

WHEATON J. LANE

Pictorial History of Princeton



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Pictorial History of Princeton

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EDITED BY WHEATON J. LANE



PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

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1947

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Preface and Acknowledgment

THIS publication is the result of the joint suggestion of the Office of Public Relations of Princeton University and the Princeton University Press. The wealth of illustrative material that has accumulated during the two hundred years of Princeton's history makes it seem logical to produce at this time a pictorial history of Princeton as college and university.

The very abundance of pictures, portraits, manuscripts, prints, and other graphic material has proved a source of embarrassment. Certain subjects, herein suggested by a picture or two, would have been greatly expanded had space permitted. Among undergraduate activities, for example, the Triangle Club, sports, or football alone, would provide enough material for a book as large as this. The compiler—not author, since text has been kept at a minimum—thus presents his apology to those alumni and faculty who may wonder why some picture especially significant to them has been omitted.

Mr. Edmund S. DeLong and Mr. Datus C. Smith, Jr., have been the guiding spirits in the compilation of this book; and the former has written most of the captions relating to living persons. Mr. Frederick S. Osborne and Mr. Dan D. Coyle of the Office of Public Relations, and Mr. P. J. Conkwright and Mrs. Helen Van Zandt of the University Press have also suggested valuable ideas, and the last two have labored over the problem of format and layout. To all these I am especially grateful.

Certain information regarding Princeton's history has been supplied by Thomas J. Wertenbaker, Edwards Professor of American History, who kindly loaned me his manuscript history of Princeton; by Mr. Neilson Poe, at once the Nestor and Ajax of Princeton athletics; and by Mr. Philip A. Rollins, Professor Thomas M. Parrott, Mr. Andrew C. Imbrie, Professor J. Duncan Spaeth, Professor William S. Myers, Professor Donald D. Egbert, Professor Henry L. Savage, and Professor Robert McN. McElroy. Mr. Carl Zigrosser of the Philadelphia Museum of Art kindly made researches concerning the origin of the seal of the College of New Jersey.

Pictures have been loaned or given to me by a host of alumni, faculty, friends, and offices of the University. The list is too long for inclusion here, but I must express my obligation to Mr. Albridge C. Smith, Mrs. Robert M. Scoon, Professor William K. Prentice, Mr. John Jay Johns, Mr. Robert V. C. Whitehead, Jr., Mrs. G. Howard Bright, Mrs. T. Hart Anderson, and Mr. Arthur M. Conger. Mr. Samuel Chamberlain and the Princeton Print Club graciously allowed me to reproduce as frontispiece Mr. Chamberlain's recent dry-point of Nassau Hall. Mr. Archibald G. Murray kindly permitted me to reproduce an illustration from his *Sketches of the Sesquicentennial*.

Many of the portraits reproduced herein are owned by art galleries, historical societies, and by universities other than Princeton. Proper acknowledgment will be found in the caption accompanying each. In certain cases it has been found necessary to crop the portrait. Where outside portraits are used, they are usually superior to those owned by the University.

In the compiling of pictures I have been greatly aided by Miss Julie Hudson and Miss Lillian Blease of the Treasure Room of the University Library. Doubtless I have annoyed them excessively, but they have long and cheerfully delved into collections and files upon my mere suggestion.

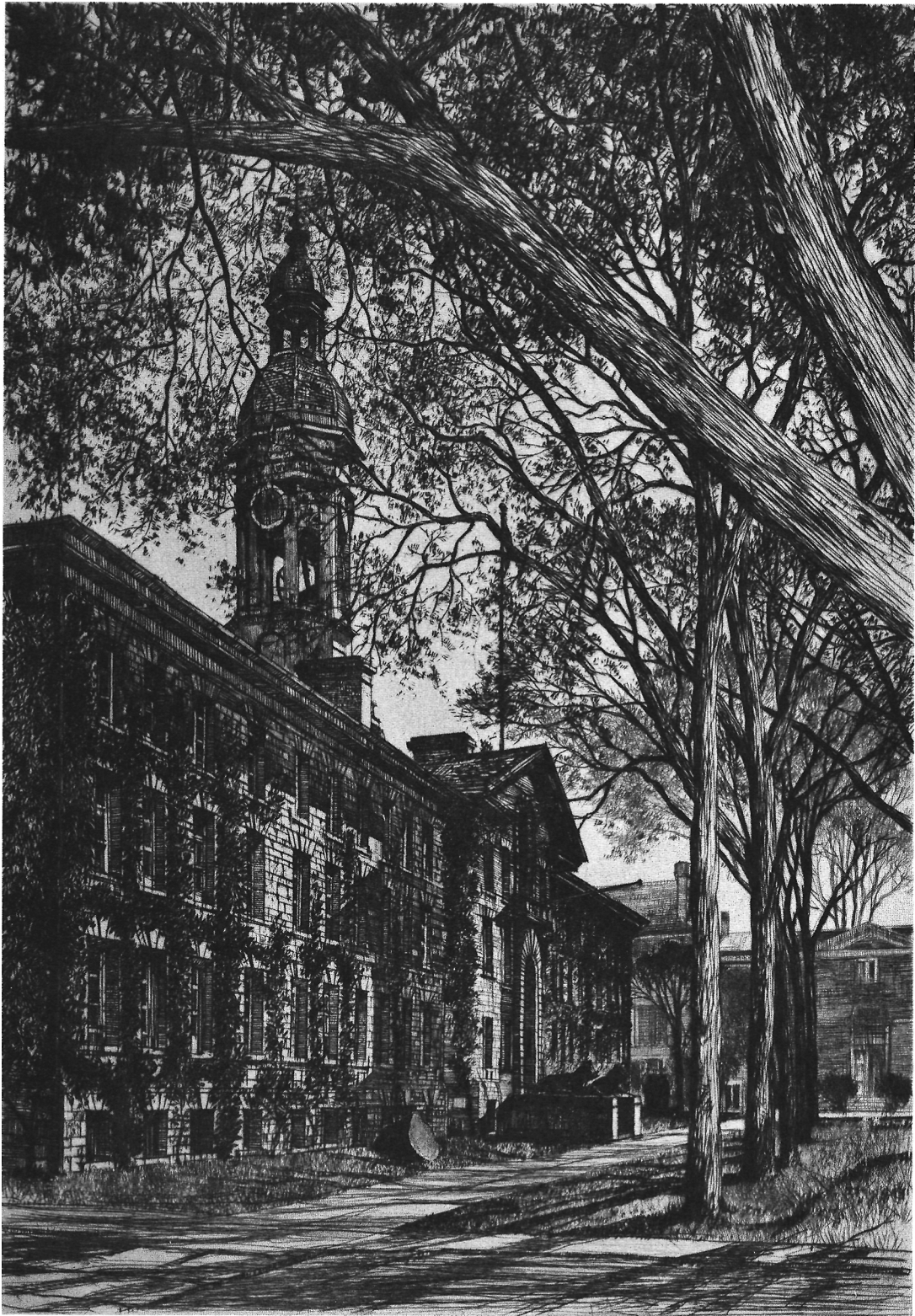
Practically all the modern photographs which do not bear a credit line have been taken by the Princeton Photo Service. Their number is so great that I wish to acknowledge their reproduction here, as well as the efficient work of the staff undergraduates, especially that of Mr. Robert R. Lane. A few photographs, taken in the 1930's, are by Mr. Frank Kane who, having left the field of photography, states that he has no interest in a credit line. Other commercial photographers receive credit lines, but mention might well be made here of Mr. Alan W. Richards, who took the aerial photographs.

Where recognition of individuals in pictures depends upon memory, error invariably creeps in. I shall be grateful for having my attention called to any errors in caption or text.

WHEATON J. LANE

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NASSAU HALL
From a recent drypoint by Samuel Chamberlain.

The Early Period 1746 - 1795

THE history of Princeton falls into three natural divisions. The early or what might justifiably be called the heroic period of the College of New Jersey comprises its founding, its remarkable development under Witherspoon when it was literally "a school of statesmen," and its tribulations during the American Revolution. The accession of Samuel Stanhope Smith to the presidency in 1795 marked the beginning of a century of history in which Princeton, after reaching a point at which its friends despaired of its future, slowly climbed until the great administration of James McCosh transformed it in all but name to a university. After the accession of Francis L. Patton in 1888, the old College of New Jersey became Princeton University at the time of the sesquicentennial anniversary. The past fifty years comprise a period of almost continuous growth, interrupted only by war.

It has been truly said that education in colonial America was the child of religion. Princeton's predecessors, Harvard, William and Mary, and Yale, were all established by religious denominations. The College of New Jersey came into being as the result of the Great Awakening, that famous religious revival of the second quarter of the eighteenth century. Emphasizing the need of personal religious experience, revivalists like the Tennents and George Whitefield attracted multitudes of adherents. In the Presbyterian Church, these became known as New Lights as opposed to the Old Sides who preferred more conservative methods. It was this new group which was instrumental in the founding of Princeton.

"The plan and foundation" was first "concocted" by four ministers and three laymen. Jonathan Dickinson of Elizabeth, Aaron Burr of Newark, John Pierson of Woodbridge, and Ebenezer Pemberton of New York were all in full sympathy with the New Lights, as were the laymen, William Smith, Peter Van Brugh Livingston, and William Peartree Smith, all of New York. Six of these were graduates of Yale and one of Harvard, but they were agreed that the New England colleges were too conservative. On October 22, 1746, John Hamilton, Acting Governor of New Jersey, affixed his signature to a charter empowering the seven to act as trustees of the new College of New Jersey.

In May of 1747 the first handful of students met in the parsonage of Jonathan Dickinson at Elizabeth. The College was now an actuality, possessing charter, trustees, faculty, and students. Dickinson was elected President. Later that year, the trustees were enlarged by the addition of several men formerly associated with the Log College. This school, founded twenty years before by the elder William Tennent, had been a stronghold of New Light influence; but it is inaccurate to state that the College of New Jersey grew out of

the Neshaminy school, as several historians have claimed.

On the death of Dickinson the College was moved to Newark where Aaron Burr gathered the students into his household. In 1748 Governor Belcher granted the College its second charter, ending the attacks of those who claimed that the first was illegal because Hamilton had been only Acting Governor. Belcher later became the patron of the College, giving it his large library. He also broadened the board of trustees by including laymen from New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

With the successful raising of funds, the trustees decided upon a permanent location in Princeton. A mere stage stop for travelers, this town was chosen because of the inducements it offered and because of its central location. The cornerstone of Nassau Hall was put in place in September 1754, and two years later Burr and the students made the trip from Newark to Princeton.

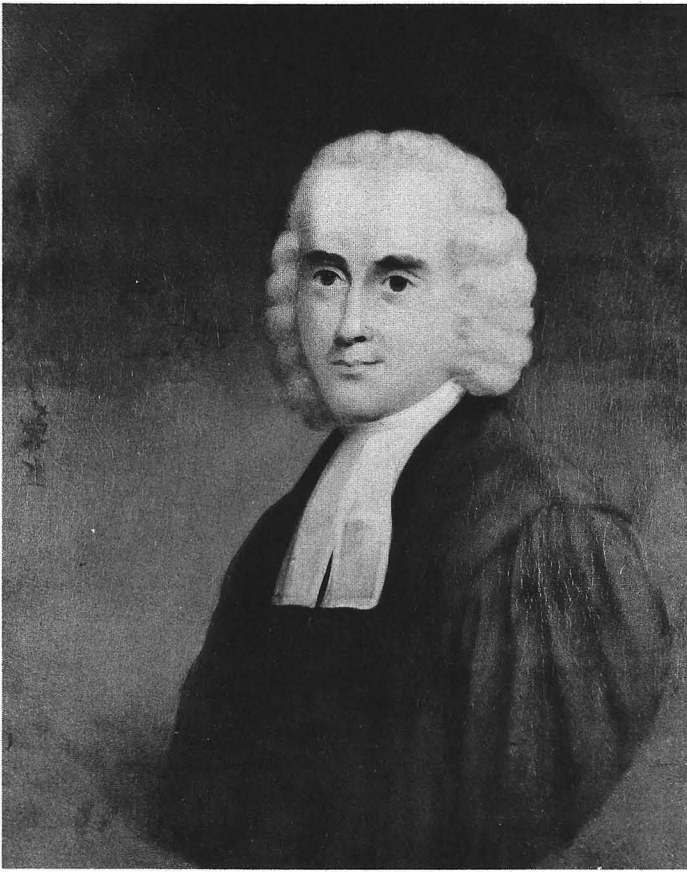
Nassau Hall, as the College now came to be known, was fortunate in having able Presidents; but unfortunate in that the early ones had short careers. Dickinson, Burr, Edwards, Davies, and Finley all had short administrations; and all were overworked.

The arrival of John Witherspoon from Scotland in 1768 marked the beginning of one of the most illustrious administrations in Princeton's history. Endowment funds were secured, the faculty was enlarged, and scientific apparatus, including the famous Rittenhouse orrery, was acquired. Although a recent arrival from Britain, Witherspoon became an ardent champion of American rights and the College attracted the sons of families which were of Whig persuasion. His own political career, culminating in his plea for Independence and his signature to the Declaration, endeared him to all American patriots.

The College of New Jersey suffered severely in the Revolution. Nassau Hall was pillaged by troops of both sides and it came under the fire of Washington's artillery in the Battle of Princeton. Currency inflation added greatly to financial troubles. But slowly the battered walls of Nassau Hall were restored.

The great event of Witherspoon's administration occurred when Congress came to sit in Nassau Hall during the summer and fall of 1783. Here Congress received General Washington in August, and tendered him the thanks of the country for his wartime services. In the commencement of that fall there were present seven signers of the Declaration and eleven future signers of the Constitution, many of them graduates of the "school of statesmen." William Peartree Smith, the last active trustee of the original seven, must have thought that the College had truly flourished under the favor of God.

The Presidents



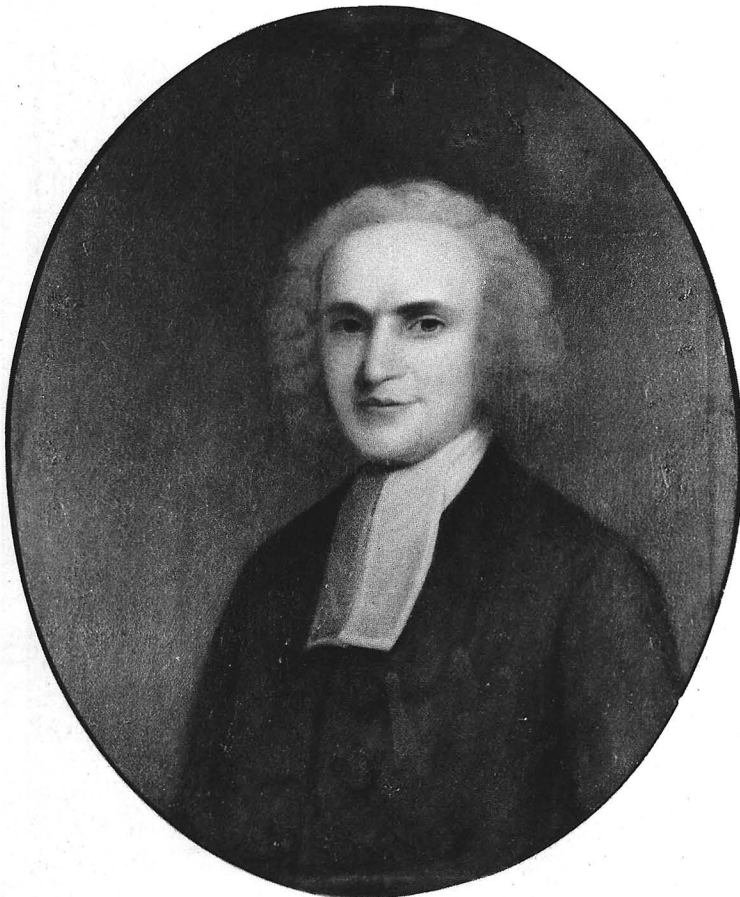
JONATHAN DICKINSON 1747

JONATHAN DICKINSON, elected in 1747 as the first President of the College of New Jersey, was the obvious and inevitable choice of the trustees. "The eminently learned, faithful, and pious" minister of the Presbyterian Church at Elizabeth, a distinguished writer and theologian, a graduate of Yale in 1706, was one of seven men who first "concocted the plan and foundation" of the College.

For several years before 1747 he had conducted a school at his parsonage, and his scholars undoubtedly formed the nucleus of the small group of undergraduates which first met in that year. Assisted by one tutor, President Dickinson gave instruction that was necessarily informal and intimate, perhaps not unlike that of a modern preceptorial.

The infant College received a severe blow when he died, only four and a half months after the opening. Yet he had founded so well that, despite universal sorrow, there was no despair of the future of the institution.

(This reproduction is from the portrait of Dickinson, painted by Edward L. Mooney, which hangs in the Faculty Room in Nassau Hall.)



AARON BURR 1748-1757

AARON BURR, the second President, took over the care of the infant College upon the death of Dickinson. A graduate of Yale in 1735, he was the youngest President to hold office. The College was transferred to Newark, where Burr was pastor of the Old First Church.

To President Burr belongs the honor of the organization of the curriculum of the College, together with its ceremonies, and its discipline. The first commencement was held in the church in November 1748, and the ceremonies were elaborate. They comprised an academic procession to the church, and a formal reading of the new charter. Later Burr delivered, as his inaugural address, a Latin oration on the value of liberal learning. Then followed the disputations of the six graduating students, likewise in Latin. Degrees were then bestowed, while Governor Belcher received the degree of Master, *honoris causa*. A reporter recorded that everyone was quite satisfied, "even the unlearned being pleased with the external solemnity and decorum."

In the fall of 1756 President Burr brought the College to Princeton, where Nassau Hall was approaching completion. In his task of administration he was greatly aided by his wife Esther, the daughter of Jonathan Edwards. After a year in Princeton he died from overwork.

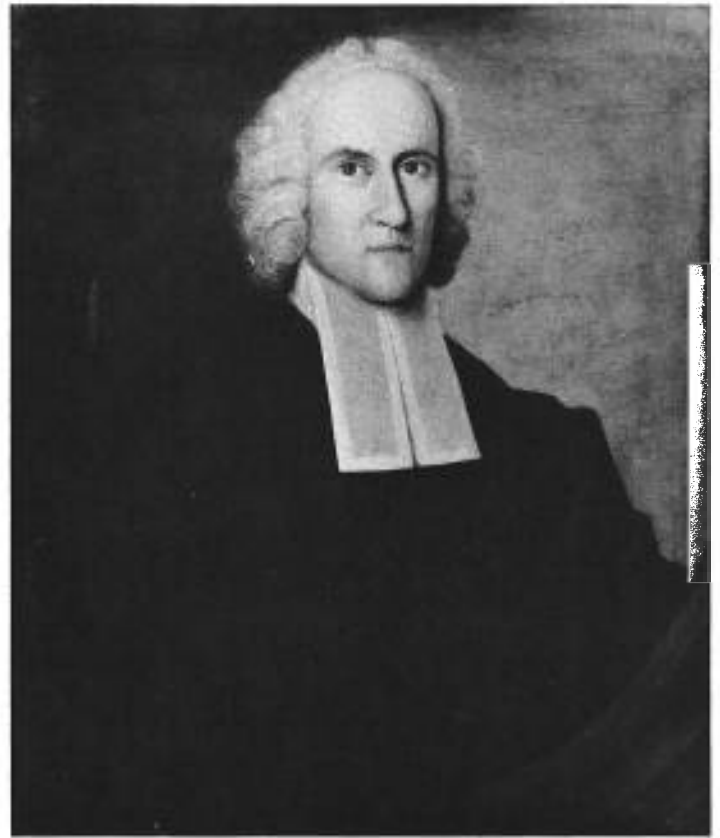
(From a copy by Edward L. Mooney in the Faculty Room, which is from a portrait possibly by Stuart.)

JONATHAN EDWARDS, one of the greatest intellects America has produced, was President only thirty-four days. The father-in-law of Aaron Burr, he was called to Princeton from Stockbridge, Massachusetts, where he was pastor and missionary to the Indians.

A graduate of Yale in the class of 1720—he was just seventeen at the time—he entered the ministry and was long settled at the Congregational Church in Northampton. He was an ardent evangelist, a friend of George Whitefield, and a leader in the Great Awakening; but his famous sermon, “Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God,” was not typical. It was as metaphysician that Edwards won his greatest fame; his treatise “On the Freedom of the Will” standing as one of the outstanding classics of philosophical thought.

Edwards’ coming to Princeton was tragic. Smallpox was then prevalent and it was thought advisable to submit the new President to inoculation. Dr. William Shippen, co-architect of Nassau Hall, came from Philadelphia for the purpose. Edwards died of the disease he was trying to avoid. The greatest American theologian of the eighteenth century fell a victim to the new science.

(From a portrait of Edwards by Joseph Badger, reproduced by courtesy of the Yale University Art Gallery.)



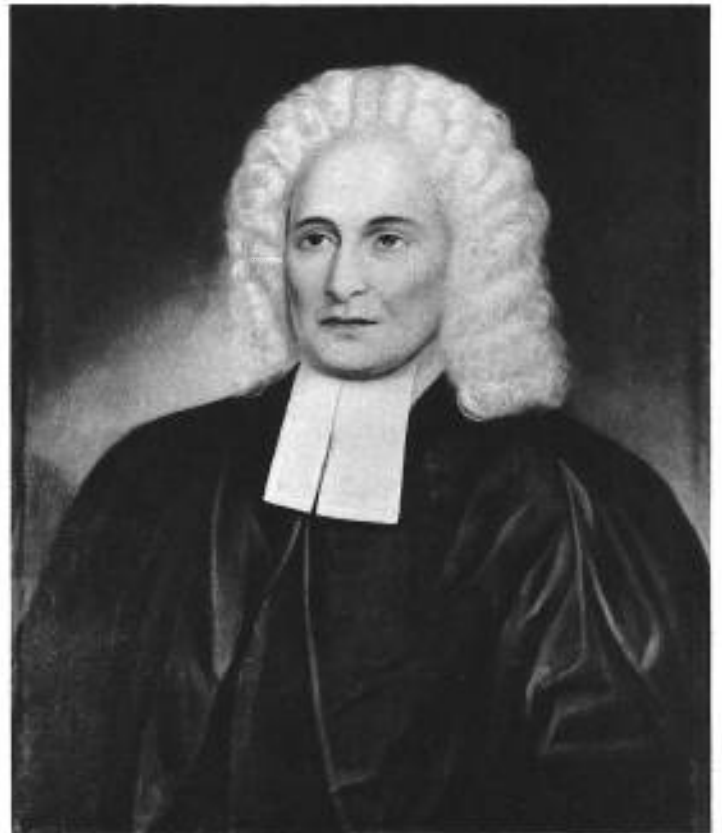
JONATHAN EDWARDS 1758

SAMUEL DAVIES, fourth President, was reluctant to accept the call to Princeton, despite his great services to the College in its earliest days. In 1753, with Gilbert Tennent, he had gone to England to raise funds for the new institution, and their success had made possible the construction of Nassau Hall and the President’s House.

He received his education at Samuel Blair’s famous academy at Fagg’s Manor, Pennsylvania, and thus fell heir to the influence of the Log College. He was early sent as an evangelist to Virginia, where dissenters were regarded with hostility. He achieved fame by personally carrying to the King in Council the question as to whether the Act of Toleration extended to the colony, and won his case.

Despite Davies’ modesty and sincere doubts as to his fitness for the position, he made an excellent President. Scholarly, very eloquent in the pulpit, and receptive to new trends in education, he was equally liked by trustees and students. Like Burr, he drove himself to overwork; and tuberculosis took his life in 1761. His death, it is recorded, dismayed the College “and spread a gloom all over the country.”

(From the portrait by James Massalon that hangs in the Faculty Room.)



SAMUEL DAVIES 1759-1761



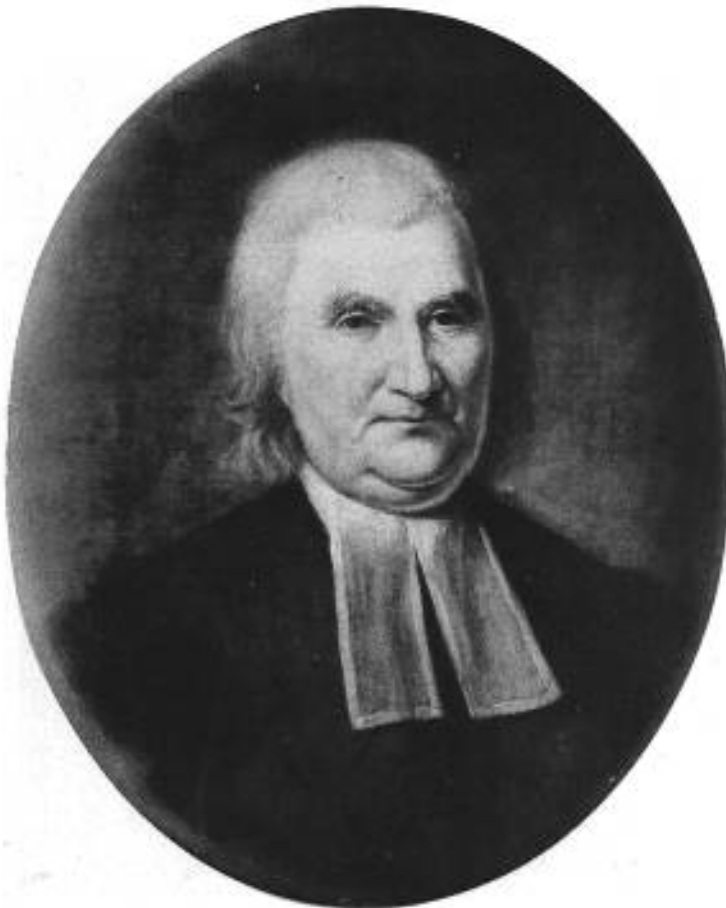
SAMUEL FINLEY 1761-1766

SAMUEL FINLEY was unanimously elected President upon the death of Samuel Davies. Finley had been born in Ireland, and as a youth had come to Philadelphia determined to enter the ministry. It is amusing to recall that in his early career he accepted an invitation to preach before the "Second Society" at New Haven; as this organization was not recognized by the authorities, he was arrested and sentenced to be deported from the colony as an interloper and vagrant.

In 1744 Finley settled as a pastor at Nottingham on the Pennsylvania-Maryland border, where he conducted an academy. He became a trustee of the College of New Jersey under the original charter of 1746, and reentered the board in 1751; ten years later he was the obvious choice for the presidency.

Although Finley was a poor orator, he was an energetic and able administrator and teacher. Like all the early Presidents, he devoted much of this time to teaching and gave instruction in Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. And like them too, he was overworked. He died in Philadelphia and was one of the few Presidents who was not buried in the Presidents' Row on Witherspoon Street.

(From a portrait attributed to Samuel F. B. Morse which was painted after the portrait by John Hesselius. It is reproduced by courtesy of Sidney E. Morse, Esq., the owner, and the Frick Art Reference Library.)



JOHN WITHERSPOON 1768-1794

JOHN WITHERSPOON became the sixth President, after refusing at first to leave his native Scotland. A descendant of John Knox and a brilliant scholar, he was graduated from the University of Edinburgh in 1742.

As administrator, Witherspoon set the College on a sound financial basis, raising funds by touring the colonies. The faculty was expanded by calling several professors to Princeton, and the curriculum was widely broadened and the lecture system introduced. Philosophy was enlarged so as to include political science, and the study of French was also inaugurated.

Witherspoon won wide fame in America by taking an active part in the Revolutionary movement. Princeton thus acquired a strong Whig reputation. A member of the Continental Congress, he was one of the three Princeton signers of the Declaration of Independence. During the Revolution he performed various war services, and successfully administered the College despite the depredations committed by the enemy.

Under Witherspoon, Princeton was literally "a school of statesmen," and five of his own students were later delegates at the Constitutional Convention.

In his last years Witherspoon did not live in the President's House, but settled at Tusculum.

(From the portrait by Charles Willson Peale by courtesy of Independence Hall.)

Landmarks and Memorabilia

THE LOG COLLEGE at Neshaminy, Pennsylvania, founded about 1726, was a forerunner of Princeton. It was established by the Rev. William Tennent, local pastor and prominent leader in the evangelical group known as New Lights.

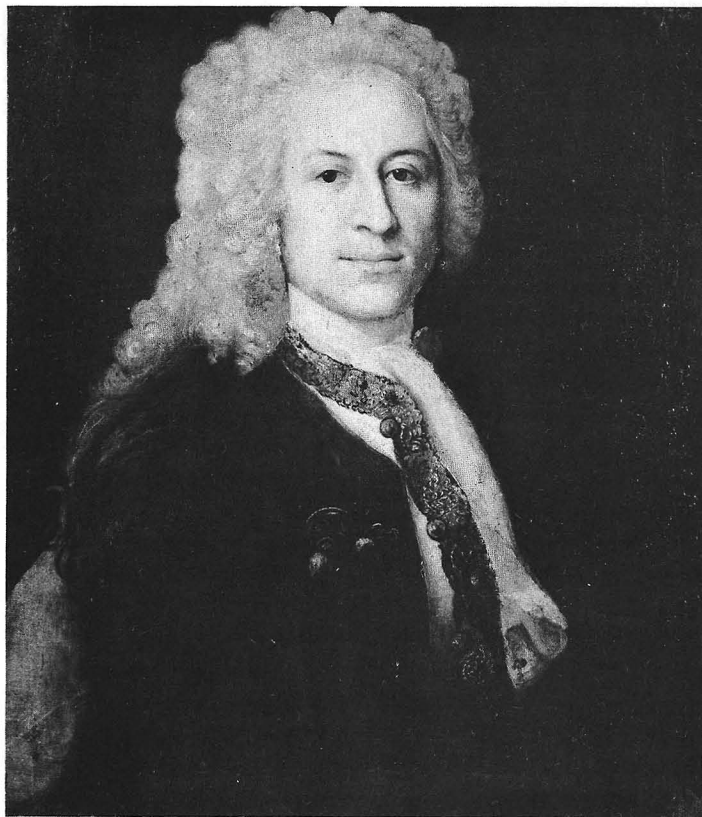
Although the College of New Jersey was not a continuation of the Log College, supporters of the latter entered the board of trustees and otherwise became prominent.



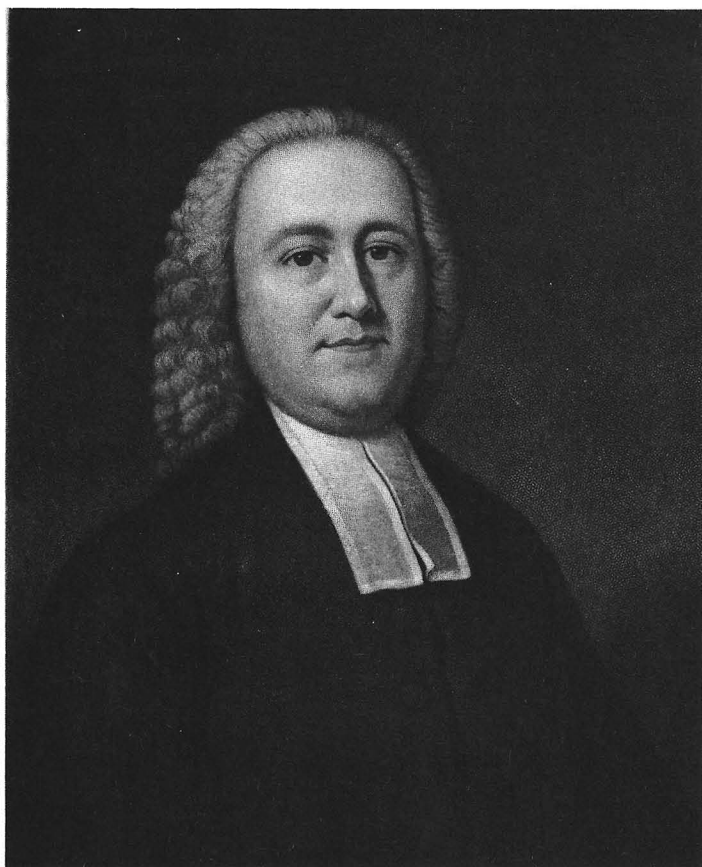
The First Page of the Charter of 1748. The charter of 1746 was signed by John Hamilton when he was Acting Governor; and to avoid controversy the second charter was obtained under which Princeton operates today. The two charters were closely similar in wording, each specifying that the College was to be non-sectarian.



GEORGE II OF ENGLAND, in whose reign the College of New Jersey received its two charters. (This reproduction is from the portrait by Charles Jervas, court painter, that hangs in the Faculty Room. It replaces an earlier portrait of the King which was destroyed in the Battle of Princeton by a cannon-shot from Washington's army.)



GOVERNOR JONATHAN BELCHER, here depicted in the upper right hand corner, was the chief patron of the College of New Jersey. He signed the charter of 1748. Today he is principally remembered for his modest refusal to have Nassau Hall named after him. Princetonians are properly grateful to this Harvard graduate. (From the portrait by Franz Liopoldt owned by the Massachusetts Historical Society.)



GILBERT TENNENT, eldest son of the William Tennent who founded the Log College, became trustee of the College of New Jersey in 1747. His greatest service was his trip to England with Samuel Davies; the two were successful in raising funds for the construction of Nassau Hall.

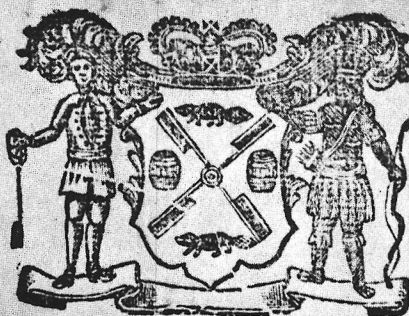
November 21, 1748.

THE

NUMB. 305

NEW-YORK
REVIVED
WEEKLY

With the freshest Advices



GAZETTE
IN THE
POST-BY.

Foreign and Domestic.

Mr. Parker,

As the Acts of a public Commencement are little known in these Parts, perhaps the following Relation from an Eye and Ear Witness, may be agreeable to many of your Readers.

ON Wednesday the ninth Instant, was held at Newark, the first Commencement of the College of New Jersey; at which was present his Excellency JONATHAN BELCHER, Esq; Governor and Commander in Chief of the said Province, and President of the Trustees, and sixteen Gentlemen, being other Trustees named in the Royal CHARTER: Who after they had all taken and subscribed the Oaths to the Government, and made and signed the Declaration which are appointed by divers Statutes of Great Britain, and had taken the particular Oath for the faithful Performance of their Trust, all which were required by the said Charter, they proceeded to the Election of a President of the said College; whereupon the Reverend Mr. AARON BURR, was unanimously chosen.

Which being done, his Excellency was preceded from his Lodgings at the President's House; first by the Candidates walking in Couples uncovered; next followed the Trustees two by two being covered, and last of all his Excellency the Governor, with the President at his Left Hand. At the Door of the Place appointed for the publick Acts, the Procession (amidst a great Number of Spectators there gathered) was inverted, the Candidates going to the Right and Left Hand, and the Trustees in like manner. His Excellency first entered with the President, the Trustees next following in the Order in which they were ranged in the Charter; and last of all the Candidates. Upon the Bell ceasing, and the Assembly being composed, the President began the publick Acts by solemn Prayer to God in the English Tongue, for a Blessing upon the publick Transactions of the Day; upon his Majesty King GEORGE the Second, and the Royal Family; upon the British Nations and Dominions; upon the Governor and Government of New Jersey; upon all Seminaries of true Religion and good Literature; and particularly upon the infant College of New-Jersey.

Which being concluded, the President attended in the Pulpit with the Reverend Mr. Thomas Arbut, who had been constituted Clerk of the Corporation, desired in the English Tongue, the Assembly to stand up and hearken to his Majesty's Royal CHARTER, granted to the Trustees of the College of New Jersey.

Upon which, the Assembly standing, the Charter was distinctly read by the Reverend Mr. Arbut, with the usual Indorsement by his Majesty's Attorney General, and the Certificate signed by the Secretary of the Province, of its having been approved in Council, with his Excellency's Fiat for the Province Seal, signed with his Excellency's own Hand.

After this, the Morning being spent, the President signified to the Assembly, that the succeeding Acts would be deferred till two o'Clock in the Afternoon.

Then the Procession, in Return to the President's House, was made in the Order before observed.

The like Procession being made in the Afternoon as in the Morning, and the Assembly being seated in their Places, and composed; the President opened the publick Acts, first by an elegant Oration in the Latin Tongue, delivered *memoriter*, modestly declaring his Unworthiness of, and Unfitness for so weighty and important a Trust as had been reposed in him; apologizing for the Defects that would unavoidably appear in his Part of the present Service; displaying the manifold Advantages of the liberal Arts and Sciences, in exalting and dignifying the humane Nature, enlarging the Soul, improving its Faculties, civilizing Mankind, qualifying them for the important Offices of Life, and rendering Men useful Members of Church and State: That to Learning and the Arts, was chiefly owing the vast Preheminence of the polished Nations of Europe, to the almost brutish Savages of America; the Sight of which last was the constant Object of Horror and

Commiseration. Then the President proceeded to mention the Honours paid by our Ancestors in Great Britain, to the Liberal Sciences; by erecting and endowing those illustrious Seminaries of Learning, which for many Ages had been the Honour and Ornament of those happy Islands, and the Source of infinite Advantage to the People there: Observing, that the same noble Spirit had animated their Descendants, the first English Planters of America; who, as soon as they were formed into a civil State, in the very Infancy of Time, had wisely laid Religion and Learning at the Foundation of their Common wealth; and had always regarded them as the firmest Pillars of their Church and State. That hence very early arose Harvard College, in New Cambridge, and afterwards Yale College, in New Haven, which have now flourished with growing Reputation, for many Years, and have sent forth many hundreds of learned Men of various Stations and Characters in Life, that in different Periods have proved the Honour and Ornament of their Country; and of which, the one or the other had been the ALMA MATER of most of the Literati then present. That Learning, like the Sun in its Western Progress, had now began to dawn upon the Province of New Jersey, through the happy Influence of its generous Patron their most excellent Governor; who from his own Experience, and early Acquaintance with academic Studies, well knowing the Importance of a learned Education, and being justly sensible that in Nothing he could more subserve to the Honour and Interest of his Majesty's Government, and the real Good and Happiness of his Subjects in New-Jersey, than by granting them the best Means to render themselves a religious, wise, and knowing People; Had therefore, upon his happy Accession to his Government, made the Erection of a College in this Province, for the Instruction of Youth in the liberal Arts and Sciences, the immediate Object of his Attention and Care: The clearest Demonstration whereof they had by the Grant of his most gracious Majesty's Royal CHARTER in the Morning published in that Assembly, which had been conveyed to them through his Excellency's Hands; which appears to have been founded in the noblest Munificence, granting the most ample Privileges consistent with the natural and religious Rights of Mankind, and calculated for the most extensive Good of all his Majesty's Subjects. That therein we see the Ax laid to the Root of that ANTICHRISTIAN BIGOTRY that had in every Age (wherever it had prevailed) been the Parent of Persecution, the Bane of Society, and the Plague of Mankind: That by the Tenour of his Majesty's Charter, it could assume no Place in the College of New-Jersey; but as a foul Fiend, was banish'd to its native Region, that infernal PIT from whence it sprung.

These, and many other Particulars having, *more Oratorio*, taken up about three Quarters of an Hour, and the printed *Theses* being dispersed among the Learned in the Assembly, the Candidates, by the Command of the President, entered upon the publick Disputations in Latin; in which six Questions in Philosophy and Theology were debated. One of which was:

"An Libertas agendi Secundum Dictamina Conscientiæ, in Rebus merè religiosi, ab ullâ Potestate humana coerceri debeat?"

In English, Whether the Liberty of acting according to the Dictates of Conscience, in Matters merely religious, ought to be restrained by any humane Power?

And it was justly held and concluded, That that Liberty ought not to be restrained. Then the President addressing himself to the Trustees in Latin, asked, Whether it was their Pleasure, that these young Men who had performed the publick Exercises in Disputation, should be admitted to the Degree of Bachelor of the Arts?

Which being granted by his Excellency, in the Name of all the Trustees present, the President descended from the Pulpit; being seated with his Head covered, received them two by two; and according to the Authority to him committed by the Royal Charter, after the Manner of the Academies in England, admitted six young Scholars to the Degree of Bachelor of the Arts.

In the next Place, his Excellency JONATHAN BELCHER, Esq; Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of *New-Jersey*, having declared his Desire to accept from that College the Degree of Master of Arts: the other Trustees in a just Sense of the Honour done the College by his Excellency's Condescension, most heartily having granted his Request, and the President rising uncovered, addressed himself to his Excellency: and according to the same Authority committed to him by the Royal CHARTER, after the Manner of the Academies in *England*, admitted him to the Degree of Master of Arts.

Then the President ascended the Pulpit, and commanded the *Orator Salutatorius* to ascend the Rostrum, who being Mr. *Daniel Thane*, just before graduated Bachelor of Arts: he in a modest and decent Manner, first apologizing for his Insufficiency, and then having spoken of the Excellency of the liberal Arts and Sciences, and of the numberless Benefits they yield to Mankind in private and social Life; addressed himself in becoming Salutations and Thanks to his Excellency and the Trustees, the President and whole Assembly: All which being performed in good Latin from his Memory, in a handsome oratorical Manner in the Space of about half an Hour. The President concluded in English, with Thanksgiving to Heaven for the Favours received, and Prayers to God for a Blessing upon the Scholars that had received the publick Honours of that Day, and for the Smiles of Heaven upon the Infant College of *New-Jersey*, and dismissed the Assembly. All which being performed to the great Satisfaction of all present, his Excellency, with the Trustees and Scholars, returned to the House of the President in the Order observed in the Morning; where, after sundry By-Laws were made, chiefly for regulating the Studies and Manners of the Students, they agreed upon a Corporation Seal with this Device: In the upper Part of the Circle a Bible spread open, with *Latin* Characters inscribed on the Left Side, signifying the *Old Testament*, and on the Right Side the *New*, with this Motto over it: *VITÆ LUMEN MORTUIS REDDIT*; with a View to that Text, *Who hath abolished Death, and hath brought Life and Immortality to Light through the Gospel*. Underneath on one Side a Table with Books standing thereon, to signify the proper Business of the Students; on the other a *Diploma*, with the College Seal appended over it, being written, *MERITI PRÆMIUM*, to signify, that the Degrees to be conferred, are only to be to those that deserve them. On the Outside of the Circle, *SIGILLUM COLLEGIi NEO CÆSARIENSIS IN AMERICA*; the Seal of the College of *New-Jersey*, in *America*; and then appointed the succeeding Commencement to be at *New-Brunswick*, on the last Wednesday of September next. Thus the first Appearance of a College in *New-Jersey*, having given universal Satisfaction, even the Unlearned being pleased with the external Solemnity and Decorum which they saw, 'tis hoped that this infant College will meet with due Encouragement from all publick spirited generous Minds; and that the Lovers of Learning will with its Prosperity, and contribute to its Support.

COURTESY OF THE NEW-YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY

An Account of the First Commencement of the College of New Jersey, held at Newark in November 1748. The first graduating class comprised six members, of whom Richard Stockton became the most famous. (From *The New-York Gazette Revived in the Weekly Post-Boy*, Nov. 21, 1748.)

The Seal of the College was adopted in 1748, and was probably designed by William Peartree Smith. This trustee was a wealthy graduate of Yale, class of 1742, and the silversmith who did the engraving may have been Philip Goelet who did work for the Peartree family. This seal was used until 1896 when a new one was adopted.

Prospectus of the College, 1752. Several editions of this pamphlet were published to advertise the new institution and to appeal for funds. When Davies and Tennent were abroad on their trip to Britain, they had a new edition printed in London and two in Edinburgh in 1754.



A
GENERAL ACCOUNT
OF THE
RISE AND STATE
OF THE
COLLEGE,

LATELY ESTABLISHED

In the Province of *NEW-JERSEY*,
In *AMERICA*:

And of the END and DESIGN
of its INSTITUTION.

Published by Order of the TRUSTEES of the said COLLEGE; for
the Information of the Friends of Learning and Virtue, in
GREAT-BRITAIN and AMERICA.

*Homines ad Deos nulla re propius accedunt,
Quam Salutem Hominibus dando.*

TULL.

*At last Heavens best inexplicable Scheme
Disclosing, bad new brightening Æras smile.
The high Command gone forth, ARTS in my Train,
And Azure-mantled SCIENCE, swift we spread
A founding Pinion.-----*

THOMPSON'S Liberty

NEW-YORK:

Printed by James Parker, at the New Printing-Office in Beaver-Street:
MDCCLII.

P R Æ S T A N T I S S I M O

JONATHAN BELCHER, Armigero,

Provinciae *Nova-Cæsariæ* GUBERNATORI, Marisque contermini Vice-Admirallo,

Consummatissimo; ---Nec non hujus Academiæ Patrono colendissimo;

Reverendo pariter ac honorando D. AARONI BURR, Collegii *Neo-Cæsariensis*, PRÆSIDI, Fidelissimis etiam
Ejusdem Curatoribus, Literatura ac Pietate conspicuis;

Vigilantissimis etiam, Ecclesiarum CHRISTI passim Pastoribus, Doctrina et Pietate adornatis; ---Omnibus denique, Rei literariæ Cultoribus, de nostra Accademia bene
merentibus, summa Gratitudine semper prosequendis; Hæc Philophemata quæ (Duo Opt. Max. favente) sub Præsidis Moderamine sunt agitando,
Juvenes Artibus initiati.

Hugo Bay,
Jacobus Beard,



Alexander Clinton,
Daniel Farrand,



Jacobus Frielinghuysen,
Simeon Mitchel.

Devotissima cum Observantia ac Humilitate, ---D. D. D. C. Q.

THESES TECHNOLOGICÆ.



TECHNOLOGIA de omnium Artium ac Scientiarum generatim, regulis ac Terminis versatur.

- 1 Omnis Res Rhetoricæ est propria, quæ ornate dici, graviterque debeat.
- 2 Mentis Operationes & Termini quibus exprimuntur, adæquatum Logicæ Objectum, constituunt.
- 3 Algebra, Quantitatem Quæsitam, sive Numerum, sive Lineam, ut datum assumit.

- 4 Inter Trigonometriam planam & Sphæricam, quædam datur certa Relatio ac Harmonia.
- 5 Ergo accurata hujus Observatio, ad illam perdiscendam, multum conducet.
- 6 Excellentia omnium Artium ac Scientiarum, a Tendentia ad Gloriam Dei & Hominum Felicitatem promovendum, pendet.

THESES GRAMMATICÆ.

GRAMMATICA, in quavis Lingua, Ideas Verbis apte & dilucide communicandi, Artem docet.

- 1 Sine Verbo expresso vel suppresso, Sententia esse nequit.
- 2 Grammatica per quam Lingua ignota docetur, Lingua vernaculæ scribi debet.
- 3 Quo paucioribus Verbis quævis Lingua constat, eo facilius intelligi potest.
- 4 Cognitio Vocalium Mutationis, ad Linguam Hebraicam intelligendum, non est absolute necessaria.
- 5 Inter Hebræos Adverbium negandi sæpe intelligitur.
- 6 Hebræi, Gradum superlativum per Adverbium, exprimunt.
- 7 Omnium Linguarum Hebraica est antiquissima.

THESES RHETORICÆ.

RHETORICA est Ars Veritatem copiose et eleganter illustrandi.

- 1 Perfectio optimorum Authorum præsertim veterum Poetarum, ad Oratorem formandum, multum conducit.
- 2 Sine multum scribendo, Orator perfectus existere non potest.
- 3 Tamen Oratio sine Scriptis pronunciari debet.
- 4 Ordo, non minus Oratori quam Audientibus prædest.
- 5 Penitus Rei Cognitio, Memoriz Lumen maxime adfert.
- 6 Vocis, Vultus, & Gestus, Moderatio cum Venustate, Orationem reddit jucundam.
- 7 Vox ultra Vires urgenda non est.

THESES LOGICÆ.

LOGICA est Ars, in Veritatem investigando ac aliis communicando, Ratione bene utendi.

- 1 Extensio & Comprehensio Idearum mutuo sese extendunt aut contrahunt.
- 2 Affirmatio Ideæ, Comprehensionem ejus, semper includit.
- 3 Differentia inter Species nominales, Differentiam inter reales, non arguit.
- 4 E Premissis particularibus, ad Conclusionem generalem, Consequentia non valet. Ergo,
- 5 In Premissis, unus Terminus universalis, majus quam in Conclusionem semper esse debet.
- 6 Veræ Conclusiones a veris Principiis Oriuntur.
- 7 Ideæ simplices explicari non possunt.
- 8 Nomina, ad Ideas communicandas, non sunt absolute necessaria.
- 9 Ex diversis Ideis, eidem Nomini affixis, multarum Controversiarum oritur Causa.
- 10 Nomina particularia, cuius Ideæ simplici annexa, Causam Erroris in Ideis communicandis sustulerunt.
- 11 Sed hoc, quamvis Linguam, redderet nimis obscuram.

THESES MATHEMATICÆ.

MATHEMATICA, de, Quantitatis & ejus Relationum, Natura & Analogia tractat.

- 1 Circulus Triangulo est æqualis cujus Basis Peripheriæ et Altitudo Radio sunt æquales.
- 2 In omni Parallelogramate, duorum Diagonalium Quadrata, quatuor Laterum Quadrato sunt æqualia.
- 3 Privativæ Quantitates, etsi realium sunt Defectus, tamen minores vel majores esse possunt.
- 4 Privativæ positivis Quantitatibus, sunt heterogenæ et vice versa. Ergo,

- 5 Inter positivas & primitivas Quantitates nulla datur Ratio.
- 6 In Hyperbola, Quadratum Axis conjugati, transversus Quadrato, ac Parameter Axis transverso, eandem habent Proportionem.
- 7 Sphæra Pyramidi est æqualis, cujus Basis Superficiæ, et Altitudo Sphære Radio ejus, sunt æqualia.
- 8 Pyramidum æqualium Basis & Altitudines, reciprocam habent Proportionem.
- 9 Sinus Arcuum similium, Radiis eorum, eandem habent Rationem.
- 10 Sphære Superficiæ, Circuli Areae, ab ejus Radio descripti, est quadrupla.

THESES PHYSICÆ.

PHYSICA, Phenomenorum in Mundo Naturali secundum Leges Stabilitatis Orientium, Solutionem indicat.

- 1 Altitudo Atmosphæræ, ob inæqualem Densitatem, accurate determinari nequit.
- 2 Inæqualis Atmosphæræ Densitas, partim ab ejus Elasticitate, oritur.
- 3 Vi Solis ac Lunæ attractiva, Fluxus ac Refluxus in Atmosphæra, æque ac in Mari, efficitur.
- 4 Soni Velocitas Aeris Elasticitati est proportionalis. Ergo,
- 5 Ceteris paribus Æstate quam Hyeme est major.
- 6 Velocitas Lucis est 10210 major quam Terræ in ejus annua Orbita. Ergo,
- 7 Parallaxis Syderum fixorum apparebit contrarie quam aliter esset.
- 8 Reflectio Radiorum Lucis, ab Atmosphæra elastica, quamvis Particulam Lucis, circumambiente efficitur.
- 9 Corpusculum, in quavis Parte Sphære concavæ æque attractivæ, erit quietum.
- 10 In Divisione Sphæræ, solida Materia ut Cubi, Superficiæ autem ut Quadrata Diametrorum minuantur. Ergo,
- 11 Corpora parva in Fluido, in Proportionem solidæ Materiæ, magis quam majora, resistuntur.
- 12 Retrocessio Poli Equatoris circa Ecclipticum, solis ac Lunæ conjunctione Vi attractivæ, efficitur.
- 13 Unde apparet Terram esse Figure Sphæroidalis.
- 14 Dies Solares, nec sideris Diebus nec sibi ipsis, sunt æquales.
- 15 Hujus Inæqualitatis, Revolutio Terræ circa Solem et ecclipticæ Orbitæ Figura sunt Causa.
- 16 Omnia Phenomena, in Mundo naturali, immediatè Dei Energid, efficiuntur.

THESES METAPHYSICÆ.

METAPHYSICA est, de Entibus in se abstracte consideratis, et eorum Causis, Generibus, ac Relationibus, Tractatus.

- 1 Subordinatio Causarum ad Infinitum procedere non potest.
- 2 Metaphysica Veritas & Perfectio Gradus not admittunt.
- 3 Perfectiones Dei morales, e Necessitate naturali, non exercentur.
- 4 Possibilibus naturalis absque Possibilitate morali existere potest.
- 5 Omnia, Necessitate Consequentia, sunt necessaria.
- 6 Sed hæc Necessitas, in Voluntatem Agentium moralium, nullam Influentiam habet.
- 7 Conjectura Successio cogitandi, ad personalem Identitatem constituendam, non est necessaria.

THESES ETHICÆ.

ETHICA, summam Felicitatem per Praxin Virtutis, Rationem obtinendi docet.

- 1 Summum Bonum, in Fruitione Entis perfectissimi, constat.
- 2 Sine Respectu ad Deum, ut ultimum Finem, Actiones formaliter bonæ esse non possunt.
- 3 Judicium privatæ Discretionis, cuius Agenti morali, est essentiale.
- 4 Sine Voluntatis Consensu Peccatum existere nequit. Ergo,
- 5 Libertatis Abusus Mali morali fuit Origo.
- 6 Sine Virtute non potest esse alicujus Boni vera Fructio.
- 7 Diætamina Rationis sunt iis Sensuum anteponenda.
- 8 In Statu Naturæ, (quibuscumque Cognatis exceptis) quoad Imperium, Homines sunt æquales. Ergo,
- 9 Jus Regum, e Compacto Populi, originale Fundamen habuit. Ergo,
- 10 Competitor GEORGIJ Secundi (optimo Jure) nostri Regis, Imperium *Magne-Britanniæ*, non minus injuste quam inaniter sibi vindicat.

His præcedit Oratio Salutatoria.

Habita in Comitiiis academicis NOVARCÆ. in Nova-Cæsarea, Sexto Calendas Octobris, MDCCI.

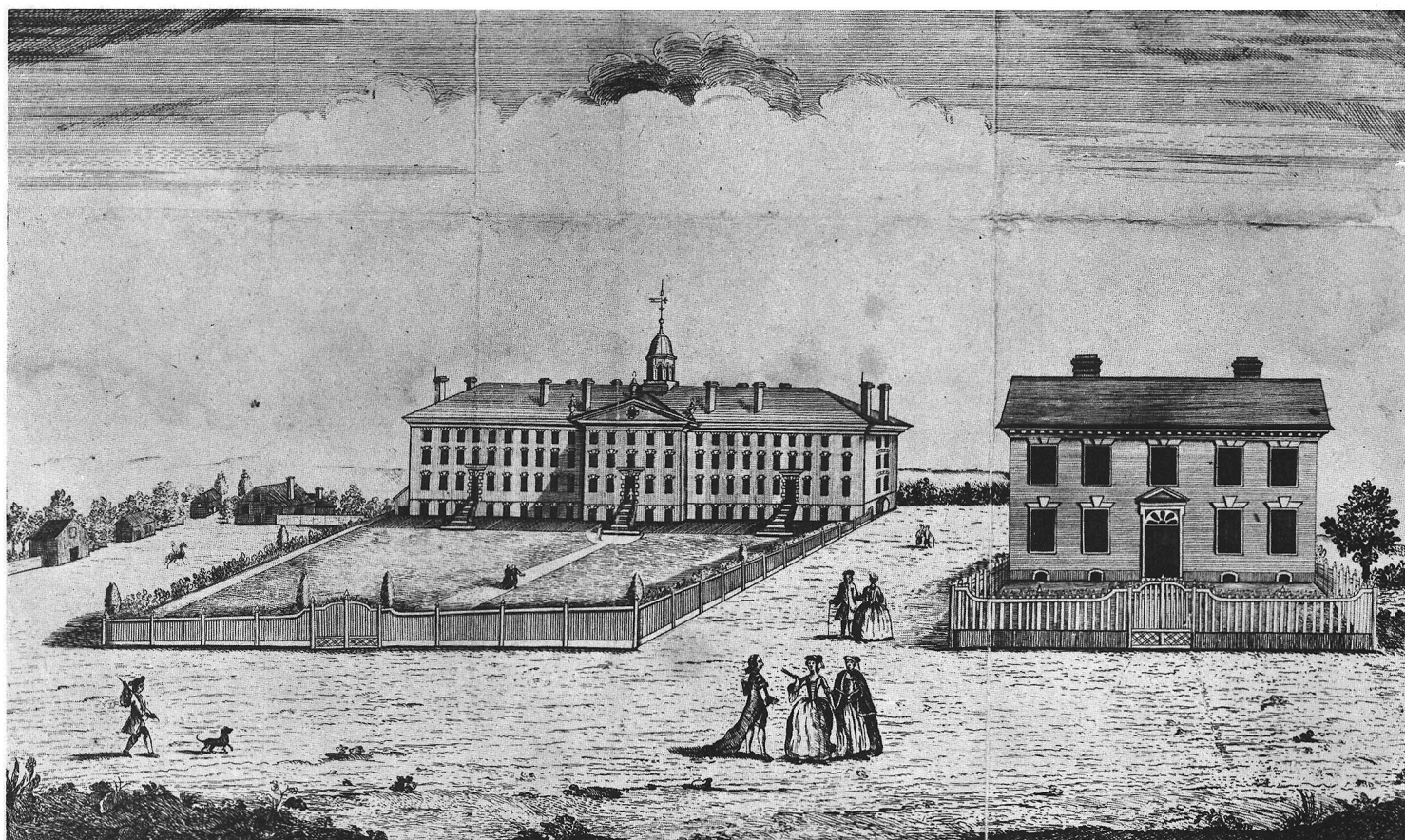
Commencement Theses, 1750. Besides special orations, commencement exercises comprised "scholastic disputations" by the prospective bachelors, all carried on in Latin. Commencement was an ordeal for all hands.

1722	John Shippen Dr		
May 2	To Cash for shoes at P. Wada	0	8 0
	To Plate Dialog		8 6
29	To Mr. Meggs, acct for sundries	0	19 7
	To Cash		4 0
	To Cash		2 6
May 24	Mr. ant Settled & due	12	13 0
	To Mr. Heasor till Feb 26. 22.	1	12 6
Do 30.	Nett in full as settled above	14	2 6
June 1722	John Shippen Dr after left House		
	To Cash	0	1 0
	To Cash		1 6
	To Cash for Penkif		1 2
29	To Cash		2 0
	To Cash		1 0
	To French Schooling		1 0
	To a Doll. w ^{ch} he wd to N York		8 0
	To Cash		1 0
Sept 15	To Cash for Horse & Car		1 1
Nov 28	To Cash to Capt Johns for Horse		16 8
	To Horace in apm Del		14
Dec 14	To Wards, Mather		11 6
	To Cash for wood & candles		8
Nov 28	Control		
	resident all 2 for Trunkon till		

A Page from President Burr's Account Book. The expenditures of each student were carefully regulated.



WILLIAM III, Prince of Orange-Nassau, for whom Nassau Hall was named. (From the portrait by Caspar Netscher.)



The Dawkins Engraving of 1764. This famous engraving was made from a sketch drawn by one of the Tennents. Inciden-

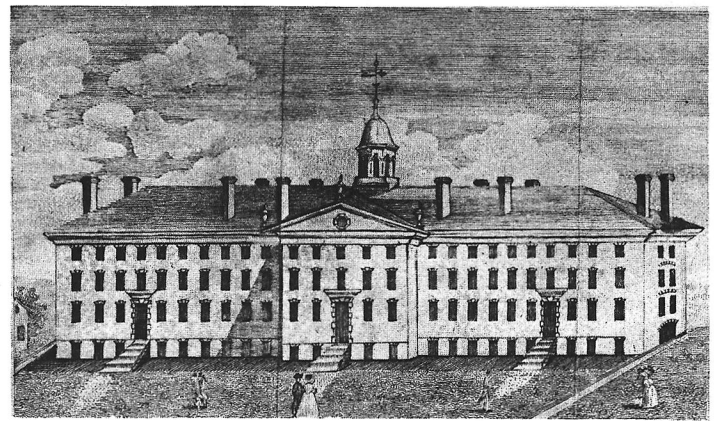
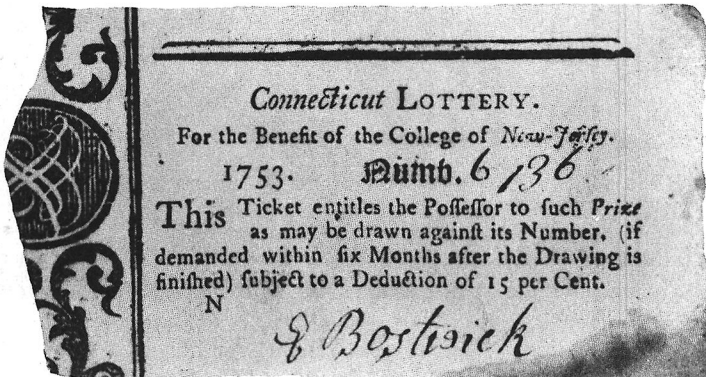
tally the fence in front of Nassau Hall, shown here, never existed; and one wonders at the hills at the left.



The First Print of Nassau Hall, 1760. This engraving appeared in the *New American Magazine*, in March 1760. The editor, in the accompanying article, declared that only intense interest in the College warranted the cost.

Although the College severely punished students who engaged in games of chance, officials saw no harm in holding a lottery for the benefit of the College. New Jersey frowned upon Princeton's lotteries, but other colonies were more open-minded. Hence this lottery in Delaware in 1772. The proceeds constituted fifteen per cent of the prize money. Several lotteries were held, the good Presbyterians apparently having few scruples when they got the proceeds.

Connecticut, despite its "blue laws," permitted a lottery for the benefit of the College of New Jersey in 1753. It resulted in a fair profit. The irregular cutting and design of the tickets, on the left side, was devised to make forgery difficult. The modern word, indenture, comes from this practice.



The Doolittle Engraving of Nassau Hall. It was made by Amos Doolittle, probably in 1776. He was a Connecticut Yankee who engraved portraits and historical scenes, of which the best known deal with the Revolution.

JUNE 5, 1772.

THE DELAWARE LOTTERY,

For Raising the Sum of Five Thousand Six Hundred and Twenty Five Pounds, (or Fifteen Thousand Dollars) for the Use of the

COLLEGE OF NEW-JERSEY,

THE PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATION AT PRINCETOWN,
AND THE
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATIONS
OF NEW-CASTLE AND CHRISTIANA-BRIDGE.

The SCHEME.

1 Prize of	6000 Dollars,	-	is	6000 Dollars.
2 -	2000 -	-	are	4000
4 -	1000 -	-	are	4000
10 -	500 -	-	are	5000
20 -	200 -	-	are	4000
30 -	100 -	-	are	3000
60 -	50 -	-	are	3000
6960 -	10 -	-	are	69600
<hr/>				
7087 Prizes.	First Ticket drawn, for the first			
	12 Days, 100 -	-	-	1200
12913 Blanks.	Last Drawn, - - - - - 200			
<small>N. B. These are not included in the Prizes numbered.</small>				
20,000 Tickets, at Five Dollars each are		100,000 Dollars.		
Not two Blanks to a Prize.				

THE growing Importance of the COLLEGE of NEW-JERSEY, (for the Use of which the above Lottery is principally designed) is now generally known through every Province of America. It has hitherto subsisted, and been raised to its present Situation, entirely by the Favour of the Public. In the Center of North-America, and in that attended the greatest Advantages, it is fitted to raise its Funds, and furnish the Means of a complete and finished Education, to all who are, it to it, has encouraged those concerned in the present Attempt: especially as several very judicious Persons have warmly recommended it, signifying their Surprise, that at a Time, when so many have taken this Method of promoting public Undertakings, a SEMINARY, of such Importance, should not also put in for a Share of the general Benevolence. This added, to other Schemes for the Support and Improvement of the College, will afford to many Friends of that Institution an Opportunity of contributing, with very little Risk of losing, and a considerable Chance of Gain to themselves, who would not incline that the small Sums they could spare, should appear in a Subscription Paper.

As a Number of Tickets are already engaged, and many Gentlemen of extensive Acquaintance have interrelated themselves in this Measure, it is hoped the Drawing will commence the *first* Day of November next, in the Town of New-Castle on Delaware, of which public Notice shall be given, and a List of the fortunate Numbers published, and sent to the several Towns and Places where the Tickets may be sold. The Prizes, after deducting Fifteen per Cent. for the Purposes of the Lottery, will be paid, either by the Gentlemen of whom they were purchased, or by RICHARD STOCKTON, and JONATHAN SERGEANT, Esquires, at PRINCETON: WILLIAM P. SMITH, and ROBERT OGDEN, Esquires, at Elizabeth-Town, in New-Jersey: WILLIAM SHIPPEN, Senr. Messieurs ANDREW HODGE, WILLIAM HENRY, JOHN BAYARD, ISAAC SNOWDEN, or JONATHAN B. SMITH, of the City of Philadelphia.

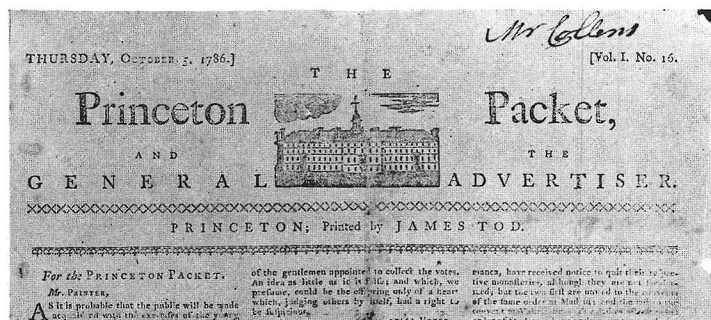
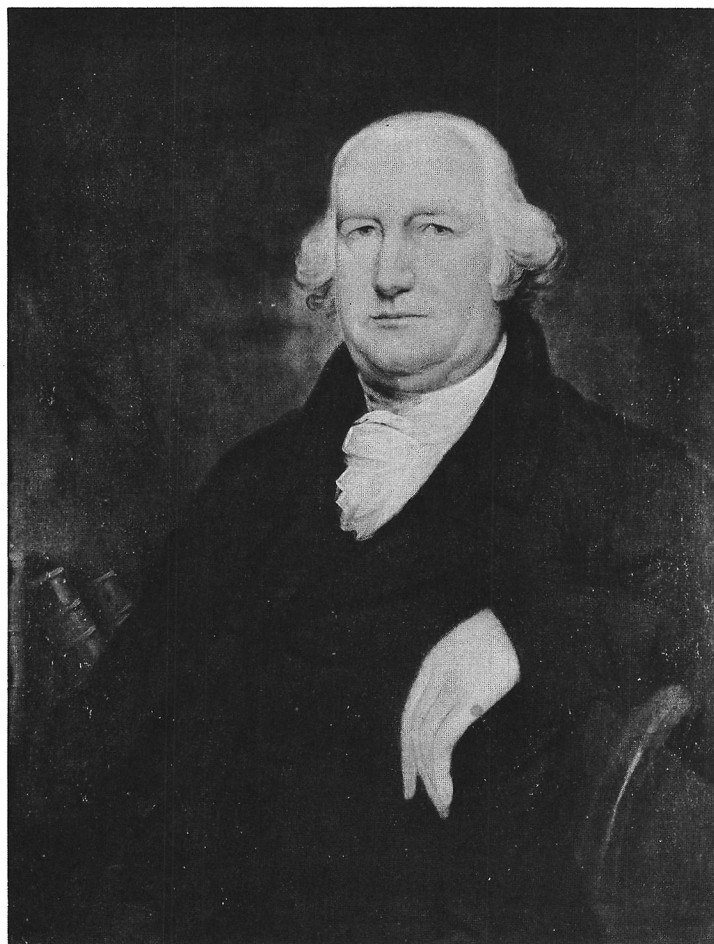
The following Gentlemen, viz. GEORGE MANSRO, DAVID FINNEY, JOHN THOMPSON, and NICHOLAS VAN DYKE, Esquires, and Messieurs SAMUEL PATTERSON, and WILLIAM CLARK, all of the County of New-Castle, are appointed Managers, and are to be on Oath for the faithful Discharge of the Trust reposed in them.

Whereas it is represented to the Inhabitants of Princeton & its Neighbourhood that the Members of the Hon^{ble} Congress stand in need of further Accommodations, & they being desirous to supply them in respect for the supreme Legislature of America & their Wishes for their honouring New Jersey with their Residence, have agreed to furnish the best in their Power as follows for One Year. ^{or during the Winter} ^{1th} Monday October 13. 1783.

Names	Houses to let for One Year	Rooms with Fire Places	Rooms with out Chimneys	Beds & Bedding	Breakfast & Bed	Ditto & Dinner	Tables & Horses at Hay & Oats
The Rev ^d Dr. Witherspoon	1	Three		three	three		any number
Thos ^d Smith	2	Two		two	two		
Rob ^t Stockton	3						
Thos ^d Stockton	4	1		1	1		
M ^r Moody	5	} suitable					
M ^r Shelton	6						
Ed ^d Moore	7			two	2		several
M ^r Rock	8	One		two	1		
M ^r Lepton	9						
M ^r Vanvorkeas	10	three		three	3		
M ^r Helsey	11	two		two	2		
M ^r M ^r Comb	12	two		two	2		
M ^r Harrison	13	three two	One	3	6	6-	
M ^r Stout	14	two		two	2		several
M ^r Dickinson	15	two		two	2	2	

Princeton's housing shortage is nothing new. In 1783, when Congress was in session in Nassau Hall, a survey of rooms was made. The survey, preserved in the Library of Congress, was too disappointing, and Congress left.

Although not a Princeton graduate, few alumni had closer Princeton connections than ELIAS BOUDINOT who was for forty-nine years (1772-1821) a trustee. He early studied law with Richard Stockton and became an ardent devotee of the Revolutionary cause. In the war he acted as commissary-general of prisoners. He also served in the Continental Congress, and in 1782 was chosen the third "President of the United States in Congress Assembled." He held this office when Congress was in session at Nassau Hall. (From the Charles Willson Peale portrait in the Faculty Room.)



The Princeton Packet was the town's first newspaper, in 1786. It proudly bore a woodcut of Nassau Hall.