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HARVARD GRADUATES.

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John Langdon Sibley

If there be sufficient encouragement, it is proposed to publish a volume of Biographical Sketches of the first two hundred and twenty-five graduates of the Academic Department of Harvard University. Several of these went abroad and took an important part in public affairs in Europe. Of those who remained in this country, nearly all, from the great respect which was entertained for scholars and clergymen, exerted a commanding influence; and most of the offices of honor and trust were filled by them. They originated or urged forward the ideas and principles on which our government now rests, and which in their expansion are agitating the world and ameliorating the condition of mankind. Their lives and the history of the country are so interwoven that the knowledge of both is necessary in order to understand either. There is probably no instance in history where the same number of young men from various classes of society, trained under the same auspices, have afterward, in their various spheres, exerted greater influence on the politics, morals, religion, thought, and destiny of the world than the early graduates of Harvard University. Among them occur the names of the Bulkleys, Hobarts, Shepards, Cottons, Chauncys, Whitings, Mathers, Woodbridges, Danforths, Cookes, Bradstreets, Saltonstalls, Collinses, Gookins; of Winthrop; of Sewall, the diarist; of "matchless" Mitchell and Solomon Stoddard; of Michael



[m. p. 112-3]

11

Wigglesworth, author of "The Day of Doom"; of Hubbard, the historian; of Burroughs, executed for witchcraft; of the Governors Dudley and Stoughton; of Stirk, *alias* Starkey, the alchemist; of the "arrant" Sir George Downing; of Rector Pierson; of the College Presidents Willard, Mather, Hoar, Oakes, Rogers.

The object of the proposed volume is to present, with great minuteness of detail, the results of many years' labor and research in collecting information respecting these representative men of their time, and, by adding catalogues and bibliographical notices of their writings, to open to others the way for further investigations.

I should have preferred to delay the publication, with a view to bringing the work nearer to perfection; but advancing years admonish me that whatever I contemplate must be executed soon, and friends of the University urge me to put these memorials before the public at once, if it shall appear that they are wanted.

It is not proposed to stereotype the work, and as the extent of the edition will depend on the number of subscribers, it will be necessary, in order to secure copies, to return the subscription papers by the first of September, 1870, to

JOHN LANGDON SIBLEY,

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