

DOCUMENTS

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RELATING TO THE

COLONIAL HISTORY

OF THE

STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

EDITED BY

WILLIAM NELSON.

VOLUME XII.

- I. SOME ACCOUNT OF AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS, PARTICULARLY OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY, AND LIBRARIES IN WHICH THEY MAY BE FOUND. PART II.—MASSACHUSETTS.
- II. EXTRACTS FROM AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS, RELATING TO NEW JERSEY.

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We hear from Newark in East-New-Jersey, that some time last Week they had there a most violent Hurricane, the extent of which was about 40 Rod, and tore up every Thing in it's way, particularly a Barn, and some Timber near it which it carry'd to a very great heigth and distance.

And from Brunswick, that about 10 Days ago a Boat with Passengers, in her Passage from New-York to that Place, was overset, and the Daughter of one Solemn was drowned, the rest of the Passengers, were taken up by another Boat then in Company.—*The American Weekly Mercury, April 29 to May 6, 1742.*

BOSTON. *The following Letter from the Rev. Mr. Gilbert Tennent to a Minister in Connecticut, is now published at the earnest Request of several of our Readers.*

Rev. Sir,

I Rejoyce to hear that my poor Labours have been of any Service to any in *New-England*; all Praise be to the great and gracious God, who out of the Mouths of Babes & Sucklings is pleas'd sometimes to ordain Praise. I rejoyce to hear of the Progress of God's work, among you this last Summer, and that there are any Appearances of its continuance, blessed be God. *Dear Brother,* As to that particular you mention in yours, *viz.* of Lay-Men's being sent out to exhort and teach, supposing they be real Converts, I cannot but think that if it be encouraged and continued, it will be of dreadful Consequence to the Churches Peace and soundness in Principles. I will not gain-say, but that private Persons may be of Service to

the Church of GOD, by their private, humble, fraternal Reproofs and Exhortations; and no doubt it is their Duty, to be Faithful in these Things; but in the Mean time, if Christian Prudence, Meekness and Humility do not attend their Essays, they are like to be very prejudicial to the Churches real Weal. But for ignorant young Converts to take upon them authoritatively to instruct and exhort Publickly, tends to introduce the grossest Errors and the greatest Anarchy and Confusion. The Ministers of Christ should be apt to teach, and able to convince Gain-sayers. O, it's dangerous to the poor Church of God, when those are *Novices* whose Lips should *preserve Knowledge*. It is bare Presumption (whatever Zeal be pretended notwithstanding) for any Person to take that Honour to themselves, unless they be called of GOD as *Aaron*. I Know that rash-headed young Zealots are apt thro' Ignorance, Inconsideration & Pride of Heart, to undertake what they have no proper Qualifications for; and thro' their Imprudence and Enthusiasms the Church of GOD suffers. *Dear Brother*, I think that all who fear GOD should rise up and labour to crush this enthusiastical Cockatrice in the Egg. *Dear Brother*, The Times are dangerous we live in, perhaps the revival of GOD's work in divers Places is but a prelude to a Storm. The Churches in *America*, and elsewhere, are in great hazard of Enthusiasm; we have need to think on that Maxim, *Principis obsta*. There is a late Sect come into this part of the Country called *Moravian Brethren*, whose Principles are a confused Medly of rank Antinomianism and Quakerism; they are the

most subtle and plausible Sect that ever I saw, and like to do much Mischief here; the pious People where they go they generally divide, Things this Way seem to ripen for a Storm, faithful Ministers are here brought to the Bar, and like to be condemn'd, tho' Innocent.¹ May Zion's King protect his church! I add no more, but Love and best Remembrance in your Prayers.

G. Tennent.

—*The Boston Evening-Post*, May 3. 1742. No. 352.

Philadelphia, April 29 The Beginning of April came ashore about 15 Miles Eastward of Cape-May, a dead Whale, about four and a half foot Bone with a Hole in her suppos'd to be made by an Iron. And about the middle of the Month another 40 Mile Eastward of the Cape, with 2 or 3 Irons in her; a valuable Fish being of near 7 foot Bone.—*The Boston Weekly News-Letter*, May 6–13, 1742. No. 1990.

Boston —Entred In, Gibb fr. Perth Amboy,—*The Boston Weekly News Letter*, May 20–27, 1742. No. 1992.

Cleared Out, Gibbs for Amboy.—*The Boston Weekly News Letter*, May 27 to June 3. 1742. No. 1993.

New York, June 14. From New-Brunswick we hear, that on Tuesday last they had a strong Gust of Wind, accompanied with some Rain and Hail of an amazing Bigness: We are inform'd that in one

¹ See note on page 117.