

The Genesis of the University of New Brunswick

WITH A SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF
WILLIAM BRYDONE-JACK, A.M., D.C.L.
PRESIDENT, 1861-1885.

BY ARCHDEACON W. O. RAYMOND, LL.D., F.R.S.C.

THERE may be seen to-day on the wall of the library of the University, in Fredericton, the original memorial to the first Governor of New Brunswick on the subject of the establishment at the provincial capital of an Academy, or school of "Liberal Arts and Sciences."*

The memorial was signed by seven prominent Loyalists, then lately arrived in the county, viz.: William Paine, William Wanton, George Sproule, Zephaniah Kingsley, John Coffin, Ward Chipman and Adino Paddock.

On December 13, 1785, the memorial received the favorable consideration of the Governor in Council, and it was ordered "That the attorney-general (Bliss) and solicitor-general (Chipman), with all convenient speed, be directed to prepare the draft charter of the said Institution."

The signers of the memorial were eminent men. Paine and Chipman were Harvard graduates. Wanton was a son of the Governor of Rhode Island and first collector of customs of the City of St. John. Sproule was a native of Long Island, N. Y., and afterwards for many years surveyor-general of New Brunswick. Kingsley was an eminent merchant of Charleston, S. C., and a Quaker by religion. Coffin was from Boston and had a distinguished military career, being at the time of his death (at the advanced age of eighty-seven years) a General in the British army. Paddock was a native of Boston and an eminent physician, as were several of his descendants. Chipman

* A Copy of this Memorial will be found in the appendix.