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After reading Hume's letter to Dick,¹ Professor Ian Ross kindly brought to my attention William R. Brock's book, *Scotus Americanus: A survey of the sources for links between Scotland and America in the eighteenth century*. There is helpful information in Brock's book to identify the two Scots referred to by Hume in his letter to Sir Alexander Dick.

The first of these men is likely to be the Reverend George Panton,² who had been in charge of the Grammar School at Jedburgh in 1769 and had obtained a degree from Marischal College. After becoming a clergyman of the Church of England, he set out for New York to take employment as tutor to the children of a Colonel Philips. He arrived there by June 1773. Hume belonged to a number of influential friends who supported him in his undertaking. In his letter to Dick, Hume asked him to recommend Panton to a certain Mr Smith. This person is probably the Reverend Dr. William Smith,³ an episcopal divine, who was born in Aberdeenshire in 1727. After becoming a tutor to the children of Josiah Martin, he arrived in New York in May 1751. During his short stay he wrote an anonymous pamphlet in which he urged the foundation of a King's College there. The college came into existence in 1754, changing its name to Columbia University later on. Smith played an important role in the development of American higher education by promoting the new educational method of the Scottish universities. He was appointed to teach logic, rhetoric, ethics, and natural philosophy at Benjamin Franklin's new College of Philadelphia in 1754 and became first Provost of the then University of Pennsylvania a year later. It was Smith who edited and published *American Magazine* for the first time.

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1. Heiner Klemme, "David Hume to Alexander Dick: A New Letter," *Hume Studies* 16, no. 2 (November 1990): 87-88.
2. William R. Brock, *Scotus Americanus: A survey of the sources for links between Scotland and America in the eighteenth century* (Edinburgh, 1982), 42, 107-8.
3. Brock, 111-12.