting House and North Mountain church, now known as Hebron and Bethel, and continued in this charge during his life. He was a devoted and earnest preacher, and exercised great influence in the church and in the community. He was appointed a trustee by Presbytery in 1782, and elected a member of the corporate body in 1784. He closed his useful life on the 4th day of March, 1799, at his residence, six miles southwest of Staunton. The University recognizes among its alumni many of his descendants.

JAMES MCCONNELL.

James McConnell, one of the Presbyterial trustees of 1782, graduated at Princeton in 1773, and became a Presbyterian minister. He was pastor of Oxford, High Bridge and Falling Spring churches in Rockbridge county. After serving these churches for several years, he removed in 1787 beyond the Alleghanies.

BENJAMIN ERWIN.

Benjamin Erwin was one of the trustees appointed by Presbytery in 1782. He graduated at Princeton in 1776, and coming to Virginia was ordained by Hanover Presbytery in 1780 pastor of Mossy Creek and Cook's Creek churches. He died pastor of his first charge. Rev. George A. Baxter, D. D., grew up under his ministry.

CAPT. JOHN LEWIS.

Among the trustees appointed by Hanover Presbytery in 1776 was Capt. John Lewis at the Warm Springs. He was the son of Thomas

Lewis, of whom a sketch is given by Mr. Grigsby, and was born near Port Republic in the present county of Rockingham in 1749. He removed to the Warm Springs, and became the owner of that celebrated summer resort. He commanded a company in Col. Charles Lewis's regiment at Point Pleasant, and was dangerously wounded. He was subsequently an officer in the Revolution and was distinguished for his gallantry and devotion to duty. He died at the Warm Springs in 1788, at the age of thirty-nine, in the midst of a career of great usefulness.

JAMES MCCORKLE.

James McCorkle was born in the north of Ireland, and emigrated to America and settled in Staunton, where he successfully pursued the business of a merchant. He joined the tide of emigration which set toward southwestern Virginia about 1770, and settled at Ingles Ferry on New River, where he engaged most successfully in merchandising. He subsequently became the owner of the splendid estate known as Dunkards Bottoms, in that part of Montgomery county comprised in the present county of Pulaski, and formerly owned by Israel Christian.

He was commissioned a justice of the peace by Gov. Nelson in 1773. Among his associates on the bench were Col. William Christian, Col. William Preston, Daniel Trigg and James McGavock. He was the High Sheriff of Montgomery county 1778–80. He was a leading citizen of southwest Virginia, and died and was buried in 1794, at Dunkards Bottoms.

JOSEPH WALKER.

Joseph Walker came with the first tide of emigration from Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, to the Valley of Virginia, and settled near the present town of Lexington. He was one of the three granters of the land upon which Liberty Hall Academy was built, which was burned in 1803, and the picturesque ruins of which can still be seen from the University. He afterwards removed to a large farm on Buffalo, including what is now known as Buffalo Mills. He was for many years a Justice of the Peace, was High Sheriff of the county, and was a ruling elder in both Monmouth and Falling Spring churches. He was appointed by Hanover Presbytery in 1782 a trustee, and was one of the trustees named in the charter. He continued to serve until 1815, a period of more than thirty years, and the records of the Board attest his punctual attendance, and his fidelity to duty. He was a

large man, of dark complexion, commanding in appearance, and rather taciturn. His wife was Jane Moore, the aunt of Mary Moore, the "Captive of Abb's Valley," who lived with him after her return from captivity. His daughter married the Rev. Samuel Houston referred to by Mr. Grigsby in his sketch of John Houston, and his grandson the Rev. Samuel R. Houston was for many years a member of the Board.

WILLIAM WARD AND JAMES TROTTER.

Of William Ward and James Trotter we have been able to get but little definite information. They were both doubtless born in the north of Ireland and came with the tide of immigration that set toward the Valley between 1740 and 1750.

William Ward lived in Augusta near Robert Alexander's school, and removed to South Carolina about 1779.

James Trotter settled in Augusta county near Mount Sidney about 1749. He subsequently removed to the neighborhood of the present village of Middlebrook, where he died about 1791. His son George Trotter laid out the village of Middlebrook and subsequently removed to Lexington, Kentucky.

JOHN LYLE.

Most of what is now known of this excellent man is derived from a memoir of him written by the Rev. Dr. Archibald Alexander of Princeton, but not published, and from an article by the same hand in the *Biblical Repertory* of April, 1848.

He was of the Scotch-Irish stock. His father, also named John Lyle, had emigrated from the north of Ireland in the early part of the eighteenth century, and settled first in Pennsylvania. But after a time he removed to what is now Rockbridge county, Virginia, and fixed his abode on Timber Ridge, about three miles southwest of where the village of Fairfield now stands. The date of his removal to Rockbridge is not known; but it was certainly before 1753, for in that year he was one of the signers of the call of the Rev. John Brown to the pastorate of the Timber Ridge church.

John Lyle, the trustee, son of the emigrant, was born either in Pennsylvania or in Virginia, on the 10th of July, 1746. He grew to manhood and spent all the days of a long and useful life on Timber Ridge, where he owned a small farm, which he cultivated with his own hands, being conscientiously opposed to becoming a slave-holder. Of

his personal appearance Dr. Alexander says: "John Lyle grew to be a large man, above six feet in height, and was what is vulgarly called raw-boned. His face was somewhat marked by small-pox; but his appearance was dignified and his countenance benignant." He seems to have taken but little part in military or political affairs; but was active in charitable work, and specially zealous in the cause of education and religion. In 1782 the Presbytery appointed him one of the trustees of Liberty Hall; in 1784 he became a member of the incorporated board, and for over thirty years thereafter he was one of the most earnest and active trustees of the Academy and the College, as the records testify. His private life was singularly pure and unselfish. Of his course as a church officer Dr. Alexander says: "As a faithful and efficient elder in the Presbyterian church I have never known his superior, if I have his equal. He had furnished his mind by diligent reading, with knowledge in all branches of theology; and was especially thoroughly conversant with the most judicious and spiritual authors on experimental religion." And in another connection he says:

"Elder John Lyle, as he was called to distinguish him from others of the same name, was in my opinion a man of eminent piety. In the period succeeding the war of the Revolution vital piety had sunk very low in the Valley of Virginia; most professors seemed to have little of the genuine spirit of religion; and fell into undue conformity to the world and its fashions and amusements. But during this time of general declension John Lyle and his wife stood forth as shining examples of vital godliness and holy living."

John Lyle died at his residence in Rockbridge, in September, 1815, in his 70th year. His wife was Flora Reid, a sister of Dr. Alexander's mother. The Rev. John Lyle, "the pioneer preacher of Kentucky," so prominent in the early history of the Presbyterian church in that state, was his son. Joel Reid Lyle of Paris, Ky., was another son. Both were pupils of the Academy.—D. C. L.

This completes the sketches of the trustees mentioned in the charter of 1782, and those previously appointed by the Presbytery.

Sketches of the trustees appointed since 1782 will be prepared and published from time to time in these papers.

W. McL.
