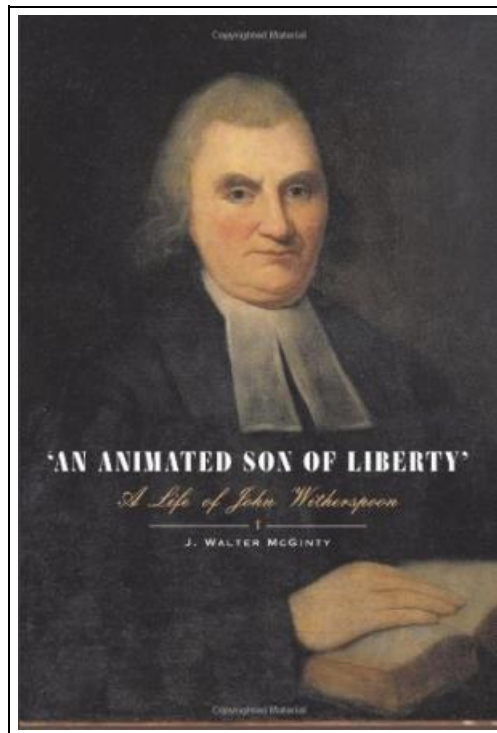


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ARENA BOOKS, United Kingdom, 2012. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ***** Print on Demand *****.This is an account of a leading 18th century Scottish churchman, the Reverend John Witherspoon. His already colourful and eventful life took an unusual turn when in 1768, as a Minister of the Church of Scotland in a Paisley parish, he was persuaded to accept the office of President of the College of New Jersey, now Princeton University. Within a year of taking up this academic post, he became involved in the Colonies struggle for Independence. He was elected to Congress in 1775 and in 1776 was the only clergyman to sign the Declaration of Independence. During his time of office as a Congressman, he served on over one hundred and twenty Congressional Committees and occupied key positions on both the Board of War and the Foreign Affairs Committee. He had a hand in drafting two of the foundation documents of the thirteen United States: the Articles of Association and the Declaration of Independence. Later, he was to provide the instructions to the United States Delegates at the Paris Peace Conference in 1783. He was only prevented from participating in the Constitutional Convention which resulted in the production of the Constitution of the United States of America in 1789, because he had been already commissioned by the Presbyterian Church in America to Chair the Committee that was to produce its Confession of Faith and Books of Church Order and Discipline. Witherspoon transformed the College of New Jersey by broadening its curriculum to offer courses that would provide a substantial education for any one preparing for any of the Professions, or to engage in public life. He was a colleague of the first four Presidents of the USA: Washington, Adams, Jefferson and Madison...



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