The Influence Of Thomas & Alexander Campbell

1809, Thomas & Alexander Campbell, Bethany, Virginia
Thomas Campbell born February 1, 1763 in Newry, County Down, Ireland. Arrived here May 13, 1807. A Presbyterian preacher who through study of the Bible saw the need to preach it and live wholly under its authority. Now buried at God’s Acre, Bethany, West Virginia next to his son, Alexander.

The Presbyterian Church in Aherence, Northern Ireland where Thomas Campbell preached before moving to the United States. The bell tower is not original.
Alexander Campbell Is Born In Ballymena, County Antrim, Ireland, September 12, 1788

- Receives A Classical Education From His Father
- 1807 Teaches School Takes Charge Of His Father's School At Rich Hill, Ireland, His Father Departs For America
- 1808 Prepares To Depart To America To Join Thomas Campbell

Presbyterian Church In Ahory, North Ireland Where Thomas Campbell Preached
Campbell To Glasgow

- Departed For America September 28, 1808 On The Sailing-Vessel Hybernia.
- Ship-Wreck Off Scotland Coast October 7, 1807
November 9, 1808 Attends Glasgow University, Scotland

Note Later Resemblance To Bethany College
Influences Of Greville Ewing

- 1767-1841 - Born In Edinburgh, Scotland
- Taught In Haldane Schools Until 1808
- Began Teaching At Glasgow University, One Of His First Students, A. Campbell
- Campbell’s Essays On Leadership & Lord’s Supper Led Him To Give Up Presbyterianism
October, 1809 Reaches Washington, Pennsylvania

- Reads Proof-Sheets Of The "Declaration And Address"
- Devotes His Life To The Plea For Christian Union. "Declaration And Address" Published
- 1810 Preaches First Sermon, July 15, From Matthew 7: 24-27
March 12, 1811 Marries Margaret Brown.

- May 4, 1811, Christian Association Of Washington Becomes Church At Brush Run
- Began To Celebrate The Lord's Supper weekly
- June 16, 1st Meeting In New Brush Run Building
- 1812, Jan. 1st — Ordained To The Work Of The Ministry
- 1812, March 13th — His Daughter Jane Born

1811, Age 23
Brush Run
1811-1823
Begins A New Study Of The Subject Of Baptism

- June 12, 1812
  Immersed By Elder Matthias Luce, Of The Baptist Church, On The Confession Of Faith In Christ As The Son Of God.

- Thomas Campbell, Concedes To Him The Leadership Of The Movement At Age 24
Campbell
Baptism In
Buffalo
Creek
June 12, 1812
1813 John Brown, His Father-In-Law
Gives Alexander Campbell His Farm.
1814 - Campbell
At Age 26
1815 Campbell Goes East, To Philadelphia, New York And Washington, D. C., To Solicit Funds To Build A Meeting-House At Wellsburg, Securing $1,000.
1816 Sermon On The Law

- Brush Run Joins Redstone Association of Washington
- August 30, 1816 – Cross Creek Baptist Church – Elder Pritchard, preacher there.
- Another preacher was appointed to preach, but could not as he was sick. Campbell volunteered
- Later referred to the message as “rather extemporaneous”
- Alexander Campbell Preaches The “Sermon on The Law”
- Sermon Content – Rightly Dividing Truth
- It Marks The Beginning Of The Separation From The Baptists
1818 Issues His First Challenge To Religious Discussion

- Opens Buffalo Seminary, Boarding Young Men In His Home

Hours Each Day Spent
In Study Only With Light From Above

Second Edition Added For Seminary
1823, July 4, First Issue Of The Christian Baptist

- August, Buffalo Seminary Closes Due To Overwork & Little Attendance
- October, 300 Mile Horseback Visit To Kentucky, Accompanied by Sidney Rigdon
1820 Campbell Debates John Walker at Mt. Pleasant, Ohio On The Subject And Action Of Baptism

- August 30—Mahoning Association Formed
- 1821 Adamson Bentley and Sidney Rigdon Visit Campbell At His Home, Remaining Two Days
- They Embrace The Restoration Plea Through Campbell's Influence
- Sidney Rigdon Becomes Preacher For The Church At Pittsburg
Preparation For: Campbell/McCalla Debate Of 1823

- William L. McCalla, Presbyterian
  - According To Campbell, McCalla Was “Smoke In Their Eyes And A Thorn In Their Sides” Among The Baptist Community
- October 15-21, 1823 In Washington, Mason Cty. Kentucky
- Subject: Christian Baptism
- Preparation Was A Joint Effort With Thomas Campbell & Walter Scott
- Alexander Campbell Prints Debate
In The Discussion, Campbell argued that baptism was for the remission of sin.

Spring of 1826, B.F. Hall found a copy of the debate and read it.

- In his preaching, many had come to the mourner’s bench and found no relief.
- When reading the debate, he noted Campbell’s teaching on baptism for remission of sins, at which point, he raised his hands and said, “Eureka! Eureka! I found it! I found it!”
- With this discovery, the purpose of baptism quickly spread throughout the church.

Buried at VanAlstyne, TX, his stone says:

He was ordained to the ministry, May 1st, 1828. And was the 1st in Ky. to preach salvation through obedience to the Gospel.
1824 Redstone Association Ready To Expel Wellsburg Church

- They Withdrew Before The Action Is Taken.
- Wellsburg Church Received Into Mahoning Association.
- Tour Of Kentucky, Meets John Smith And Leading Baptists.
- Introduced To Barton W. Stone
- Began The Series "Restoration Of The Ancient Order of Things."

Raccoon John Smith

Barton W. Stone
October 22, 1827 Death of Margaret Campbell.

- Publishes "Living Oracles."
- The Sacred Writings of the Apostles and Evangelists of Jesus Christ, Commonly Styled the New Testament. Translated from the Original Greek, by Doctors George Campbell, James Macknight, and Philip Doddridge
- Walter Scott Elected Evangelist Of Mahoning Association.
1828 Walter Scott Begins Work In Mahoning Association.

- Second Edition Of "Living Oracles."
- Publishes First Hymn-Book
- Marries Selena H. Bakewell of Wellsburg, July 31, 1828 – Nine Months After Death Of Margaret
Accepts Robert Owen's Challenge To Debate The Claims Of Infidelity As Opposed To Religion.
1829 – Campbell / Owen Debate

- April 13-21, Debate On Existence Of God Conducted In The Methodist Church At Cincinnati, Ohio
- Campbell Spoke For 12 Hours
- The Principles Of The Reformation Spread To England And Ireland.

Robert Owen
Elected as Delegate and attends the Constitutional Convention of Virginia.
4th President of the U.S., James Madison said: “It was my pleasure to hear him very often as a preacher of the gospel, and I regard him as the ablest and most original expounder of the Scriptures I have ever heard.”
What Some Said Of Him

- Robert E. Lee, Civil War General, “He was a man in whom were illustriously combined all the qualities that could adorn or elevate the nature to which he belonged; knowledge the most varied and extended, virtue that never loitered in her career nor deviated from her course. A man who, if he had been delegated as a representative of his species to one of the many superior worlds, would have suggested a grand idea of the human race.”
January 4, Millennial Harbinger Begins

July 5, Last Issue Of The Christian Baptist Produced
1830 Mahoning And Stillwater Associations, Ohio, Dissolve Resolving To Meet As Annual Meetings, Without Authority

- Debates Obadiah Jennings, a Presbyterian Minister, at Nashville, Tennessee “Debate On Campbellism”
- Sidney Rigdon Espouses Mormonism
1831 Union Of The Reformers (Disciples of Christ) and Christians Under The Leadership of Barton W. Stone in Kentucky. This United Body Had 10,000 Members In The State.
1832 Separation From Baptists Takes Place In Richmond

- Reformation (Restoration) Becomes A Distinct Religious Body
- Bethany Congregation Established, Building Built

Second Building On Same Foundation - 1852
1835 Tour of Tennessee And Central Kentucky

- Enlarges Hymn-Book
- Barton W. Stone’s Name Is Added To The List Of Editors To Help Increase Unity In The Movement
1836 Robert Richardson Becomes Co-Editor Of The Harbinger

- Tours New England States, 90 Day Trip
- Meets Bishop John B. Purcell In Cincinnati
- They Clash Concerning The Use Of The Bible In The Public School, And The Results Of Protestantism
- The Campbell-Purcell Debate Is Arranged
1837 The Campbell-Purcell Debate

- On Catholicism vs. Protestantism
- Held In January 13-21, 1837, Cincinnati, Ohio
- John Baptist Purcell (1800-1883) was the 37 yr. old Bishop Of Cincinnati,
- Campbell was 48
1837 – Other Events

- A Running Debate In Harbinger On Relation Of The Pious Un-immersed To The Christian
- Strong Support For Bacon College In The December Issue Of The Millennial Harbinger
  - Calls It A Literary Institution
  - Clarifies That The Only Good Literary Institution Is Built On Good Morals
  - Expresses His Gladness To Know Bacon Falls Into This Category
1839 Plans For Bethany College.

- 1840 Bethany College Chartered And Organized, Campbell Elected President
- Donated Land Plus $10,000.00
1843 Campbell-Rice Debate, Campbell's Last Public Debate Lasted Sixteen Days

N.L. Rice

Main Street Christian Church Erected, 1841

1843 – 55 Years Old
Publishes Revised Hymnbook

PSALMS, HYMNS,
AND
SPIRITUAL SONGS,
ORIGINAL AND SELECTED;
COMPILED BY
A. CAMPBELL, W. SCOTT, B. W. STONE,
AND J. T. JOHNSON;
ADAPTED TO THE
CHRISTIAN RELIGION.

THIRTEENTH STEREOTYPE EDITION.

BETHANY, VA.
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY A. CAMPBELL.

1843.
1844 Expresses Views On Slavery

- 1846 The Harbinger Increased From Forty-Eight To Sixty Pages
- W. K. Pendleton Becomes Co-editor

W.K. Pendleton 1817-1899
1847 Alexander Campbell Tours Through England, Scotland And Ireland

- Illegally Arrested
- Gravely Ill
- During His Absence His Son Wickliffe Had Drowned, Not Informed Until His Return Home
- Invited To Speak Before Congress.
Rare Picture Of Campbell & Children

L2R Willie, Virginia, A.C. & Decima, c.1849
1849 National Convention Meets In Cincinnati, Organizes The American Christian Missionary Society

- Alexander Campbell Elected President Fills This Position The Rest Of His Life
- 1849 Campbell Published His Extra On "Life And Death"
1852 — Bethany Church Of Christ

Bethany Church of Christ, the oldest church building in Bethany, was built in 1852 according to plans drawn by Alexander Campbell, founder of Bethany College and leader in the Disciples Movement. Its foundation is built of stone from the original church erected on this site in 1829. Campbell was pastor for many years, while serving as president of Bethany College.
Built To The Specification Of A.C.
1852 Tours Missouri To Secure Endowment For A Chair In Bethany College

- Delivers Two Addresses To State Legislature
- Takes An Indian Boy, With Consent Of His Parents, To Educate
At Home In Bethany

Alexander & Selina Campbell
Campbell Spent Many Hours In This Study
“The Bishop In His Study

“He Is A Living Wonder
... A New Man Every Time You Meet Him, For His Mind Seems To Be Taking A Sweep Through The Universe And Enlightening New Objects At Every Inch Of Its Orbit”

—J. A. Garfield, 1853
1853 Jesse B. Ferguson in Nashville 
Teaches Post-Mortem Gospel 

Campbell Exposed The False Teaching, Going To Nashville For This Purpose.
1854 Thomas Campbell Died January 4 At Age Of Eighty-Three.
House Completed In 1793

Second Section Added To House Buffalo Seminary In 1819; Brick Dining Area Added In 1836; Stranger’s Hall Added In 1840
During The Time The Buffalo Seminary Was Being Run In The Home The Campbells Lived In The Basement. The Mildew And Damp Environment Led To The Deaths Of Two Children & Sickness Among All
Inside The Mansion
Sitting Room
Actors Pose Showing How Life Would Have Been In The Campbell Home
Bedroom Of A. Campbell
Bedroom Of Alexander Campbell
Death Bed Of Alexander Campbell
Dining Hall, Added In 1836
Death Bed Of Thomas Campbell
Well Known Dignitaries Stayed In Stranger’s Hall

Included Were Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, Jefferson Davis, Daniel Webster & James A. Garfield
Stranger’s Hall

The Wall Paper In Stranger’s Hall Came From Italy. While Visiting In Nashville, Tennessee, Campbell Saw This Paper While Visiting Andrew Jackson At His Hermitage Home
1855 Campbell Completes The Task Of Revision Of The Acts Of Apostles Assigned Him By The Bible Union

- Dr. J. B. Jeter, Richmond, Va., Publishes His Book, "Campbellism Examined."
- Campbell Reviews It In The Harbinger, Vol. 1855, page 512. May
- Moses Lard Was Selected To Respond In Print
- His Friends Noticed That His Memory Became Defective
The Elderly
Alexander Campbell
1856 He Visits, St. Catharine's Springs, Canada With His Wife And Daughter Decima & Made Another Tour Through Virginia

- 1857 Tour Through South For Endowment Funds
- School Building At Bethany Burned
- 1858 Campbell, Nearly Seventy Years Old, Started Resolutely To Secure Funds To Restore The College
At Washington He Spoke In The Baptist Church Building. President Buchanan And Several Members Of His Cabinet Being Present.

- The Corner-Stone Of New College Building Was Laid

President James Buchanan
1791-1868
Served 1857-1861
1860 "Lectures and Addresses" Published

• Campbell Publishes His "Life of Thomas Campbell"

• Addition of Instrument at Midway, Kentucky — Campbell had written in the M.H. that the addition of an instrument in worship would be like adding a cow bell to a concert.
1861 The Sage
Of Bethany
1862 Writes His Will

- The Harbinger Reduced From Sixty To Forty-Eight Pages
1864 Campbell Attended The General Convention For The Last Time

• He Gives The Copyright Of The Hymn-Book To The American Christian Missionary Society
1865 Campbell Relinquished The Editorship Of The Harbinger to W. K. Pendleton

W.K. Pendleton 1817-1899
Campbell’s Declining Health

- November, Campbell's Last Article In The Millennial Harbinger Is Published
- 1866 He Is Confined To The House By A Heavy Cold
- Assisted In Ordaining Elders At The Church At Bethany
- February 25 He Was Confined To His Bed, And Never Arose From It
March 4
At 11:45 P.M
Campbell Finishes His Course

His Selina Comforted Him With "The Blessed Savior Will Go With You Through The Valley Of The Shadow Of Death." He replied: "That He Will! That He Will!"
These Were His Last Words.
For Five Summers After Campbell Died, Selina Campbell Had His Study Chair Placed In The Cemetery At The Grave Where Students And Other Visitors To The Grave Could Sit And Contemplate The Life Of This Great Champion
What Some Have Said

- Jacob Creath said: "I do claim that he shall stand in the front rank of the most illustrious benefactors of his race since the death of the apostles. He will compare favorably with any of the apostolic fathers in point of learning, talents, purity, and usefulness."

- John T. Johnson said: "The debt of gratitude I owe that man of God no language can tell."

Ex-President Madison says: “It was my pleasure to hear him very often as a preacher of the gospel, and I regard him as the ablest and most original expounder of the Scriptures I have ever heard.”
Access To God’s Acre
God’s Acre
Buried Among His Parents, Wives & Children
In Memoriam
Alexander Campbell
Defender Of The Faith
Once Delivered To The Saints
Founder Of
Bethany College
Who Being Dead Yet Speaketh By
His Numerous
Writing And Holy Example
Born In County Of
Antrim, Ireland
Sept. 12, 1788
Died At Bethany, Va
March 4, 1866
Margaret Campbell  
Wife Of  
Alex Campbell  
Died  
Oct. 22, 1827  
In The 37 Yr  
Of Her Age  

Selina H. Campbell  
Wife Of  
Alex Campbell  
Born  
In Litchfield, England  
Nov. 12, 1802  
Died At Bethany, W. Va.  
June 28, 1897