

**THE**  
**KIRKPATRICK MEMORIAL;**  
**OR,**  
**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF FATHER AND SON,**  
**AND A SELECTION FROM THE**  
**SERMONS**  
**OF THE**  
**REV. JACOB KIRKPATRICK, JR.,**

PHILADELPHIA:  
WESCOTT & THOMSON.  
1867

Transcribed from the original book complete with spellings and terms of the times by John P. Kirkpatrick  
for genealogical purposes.

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The present memorial volume is not the result of a sudden thought. It has a history. Declining health induced the Rev. Jacob Kirkpatrick, Jr., to resign, in 1857, the pastoral charge of the Third Presbyterian Church, Trenton, N.J. Both pastor and people saw no hope of his recovery. Many of his friends, sorrowing that they should hear his voice no more in the pulpit, felt that it would be consolation, if he might still preach to them through the press. They requested the privilege of publishing a small volume of his sermons. He modestly declined, shrinking, as he had ever done, from publicity.

In now publishing a few of his sermons, no violence is done to his last wishes. It is true, that while lingering at his father's house, waiting for the Heavenly call, he requested that his manuscripts might be burned. But his father interposed. At length he consented, saying in effect, to Dr. Kirkpatrick, "You can do with them as you think best. Let them be used in any way, in which they may do good."

Soon after his decease the Rev. Dr. Kirkpatrick sent the manuscripts to a friend to be at his disposal. This the father would never have done, had not the fullest consent been given by his son, whom he so ardently loved, and whose dying wishes were regarded with profound sacredness. Various events providentially delayed the publication of the intended volume. The idea was quite abandoned until, in May 1866, Dr. Kirkpatrick was called to his rest. It was then thought that a memorial should be published, of these two beloved ministers whose loss was widely felt in the Presbyterian Church. After due consultation it was resolved to publish a memorial on the present plan.

The editor was requested to supervise the work, and the Rev. George Hale, D.D., of Pennington, N.J., to prepare the biographical sketches, to which he appropriately gives his own preface. To the many friends who have aided him the editor offers his thanks.

In the editor's hands were placed more than two hundred manuscripts of sermons and lectures; some of them mere outlines, some half written, with wide blanks to be filled up at a future day, and others quite complete. Very few of them present a fully written peroration. In making his appeals, Mr. Kirkpatrick was usually guided by a few catch-words, or phrases, many of which do not now reveal what was in his mind.

This imperfection in the manuscript may indicate the perfection of his study and his preaching. His power of extemporaneous address was remarkable. He did not sacrifice it in the pulpit. How many of his most eloquent utterances are lost, except as their effect remains upon the memories and the soul of his hearers! Many persons will not find, in this collection, the sermons they expected, for they were never written beyond the mere first draft. Such were the discourses on "The Wonderful, the Counselor," "The Lamb of God," "The Crucified Saviour." The fact that his sermons upon the Divinity, the life, the sufferings, and the atonement of Christ, were delivered from a brief outline, may be taken as a proof of his familiarity with the great themes of gospel theology. On no other subjects did he appear so free in the resistless march of his thoughts.

His sermons were largely of an awakening character, rather than consolatory. He earnestly sought the conversion of sinners, the reclaiming of the fallen, the arousing of the Church, and the reviving of the spiritual life in the hearts of God's people. The published specimens are to be read as the sermons of a young pastor, in the regular course of his preaching. They were not prepared for special occasions. They have been selected from the mass, on the plan of furnishing the best specimens of different years, the most practical, and the most varied in their style and thought.

None of the sermons bore a title. The editor has endeavored to supply this want. He has been scrupulously careful to maintain the integrity of what was written. The portraits have been engraved by an eminent artist from photographs, representing the deceased as they appeared in their more vigorous days.

The largest credit, for the successful publication of the work, is due to Elias Cook, Esq., of Trenton, N.J., the guardian of the only and orphan child of the Rev. Jacob Kirkpatrick, Jr. He assumed the entire pecuniary responsibility, sparing no pains to make it a fitting memorial of the departed; one of whom was to him as a paternal counselor, and the other a beloved pastor.

If the reading of these biographical sketches shall lead any to embalm the names of the commemorated dead, by imitating their Christian example, and if the meditation of these sermons shall be blessed of God to any, who mourned when the voice of the preacher was silenced by death, happy will be the reward of those to whom its preparation has been a labor of love.

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# THE KIRKPATRICK MEMORIAL

## PREFACE.

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The necessity for the early appearance of this volume denies to the writer of these sketches the power to follow the advice, which the poet Horace gives to the author of a book --- "*Prematur nonum in annum.*" With an abler hand and a longer time to collect and verify facts, this part of the volume would have been more nearly complete and therefore more satisfactory; but it is sent forth as it is, in the hope that some things stated may prove gratifying to the numerous friends of this excellent father and his most worthy son.

The compiler takes this method of expressing his grateful acknowledgements to the Hon. Andrew B. Cobb, of Parsippany, William Annin, Esq., of Liberty Corner, the Hon. H. N. Congar, Secretary of State for New Jersey, and other friends, too numerous to be named here for the facilities they have afforded him, and the information they have imparted.

Pennington, Nov. 14, 1866.

G.H.

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The original book is extremely hard to find and as such, since there is an increased interest in the research of one's family, this transcription from the original book is undertaken. The complete content from the original book is contained in this transcription, to include the type of language used by the original authors and editors. Please note, the complete spelling and grammar from the original is contained in this transcription, to include misspellings and sentence structure.

Ellsinore, MO; 27 April 2000

J.P.K.

# THE KIRKPATRICK MEMORIAL

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## I.

### *THE KIRKPATRICK FAMILY.*

The Pilgrim Fathers of the May Flower, who landed at Plymouth in 1620, with those who shortly afterwards fled to New England from the persecutions of the Old World, laid the foundations of this great nation. Their work, by the blessing of God, will abide; and the record of what they have done must make up an essential part of our national history, not soon to be blotted out. But there were others, holding the same Calvinistic creed, inspired with the same Christian heroism, and animated with an equally ardent love for civil and religious liberty, like the Protestant emigrants from Holland and the Huguenot refugees from France, who have rendered material aid in moulding our free institutions. Perhaps sufficient credit has not yet been given to the Presbyterian emigrants from Scotland and the north of Ireland, known as the Scotch and Scotch-Irish, for the powerful influence for good, which they have exerted. Well-trained in the School and Kirk of their native home, familiar from childhood with the Bible and the Catechisms of the Westminster Assembly, and disciplined by the fierce persecution for their loyalty to the crown and covenant of King Jesus, they have not only contributed much towards giving character and stability to the Presbyterian Church, but they have ever been found among the firmest and most intelligent supporters of evangelical religion, popular education and good government. To mention no others, how familiar among us have become such names as Tennent, Witherspoon, Doak, Nisbet, Alexander, Mason, Wilson, Brown and McDowell.

Of this class of our citizens were many of the families who, in the early part of the eighteenth century settled near Baskingridge, Somerset County, New Jersey, one of which was,

### *THE KIRKPATRICK FAMILY.*

The Hon. Walter Kirkpatrick, a cousin of the late Dr. Jacob Kirkpatrick, at his decease, left in his own hand this statement to wit:

“The Kirkpatrick family possessed estates in Nithsdale, [Scotland] in the ninth century. The first on record is Ivone Kirkpatrick in the time of David I. He was a witness to a Charter of Robert Bruce. He had a grandson Ivone and from him descended a long line of Lords of Closeburn. Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, Gentleman of the Privy Chamber of James VI., obtained a patent of Freedom of the whole kingdom. He died in 1628, and was succeeded by his son Thomas, whose grandson Thomas was created Baronet of Nova Scotia. [This order was founded by James I. in 1611, and is given by patent], March 26, 1686. He married Isabella, daughter of Lord Torpishen; afterwards he married Sarah, daughter of Robert Ferguson, Esq., of Craigdarock, by whom he had a son Rodger; and thirdly, he married Grizzel, daughter of Gain Hamilton, Esq., of Raplock. He was succeeded by

"II. Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, who married Isabel, daughter of Sir William Lockhart, of Carstairs, and was succeeded by

"III. Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, who married Susannah Grierson, of Capuncet, August 29, 1748. Fire consumed his mansion, family papers, and everything except the tower. He died October, 1771, and was succeeded by

"IV. Sir James Kirkpatrick, who married Miss Jaudine, and died June 7, 1804, and was succeeded by

"V. Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick, the present Baronet.

**THE KIRKPATRICK ARMS.**

***Ar, a sattier and chief az.  
The last charger with 3 cushions or  
Crest, a hand holding a dagger  
In pale—distilling drops of blood.  
Motto, 'I make sure.'  
Seat, Closeburn's Dumfries."***

The name of the immediate ancestor of that branch of the family which this volume is a memorial was ALEXANDER. He was born in Watties Neach, Dumfriesshire, Scotland. He removed with his family to Belfast, Ireland, after the birth of his son David, in the latter part of the reign of George I. probably about the year 1725, that he might enjoy greater liberty of conscience and additional religious advantages. In the spring of 1736 he embarked at Belfast for America, and after a stormy passage of thirteen weeks landed at New Castle, Delaware. The passengers and crew were almost starved owing to the unexpected length of the passage. David, who was then twelve years old, speaking of this to a grandson in after years said: "The first thing I got to eat after we got on shore was corn, in the state which we call roasting ears, and without roasting or boiling I ate it till the milk of the corn ran down both sides of my mouth, and I have never eaten anything since that tasted sweeter." The narrative by the grandson adds: "They crossed the Delaware at Philadelphia, and wandered up through the State of New Jersey (which was partially settled) till they reached Boundbrook, and from that they went over the mountain. This incident he (the grandfather) used to tell me, and smile at – they were all on foot – there was no road other than the Indian path. In the path before them they saw a land-tortoise, speckled, sticking up his head; and as they had heard of *rattlesnakes*, they thought that *monster* must be *one*; so they turned out in the woods and went away round leaving his 'torkleship' in full possession of the path. When they came to a spring of water at the side of what has since been called 'Mine Brook,' there they settled down, built in log house and went to work."

The spot was well chosen, about two miles west from the present site of Baskingridge in Somerset County, New Jersey. It embraced the southern slope of Round Mountain in a well-timbered region, with unfailling springs of pure water, the rich meadow-land through which Mine Brook runs with a sufficient fall of water for a mill-seat, and with these material advantages, a charming picturesque view of the adjacent region. The spring of water is still there, marking the site of the original log-house, and until within a few years could be seen the remains of the apple trees planted by Alexander Kirkpatrick and his sons. This improvement many of the early proprietary leases required. In a lease of one hundred and thirty-seven acres, (which it may be remarked was a minor portion of what the family eventually obtained by title in fee simple) granted November 23, 1747, to Alexander Kirkpatrick, he agrees "to plant an orchard of at least one apple-tree fro every three acres, and in case this lease shall continue beyond three years, then (to) plant one apple tree for every six acres, all regular in one orchard, and to keep up the number planted, and to keep the orchard in good fence."