

REPORT
OF A
COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD
OF
JEFFERSON COLLEGE,
IN ANSWER TO THE PUBLICATION
OF THE
WASHINGTON BOARD.

And an explanation of the relations of the two Institutions, together with an important history of facts relative to the late negotiations respecting an union between the two Seminaries.

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JEFFERSON COLLEGE.

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JEFFERSON COLLEGE.

December 28th, 1817.

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees, the following report, in answer to the publication of the Washington Board, was read and adopted, and ordered to be published.

REPORT, &c.

THE Committee, appointed by the Board of Jefferson College to prepare an answer to the publication of the Washington Board, reported the following, which was accepted, and ordered to be published.

It is with the utmost reluctance that this Board enters upon a public investigation of the proceedings of a late attempt to unite the Colleges of Jefferson and Washington. They are however compelled to do so. Their reply of September the 25th, 1817, to the Washington Board, in answer to a communication respecting the union of the two Colleges, was of a private nature, and certainly did not impose on the Washington Board the necessity of that address, which they have lately issued to the public. Altho' they say that a copy of that address was ordered to be sent to the Jefferson Board, and another copy to the press, yet the Jefferson Board have not received this copy; although a member of the Committee, who drafted and reported it, was in Canonsburgh the 1st Tuesday of December last, when the Jefferson Board was sitting. From this circumstance, and from the whole tenor of the address, it is obvious that their design was not so much to promote an union of the two Colleges, as to vindicate their own character and conduct, respecting a secret agreement they made with Mr. Wylie, whilst Principal of Jefferson College, and to pour opprobrium on the Jefferson Board; which indeed they have done with an unsparing hand.

To lay before the public a plain and impartial statement of the proceedings respecting the union of the two Colleges, together with the corresponding facts, which were the cause of the failure, is a duty which the Jefferson Board now owe to the public, and to themselves; and then let the impartial and enlightened public judge where the blame of failure lies, and which of the two Boards is to be charged with a want of "candour, of honour, and of good faith."

For this purpose it may not be unnecessary to give a short history of the rise and progress of the two Institutions.

In the year 1787 the Legislature of this State granted a donation of lands, for the purpose of erecting and supporting an Academy in the town of Washington. The Revd.

Messrs. Matthew Henderson, Joseph Smith and John M^c Millan, who were appointed Trustees, used all their influence and best endeavours to get this Academy into operation, for the purpose of promoting literature amongst the inhabitants of the Western Counties in general, and also with the fond hope that the loud calls, and repeated demands for preachers of the gospel might be supplied from that institution. But so indifferent were the inhabitants of that town to the interests of Literature in general, and to the demands of the church in particular, that notwithstanding the "ample funds," so often mentioned by the Washington Board, an Academy could not be supported. The Rev. Mr. Dodd, and after him, Mr. David Johnstone, made the attempt by engaging as teachers; but were forced to give up the benevolent design, through the indifference and inattention of the citizens of that place.

When the hopes of Mr. M^c Millan were blasted by the indifference and inattention of the Trustees of the Academy at Washington, notwithstanding "their ample funds," he turned his attention to Canonsburgh, as a place of greater hopes, and more suited to his views. He solicited donations from private individuals for erecting an Academy at that place, and succeeded. The Legislature granted a charter in 1794. A house was built, and a Latin and Greek school, which he had kept at his own house, for the purpose of supplying the church, as far as was practicable, was translated to this infant Academy, the original fountain of science and literature in these Western Counties.

In the year 1802 a charter for a College was applied for and readily granted by the Legislature of the State. All this was done openly, and the Board of Washington Academy made no opposition. This institution was founded principally for the educating of young men for the gospel ministry, and this end it has remarkably answered. We can now give the names of one hundred, who have been, or now are employed, in the gospel ministry, and of twelve who are now studying Theology, who have all received their education, in whole or in part, at Canonsburgh. A number also have become practising Lawyers and Physicians.

Some years after the Jefferson College had received its Charter, the Trustees of Washington Academy applied for a charter also. They obtained one; and as Washington is only seven miles from Canonsburgh, it has been a mat-

ter of just surprise to every thinking man, that a charter was granted.

The Washington College had scarcely gone into operation, when the Trustees began to talk of an union of the two Colleges; but at all times upon the condition that Washington should be the site. This, as the Committee who penned this address express it, was to be a *sine qua non*,—a point that must not be discussed. Their “ample funds” was their constant and strong argument: while the funds of Jefferson College were represented as little or nothing, or to use their own language, “precarious and uncertain, depending in a great measure upon private donations and contributions.” This however is not true. While it was an Academy, a number of the Trustees did indeed contribute a yearly sum, according to their abilities, for its support: amongst whom the Rev. John McMillan paid ten pounds annually, out of a yearly stipend of one hundred pounds; while the Washington Academy, with all its “ample funds,” did little or nothing for the interests of literature and of religion as connected with it. But these donations ceased as soon as a charter for a College was obtained: and they have now funds to more than 4000 dollars, besides 4400 bequeathed by pious individuals, for assisting poor, but pious young men in receiving an education for the gospel ministry: 2600 dollars of which were bequeathed by the late Rev. Mr. John Clark of Bethel, in Allegheny County. A number of pious, but poor young men have received assistance from this fund, and are now preaching the gospel of the Son of God: and others, from the assistance received from it, are now preparing themselves for that important work.

As it was the opinion of a number of persons in this and the adjacent counties, that the interests of literature would be promoted by an union of the two Colleges, the Jefferson Board, in September 1815, appointed a Committee of their body, to meet a Committee from the Washington Board, to confer on the subject. The Committees met at Canonsburgh, and on the business being introduced, the Jefferson Committee were immediately presented with the lordly and imperious *sine qua non*; or, that Washington must be the site. The Jefferson Committee urged the preference of Canonsburgh to Washington from the following considerations—that large towns, like Washington, which were still rapidly increasing, were unfriendly to study, which

required retirement and seclusion from bustle and noise—that boarding was, and from the nature of things, must still be cheaper at the one place than at the other, and that this was a matter of considerable importance to many students, and to their parents—that that strict and wholesome discipline, which was necessary to restrain the impetuous passions of youth, and to form habits of temperance and morality, could not be so well exercised in a large and much frequented town, as in one small and retired—and above all, that temptations to vice and dissipation did not exist so much in a small, as in a large and populous town—that those so disposed, had not an opportunity of gratifying their unruly passions in the one, as in the other—and that if at any time they made the attempt, they could and would be immediately detected; whereas in a populous town they might be ruined before a detection could take place, whatever the vigilance of their teachers might be.* But all in vain. They were told by the Washington Committee that their instructions were, that if they would transfer their students and funds to Washington, they would be received. Having done all that was in their power heretofore for the interests of literature, and still anxious to promote it, the Jefferson Committee agreed, before they separated, that the Washington Board should chuse three members out of the Jefferson Board, and the Jefferson Board three out of the Washington Board, for farther conference on the subject. It was also expressly agreed that any thing that the Committees did, should *not be decisive*, but should be laid before the Boards for their ratification or rejection. (A) The Washington Board chose the Rev. Messrs. Thomas Marshall, Elisha McCurdy, and Judge Allison: And the Jefferson Board chose the Rev. Messrs. Joseph Stephenson, Thomas Allison and Andrew Gwinn.

The Jefferson Board, willing to promote an union on equitable terms, instructed their committee to form a convention on either of the following conditions. 1st. That both Boards should resign their charters into the hands of the State Legislature, and petition that body for a new

* The records of the Faculty of Washington College for the last year, if examined, would be a practical proof of the truth and force of these arguments. They would show how many young men were expelled within that space of time, and for what crimes; and how long they continued in the perpetration of these abominable and ruining crimes before they were detected.

See Appendix (A)

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charter for the united College, and fix the site where they thought best. Or 2dly. That both Boards should meet, and after prayer to Almighty God, leave the decision of the site to a solemn lot. These conditions, which one would think no reasonable men would or could reject, were rejected with the old argument of their *ample funds*; as if earth and heaven were to give way to a little money; or as if their having a few thousand dollars more than their neighbours, warranted men, where a public good was concerned, to set at nought, not only the wise and unprejudiced decisions of the State Legislature, but the infinitely wise and impartial decisions of heaven itself. This circumstance, not generally known before, may perhaps induce the unprejudiced part of the public to suspect that the Washington Board were not actuated by that pure and disinterested principle for promoting the interests of literature, of which they speak so much, and so often in their address.

When the Jefferson Committee returned to the Board, which was still sitting, and reported the rejection of such fair and reasonable proposals, they knew not well what to do. Willing however to make any reasonable sacrifice for the interests of literature, they consulted Mr. Wylie, the Principal, and asked his advice. Mr. Wylie gave it as his opinion, that should the Washington Board give five thousand dollars for enlarging the College buildings—give the Jefferson Board a preponderance, and priority in the united Board—and secure the Jefferson Faculty, it might be best to concede to them the site. This determined the Jefferson Board, and accordingly they instructed their committee to return, and form a convention on those terms. (B)

The two committees met again on the next day, and formed a convention on the following terms—that Washington should be the site of the united College—that the Washington Board should give five thousand dollars to the joint funds—that in the new Board there should be eleven members out of the Board of Jefferson, not such as the Board of Jefferson might chuse, but such as the Board of Washington might think proper to appoint—and that the Faculty should be chosen by this new Board. (C)

When the Jefferson Board met in January 1816, to receive the report of the Committee, they refused to ratify it, and for so doing they are charged, in the Washington address, with a want of good faith. They also say that there

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See Appendix. (C).

was only one of a majority on this vote. The contrary however is the truth. There was not a dissenting voice; but it is true that a few members did not vote at all.

An exposition of the reasons which induced the Jefferson Board to refuse their sanction to the convention, if not due to the Washington Board, is however at present due to the public.

Let it be remembered, that when it was agreed that Committees should be appointed to confer about an union of the two Colleges, that it was an express stipulation, that nothing that the Committees might do should be binding upon either Boards, but was to be referred to them for their ratification or rejection. This alone, the Board of Jefferson conceived, was sufficient to justify them in refusing their sanction, if they thought proper.

But besides this, let it be recollected that the instructions given to the Jefferson Committee, were to secure, not only a majority in the united Board, but to secure the Jefferson Faculty: and the Committee, of themselves, and with the approbation of the Board, insisted that Mr. Wylie should be President: for he was then highly esteemed by every member of the Board, and some of them had a particular warmth of friendship for him. But by the terms of the convention, the majority was not to be chosen by the Jefferson Board themselves, but by the Board of Washington. This circumstance the Jefferson Committee doubtless thought to be altogether immaterial, as they had secured a majority in the united Board, agreeably to their instructions: and at first view it will appear so to every honest, and unsuspecting mind. But however immaterial at first view, it was designed, if not by the Washington Committee, yet by those who took the lead in this business, and gave them their instructions, to defeat the plain design of the convention, and leave it optional with the Washington Board, whether they would chuse Mr. Wylie President, or any of the Jefferson Faculty at all. That they did not then design to chuse Mr. Wylie President of the united College, was soon made manifest by the precipitant conduct, and confession of one of the members of the Washington Board, injudiciously, it would seem, admitted to the secrets of the chief actors of the Drama. For the Washington Board had scarcely adjourned, after ratifying the convention, when a gentleman of the highest probity, hearing what was done with surprise, asked that member if they had not sacrificed Mr. Brown, then President of

Washington College? And that member coolly replied, O no; for as we have the choice of the majority from the Jefferson Board, we can easily select one or more, who we know will vote for Mr. Brown, and not for Mr. Wylie; or words to this amount: And it is farther well known that that member was busied in devising plans for that purpose, even before the Board had adjourned. Now this was known to many; if not to all of the Jefferson Board, when they refused to sanction what the Committees had done, and had a great influence on their vote.

If it be asked, why not mention the name of that gentleman and of the member alluded to—we answer, from a reluctance to mention publicly the name of any man, when it is not to his honour, or when his name is not introduced into the Washington address. But if the Washington Board require their names, both they and the public shall have them—we have the gentlemen's liberty to do so.

It may perhaps be asked, did not the Washington Board send you a communication in April 1816, informing you that the Jefferson Faculty should be secured? It is believed they did. But we had such a specimen of the address and talents (of a certain kind) of the prime conductors of the foregoing scene, that we deemed it prudent to pause, before we opened a fresh negotiation with such skilled and wily diplomatists; and subsequent transactions proved the prudence of such a resolution. There must be a change of men, or at least of principle, before such a negotiation can possibly take place. It may be farther asked, was it not the opinion of some of the Jefferson Board, that the convention formed by the two Committees was final, and that the Board had it not in their power to withhold this sanction? We admit that this was the opinion of some of the members, but not of the one half of them, as the Washington Board asserts. But the Washington address has probably convinced them of their error. Amongst the Committee appointed to draft that address, we see the names of two gentlemen of the Bar well skilled, it seems, in the law of nations, and the doctrines of contracts; and yet, notwithstanding much specious reasoning to prove that the convention formed by the two Committees, was final and conclusive; it is finally conceded by them, that the acts of an Ambassador are not binding without the sanction of the sovereign. Without pretending to an accurate knowledge of law, this we pre-

sume is the case, as put by themselves, that bears upon the present point; and not that of one man granting letters of attorney to another. Besides, the conduct of the Washington Board itself confirms the correctness of this position. There are in that Board five gentlemen learned in law, and yet it seems they thought necessary to ratify the convention, in order to its being valid; but this according to the doctrine laid down in the address, was scarcely necessary, being, as they tell us, a matter of "mere form and of course." But be that as it may, it is, and must be conceded, that a knowledge, or even a well grounded suspicion of the one party not to execute a compact, according to the meaning and design of the other, is a full justification of the latter in withholding their assent. But this the Jefferson Board had from a quarter and authority, which they could not question. They therefore leave it to the enlightened and impartial public to say, where the charge of a want of good faith is to be placed.

It now only remains to make a few observations on some other parts of the Washington address, of minor importance indeed, but which have a considerable bearing on the point at issue.

They assert that "a number of the Jefferson Board had formed a secret agreement and determination to withdraw from the Board whenever a proposition for an union was submitted to them;" and for the proof of this they appeal to the Jefferson Board themselves. And this they assign as the reason why they did not open a fresh negotiation for accomplishing an union of the two Colleges, but pursued measures which we shall strictly notice. But facts, which the Washington Board knew before they either wrote or published this address, contradict this assertion, and prove that there was no good ground for the surmise. For although the Jefferson Board was adjourned, before their communication to that purpose in September last came to the hands of the President, yet as soon as it was known that such a communication was in his hands, the Board immediately re-assembled, took it into consideration, and gave it that answer which they thought it deserved, and with which the Washington Board seem to be much offended, but with what justice, let their intrigues previous to that event testify.

They also assert that the Jefferson Board had not a quorum for the two years past. Than this assertion nothing

can be more untrue. They had, not indeed a quorum in April 1817, and perhaps the Washington Board could tell the real cause. But they had a quorum in January 1816, in April 1816, in September 1816, and in September 1817. We would not have noticed this assertion, bold and untrue as it is, had it not been made for the purpose of holding out Jefferson College, as in a state of disorganization, and to palliate their own conduct in making a secret agreement with Mr. Wylie, the Principal of the College, while in their employ.

It is with pain that we mention Mr. Wylie's name on this point, or make a single stricture on his conduct. Nothing but necessary self-defence could induce us so to do: and most assuredly that would have been foregone had he not allowed his name to be introduced by the Washington Board, and made use of to cover a transaction, that was designed to destroy Jefferson College at a single blow: and had it not been for the intervention of an all-seeing and gracious providence, would have had the same effect upon it, as the gun-powder plot was designed to have upon the British parliament.

That eleven of the twenty one members of the Washington Board did, in December 1816, enter into a secret written contract with Mr. Wylie, then Principal of Jefferson College, pledging themselves to set aside, by their vote, in the ensuing spring, the Rev. Matthew Brown, then President of Washington College, and to elect him (Mr. Wylie) in his stead, is a well known fact, and is not denied in their address to the public. They did not inform a single member of the Jefferson Board of this singular proceeding—they did not inform Mr. Brown—nor did they inform the remaining ten members of their own Board: on account of which, and for other causes connected with it, they, or at least a number of them, entered on the records of the Washington Board, a strong, and to themselves an honorable protest. (D) It was doubtless the design and hope of the contrivers of this plot, that it should never be discovered: and as Mr. Brown was not to be laid aside until the April following, nor Mr. Wylie elected in his stead, it was expected that Jefferson College would be completely disorganized, by the sudden and unexpected loss of its Principal. But "he who sits upon the circle of the heavens," and sees and holds in derision the wicked, though

See Appendix. (D)

most cunning devices of mortal man, so interposed by his Providence, that the plot was discovered time enough to prevent its disorganizing and destructive influence on Jefferson College. The Washington Board, or to speak with more accuracy, the eleven plotting members, tell us however that this was, at worst, only "an informal," but not an "immoral act." We do not know by what system of Ethicks they have tested this act; but this we know, that it is as opposite, as light is to darkness, to a most excellent system of Ethicks—Christ's sermon on the mount, and to that precept of it particularly; "Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them, for this is the law and the Prophets." They also labour hard to prove that the scenes of this act could not by any means, give it an immoral hue.—This is admitted. It was its contrariety to the golden rule just now mentioned, together with the cruel and ungenerous design of blowing up both Jefferson College, and Mr. Brown, with the same train, that gave it its immoral hue; but then the secrecy with which it was done, evinces the truth, and shows the justness of another observation of that excellent moralist before mentioned,—"that men love darkness rather than light, because their deeds are evil," from which he argues their just condemnation.

It is no doubt a matter of surprise to many, especially to those who live at a distance, that the majority of the Washington Board should lay a train for blowing up Mr. Brown, at the same time with Jefferson College—Mr. Brown, to whose "high talents, important services and fidelity as President of Washington College," they themselves bear witness in the appendix to their address: And we may add, under whose auspices Washington College attained its present maturity. But that they did lay such a plan, and succeeded in it, though it failed with respect to Jefferson College, is established by facts, the most stubborn and unanswerable of all arguments. As has been already observed, they did not inform Mr. Brown of the secret compact they made with Mr. Wylie; and it is worthy of particular notice, that their vote to separate the duties of President of the College, and Pastor of the congregation of Washington, did not take place until the 30th of April 1817. Whereas this secret agreement with Mr. Wylie took place in December 1816. We do not pretend to assign the real cause of their dissatisfaction with Mr.

Brown; but those in and near Washington, who are best acquainted with this extraordinary transaction, hesitate not to say, that Mr. Brown's declaring from the pulpit, that attendance on balls, and other dancing parties, was inconsistent with the profession of Christianity, and threatening to censure those church members who did so; if not the only, was at least one cause. They say, that it is well known and remembered that this gave great umbrage to some of the leading actors in this business, if not on their own account, yet on account of some of their relations and connections—that shortly after, and not till then, they began to talk of the "vast advantages that would redound to the College, in having the undivided labours of the President"—and that by their address, and this specious argument, they brought a majority of the Trustees into the measure, and finally into the plot. But be this as it may, that unhappy and unjustifiable transaction has done irreparable mischief to society—to the interests of Literature—and to the church in the bounds of the Presbytery of Ohio. It has torn up by the roots those charities that bind society together, and are the source of its best and purest comforts; and in an especial manner distracted and disunited the once happy, respectable, and united citizens of Washington. It has laid the foundation of irritations and collisions between the two Colleges, that may not soon, nor easily be removed—and it has in a great degree destroyed that harmony that ought to subsist among those, whose peculiar office it is to promote "pure and undefiled religion." These observations, though they principally refer to Mr. Brown, yet are not irrelevant to the main point, as they serve as a clue to lead to the secret springs of this mysterious, double plot, productive of so many mischievous and demoralizing consequences. May the consideration of these consequences induce those who were engaged in it, to renounce for the time to come, "the unfruitful works of darkness, and to walk as the children of the light and of the day."

Mr. Wylie however says, in his answers to the questions proposed to him by the Washington Board, that he gave notice of his design to resign his office of Principal of Jefferson College, fully three months before a successor would be wanted, to John M'Millan D. D. to the Rev. Elisha M'Curdy, to Craig Ritchie, Esq. and to Dr. Murdock, the secretary of the Board. Dr. Murdock however, though secretary of the Board, kept the notice to himself. But

this will be easily accounted for, when it is considered, that he was one of the prime actors in this midnight business, and it is believed wrote the instrument of writing between Mr. Wylie and the eleven trustees of the Washington Board, though no man had heretofore been more violently opposed to the union of the two Colleges at Washington.* Mr. M'Curdy and Mr. Ritchie do indeed say, that Mr. Wylie told them in general terms, that he had proposals from the Washington Board, and that he had thoughts of accepting them, but not precisely that he would: and that this was not till after it had ceased to be a *secret* that a *secret* negotiation had been carrying on. Dr. M'Millan is certain that he never gave him the least hint of it till the latter end of February 1817, full two months after he had entered into the secret agreement; nor did he then tell him that he was determined to go, but spoke in such a manner, that the hope of his continuing was not taken away. But we do not wish to press this point too far, as the difference in time may be accounted for, without a want of veracity on either side. Nor do we blame Mr. Wylie for accepting of a situation, where he could be more liberally supported than at Canonsburgh. But we think that he ought not to have entered into any stipulation to leave Jefferson College without informing the Board—that he ought coolly to have reflected on proposals, however advantageous to himself, that were designed to destroy his old *Alma Mater*, under whose nurture, and from whose instructions he became what he is—that he ought to have interposed his arm when he saw the midnight dagger aimed at her heart—and that he ought to have informed Mr. Brown, a brother in the gospel ministry, and co-presbyter, of the train that was laid for his destruction. And yet when we reflect on Mr. Wylie's youth and inexperience, and on the fascinating address of those who conducted the business, and that one of them was a Father, whom he highly esteemed, and to whose opinions and advices, he had perhaps been in the habit of submitting, we are more disposed to forgive than to condemn. Besides; we are much mistaken in Mr. Wylie, if he will not hereafter lament, if he has not already lamented; that he suffered himself to be seduced from the paths of honour and rectitude by any man, however venerable his garb, or reputed for his wisdom. And we are persuaded

* But he (Dr. Murdock,) at or about this time had sold his property in Canonsburgh, and was about removing to Washington.

that a full exposition of the arguments and arts, that were used to bring him into this iniquitous measure, would go far to his recovering his "former fair fame." It may be that the respect he owes to himself, and to his character, will demand such an exposition; and should this be the case, we are much deceived if it will not appear that he is not so blame-worthy as is generally alledged, but that he was completely deceived.

But although the chief actors in this iniquitous plot, have manifested that they are actuated by the same fell and destroying spirit towards Jefferson College, as the Elder Cato to the ancient Carthage, when he concluded every speech he made in the Roman senate with these words, "*delenda est Carthago*"—Carthage must be destroyed; yet Jefferson College not only yet lives, but was never in such a prosperous situation as at this day. The dark machinations, and subtle intrigues of its enemies have been overruled by an infinitely wise and gracious Providence for its good. No sooner was the iniquitous plot to destroy it known, than it called forth the just indignation, and enlisted the sympathies of an impartial and generous public in its favour. They have therefore contributed since that time, and are still contributing generously to complete the new College Edifice, which is at the same time spacious, convenient, and elegant. The Professors are men of good talents, and solid learning; of indefatigable attention, and of unblemished morals. There are at present upwards of sixty students, all of whom are orderly, moral and studious; and a goodly number of them serious and religious, and who bid fair to be useful in the church of Christ. We cannot but acknowledge, as we do, the superintending care of God to this Seminary. It rose from nothing to what it is through his gracious Providence; and when it was ready to sink at various times, and from various causes, he not only bore it up as on "Eagles' wings," but "renewed its strength." He has made it the instrument of qualifying many for usefulness in the world, and especially in the Church. We think therefore that we ought to protect, foster, and support it by every laudable mean in our power. We think that the voice of Providence does not call upon us to transfer it to a place which we have practical evidence is not so well suited for a seminary of learning as the retired town of Canonsburgh. We think that we ought to guard, with more than a miser's care, the funds entrusted to us for the im-

portant purpose of educating poor and pious young men for the Gospel ministry. We were told indeed by those of the Washington Board learned in law, that these could be secured by an act of the Legislature, and the security of them was an express condition of the convention. But as the Legislature cannot pass an *ex post facto* law, and as these funds were bequeathed to the Trustees of Jefferson College in Canonsburgh, we have our doubts, that by transferring it elsewhere, they would revert to the heirs of the bequeathers, and their pious purpose be thereby frustrated.

From the utility of this Institution in furnishing both Church and State with numbers of distinguished characters—from the interpositions of Providence in its behalf heretofore—from the situation and circumstances of the place contrasted with that of Washington—and from its present prosperous state, notwithstanding all the machinations of its enemies, we are constrained to conclude, that an union at Washington, would be contrary to the will of Providence, and productive of mischievous consequences.

Signed by order of the Board,

SAMUEL RALSTON,
President of the Board.

ATTEST,

JOHN MMILLAN, *Secy.*

APPENDIX.

(A) A difficulty having arisen with regard to the place of union, which could not be obviated by the Conferrees, it was proposed by the Committee on behalf of Washington College, and agreed to by the Committee on behalf of Jefferson College, that it be recommended by the different Committees to their respective Boards of Trustees, to select and appoint three Trustees from each Board, in manner following: that is to say, the Board of Trustees of Washington College, to select and nominate three Trustees from the Board of Jefferson College—and the Trustees of Jefferson College, to select and nominate three Trustees from the Board of Washington College, whose duty it shall be to meet and confer upon the subject and place of an union between the two Colleges, at the Tavern of — Graham, on Thursday the 26th of October next, and at such other times and places, as may be most convenient to them, until their duty is fulfilled: And further, to make report of their proceedings and determinations, or that of a majority of them, to their respective Boards of Trustees, for their approbation or rejection.

Extracted from the minutes of the Board which met in October the 25th, 1815.

(B) Provided that the Board of Washington College will not recede from their *sine qua non*, but will give five thousand dollars, in addition to their present funds, and secure the preponderance and priority to the Board and Faculty of Jefferson College, this Board will agree to give up their scite to them.

Extracted from the minutes of October the 26th, 1815.

(C) The report which the Committee made to the Board at their meeting in January 1816, was in the following words. "After a lengthy and full conversation on the subject, the Commissioners on behalf of Washington stated, that agreeably to the instructions of their Board, they wished to know, whether the Commissioners from the Jefferson Board had instructions to form an union on any terms conceding this *sine qua non*. To which they replied they had, and stated the following—That the scite be at Washington, on condition that the Board of Washington pay into the present funds of the College five thousand dollars for the purpose of erecting buildings in addition to the present College—that the united College be called Jefferson College—that the Professors be chosen by the new Board—and that it is distinctly understood that in case it will not affect their title to certain funds bequeathed to the Board of Jefferson College, and if it be thought best, the name may be Jefferson and Washington College united.

After considerable discussion, the Commissioners in behalf of Washington College concurred, and the Commissioners unanimously agreed to recommend to their respective Boards to petition the Legislature of this State, at their next session to pass a law to confirm the union on the principles above stated.

PROTEST.

"To the above two resolutions offered by Mr. Campbell, the undersigned members of the Board of Trustees, enter their Protest for the following reasons—

1. Because it is believed that the changes, which these resolutions are intended to effect, will be highly injurious to this Institution, as they involve an increase of expenditures entirely inconsistent with the funds of the College, by a large addition to the salary of the Principal, at a period when additional buildings are undertaking, which demand resources beyond the controul of this Board, and the expences of which, in the present embarrassed state of pecuniary affairs in the community, it will be difficult if not impracticable to meet.

2. Because it is deemed unnecessary, inasmuch as the most determined advocates of these resolutions have not ventured to say that there has been any deficiency of attention, industry or talents on the part of the Rev. Matthew Brown, the present Principal, and inasmuch as we have seen him enter, a few years since, within the desolate walls of an Academy, and by an extraordinary zeal, extensive influence, and indefatigable industry, with very scanty compensation, becoming the instrument of rearing up a College, which if it does not excel, equals any in number of Students, respectability and usefulness, in this or the adjoining states.

3. Because we believe that wanton innovations in prosperous circumstances, are frequently pernicious, and deprecate with deep concern the risque of introducing into the Principalship, a person whom we consider in some important respects, less qualified for the duties of that office, and perhaps blasting the flattering prospects