

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES
OF THE FOUNDER
AND PRINCIPAL ALUMNI
OF THE LOG COLLEGE**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649074259

Biographical Sketches of the Founder and Principal Alumni of the Log College by Archibald Alexander

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ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER

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AND PRINCIPAL ALUMNI
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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES
OF THE
FOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL ALUMNI
OF THE
LOG COLLEGE.

TOGETHER WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE REVIVALS OF RELIGION
UNDER THEIR MINISTRY.

COLLECTED AND EDITED

BY
ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER, D. D.

PHILADELPHIA:
PRESBYTERIAN BOARD OF PUBLICATION,
No. 265 CHESTNUT STREET.

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1851, by
A. W. MITCHELL, M. D.
in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Eastern District
of Pennsylvania.

Stereotyped by STORRS & MANLEY, Philadelphia.

Printed by Wm. S. MERRICK.

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DEDICATION.

TO THE REVEREND PRESBYTERY OF NEW BRUNSWICK.

DEAR BRETHREN,—There is a propriety in dedicating this book to you, as it owes its existence to your appointment of the author to deliver a centenary discourse on the 8th of August, 1838. A copy of this discourse you were pleased to ask for publication, a compliance with which the preacher respectfully declined, because he found that all the facts and documents relative to the origin of the New Brunswick Presbytery could not be included in a single discourse; but he determined to make use of such materials as he possessed, or could obtain, to form a small volume, and lay it before your reverend body. This purpose he has been enabled imperfectly to carry into effect; and he now solicits your candid and favourable attention to a work, which is intended to give the people of the present age an opportunity of seeing what the state of things in this region was a hundred years ago.

As most of those connected with the New Brunswick Presbytery, in its earliest days, were educated at Mr. Tennent's school, at Neshaminy, commonly called the LOG COLLEGE, to give some appearance of unity to the work, the history contained in it is connected with this humble, but useful Institution.

And as the time when this Presbytery had its origin was a period favoured with remarkable revivals of religion; and the men, who then composed this Presbytery, eminent instruments, in carrying forward this good work; it was judged to be expedient to give as distinct and full an account of the outpouring of the Spirit of God in those days as could now be obtained. And as narratives were written by those most intimately conversant with this great revival, which were printed in books now rarely to be met with, it was thought best to rescue these documents from oblivion, and give them unaltered in the very words of the original writers.

The editor cannot but think that the biographical sketches here given from authentic authorities, will be acceptable to the present members of the Presbytery of New Brunswick; and he is persuaded, that the congregations in which the displays of divine grace were so wonderful a century past, will be benefited by a perusal of the narratives here given. Many pious people among us are not aware that the ground on which they tread has, as it were, been hallowed by the footsteps of the Almighty. And who knows but that prayers then offered in faith remain yet to be answered?

I am with sincere regard,

Your brother in the gospel of Christ,

ARCHIBALD ALEXANDER.

CHAPTER I.

THE LOG COLLEGE.

Association gives interest to places—Log College—Name—Site—Site—
Utter Desolation—Country around—Dr. James P. Wilson—Relic—
Suggestion of a Monument—Importance of the Institution.

By association, objects which have nothing interesting in themselves, acquire an importance, by reason of the persons or things which they constantly suggest to our minds. The rock of Plymouth has nothing in it which renders it intrinsically superior to thousands of other rocks in the country; and the site of Jamestown has nothing but its interesting associations to engage the attention of any one. But these spots, as being the first habitations of the European settlers, in this part of the new world, are invested with an interest which is felt by all; and this interest, instead of growing weaker by the lapse of time, gathers new strength every year. Indeed, it is only a recent thing, that the public attention has been particularly called to these objects. And though there may be an excess in the emotions cherished by some, and an affectation of lively interest in others; yet, it cannot be doubted, that there is a foundation in human nature for the interest which is excited by particular objects, places, and scenes. And the more intimately these associations are related to religion, the deeper and more permanent the feeling becomes. By the abuse of this principle much superstition has been generated; but the moderate and judicious use of it may, undoubtedly, be conducive to piety. Sacred, or holy places, figure largely in all false systems of religion; and under the old dispensa-