

Early History of Brown University, Including the Life, Times, and Correspondence of President Manning: 1756-1791 (Classic Reprint)

Reuben Aldridge Guild



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At the annual meeting of the Corporation of Brown University, held in September, 1844, a resolution was unanimously passed requesting Professor Gammell to prepare an adequate history of the origin and progress of the University. Want of sufficient material was without doubt the reason why the facile pen of the Professor of Rhetoric and History was not employed on this important and much needed work. Three years later the author, immediately on graduating, entered upon his long professional career in connection with the Library. At first he was an assistant under the late Professor Charles C. Jewett. In March, 1848, he succeeded him in the Librarianship of the University. One of his earliest efforts as Librarian was to complete a file of the annual catalogues. A fterwards, by means of circulars and otherwise, he made a collection of pamphlets, manuscripts and documents illustrative of the history of the College. As a result he published, in 1864, a large duodecimo volume of five hundred and twenty-three pages, entitled, Life, Times and Correspondence of James Manning and the Early History of Brown University ;and three years later a handsome quarto volume entitled, History of Brown University, with Illustrative Documents. These works have long been out of print, the number of copies of the latter having been limited to three hundred and ten, and the stereotype plates of the former having been destroyed in the breaking up of the long established house of Gould and Lincoln, of Boston.

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