

Watts (Watt).

PREPARED BY ALBERT WELLES.

President of the American College for Genealogical Registry
and Heraldry, Society Library, New York, in connec-
tion with Family Records and Derivations of
Brigadier and Brevet Major-General
JOHN WATTS DE PEVSTER, M. F. S. N. Y.,
LL.D., Litt. D., A. M., &c.

Paragraphs within [] by J. W. de P.

Hon. JOHN WATTS (I.)

Was one of the most prominent and efficient of the gentlemen who founded the New York Society Library, in the year 1753, and was chosen one of the twelve trustees. The sixth gentleman on the first Board of Trustees at the meeting held on 7th May, 1754, was the Hon. John Watts. His name is the first among the incorporators and on the charter granted by King George III. to the Society Library, anno 1772, which charter he had been the most active and efficient to procure.

He was born in New York, 5th April, 1715, o. s. He was very precocious from childhood; and, as soon as old enough, was sent abroad to complete a finished education, and became one of the most eminent lawyers in the country.

In the year 1752 he was one of the Members of Assembly for the State of New York; and, with his colleagues, David Jones, John Thomas, Paul Richards, William Walton and Henry Cruger, was appointed to defend New York against both New Hampshire and Massachusetts, to settle the boundary line between those States.