Vol. 61, No. 1 Summer 1993

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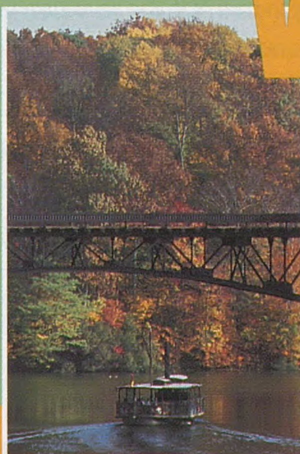

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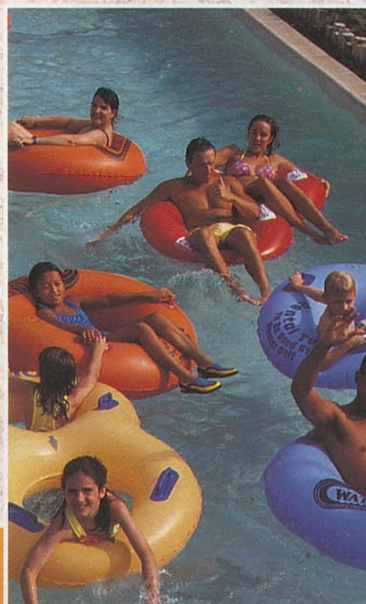

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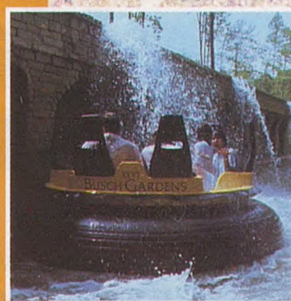

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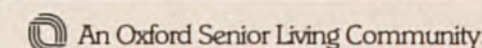

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# WILLIAM & MARY

*Vol. 61, No. 1 Summer 1993*

## *Features*

THE PRIVATE LIVES OF WILLIAM AND MARY *BY HAROLD LEES FOWLER* 6
Their unlikely union resulted in many accomplishments.

JAMES BLAIR: "A VERY VILE OLD FELLOW"? *BY THAD TATE* 14
William and Mary's founder let no one get in his way.

THE STORY OF THE ROYAL CHARTER *BY FRANK B. EVANS III* 22
The history of this document reads like a detective story.

THE TRADITIONS OF GREAT TEACHING *BY W. MELVILLE JONES* 28
Six master teachers symbolize our educational heritage.

A HOUSE OF GIANTS *BY WILL MOLINEUX '56* 34
The history of the Wren Building tells much about the history of the College.

A COLLEGE LIVES HERE *BY CHILES T. A. LARSON '53* 41
A photojournalist captures images of the Wren that speak for the College.

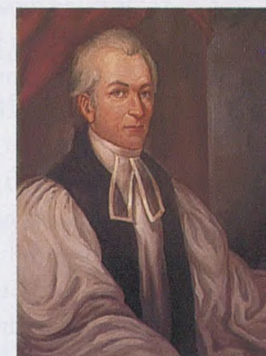
TWENTY-FIVE WHO BUILT A NATION *BY SARA PICCINI* 50
These 25 alumni influenced the course of the nation.

FAMILY TIES, ROYAL STYLE *BY SARA PICCINI* 54
The College's links to the Monarchy remain strong after 300 years.

*"The Best of Women"...P. 6*

*The Founder...P. 14*

*The Charter...P. 22*



*Great Teaching...P. 28*

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*A Letter from the Executive Publisher*

# Celebrating Our Heritage

In the beginning of this Tercentenary year we enjoyed *Traditions, Myths & Memories, 1693-1993: Celebrating the Tercentenary of the College of William and Mary in Virginia,* the beautiful capsule history and book of reminiscences published by the Society of the Alumni. And toward the end of this year, the substantial 1,000-page history of William and Mary written by five scholars will debut.

But now, as we reach the midpoint of this wonderful landmark year in William and Mary's history, we invite you to look at the College from a different perspective in this special issue of the Society's *William and Mary Magazine* that celebrates our heritage.

We cherish our past at William and Mary, as symbolized by the tablet of priorities displayed at the Sir Christopher Wren Building. Any alumnus or alumna knows we were founded by the British monarchy in 1693, that Thomas Jefferson was a graduate, that Phi Beta Kappa and the Honor System began at the College. But how many of us know any of the personal trials and tribulations of our royal founders? How our first president, James Blair, cunningly used the political system to accomplish his goal of establishing a new college in America and how he labored for 36 years before the "President and Six Masters" envisioned in the Charter became a reality? Or of the disappearance and search for the Royal Charter?

*Barry Adams*

These questions and others go to the heart of the traditions of the College on which much of our excellence is based today. William and Mary is a story of people, real people with flaws and virtues, and we learn about them in human terms in this issue from writers past and present associated with the College.

The late Dean Harold Lees Fowler, a name many alumni remember from his legendary lectures on Henry VIII, describes the personal lives of William and Mary, with updated scholarship from Martha Hamilton-Phillips, director of Tercentenary Observances. Thad Tate, editor and an author of the upcoming history on William and Mary, gives us a new look at the domineering James Blair. Frank B. Evans III, professor emeritus of English, unveils a riveting detective story on the Royal Charter. W. Melville Jones, the former dean of the College, portrays the first years of the school in a beautiful essay exploring William and Mary's tradition of great teaching. Alumni Will Molineux '56 and Chiles T. A. Larson '53 create an affectionate look at the Wren Building that you will cherish for many years. Larson's pictorial essay is set to the poetic tones of President Sullivan's parting comments to the class of 1993. Sara Piccini highlights 25 alumni who left their mark on the nation. And finally, our history comes full circle with a brief recounting of Prince Charles' visit to William and Mary in February and Queen Elizabeth II's gracious attendance at a Drapers' Hall reception in June which was organized by the Society of the Alumni. Read this issue from cover to cover and you will appreciate the special character of William and Mary more than ever.

We would like to acknowledge the contributions of many people to this commemorative issue, beginning with Dr. Davis Y. Paschall '32, president emeritus of the College, whose love for the traditions of William and Mary is unparalleled. Not only did Dr. Paschall propose the concept, but he provided from his personal archives some of the essays that appear here in edited form. Earl Gregg Swem Library Archives, the Muscarelle Museum, Colonial Williamsburg Foundation, the Marshall-Wythe School of Law, Martha Hamilton-Phillips and Professor Robert Maccubbin helped us with the archival photography. And, of course, I want to acknowledge the efforts of our exceptional editorial staff—Editors S. Dean Olson and Virginia Carter Collins '77, editorial assistant Stephanie Westdyke, photographer Jim Gleason, designer June Skalak, compositor Sylvia Colston and desktop specialist Mary Ann Williamson.

We dedicate this issue to four special people—the three living past presidents of the College—Dr. Paschall, Thomas A. Graves Jr. and Paul R. Verkuil '61—and our current president, Timothy J. Sullivan '66—who symbolize in their lives and through their leadership all of the great figures in our history who have made William and Mary the special, unquestionably unique, institution it is today.

W. Barry Adams

Executive Publisher

*Stroll Down Memory Lane to*

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*For complete details and registration form, see the Homecoming Supplement in the May/June issue of the* Alumni Gazette.

*Call the Homecoming Hotline at the Society of the Alumni for pre-recorded information or if you have misplaced your* Gazette *and need another copy: 804/221-3111.*

**Spaces at all events are limited so register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment! Register by August 1 and you will be eligible for a USAir drawing for two roundtrip tickets to Europe. The final registration deadline is September 1.**

*Originally painted as separate images and joined together as an official court portrait, this rendering of King William III and Queen Mary II was done by Sir Godfrey Kneller for the King and Queen around 1690. Innumerable copies were rapidly generated by Kneller's studio for dispatch to foreign courts, domestic and foreign ministers, institutions and friends. (Courtesy of Colonial Williamsburg)*

# The Private Lives of William and Mary

*We know King William III and Queen Mary II reigned in England when the College of William and Mary was founded in 1693. But how much do we know about them as people? The purely political marriage of the innocent 15-year-old niece of Charles II of England to the 27-year-old Prince of Orange of the Dutch Republic was an unhappy union—from the beginning in 1677 to Mary's death at the age of 32. This article, which was delivered by telephone hookup to alumni coast-to-coast from the Blue Room of the Wren Building on the 275th birthday of the College in 1968, captures these two central figures in poignant human terms through the pen of one of the great historians and teachers in our university's history—the late* HAROLD LEES FOWLER. *Former chair of the department of history and dean of the Faculty of Arts of Sciences, Dr. Fowler, who taught at the College for more than 40 years, regaled generations of students with his courses on England Under the Tudors and England Under the Stuarts. Join him here once again in this remarkable recounting of the union of William and Mary.*

BY HAROLD LEES FOWLER

propose to concentrate on King William and Queen Mary as personalities, as husband and wife and as the founders of the College. This approach, in this brief treatment, runs the danger of doing great injustice to William as a statesman, and as a prominent figure in the political and military history of his time. As Prince of Orange, and later as King William, he was the organizer and leader of the opposition to Louis XIV and French aggression. For these achievements, as well as for his part in the Revolution of 1688, his position in history is secure. Therefore, we may be pardoned for omitting virtually any reference to these major aspects of his career.

Thus, let us begin with the marriage of William and Mary in 1677. This was a purely political alliance, designed to bind the House of Orange and the House of Stuart closer together and to join England with the Dutch Republic in the defense of their mutual interests against the menace of France.

The wedding itself and the circumstances surrounding it constitute a sad and depressing story. Mary, who was 15 at the time, was informed by her father, James Duke of York, that she was to marry the Prince of Orange only two weeks before the actual ceremony. Upon learning that she was to be wedded to a man 12 years her senior, the young girl burst into tears and wept all that afternoon and the following day. The poor child was heartbroken at the thought of being separated from friends and family and carried off to a strange land. A private wedding was arranged for the evening of Nov. 4, which happened to be William's 27th birthday. The ceremony was performed by Bishop Compton in Mary's bedchamber in the presence of the immediate family. Altogether it was a miserable affair—the bride was weeping, William was impassive as usual, the Princess Anne was coming down with the smallpox and Mary's stepmother was about to give birth to a child, which, if a son, would have a disastrous effect upon Mary's place in the succession of the English crown. Charles II gave his niece away. In an effort to dissipate the pall of gloom which hung over the gathering, the King, with characteristic levity, made facetious remarks during the ceremony.

The marriage was never a happy one, even though Mary became devoted to her husband and obeyed his every wish. The fact is that husband and wife had little in common. Mary—tall and rather pretty, compliant, sociable, talkative—was even younger than her years and wholly innocent in the affairs of the world. But in spite of William's humiliating, often insolent behavior, Mary was always the uncomplaining, self-sacrificing wife. It is true that shortly before her death she wrote a letter to her husband admonishing him for his infidelities and urging him to

***William as Prince of Orange arriving in England, November 5, 1688***
*This portrait by the Dutch painter Jan Wyck (1640-1702) commemorates William's arrival at Torbay, beginning his invasion of England and the bloodless (therefore Glorious) Revolution. With the resulting abdication of his father-in-law King James II, William ascended the throne jointly with his cousin and wife, Queen Mary II, in 1689. William is shown here as a victorious general riding a white charger, symbolic of sovereignty; in the background, Dutch soldiers and horses are seen coming ashore. (National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, England)*

mend his ways. Beyond this final rebuke, one may surmise that Mary found some comfort from the fact that compared to her father and her uncle, her husband was almost a saint.

Cut off from her home and friends, frequently separated from her husband for long intervals while he was engrossed in problems of state, Mary was a lonely young bride, spending her time playing cards, a diversion to which she became addicted, reading as much as her weak eyes would permit, and eating so much that she developed into a plump and heavy woman. Naturally amiable, and longing for companionship, she went out of her way to win the affection of the Dutch people; her sweet disposition, her strong sense of duty and her genuine piety made her popular.

***The Princess Mary, later Queen Mary II***
*This gracious likeness by the Dutch painter Jan van der Vaart depicts Mary in 1688 on the eve of the Glorious Revolution. (Audley End, Essex; Courtesy of English Heritage)*

William, by contrast, was a cold, hard, forbidding man. This was in part the result of the circumstances surrounding his birth and early life. From the outset his character was hardened by adversity, frustration and disillusionment. Not only was he at first denied his birthright as Stadtholder of the Dutch Republic, but he never knew his father and he never enjoyed normal parental love or family life. As a child he was surrounded by bickerings and jealousies among his mother, grandmother and uncle, each of whom tried to dominate the prince and at the age of 14 he lost his mother. In addition to these family squabbles, he felt that he was spied upon by the republican authorities then in power. Under these circumstances, it is not surprising that he became very reserved and taciturn; that he learned how to conceal his emotions and to be very wary of extending confidences. These characteristics acquired in his youth were intensified in later life.

***William III in Armour***
*This "candlelight" portrait in the style of the Dutch painter Godfried Schalcken (1643-1706) conveys William's strength as a military leader. (Attingham Park, National Trust)*

He had none of the social graces; he never attempted to be affable even when it was his political advantage. He was most uncommunicative and remained in seclusion as much as possible. John Evelyn speaks of his "morose temper " and his "coldness of manner." In fact his manners seem to have given almost universal offense. He consciously avoided social intercourse, and except for his fondness for hunting, he scorned ordinary amusements and diversions. When it was necessary for him to appear at public functions or social gatherings he would stand off to one side surveying the assembly with a cold stare. Those who dared to engage him in conversation were rebuffed by curt remarks or biting sarcasm and the unfortunate victims escaped as quickly as possible.

This forbidding portrait is almost totally unrelieved. There are scraps of evidence to indicate that at times he could be convivial in an intimate group of Dutch friends. His correspondence with his devoted friend William Bentinck shows that he was capable of flashes of warmth and kindness. But certainly the great majority of his contemporaries were unaware of this. Even when we turn to his relations with his wife, there is little evidence of real love or tenderness.

There is some reason to believe that, until he became a king, William was jealous of his wife, for she was heir presumptive to a crown while he was merely a prince. At any rate, it was not a happy marriage despite Mary's devotion to her husband. To make matters worse, William took as his mistress one of Mary's maids of honor. This was Elizabeth Villiers, later Lady Orkney. From all reports she was exceedingly unattractive, particularly because of a pronounced cast in one eye—in Holland she was known as the "Squinter." But she was clever and intelligent and William found her amusing. Even under these humiliating circumstances Mary remained an obedient and devoted wife. And there is some evidence that by the time of Mary's death in 1694 William returned his wife's affection. Contemporary accounts report that he was absolutely grief-stricken and that he declared that without her he no longer had any reason to live. To a few intimate friends all this was genuine but others were more skeptical.

Whatever the truth may be regarding his feeling toward his wife, to almost everyone else in England he remained a most unpleasant and unpopular figure. He never loved England, and he never obtained her love. He distrusted most of the politicians of the day and with some good reason for seldom has there been a time in English history when the level of political morality was so low. On the other hand, he could be most unfair; he made no distinction between those who served him well and those who served him ill.

In fairness to William, it should be noted that constant poor health may have contributed to the unfortunate impression he made upon others. Born

***Kensington Palace***
*William and Mary's preferred London residence, purchased from the Earl of Nottingham in 1689, and refurbished by the royal architect and Surveyor of Works, Sir Christopher Wren.*

*William decided to purchase Nottingham House, a less pretentious edifice and more convenient to Whitehall. This was converted into Kensington Palace, which served as the residence of the royal couple until Mary's death.*

with a frail physique and a slight deformity of the back, he suffered throughout life from asthma and, toward the end, from tuberculosis. He had a terrible cough and could sleep only when propped up with pillows. The smog of London made life almost unbearable, and while he disliked court life anyway, this is perhaps the main reason why he and Mary decided to withdraw from Whitehall. Therefore, they moved to Hampton Court Palace, that magnificent structure a few miles away. Under the direction of Sir Christopher Wren, major alterations and additions were undertaken. Mary took a personal interest in the renovation and enlargement of the building and in the planning of the gardens. Wren remarked upon her "exquisite judgment."

Long before the work on Hampton Court was completed, William decided to purchase Nottingham House, a less pretentious edifice and more convenient to Whitehall. This was converted into Kensington Palace, which served as the residence of the royal couple until Mary's death. We may add that Greenwich Hospital is another memorial to Mary's name. Shocked at the plight of English seamen disabled in the war with France, Mary suggested that the palace at Greenwich, started by her uncle, Charles II, but later discontinued, should now be completed to serve as a retreat for seamen injured in the service of their country. Her dream was not realized during her lifetime, but a few years after her death the majestic Greenwich Hospital, designed by Sir Christopher Wren, was completed and stands today as a memorial to Queen Mary.

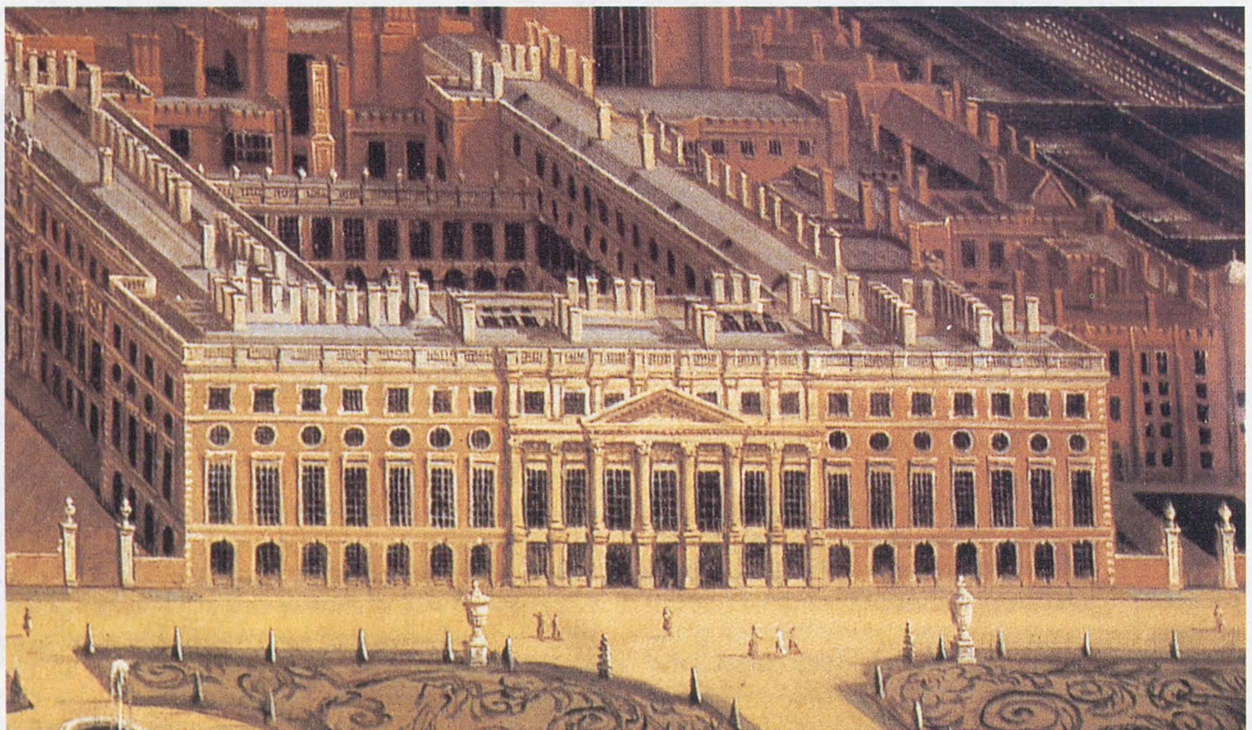
It was partly her religious interests, plus her support of worthy charitable causes, that induced Mary to encourage the project for the founding of a college in Virginia. The Rev. James Blair reported to Governor Francis Nicholson in December 1691 that when he first arrived in London to seek royal support to build a college, he naturally went to his superior, the Bishop of London. But this was just at the moment when Bishop Compton was so resentful at having been denied promotion to Canterbury that he was unwilling to go to court or make any approach to the king in favor of Blair's project.

Forced to change his tactics, Blair turned to the Bishop of Worcester, who approached the Queen on the subject of the college. Mary was not merely interested; she was enthusiastic and promised to recommend the proposal to the king, though she insisted that the presentation of the petition to the Council be delayed until William could be present. Arrangements were made for Blair to appear in Council Chamber Nov. 12, 1691: he presented his petition for the founding of the College, and William gave his official approval in these words: "Sir, I am glad that the Colony is upon so good a design, and I will promote it to the best of my power." The establishment of the College was now assured but Blair's mission was not completed until Feb. 8, 1693, when the charter creating the College of William and Mary in Virginia was granted. We may conclude from Blair's testimony and from that of Bishop Burnet that Mary was primarily responsible for persuading William to endorse the founding of the College.

*At first it was thought to be an attack of measles but by Christmas night her physicians knew it was the dread smallpox. William, fearing the worst from the outset, had ordered a bed placed in her room so that he might remain by her side.*

The Queen was taken seriously ill shortly before Christmas 1694. At first it was thought to be an attack of measles but by Christmas night her physicians knew it was the dread smallpox. William, fearing the worst from the outset, had ordered a bed placed in her room so that he might remain by her side. She grew steadily weaker during the next 48 hours and died at one in the morning, Dec. 28, at the age of 32. William remained a widower and died in March 1702.

In retrospect, no objective observer can accept Bishop Burnet's pronouncement that Mary "was the Glory of her Sex, the darling of human nature and the wonder of all that knew her." On the other hand we may respect and admire her solid virtues: her charity, her deep religious faith, her devotion to her husband and her self-sacrifice. Above all we may feel genuine sympathy for one whose short life was so darkened by sadness and suffering. Deprived of her mother at the age of nine, torn from home, family and native land by a child-marriage to a man who learned to love her only when it was too late, impelled by circumstances largely beyond her control to break with her father and, eventually, with her sister and uncle, her crowning sorrow was denial of motherhood, the supreme tragedy for a queen.



***Hampton Court Palace, view of the West Wing built by Sir Christopher Wren***

*View of the east facade of the new Williamite wing added to the old Tudor palace by Sir Christopher Wren in the 1690s. Detail of a contemporary painting by the Dutch topographical painter Leonard Knyff, ca. 1702. (Hampton Court Palace, Middlesex, England)*

# William and Mary: A Unique Monarchy

BY MARTHA HAMILTON-PHILLIPS

William and Mary cultivated many significant shared interests in the 1680s, forging a strong partnership despite the painful beginning of the marriage and William's preoccupation with his country's politics and warfare. Their mutual interests, which ranged from common culinary preferences (Dutch chocolate for breakfast) to serious patronage of the arts and of education, contributed to the success of their lives together—and a dual monarchy that was unique in British history.

William and Mary were both ardent collectors of art. From the age of 15, William acquired paintings, demonstrating a keen appreciation of Italian 16th-century pictures and Flemish works by Rubens and his contemporaries. Immediately after landing in England in 1688, the Prince of Orange arranged artistic rest-stops during his march to London in order to view the Earl Pembroke's collection of Van Dyck paintings and to take stock of the many hundreds of pictures in the royal collections at Windsor and Whitehall that would become his as King. After the coronation, he ordered many of the finest paintings to be moved to his residences at Kensington and Hampton Court and even shipped treasures back to Holland for display at his favorite Dutch palace, Het Loo. At Kensington Palace, many of the Italian pictures he liked best were rehung for public display in the King's Gallery; and at Hampton Court, the king ordered restoration and public display of some national treasures: the Raphael cartoons and Mantegna's "Triumph of Caesar" canvases.

As a child, Mary had studied drawing under the court dwarf and miniature portrait painter Richard Gibson (1615-90) and took him and his wife (also a dwarf, with whom he had nine children of normal size) with her across the Channel to Holland after her marriage in 1677. While continuing her studies under Gibson, who was also an art dealer and collector, Mary demonstrated an appreciation for Old Master drawings.

Following their marriage, William and Mary's common ground was a mutual interest in gardening and architecture. They collaborated in the refurbishing of many royal residences and in laying out extensive and emblematically complex formal gardens. During the 1680s William and Mary selected the emigré Huguenot architect Daniel Marot (1663-1752) to serve as their "dessinateur-en-chef," and in 1684 commissioned from him designs for the interiors and the gardens at William's hunting lodge and palace Het Loo, featuring an iconography that glorified the House of Orange. Mary helped design the gardens, which combined French and Dutch elements, and for which she collected rare plants.

*The King's Gallery in Kensington Palace where William exhibited his favorite paintings, notably 16th-century Italian pictures.*

Living in the Netherlands from 1677 to 1688, they had ready access to a wealth of exotic cargo brought back to Dutch ports by the ships of the East India Company. Mary was especially taken with Chinese porcelains and developed whole rooms filled with china in her apartments at The Hague, Honselaarsdijk and Soestdijk. After the Glorious Revolution and her return to England in 1689, Mary had specially designed rooms of oriental laquer-work panelling installed to house her expanding collections of porcelain and Dutch Delftware in her English palaces at Whitehall and Hampton Court.

The queen took a fancy to a small building adjacent to the Thames and known as the Water Gallery close by Hampton Court. She made it her private retreat, which she decorated with blue and white Chinese porcelain and Delft wares. Soon, her collecting and display of pottery induced a craze for imported Japanese, Chinese and Dutch ceramics—urns, ewers, and pyramidal flower vases, for example—used with spectacular effect at such estates as Dyrham Park and Chatsworth. John Evelyn greatly admired the "rare [probably japanned or laquerwork] cabinets" designed to house her china, and Defoe testified that the fashion for furnishing houses with chinaware "increased to a strange degree" because of Mary's own collecting, china being piled "upon the tops of cabinets and every chimneypiece to the tops of the ceilings... 'till it became a grievance.'"

At the time of her death, Mary had amassed some 800 items of chinaware in her apartment at Kensington Palace alone. William divested himself of these collections, making a generous gift of the porcelains to his favorite companion, the young Dutchman Arnold Joost van Keppel; and Mary's beloved Water Gallery and Delft Dairy at Hampton Court were pulled down.

# THE SOCIAL SIDE OF WILLIAM

BY MARTHA HAMILTON-PHILLIPS

"If I should meet with the disappointment of your not coming I don't know what I shall do," wrote Mary to William in 1690, "for my desire of seeing you is equal to my love, which cannot end but with my Life." This letter preserved in Swem Library's Special Collections conveys Queen Mary's deep emotional commitment to William, even while he was in battle against her father, the deposed James II, in Ireland. Whether he was as loving of her is doubtful, though she treasured the few instances of his kindness and attention.

*Elizabeth Villiers in a portrait by Sir Peter Lely, ca. 1677, when Betty Villiers accompanied the newly married Princess Mary to The Hague. (Courtesy of the Earl of Jersey)*

There was surely a more personal side to the reserved William who could also be remarkably devoted and generous. One instance is his 18-year relationship with Elizabeth Villiers, who became his acknowledged mistress after traveling to the Hague as a maid of honor in Mary's suite, following William and Mary's politically arranged marriage in 1677. Despite his wife's strenuous objections, William would not give her up. Rather, he sought Elizabeth Villiers' counsel and rewarded her with sizeable gifts—such as a large portion of Mary's father's Irish estates, which consisted of some 90,000 acres of private land belonging to James II, in 1690. (Parliament revoked this in 1699.) William apparently appreciated her wisdom and wit, for she was not beautiful, despite the likeness painted by Sir Peter Lely, flattering her as an alluring shepherdess, with the Cupid and doves readily associated with the goddess of love, Venus.

Elizabeth Villiers remained William's principal confidante until the king received a poignant letter from Mary (delivered in 1695 shortly after her death by Thomas Tenison, the new Archbishop of Canterbury) asking him to end the union. Driven by remorse, William, soon after Mary's funeral, arranged a marriage between Betty Villiers and her cousin George Hamilton, one of William's stalwart generals, and in 1696 he elevated them to the Earl and Countess of Orkney.

William's prevailing concern was his leadership of the anti-French coalition combatting Louis XIV, and he valued most as friends the Dutchmen who supported him in this endeavor. For example, William Bentinck was his closest boyhood friend, to whom he gave the English title Earl of Portland at the time of the coronation, and whom he appointed ambassador to the court of Louis XIV. The English, resenting William's devotion to the rather stiff foreigner, dubbed him "the Wooden Man." The king was so lavish in his gifts to Portland that he became one of the wealthiest men in England. The very least of his perks was his office as Groom of the Stole, paying ...£5,000 a year. In addition, Portland was made treasurer of the king's Privy Purse.

In the 1690s, the king increasingly favored the affable youth Arnold Joost van Keppel, a Dutch page and courtier whom William soon elevated to Earl of Albemarle. Accompanying William to England in 1688 at the age of 18, Keppel rose very rapidly in the king's ranks, and was soon made Gentleman of the Bedchamber. The king's old favorite Bentinck, the ponderous Earl of Portland, lost his virtual monopoly on the king's trust and began to suffer public humiliation. He queried the king about his interest in Keppel, the "impertinent puppy," and warned William of the damage this liaison was doing to the royal reputation. The king's response was indignant: "It seems to me very extraordinary that it should be impossible to have esteem and regard for a young man without it being criminal."

Vicious underground broadsides circulated by the Jacobites made insinuations about both Portland's devoted friendship and Keppel's rapid ascendance. There is no evidence to prove or disprove the gossip, which was clearly politically motivated, and William's correspondence neither acknowledges nor denies the allegations concerning his affection for Keppel. The Bishop and historian Gilbert Burnet commented only that William "had no vice but of one sort, in which he was very cautious and secret." Given such ambiguity, speculation continues, but it is probable that Keppel's friendship was non-physical, just as Elizabeth Villiers' was likely to have been primarily cerebral. Betty bore William no children, though shortly after she was married at the age of about 38, she presented her husband with three heirs.

William's grief upon Mary's death was genuine. "The K. seemed mightily afflicted, as indeede it behoved him," remarked John Evelyn in his diary. He was inconsolable, and reportedly could not attend to business for a week. He had a crystal locket mounted on her wedding ring containing a lock of Mary's hair and inscribed "memento Maria Regina."—which was found tied to a ribbon on his body after he died in 1702.

*Arnold Joost van Keppel, Earl of Albemarle, William III's favorite companion and amanuensis during the last years of his reign shown in the robes of a Knight of the Order of the Garter ca. 1700. (National Portrait Gallery)*

# Mary:

## "The Best of Women"

BY MARTHA HAMILTON-PHILLIPS

Members of the House of Commons wept openly at the news that Mary had succumbed on Dec. 28, 1694, to the smallpox that was epidemic in London. For the next four months, representatives of towns and counties presented their condolences to the king, and elaborate preparations were made for a grand state funeral, which inspired some of Henry Purcell's most beautiful music. The funeral took place on an exceedingly cold day in March 1695. Members of both Houses of Parliament marched through driving snow from Whitehall to Westminster Abbey, accompanying the carriage bearing Mary's coffin. Her body was laid in state within a magnificent mausoleum designed for the occasion by Sir Christopher Wren, and the queen was buried in her ancestor King Henry VII's vault.

A greater number of sermons, elegies and medals were issued to memorialize Mary's death than for any other English monarch. She was eulogized as a glorious heroine who had legitimized the revolution and safeguarded the Protestant faith. Some 75 of the sermons, elegies and odes, out of some 110 known to have been printed, have survived and provide an extraordinary testament to her popularity.

Among the many reasons for Mary's popularity were her well-documented charity and the commitment to tolerance that she shared with William. Their Toleration Act of 1689 protected Protestants and freed dissenters from penalties; it also benefited the Jews, to whom William was deeply indebted. Jews of Portuguese and Spanish descent living in The Netherlands had helped bankroll his invasion fleet, facilitating the success of the Glorious Revolution and William's bid for the British throne.

Another act, both clever and kind, was a declaration issued by William and Mary in 1689 encouraging persecuted French Protestant refugees to come to Britain. After Louis XIV revoked the Edict of Nantes in 1685, William had welcomed fleeing Huguenots to The Hague, and many thousands more found sanctuary in England. These immigrants became loyal subjects and bolstered the ranks of many professions such as law, medicine and finance. Skilled Huguenot artisans stimulated the flowering of the decorative arts associated with the so-called William and Mary style.

Mary's patronage helped British industry and promoted social welfare, including work for women: for example, in 1691 she "encouraged the setting up of a Linen-Manufacture, wherein many Thousands of Poor Peoples were employ'd..." After the decisive naval Battle of La Hogue in 1692, she urged the adaptation of the half-built palace at Greenwich as a home for disabled sailors (a project William carried forward in tribute to her memory during the remainder of his life). Moreover, Bishop Burnet remarked that "she managed her Privy Purse so well, that she became eminent in her Charities."

Mary sought to combat idleness at court by encouraging reading and promoting literacy. She also focused her attention on building up the royal libraries. The scope of her book-collecting is suggested in an anecdote in John Evelyn's diary, where he remarks on her efforts to secure for the library at St. James' Palace one of the finest private libraries of mathematical books in Europe. Whereas William preferred military books (classics such as Caesar's *Commentaries*), Mary read natural history and geography, loved poetry and indulged her sentimentality in reading fiction.

*Mary II in a variant of the portrait by the Dutch painter Willem Wissing (1656-87). Mary is shown in state robes, heavily ornamented with jewels, particularly the pearls and diamonds she avidly collected. She owned some £13,000 worth of pearls and at her death in 1694 and an estimated £9,000 in diamonds. (Muscarelle Museum of Art, gift of James Lowry Cogar and Allan Denny Ivie III)*

The queen's interests both in religion and education prepared her to be receptive and enthusiastic about the proposal to found a colonial college in Virginia. Her mentor, Dr. Henry Compton, was a logical choice to be first chancellor of the College of William and Mary in Virginia, while he was already supposed to superintend the colonial churches. Had Mary lived to see the College built, she would very likely have done more to encourage its growth and the resources to develop its library. More so than William, it can be argued, she would have followed the College's fortunes with keen interest, "for all sorts of Bounty flow'd readily from Her...she had the most active Zeal for the Publick," and she was "the best of Women."

**Since Professor Fowler's essay 30 years ago, there has been abundant new scholarship devoted to William III and Mary II, including a large illustrated volume on *The Age of William III and Mary II: Power, Politics and Patronage, 1688-1702*, co-edited by Martha Hamilton-Phillips, director of the College of William and Mary's Tercentenary celebration. Another significant contribution to the latest research in this field is a book co-edited by William and Mary history professor Dale Hoak and by Mordechai Feingold of Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, titled *The World of William III and Mary II: Anglo-Dutch Perspectives on the Revolution of 1688-89*, which is being published by Stanford University Press.**

Photo courtesy of the Muscarelle Museum of Art

# James Blair: "a very vile old Fellow"?

*Painted by English artist Charles Bridges, this portrait shows Blair between 1735 and 1743 near the end of his life. Formerly located in the Great Hall of the Wren Building, it now hangs in the Muscarelle Museum of Art at William and Mary.*

BY THAD TATE

Masking his ambition with an appearance of modesty, James Blair contrived to have himself named in the charter granted to the College in 1693 as president for life and filled the post for an incredible 50 years. The charter also appointed him as one of the College trustees, who were responsible for the finances of the institution until the faculty was complete and the charter could be transferred into the hands of the president and masters. It also included him among the original Board of Visitors. To command a comparable group of powers at William and Mary today, one would have to serve simultaneously as president, senior faculty member, member of the Visitors and head of the Endowment Association.

James Blair was also a clergyman of the Church of England, a prerequisite for presidents of colonial William and Mary. He was a Scot, born about 1655, trained at Marischal College, Aberdeen, and the University of Edinburgh, forced out of his parish in 1681 for refusal to subscribe to an oath accepting the future James II, a Catholic, as head of the Scottish church upon his succession to the throne. Blair, like a number of other Scottish clergymen who were Protestant but Episcopalian, came to the more favorable political and religious climate of London.

There he gained the backing of a fellow Scot, Gilbert Burnet, later the bishop of Salisbury. In 1685 Blair secured an appointment from the bishop of London, Henry Compton, to a Virginia parish and, five years later, became the bishop's commissary with supervisory authority over all the clergy serving in the colony. In 1710, after serving as rector of two parishes, Varina and James City, he became rector of Bruton Parish in the capital and remained there until his death. He published in London in 1721 a five-volume collection of 117 sermons that he had delivered between 1707 and 1721. The sermons dealt more with matters of morality and personal conduct

*James Blair, the founding father of the College of William and Mary, served for a half century as its president. Before the Tercentenary observance has ended, he will gain new recognition when his statue, newly executed by faculty sculptor Lewis Cohen, will stand in the courtyard formed by James Blair, Tyler and Blow halls. Yet, perhaps few except the most dedicated historian really know or understand this controversial and remarkable man. His epitaph suggests he was generous, hospitable and even warm—"a well-beloved old man." But in the following article,* THADDEUS W. TATE JR., *former director of the Institute of Early American History and Culture as well as editor and one of the authors of the forthcoming history of the College of William and Mary, describes a single-minded individual, able and determined, but always desirous of power and wealth and intolerant of those who stood in his way. A man who married for political connections and unseated three royal governors, Blair's real monument is undisputably the 300-year-old College he created and presided over for 50 years.*

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than doctrine. True to character, Blair was dissatisfied with initial sales of the volumes and probably not mollified when told that "the Booksellers Alledge the World is overdone with Sermons." Eventually the volumes proved sufficiently popular to warrant a second edition in 1740 and a Danish translation in 1761.

To his power and influence in the College and the established Anglican Church, Blair also added the prestige and influence of political office and good family connections. Soon after his arrival he married Sarah Harrison, member of a prominent Virginia family. Reports that circulated in the colony made it seem a not altogether happy marriage, beginning with her refusal to subscribe to the marriage vow of obedience when asked three times by the minister and extending to suggestions of her alcoholism. The couple was childless, and she died at a comparatively early age of 43. Blair gained from the marriage his inclusion in the circle of the most powerful members of the political elite in Virginia. The Harrisons and their kin dominated the Governor's Council, which served as the upper house of the legislature, the highest court in the colony, and the principal advisers to the governor. Within a few years, in 1694, the king appointed Blair himself to the Council. His combination of ecclesiastical and College offices on the one hand and political and social prestige among the Virginia elite on the other remained unequaled throughout the history of the colony.

James Blair clearly sought such prestige and the power that went with it; he was no less persistent in his desire for the financial rewards of his many offices. He simultaneously collected his salaries as president, councilor, parish rector and commissary, and he never overlooked an opportunity to gain reimbursement for the five trips back to England that he made on college, church or political business. He was also a partner in the successful mercantile enterprise of his brother Archibald. At his death Blair left an estate that, in the estimate of his biographer Parke Rouse, would make him almost a millionaire today.

Photo by C. James Gleason

*Sculptor Lewis Cohen, professor of art and art history at William and Mary, created this half-scale plaster model of the statue of James Blair that will be unveiled in October in the courtyard formed by Blair, Tyler and Blow halls. A New York foundry will make the bronze casting of the statue from a life-sized plaster mold.*

*Blair's ambition and unwillingness to brook opposition made him difficult to like, but he was a formidable person who lost few of the many political battles in which he engaged.*

Apart from a bequest for teaching poor children and the gift to William and Mary of his library plus 500 pounds for a divinity student scholarship, the estate went to his five nieces and nephews, the larger part to his favorite, John Blair. One suspects the College, then as now in financial need, would have welcomed a larger remembrance from its principal founder.

Blair's ambition and unwillingness to brook opposition made him difficult to like, but he was a formidable person who lost few of the many political battles in which he engaged. With only occasional exceptions, the College faculty and the parish clergy over which he presided generally opposed him, at times bitterly. Blair rarely called convocations of the clergy after an initial one that endorsed his plan for the College, because he knew the hostility that he would face. Indeed, on one occasion it led to an attack on the validity of his ordination by a Scottish bishop, and on another he and a handful of supporters were reduced to filing a minority representation to the bishop of London while the majority denounced him.

In the first three decades of the College, the faculty was small, usually only a grammar master and another for the Indian School. The two leading faculty members in those early years, the first grammar master, Mungo Inglis, and the first effective master of natural philosophy, the able Hugh Jones, were among his strongest critics. Both ultimately resigned over such issues as his collection of his own salary while refusing to fill out the faculty or to help out by teaching himself.

Of the six royal governors who served in Virginia during his time at the College, Blair helped bring about the recall of three: Edmund Andros, who was hostile to the interests of the College (having sourly observed on one occasion, "Pish, it will come to nothing"); Francis Nicholson, who earlier worked closely with Blair as a virtual co-founder; and Alexander Spotswood, who also strongly supported the College, especially in rebuilding the Wren Building and improving the Indian School. Two of the others, Edward Nott and Hugh Drysdale, were minor figures who served only briefly and remained thoroughly under Blair's control. A final governor, Sir William Gooch, privately denounced the president as "a very vile old Fellow," but encountered Blair only when he was old and in failing health and made it a point to "kill him with kindness." So the two got along, and Gooch supported the College strongly.

Some of the disputes that arose were perhaps largely conflicts of personality, especially those with the highly temperamental Nicholson. Many, however, occurred because Blair tended to side with the leaders of the colony with whom he was allied by marriage, membership on the Council and other shared interests. Most of the disputes with the clergy arose, for example, because Blair, even though serving as their appointed leader, agreed with the parish vestries, composed of Virginia laymen, in their battles with the clerics on such issues as the terms under which parish rectors were employed. The contests with the governors generally arose, too, from political opposition of the provincial leaders with whom

Blair joined. The College was often not itself initially involved in many of the issues, but the institution over which he presided could not escape becoming implicated, frequently to its detriment. Too, Blair's preoccupation with other issues diverted him from the difficult task of building up a struggling college. Almost every one of the early crises that raised the specter of the collapse of the College came at a time when Blair was embroiled in one or another of a seemingly endless round of controversies.

Yet, if James Blair's pursuit of his multiple interests seemed all too often to imperil William and Mary, it is difficult to conceive that so fragile an undertaking could ever have succeeded to the extent that it did without him. His ambitions for it seemed at times limited, in spite of the broad vision of its mission that he embodied in the charter, and secondary perhaps to his personal goals. Nevertheless, at every critical juncture James Blair assembled the resources, or made it appear that he had, to keep the institution open and to take it a step further on its way to a better future. None of his successors in the colonial era was as effective.

* * *

William and Mary got off to a promising start in the last decade of the 17th century. Blair and Francis Nicholson worked as staunch allies in the effort to found the College from the time that the governor took up his post in June 1690. In the following month Blair introduced a relatively detailed proposal to his fellow clergy and gained their approval. Over the next few months the two men clearly spent time cultivating members of the legislature of the colony, who gave their approval and pledged support in April 1691. Blair left immediately for England, where he spent almost two years, joined by Nicholson at the end of the period, in securing the royal charter of 1693 and important financial backing. It had not been an easy effort, yet Blair's triumphant return to the colony with the charter by the summer of 1693 suggested how well matters could go for the College when cooperation prevailed among governor, president and legislature.

With Nicholson transferred to Maryland, Blair now had to contend with the hostility of the new governor, Andros, and a group of his supporters in the legislature. The president moved ahead, nonetheless, in opening the Grammar School in temporary quarters and laying the foundation of the first building in the summer of 1697 with "the best Solemnity [of which] we were capable." On May 1, 1699, the first major public ceremony took place in the new building, one in which five students delivered Latin orations extolling the future of the College and the new capital town of Williamsburg. By this time Andros had departed and Nicholson had returned for a second term. He and Blair were in

*Yet, if James Blair's pursuit of his multiple interests seemed all too often to imperil William and Mary, it is difficult to conceive that so fragile an undertaking could ever have succeeded to the extent that it did without him.*

Photo by C. James Gleason

*Blair is buried next to his wife Sarah Harrison in a church graveyard on Jamestown Island. Through his marriage to Sarah, who preceded Blair in death by nearly 40 years—at the relatively young age of 43—Blair gained inclusion in the most powerful members of the political elite in Virginia.*

effect using the carefully staged event to celebrate the resumption of their partnership in relocating the capital in close proximity to the College.

Almost immediately the relationship cooled. Nicholson was a man of reckless temperament, given to impetuous outbursts against those who opposed

*His lengthy Latin epitaph . . . described him as adorned by "the comeliness of a handsome face," and then went on to praise him for having "entertained elegantly," "bestowed charity upon all needy persons," and provided generously for the College. The last line also termed him "a well beloved old man."*

him. A 46-year-old bachelor, he suffered wide opprobrium for his overzealous pursuit of the hand of 18-year-old Lucy Burwell, a daughter of one of the families allied with the Harrisons and Blair. His imperialist policies also aroused opposition, but he remained a staunch backer of the College, seeing it perhaps as an important outpost of the Anglican Church and the English Empire. Blair began to turn against him for reasons that were not altogether clear, although it is easy to suspect that Nicholson simply played too active a role in College affairs to suit the president.

The culminating episode in the break between the two men was the legendary barring-out incident of December 1702. The Grammar School had apparently adopted an old English schoolboy custom by which the young scholars locked the masters out of the boys' quarters until promised an early Christmas vacation after which there were usually refreshments and celebrations. Blair charged that the 1702 observance got out of hand when the boys fired a pistol through the door and wounded a servant. Nicholson, a great patron of the students, had furnished the money for candles and refreshments and apparently pistols with powder but no shot. Whether Blair simply magnified a schoolboy prank out of proportion is difficult to determine, but the charges flew back and forth and hardened the division between the two men and their supporters beyond reconciliation.

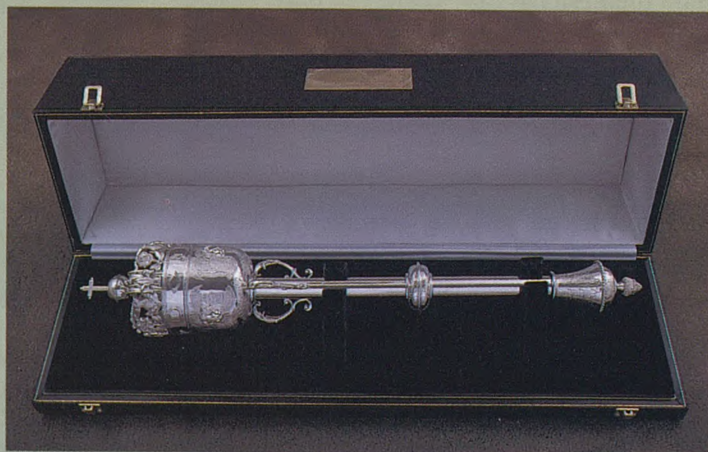
As the dispute increased in acrimony, Blair made a third trip to England, succeeding in April 1705 in securing Nicholson's removal. Blair had little time, however, to savor his victory, for on the night of Oct. 29, 1705, the College building caught on fire and burned to its exterior walls. Once again charges and counter charges flew, including accusations of arson, but, more important, the College stood on the verge of collapse scarcely a decade after it began. There was no money to rebuild, and the sole faculty member, Mungo Inglis, who stood firmly on the side of Nicholson, now resigned, observing: "There is not the least probability that ever the College will ans[wer] the design in the Charter while things continue as they are."

Inglis meant, of course, to dismiss the possibility of success under Blair, but the president, in fact, over the next decade or so made the first of his two rescues of William and Mary from the brink of an

Tercentenary Potpourri

## The Marischal Mace

**The University of Aberdeen honored William and Mary during its 300th anniversary by making a gift of a regal mace that is a silver replica of one of the two maces that are carried by Sacrists at traditional university ceremonies in Scotland. The University of Aberdeen is comprised of Marischal College, from which James Blair graduated in 1667, and King's College, founded in 1495. Marischal College is celebrating its 400th anniversary in 1993. The Marischal Mace was presented to William and Mary at Charter Day by the University of Aberdeen's Principal and Vice-Chancellor, Professor John Maxwell Irvine. Beginning with Charter Day 1993, the mace will be carried during commencement and Charter Day ceremonies by a representative of the graduate students.**



almost certain failure to which he had made no small contribution himself. He found money in both England and America, including grants from Queen Anne totaling 1,000 pounds, and managed, with the support of the trustees, to begin the new College building that was sufficiently complete to be furnished and occupied by 1716. This second building, which remained in use with relatively few modifications until it burned in 1859, is the one that stands today as restored by Colonial Williamsburg between 1928 and 1931. He also rebuilt the tiny faculty, finding a new grammar master, filling the post of master of the Indian School for the first time in 1706, and appointing Hugh Jones as master of natural philosophy. Significantly these achievements came at a time when few political issues divided the colony and Blair and Governor Alexander Spotswood were on good terms. The governor's contributions to the revival of the College ranged from paying the return fare to England of one Tanaquil LeFevre, a faculty recruit who arrived in the company of an "idle hussy," to financial support and substantial help in the design and construction of the new building.

Yet, this modest burst of success proved transitory. As early as 1718 or 1719 Blair again allowed himself to become embroiled in a contest with a governor, and over issues that were of no direct concern to the College. Setting off in 1721 on a fourth trip to England, he helped bring about Spotswood's removal, but returned to a college that had suffered heavily from the controversy. The able Hugh Jones, who had been a staunch ally of Spotswood and opponent of the president, resigned and returned to England, where he wrote one of the best accounts of early 18th-century Virginia. In his discussion of the College, he expressed hope that with a proper plan, which he proceeded to provide, it could be revived. He also listed its various deficiencies: no chapel, few books, no scholarships among others. "In fine," Jones wrote, "there have been disputes and differences about these and the like affairs of the college hitherto without end."

James Blair was now in his late 60s and after three decades in the presidency hardly seemed to have succeeded in making the College a vital institution. It was an institution with a building and a president but virtually no faculty and few students. Yet, in less than a decade, before the end of the 1720s, he brought it back from the verge of extinction, helped again by a lack of political issues that might have diverted him from the task. As always, there was little money with which to work, but he was able to use funds from the Robert Boyle bequest for education of Indians for the construction of the Brafferton, which was completed in 1723. But the crowning achievements were the preparation of the first College statutes, adopted in 1727; the filling out for the first time of the full complement of six masters, although he drew on persons already in the colony to fill four positions; and, then, with those necessary preconditions met, the transfer at last of the charter into the hands of the president and masters. So much was the transfer on Aug. 15, 1729, a defining moment in the history of colonial William and Mary that Transfer Day became the major observance of the year—the present celebration of Charter Day is a 20th-century innovation. As has sometimes been said, the transfer and the actions that led up to it constituted nothing less than a "second founding."

Blair had found the time and energy as well to undertake the completion of the buildings that

Photo by Tony Sylvestro

## Twenty-five Have Served

**Twenty-five presidents and at least six acting presidents have served in the College's 300 years. While James Blair served for 50 years, Dr. William Wilmer served the shortest term—only seven months. Three other presidents were in office 30 or more years: Bishop James Madison, Benjamin Stoddert Ewell and Lyon G. Tyler. Twelve presidents have been members of the clergy, including the first nine, while others have been educators, businessmen, lawyers and military men.**

**Only four times in the history of the College have there been four living presidents—including those shown here: Davis Y. Paschall '32 (1960-1971), Thomas A. Graves Jr. (1971-1985), Paul R. Verkuil '61 (1985-1992), and Timothy J. Sullivan '66 (1992- ). —From *Traditions, Myths and Memories, 1693-1993, Celebrating the Tercentenary of the College of William and Mary.***

housed the colonial college. On June 28, 1732, a chapel wing for the main building "was opened with great solemnity" in the presence of the governor and a large number of members of the General Assembly. Almost immediately, in late July, construction began on a president's house. Blair and four members of the faculty gathered to lay the foundation, each laying one of the first five bricks. The president was understandably in an optimistic mood when he wrote in January 1735 that "our College thrives in reputation and numbers of Scholars, and handsome buildings." The enrollment of which Blair boasted was probably about 60, a figure around which it seemed to hover for much of the remaining colonial era, and it now included some number of advanced students under the tutelage of the two philosophy masters and an occasional divinity student as well. No student would, however, take the baccalaureate degree until 1772. There was also a significant addition to the College library, accomplished by persuading the Boyle trustees to allow the expenditure of 500 pounds for new books in return for housing the library in the Brafferton. If there was a blot on Blair's record of achievement, it was the ever-present College debt, which stood at 1,000 pounds in 1735.

Photo by C. James Gleason

*This portrait, which shows Blair at age 50, was painted by J. Hargrove in 1705 and hangs in the President's House, which was constructed in 1732 during Blair's tenure at the College. It was a gift to the College by M. Peachy in 1829.*

Blair's last years at the College were, on the whole, quiet, as his physical vigor declined and he moved into his 80s. He persisted in all his offices, president, commissary, councilor, parish rector, although not always able to perform their duties. William Byrd II, who had been Blair's antagonist many years earlier but had become friend and active supporter of the College, dined frequently at the President's House on his trips to Williamsburg. On one occasion Byrd noted that in his mid-80s—Byrd said 89—Blair still possessed good understanding but had become too deaf to fulfill one of his duties as senior member of the Council, that of presiding at sessions of the General Court. Byrd described being "forced to sit in his stead, being next Oars, while he now and then nods in his Chair." If Byrd's account might suggest that the old president had mellowed in his last years, he nonetheless stood firm on his right to serve as acting governor in 1740 while Sir William Gooch was absent on a military expedition to the West Indies, hosting the annual king's birthday ball at the Capitol and bargaining sharply with Gooch as to the share of the salary he would receive.

inally, on April 18, 1743, at age 88, James Blair died, his last illness caused by the gangrenous state of a rupture from which he had long suffered. His wife had predeceased him by 30 years, and he was now buried beside her in the churchyard at Jamestown. His lengthy Latin epitaph, reconstructed from the surviving fragments, listed his many offices, described him as adorned by "the comeliness of a handsome face," and then went on to praise him for having "entertained elegantly," "bestowed charity upon all needy persons," and provided generously for the College. The last line also termed him "a well beloved old man."

If his epitaph, which he may have composed himself, is even partly true, it suggests a man of generosity, hospitality and even warmth that we scarcely recognize from the various public records that provide our main source of information. There he comes across as able and determined but always desirous of power and wealth and intolerant of those who stood in his way. We tend to know him, therefore, from the testimony of his enemies. Yet, there are glimpses of another side of his character—the friendship with William Byrd, his devotion to his nephew John, his serving as a judge at a horse race, his offer of the Bruton Parish pulpit to the evangelical preacher George Whitefield, the support of at least one faculty member, William Dawson, who succeeded him as president.

We may continue to debate his character, but Blair's real monument was indisputably the College over which he presided for 50 years. The record had its negative side, and for all that he had accomplished, William and Mary remained a fragile institution. It might have been less so if he had resisted some of his controversies with royal governors and if he had gotten along better with the faculty. Yet, in associating himself so completely with Virginia leaders and the issues with which they were concerned, Blair gave the College a closer identification with Virginia. If Blair left behind an institution that was still struggling, William and Mary owed its existence to him more than anyone else.

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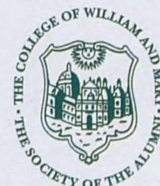


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William and Mary by ye Grace of God
of England, Scotland, France & Ireland King & Queen Defend.rs
of ye Faith &c. To all to whom these our present Letters shall
come Greeting. Seing our trusty and well-beloved Subjects con-
-stituting ye Gen.ll Assembly of our Colony of Virginia, to ye End yt
ye Church of Virginia may be furnished with a Seminary of
Ministers of ye Gospell, & yt ye Youth may be piously educated
in good Learning & Manners, & yt ye Christian faith may be pro-
-pagated amongst ye Western Indians to ye Glory of Almighty God,
have had it in their minds & proposed to themselves to make, found,
& Establish a certain place of Universall Study, or a perpetuall
Colledge for Sacred Theology, Philosophy, ye Languages, & other good
Arts & Sciences, Consisting of one President, Six Masters or
Professors & one hundred Schollars mo... less according to ye
ability of ye sd Colledge, & ye Statut... to be made,
increased, diminished, or changed ...
Trustees nominated & Elected b...
(to wit) the trusty & well-belove...
Governour of our Colonyes of ...
Ralph Wormley, William B...
John Farnifold, Stephen ...
Thomas Milner, Christo...
John Smith, Benjami...
Hartwell, William Ra...
major part of them or ...
of a certain River ...
ye Gen.ll Assembly o...
in our sd Colony ...
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Assembly of ou...
James Blai...
Supplicated ...
grant ...
Ralph ...
Steph...
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Ha...

Copy of the Charter for Colledge in Virginia

Handwritten 1693 copy of the William and Mary charter with the version printed and bound by William Parks of Williamsburg in 1736.

Photo by C. James Gleason courtesy of University Archives

# The Story of the Royal Charter

By Frank B. Evans III

**"William and Mary, by the grace of God, of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, King and Queen, Defenders of the Faith and so forth. To all to whom these our present letters shall come, greeting."**

*Thus begins the Royal Charter, which is read each Charter Day as a testament to its importance in William and Mary history. A remarkable document with a remarkable history, the Charter also embodies a detective story unraveled several years ago by Frank B. Evans III, professor emeritus of English, and told here in condensed form from an original booklet published in 1978 by the Botetourt Bibliographical Society. A copy of the Charter which the College possessed during the 18th century disappeared, during or just after the American Revolution, in a way that has never been satisfactorily explained. Though much remains speculative, enough is known to construct this narrative which gives some fascinating glimpses into English, American and College history.*

he Charter granted by William III and Mary II in 1693 to found the College of William and Mary in Virginia unfortunately disappeared two centuries ago, when it is reputed to have been carried off by Fedor Karzhavin, an obscure Russian visitor to Williamsburg who intended to deposit it in the imperial archives at St. Petersburg. If he did carry off the Charter, it has not been found in the Russian archives.[1] Whatever happened to it, a document of unique historic significance was lost, inasmuch as it was the first royal charter granted to found a College in the American colonies.

The earliest known printed version of the Charter appears in *The Laws of the British Plantations in America, Relating to the Church and the Clergy, Religion and Learning* (London, 1721), compiled by Nicholas Trott, then Chief Justice of South Carolina. In his preface Trott states that "The Copy of the *Charter* for Founding of *William and Mary* College in *Virginia*, was communicated to me by the Honourable *Francis Nicholson*, Esq; late Governour of that Province." Nicholson in 1721 was governor of South Carolina. As lieutenant governor of Virginia from 1690 to 1692, he had been a principal founding trustee and a generous benefactor of the College. No more authentic a text of the Charter exists.

Francis Nicholson's manuscript copy of the Charter was undoubtedly one of perhaps a dozen copies obtained from the Patent Office in London by the Rev. James Blair in February 1693. Blair had arrived in England in the autumn of 1691 to seek a charter for the College proposed by the General Assembly the previous spring. After a year of protracted negotiations over the financial support of the institution, the terms of a Charter were finally settled upon late in 1692 and the preparation of documents began. A Warrant was first drawn up, rehearsing all the provisions agreed to and instructing the Attorney General to put them into legal form. The Warrant, written in English, is reproduced virtually intact in authentic English versions of the Charter. King William approved the Warrant on Jan. 25, 1693.

Custom decreed that legal documents be in Latin. The King's Bill, a Latin translation of the Warrant with the addition of legal phraseology, is dated Feb. 4. Two days later the King's Bill and a virtually identical third document, the Writ of Privy Seal, were presented at Westminster. William signified his approval by signing the top of each page of the Bill. Two new lines of text in the Writ state that William and Mary command the Commissioners of the Great Seal of England to enter the King's Bill on the Patent Rolls. The commissioners received the documents on Feb. 8. The Enrollment, under that date, is a copy of the King's Bill and is the official copy of record.

James Blair lost no time in obtaining copies of the

## The College Mace

Believed to be one of the most distinctive maces in academic America, the College Mace was given by alumni and students in 1923 at the College's 230th anniversary. There are 11 sections: an eagle; a sphere, symbolizing unity; the College arms; the arms of the chancellors; the seven seals of colonial Virginia; the F.H.C., Phi Beta Kappa and Lord Botetourt medals; names of 28 noted alumni; the Earth, which symbolizes the College's worldwide influence; colonial governors; 42 distinguished men in Virginia history prior to the Revolution; and the names of William and Mary's presidents.—From *Traditions, Myths & Memories, Celebrating the Tercentenary of the College of William and Mary.*

"patent" or public form of the Charter. On or about Feb. 9 he paid out well over 100 pounds in fees and services to various officials and at various offices in Chancery. It is not clear what all these payments covered, but several entries in his accounts suggest that Blair procured 12 copies of the Charter.

Certainly one of Blair's copies became the official Charter of the College. Whether it was unique cannot be ascertained. That it was in Latin, however, is demonstrable by inference. When Blair returned to Virginia, he read the Charter before the new governor, Sir Edmund Andros, at Jamestown on Sept. 1 and again before the House of Burgesses on Oct. 26. On both occasions it was ordered to be entered in the official records, which are lost. However, the College in 1977 acquired a copy of the Charter found among the papers of Governor Andros — a plain and utilitarian manuscript, which differs again and again, in choice and order of words, from all other English versions. Obviously, it is an independent translation, done in Virginia, from a Latin original. We may deduce that Blair had presented a Latin text to Governor Andros.

Most of the dozen copies that Blair obtained, however, were apparently in English and were intended for distribution to his fellow trustees. Besides the copy given to Francis Nicholson, another is known to have been in the possession of William Byrd, who produced and read from it during a conference regarding affairs of the College held at Lambeth Palace on Dec. 27, 1697. A manuscript copy found in an old trunk in the library of Harvard College and given to the College of William and Mary in 1931 may well be another of the original copies obtained by Blair.

The Harvard manuscript consists of 12 large sheets, folded, on the outside of which is written "Charter of Virginia College" over the word "Copy." The text, in English, is written in a late 17th-century italic hand. Once a handsome document but now badly water-stained and in large part illegible, the manuscript is the work of a professional scribe, who created an elaborately embellished "W" to begin the names "William and Mary," which extend in bold display letters halfway across the first page, and who elsewhere at the beginning of major sections of the text decorated the pages with similar flourishes. It was, however, always a slightly imperfect copy: in several places where the text is still legible there are instances of omitted words and interlineations, but the text is substantially correct and complete except where it is now obliterated.

The Harvard manuscript exhibits several features that identify it as an original copy issued at the Patent Office. Like all other copies it bears the notation, "By a Writ of the Privy Seal," over the signature "Pigott." This attests only to the legal authority of the Charter. But the Harvard manuscript also bears the notation, "For a Fine in the Hamper, Five Marks," over the signatures "Rawlinson" and "Hutchins." Sir William Rawlinson and Sir George Hutchins served as Lord Commissioners of the Great Seal until May 1693; documents bearing their names were issued from the Patent Office, or were derived from documents so issued, prior to that time. The same names and notation appear on the Nicholson-Trott copy; and the Andros copy has the names and the notation, "For a Fine in ye Hamper Five Marcks," translating the equivalent in Latin that appeared on the lost original.

A feature even more convincing of the Harvard manuscript's authenticity is its similarity in format to

the Nicholson-Trott copy and to their common model, the Enrollment in the Patent Office. The Enrollment shows a wide left-hand margin, blank except for a single note at the beginning that identifies it as a document "For settling a Free School in Virginia." The Harvard manuscript has the same generous margin, in which have been written, in darker ink and by a different hand than the text itself, a number of annotations summarizing adjacent provisions of the Charter. These annotations were obviously added to a document already in existence. The Nicholson-Trott text also has the wide margin, with more than 40 detailed annotations, all different in substance from those in the Harvard

# . . . And The History of the Coat of Arms

By Wilford Kale '66

William and Mary is unique among America's colonial colleges. Three other schools were chartered by the English crown, but a coat of arms was granted *only* to William and Mary—in 1694—and, like the Royal Charter, it was never revoked.

The Virginia General Assembly, as early as 1691, mentioned the need for a common seal for "Their Majesties' Royal Colledge," which they wanted established in the colony of Virginia. In fact, in May 1691, the assembly directed in paragraph 10 of its Instructions for the establishment of a "free Schoole & Colledge" that a seal should be requested.

The Royal Charter, granted by King William III and Queen Mary II on Feb. 8, 1693, provides in Article V that "the President and Masters, or Professors, of the said College, shall be a Body politic and incorporated," and Article VII authorized a seal to be used "in any whatsoever Cause and Business belonging to them and their Successors."

The charter also established a group of 17 distinguished residents of Virginia, along with Lieutenant Governor Francis Nicholson, nominated and elected by the General Assembly, to act as trustees from the date of incorporation until such time as the growth of the College warranted its being transferred to the president and masters.

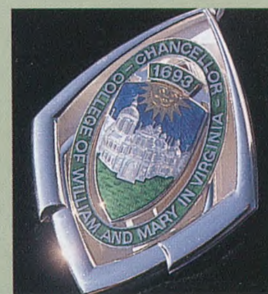
Henry Howard, Duke of Norfolk and Earl Marshal of England, acting on behalf of the trustees and at the request of Henry Compton, Bishop of London and the first chancellor of the College, authorized Garter and Clarenceux Kings of Arms on May 2, 1694 "to Devyse, Grant and Assign unto the Trustees. . .such Arms as the Trustees of the said Intended College and their Successors may from time to time lawfully bear and use as a Common Seal. . ."

Twelve days later, the Kings of Arms did "give, grant and assign" the Arms to the College. . ."viz Vert a Colledge, or Edifices Mason'd Argent in Chief a sun rising Or the Hemisphere proper" as their seal. The Arms were in the upper left corner of the Letters Patent of Arms in the original grant.

Because of the way the College was established in the charter, a second warrant and endorsement were necessary to transfer the Arms to the president and masters, along with the College when such action was to be taken by the trustees. The Earl Marshal's Warrant authorized the Kings of Arms to affix "a Subscription at the bottom of the Patent . . . expressing that the Arms thereby assigned to the aforesaid Trustees etc. may after the said College is actually erected and established and the Interest transferred to the President and Masters of the said College by thenceforth born and used . . ." That endorsement was made on Oct. 18, 1694.

The original 1694 grant and the die of the seal made from it were lost. It was not known whether they vanished during the 1705 fire that destroyed many of the valuables and the library of the early College or were lost during the Revolution.

Nevertheless, soon after the Revolution ended, the College began to use what has come to be known as the "Temple seal." Beginning about 1783, the old seal, perhaps considered too much a reminder of royal rule, ceased to be used. The more recent seal features a Greek/Roman temple with the fabled Phoenix in the foreground.



*Above, the original coat of arms granted by the crown in 1694; Left, the Temple Seal.*

For nearly 150 years, the old coat of arms was not a part of College lore. In fact, few people even knew of its existence. Then College President Dr. J.A.C. Chandler learned of the earlier document and, during a visit to England in 1929, asked the College of Arms for a copy of the original Grant. Within a year, the use of the original seal was resumed.

A number of other colleges and universities in the United States now also can lay claim to a grant of a coat of arms from the College of Arms, but none has the heritage, tradition and legacy of Arms given the College of William and Mary.

*(A writer for the* Richmond Times-Dispatch, *Wilford Kale '66 is author of* Hark Upon the Gale, *an illustrated history of William and Mary. In addition, he wrote the narrative for* Traditions, Myths & Memories, 1693-1993: Celebrating the Tercentenary of the College of William and Mary.

manuscript. The annotations, in both copies, were added by their respective owners as a convenient means of indexing the major sections of the Charter. It is scarcely believable that the Harvard and Nicholson manuscripts should have such similar formats unless they had a common genesis in the Patent Office in London. (The Andros copy conspicuously lacks the margin and annotations.) If the Harvard manuscript is not an original copy from the Patent Office, it is virtually a facsimile of such a copy.

There are no clues as to how or when the Harvard manuscript found its way to Cambridge. Copies of important documents were often sent between England and the colonies, for safety's sake, by different routes. They were also not infrequently exchanged between correspondents in Virginia and Massachusetts. A common interest between Harvard and William and Mary, such as for example their sharing of the Robert Boyle legacy for education in the colonies, could readily account for this copy of the Charter having been sent to Cambridge.

It remains to summarize the relationship between the Nicholson text of the Charter here reproduced and later versions, particularly those printed in America. The Trott volume exhibits two printer's errors, "next produce" in a clause relating to customs revenue from tobacco, instead of "neat [net] produce" — as it is in the Warrant and the Harvard manuscript — and "Haniper" in the notation at the end of the text instead of "Hamper." As both of these minor peculiarities appear in the text of the Charter appended to *The Present State of Virginia, and the College* (London, 1727), that text was clearly reprinted from Trott's volume.

In 1736 the Williamsburg printer William Parks published *The Charter, and Statutes, of the College of William and Mary in Virginia.* President Blair, presumably, supplied Parks with copy for the volume, which contains English and Latin texts on facing pages. The English text derived from one of the originals obtained by Blair in London, but at some time it had been deliberately though inconsistently revised so as to conform its language closer to the Latin. For example, in Parks' text "trusty" has been changed to "faithful" twice, rendering the Latin "fideles," but remains "trusty" in the third instance. There are numerous other instances where a natural English word or phrase found in the Warrant, the Harvard manuscript, and the Nicholson-Trott text has been replaced by a synonym derived directly from the word found in the Latin. Such tampering can only be described as pedantic and frivolous.

Unfortunately, this adulterated text of 1736 became the version accepted thereafter: in 1758 William Hunter reprinted at Williamsburg Parks' bilingual volume, and the English text of Parks and Hunter reappeared in *The History of the College of William and Mary* (Richmond, 1874) and again in the *Bulletin* of the College for 1913. The Tercentenary now makes available once more the earlier and more authentic text.

*FRANK B. EVANS III*

[1] *I have presented the evidence regarding the disappearance of the Charter in* The Story of the Royal Charter of the College of William and Mary. *Botetourt Publications, ed. Robert P. Maccubbin (Williamsburg: Botetourt Bibliographical Society, 1978). See also "Carlo Bellini and His Russian Friend Fedor Karzhavin,"* Virginia Magazine of History and Biography, *88 (1980): 338-54.*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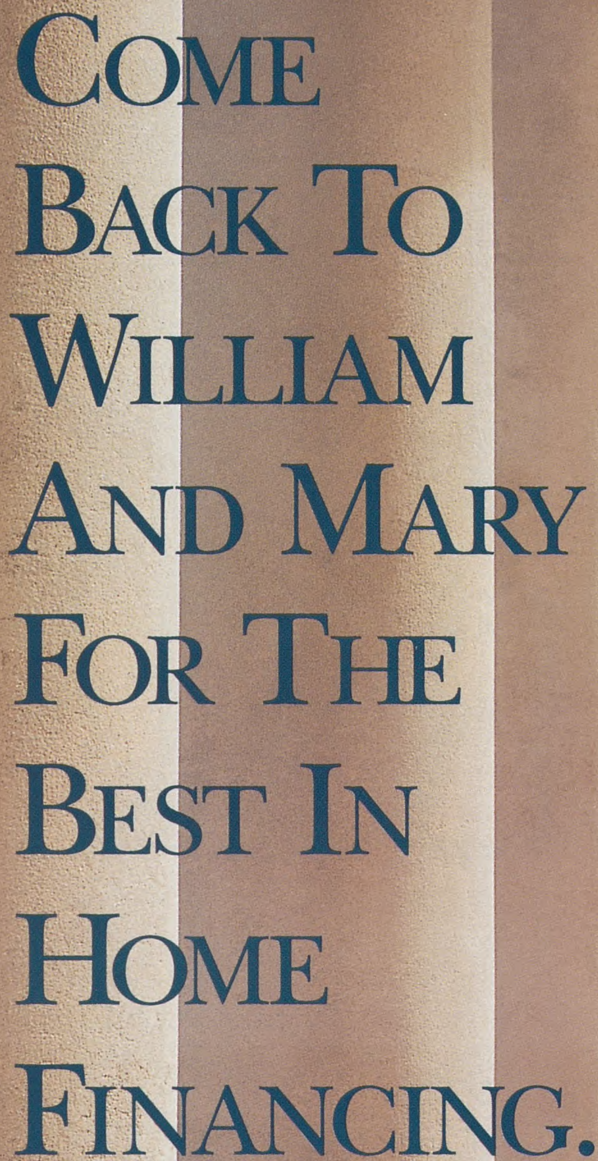


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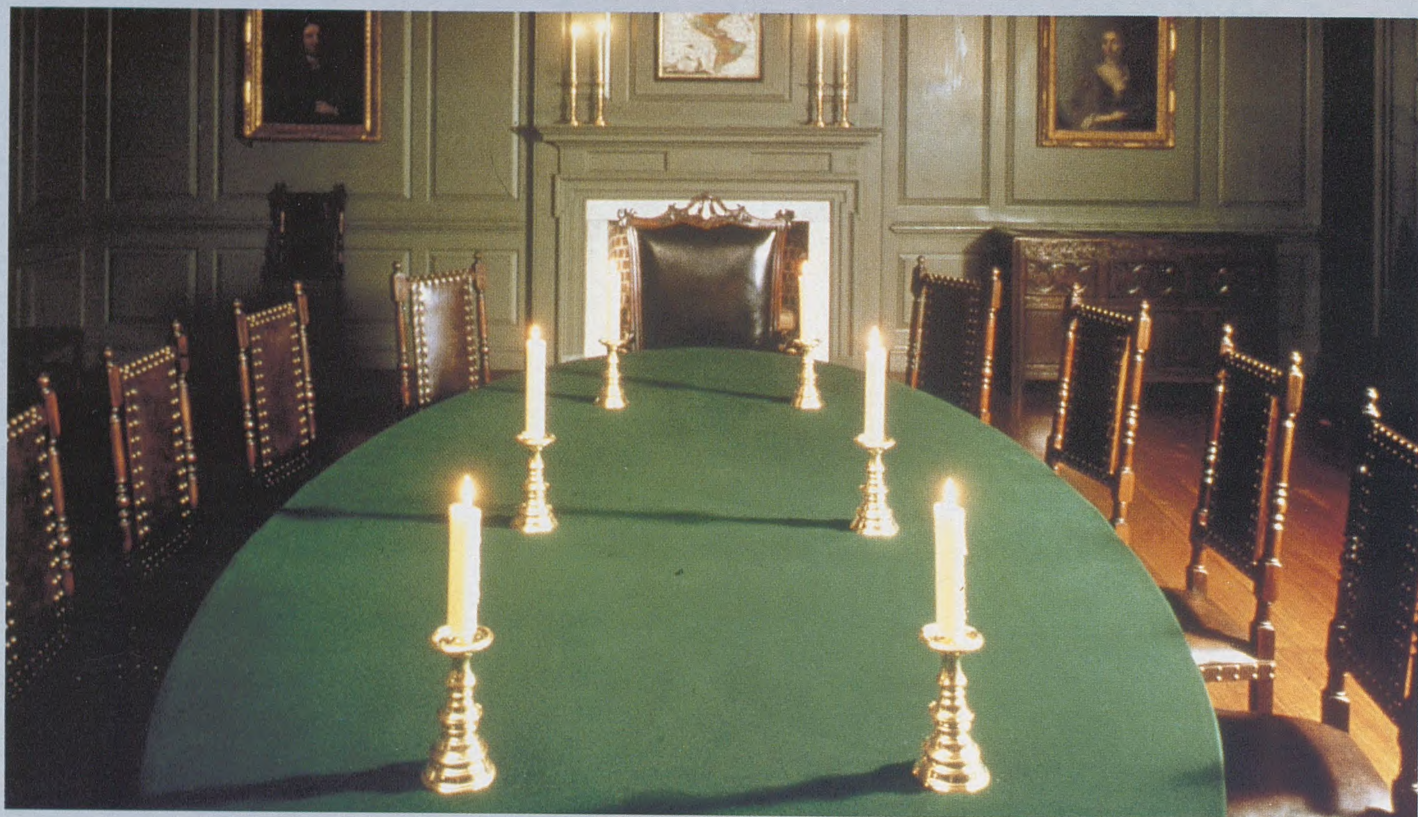


Photo by C. James Gleason

*Picture the great professors—or masters—of the past as they might have seated themselves around the Blue Room in the Wren Building.*

"The traditions of William and Mary that count are ones many schools take for granted—like being a school where professors still teach, and teach freshmen as well as upper-class students; where professors keep their office hours; where your teachers know your names, and they care enough to hold you to high standards. Those are the traditions upon which a solid education is developed."

—*Governor L. Douglas Wilder at Charter Day 1993*

# The Traditions of Great Teaching

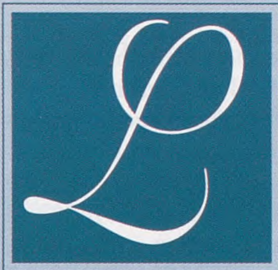
*At Charter Day in 1961, Dr. W. Melville Jones explored the tradition of teaching at William and Mary in an address entitled "A President and Six Masters." Noting that the Royal Charter had stipulated that "the youth may be piously educated in good letters and manners. . ." in "a certain place of universal study" that would consist of "one President and Six Masters or Professors," Dr. Jones traced the early beginnings of the College under James Blair. He noted that until 1716 the College consisted only of Blair and one Master, but gradually the other chairs were filled and by 1729 there sat the President and Six Masters: Blair, president and commissary to the Bishop of London; the Rev. William Dawson, professor of moral philosophy; Alexander Irwin, professor of natural philosophy and mathematics; the Rev. Bartholomew Yates and the Rev. Francis Fontaine, professors of divinity; Joshua Fry, master of the Grammar School; and Richard Cocke, master of the Indian School.*

*This, then, was the real beginning. The new college had survived its early birth pangs; the main building had been rebuilt following the fire of 1705; the statutes of 1727 setting up the organization of the College had taken effect, and the transfer of assets to the corporate body known as "the President and Masters" had been completed.*

*From 1729, when the first group of masters occupied the chairs in the Blue Room to the end of the century, a period which saw these masters change frequently, the College played a steadily increasing role in the intellectual and political life of the colony and later of the new nation that came into being. No place on this side of the Atlantic surpassed it in educating the youth in humane learning. Professor Dumas Malone, noted Jefferson biographer, observed that when the young Jefferson came to the College in 1760, "he would have had to travel hundreds of weary miles to find another seat of learning at all comparable to the little College of William and Mary. . . "*

*A professor of English, dean of the faculty and vice president for academic affairs, Dr. Jones, who died in 1992 at the age of 91, then proceeded to explore the foundation at William and Mary of great teaching—as reflected through the lives and careers of six illustrious masters and others that he had chosen from those who taught at the College during the first 150 years. These men and the hundreds of men and women who have taught at William and Mary speak to us in unmistakable language of the irreplaceable importance of teaching, the basic hallmark of William and Mary's greatness.*

BY W. MELVILLE JONES



Let us return to the old Blue Room (in the Wren Building) and the people around its table—the masters or professors, the teachers of the College—because it was these men who brought the College to the place it occupied in the intellectual and political life of this country during the 18th and early 19th centuries. In the seats of the President and Six Masters, let us place six representative men who occupied professorships at different periods from the early beginning to the middle of the 19th century. As we listen to these men, some of whom were separated by a hundred years in time, we note that they talk easily and with erudition on any subject. Regardless of the professorships they held, they were liberally educated men. Above all, these men are teachers and by their example as teachers they molded the lives and destinies of the youth they taught. Learning and teaching was their reason for being.

We quickly discover these men have no fields of specialization; even though they have imposing titles, such as Professor of Moral Philosophy, Law of Nature and Nations, and Fine Arts; Professor of Anatomy, Medicine and Chemistry, they are learned in many subjects. They do not understand the dichotomy that has developed in modern institutions of higher learning between research and teaching. The two were not separate operations in their day—teaching involved curiosity and investigation, and the two were united in a single effort. Learning to them embraced all knowledge. One of them, the **Rev. Hugh Jones,** professor of mathematics and natural philosophy, wrote the first grammar of the English language produced in the colonies and a very informative survey of the state of Virginia. Jefferson observed of another, **William Small,** that although he was also professor of natural philosophy and mathematics, "he was the first who ever gave, in that College, regular lectures in Ethics, Rhetoric and Belles Lettres." A third one, perhaps the most notable example of the teacher-scholar, was **George Wythe,** first professor of law in America. Littleton Tazewell, who as a

boy came from Wythe's tutelage, recorded that Wythe "made himself certainly the very best Greek scholar I have ever seen and such he was universally acknowledged to be," and that "he acquired the French language" and "became deeply versed in Algebra, Mathematics and Natural Philosophy." Wythe's scholarship was accompanied with a zeal for teaching. Tazewell also refers to the difficulties Wythe had experienced in educating himself, but "the memory of his own hard-earned education made him not merely willing but desirous to smooth the path and assist the efforts of others in this pursuit."

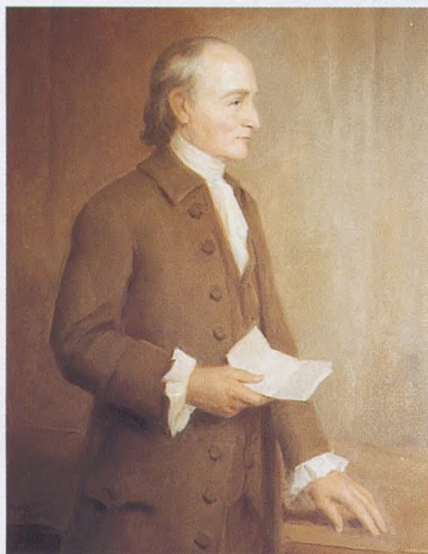


Photo by C. James Gleason

GEORGE WYTHE: *His scholarship was accompanied with a zeal for teaching.*

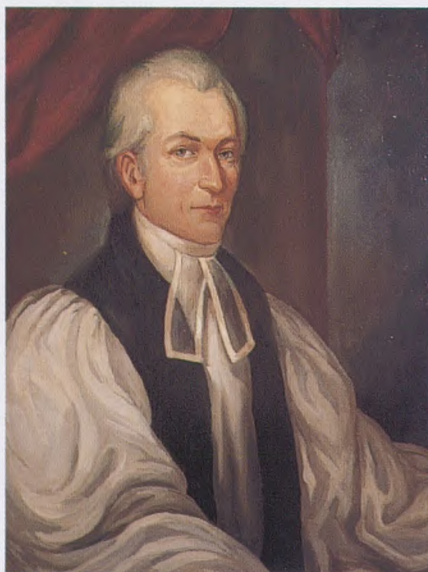


Photo by C. James Gleason

BISHOP JAMES MADISON: *Think of it: If he were on the faculty today, he would be listed in the catalog as: James Madison—Professor of Philosophy, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Geology, Mathematics, Government and Economics.*

Nearly 150 years separate the first of these great teachers from the last, but you will see that the basic pattern is the same. The earliest is the Rev. **Mungo Inglis,** the "accomplished master" of the early Grammar School. Inglis was a Scotsman who was appointed by the Rev. Blair in 1693, and he assumed his duties one year later. At the time Inglis began his work as Master, the College was organized after the practice of English universities, known as the "Oxford Curriculum." There were to be four schools: the *Grammar School,* where the course of studies consisted of Latin and Greek and instruction in writing. This school carried the student through higher classics. At 15, the boy stood an examination in the ancient languages before the President and Masters of Ministers of the colony; he was then promoted to the *Philosophy School.* Here there were two masters—one who taught natural philosophy and mathematics, physics and metaphysics; the other, moral philosophy, logic and ethics. The third, the *Divinity School,* was post-graduate—one master taught Hebrew and explained the Old and New Testaments and a second explained the "common-places of divinity and the controversies with heretics." And finally there was the *Indian School* for the Indian boys from the neighboring tribes and white boys from the surrounding plantations; they were instructed in reading, writing and "vulgar arithmetic." Such was the organization of the College with minor variations until 1779.

Inglis was an enthusiastic teacher of Latin and Greek, and he took a genuine interest in his students. He speaks to us largely from his letters which are pungent with an acid wit. Early in his career at the new college, he plunged into controversy with the Rev. Mr. Blair, and he developed into a formidable opponent. He aimed his ire at Blair on two counts concerning the College: that Blair was ruining the newly established college and that he took too much salary himself and paid the master two little. Inglis quit over the dispute, but 10 years later he cooled down, and when Blair offered him the Mastership of the Grammar School again in 1716, he accepted and remained until his death. Even Blair recognized his gift as a teacher, for he wrote to the Bishop of London in 1717 that Inglis "had a good talent for teaching and was a sober and good man. Under him, the school thrives apace. Twenty-six scholars and more coming every day."

Seated next to Inglis at this table is the **Rev. Hugh Jones,** staunch conformist of the Church of England and a man of broad learning and inquiring mind. He, too, belongs to the early days. Like Inglis, he quarreled with President Blair. It was dangerous to quarrel with Blair, and no doubt this accounts for his return to England after a four-year stay. He was educated at Jesus College, Oxford, and was sent to the College in 1716 by the Bishop of London as professor of natural philosophy and mathematics, the second holder of the chair.

Hugh Jones was one of the most brilliant teachers of the early college—a practical and learned mathematician, a well-informed clergyman, and an educator whose ideas were both advanced and original—he is a symbol of the best teaching of any age. He keenly observed all phases of the life about him and mingled easily with all strata of society; in addition, he seems to have been a good politician and found it both congenial and profitable to associate with "persons of the greatest figure," or "gentlemen of distinction," to use his own terms. A voluminous producer of tracts and pamphlets, he published in 1724, after his return from England, *The Present State of Virginia,* a highly informative survey of the colony, which is now a valuable historical document, and *An Accidence to the English Tongue,* the first English grammar written by a professor in the colonies. Here was a versatile scholar, a writer of good English prose. No narrow specialist, Jones excelled in research, learning and teaching—all are one here.

Seated next to Jones is **William Small** (1734-1775), professor of natural philosophy and mathematics,

and with him we move into what was perhaps the greatest period in the history of the College—the years preceding the Revolution, when it was the training ground of future statesmen, and the community of Williamsburg was a center of the political and intellectual life.

With Small, natural science at the College came into its own. Another native of Scotland, with an M.A. from Aberdeen, he came to the College in 1758. Although primarily a scientist and mathematician, his knowledge was broad, his influence penetrating and lasting. Small introduced the lecture system for the first time in America—a sharp departure from the memory lessons and recitations by questions and answers which had been the method generally practiced.

Small remained at the College only six years, but he left an indelible impression on the lives of those who studied under him. As Jefferson's teacher, he molded the early thinking of the future statesman—"he fixed the destinies of my life," Jefferson said, and he further characterized him as "a man profound in the most useful branches of science, with a happy talent of communication, correct and gentlemanly manners, & an enlarged & liberal mind. . .from his conversation I got my first views of the expansion of science & of the system of things in which we are placed." Small returned to England in 1764 and settled in Birmingham where he practiced medicine and was closely associated with James Watt and Erasmus Darwin. On his departure from Williamsburg, he was commissioned to purchase a collection of scientific instruments for the College. The College Archives preserves a folded sheet in Dr. Small's handwriting itemizing his purchases. A careful scrutiny of these items demonstrates that the "illustrious Dr. Small of Birmingham" made certain that the College would have the best scientific apparatus in America.

*At the time Inglis began his work as Master, the College was organized after the practice of English universities, known as the "Oxford Curriculum."*

The man who sits next to Dr. Small is the **Rev. James Madison** (1749-1812) who became a master in 1773, nine years after Dr. Small's departure, and also occupied the chair of natural philosophy. An alumnus, he became president in 1777, serving as administrator, professor and (after 1790) as Bishop of the Episcopal Church in Virginia, until his death in 1812. His most significant contributions, however, were as a teacher. Although a scientist of the first order, his profound and varied scholarship is reflected in the later enlargement of his title to include Natural and Moral Philosophy, International Law and Political Economy. Apparently, he was the first to be designated professor of political economy. Think of it: If he were on the faculty today, he would be listed in the catalog as: James Madison—Professor of Philosophy, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Geology, Mathematics, Government and Economics.

Long before they were introduced in any other college in America, Madison taught in his course in Political Economy Adam Smith's *Wealth of Nations* and Vattel's *Law of Nations*. Worshipped by his students, one described him as "the perfect gentleman; and in point of scientific knowledge, he is undoubtedly a finished scholar—As a tutor, he certainly stands in the first rank. He strives with indefatigable zeal to open and expand the mind of the student, and his manner of illustrating is plain, intelligible and convincing."

Tercentenary Potpourri

## The First Fraternity

**Phi Beta Kappa, America's most distinguished academic honorary, was founded by students at the College of William and Mary—John Heath, Thomas Smith, Richard Booker, Armistead Smith and John Jones—in the Apollo Hall of the Raleigh Tavern on Dec. 5, 1776. In the ritual the founders named friendship, morality and literature as their guiding precepts. Each December, the Alpha Chapter of PBK at William and Mary inducts a new group of PBK initiates in the Great Hall of the Sir Christopher Wren Building, continuing a two-century tradition.—From *Traditions, Myths & Memories, Celebrating the Tercentenary of the College of William and Mary.***

In cooperation with Jefferson, he was responsible for effecting the revolutionary changes in the organization and curriculum of the College in 1779—certainly one of the most significant single acts in the history of the College. In fact, the members of our faculty today are, in large part, at least, the modern counterparts of the professors established by the reorganization of 1779. He was certainly one of the great names—a man of sound erudition, liberal learning, pervasive charm and a vigorous and provocative teacher.

Photo by C. James Gleason

THOMAS RODERICK DEW: *He was one of those rare people who combined scholarship, investigation, creative imagination, and teaching into a single, harmonious personality.*

The last two men who sit around this table speak to us from the first part of the 19th century. For nine years, they were contemporaries. They lived to see the College reach another high peak in growth and influence—and one of them watched it fall into a second decline. **Thomas Roderick Dew**, tall, handsome, suave, meticulous—historian, political scientist, humanist, and late president; **John Millington,** eccentric, slightly flustered, a little unkempt—chemist, engineer, inventor. Both have much to say to us about the College and the profession of teaching.

Dew (1802-1846) was appointed professor of political law and history in 1826, but this hardly suggests the range of his interests; in a newspaper advertisement describing Dew's course, he was designated as "professor of natural and national law, political history, philosophy of the human mind, and political economy"—all this at a time when history and political science were scarcely known as studies in American colleges. Dew was one of those rare people who combined scholarship, investigation, creative imagination, and teaching into a single, harmonious personality. Above all, he was the perfect symbol of the liberal education. When he became president in 1836, he set forth his plan of studies for the College in memorable words: "Our plan embraces a course of general study, which may be pursued to great advantage by all having the time and means, no matter what may be their professions in after life."

While the College increased from 69 students in three years to 140 students under his guidance, his fame and influence as a teacher were far greater than his contribution as an administrator. He taught political science from the point of view of both history and economics. His most important published work was *A Digest of the Laws, Customs, Manners and Institutions of Ancient and Modern Nations*—think of the scope of that subject!

Dew died in Paris and was buried there in 1846. In the 1930s his body was re-interred in the Wren Chapel. At the memorial service, President John Stewart Bryan said of him: "He met the challenge of his age, and in so doing achieved ageless fame; for his name is indissolubly bound up with the immortality of this College."

I can best present the final teacher around this table, **Professor John Millington** (1779-1868), by giving a brief summary of his activities before he was appointed professor of chemistry, natural philosophy and engineering in 1835, a chair he held for 13 years. Leaving Oxford before completing his degree, he studied law and practiced for a short time. He gave up law and turned to engineering, a profession for which he had a natural genius. He was associated with the construction of a new type of road and served as engineer of the Middlesex Water Works and superintendent of the royal grounds of Kew in London. He obtained a medical degree and was for a time professor of natural philosophy at Guy's Hospital in London. He was a lecturer on mechanics at the Royal Institution, a position held by the most distinguished proficients of the several branches of science of their day. The audiences were composed of scholars, men of science and professional men. Millington went to Mexico to superintend a silver mine operation, and later came to the United States to open a Philosophical Instruments Store in Philadelphia. After the venture failed, Millington's path led him to Virginia and William and Mary.

An excellent lecturer and lucid thinker, Millington gave annually 120 lectures in chemistry and natural science, "illustrated by a very fine and extensive apparatus belonging to myself, and which from the first to last, has cost me several thousand dollars." He was also a companion, friend and adviser of students, and his home on Palace Green—in the house formerly occupied by George Wythe—was always open to them. For the College, he made a fine collection of geographical and mineralogical specimens. His course in surveying resulted in one of the first American textbooks on the subject of civil engineering. At his home he invented and manufactured a large collection of machines, models and apparatus. George Holmes concluded a warm and intimate tribute to Millington by describing him as "ever open, candid, and practical (with an) addiction to truth, in and for itself. . ."

In an address "Early Courses and Professors at William and Mary," President Lyon G. Tyler concluded: "Thus have I recounted some of the features of our past history and recalled to your memory the names of men whose lives to a great extent make up the life of this ancient college. Their work, their example, and their ideas still survive. . ."

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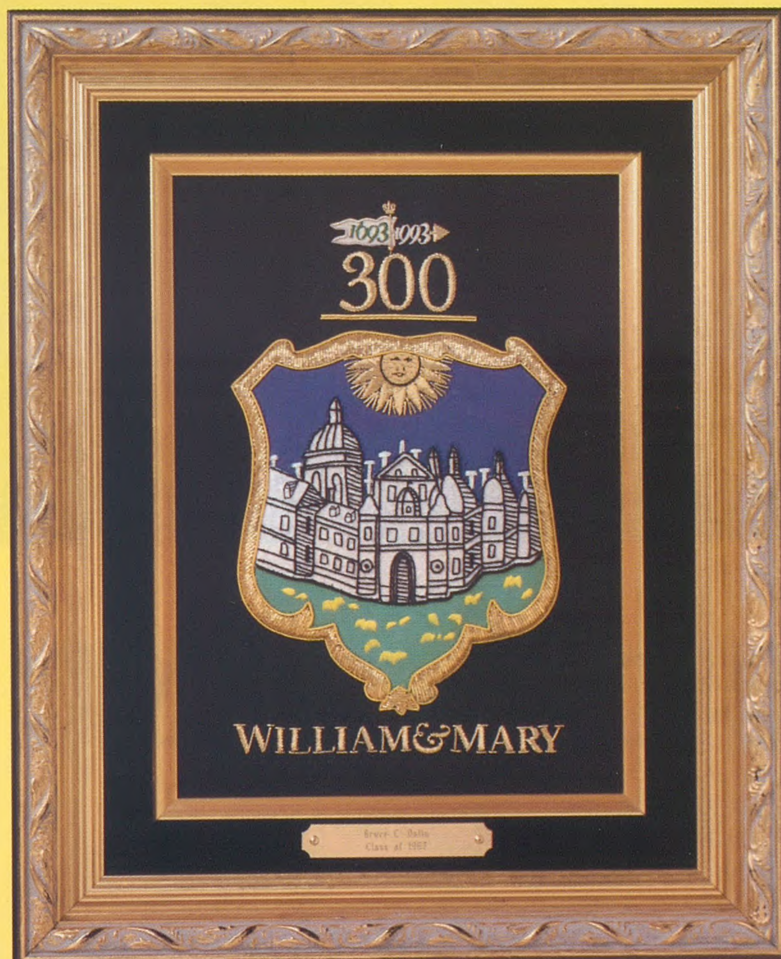


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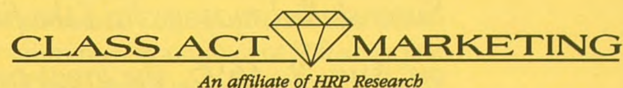


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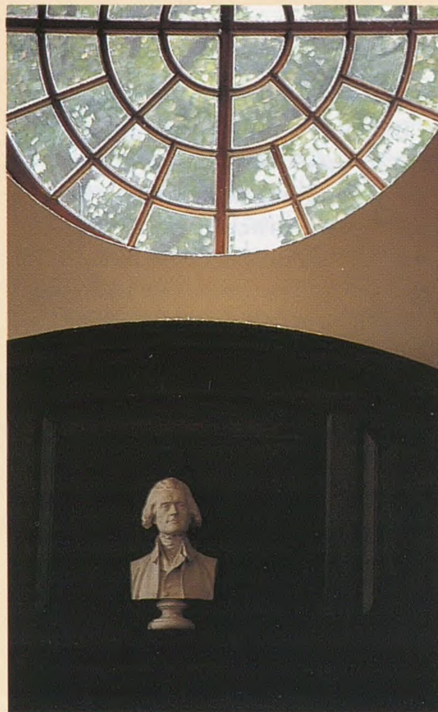
# A House of Giants

TEXT BY WILL MOLINEUX '56; PHOTOGRAPHY BY CHILES T. A. LARSON '53

*Since skilled masons laid the first glazed red Virginia clay bricks of the Wren Building on Aug. 8, 1695, the great traditions and history of William and Mary have been intertwined with this oldest classroom building in continuous use in America. Enduring all that 298 years can bring, including fires and wars, student disruption and faculty fits, the Wren has prevailed to house the learned and the learning. In the following pages, two gifted alumni, writer* WILL MOLINEUX *'56, editorial page editor of the* Newport News Daily Press, *and photojournalist* CHILES T. A. LARSON *'53 combine their talents with affection for the College to create "A House of Giants" and "A College Lives Here."*



*Left, the Wren Building in fall, above and right, symbols of the College's historic past: statues of Thomas Jefferson (above) and George Washington (right) in the Great Hall.*

On a warm Tidewater spring day there is hardly a more peaceful place than the Wren Yard. A soft breeze sways the tall elms, and sunlight scatters its patterns through new leaves onto the grassy green and rough walkways. The dogwood and redbud bloom. Young people, with books of scribbled notes and dreams full of promise, linger about. Only a watchful bell marks the passing hour.

On such a day the Wren Building stands its mightiest. The great, solid academic structure—the oldest in America—is as it was two centuries ago when giants strode through its halls. Because the building seems so tranquil, it is hard to imagine that three times fire blackened and warped its brick walls; that soldiers in two wars patrolled its corridors; that colonists defended a royal governor in its Great Hall, and that students, armed with pistols, barricaded its rooms in revolt.

Through all, enduring all that 300 years can bring, the Wren Building has prevailed to house the learned and the learning.

Skilled masons laid the first glazed red Virginia clay bricks Aug. 8, 1695, exactly a year and a half after King William III and Queen Mary II granted the College charter so "that the youth may be piously educated in good letters and manners." The ceremony—done "with the best solemnity we were capable"—was observed by English officials and planters from Jamestown on a wood tract of 330 acres just outside Middle Plantation, Virgin-land that had been purchased from Captain Thomas Ballard.

Some of the bricks laid that summer always have been part of the Wren Building—a building that has changed form and character five times.

Its name has changed, too. Originally it was called simply and appropriately "The College." Then, as William and Mary grew, it was the "Main Building." With age it became "Old Main Building."

Early in the 18th century the Rev. Hugh Jones, who taught mathematics at the College, wrote that it was "first modeled by Sir Christopher Wren [and] adapted to the nature of the country." This isn't

certain, but because of the possibility, it has been called the Wren Building since its restoration half a century ago.

The building was to have been a rectangular structure with an open court in the center. These plans never were fully carried out. The main front section facing down Duke of Gloucester Street and the Great Hall of the north wing were erected by 1697. The Chapel was added as the south wing in 1732.

Thomas Jefferson considered the building "rude, misshapen pile" not unlike "a common brick kiln" and in 1772 he began to renovate it and complete the quadrangle. The pending Revolutionary War, however, probably prevented the rear west wing from being erected.

Money for the first building was provided by King William and Queen Mary. The monarchs gave 20,000 acres of land in the counties of King William, Sussex and Isle of Wight as an endowment, authorized a penny per pound tax on tobacco exported from Maryland and Virginia in foreign trade and awarded the College the profits from the surveyor general's office. Their Majesties also gave their names.

The colonial Virginia General Assembly voted the proceeds of certain duties on skins and furs to the College. And William and Mary's industrious first president, the Rev. James Blair, solicited donations wherever and whenever he could. In England the clever clergyman even collected 300 pounds sterling from three pirates—known only as Davies, Hunson and Delawfer—whose pardons he secured.

The loyal Rev. Blair, on one occasion, preached a sermon "wherein he did say that they who withdrew back and did not put forward their helping hand toward the building of the College would be damned."

Scholars at the new College were partially responsible for convincing the colonial assemblymen to abandon marshy Jamestown as the capital and build a new state house at Middle Plantation. Five of them, at a May Day celebration in 1699, delivered a series of speeches that deliberately noted the advantages of locating a new seat of government near a seat of learning. Soon afterward the assembly laid out the city of Williamsburg, with a new Capitol, in front of the Wren Building.

While the new legislative hall was being erected, the legislators met in the Wren Building—the Royal Council in the Blue Room and the House of Burgesses in the Great Hall. At least one student, John Sincock, was reprimanded sharply and fined for interrupting the legislative sessions.

The presence in the Wren Building of Governor Francis Nicholson and members of the Assembly also upset the College community. On one evening the governor went into a rage when he was approached in the hallway outside his office for public money to repair a naval ship. He "flew out into such passion. . . and with such noise," an official record notes, "that the people down in the lower rooms. . . came running out of their beds in their shirts." One of them, an old sea captain, had forgotten to attach his wooden leg and hopped along, propped up against the wall!

Perhaps because of his temper and an unsuccessful love affair, Nicholson was accused by the stern and good Rev. Blair of wicked and scandalous living. The Burgesses considered the accusation in the Great Hall. They defended Nicholson as a governor who had "great respect for the welfare of the country."

Blair had trouble with the students, too. A fortnight before Christmas 1702 some of the College's 28 students barricaded the Wren Building doors and shut out their teachers until Blair promised to begin their vacation at an earlier date. "I had almost forced open one of the doors before they sufficiently secured it," Blair wrote afterward, "but while I was breaking in, they presently fired off three or four pistols and hurt one of my servants in the eye with the [paper] wad." Blair believed Nicholson had put the students up to the prank and had armed them.

*The monarchs gave 20,000 acres of land in the counties of King William, Sussex and Isle of Wight as an endowment, authorized a penny per pound tax on tobacco exported from Maryland and Virginia in foreign trade and awarded the College the profits from the surveyor general's office. Their Majesties also gave their names.*

Later in the 18th century College officials kept the students locked in at night, and even faculty members, who often lived three to a room, had to

obtain keys from the janitor to go out.

The first of several major disasters struck the College shortly before midnight Monday, Oct. 29, 1705. A fire broke out in or near Blair's personal quarters and blazed uncontrolled. The flames leaped through the roof and attracted townspeople. As they gathered in the yard, a servant girl, Susanna Hooper, scurried from room to room to awaken students, professors and colonial officials, who, according to one account, all "ran to and fro in fright and hurry."

Col. Edward Hill, who had been using Blair's room, jumped from his bed and pulled on his knee britches. He pitched his clothes chest into the yard and, running barefoot, carried off his sword, saddle and silver tankard. Little else was saved.

Rebuilding did not start immediately. Workmen were too busy constructing Williamsburg's public buildings: the Capitol, Gaol, Powder Magazine, Governor's Palace and Bruton Parish Church. For the next 11 years Grammar School students were taught in town.

Queen Anne made two grants from quitrents for the rebuilding of the College "unhappily reduced to ashes." The General Assembly appropriated funds and later turned over the College duties collected on imported whiskey and rum. The Rev. Blair gave his salary. And by 1716 the second building was "well nigh completed." Municipal authorities wisely ordered "one engine for quenching fire" and two dozen leather buckets and directed that "chimneys be kept clean swept."

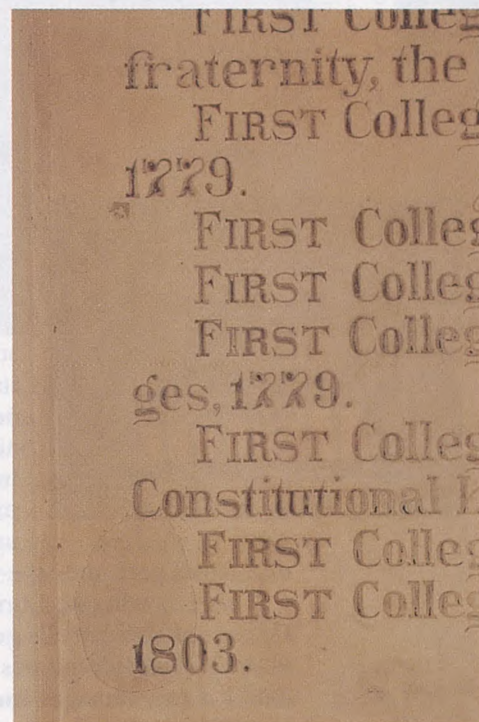
A few years later, in 1723, the Brafferton was built, and in 1732 the President's House was constructed months after the Chapel had been added to the Wren Building. At the dedication of the Chapel, on a hot day late in June, the Rev. Blair preached. He took for his sermon text: "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."

But the College's rigorous study schedule—from 7 to 11 in the morning and from 2 to 6 in the evening—did not prevent students from "departing" to find mischief. Several were animadverted for whiling away time, playing during school hours and raiding the College kitchen. Thomas Byrd was censored for throwing brickbats in the Great Hall after dinner.

*An inscription from the past.*

The General Assembly again held its meetings in the College after the Capitol burned in 1747. The legislature met there, apparently without incident, until the new Capitol was completed in 1754.

In the second half of the 18th century the College flourished. About 100 students were enrolled and many, like Thomas Jefferson, who spent 1760 to 1762 at William and Mary, were leaders in the American Independence. Never before, and probably never again, would so many national leaders be educated in one college building—men like James Monroe, John Tyler, Benjamin Harrison, Carter Braxton, Edmund Randolph, John Marshall, Richard Bland, John Page and many others. In all, there were three presidents, four signers of the Declaration of Independence, 16 members of the Continental Congress, four justices of the Supreme Court, four secretaries of state and four attorneys general, 18 ambassadors, 17 senators from Virginia and 12 from other states, 58 representatives, three of them speakers of the House, and 15 Virginia Governors.



*A tablet of Firsts.*

This golden age at William and Mary was a time for priorities such as the first honor system. Phi Beta Kappa was founded in 1776. And the library was probably the largest of any academic institution in America.

When the Revolutionary War came students and faculty, although exempt by law from military service, joined militia companies in Williamsburg and in 1777 formed a separate College company with the president, the Rev. James Madison, an Anglican bishop, as captain. A few Loyalists, however, left the College to return to England.

Classes were continued regularly and in 1779, while the Continental army was camped in far-off Morristown, N. J., the College reorganized its curriculum and became a university. But early in 1781 the war moved south in Virginia and the College was forced to close.

The President's House was appropriated in June by Lord Cornwallis, who used it as his headquarters for a few days. President Madison and his wife were

turned out and even "refused the small privilege of drawing water" from their own well.

Then in September Washington and Lafayette joined in Williamsburg for the siege at Yorktown.

*Residents of Williamsburg "flocked to the sad scene. . . [and] were silent, sorrowful spectators of the ravages of the flames."*

The French occupied the College and after the battle used the Wren Building that winter as a hospital. The building wasn't particularly suited for a hospital because its high windows did "not admit a thorough passage of air so absolutely necessary to invalids" and because a common sewer inside the building made a stench of "nastiness (that) perfumed the whole house very sensibly."

Three days before Christmas 1781 the President's House was accidentally gutted by fire and a portion of the Wren Building was damaged. King Louis XVI paid for the damages and then presented the College with a "well chosen collection" of 200 volumes.

After the war, when Richmond became the capital of Virginia, the College suffered. Twice, in 1789 and in 1792, the enrollment was down to only eight students. An attempt was made to move the College to Richmond, but it failed.

Early in the 19th century the Wren Building had fallen into poor repair. Chimney bricks fell out of place. Floor boards rotted. Plaster cracked. Windows were broken. Once, students even had to petition for a lantern to light a hallway. Repairs and some alterations were made and in 1823 President John Augustine Smith reported "that the leaks in the roof of the College, which probably for fully half a century have been a source of worry and expense, have, at length, been sufficiently secured." But two years later "a mechanic had come from Richmond to fix the tin upon the roof."

A faculty committee supervised additional repairs in 1826, 1827 and 1831. A storm damaged the Wren Building in 1834 and still more patching and shingling had to be done.

In 1854 the faculty reported that the condition of the Wren Building "is hardly tenantable" and in such a dilapidated state that several students were so "displeased at the appearance of the college [they] left without matriculating." Williamsburg residents contributed funds, and over a period of time, the College land holdings were sold. Then in 1857 the entire building was so "thoroughly repaired and altered that an old student would not know its interior," according to Williamsburg's *Weekly Gazette.*

But misfortune soon fell on the College again. Early on the morning of Feb. 8, 1859, a fire was discovered in the chemical laboratory. It made such progress, a faculty member wrote, "that there could be no hope of saving the building." Residents of Williamsburg "flocked to the sad scene ... [and] were silent, sorrowful spectators of the ravages of the flames."

President Benjamin Ewell, "who was not half dressed," rescued some students in peril on the third floor and carried out the College records, its official seal and old portraits that hung in the Blue Room. But the library, the Chapel and furnishings were lost.

The faculty met that morning—on the 166th anniversary of the charter—and resolved that the Wren Building would be rebuilt, using the hollow, still-smoldering walls. Later the faculty purchased a house opposite The Brafferton, christened it the College Hotel, and used it for living quarters and temporary classrooms.

Williamsburg Mayor Robert Saunders called a town meeting the day of the fire and pledged "every effort" and named a citizens' committee to raise funds so William and Mary's "future career of usefulness [will be] no less brilliant than its past has afforded."

Reconstruction on the third Wren Building began in the spring. In order to save money, the architect, Eban Faxon of Richmond, did not rebuild the third floor and omitted the dormer windows. He

"modernized" the structure by lowering and enlarging the windows of the first floor and by adding two Italian-styled towers, one to house the College bell and the other to be used as an observatory. The interior, too, was "much changed."

The work went quickly and lectures were resumed on Oct. 13. Still, the faculty soon noted, there were defects—the roof leaked!

At mid-century, before another war was to disrupt the College again, students celebrated commencement on July 4, 1860, with champagne provided by the faculty. It was the last graduation party on that patriotic day, for within a year Virginia seceded and joined the Confederacy.

*While the College was closed, Ewell rang the bell in the Wren Building at the start of each academic year, "reminding Williamsburg that the ancient College still lives."*

In May 1861, Ewell, the professors and nearly all the students entered the Confederate army. A colonel, Ewell's first assignment was to construct a defensive line of bulwarks east of Williamsburg. The Wren Building became a barracks for Southern troops. College officials sought tents from the Confederate government, but didn't get any.

Following the Battle of Williamsburg on May 5, 1862, and until the end of the Civil War, Williamsburg was occupied by Federal troops—except for one day. The Wren Building, for a short while, served as a Union hospital, and The Brafferton was used temporarily as quarters for the town's military commander, Col. David Campbell.

At dawn on Sept. 9, 1862, swift-striking Confederate cavalrymen entered the city, but withdrew that morning after capturing Col. Campbell. In retaliation for the raid, Pennsylvania cavalrymen, many of them drunk and without authorization, looted and set the Wren Building on fire that afternoon. Some of the College's library books were saved by the "strenuous exertions" of the ladies of Williamsburg.

The fire did not consume the entire College building and the roof and one tower remained intact. Northern soldiers later shelled The Brafferton and tore down the College outbuildings for firewood. The empty and burned Wren Building was used as a depot for commissary stores.

After the war ended, Ewell returned as president, and in the fall of 1865 reopened the ruined College with 65 students. Ewell initially estimated the war damages at $70,000 and then revised it to $100,000. Again there was talk of moving William and Mary to Richmond.

The College was virtually without funds. Ewell, with the approval of the Board of Visitors, had invested College assets heavily in Confederate bonds. This money was lost. He had bought municipal bonds from Petersburg, Lynchburg and Norfolk and purchased some real estate. The College also held, among scattered and unsure securities, a quarter of a share in the Dismal Swamp Canal Company.

To secure repayment for war damages, Ewell petitioned the United States Government—a campaign that he continued for 22 years. Eventually in 1893, five years after Ewell's retirement, the Congress made a partial indemnity payment of $64,000.

Work on restoring the fourth Wren Building after the Civil War continued slowly, and in July 1868 classes were suspended until repairs could be completed. The architect, Col. Alfred L. Rives of Richmond, eliminated the two Italian towers and rearranged the interior to include eight lecture rooms, a chemical laboratory, "a suitable and large library room" and just one office. When funds for the project ran low, W.W. Vest, a Williamsburg merchant, extended credit. "Had it not been for the accommodation extended by this gentleman," Ewell later noted, "the building would, in all probability, have been today in an unfinished condition."

Classes were resumed on Oct. 13, 1869—just 10 years to the day after the Wren Building had been reopened following the 1859 fire.

Still, William and Mary lacked funds. Ewell attempted to sell College land, but found few buyers. The Brafferton and the College Hotel were rented as dwellings. Ewell borrowed some money and he cut faculty salaries. But in 1881, the College's finances were exhausted and Ewell was forced to close the Wren Building. While the College was closed, Ewell rang the bell in the Wren Building at the start of each academic year, "reminding Williamsburg that the ancient College still lives." Ewell prophesied correctly in 1885 that the College's "restoration will, in

time, be effected," perhaps by the state. The Virginia General Assembly, on March 5, 1888, approved an annual appropriation of $10,000 to the College for training public school teachers and so on Aug. 23 the Wren Building was reopened.

The College's new president, Lyon G. Tyler, son of President John Tyler who had studied at William and Mary, gathered a small but able teaching staff which by 1891 included professors Whaton, Stubbs, Hall, Garrett, Bishop, Bird and Tyler—"The Seven Wise Men." Through still another period of straitened finances the Wren Building was kept open.

All was not quiet in the Wren Building, however. At the turn of the century, according to one former student, Senator Blake T. Newton, a cow once was allowed to wander on the second floor. The idea for the prank, perhaps, originated in 1832 when Charles W. Byrd was brought before the faculty for riding a horse "repeatedly through the upper passage and into the front porch."

William and Mary, whose rebirth as a private institution was assisted by the Commonwealth of Virginia, became a state college March 5, 1906. The Wren Building, therefore, then became state property.

Following the First World War, William and Mary, under the presidency of Julian A.C. Chandler, began once again to flourish. The campus expanded; enrollment climbed. The old College, which so often seemed as if it might silently disappear, was strengthened to continue forever.

College officials proposed the restoration of the Wren Building and in 1926 sought to raise $250,000 for the work. A prospectus observed that the project "should not be delayed as the walls are beginning to crumble." And, mindful of the three disastrous fires, the College specified that the building would be "absolutely and completely fireproof."

The restoration of the Wren Building—and the President's House and The Brafferton—was undertaken a few years later through the generosity of the late John D. Rockefeller Jr. as one of the first steps of returning Williamsburg to its 18th-century appearance.

A number of early illustrations provided much needed information to the architects who guided the fifth rebuilding of the Wren Building. The reconstruction is patterned after the second Wren Building. Among the helpful illustrations was a copperplate found in the Bodleian Library of Oxford University, an old portrait of the Rev. Blair that showed the Wren Building in the background and a rare pre-Civil War daguerreotype. Of interest, too, was a sketchbook of a young Williamsburg girl who made a drawing of the Wren Building in 1856 with a notation of all windows and doors and the names and precise location of boyfriends who roomed in the building.

Although the restoration of the exterior of the building to its mid-18th-century appearance is accurate, the interior, in large measure, is conjecture. A floor plan drawn by Jefferson supported archaeological and historical research used in restoring the interior.

And so the Wren Building stands today—firm, enchanting, attractive—a structure where on a quiet spring day in the Wren Yard, one can still feel the presence of Jefferson, Marshall and law professor George Wythe who walked there, men who read and debated in the halls of the great building and who dreamed of forming a new nation on the basic principle of freedom.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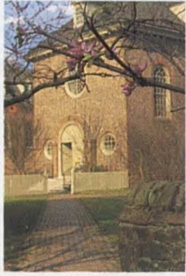
*Sponsor of the 1993 William & Mary Alumni Golf Tournament, October 21-22 at Two Rivers Country Club, Governor's Land in Williamsburg.*

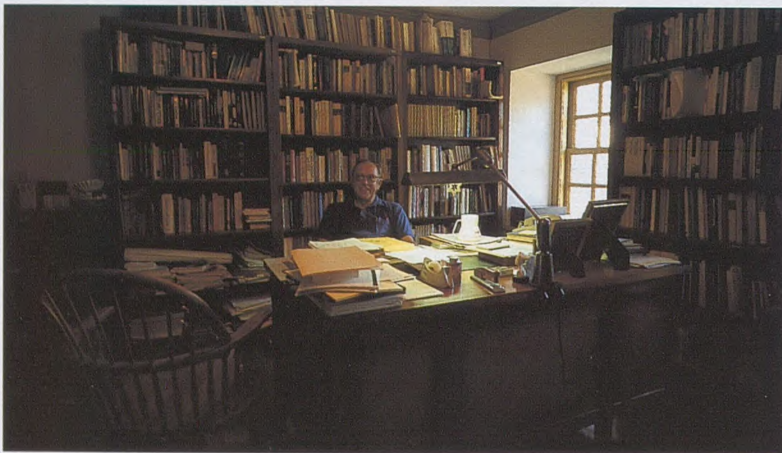
# "A College Lives Here"

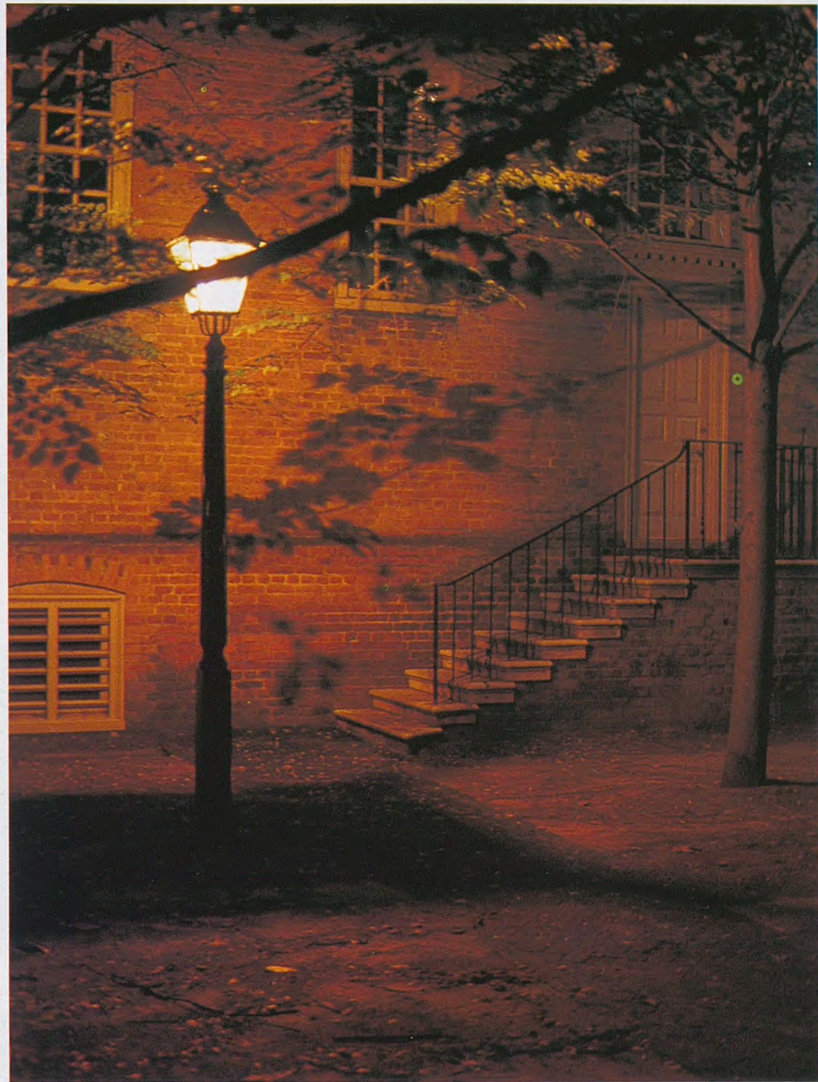
*For the past year, Chiles T. A. Larson '53 has been photographing the Wren Building—a project he first began in the 1960s when he and Will Molineux '56 combined their efforts for an article in a 1964 issue of the* Alumni Gazette. *Larson was asked last year to update that essay in color, and for the 12 months, he has been returning periodically to the College to photograph the ebb and flow of college life at the Wren Building—to capture "the intangible quality that we all feel when we think of the Wren." These photographs—and President Sullivan's eloquent words to the Class of '93—speak for themselves: they say: "A College Lives Here," a college and a building whose proud heritage we celebrate on these pages.*

PHOTOGRAPHS BY CHILES T. A. LARSON '53



# *Of Private Memories...Of Friends...Of Teachers...*





*. . .each of you has private memories which are yours alone: of quiet walks on this beautiful campus, of friends*

*whose love for you, and yours for them, is so intense that it*

*makes you ache to think of it and is so strong that it will warm you still in the dim distance of old age. Of teachers*

*who asked for your best,*

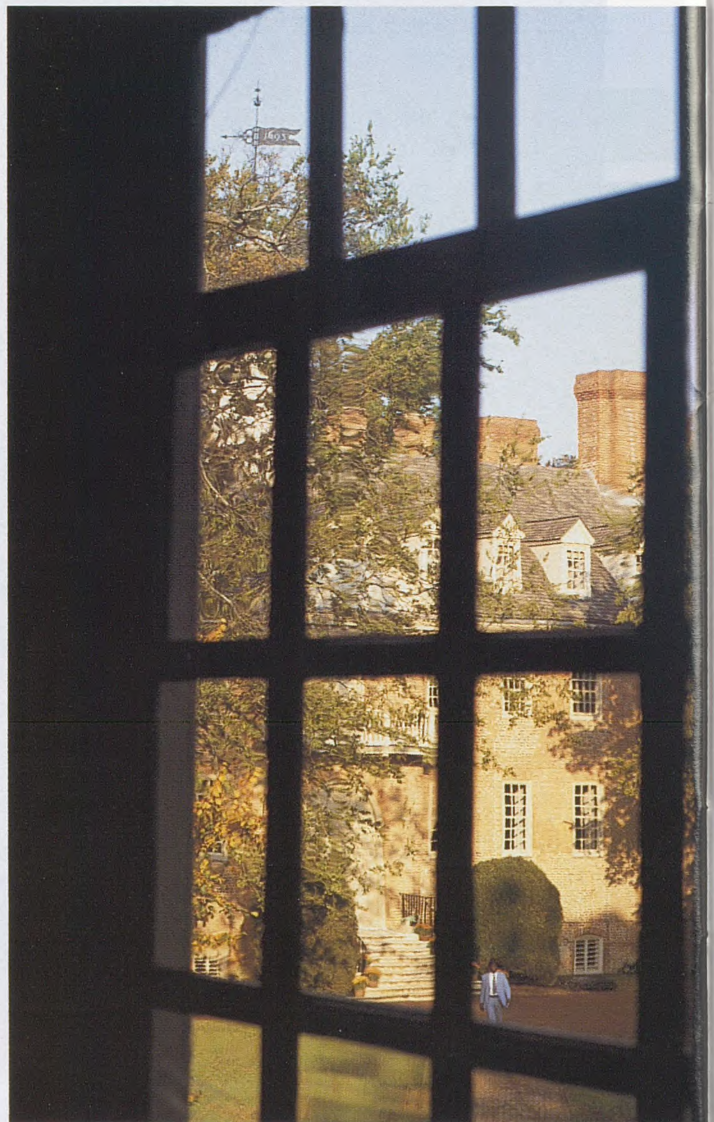
*who prodded, who challenged, who laughed with you but never at you, who did you the greatest honor of*

*not flattering second-class work with first-class compliments, who cared for you not just as able intellects but as whole men and women with the capacity, indeed the duty, to use your talents in a cause far larger than yourselves—in the cause of mankind.*

*As you prepare to leave us today, surely you must know that you can never really leave. A part of you remains, and always will. What you leave is not a history of heroic acts or of fabulous deeds, but rather the gift of yourselves, complete, unique and pure. The long shadow of that gift will be hard to see, but it is very real, for it has touched our hearts and changed our lives, and will continue so to do for as long as there is a College of William and Mary and a company of friends like you, united by memories of your time together in this special place, when all of you were young and beautiful and full of hope.*

*—President Sullivan to the Class of '93*

*May 16, 1993*



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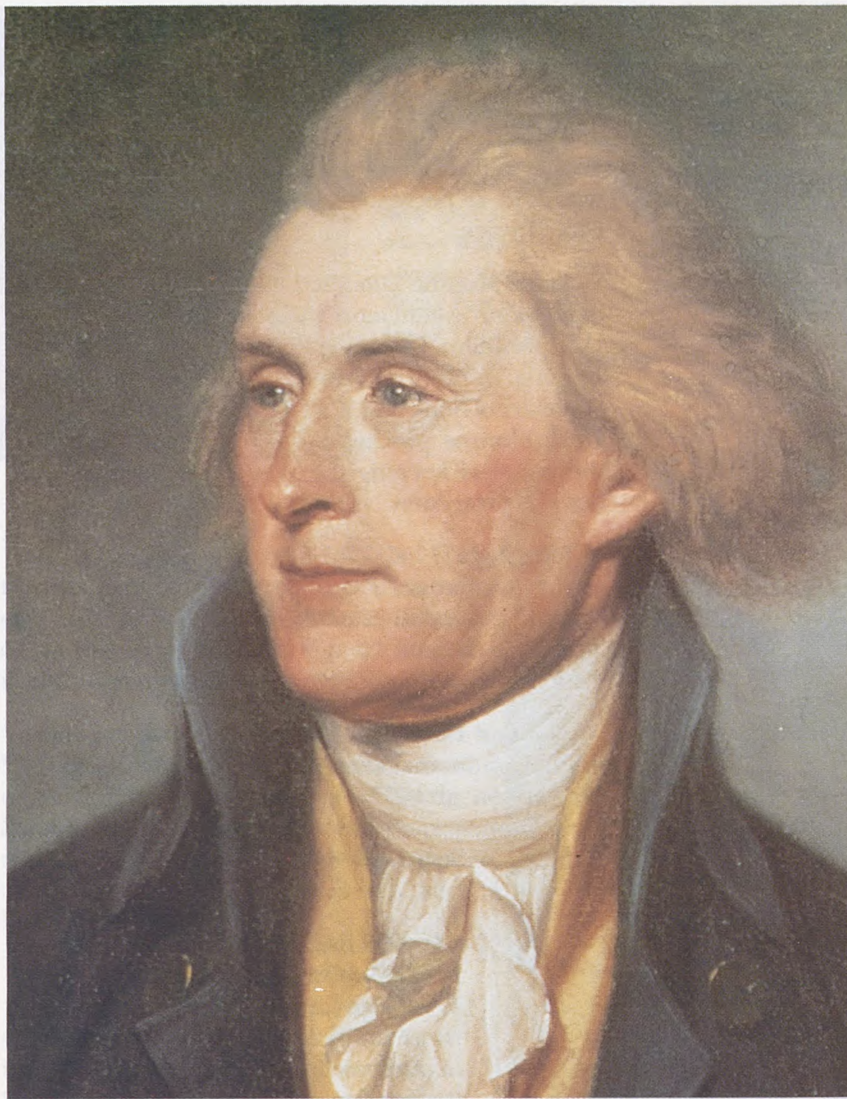
# 25 Who Built A Nation

## Early alumni bequeathed a legacy of leadership

BY SARA PICCINI

*Chief Justice Warren Burger, who recently stepped down as chancellor of William and Mary, has said of the College: "No one institution has given more to the leadership and development of freedom."*

*As one scans the roster of alumni from William and Mary's first century, it's easy to see what Chancellor Burger meant by those words. The College produced an extraordinary number of alumni who committed themselves to building a new nation—a nation dedicated to the ideals of freedom. Among them are 16 members of the Continental Congress and four signers of the Declaration of Independence (including the author), as well as justices of the Supreme Court, U.S. Congressmen and governors, and, of course, three presidents.*



Independence National Historical Park Collection

Muscarelle Museum of Art

*Jefferson (left), in a portrait by Charles Willson Peale painted in 1791, considered another great alumnus, William Short, his adopted son. When Jefferson went to Paris in 1784 as Treaty Commissioner, he took Short with him as his private secretary. Short, who has been called America's first career diplomat, later served as charge d'affaires to France. Above, Short is shown in 1806 in a portrait painted by Rembrant Peale.*

**hilip Pendleton Barbour** (attended 1801-02): In 1814, Barbour was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives and became Speaker in 1821. He was a vice presidential candidate in 1832. In 1836, President Andrew Jackson appointed Barbour Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

**John Blair** (attended about 1750): Active in Virginia state politics, Blair was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1787. In 1789, President George Washington appointed Blair Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

**Carter Braxton** (attended 1753-56): An American patriot, Carter Braxton was one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. He was a member of Virginia's revolutionary conventions of 1774, 1775 and 1776 and succeeded Peyton Randolph in the Continental Congress.

**William H. Cabell** (Class of 1793): Cabell is the first American to receive a bachelor of law (L.B.) degree. He was Virginia governor and served on the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals for 40 years, from 1811 to 1851.

**Paul Carrington** (attended 1768): A strong supporter of colonial rights, Carrington attended all of the revolutionary conventions from 1774 to 1776. He later served as a Virginia state senator, a judge, Chief Justice of the General Court and a justice on the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals.

**John J. Crittenden** (Class of 1807): The 17th governor of Kentucky, Crittenden served for many years in the U.S. Senate and also as U.S. Attorney General. In 1860, fearing disunion, he introduced a constitutional compromise on slavery, the "Crittenden Propositions," which were voted down by the Senate.

**William Branch Giles** (attended about 1785): Giles served almost continuously in the U.S. Congress from 1790 to 1815. He later was a member of the Virginia

General Assembly and in 1827 was named governor of Virginia.

**Benjamin Harrison** (attended about 1745): Father of President William Henry Harrison, Harrison earned his nickname, "the Signer," after putting his pen to the Declaration of Independence. As Virginia governor, he supported legislation freeing slaves who served as Revolutionary soldiers.

**Thomas Jefferson** (attended 1760-62): Undoubtedly William and Mary's most famous alumnus, Thomas Jefferson was third U.S. President, governor of Virginia, author of the Declaration of Independence and Virginia's Bill for Religious Freedom, Minister to France, Secretary of State, and Vice President. In 1819, Jefferson founded the University of Virginia.

**Benjamin Watkins Leigh** (attended 1798-1800): Leigh served in the U.S. Senate from 1834 to 1836 and was also a member of the Virginia General Assembly. From 1829 to 1841, he was the reporter of the Virginia Court of Appeals.

**John Marshall** (attended 1780): As Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court from 1801 to 1835, Marshall established the principle of judicial review of legislation and championed the power of the federal government. Marshall studied law under George Wythe, and served in the U.S. House of Representatives and as Secretary of State prior to becoming Chief Justice.

**James Monroe** (attended 1774-76): Fifth U.S. president, Monroe held more major offices than any other U.S. president, including U.S. senator, Governor of Virginia, minister to France, Britain and Spain, and Secretary of State and War. During his presidency, in 1823, Monroe proclaimed "the Monroe Doctrine," the policy of keeping the Western hemisphere under U.S protection.

**John Page** (1756, 1761-63): An active patriot prior to the Revolution, Page became a member of the Virginia Assembly after the war. In 1789, he was elected to the U.S. Congress, where he served until 1797. He was Virginia's governor from 1802 to 1805.

**Edmund Randolph** (attended 1770): A member of the Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention of 1787, Randolph also served as Virginia Governor, and as U.S. Attorney General and Secretary of State under President George Washington.

**William Cabell Rives** (Class of 1809): Rives served in the U.S. House of Representatives and was appointed as minister to France by President Andrew Jackson, returning later to the same post in 1849. Rives was also elected to the U.S. Senate for several terms.

**Moncure Robinson** (Class of 1818): A world-renowned railroad builder, Robinson constructed the long bridge at Richmond over the James River. He declined an invitation by the Czar to oversee the building of Russia's rail system.

**William Barton Rogers** (Class of 1822): A geologist, Rogers taught at William and Mary and U.Va., and went on to found the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1862. Rogers was a pioneer in advancing the theory that mountain chains are produced by movements of the earth's surface.

**Winfield Scott** (attended 1804-05): A distinguished soldier and negotiator, Scott received the Congressional Medal of Honor for his role in the War of 1812, took Mexico City in the Mexican-American War, and at-

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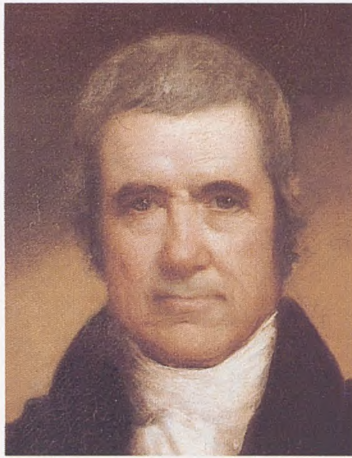


Photo by C. James Gleason

*John Marshall, who served as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States from 1801 to 1835, studied under another alumnus, George Wythe. Painted by David Silvette, this portrait hangs in the Marshall-Wythe School of Law.*

tained the rank of brevet lieutenant general of the U.S. Army. He was the unsuccessful Whig candidate for U.S. President in 1852, losing to Franklin Pierce.

**William Short** (attended 1777-81): Short has been hailed as the nation's first career diplomat. Among other posts, Short served as charge d'affaires in France and as commissioner in Madrid, negotiating a treaty with Spain on Florida and Mississippi.

**Alexander H. H. Stuart** (attended 1824-25): A member of the Virginia Assembly, the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate, Stuart also served as Secretary of the Interior under President Millard Fillmore. He became rector of the University of Virginia after the Civil War.

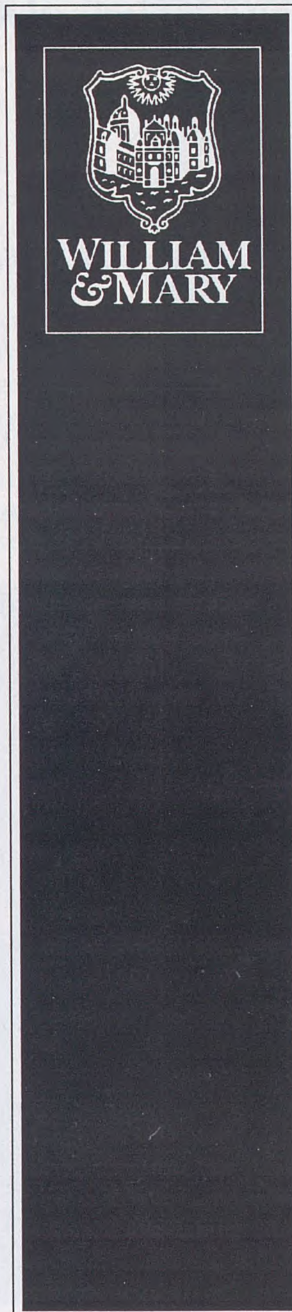
**Littleton Waller Tazewell** (attended 1791-92): The 19th governor of Virginia, Tazewell was also a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate. Under President Monroe, he served as one of the U.S. commissioners instrumental in the purchase of Florida from Spain.

**St. George Tucker** (attended 1772): Tucker's judicial career spanned four decades. As the second professor of law and police at the College, Tucker published a five-volume American edition of Sir William Blackstone's *Commentaries,* which became an important legal textbook.

**John Tyler** (attended about 1760-65): Tyler, vice-president under William Henry Harrison, became 10th U.S. president after Harrison's death in 1841, the first such succession. As president, Tyler secured the annexation of Texas and negotiated the Webster-Ashburton boundary treaty with Great Britain.

**Bushrod Washington** (attended 1775-1778): A nephew of George Washington, Bushrod Washington served in the Virginia General Assembly. In 1798, President John Adams appointed Washington to the U.S. Supreme Court, where he remained until his death in 1829.

**George Wythe** (attended about 1746): The first professor of law in the United States, Wythe was also a signer of the Declaration of Independence. Wythe offered the resolution for ratification of the U.S. Constitution at the Virginia convention in 1788.

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# Family Ties, ROYAL STYLE

## The College's Links to the British Monarchy Remain Strong After 300 Years

BY SARA PICCINI

*To trace the connections between the College of William and Mary in Virginia and the British monarchy, one needn't go any further than the College's name: William and Mary are, of course, King William III and Queen Mary II of England, whose reign began in 1689. The College owes its life to the beneficence of these two monarchs.*

*So it is quite fitting in this year, when William and Mary celebrates its 300th anniversary, that the College has reaffirmed its bonds with the modern-day heirs to the throne of King William and Queen Mary.*

*The royal visits have occurred on both sides of the Atlantic. Very recently, Queen Elizabeth II, the reigning monarch, met with a William and Mary assemblage at a special reception at Drapers' Hall in London. Earlier in the year—in an event that received national attention—the Queen's son and heir, Prince Charles, was the featured speaker and guest at the College's Charter Day celebration.*

## Audience With the Queen

Queen Elizabeth arrived for the William and Mary reception at Drapers' Hall at about 6:45 p.m. on Thursday, June 3. As she stepped out of a black Rolls Royce, the Queen was greeted by President Timothy J. Sullivan '66 and by Philip Chalk, Master of the Drapers' Company, an ancient guild with longstanding ties to the College. (The Queen is a member of the Drapers' by birth.)

Inside, a crowd of about 300 very excited guests waited to meet the Queen. The reception, organized by the Society of the Alumni, included members of the William and Mary Choir, who had sung on several occasions at Drapers' Hall and had been invited back by the Drapers' Company to perform as part of their Tercentenary European tour. In addition, about 90 alumni and friends of the College attended as part of the Alumni Society's special Tercentenary tour of England. Members of the College's Board of Visitors and the Alumni Society Board were also in attendance, as were members of the Drapers' Company and the College's U.K. alumni chapter.

Last but certainly not least among the guests was Margaret Thatcher, former prime minister of Great Britain and newly elected chancellor of the College. From all accounts, Lady Thatcher delighted the many people she met with her warmth and wit. In impromptu remarks during the evening's events, she apologized for the unpleasantness of 1776 and said, "If there had been a woman prime minister in No. 10 [Downing Street] at that time, it would have been handled very much better."

## A Royal Handshake, A Mother's Smile

The Queen's visit to Drapers' Hall was only the second in her 40-year reign—a testament to the significance of the event.

President Sullivan first introduced the Queen to

Photos by C. James Gleason

*Escorted by President Sullivan, Queen Elizabeth II (above) is introduced to members of the Board of Visitors and Board of Directors of the Society of the Alumni at the Drapers' Hall in London on June 3. From left to right are James W. Brinkley '59, rector of the College; Joseph W. Montgomery '74, president of the Society of the Alumni; James E. Ukrop '60, member of the Board of Visitors; Anne Nenzel Lambert '35, secretary of the board of the Society of the Alumni, and Alvin Anderson '70, '72 J.D., treasurer of the board of the Society of the Alumni. Left, Margaret Thatcher, former prime minister of England and the newly named chancellor of the College, is welcomed to the Drapers' Hall reception. Sponsored by the Society of the Alumni, the reception attracted 300 very excited guests, including 90 alumni and friends and the William and Mary Choir.*

the College's and Alumni Society's board members, then she made her way upstairs to greet other guests, with introductions handled by the Drapers'. Altogether the Queen was introduced to about 200 people. It's perhaps not surprising that she wore white gloves!

Kathy Murray, associate director of special events at the College, was among the first to meet the Queen, along with Barbara Pate Glacel '70, Virginia Wetter '40, and Barry Adams, executive vice president of the Alumni Society. Murray told the Queen how much everyone at the Charter Day ceremony had enjoyed her son's visit.

As Murray relates, "The Queen beamed and said, 'Oh yes, he told me all about it.'

"She went from a social smile to a real grin," Murray says. "She lit up like anyone's mother talking about her child."

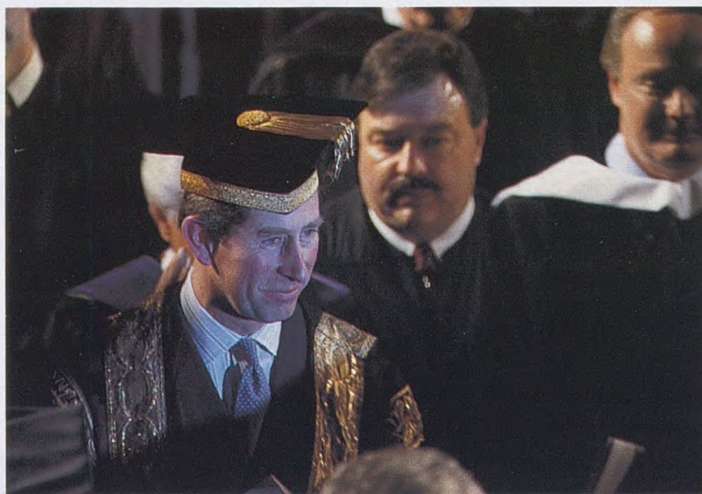

Photo by Tim Wright

*Prince Charles visited the College in February to begin the College's yearlong Tercentenary celebration at Charter Day.*

## "God Save the Queen"

The evening's featured event, a concert by the William and Mary Choir, took place in the Livery Hall at the Drapers'. Queen Elizabeth made her entrance after the rest of the guests had assembled, and was met with a standing ovation—the warm response matching that given to Prince Charles when he visited the College in February.

In what must have been a thrilling moment for members of the choir, they sang "God Save the Queen" while the Queen herself stood just a few feet away in the front row of the audience. She was obviously delighted by the music, and stayed at the concert longer than anticipated.

During the intermission, President Sullivan addressed brief remarks to Her Majesty, expressing the gratitude of everyone in the room "for the honor you have done us coming here and sharing in the celebration of the College's Tercentenary."

Joseph Montgomery '74, president of the Alumni Society's Board of Directors, then made a gift presentation to the Queen from the College and the Society: a Battersea box with silver engraved plate.

The Queen was also presented to Dr. Frank Lendrim, director of the William and Mary Choir, and four choir members elected by their peers. (According to Lee Foster, director of alumni affairs, when the choir members told the Queen they were on a six-week tour of Europe, she asked solicitously, "How are you surviving?")

## Celebrating the College's Roots

In his Charter Day speech before the 11,000 people gathered in William and Mary Hall, Prince Charles deemed the Tercentenary "a universally happy occasion, which recalls the deep roots which link the history and the culture of our two nations."

For the College as an institution, the royal presence during this Tercentenary year served as a significant means by which to honor and celebrate William and Mary's beginnings. And for those who watched the Prince enter William and Mary Hall in his regal garb, or who chatted with the Queen in the elegant Drapers' Hall, it was, simply, one of the thrills of a lifetime.


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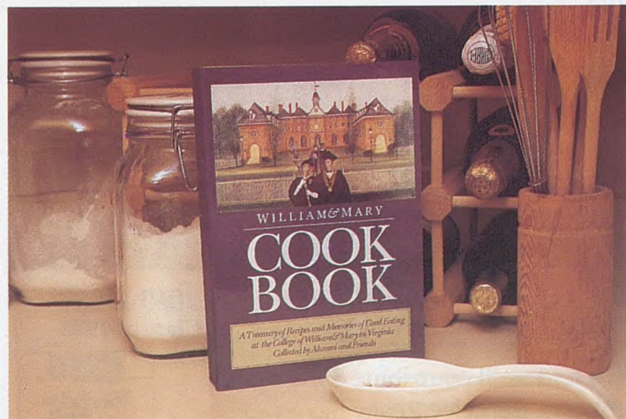


This wonderful cookbook will feature 12 delectable chapters with recipes like "Alumni House Punch" and "Mother's Cornbread" as well as old favorites from restaurants all over Williamsburg. Look for this unique collection, compiled and edited by Jackie Good Legg '60, in the Registration Tent at Homecoming 1993 or in your favorite gourmet shop this fall. *The William and Mary Cookbook* will make a perfect gift for all your family and friends. Plan to order one for everyone on your holiday gift list. Watch the *Alumni Gazette* or call the Alumni Gift Shop (804/221-1170) for information on how to order. Wholesale prices available. Call for details.

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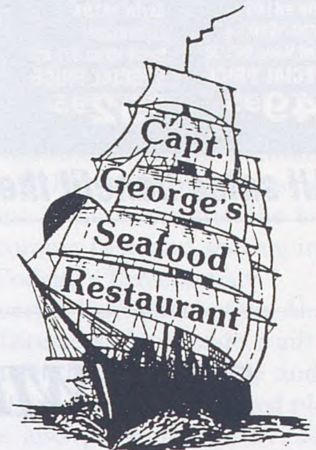


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Each cabinet is handmade of the finest hardwoods and veneers in a process that requires over 700 separate steps and the towering clock measures an imposing 83"H × 23"W × 13"D. Finished in brilliant Windsor Cherry, the clock is also enriched with one of the most advanced West German timing mechanisms. Exceptionally accurate, such movements are found only in the world's finest clocks.

Enchanting Westminster chimes peal every quarter hour and gong on the hour. If you prefer, the clock will operate in a silent mode with equal accuracy. Beveled glass in the locking pendulum door and the glass dial door and sides add to the clock's timeless and handsome design.

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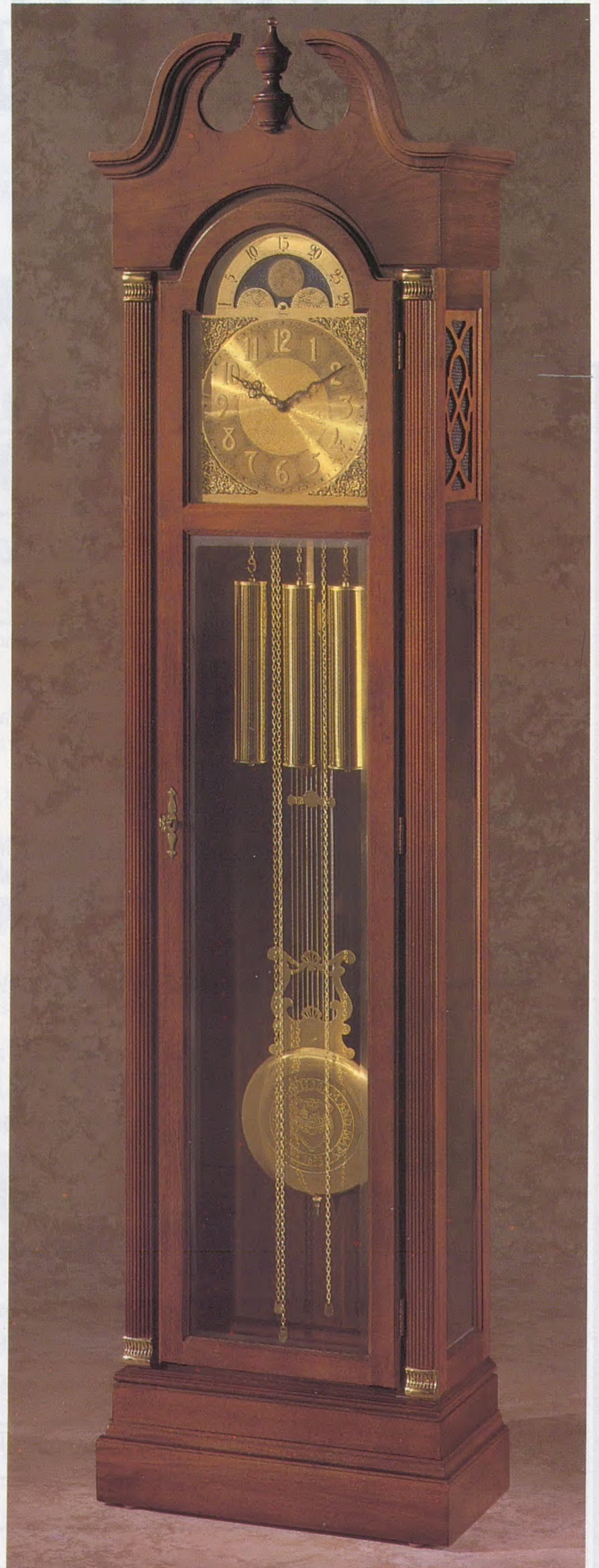
All callers should request Operator 727WM.

**NOTE:** All orders telephoned or postmarked prior to December 5 will be guaranteed Christmas delivery. Installment orders subject to credit approval.



**Symbolizing a tradition of excellence.**
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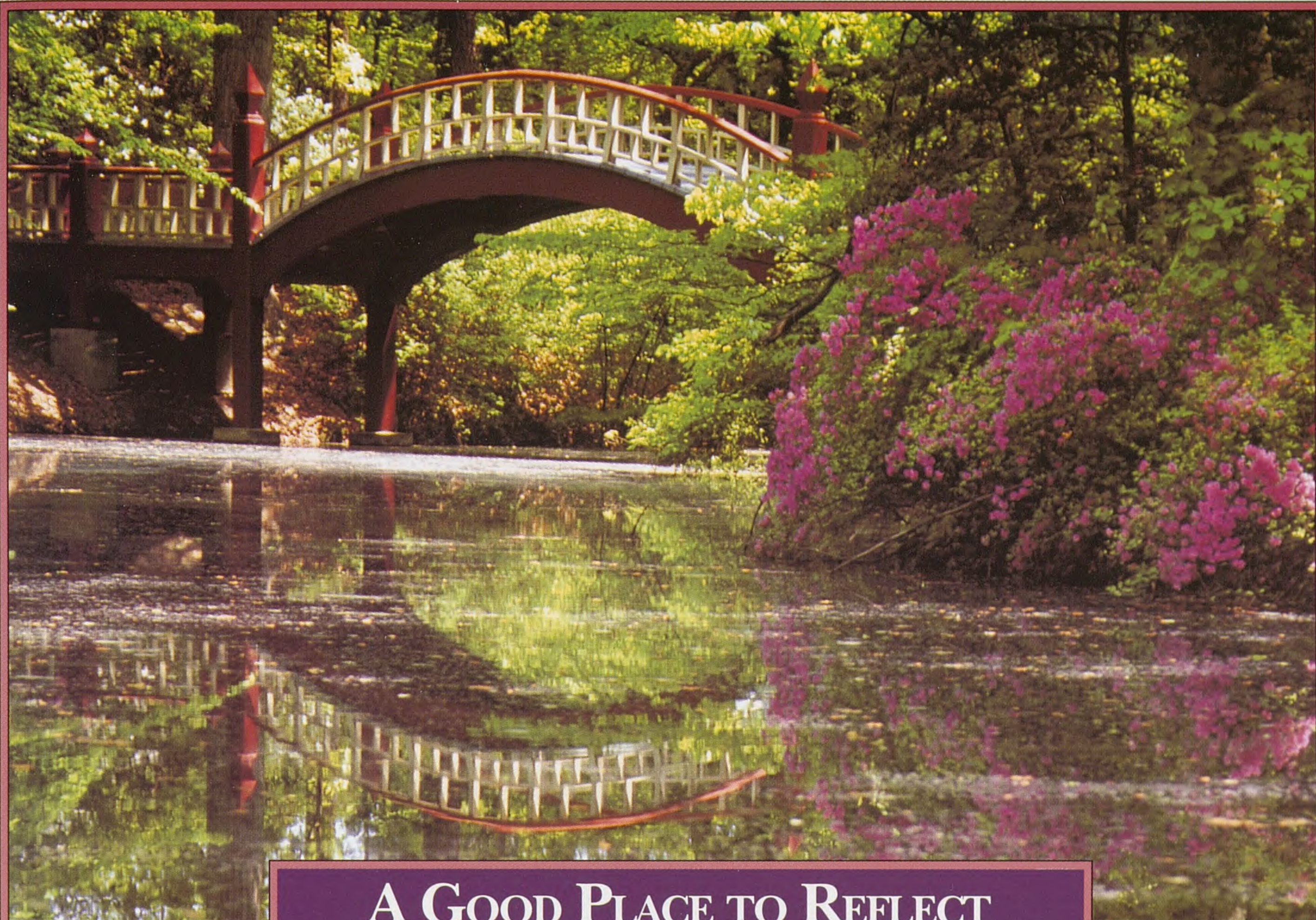


## A Good Place to Reflect

There comes a time when we begin to reflect on the people and places that have shaped our lives. A commemorative room, garden, or endowment at William and Mary can be a lasting reflection of the values and sentiments you hold dear. An expression of your gratitude for the past and your confidence in the future.

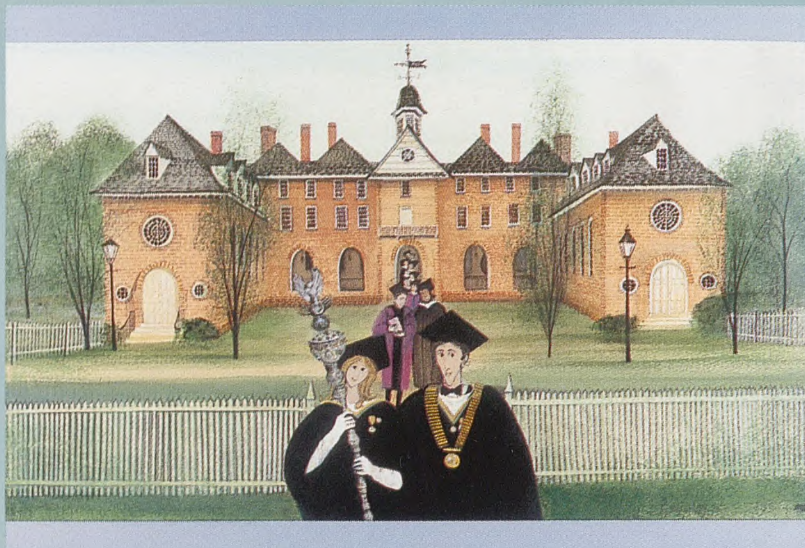
Commemorative giving is an appropriate and meaningful way to honor or memorialize a friend or loved one, express thanks for a scholarship received, or pay tribute to a favorite professor. Many choose to remember their parents who encouraged and supported their education. Others are simply inspired by the opportunity to perpetuate their family name at one of the oldest and most distinguished colleges in America.

These inspirations are captured for all time in the inscriptions and resolutions which are carefully prepared for each commemorative gift. A permanent plaque or endowment bears the name of the donor or honoree in perpetuity.

There are a variety of commemorative rooms, gardens, and endowments available to appropriately recognize gifts from $25,000. With sufficient knowledge of your needs and inspirations, the College can help you select an appropriate commemorative plan which will best accomplish your charitable and financial objectives.

If you would like more information about commemorative gift opportunities, please return the attached card or write to the Office of Development, The College of William and Mary, P. O. Box 1693, Williamsburg, VA 23187. There is no obligation.

*Commemorate your special ties to William and Mary*

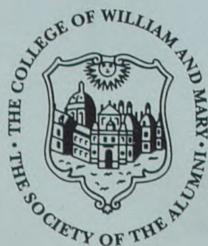


## *Commencement*

by P. Buckley Moss

Commencement *by P. Buckley Moss is available while supplies last. Printed in two beautifully colored editions (one of 300 and one of 700) this print is sure to be loved by William and Mary alumni both young and old. It features a view of the back of the Wren Building and depicts the traditional graduation procession as it leads out the rear of the building. To commemorate the 300th anniversary of the Alma Mater of a Nation, the smaller print run of 300 has been embossed with the official Tercentenary logo in gold foil. The price for these is $300 (plus $13.50 tax for Virginia residents). The larger print run of 700 prints without the foil logo sells for $150 each (plus $6.75 tax for Virginia residents). Shipping is $8 per address. Image size—11.25" x 19.25"; overall print size—16" x 23.25".*

*To order contact the Alumni Gift Shop, P.O. Box 2100, Williamsburg, VA 23187-2100. Telephone 804/221-1170.*

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