

Petition, SC, York, 1832 College

South Carolina]
York District]

At a court of general sessions being Holden at York Court house fall term 1823.

We the Grand Jury present in a grievance the resent decline of our college establishments at Columbia we think the institutions nurtured by the state could not be on the decline if the immediate officers of the institution were free from censure. That it is evidently not as flourishing as when under the care Dr. Maxey [Jonathon Maxey] cannot be desired, and is it not strange that as the world grows older men should become less, regardless of literature. This court believes but for the present government of the college is not such as to ensure its future prosperity - certainly a subject of vast importance to the good people of this state.

The grand jury would beg leave to state that they believe that many of the people of the state refuse to give their children collegiate education because they fear their religious & moral principles would be in danger of corruption this objection really exists to ones college is it not worthy the attention of the legislature, surely it is and we recommend to that body full investigation of the subject and if necessary to remonet [repeated warning] of those gnomon [who know] from whom such fears arise.

The grand jury are desirous of dealing plainly we therefore say that Doctor Cooper the president of the college is at this time remarkably unpopular many are the objections made against him. Let his abilities be what they may, the public cry is such that many persons object to educating their children under his direction by which means we find the number of students greatly diminished from what it originally was. Whether their objection are ill founded or not to the people they are the same because they have these effects which is a destruction of the college.

We therefore recommend an investigation of this subject by the legislature and we hope if it is necessary that.

A true copy from the minutes October Term 1823

JOHN HENRY C C
JOHN THOMPSON, FOREMAN
SOLOMAN HILL
AUGUSTUS BRIANT [BRYANT]
JOHN BARNES
WILLIAM CLARK
PHILIP WILLIAMS

SAMUEL HENDERSON
HUGH MCWHORTER
EDMUND ACOCK
NATHANIEL GIVENS
JOHN STEELE
RESIN WOOD