John McMillan (60:3) was born in 1752 to Scotch-Irish immigrants in Chester County, Pennsylvania. He was educated in Chester and at Fagg's Manor Academy, before entering Princeton College, New Jersey, in 1770. Completing his work there in 1772, John McMillan returned to Pequea to pursue theological study under Dr. Robert Smith. There was yet no theological seminary in America. The Presbytery of New Castle licensed McMillan to preach in 1774, and so he did. In the summer of 1775, he toured Virginia, and in July of that year crossed the mountains into Western Pennsylvania, preaching as he went, and proceeding on to Pittsburgh. His journal indicates those places where he preached enroute. In January of 1776, he arrived at Chartiers and Pigeon Creek churches in the Presbytery of Donegal, part of which later became Redstone Presbytery. The two congregations called Mr. McMillan as their pastor. New Castle Presbytery released him to Donegal which ordained him. Dr. McMillan served on many occasions as Commissioner to General Assembly, and as Moderator of Synod. In 1791 he was elected Moderator of General Assembly. McMillan is identified as "The Apostle of Presbyterianism in the West." His health remained good until the illness which resulted in his death in 1833, having just passed his 81st birthday.

Scope

John McMillan's record group contains his diary, lectures, a copy of his will, histories of churches to which he had ministered, correspondence related to his life and ministry, and a McMillan Family History.

The reader/researcher will want to examine the circulating volumes in Barbour Library at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.
McMILLAN, John (60:3).

INVENTORY

Ms. Account of the great revival in Kentucky in 1802. FF 1.


Mss: John McMillan, System of Theology lectures. FF 3.


Correspondence: Earle R. Forrest to Mr. Gorley; photo: house of Judge McDowell (J. McMillan's grandson at corner); photo: agreement between William Smiley, John McClean and Archibald Allison. FF 8.


Letter from James McGready to John McMillan describing the Great Revival in Kentucky, Nov. 18, 1801. Mss Transcriptions follow in 12A. (See also index to circulating copies by/about John McMillan.)