

Pittsburgh April the 22nd 1816

Reverent Sir After my Compliments to you
I would be glad that you would send me a
Copy of your marag records and the ^{date} ~~the~~ ^{date} of the
That i was married to Lydia Daniel by you
As i have lost her Date of the time
Send it in a letter to pittsburgh post
Office this from your unworthy friend
Rev John McMullen Francis H Anderson

NB Fail not to send the first
mail

established at Pennington, without except any
opportunity of most vigorous efforts to secure the
of Washington.

In the year 1793, the number of scholars being
considerably increased, and many of them being
to obtain an education as possible. The
management of the school thought this to be the
most efficient method to teach Mathematics, natural
philosophy, geography &c. and having no funds out
of which the expense might be defrayed, they agreed to
contract themselves, and endeavor to obtain contributions
from others, to make up the deficiency. Some contri-
buted ten pounds per year, some five, some four, and
some less according to their ability. And this course
was pursued for many years, until we obtained
funds sufficient to meet the expense.

In March 1798, we obtained a charter from the
legislature of the state for an academy at Penning-
ton, and in the year 1802 a charter for a college.
During all this time the position of the academy in
sustaining it all along nothing; the funds which they
had received from the state were unemployed.

David John, President of the Pennington State of Learning Washington County

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Dear Sir, Equally to your request I now send you some account
of the first step to progress of an institution of learning in this
country. When I had determined to settle in this country, Mr. Paul
Smith of Boston, with whom I had studied divinity, engaged
to open me, immediately upon my settlement in this part of the
world, to look out for young men of good natural talents,
and have them educated; that a supply of ministers might be raised
up in the country; for said he, upon the first settlement of a new
country, your ministers of piety and talents will settle among them;
but if they are not careful to seek up others among themselves, the
country will soon wither, be apt to be of doubtful consequence, as the
supply will not be more than men.

Shortly after my settlement here I began to select a few young men
belonging to the Church of Christ. But soon finding that my money
was not in a new country, and that it was impossible for me to pay
that attention to them which was necessary, I wrote to Mr. Smith
to send me a young man, who was capable of teaching, to take
the immediate charge of the school. Mr. Smith came, who taught for
some years, after he left me, I still continued to improve those
who applied to me, and I could not but be very happy.
About this time Mr. John M. Smith, Esq. who at that time
was a member of the state legislature from the County of
Washington, obtained a charter for an academy in Washington
County, and a donation of 5000 acres of land for its support. Mr. Paul
Smith, Matthew Pennington, Joseph Smith, Shadrach Bond, and myself
together with Shadrach Bond, David H. Bond and others were
appointed trustees. The trustees met from time to time, and a
number of us did our utmost to establish an institution of learning
in the town of Washington; but all our endeavors proved un-
successful. The trustees of the town would not give a lot to build
on, and upon, of some with difficulty that the trustees in the town
could be collected together to do any business, frequently after sitting
from home, and meeting at the place appointed, I have had to go
to their houses, and urge their attendance; our quarrels with Mr.
Bond, our accounts with Mr. Bond, to remove into the town, proved with
the people, and without such young men as might be sent to ac-
quire an education; but he met with an encouragement and
in about a year he returned again to his former charge on Smith.
Convinced after this a certain David Johnston was employed
by the legislature of Washington to teach in this academy.
But meeting with no encouragement or support among them,
after he had been there some time, he came to me, requesting to be
employed in teaching the free scholars who remained with me,
and who always applied to go to Washington. After consulting
with Mr. Pennington, Mr. Bond and others, it was agreed to visit
a school in Pennington. Accordingly Mr. Johnston was
employed, my scholars remained there, and in a short time their
numbers became so respectable, as to afford a comfortable
support to their teacher. Thus an institution of learning was
established.