

**THE GIRARD COLLEGE AND
ITS FOUNDER: CONTAINING
THE BIOGRAPHY OF MR.
GIRARD**

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The Girard College and Its Founder: Containing the Biography of Mr. Girard by Henry W. Arey

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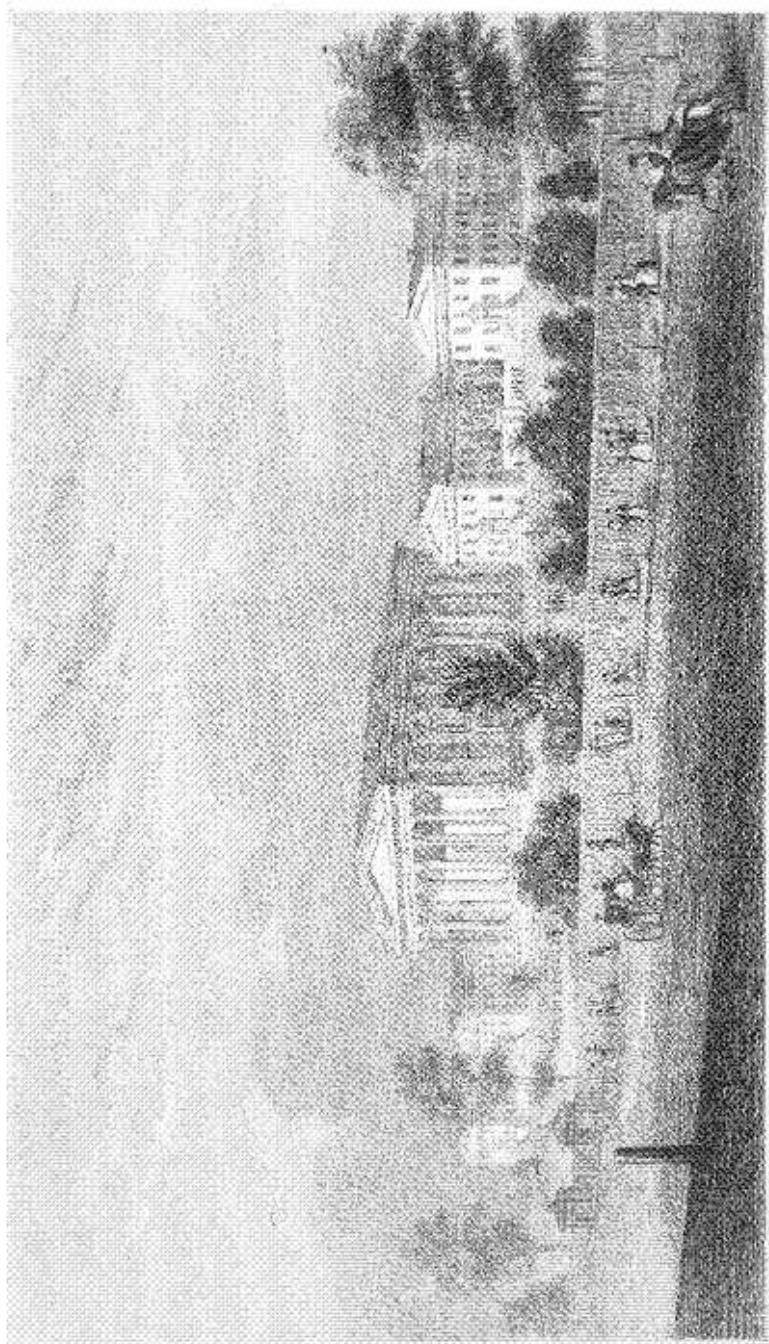
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HENRY W. AREY

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Engraving from "The Girard Collection" by Girard

By "The Girard Collection"

STEPHEN GIRARD

Engraving from "The Girard Collection" by Girard

THE
GIRARD COLLEGE

AND
ITS FOUNDER:

CONTAINING
THE BIOGRAPHY OF MR. GIRARD,

THE
HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTION, ITS ORGANIZATION AND PLAN OF
DISCIPLINE, WITH THE COURSE OF EDUCATION, FORMS OF
ADMISSION OF PUPILS, DESCRIPTION OF THE
BUILDINGS, &c. &c. AND

The Will of Mr. Girard.

BY
HENRY W. AREY,
SECRETARY OF THE GIRARD COLLEGE.

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BIOGRAPHY
OF
STEPHEN GIRARD.

No contribution hitherto made in this country to the great cause of human charity, has excited more general interest, or become more widely known, than the Bequest of Stephen Girard to establish and maintain a College for orphans. The character of the benevolence, the magnitude of the fund, and the splendor of the building, have all contributed to bring his institution prominently before the public eye, and to make it the object of pride to every citizen, and of attraction to every stranger.

The history of any man, whose kind heart could conceive, and whose vast means could accomplish a purpose fraught with so much good, would be interesting; but the life of Mr. Girard is more than this,—it is instructive. It teaches us what we can do in the face of obstacles, when we are patient, zealous, and self-reliant; it shows that there is at least a partial omnipotence about the human will, that can supply the want of wealth, of friends, and of education; but above all, it exemplifies how the hard toil of a life-time, and the thirst for gold, may be elevated and sanctified by being devoted to the claims of humanity.

Although comparatively humble in his origin, and without the advantages of wealth or education and the influences of friends, he has reared to his memory the proudest and most enduring of monuments. Yet splendid as is the marble structure which stands