

THE PRESBYTERY
OF
THE LOG COLLEGE;

OR,
The Cradle of the Presbyterian Church
IN AMERICA.

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E. R. CRAVEN, *Secretary.*

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THE ORIGINAL LOG COLLEGE BUILDING.

Abington church, son of Charles Tennent and grandson of William Tennent, founder of the Log College; and the other the Rev. Samuel Davies, D.D., one of the greatest preachers of this country and president of Princeton College. Though they did not receive their education at the Log College, they did receive it at the Fagg's Manor school, which sprang from the college. It is true that if we took the name of Rev. Dr. William M. Tennent, who was of the Tennent family, and might well be held up to view as the model pastor, and added it, as well as that of his grandfather, to the honored roll, we should have the significant number of the *twelve*. Twelve! We cannot name it without thoughts of the apostolic band. Nor can we trace the correspondence a little more closely without thinking of the chosen three, Peter, John and James, and then of the other three of our early Church, Gilbert Tennent, Samuel Boyd and Samuel Finley.

CATHARINE KENNEDY.

Another name—that of a woman—we place the last on the glorious list of all that we have named as connected with the Log College, not because we consider her the least in importance, but because, on account of her position, usefulness and excellence, we consider that she deserves to stand the highest of all. We place her name at the close because until the whole field was laid open we could not appreciate what she was and what she did. Her name, which will no doubt be held in everlasting remembrance, was Catharine Kennedy—the real founder of the Log College.

Unseen, unheralded, almost unknown, her influence was deeper, stronger, wider and more lasting than that of any other of the group. An Irish girl, brought up

in a Presbyterian manse in an atmosphere of religion, her mind stored with sacred truth, she could not remember the time when she did not supremely love her Lord. God was preparing her for a life second probably to that of no other human being in influence for weal on this land. A finer instance the world has hardly ever beheld of unconscious influence.

She was married in 1702 to a young Episcopal clergyman of fine mental endowments and culture. How much had she to do by her godly example and refined tact in leading him to leave the Church of his fathers and enter that of the Presbyterian faith, attracted by such beautiful specimens as those of her father and herself? How much in establishing him in the doctrines and order of his adopted faith?

A few years are passed in their native country, part of the time in county Armagh and part in Colerain, county Antrim. Four sons are born to them, with no permanent settlement for them at home, an increasing family to be educated, an earnest call for missionaries in America. Shall they go? Who can tell how much the wife's devotion to the cause of Christ, her maternal care for the future of her boys and her strong, earnest, sanctified good sense had to do with bringing her husband, the Rev. William Tennent, to this land?

They reach it, but find it only a little removed from an absolute wilderness. How much had her patient endurance and comforting words to do with cheering her sometimes desponding husband in those trying days?

The Log College is founded. Where was she then? Would it ever have been built without her counsel, her cheer and her self-sacrifices? And now we see her in her best estate—her husband to encourage, her

family to sustain by her careful economy, new boys to receive into her own household or provide for in the neighborhood. We fancy all those boys coming to her as to a mother, telling her their doubts and fears and looking to her for advice in their troubles. She receives them, too, into her motherly confidence, cheers them in their home-sickness, nurses them in their ailments, counsels them in difficulties.

Brave Catharine! thy name is not heralded, but God knows how much thy tender wisdom contributed toward making the Log College the unspeakable blessing it became to the Church and the country.

But the effects of her influence were only beginning to be seen there. Would those boys ever have been the great and good men which they afterward became had it not been for her agency in forming their character? Her daily care over them, her yearning love for their souls, the charming power of her godly example, her affectionate lessons of piety, her exalted Christian principles and her self-control and self-sacrifice,—these were unseen influences which she could impart, and which she did impart, with all the tenderness of the woman and the mother. Thus she aided in establishing their deepest and purest principles and rendered the most important assistance in forming their character.

Afterward they went forth preaching the gospel in every quarter, bringing thousands of souls to Christ, building up churches in many regions, establishing schools and academies, some of them almost as influential as the one in which they had received their own training for the ministry, and starting streams of godly influences that flowed over the whole land, the currents of which have not subsided even to this present day. Nottingham, Fagg's Manor, Pequa, Jefferson College,

Hampden-Sidney College of Virginia, Princeton College and many other institutions are monuments to the power and perseverance of this most blessed woman, whom God raised up and graciously led all her days to leave a sanctifying impress upon our whole history.

Where is there another woman who has originated such chains of godly influences as these? After what she did who shall claim that they occupy positions too obscure for them ever to accomplish anything in the great cause of Christ for the redemption of the lost world? Whoever at any time attempts to write the history of the Presbyterian Church in these United States of America, let him give to the name of Catharine Kennedy a place of honor that shall be second to no other, or, rather, let him place it above all the rest.

WAS THE LOG COLLEGE THE GERM OF PRINCETON
COLLEGE?

Was the Log College the germ of Princeton College? is a question that will be answered either in the affirmative or negative according to what it is understood to mean. Does it mean, Was the Log College, with its organization, its plans and its property, its principles and its spirit, transferred to Princeton, where it could have a fuller scope and a wider curriculum? To this there must be an emphatic No! No such historical event ever occurred in connection with the institutions. But does the question mean, Did the Log College prepare the way for Princeton College, make its necessity to be felt, fill the place into which it afterward entered, develop the idea which it embraced, and so lead to its establishment? Then we say without hesitation, and with very little fear of contradiction, It contained the