

AMERICAN
PRESBYTERIANISM

ITS ORIGIN AND EARLY HISTORY

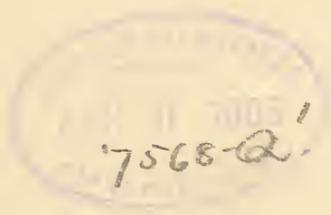
TOGETHER WITH AN APPENDIX OF LETTERS AND DOCUMENTS, MANY OF WHICH HAVE RECENTLY BEEN DISCOVERED

BY

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WITH MAPS



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EDWARD O. JENKINS' SONS.

treating withall, you'll go on to strengthen our interest, & devise liberally for spreading the doctrin of salvation among us. I am

Much honoured

Your very humble ser

Geo: McNish

P: S: Mr James Anderson having a smal bill of five pounds sterling due to Robert Anderson merchant in Bells Wynd in Glasgow, it's desired said bill with interest may be paid to said Anderson, Mr Anderson having satisfied for the like sume here to the Synod in consideration of the money raised by your Synod.

G. M.

Addressed: " To The Right Reverend Mr John Stirling principal of the college of Glasgow "

(Dorso) Synod Pensilvanie Nov. 15, 1718.

XXII.

LETTER OF GEORGE GILLESPIE, 1723.

This letter is No. 120 in Vol. XXII. of the Wodrow MSS.

Reverend Sr

Being well acquainted wth your publick spirit, for the Interest of Glorious Christ, I have embraced this opportunity, now presented, to send you this letter.

As to the affairs of Christ in our parts of the world: There are a great many congregations erected, and now erecting; for wthin the space of five years by gone, near to two hundred Families have come into our parts from Ireland, and more are following: They are generally Presbyterians. So, it would appear, y^t Glorious Christ hath great designs in America; tho' I am afraid not to be effectuated in my days: for the mi^{rs} and congregations be multiplied wth us; yet alas, there is little of the power and life of Religion wth either: The Lord disappoint my fears. There are not above 30 ministers & probationer preachers in our Synod, and yet six of the said number have been grossly scandalous; Suspension for 4 Sabbaths hath been the greatest censure inflicted as yet.

Mr Alexander Hutchison was ordained upon the 6th of June

last: I preached his ordination sermon, his congregation is contiguous to mine, he answers the character given of him by the Rev^d Presbytery of Glasgow. One M^r Robert Laing who left Scotland about the same time wth M^r Hutchison is to be censured at our Presbytery of New-Castle upon the first Wednesday of August ensuing for Washing himself upon the Lord's day: he is the first from Scotland grossly scandalous in our parts.

Rev^d S^r be mindfull in your prayers of the Infant church of Christ in America, and that the Lord would purifie the sons of Levi. May the faithfull God hasten the time when he will fulfill his promise in Isa: 59. 19 That they shall fear his name from the West. S^r, I desire in particular, y^t you may be mindfull of me in your prayers That I may be an honest and faithfull minister of Christ and that I may have many seals of my mi^{ry}. Remember my love and Service to the Rev^d M^r John Simpson Professor of Theology in y^e Colledge of Glasgow—and to y^e laborious and diligent M^r Gersham Carmichal, who was my Regent.

The Lord be nigh unto you in Mercy

& love These from, Rev^d S^r

Your lover and humble Servant

GEORGE GILLESPIE.

July y^e 16. 1723 at y^e head of
Christiana Creek 12 miles West
from New-Castle in Pensilvania
of America.

Rev^d S^r

I earnestly desire of you to write to the Presbytery of Jeddabrough in order to know if ever one M^r James Moorhead was received among y^m in y^e Station of a minister and if so then w^t certainty They had of his ordination in England and let me know per first

The foresaid is now in our bounds the Testimonial of his ordination is supposed by our Synod to be but forged.

Addressed "The Rev^d M^r John Stirling Principal of the Colledge in Glasgow—To the care of M^r Robert Alexander merchant and to the care of M^r Charles Miller merchant in Glasgow."

(Dorso) July 22 1723, Gillespie George—Pensylvania.