

volume appears to "be Mrs. Fergusson's entire poetic output from 1752 to 1772, from age 15 to 35," (*Occasional Miscellany*, LCP).

Elizabeth Graeme Fergusson wrote two volumes of poetic interpretation of the Psalms from 1766 to 1767. The volumes include notations in Fergusson's hand and an introductory letter addressed to the Reverend Richard Peters, in which she states, "I began them without any kind of intention of going regularly through with them, but I was [illegible] led on farther and farther and the task grew daily more and more pleasing." In addition to her poetic interpretation of the Psalms, the introductory letter to a close family friend, Reverend Richard Peters, provides valuable insight into her own religion, particularly in regards to the Psalms of David.

"Télémachus" is a poetic translation of Fénelon's *Adventures of Télémaque* and is presented by Fergusson in two volumes. Fénelon wrote *Télémaque*, a continuation of Book IV of the *Odyssey*, around 1695. Fergusson's formal title of the work is: "A Discourse of Epic Poetry and of the Excellence of the Poems of Télémachus by the Chevalier Ramsay, author of the Travels of Cyrus Translated by [M. des MM GRANT FORD]." These two volumes, completed in 1769, include Fergusson's "translator's notes" which were added in later years and which include the statement, "Télémachus was a favorite book with her from her childhood; and having a little turn to rhyme entertained herself with endeavoring at a translation of it from the French into English Heroic verse." These translator's remarks include a brief overview of her intentions with many segments of the manuscript.

This collection will be extremely valuable to any researcher interested in Elizabeth Graeme Fergusson and women poets and writers in colonial America and the early United States. In all probability, this collection represents all of her work, mostly unpublished, including letters in poetic verse within her books of poetry. These volumes provide a female commentary on contemporary events, of which she was likely well versed as she was friends with and respected by many Philadelphia, American, and European intellectuals.

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## Administrative Information

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