

**AN HISTORICAL SKETCH
OF COLUMBIA
COLLEGE, IN THE CITY
OF NEW YORK, 1754-1876**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649257072

An historical sketch of Columbia College, in the city of New York, 1754-1876 by J. H. Van Amringe

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

J. H. VAN AMRINGE

**AN HISTORICAL SKETCH
OF COLUMBIA
COLLEGE, IN THE CITY
OF NEW YORK, 1754-1876**

Educat
Univ
Columbia

Columbia University

AN

HISTORICAL SKETCH
OF
COLUMBIA COLLEGE,
IN THE
CITY OF NEW YORK,
1754—1876.



PRINTED FOR THE COLLEGE.
1876.

P R E F A C E .

THIS historical sketch of Columbia College and its associate Schools was prepared at the request of the National Bureau of Education in Washington. The history from the foundation of the college to the year 1845 is essentially that written by the former President, Dr. N. F. Moore, and printed in 1846. For the period from 1845 to 1869, the chief source of information was a continuation of Dr. Moore's history by Rev. Beverley R. Betts, Librarian of the College. The article on the School of Law was furnished by Professor T. W. Dwight, Warden of the School; that on the School of Mines was obtained from documents issued by the School, from the records, and from information furnished by the several Professors; that on the School of Medicine was taken mainly from the historical sketch of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, N. Y., which appeared in the general catalogue of that college published in 1866. The article on the College Library is the article on "Columbia College Library," by the late Librarian, W. A. Jones, Esq., published in the University Quarterly for January, 1871, as abridged and revised for this sketch by Professor Drisler; that on library of the School of Mines was prepared by Mr. John F. Meyer, Librarian and Registrar of the School. The article on Cabinets and Collections was compiled from inventories of the several departments in the hands of the Treasurer, and from information obtained of professors

in charge. The Financial Statement is from the last annual report of the Board of Trustees to the Regents of the University of the State of New York, for the year ending Sept. 30, 1875.

Such parts of the Sketch as have not been accounted for in the above statement, have for their authority documents issued by the college and its several schools, and the resolutions of the Board of Trustees.

In an Appendix will be found the original charter of the college and the Acts of the Legislature of the State of New York relating to the college.

J. H. VAN AMRINGE.

COLUMBIA COLLEGE, N. Y., July, 1876.

NOTE.

THE statement on pages 49, 50, that the annuity of £750, granted by the State for five years, was discontinued on the expiration of that period, is a mistake. Before the expiration of the period named in the first Act, a second Act was passed continuing the annuity for a further term of two years.

On page 73, in mentioning the division of certain chairs, it should be noted that, at the same time, the chair of the Greek and Latin Languages was divided into two, viz. : that of the Greek Language and Literature, which Professor Anthon retained, and that of the Latin Language and Literature, to which adjunct Professor Drisler was promoted.

To the statement on page 80 that the chair of Constitutional History and Public Law has not been filled since the death of Dr. Lieber, should be added that, in the spring of 1876, the chair of History, Political Science, and International Law was created, and Professor John W. Burgess, A. M., elected to fill it. A similar statement should be added in the account of the Law School on page 84.

CONTENTS.

	PAGES.
Columbia College—General History,	5—81
School of Law,	81—95
School of Mines,	96—145
School of Medicine,	146—149
Libraries,	150—170
Cabinets and Collections,	170—173
Prizes, Scholarships, and Fellowships,	173—188
Financial Statement,	189—193
Senatus Academicus, 1876,	194—201
Appendix, containing <i>Original Charter, etc.</i> ,	203—244

COLUMBIA COLLEGE.

AT what period the design of establishing a college in New York was first seriously entertained does not appear. The earliest intimation that has been discovered of any such design "is contained in the records of Trinity Church. From them it appears that as early as the year 1703, the Rector and Wardens were directed to wait upon Lord Cornbury, the Governor, to know what part of the *King's Farm*, then vested in Trinity Church, had been intended for the college which he designed to have built."—*Address delivered before the Alumni of Col. Coll. by C. C. Moore.*

Some such plan was thought of again, it seems, in 1729, during Berkeley's residence in this country; and when disappointed as regarded Bermuda, he sought to transfer the establishment which had been intended for that island to "some place on the American Continent, which would probably have been New York."—*Chandler's Life of Johnson.*

But Berkeley's benevolent design having altogether failed, we find no mention of this subject until near twenty years afterwards, when several

laws of the Colony were passed for raising moneys by way of lottery, towards the founding of a college therein; and Bishop Berkeley, in a letter of August 23d, 1749, to Dr. Johnson, who resided then at Hartford, in Connecticut, says: "For the rest, I am glad to find a spirit toward learning prevails in those parts, particularly New York, where you say a college is projected, which has my best wishes."

The earliest of the laws just now alluded to, received the Governor's assent on the 6th of December, 1746, and was entitled "An act for raising the sum of two thousand two hundred and fifty pounds, by a public lottery for this colony, for the encouragement of learning, and towards the founding a college within the same."

Other similar acts followed, and in November, 1751, the moneys raised by means of them, amounting then to £3,443 18s. 6d., were vested in trustees. Of these trustees, ten in number, two belonged to the Dutch Reformed Church, one was a Presbyterian, but seven were members of the Church of England, and some of these seven were also vestrymen of Trinity Church. These circumstances—the known sentiments of this large majority of the trustees—their well understood, and very natural desire, that the proposed college should be connected with their church—might sufficiently