

Whatever Happened to America's Divinity (Ivy League?) Schools.

by Dr. Catherine Millard

Harvard – America's first College, 1637

From *New England's First Fruits: In Respect of the College and the Proceedings of Learning Therein*, we read:

After God had carried us safe to New England, and we had built our houses, provided necessaries for our livelihood, and reared convenient places for God's worship, and settled the Civil Government: One of the next things we longed for, and looked after was to advance **Learning**, and perpetuate it to posterity, dreading to leave an illiterate ministry to the Churches, when our present ministers shall lie in the dust. And as we were thinking and consulting how to effect this great work; it pleased God to stir up the heart of one, **Mr. Harvard** (a godly gentleman and lover of Learning, there living amongst us) to give the one half of his estate (it being in all about 1700. l.) towards the erecting of a College, and all his Library: after him another gave 300. l. Others after them cast in more, and the public hand of the State added the rest: the College was, by common consent, appointed to be at **Cambridge**, (a place very pleasant and accommodate and is called according to the name of the first founder) **Harvard College**.

The Edifice is very fair and comely within and without, having in it a spacious Hall; (where they daily meet at Commons, Lectures, Exercises) and a large Library with some books to it, the gifts of diverse of our friends, their Chambers and studies also fitted for, and possessed by the students, and all other rooms of office necessary and convenient, with all needful offices thereto belonging: And by the side of the College a fair **Grammar School**, for the training up of young scholars, and fitting of them for **Academic Learning**, that still as they are judged ripe, they may be received into the College of this School. **Master Corlet** is the Mr., who hath very well approved himself for his abilities, dexterity and painfulness in teaching and education of the youth under him.

Over the College is **Master Dunster** placed, as President, a learned, conscionable and industrious man, who has so trained up his pupils in the tongues and Arts, and so seasoned them with the principles of Divinity and Christianity that we have to our great comfort, (and in truth) beyond our hopes, beheld their progress in Learning and godliness also; the former of these hath appeared in their public declarations in Latin and Greek,

and Disputations Logical and Philosophical, which they have been wonted (besides their ordinary exercises in the College Hall) in the audience of the Magistrates, Ministers, and other scholars, for the probation of their growth in Learning, upon set days, constantly once every month to make and uphold: The latter hath been manifested in sundry of them by the savory breathings of their Spirits in their godly conversation. Inso-much that we are confident, if these early blossoms may be cherished and warmed with the influence of the friends of Learning, and lovers of this pious work, they will by the help of God, come to happy maturity in a short time.

Over the College are twelve overseers chosen by the general court, six of them are of the Magistrates, the other six of the Ministers, who are to promote the best good of it, and (having a power of influence into all persons in it are to see that every one be diligent and proficient in his proper place.)

Rules, and Precepts that are observed in the College.

1. When any scholar is able to understand **Tully**, or such like classical Latin Author *extempore*, and make and speak true Latin in verse and prose, *suo ut aiunt Marte*; And decline perfectly the paradigms of nouns and verbs in the Greek tongue: Let him then and not before be capable of admission into the College.

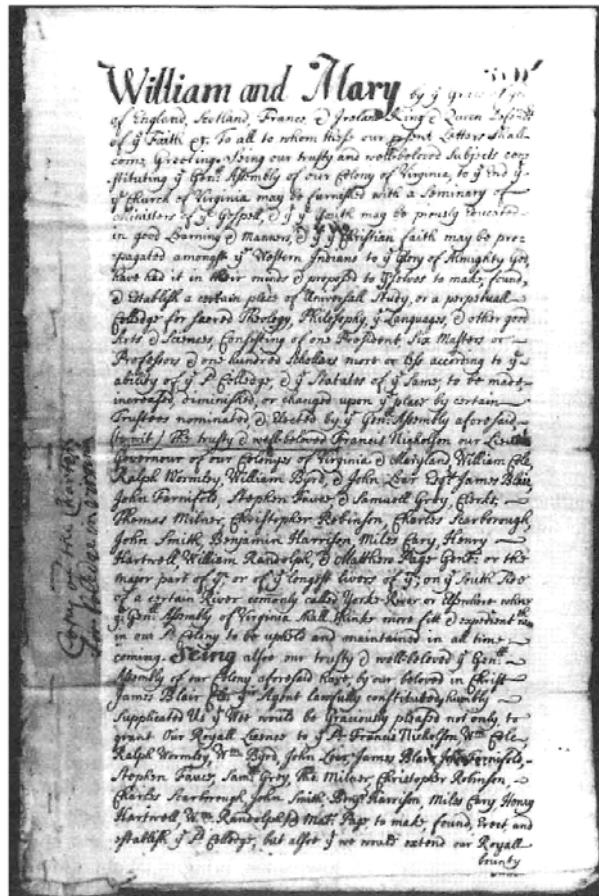
2. Let every student be plainly instructed, and earnestly pressed to consider well the main end of his life and studies is, **to know God and Jesus Christ which is eternal life**,

John 17:3, and therefore to lay **Christ** in the bottom, as the only foundation of all sound knowledge and learning.

And seeing the Lord only giveth wisdom, let everyone seriously set himself by prayer in secret to seek it of Him,
Proverbs 2:3

3. Everyone shall so exercise himself in reading the Scriptures twice a day, that he shall be ready to give such an account of his proficiency therein, both in **Theoretical** observations of the **Language**, and **Logic**, and in practical and spiritual truths, as his tutor shall require, according to his ability; seeing to the simple, Psalm 119:130.

4. That they eschewing all profanation of God's Name, Attri-



Original Charter for the College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. From, *The Rewriting of America's History* © 1991.

butes, Word, Ordinances, and times of Worship, do study with good conscience, carefully to retain God, and the love of His truth in their minds, else let them know, that (notwithstanding their Learning) God may give them up *to strong delusions*, and in the end *to a reprobate mind*, 2 Thessalonians 2: 11, 12; Romans 1:28.

5. That they studiously redeem the time; observe the general hours appointed for all the students, and the special hours for their own classes: and then diligently attend the Lectures without any disturbance by word or gesture. And if in anything they doubt, they shall enquire as of their fellows, so, (in case of *Non Satisfaction*) modestly of their Tutors.
6. None shall under any pretense whatsoever, frequent the company and society of such men as lead an unfit, and dissolute life. Nor shall any without his Tutor's leave, or (in his absence) the call of parents or guardians, go abroad to other towns.
7. Every scholar shall be present in his Tutor's chamber at the 7th hour in the morning, immediately after the sound of the bell, at his opening the Scripture and prayer, so also at the 5th hour at night, and then give account of his own private reading, as aforesaid in particular the third, and constantly attend Lectures in the Hall at the hours appointed. But if any (without necessary impediment) shall absent himself from prayer or lectures, he shall be liable to admonition, if he offend above once a week.
8. If any scholar shall be found to transgress any of the laws of God, or the School, after twice admonition, he shall be liable, if not *adultus*, to correction, if *adultus*, his name shall be given up to the Overseers of the College, that he may be admonished at the public monthly Act....

Does the foregoing original account of the founding and establishment of *Harvard College* vaguely resemble *Harvard* as we know it today? Far from it. In fact, one could be so bold as to conclude that *Harvard College* has made a hundred and eighty degree turn-around. America's Divinity Schools, forming minds for future leadership, were well and truly infiltrated in the 1920's – 30's, with a carefully-orchestrated agenda to remove their anchor – Scripture and prayer – and hence change the direction of the nation's future leadership. The latter, in turn, would change the direction of the nation's mindset and philosophy of life – for it is what you learn that governs your actions and decisions.

The College of William and Mary

Of primary significance in the heart of Williamsburg, Virginia is the *College of William and Mary*, established in 1693 by the crown of England. The Original Charter for the College was granted by King William and Queen Mary of England, and reads thus:

William and Mary, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France and Ireland, King and Queen, Defenders of the Faith, to all whom these our present Letters shall come, greeting. Forasmuch as our well-beloved and trusty Subjects, constituting the General Assembly of our Colony of Virginia, have had it in their minds, and have proposed to themselves, to the end that the Church of Virginia may be furnished with a Seminary of Ministers of the Gospel, and that the Youth may be piously educated in Good Letters and Manners, and that the Christian Faith may be propagated amongst the Western Indians, to the glory of Almighty God....

Three United States Presidents, (Tyler, Monroe and Jefferson) attended this college, George Washington being its first chancellor. Among the textbooks studied were, Buchanan's Paraphrase of the Psalms, the Latin Bible, the Greek New Testament and Greek and Latin editions of the Book of Common Prayer.

In 1697 an Indian School was added, its stated purpose being to prepare Indian boys so that they could go back to their tribes as Christian evangelists to teach and preach the Word of God.

Member of the Continental Congress and signer of the Declaration of Independence, **George Wythe**, for whom the law college is named, was legal mentor to **Thomas Jefferson** and many early Americans.

From this school proceeded great American patriots such as **John Marshall**, star pupil of George Wythe, and fourth Chief Justice of the Supreme Court; **Peyton Randolph**, first president of the Continental Congress, along with 16 members of that body; and four signers of the Declaration of Independence.

As Edmund Randolph, attorney general under George Washington observed: "until the Revolution, most of the leading men were alumni of William and Mary."

It was here, too, that George Washington received his surveyor's commission in 1749, Benjamin Franklin the honorary degree of Master of Arts in 1756, and the Chevalier de Chastellux and Thomas Jefferson in 1782, the degree of Doctor of Civil Law.¹

The year 2008 - A Visitors' Guide to the *College of William and Mary* says this about the origins of the college:

A few years after the founding of Jamestown, a movement was started in England and in Virginia to establish a college, but construction at a settlement called Henrico, near Richmond, was disrupted by an Indian massacre in 1622. The idea of a college for the Virginia Colony persisted, and in 1693 King William III and Queen Mary II granted a Charter to establish "the College of William and Mary in Virginia" in what is now Williamsburg. Actual construction commenced in 1695....²

¹Excerpted from, *The Rewriting of Americas History*,

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²Ibid

Whatever happened to the original wording of its *Charter* – a jealously-guarded document of American history:

...That the Church of Virginia may be furnished with a Seminary of Ministers of the Gospel, and that the Youth may be piously educated in Good letters and Manners, and that the Christian Faith may be propagated amongst the Western Indians, to the glory of Almighty God...

Yale College

Began with *An Act for Liberty to Erect a Collegiate School, 1701. By the Government, in Council and Representatives of his Majesty's Colony of Connecticut in General Court assembled, New Haven, October 9, 1701:*

An Act for Liberty to Erect a Collegiate School

Whereas several well disposed, and public-spirited persons of their sincere regard to and zeal for upholding and propagating of the *Christian Protestant Religion* by a succession of learned and orthodox men have expressed by Petition their earnest desires that full Liberty and Privilege be granted unto certain undertakers for the founding, suitably endowing and ordering a Collegiate School within his Majesty's Colony of Connecticut wherein youth may be instructed in the Arts and Sciences who through the blessing of Almighty God may be fitted for public employment both in Church and Civil State.

To the intent therefore that all due encouragement be given to such pious resolutions and that so necessary and religious an undertaking may be set forward, supported and well managed....

Is Yale's education and instruction *pious* today? Does it maintain its founding purpose to uphold and propagate the Protestant Christian Religion through the instruction of

youth? Far from it. Yale, too, has been infiltrated - its course redirected by removing its anchor: Scripture and prayer.

Princeton College

Its beginnings can be traced to another great man of God, **William Tennant**, who founded a training school for the equipping of young men to preach and teach the Word of God, as ministers of Christ. This Presbyterian school began in a log cabin on the banks of the Neshaminy Creek in 1735. It is the famous **Log College**, forerunner of Princeton University.

Princeton's third president was the illustrious **Jonathan Edwards**, whose best-known sermon, "Sinners in the Hands of an Angry God" brought multitudes into the Kingdom of Eternal Life. Its sixth president, **John Witherspoon**, was a great friend of George Washington, and mentor to James Madison, father of the U.S. Constitution. Madison acquired his A.B. under Witherspoon, who is reputed to be its greatest educator to this day. He was the only preacher-signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Once again, Princeton's change of purpose and focus (as with other famed Divinity Schools in America), was not merely happenstance, but a carefully planned and implemented agenda to remove her anchor – Scripture and prayer, and hence redirect the mindset of her alumni, the nation's future leaders.

In conclusion, I reiterate Patrick Henry's poignant Scripture verse which he wrote on the back of *Resolves* while a delegate in the House of Burgesses in Williamsburg, Virginia:

"Righteousness alone can exult a nation, but sin is a disgrace to any people."

Proverbs 14:34