

HISTORY  
OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
IN TRENTON, N. J.

FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT OF THE TOWN

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SECOND EDITION

Prepared for the observance of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the  
First Church, with much supplementary material collected  
by Dr. Hall during his Pastorate

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TRENTON, N. J.  
MACCRELLISH & QUIGLEY, PRINTERS

1912

particular dispensation of Divine Providence,—a professor of religion, under great fear of mind, having, as supposed by some, been accessory to his own death, tho' uncertain."

5. There are MS. "Notes for the day of Fasting, Humiliation and Prayer appointed by the General Assembly, July 30, 1812," and the same MS. "for the day of humiliation and prayer appointed by the President of the United States, Aug. 20, 1812."

6. On April 7, 1881, Miss Mary Armstrong (age 93) gave me the printed slip of which the following is a copy, which she said was written by her father on a child of a parishioner :

"AN ACROSTIC

UPON A CHILD BORN BLIND.

Sovereign benign, of love, of life, of light !  
 At whose command I'm born deprived of sight,  
 'Midst darkness and 'midst dangers ever nigh,  
 Unseen a father's face, a mother's watchful eye,  
 Eternal! who 'midst darkness mak'st the light arise,  
 Lighten my mind, and give me heavenly eyes.

Rise, Sun of Righteousness, with feeling light,  
 Oh! grant me Faith's unerring, saving sight ;  
 Shine inward, that my enlight'ned soul may raise  
 Eternal anthems to my Saviour's praise."

7. Mrs. Armstrong survived her husband until February 13, 1851, when she peacefully and triumphantly departed, in the ninety-third year of her age. I had the privilege of the friendship of this most estimable lady for ten years after becoming pastor of the church, and the discourse delivered on the Sabbath after her funeral has been published under the title of "The Divine Promise to Old Age." One of the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong, was the wife of Chief Justice Ewing, who died in Trenton, July 4, 1816. Their son, Robert L. Armstrong, a member of the bar at Woodbury, died in Trenton, September 22, 1836. Three unmarried daughters long survived both their parents; Frances, who died June 22, 1868, aged 75 years; Susan, May 18, 1878, aged 87; Mary Maturin, March 21, 1882, aged 94.

8. *Occom* was a Mohegan (Connecticut) Indian, and the first of his race educated by Dr. Wheelock at Lebanon. In 1766 he collected more than £1000 in England for the Wheelock School. His agency is mentioned in the celebrated case of Dartmouth College: Wheaton's Reports, vol. iv. See Sprague's Annals, vol. iii., 192.

9. In 1765 the Supreme Court required lawyers to wear bar-gown and band as in England. This was repealed in 1791. "Proceedings of New Jersey Historical Society," 1862, vol. 9, p. 66.