

**A HISTORY OF
MACALESTER COLLEGE:
ITS ORIGIN,
STRUGGLE, AND GROWTH**

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A History of Macalester College: Its Origin, Struggle, and Growth by Henry Daniel Funk

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HENRY DANIEL FUNK

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STRUGGLE, AND GROWTH**

A History
of
Macalester College

Its Origin, Struggle and Growth

By
HENRY DANIEL FUNK

Published by the Macalester College Board of Trustees
1910

1/11/11
W. H. T.

TO
THE MEMBERS
OF
THE CLASS OF 1901

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| William Beckering, | Louis Benes, |
| Henry Roy Bitzing, | Percy Porter Brush, |
| Charles Morrow Farney, | Nathaniel E. Hoy, |
| Lewis Hughes, | Richard Uriah Jones, |
| William Carl Laubs, | Millicent Mahlum, |
| William Henry Travis, | Lily Bell Watson. |
-

IN REMEMBRANCE
OF
HAPPY COLLEGE DAYS
THIS VOLUME IS DEDICATED BY THEIR CLASSMATE
HENRY DANIEL FUNK

PREFACE.

The appearance of a History of Macalester College may be a surprise to many. It is known as one of the youngest of the institutions of higher learning in Minnesota, and, therefore, a school which scarcely has had the time to make history.

But the fact that Macalester is the out-growth of the earliest educational movements of St. Paul, and indeed of Minnesota; that it has taken almost sixty years to realize its establishment; and that it has passed through a long struggle in which faith and hope and self-sacrifice have won a splendid victory; these considerations have seemed to me to justify the writing of this little book.

My aim has been to present an accurate narrative of the origin, struggle and growth of the college. I have kept in mind Ranke's rule that the historian must show how events came to pass, "*wie es eigentlich gewesen ist,*" and not be a mere chronicler of events. I am aware, however, that the realization of such objective history is conditioned by the "mental peculiarities" of the writer, and that every narrative is really a description of events as "seen through the mind" of the historian. I offer this book to the public realizing its imperfections, yet conscious that I have made an earnest endeavor to write an unbiased account.

My information has been secured from such original sources as the Minutes of the Board of Trustees, the Minutes of the Synod of Minnesota, the Minutes of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, the Minutes of the Faculty of Macalester College, college publications, such as the "Echo" and the "Bulletin;" newspaper reports from the Minneapolis Tribune, the Minneapolis Journal, the St. Paul Pioneer Press, the St. Paul Dispatch, and the Duluth Herald.

I have also interviewed many Minnesota pioneers, and have received valuable information from Mr. H. Knox Taylor, Mr. D. A. Tawney, and Judge Willis, who lived in Dr. Neill's home a few years, also from Mr. Charles T. Thompson, Dr. M. D. Edwards, Dr. A. B. Abbot, Mr. R. C. Jefferson, Dr. Breed, and Dr. W. R. Kirkwood. Professor Axtell has helped me to many documents in the library and has aided me in verifying a number of important facts. Dr. Wallace, who has the longest record of continued service for the college, has been a great help to me in preparing the chapter on the financial history of the college. No man understands that part of Macalester's history as thoroughly as he does. The biographical sketches of the first Board of Trustees were penned by his hand. He has given me much help on some of the later events of the college. In spite of his protest I have called attention to his heroic sacrifice and have given him due credit for his part in saving the college.

To Dr. Hodgman I am indebted for access to all the records of the executive office bearing on the

administration of the college, and for many practical suggestions.

The chapter on the Formative Period follows closely the account written by Dr. T. A. McCurdy, at my request. Mr. R. A. Kirk has furnished important data on the endowment movement and has read carefully the manuscript on that chapter.

To my colleagues Professors Anderson, Downing, Kirkwood and MacRae, and to my friend Dr. Carl Abbetmeyer I owe hearty thanks for reading the proof and making important corrections.

Above all, my thanks are due to Rev. Henry C. Swearingen, D. D., who has taken precious time from his busy pastorate to read the manuscript. To his suggestions I owe many changes in the form of statement, and to his thorough scholarship and excellent judgment I have deferred in many instances.

HENRY DANIEL FUNK.

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CHARLES MACALESTER.
After whom Macalester College was named.