

**A CATALOGUE OF THE
SOCIETY OF
BROTHERS IN UNITY, YALE
COLLEGE, FOUNDED 1768**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649452545

A Catalogue of the Society of Brothers in Unity, Yale College, Founded 1768 by Anonymous

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.

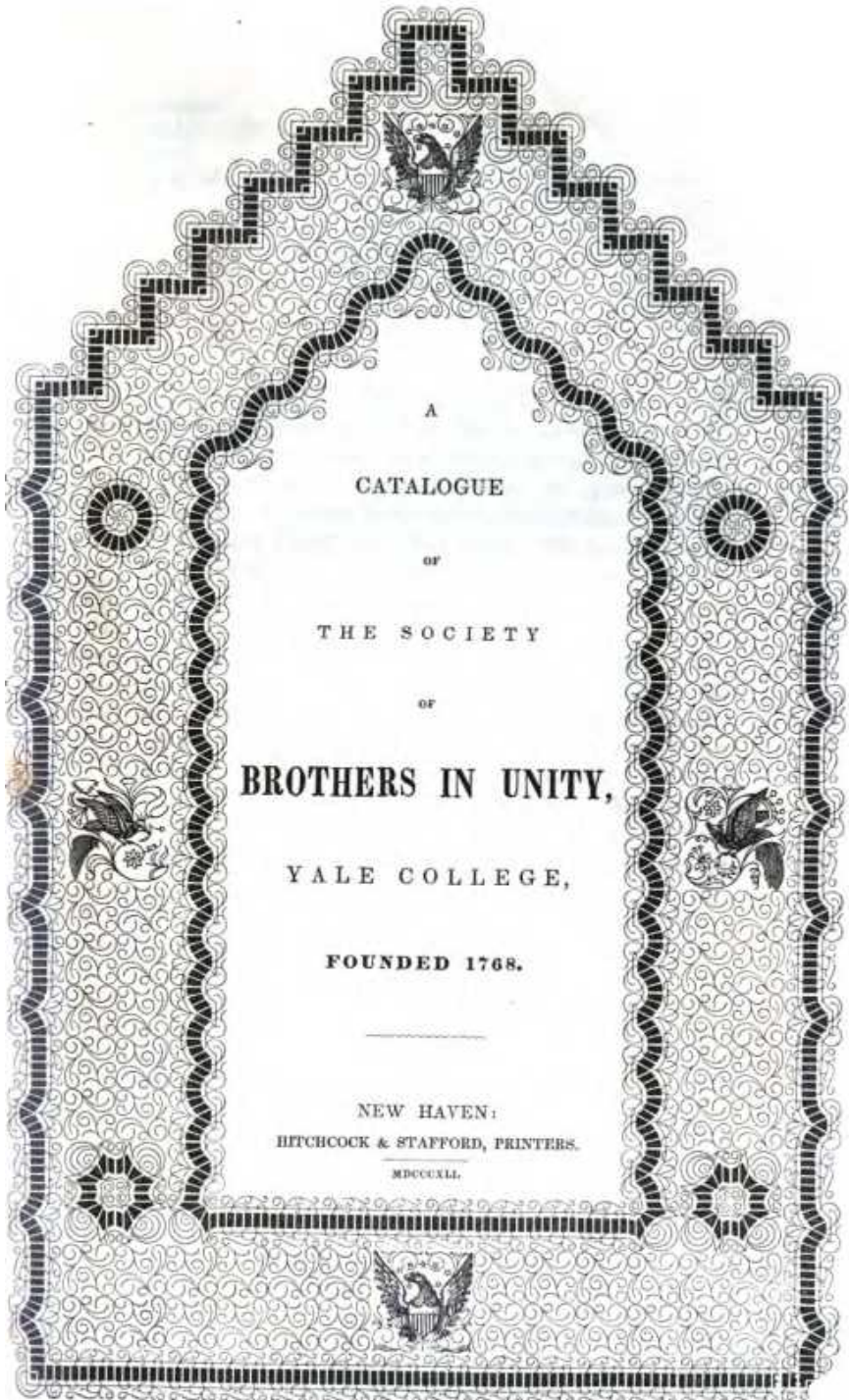
Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

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

ANONYMOUS

**A CATALOGUE OF THE
SOCIETY OF
BROTHERS IN UNITY, YALE
COLLEGE, FOUNDED 1768**



A
CATALOGUE
OF
THE SOCIETY
OF
BROTHERS IN UNITY,
YALE COLLEGE,
FOUNDED 1768.

NEW HAVEN:
HITCHCOCK & STAFFORD, PRINTERS.
MDCCLXI.

Exchange
Yale University
Library
JAN 2 '40

P R E F A C E .

THE Society of BROTHERS IN UNITY was founded in the year 1768, by twenty-one individuals, from the classes of 1768, '69, '70, and '71, whose names we have placed together on the seventh page. When arranged in alphabetical order, the name of DAVID HUMPHREYS, LL. D., stands in the centre, the keystone of the arch of "Friendship and Truth," which they raised. His is a name which every American will delight to honor. We are proud to own him as one of the founders of our Society. He, with his associates, had much to contend against. Two or three Societies, already in existence, waged incessant war against them; but perseverance crowned their labors with success, and the "Brothers in Unity" became an independent institution. David Humphreys was well fitted for such a task. Soon after he had established our independent position, and had compelled the opposition to surrender their colors, he was called by his countrymen to perform a similar duty for them. At the battle of Yorktown he distinguished himself as a brave and active officer, and was selected by Washington to carry the British standards surrendered by Cornwallis, and to lay them at the feet of an American Congress. As a mark of Washington's esteem for Col. Humphreys, his *aid-de-camp* and military secretary, he recommended him warmly to Congress, then assembled at Philadelphia, "for his fidelity and good services," and on his arrival with the despatches of Gen. Washington and the British standards, there was a grand military procession, and Congress resolved, "That an elegant sword be presented, in the name of the United States, to Col. Humphreys." Such is the man whom we delight to honor as one of the fathers of our Society, and as a distinguished benefactor to his country. "*Patriam, armis tuebatur, consiliis auxit, literis exornavit, apud exteras gentes concordiam stabilivit.*"

It may be interesting to some, to know the object for which the Society was founded. It is well known, that in ancient times the members of the lower classes were compelled to be servants to those of the upper classes. The junior members were forced to do the bidding of the seniors, even to the most servile occupation, under dread of the severest penalties; and we are informed by some of the oldest graduates of the College, that prior to the establishment of the "Brothers in Unity," no Freshman was received into any Society in College. Such men as Humphreys, who engaged with so much ardor in the struggle for equal rights, could not be expected long to submit to such a relic of feudal insolence. Humphreys was then a Freshman, and he stood up for the dignity of his class; and having found two members of the Senior Class, three in the Junior, and two in the Sophomore, who were willing to acknowledge that Freshmen might be admitted into a literary society, he, with thirteen of his classmates, fought for and established their own respectability. So popular was this movement with the class of 1771, then Freshmen, that *fifteen* of its members were Brothers in Unity, and only four were Linonians, as will be seen by a reference to the two catalogues. To the Freshman Class, therefore, of 1768, headed by Gen. Humphreys, and to the Society of "BROTHERS IN UNITY," founded by such men, for such a purpose, is due the breaking up of that senseless class distinction, and degrading servility, which had so long disgraced the senior members of College, and had done so much injury to those newly entered on its catalogue. The attempt to break up this insolent custom was so successful, that other societies, which had sneered at Freshmen, were forced to treat them with respect. For they soon found that Seniors came from Freshmen, and that to possess the former they must obtain the latter. If any praise is due for elevating the character of Freshmen, and compelling other societies to respect them, we claim it, for the history of College gives it to us.

Two of the founders of our Society, then Freshmen, are marked as still living, and should this catalogue come under their observation, they will see that the motto which they adopted, "*E parvis oriuntur magna*," has stood the test of ages, and that Brothers of the present day look back with gratitude to them, and seek to embalm

in the affections of the living the memory of their associates, who now sleep in their honored graves.

Since its establishment, the Brothers Society has been an honor to our College and to our country, and has taken the lead of all others in the number and talent of its members. Among other distinguished names, we see on glancing over our catalogue, those of six Governors of States, seven Chief Justices and fifteen Justices of Supreme Courts, thirteen Senators and forty-five Representatives in the United States Congress, fourteen Presidents of Colleges and forty-six Professors, of whom twelve have been Professors in Yale College, sixty-seven Tutors of Yale College alone, three Lieutenant Governors of Connecticut, two Attorneys General, one Bishop, and one Vice-President of the United States. Thirty of our members have attained to the honorary degree of LL. D., and twenty-nine to that of S. T. D. Every President of the United States, with the exception of two, has had in his cabinet one of our members, and the governor's chair of our own state has been filled for twenty years with Brothers in Unity.

Prior to 1798, there was no regular valedictory from the graduating class. That year the "master's oration" was omitted, and a class valedictorian appointed. James Burnet, a Brother in Unity, of that class, was selected, the first who obtained that honor. Since that time there have been forty-four valedictorians, of whom twenty-six were Brothers in Unity, leaving only eighteen to the other societies. From 1809 till 1824, inclusive, that is, for sixteen years, we had every valedictorian, and generally the salutatorian; and from a hasty glance over the catalogue of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, consisting of about 1277 members, we find that 604 have been Brothers, while only 535 have been Linonians.

The Linonian catalogue, commencing with the year 1768, and including those hereafter referred to who are not graduates of this college, contains the names of 1785 members. Our Society, founded in that year, now numbers 1817 members, all graduates, showing that in the same number of years, we have had a majority of the Alumni of this College. Our library too, in value and number of volumes, claims superiority. The Hon. Judge Baldwin, of this city, who was our Librarian in 1780, has shown us manuscript catalogues of the books belonging to the Brothers and Linonian Societies at that date. The "excellent library," as it is there called, of the Brothers

in Unity, consisted of only 163 volumes, and the Linonian, though *claiming* to be fifteen years older, had but 152 volumes. In 1808 our library contained 723 volumes, and in 1829, it numbered 2,550. It now consists of over 8,000 volumes, selected with the greatest care, both in this country and Europe. Connected with the society there is a reading room, where the best Magazines, Reviews, and Literary Newspapers, are kept for the use of members only. This is an advantage possessed by no other society in College.

In the catalogue of the members, now for the first time published, will no doubt be found numerous errors. Owing to the imperfect state of a part of our records, we have no doubt that some names which should be inserted have been omitted, and other mistakes made. Where the present residence was not known, that given in the annual college catalogue has been inserted. The latter, to some, may be as gratifying as the former. In general, we have been governed in giving titles and prefixing asterisks, by the triennial catalogue. In two or three cases, however, we have marked as dead those there given as still living. Even while the sheets were going through the press, one and another Brother have been called away by death. These cases have been noticed and corrected.

To those who have assisted us, we render thanks, and we submit the result of our labors, such as it is, to the inspection of our friends, requesting them to inform the Society of any mistakes which they may discover, that they may be corrected in our next catalogue.

We have published a list of those who have been presidents of the Society from its foundation, and have also pointed out the class valedictorian, when a Brother obtained the honor. This information will doubtless be gratifying to many of our old members.

We have published the names of none but regular graduates of college, and members of our Society at the time of their graduation. The Linonian Society, professing to do the same, has given among its members, Hon. Ambrose Spencer, LL. D., in the class of 1783, Hon. William C. Bradley, in the class of 1799, and Nathan Strong, in the class of 1802, and we suppose others, in other classes, if we had time to examine, who never graduated at Yale. By inserting in this way the names of those who were once members of our Society, but left without graduating, we might swell our list with those of many distinguished men, and among others with that of the present Sec-

retary of the Navy, who was once a Brother in Unity, but left College before graduating. We have likewise omitted the names of those who belonged to the "Phoenix" Society, established about 1806, principally by Hon. Thomas S. Grimké, whose name appears, we know not why, conspicuous on the Linonian catalogue. Had we followed their example we might have graced our pages with the names of Francis Granger, Thaddeus Betts, and others, who would have been Brothers, but for the existence of the Phoenix Society. The names of several members of the Brothers and Calliopean Societies have appeared on the Linonian catalogue. When we found that any person had obtained a dismission from us to another society, we omitted his name. If the Linonians had done the same, we should not have had so many common members, amounting to about thirty, whose names appear plain on our records, without any mention of a dismission.

The name of John C. Calhoun also appears on both catalogues. The very year, we believe, in which he entered College, an arrangement was made by which Freshmen were assigned by the alphabet alternately to the two societies. Mr. Calhoun was assigned to the Linonian, but as his friends, and, as will be seen from our catalogue, most of the southern students, were Brothers in Unity, his preferences were in our favor. Every means, even combinations to keep him out of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, were used to compel him to join the Linonian, yet he would not. A letter was written by a member of Congress, to the Linonian Society, stating these facts, and we have had from himself assurances of his undiminished attachment to us. We do not claim that he signed our constitution; nor did he sign theirs, unless by constraint, and this his character leads us to believe he would not do. He preferred to be a Brother in Unity. We feel proud to number so great a man among our distinguished members. With this explanation, we humbly submit the question, which society can claim him with most *honor* to itself.

We have made these observations, not from any hatred we bear our rival, but to meet the rather ungenerous assertions of some who were lately opposed to us, and carried the warfare against our Society farther than strict honor would warrant. We would not, if we could, injure their society, nor sow the seeds of destruction in a soil which has produced so many rare and beautiful flowers. We wish

to see the societies remain as they have been, ornaments to College, generous rivals, striving to excel, rather than to speak evil of, each other.

The object of the Brothers in Unity has been to give the hand of friendship to those who had before met nothing but indignities on their entrance into College, and to lead them with brotherly kindness along the path of social and intellectual improvement. Lofty places in science, literature, and oratory, are the ends in view. Social friendship and the kind word of a Brother beguile the tedium of the journey, and smooth the rugged path. And while from year to year additions are made to this catalogue, the new members may rejoice to see their names attached to a scroll which the genius of America may with pleasure present to the temple of fame—a manuscript illuminated with so many intellectual jewels.

W. E. R.

W. E. ROBINSON,	} <i>Committee of Publication.</i>
R. W. WRIGHT,	
GEO. NORTHPROP,	
JACOB STORY,	

YALE COLLEGE, Oct. 5, 1841.

¶ An asterisk (*) is placed before the names of those members who are dead—an obelisk (†) denotes the residence given on the annual catalogue. The letters P. S. are placed after the names of those who have been Presidents of the Society. Other abbreviations will be known without explanation. The titles of A. M. and Esq. have been inserted and omitted rather arbitrarily. The names of our honorary members, embracing those of the greatest men of our country, have been omitted for obvious reasons. Though we might feel proud of the list which they would form, yet we think it better that no society in Yale College should borrow lustre from those who are not regular graduates of this Institution.