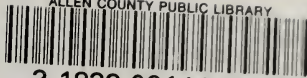




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The  
Pennsylvania-German  
Society

PROCEEDINGS AND ADDRESSES

V. 15

AT

GERMANTOWN, OCT. 25, 1904

VOL. XV A

PUBLISHED BY THE SOCIETY

1906 A

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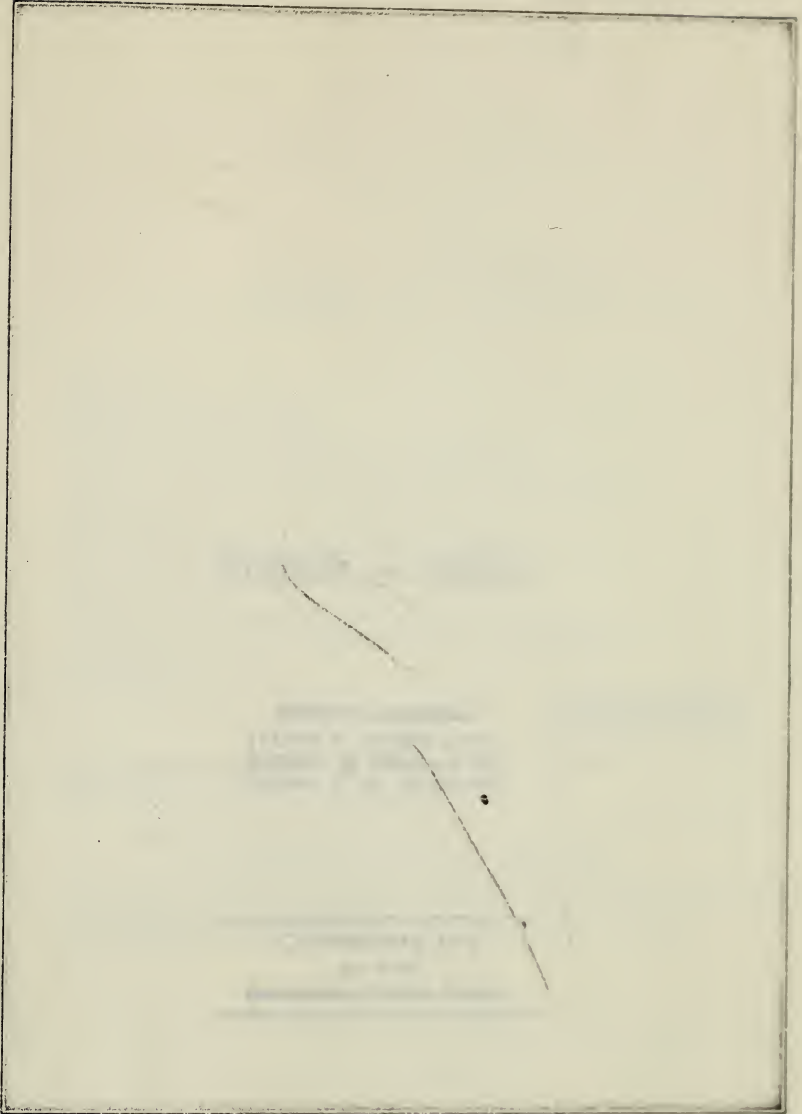


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THE PENNSYLVANIA-GERMAN SOCIETY.



*James A. Stewart*



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**Publication Committee.**

JULIUS F. SACHSE, Litt.D.  
DANIEL W. NEAD, M.D.  
HENRY M. M. RICHARDS.

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### **Pennsylvania** — THE GERMAN INFLUENCE IN ITS SETTLEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT:

Part XV. The Pennsylvania-German in the French and Indian War, by H. M. M. Richards.

Frederick the Great and the United States, by J. G. Rosengarten.  
Old Historic Germantown, by N. H. Keyser, D.D.S.

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# OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

FOR 1904-1905

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REPORT OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
PENNSYLVANIA-GERMAN SOCIETY  
AT ITS  
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL MEETING  
HELD AT GERMANTOWN, PA.

ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1904

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**T**HE Executive Committee of the Society held its regular quarterly meeting, at the residence of the Treasurer, Dr. Julius F. Sachse, 4428 Pine Street, Philadelphia, at 2:00 P. M. on Monday, October 24, for the transaction of its business.

MORNING SESSION.

The Fourteenth Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania-German Society was held in the Market Square Presbyterian Church, Germantown, Pa., on Tuesday, October 25, 1904.

The members joined with, and were the guests of, The Site and Relic Society of Germantown, in celebrating the



two hundred and twenty-first anniversary of the founding of Germantown, Pennsylvania, and the beginning of German emigration to North America.

The large gathering was called to order by the President, the Rev. John S. Stahr, D.D., President of Franklin & Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., at 9:30 A. M.

After an eloquent invocation by the Rev. Prof. H. E. Jacobs, D.D., LL.D., of the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Mt. Airy, the Society was kindly welcomed to Germantown by Elliston P. Morris, Esq., Vice President of The Site and Relic Society.

#### ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

As an officer of The Site and Relic Society of Germantown, it is my pleasant duty, on its behalf, to welcome to our old town the members of the Pennsylvania-German Society, whose Executive Committee has done us the honor of selecting this part of our city for its annual meeting. Perhaps few places more fitting for this could have been found, for here came that noble band of German emigrants, first attracted to the "Holy Experiment," the reasons for which were so forcibly explained by William Penn himself to those in the Fatherland that they left home and all its ties to try their fortunes in the New World. The practical aim of these emigrants is shown on their adopted seal, for there appears the flax and the spinning wheel, interwoven with the Indian corn and wheat.

Penn, with his large-hearted liberality, granted to the little colony the land on which Germantown stands, and soon the present Main street was dotted with houses, built, it is said, to face upon an old Indian trail, which may explain its easily discernible crookedness. They



built well in those days, and there may still be seen a few of these works of the early settlers or their children.

That such emigrants, with their sturdy arms and habits, were a great success is no marvel, and soon the little settlement rose into prominence and became noted both for agriculture and manufacture. Even still the town is famed for its hosiery and knit goods, and for its Germantown wool, the latter of world-wide fame. But its record for good works was not behind, for here Christopher Sauer first printed his German Bible, and the German Friends of Germantown were the first to raise their voice in protest against human slavery, and started that tremendous uprising which culminated in our late Rebellion, and the ultimate freedom of the slave under the proclamation of the sainted Abraham Lincoln.

Whilst you are in our midst we wish you should feel at home. I do not doubt in your rides about the town you will have pointed out to you a number of places of interest. Many of them it is the object of our society to mark with tablets, so that when we have passed away the next generation may know what we do, and with us honor such men as Pastorius, Sauer and Rittenhouse, and in turn strive to follow after them.

The old German Reformed Church building, which in 1776 stood just where this beautiful modern one has been erected, was a model of those in the old Home Land, and I have never ceased to regret its demolition; in fact, I cannot believe if it had stood till now that the present congregation would ever have allowed it to be taken down. It was truly quaint and striking. In its little belfry hung a bell which, though long unused, I have heard the congregation still preserve, and the rosy-cheeked cherubs which, with their long trumpets looked down on the earnest worshippers and were a marvel to my childish eye.



It was here that the great George Washington worshiped when he occupied the house nearby, as President of the United States, during the terrible visitation to our city of the yellow fever in the years of 1793-94. Then the services were altogether in German, and I myself well remember when English preaching was alternated with the German. But that has all passed away, and different indeed is the present congregation from the one that then worshiped here. The same house that President Washington afterwards occupied was seized by the British at the time of the battle of Germantown, and they made it the headquarters of Lord Howe, and from it he issued his orders to his troops. I am glad it has for the last one hundred years been owned by one family, and its successive owners have kept everything as near as possible as they were in those stirring times.

The houses of the Wisters, the Ashmeads, the Haineses, the Channons, the Johnsons, the Billmyers and others, and the Chews (the latter known as the battle ground) are all much as they were then, and each has its history. You will see also the quaint old Mennonite Meeting House, whilst on the Wissahickon you will have pointed out the birthplace of Rittenhouse and the old monastery. At the Germantown Mutual Fire Insurance Company, only a stone's throw from where we are sitting, you will see the old hand fire engine imported for the town in 1764, which was housed on the square opposite, and is one of our precious relics. The school house, in the Alumni Hall of which you expect to dine, is also of rare historic interest. The academy building was erected and held as it still is by the freemen of the town, and they still choose the principal and the board of directors.

It is a most successful institution, and under the wise





administration of Professor William Kershaw has become widely known both at home and abroad.

The solid stone building was just finished when the appeal to arms in 1776 was sounded. As good loyal citizens, and subjects of King George, the then directors had sent to Great Britain for a bell to hang in their beautiful steeple, and it, having been cast, was sent in the tea ship which came to Philadelphia. But neither the ship nor its cargo were suffered to land. Though less bellicose at the time than our New England brethren (who threw their ship load of tea into Boston harbor), the gentler sons of Penn ordered the vessel and its freight to return to England, where both remained till the angel of peace spread its wings, and the hearts of the people were sufficiently warmed to welcome the bell, when it was safely hung in the belfry, and where it has since rung its daily peal.

On the steeple, when built, was placed a vane, and above it the British crown. There, happily, it is still in place, and when you visit the spot, and hear the bell, which you certainly will, and see the crown above it, you will I know with me honor the spirit which has preserved both, and feel none the less the true pride of an American citizen.

The response to this kind welcome was ably made, on behalf of the Society, by the Rev. L. Kryder Evans, D.D., of Pottstown, Pa., as follows:

RESPONSE TO THE ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

*Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen:* I wish, first of all, to express my great pleasure in responding to the cordial welcome that has been extended by your honorable representative to the Pennsylvania-German Society. The occasion is most auspicious. This is the "Fourteenth An-



nual Meeting of our Society—and commemorates the two hundred and twenty-first anniversary of the founding of Germantown and the beginning of German emigration to *North America.*” I assure you that our Society deems it a *privilege* as well as a pleasure to meet in your midst to-day. After having been the guests of the cities of Lancaster, York, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Reading, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton and Norristown—those centres of the Pennsylvania-German element, we now come—as your guests—to old Germantown—our common Mecca, the Mother City of Pennsylvania Germandom. Did time permit—it would be pleasant to go back to the exodus of our German forefathers. An exodus is always interesting—and has been from the time our first parents left their Eden home; when Abram was called to forsake his country and his father’s house; the exodus of Israel from Egypt; how, all along the highway of history, the exodus has played an important and interesting part. How *impressively* the great migrations of nations in ancient and modern times have appealed to the imagination! What a deep interest they possess for the student and what rich material they furnish for history and poetry! That immortal work—Milton’s “Paradise Lost” was born of the first human exodus. It was an exodus which gave rise to Goethe’s beautiful idyll, “Herrman und Dorothea.” It was a similar expatriation that gave birth to Longfellow’s “Evangeline.” So the presence of the Germans in this country, but more especially in Pennsylvania, is due to an exodus. Between their advent and the present there lies a stretch of nearly two and a quarter centuries. What great events have taken place and what wonderful transformations have been wrought during all these years! But I must not digress.



We have come to share with you in the festivities of this glad anniversary which marks the beginning of German Emigration to this country. It is not our purpose to make this an occasion of self-glorification. It is not, nor has it ever been, our intention to detract from the merits or standing of any nationality that has contributed in making our Keystone State great as it is. But it has been, and still is, our humble endeavor to bear testimony to the integrity and worth of the Pennsylvania-Germans, and in a less step-motherly way than has been customary in the years gone by. There is not a nook or corner in all eastern Pennsylvania that is not hallowed by the memory of our German ancestors. But more especially is *this* historic spot—*Germantown*—richly freighted with sacred memories. What Athens was to Greece

“The eye of Greece  
Mother of Arts and Eloquence.”

that Germantown has been, in a great measure, to our great Keystone State. Here lived and reigned the great scholar and school-master—the truly eminent as well as learned Francis Daniel Pastorius, and who was the first to raise the standard of education in our commonwealth. Here Zinzendorf delivered his first message. Here lived Schlatter, the missionary and ardent advocate of popular education. On this very spot where we are now assembled the great Washington bowed in prayer and worship—then a German Reformed Church.

Here the printing press was first set up. Here was printed the first Bible printed in America—*fifty years* before a Bible was printed by the descendants of the “*Mayflower*.” In those early days, in this community, there were Germans who could teach the languages, higher



mathematics, metaphysics, music and painting. In learning, as well as in public and private virtues, those early German pioneers were the peer of any other nationality. They were preeminently distinguished as artisans, farmers and mechanics. As an evidence of their thrift and enterprise, we recall that as early as 1760 the produce of eastern Pennsylvania was so great, that it required between eight and nine thousand wagons to haul their goods to Philadelphia to market.

Later on in their history, as we come to gather up the muster-rolls of the dark days of the Revolution, we find many German names,—patriots who contributed their full share in treasure and blood for their country. In the War of the Rebellion 80,000 Germans fought on the Union side. In every endeavor to promote thorough culture as well as the triumphs of a Christian civilization, the Germans have borne a conspicuous part. Let us keep alive in song and story their virtues, and transmit to posterity what is precious in their memories. We come to you to-day with a membership of 460, and with a literature of 13 volumes—printed in the best style of the printer's art. Our publications are eagerly sought after at home and abroad; and we have scarcely more than begun. Much rich material still waits to be gathered and treasured. We will continue making honest and earnest endeavors to pay the debt we owe to the memory of a people of humble but genuine worth, but who, through their characteristic modesty and reserve, have been suffered to pass unnoticed and unnoted. Again, let me assure you that your cordial welcome is fully appreciated and accepted with hearty thanks.

The annual address of the President, the Rev. John S. Stahr, D.D., LL.D., President of Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa., was then read.





PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

*Ladies and Gentlemen:*

The history of the Pennsylvania-Germans presents many features of uncommon interest, and the interest grows in proportion as their history is better understood. The time has long since passed when men who could lay any claim to a thorough knowledge of the early history of Pennsylvania would allow themselves to look with any degree of pity or contempt upon these people as a whole; and the long array of names eminent in art, science, business, politics, education and religion is sufficient proof that they had among them an abundance of men who possessed a high order of intellectual ability and moral worth. And yet, it must be confessed, that going hand in hand with native ability and nobleness of character, there has been a lack of progressive energy such as might, if it had been present, have given the representatives of this race a position in the vanguard of our American civilization. Was this want of aggressiveness due to excessive modesty or to peculiar historical conditions? Perhaps to both; but the latter especially is a factor of great importance. I take it that it is the office of this Society to investigate the causes and conditions of the phenomena which our history presents, and at the same time to make room, by the deepening of the consciousness of our own worth and the removal of obstacles in our way, to reach a higher plane among the representatives of other nationalities in our composite general life.

In the development of a nation community life is of prime importance. Sir Henry Maine, in his well-known work on Village Communities, shows how, in the development of the Germanic nationality, land was held in tenure



by the whole community, and that this community, or commune, constituted the unit in the development of the national life. Our word "communism" is derived from *Commune*, and it implies the carrying to an extreme of a process which is of profound significance if properly apprehended. It is a mere truism to say that all human development is social, that no man left to himself could become a man in the full sense of the word. He is bound to his fellows and his progress depends upon his giving and receiving in his intercourse with others. Now, the association in which men stand in this way is not merely the association of individual with individual, nor is it the direct relation between one individual and the life of the state or nation at large. Men are bound together socially into communities, subject to the same conditions, animated by the same spirit, challenged by the same difficulties and inspired by a common hope. These communities, by their intercourse with each other, become conscious of the larger, fuller and freer life which animates the state or nation; and it is only through the consciousness of this freer relation that the normal development of individual and communal life is possible.

Three things, I take it, are essential to the healthy growth of a given people. First, native genius. Secondly, a proper environment, one which challenges the community's powers and brings life out of the narrow ruts of the commonplace upon the broader stage of human action, where the thrilling events of history take place. Thirdly, fidelity to the original type, the preservation of the life and genius of the particular community.

It goes without saying that nationalities and communities, like individual men, have their original gifts or their national genius. The Englishman, the Frenchman, the



Irishman, the Scotchman, the German, are all distinctively different. This difference depends not merely upon the environment. It is inherited. It migrates with the men and women of each race wherever they go, and is not without a moulding influence in their growth and mode of life under all the conditions to which they are subject. All the great nations of the world have become great because of this national capacity, the capital with which they started in the process of their development. In this respect the Pennsylvania-Germans occupy no mean place among the different nationalities which came to this country and by the admixture of their various types formed the American Nationality. In school and at college the Pennsylvania-Germans, whether upon their own heath or in the larger institutions of learning in this country, have always held their own. In mathematics, in the sciences, in English literature, they have shown themselves apt pupils; and although their life in many respects seems prosaic enough, they have shown themselves possessed at times of genuine poetic feeling, which crops out in the most unexpected places and blooms into prominence in the best representatives of the type.

National genius, however, requires a sphere in which it may manifest its powers; it needs stimulus from without in order to produce healthy, normal growth. This stimulus is found in the natural conditions by which it is surrounded. Man must earn his daily bread. He must fight against the forces of nature which make life difficult or threaten to overwhelm him. He obtains mastery over nature only by constant and skilful effort, so that the resources of the world in which he lives are made to minister continually to his well-being. But he needs, above all, the stimulus of contact with the world at large. The Greeks are



sometimes said to have developed their civilization from within—that it is spontaneous growth—autochthonous, resulting in the most beautiful culture the world has ever seen. But the torch of learning among the early Greeks was lighted by teachers who came from abroad, and the mythological narrative of the expedition of the Argonauts in search of the Golden Fleece is an allegorical representation of the fact that the stimulus for the internal growth of a nation is found in the reaching out of its life into the distant parts of the earth. The same fact is illustrated in the history of the Germanic nations. Vilmar, in his *History of German Literature*, shows how, after the conversion of the various German tribes to Christianity, they settled down peacefully to the enjoyment of the good which their religion brought them. But before they could attain to the production of a literature and a high development in the arts and sciences, a second step was necessary. They needed stimulus from without. This stimulus, he says, was furnished by the crusades, and the influence of contact with the East permeated life in Germany and in the other nations of the West, so that they brought forth the flower of poetry, of chivalry, of art and science, to the great advantage of all the nationalities that had part in the movement. This principle holds true all the world over. No nation, that does not come in contact with the life of other nations, can achieve true progress, and it applies equally to the life of communities and of individual men.

It is possible, however that contact with foreign elements may overcome the national spirit and the result may be the extinction of the true genius of a people and the substitution of elements which are foreign and ill adapted to the stock upon which it is proposed to graft them. This





point, also, is illustrated in the History of German Literature. There is no darker age anywhere than that before the so-called period of Storm and Stress, when French influence was paramount in the literature of Germany. German life and spirit sought in vain for expression until men like Herder, Lessing, Schiller and Goethe, who were genuinely German and true to their own type of life, gained ascendancy for the national spirit and ushered in a new day.

The Pennsylvania Germans, when they came to this country, settled in communities. They did not come singly into larger communities which swallowed them up so that they were immediately assimilated by the English element. They established their first community here at Germantown. The Mennonites did the same in Lancaster county. The Palatines in Bucks and Montgomery, in Lehigh and Berks, to say nothing of the distinctive settlements made by the Anabaptists at Ephrata, by the Moravians at Nazareth and Bethlehem and by the Schwenkfelders in Montgomery county. In these communities their own life was the prevailing feature. Here they made homes for themselves, found peace and rest, worshiped God in their own language, according to the dictates of their own conscience, and grew quietly until remote districts joined hands with each other so that they formed a belt across the state from northeast to southwest of which they had almost exclusive possession. Thrown together in this way and subject to a common environment, their life was more or less isolated. They were frugal and industrious, so that in course of time they became prosperous. They made the wilderness bloom like the rose. They enjoyed, in spite of their Indian foes around them, domestic peace and content. They cher-



ished their religion, they set up the printing press, they developed a literature, they cultivated a life and spirit peculiarly their own. There was, however, a want of intercourse with other communities so that they lived to some extent apart from the other settlers of the commonwealth. There was even a want of intercourse among themselves, as is evident from the fact that varieties of the dialect which they spoke have maintained themselves distinctively different even to the present day. The fact that they were to some extent different from the other nationalities breded distrust and suspicion. They became hostile to new ideas. Others who could not understand them misrepresented their character and disposition and thus the isolation became more pronounced.

The isolation which resulted in this way was not without certain advantages. It preserved intact their hereditary traits, love of liberty, simplicity and honesty, habits of industry, love of peace and domestic tranquillity. It made a steadfast population. The conditions under which they lived called for some variety of employment. The different trades flourished, certain lines of manufacture sprang up so as to meet the needs of the people, but there was no disposition to get away from their own environment. The population was largely rural, and the sons remained near the ancestral home, devoting themselves to agriculture and the peaceful pursuits which their ancestors had followed. For this reason portions of Pennsylvania settled by the Germans have always been the garden spots of our commonwealth. There are no abandoned farms; many homesteads have been generation after generation in the possession of the same families, a proof of the conservative spirit that predominated in the community. The condition of things was very much like that



which Schiller describes among the ancient Swiss, when Melchthal, outraged by the tyranny of the Austrian governors, says that he will appeal to the shepherds in the mountains under the free canopy of Heaven, where, as he says "Der Sinn noch frisch ist, und das Herz gesund"; and afterward, when he reports at the Rutli, he says:

"Entrüftet fand ich diese graden Seelen  
Ob dem gewaltsam neuen Regiment;  
Denn, so wie ihre Alpen fort und fort  
Dieselben Kräuter nähren, ihre Brunnen  
Gleichförmig fließen, Wolken selbst und Winde  
Den gleichen Strich unwandelbar befolgen,  
So hat die alte Sitte hier vom Ahn,  
Zum Enkel unverändert fort bestanden  
Nicht tragen sie verwegne Neuerung  
Im altgewohnten gleichen Gang des Lebens."

But this comparative isolation also carried with it serious disadvantages. In the first place the German community lost many of its most enterprising men because, notwithstanding their conservatism, they sought wider fields in which to operate. They went into the large cities, or into territory where the Germans were not in the ascendancy. They became English, and as the Germans failed to make provision for the literary and religious nurture of such, they went into other Churches and lost connection with the stock from which they had sprung. No doubt they carried with them their hereditary traits and other communities were benefited by their coming, but their going was a loss, nevertheless, to the German communities themselves. In addition to this, the want of contact with the larger life of a progressive community tended to produce a spirit of narrowness and bigotry, manifest particularly in some of the smaller religious bodies, who, vainly imagining that they alone possessed



the true Gospel of Christ, felt that they ought to keep aloof from the world. It is dangerous for any religious body to imagine that it alone is in possession of the truth, and that all others lie beyond the pale of the Christian Church; and the smaller the body, the greater the danger. There are in certain portions of Pennsylvania German people, good, faithful men and women who would consider it a sin to hear a sermon preached by a minister of another denomination and who refuse to read secular papers, and who, therefore, have but little knowledge of the world in which they live. It is easy to see that under these circumstances there can be no progressive unfolding of the life of a community.

It was but natural that men who fled from fierce religious persecution in their own country should prize the freedom which they found in the new land in which they had taken refuge, and that they should settle down in the peaceful enjoyment of their religion and their fire-sides. Others, religious enthusiasts, who sought solitude for its own sake, of course gave themselves up to contemplation and meditation apart from the busy world, for whose life they had no taste. We can understand how such men should pour out their feelings in the "Song of the Turtle Dove," and indulge in exalted, symbolical expressions to describe the feelings and longings which after all were indescribable. But all this put them in an abnormal relation to many public interests. They exerted little or no influence in politics in the earlier stages of their history, in fact they cared nothing for politics as long as their own freedom was not molested. They planted their school-houses beside the churches and endeavored to provide in this way for the education of their children; but when the means of education were inadequate and larger provision





was made by the commonwealth for the education of the citizens, they were not in a position to appreciate these schools and in fact, in many instances, looked with suspicion upon innovations which they might have turned to their advantage. Naturally this gave rise to misunderstanding. Strangers who did not understand their history or appreciate their life and spirit passed harsh judgment upon them, and thus isolation led to alienation, a condition that was unfortunate both for the Germans and for the commonwealth. In the larger fellowship of the Reformed and Lutheran Churches there was more room for an expansive, social life; but even in these communities they labored under great limitations. Whilst they were prosperous enough to live in comfort, they were far too poor so far as making provision for the larger things of life is concerned. There was, therefore, a woeful lack of ministers and of the means of education which tended to retard their progress.

It is well known that the English at first were afraid of the Germans, because they came in such large numbers and made a large part of the population. There was no disposition, therefore, to encourage them in taking part in public affairs. It was not until Benjamin Franklin felt that he needed them in the decision of burning questions, when the establishment of our constitutional government hung trembling in the balance, that they became a factor of importance in the political life of the state. That they possessed eminent capacity in this line, that they made not only good citizens but also good administrators, is proved by the line of German governors of the commonwealth, who were among the best and most capable that ever occupied the Executive chair. In fact we find on every hand, in every walk of life, by their success in the pulpit,



at the bar, in medicine, in business, that they possessed talents of a high order, capable of accomplishing brilliant results in the various walks of life.

At the present time no vindication of the name and character of these people is required.— Their sons have risen to eminence and are living epistles known and read of all men. The part they have taken in the development of our commonwealth is before us. The share they have had in public life speaks for itself. We may say as Daniel Webster said on a momentous occasion of New England: “The past at least is secure.”

It is important, however, to recognize the fact that the time for such limitations is past. This comparative isolation, which has been so great a drawback, should cease. So far as the Pennsylvania German dialect is concerned, its use should be limited. There is no reason why it should be perpetuated as a form of daily speech in business intercourse. It is essential that all the descendants of this race should acquire complete mastery of the English language, and put themselves in touch with the busy life of the world around them. The dialect henceforth should be considered rather an accomplishment than a form of daily speech. While it is no doubt obligatory upon the religious denominations representative of these people to make ample provision for those who need service in the German language, there is no reason why there should be any occasion for such service for the generations that are coming. The means of education, as plentiful at present, ought to bridge over the chasm, if there is one, that separates these people from the other citizens of the commonwealth.

This does not mean that the descendants of the Pennsylvania Germans should forget their ancestry. It is



above all important that they should venerate and preserve their native genius, for thus only can they be true to their own nature and attain to the full strength of vigorous manhood. There is perhaps no better illustration of the importance of remaining true and steadfast to native genius than that of the ancient Israelites. In the celebration of the Passover, when the family was gathered around the table, girded as for a journey, when they were about to eat the Pascal lamb it was incumbent upon the oldest son to ask: "What mean ye by this service?" Then the father of the house began to rehearse the history of the nation, how they were delivered out of the hands of the Egyptians by the mighty power of Jehovah, etc., and thus they were kept mindful of their religion, they preserved their sacred traditions and inculcated that splendid spirit of patriotism which has been the admiration of the world. And we, the descendants of the early German settlers, have reason to be proud of our lineage and past history. It is well for us to cherish the traditions of our fathers, in no narrow spirit, that we may be true to our genius and offer the most loyal service to the land in which we live.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Following the President's address, the Secretary, H. M. M. Richards, made his annual report:

*To the Officers and Members of the Pennsylvania-German Society.*

GENTLEMEN: I take pleasure in reporting the continued prosperity of our Society. Our membership, to date, foots up the encouraging total of 456. The new members received during the past year number thirty.



Since our last meeting all, so entitled, have received copies of our published Volumes 12 and 13. I feel assured that no one will take issue with me when I say that they by no means lower the high standard of excellence heretofore attained. Through its unequalled series of papers bearing on "Pennsylvania, as developed under German influences," this Society has gained a deserved prominence of which each and all may well feel proud. Our labors in the future should be confined, even more closely, to the perfection and completion of this most valuable work, which, though nothing else be ever accomplished, will remain a perpetual monument to the glory of our race and to our own honor.

Our loss by death has been five. To our great sorrow, of these one was our very gifted and universally lamented late President, the Rev. Joseph A. Seiss, D.D., LL.D., L.H.D., while another, equally lamented, likewise gifted and always faithfully laborious, was the Hon. Lee L. Grumbine, a member of our Executive Committee from the organization of the Society, whose loss will be especially felt because, at the time of his decease, he had in preparation a most valuable paper on the Mennonites, which was to have been read at this meeting of the Society and would have appeared in the succeeding volume of Proceedings.

Respectfully submitted,

H. M. M. RICHARDS.





TREASURER'S REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING  
OCTOBER 1, 1904.

*Dr.*

October 1, 1903, Cash Life Fund.....	\$ 250.00
October 1, 1903, Cash General Fund....	1,260.94
Dues received during year 1904.....	1,383.00
Dues received during year 1905.....	9.00
Books sold during year.....	445.00
Cash from Secretary.....	4.00

\$3,351.94

*Cr.*

By Vouchers as per book.....\$1,898.50

Cash in Bank .....\$1,453.44

October 15, Dues paid on ac-  
count 1905 since balancing ac-  
count .....\$ 342.00

October 22, since balancing ac-  
count ..... 167.00

\$ 509.00

Total balance in bank, October 24, 1904..\$1,962.44

JULIUS F. SACHSE.

*Treasurer.*

The above report was referred to an auditing committee, consisting of Abraham S. Schropp, Esq., George M. Jones, Esq., and the Rev. P. C. Croll, D.D., who subsequently reported that they had duly audited the accounts of the Treasurer and found them to be correct.



## ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place, with the following result: President, Hon. James Addams Beaver, LL.D., of Bellefonte, Pa., late Governor of Pennsylvania, now Judge of the Superior Court; Vice-Presidents, Benj. M. Nead, Esq., of Harrisburg, Pa., and Ethan Allen Weaver, C.E., M.S., of Germantown, Pa.; Treasurer, Julius F. Sachse, Litt.D., of Philadelphia, Pa.; Executive Committee, W. K. T. Sahm, M.D., of Pittsburg, Pa., to fill vacancy caused by death of Hon. Lee L. Grumbine, Rev. L. Kryder Evans, D.D., of Pottstown, Pa., Dr. John Franklin Mentzer, of Ephrata, Pa.

The morning session was concluded by the reading of the regular historical papers, forming a part of the Society's "Pennsylvania, as developed under German Influences."

Following this meeting an excellent luncheon was most hospitably served in the ancient and historic Germantown Academy.

## AFTERNOON.

The afternoon was most pleasantly and profitably spent in visiting the many places of great historic interest in and about Germantown, all of which were most kindly thrown open to the members of the Society and their lady friends. The trip was made in a number of large busses, all suitably decorated for the occasion. The places visited included the Toland House, Wagner House, Lower Burying Ground, "Coroy," "Grumblethorpe," Friends' Meeting House, "Green Tree Inn," the "Wyck" House, Mennonite Meeting House, Old Johnson House, Concord School House, home of the Site and Relic Society, Upper Burying Ground, "Upsala," "Cliveden," Dunker



Meeting House, St. Michael's Church-yard, where the bodies of the Wissahickon Monks are interred, the birth-place of David Rittenhouse, the astronomer, and the first paper mill in America.

## EVENING.

Having once more gathered in the Market Square Presbyterian Church during the early evening, the Society was treated to a series of lantern slides illustrative of "Old Historic Germantown," with accompanying descriptive lecture, by Dr. Naaman H. Keyser, of Germantown.

After a brief reception, following the lecture, the annual banquet was held in the Germantown Academy, which proved to be of an exceptionally pleasant character, with an unusually large attendance.

The music, rendered by the Germantown Orchestra, Robert W. Staton, director, included among its excellent numbers, the following very interesting historical melodies which were brought to this country by the German Auxiliaries to the British army and played by them during their occupation of Germantown in the fall of 1777: (a) The Brandewine, (b) The Anspacher, (c) The Yager Horn, (d) The Donop.

The Hon. Thaddeus C. Vanderslice filled the office of toast-master most acceptably. The toasts for the evening, which were responded to with more than usual eloquence, were: "What the Pennsylvania-German Society has Accomplished," Rev. Theodore E. Schmauk, D.D.; "The Work of the Record Commission on the State Archives," Luther R. Kelker, Esq.; "The Site and Relic Society, of Germantown," Cornelius N. Weygandt, Esq.; "The Pennsylvania-German," Governor S. W. Pennypacker, LL.D.



OPENING REMARKS OF HON. THAD. L. VANDERSLICE,  
TOASTMASTER.

*Ladies and Gentlemen:* For some mysterious reason I have been appointed toastmaster, and, as I recognize both the legal status and the competency of the committee who did this foolish thing, it is but for me to obey and to assume the duties of the office.

Now, a toastmaster is one clothed with great authority and great responsibilities. Like a taskmaster, it is for him to see that those who are detailed to do the work do it promptly and efficiently; and, like the bandmaster, he must catch the public fancy and see that the audience is pleased. Although thus clothed with responsibility and authority, he is an utterly irresponsible being in his office, amenable to no one for the truth of what he says, or what he does. He may give his fancy its wildest wing, and although not a poet he has a poet's license to say whatever fancy may dictate. Indeed, a properly constructed toastmaster is very much like a candidate for public office.—he may make any announcement, he may say something at variance with all experience and all statistics, but all that he has to do is to get his followers to follow him blindly. Now, I hope you will have such abiding faith in me to-night, that if I order any one to speak, you will help me to see to it that he speaks. It is within the toastmaster's authority to order both men and women to speak. Now, ladies, I can't tell what may happen, but as it is within the scope of authority I do assure you that if I call upon any of you to speak, speak you must. I now admonish you that if you speak too long it is my province to order you to stop; if you don't speak long enough, I may order you to continue. I want you to thoroughly understand, ladies and gentlemen, the authority





and vast responsibility of this office, which has been thrust upon me.

By way of preface, before calling upon others, who have thorough knowledge of the subject matter upon which they will address you, I feel that I should on behalf of the "Germantown Site and Relic Society" welcome to this banquet board all of the visitors who are within our gates. Ladies and gentlemen, I bid you welcome to the feast. Of course you do know that you are in modest Germantown. You who have observed and read do know that there are few places of more real historic interest, within the same square yards of area, than Germantown. Were it not for the modesty of the Germantown people, there would have been twenty shafts and monuments erected, in the various spots of rare historic interest, in this town. Why, think of it for a moment. What are our surroundings here? By way of illustration, where you were to-day at the general meeting is old Market Square. Reflect on that spot for a moment. Green's men had almost pierced that Market Square. When you see Wayne Avenue, Greene street and Washington Lane, you are reminded of, and see, in the mind's eye, that patriot army coming up over the hills, out of the White Marsh Valley, on that cold, misty, October morning. It takes but a little play of imagination to see Greene and his men marching down the Limekiln Pike and the old York Road; Wayne and Sullivan coming over Mt. Airy hill, at Allen's Lane. But for the unfortunate mishap of our right flank, between Wayne and Sullivan, Green's attack would probably have been successful and there would have been another story to tell of the result of the Battle of Germantown. That following winter of hunger and suffering at Valley Forge, might not have been



written in history. We ought to know more about Germantown, or the people outside of Germantown ought to know more about us than they do. Indeed, I fear that there are comparatively few people throughout the State who realize, and I doubt whether all of the people of Germantown realize that it was the original settlement of those sturdy Germans and Hollanders in 1683. While it may not be that all of you Germans, from other parts of the State, are descendants of the men who lived in and near Germantown, who were naturalized, while living here, the names are familiar to most of you, and as I said, while it may not be that you are all descendants of the men thus naturalized, the men who made this village, the men who had their own government, their own character, their own seal, you might well be proud to be so descended, because this was an exceptional body of men. Some of them, men of the highest literary attainment. Linguists, artists, painters, teachers, millwrights, astronomers; men who gave blood and breath to a people that helped to make this State. Now, if not trespassing upon you, I will say one thing more. I ran over to-day the petition containing the list of the men who were naturalized in 1709, after a delay of some fifteen or twenty years; by postponing consideration of their petition. While I shall not read it all, for you can find it in Volume 2 of the Colonial Records, I will mention just a few of them. The names that we find here are familiar to us in this immediate vicinity, and throughout the States.

Pastorius, Kunders, Cunrades, Keyser, Streppers, Tunnis, Arrets, Dilbeck, Sellen, Simons, Jansen, Vanderwerf, Shoemaker, Van Bebber, Vandergach, Gattschik, Engell, Van der Sluys, Kleinhof, Bucholtz, Tuymen, Ruttinheyssen, Stalls, Hendricks, Kessleberry, Koster, Gorgaes, Bartells, Krey, Jansen, Scholl, Echle, Tysen.



And I may say in that connection, and perhaps most of you know it, that one portion of the present Montgomery county, a part of course of Philadelphia county, at one time, was settled by the people from Germantown. There was a migration from here in 1702; great numbers of those people settled in the uncleared forests in the valleys of the Skippack and Perkiomen,—but I had better be careful about what I say about the Valley of the Perkiomen—I leave that to abler and wiser heads. I know that there are men and women here from Allentown, Lancaster, Harrisburg, Lebanon, Easton and elsewhere and I expect that all of them are the great great grandsons or the great granddaughters of these great ancestors.

Now, ladies and gentlemen, this has been rather a rambling sort of talk, and I think I can do something much wiser than to continue upon a subject that I am not as familiar with as I should be; and especially should I cut my remarks short, when I remember whose presence I am in. I really had intended to make something of a speech, but circumstances have arisen since this dinner began, that have changed my purpose, I think I am wise if I stop right here. If, however my premises, or conclusions, my remarks, or rulings are questioned to-night, by any one high in official station, I may be driven to say more and to use the power of my office with some severity.





Henry Field Street

Henry Field Street was born in London, England, on the 10th of July, 1815. He was educated at the University of London, and was a member of the Senate of that University. He was a member of the House of Commons, and was a member of the Council of the Admiralty. He was a member of the Council of the Admiralty, and was a member of the Council of the Admiralty.

Henry Field Street was a member of the Council of the Admiralty, and was a member of the Council of the Admiralty. He was a member of the Council of the Admiralty, and was a member of the Council of the Admiralty.

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# In Memoriam.

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Henry Field Street was a member of the Council of the Admiralty, and was a member of the Council of the Admiralty. He was a member of the Council of the Admiralty, and was a member of the Council of the Admiralty.

Henry Field Street was a member of the Council of the Admiralty, and was a member of the Council of the Admiralty. He was a member of the Council of the Admiralty, and was a member of the Council of the Admiralty.





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### Henry Kuhl Nichols.

Henry Kuhl Nichols, late Chief Engineer of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, died on November 22, 1904, in his apartments in the Aldine Hotel, Philadelphia, Pa., from Bright's disease.

He was born in Pottsville, Pa., on August 24, 1830, the son of Francis Boude Nichols (Nov. 5, 1793-June 30, 1847), son of William Nichols (Nov. 28, 1754-Oct. 19, 1804) and Margaret Hillegas (Nov. 21, 1760-July 10, 1808), dau. of Michael Hillegas, first Treasurer of the United States (Apr. 22, 1729-Sept. 29, 1804) and Henrietta Boude (Jan. 17, 1732-Jan. 25, 1792), son of Michael Hillegas (1696-Oct. 30, 1749), who emigrated to America, from Germany, about 1727.

Mr. Nichols served as a private in Company F, in the Second Regiment, Pennsylvania militia, in the Civil War.

He entered the railway service in August, 1847, and served as a rodman on the Mill Creek Railroad extension until June, 1848, when he became assistant engineer of construction on the same road. **1154931**

In 1857 he became principal assistant engineer of the United States Government, constructing the Fort Kearney and Honey Lake wagon road and preliminary survey for a Pacific road to California. From 1861 to 1883 he acted as resident engineer of the lateral roads. In March, 1883 to 1885, he was chief roadmaster of the Philadelphia & Reading Road, 1885 to 1900 chief engineer and in 1900 he resigned to become consulting engineer, which office he held until his death.



He was a Free Mason, a member of Pulaski Lodge, 216, of Pottsville; Sons of the Revolution, Hibernian Society, Historical Society, Philadelphia and Rittenhouse Clubs. He served the Philadelphia & Reading Road for fifty-four years.

He is survived by one daughter, Clara, wife of Mr. Russell Evans Tucker. He became a member of the Pennsylvania-German Society on April 20, 1897.

H. M. M. R.

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### **James Meily.**

James Meily was born June 14th, 1853, at Jonestown, Lebanon County, Pa. He was son of John Meily, b. Sept. 9, 1826, d. April 3, 1902, and Helen L. Halter, b. 1834, d. 1873 (dau. Nicholas Halter and wife Catherine Flickinger), son of Martin Meily, b. Sept. 1801, d. Sept. 1883, son of John Meily, b. 1775, d. Sept. 1826, son of Henry Meily, b. 1747, d. ab. 1820. The family were among the early emigrants to this country from Switzerland.

His great-grandmother, wife of Henry Meily, was a member of the old Lebanon family of Overholzer. She was b. 1776, d. 1854.

His grandfather, Martin, was an excellent example of a self-reliant, self-made man. During his boyhood he was reared upon a farm, and learned the trade of a potter. After attaining manhood he served for ten years as Justice of the Peace and for three years as a Notary Public. Without the ordinary advantages of education he studied law, as related to titles, becoming so expert upon the subject as to be elected surveyor of Lebanon County, holding



that office most acceptably for a number of terms. In 1823 he married Magdalene Groh, b. 1798, dau. John Groh, of Bethel Township, Lebanon Co., Pa.

His father, John, was educated in the schools of Mechanicsburg, Pa. After serving for a short time in a clerical position, he engaged in the transportation business on the old Union Canal at Jonestown. Later, he was connected with a mercantile concern in Philadelphia, and, about 1860, engaged in the iron business, with Henry Meily, at Middletown, Pa. In partnership with Richard and Henry Meily, and Lyman Nutting, he built the Lebanon Valley Furnace, at Lebanon, Pa., which was successfully operated until his death in 1902.

After attending the public schools, James was admitted to Lafayette College, from which he graduated with honors. He accepted a position with A. Wilhelm, of Lebanon. A year later he decided to embark in business for himself, and became prominent in various iron and other manufacturing industries. He was a director in the Lebanon Valley Furnace Company, owning the Meily furnace in Lebanon and an interest in the ore mines at Cornwall; he was also a director in the Lebanon Mutual Fire Insurance Company; he was largely interested in the Stirling Boiler Works, of Barberton, Ohio, and had been the eastern representative of these establishments for many years.

His decease took place, suddenly, of heart failure, on April 20, 1905, at the Hotel Shelburne, Atlantic City, N. J. His residence of late was in Philadelphia.

Mr. Meily was elected to membership in the Pennsylvania-German Society on April 20, 1897, his death thus occurring on the eighth anniversary of his election.

H. M. M. R.

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### **Franklin Dundore.**

Franklin Dundore, of the firm of F. Dundore & Co., bankers and brokers, one of the oldest members of the Philadelphia Stock Exchange, died Sunday, November 27, 1904, at his home, Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, Pa.

He was born on April 6, 1838, in Bern Township of Berks County, Pa., near Bern Church, the son of Gabriel Dundore (Dec. 20, 1799–May 29, 1853) and Lydia, born Dewees (Aug. 2, 1812–June 4, 1872), who was the son of John Jacob Dundore (Aug. 13, 1776–Oct. 23, 1861), who was the son of Jacob Dundore, b. July 25, 1720, a sergeant during the Revolutionary War, at Valley Forge. His ancestors emigrated to this country from Alsace-Lorraine, shortly after 1700.

In his early youth he was obliged to avail himself of the limited advantages of a country school at Bern church. Later he attended Rev. W. A. Good's academy in Reading. He graduated from the Iron City Commercial College, Pittsburg, in 1858. His first employment was an apprenticeship at tinsmithing, and in 1856–57 he was a dry goods clerk in Dyersville, Dubuque County, Iowa. After serving as cashier with J. L. Stichter and Bard & Reber, hardware merchants, Reading, in 1860 he took a position with Seyfert, McManus & Co., iron manufacturers, this city. In 1862 he became a partner in the firm of McHose, Eckert & Co., rolling mill operators. The mills were transferred to the West Reading Iron Company and Mr. Dundore acted as treasurer, resigning in





1865 to go into the iron commission business in Philadelphia. The panic of 1873 caused him to temporarily retire, and in 1877 he entered the business of banker and broker.

In the early 70's Mr. Dundore was a member of the Twelfth Sectional School Board, and in 1876 he was elected to Select Council from the Twelfth ward, Philadelphia, serving until 1880. While in councils he became a pioneer in the work of bettering the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, and many of the improvements are due to his efforts. In 1878 he was appointed by city councils to convey resolutions tendering the hospitalities of Philadelphia to U. S. Grant, who was then in Europe. He presented the resolutions to the ex-President in Paris, and was on the committee that received him when he visited Philadelphia in 1879.

Mr. Dundore was one of the original directors of the Sunbury & Lewistown Railroad and also one of the projectors of several railroad enterprises in Kansas which are now in successful operation. He was one of the originators of the Tradesmen's National Bank of Conshohocken. During the Civil War he served in the Twentieth Regiment, P. V. M. He was well known in Masonic circles, a member of Olympian Senate, No. 15, Order of Sparta, the Union League and the Pennsylvania-German Society, of which he became a member on April 11, 1894.

Until recently Mr. Dundore was identified with numerous enterprises, but he gave them up in order to devote his entire time to his business. His wife was a daughter of the late Charles Rick, of Reading. He is survived by three children—Charles Rick Dundore, Franklin Dundore, Jr., and Mrs. Ellen L. Dundore Sauveur.



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### **Henry Edwin Slaymaker.**

Henry Edwin Slaymaker was born October 26, 1828, at Margaretta Furnace, Lower Windsor Township, York County, Pennsylvania. He was son of Stephen C. Slaymaker, b. Jan. 17, 1802, d. April 3, 1835, and Susan Reigart, b. April 4, 1804, d. May 7, 1886, son of Samuel Slaymaker, b. April 4, 1774, d. April 3, 1830, son of Henry Slaymaker, b. Aug., 1734, d. Sept. 25, 1785, son of Mathias Slaymaker (Schleiermacher), d. 1762, a native of Strasburg, Germany, who emigrated to this country about 1710. He and his family settled on a tract of about 1,000 acres known as the "London Lands," situated in Strasburg, now Paradise Township, which he purchased from a company called the "London Company."

Mr. Slaymaker was educated in the public schools of Lancaster County and a private school. He became the Auditor of Lancaster, and served as a School Director in that city for twenty-five years, also as a Jury Commissioner for three years. He was one of the earliest of the volunteer firemen of Lancaster and a member of the Union Fire Company for fifty-nine years. During the Civil War he served as Captain of Company B., 10th Regiment, Pennsylvania Militia, in 1862. Under President Cleveland he was appointed Postmaster of Lancaster, serving from 1885 to 1889.

He became a member of the Pennsylvania-German Society on April 15, 1891. His death occurred at Lancaster, Penna., on the night of September 1, 1905.

H. M. M. R.

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### Hiram Young.

Hiram Young was born May 14, 1830, at Sheaffers-town, Lebanon Co., Pa. He was the son of Samuel Young, who died when Hiram was but six years of age. On the maternal side, his grandfather was John F. Oberly; his great grandfather was Henry Sheaffer, a Captain in the Revolutionary War from 1776 to 1783; his great, great grandfather was Alexander Sheaffer, the founder of Sheafferstown. His ancestor came to America about 1730.

After attending the village school, at the age of fifteen he was sent to Lancaster to learn the saddlery business. Being of a studious disposition he spent his evenings in reading, and, in 1850, took a position in a book store. In a few years he gave up business entirely and devoted himself to the completion of his education, entering the Lancaster High School.

Abandoning his original intention of pursuing a university course, he accepted a position with the publishing house of Uriah Hunt & Sons, and later with Lippincott, Grambo & Co., in Philadelphia.

Returning to Lancaster within a few years, he opened a book store of his own and built up a highly successful business. In 1860 he removed to York, where he opened another store, and in 1864 he began publishing the *True Democrat*, of York, which later became *The Semi-Weekly Despatch and True Democrat*. In 1876 he started the *Evening Despatch*, now the *York Despatch*.



In the early days of his career Mr. Young was a Douglass Democrat. When the Civil War came he ardently supported the Government. In 1871 he led a movement, in which he had the support of a number of Democrats, against what was known as the "York County Court House Ring." In 1888 Mr. Young ran for Congress on the Republican ticket in a minority district, but was defeated.

Mr. Young was deeply interested in agriculture. He organized agricultural clubs and did all in his power to advance the interests of the farming community. He was at one time a member of the Farmers' Alliance, and in 1890 represented Pennsylvania at a national sheep and wool-growers' convention at Washington, D. C. In 1892 President Harrison appointed him postmaster at York.

He was one of the founders of the Pennsylvania-German Society. His death took place in York, Pa., at 3:45 on the afternoon of July 13th, 1905. He is survived by his wife and four sons.

H. M. M. R.







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**Christian P. Humrich.**

Christian P. Humrich, of Carlisle, Pa., a noted local historian and most highly esteemed citizen, died, of pleuropneumonia, on January 5, 1906, at the age of seventy-four years.

He graduated from Dickinson College in June, 1852, and, two years later, was admitted to the Cumberland County Bar, where he continued the practice of law, being, at the time of his decease, the oldest member of the bar and president of the Bar Association.

For forty years he served as school director of Carlisle, thirty-seven years of which he was secretary. He was also president of the board of trustees of the Good Will Hose Company, and secretary of the Hamilton Library Association, a historical organization of Carlisle.

Mr. Humrich was a consistent member of the First Lutheran Church, and is survived by these children: Charles F., Ellen, Blanche, Mary, Mrs. Jacob Humer and Christian, Jr., all of Carlisle.

He became a member of the Pennsylvania-German Society at its organization.

H. M. M. R.

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### **Freeland Gotwalts Hobson.**

Freeland Gotwalts Hobson was born Oct. 13, 1857, at Collegetown, Montgomery County, Pa. He was a son of Frank M. Hobson, b. Jan. 22, 1830, son of Mary Matilda Bringham, b. Nov. 21, 1801, d. June 12, 1834, m. Francis Hobson, dau. of Israel Bringham, b. Feb. 28, 1770, d. Dec. 27, 1811, m. Mary Lewis, son of William Bringham, b. June 24, 1745, d. Oct. 16, 1798, m. Mary Norris, son of George Bringham, b. May 15, 1697, d. Feb. 18, 1752, son of John Bringham, m. Rosina Prache. His mother was Anna Elizabeth Gotwalts, d. Aug. 9, 1902, dau. of Jacob Gotwalts, b. Mar. 15, 1798, d. Jan. 29, 1851, m. Esther Vanderslice, son of Elizabeth Funk, m. Henry Gotwalts, dau. of Barbara Cassel, d. Dec. 29, 1792, m. Rev. Christian Funk, dau. of Julius (Yelles) Cassel, d. 1750, who came to America Oct. 16, 1727, from Kriesheim, Germany, on the ship "Friendship."

Among his other descendants from Germany were Isaac Van Sintern, b. Sept. 4, 1660, d. Aug. 23, 1737, who came to America in 1687; Dillman Kolb, b. 1648, at Wolfsheim, d. 1712, at Manheim, Penna.; Hendrick Pannebecker, b. Mar. 31, 1764, at Flombon, d. Apr. 4, 1754; Christian Moyer, d. 1751, who came to America prior to 1719. He was also descended from the Hunsicker and Vanderslice families.

Mr. Hobson was treasurer and trust officer of the Norristown Trust Company, which he organized in 1888. He was president of Group 2 of the State Bankers' Associa-




tion, a trustee of Ursinus College and a director in a number of local business concerns. He was a member of the Trinity Reformed Church, Collegeville, and served as an elder for twelve years. He was also a prominent member of the Patriotic Order of Sons of America, Camp No. 267, at Trowbridge, and, in August, 1893, was elected State president of the Order. In addition, he was a member of the Valley Forge Memorial Association, and, for twenty years, was treasurer and chairman of the executive committee. While a Republican in politics, and an earnest supporter of the principles of the party, he never sought political preferment.

He was one of the leading members of the Montgomery County Bar. His decease occurred on January 11, 1906, at his home in Collegeville, Pa., as the result of an attack of pneumonia. He is survived by a wife, who was a daughter of the late Rev. Joseph H. Hendricks, and three children.

Mr. Hobson became a member of the Pennsylvania-German Society on October 2, 1902.

H. M. M. R.





**Rev. David McConaughy Gilbert, D.D.**

The Rev. David McConaughy Gilbert, D.D., was born February 4, 1836, in Gettysburg, Pa. He was the son of David Gilbert, M.D., b. July 27, 1803, d. July 28, 1868, eminent in the medical and surgical world, being for years a professor of medicine in the Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg; son of George Gilbert, b. Nov. 13, 1781, d. Dec. 17, 1809; son of George Gilbert, b. 1754, d. Apr. 11, 1805; son of Bernhard Gilbert, b., in Germany, 1724, d. Feb. 28, 1802.

Dr. Gilbert graduated from the Pennsylvania College at Gettysburg in 1857, and from its Theological Seminary in 1859. In October of that year he was licensed to preach the Gospel, and a short time later, in 1860, he was ordained a minister of the Evangelical Lutheran Church by the Synod of Virginia, and given the pastorate of the Central Evangelical Lutheran Church at Staunton, Virginia, in December, 1859, where he remained until 1863.

He was subsequently pastor of the Church of the Ascension at Savannah, Georgia, but later returned to his former call at Staunton. A call from Grace Church, at Winchester, Virginia, in 1873, was accepted, and he was filling that charge in 1887, when Zion Lutheran Church, of Harrisburg, called him to succeed Rev. Dr. Albert H. Studebaker, who accepted a call in Baltimore.

Harrisburg has been Dr. Gilbert's home ever since, and here he labored and did noble work in the cause of religion, with the love of his congregation and the respect of Harrisburg citizens in general.





High in the councils of his church, Dr. Gilbert, at the Triennial meeting of the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, held in Pittsburg last July, made a report on "The State of the Church." He was a member of the Dauphin County Historical Society, and took an active part in civic affairs, always lending by his good work and word encouragement to any cause that was for the betterment of his fellow-man.

Dr. Gilbert was married in New Orleans in 1866, to Miss Mary Rutledge Falligant, of Savannah, Georgia, who survives him with the following children: John G., William Kent, Frederick M., David McC., Jr., Marion, Henry D., Mrs. Katherine Rutherford, wife of Robert M. Rutherford, of Steelton, and Miss Jane Gilbert.

Of his excellence and worth the Harrisburg papers have commented in the following editorial:

"Although he had held that high place for eighteen years, Rev. Dr. D. M. Gilbert, whose death is recorded this morning, was much more to Harrisburg than the beloved pastor of its oldest Lutheran church, which has been truthfully styled the parent of all the other churches of that denomination in this city.

"During all the years of his pastorate here, in every religious and philanthropic movement, in every enterprise for the advancement of the best interests of the city and its people, Dr. Gilbert was a conspicuous and influential figure, and his death will be deeply mourned by those of every creed and color.

"In his own church he was like a father to his people and over them, especially the young of his flock, his beneficent influence was almost boundless. Terrorism was no part of his equipment. He ruled by persuasion, inspired



by love and illuminated by a bright and sunny humor, altogether delightful.

“After his fine scholarship, his broad humanity and his humble piety, his most striking characteristics were his keen, discriminating judgment and his all-embracing charity. His intimate friends were accustomed to say of him that in all his years here he never made an indiscreet utterance nor did an unwise act.

“It was characteristic of him to travel many miles in the worst weather and over execrable roads, to comfort, to succor and to bring back home, some poor wanderer who had strayed as far from the right as from his friends.

“He hated sin, but had boundless pity for the sinner. His charity was like that exemplified by the meek and lowly Nazarene when He said to those who would kill the poor erring woman ‘Let him that is without sin among you first cast a stone at her.’ His was the charity that Paul wrote of to the Corinthians—the charity that suffereth long and is kind, that vaunteth not itself, that is not puffed up, that is not easily provoked, that thinketh no evil, that rejoiceth in the truth, that beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things.

“When such a man dies it is a public bereavement, but his memory and his example endure and shall remain an inspiration and a benediction.

His decease occurred on the morning of October 16, 1905. He became a member of the Pennsylvania-German Society on January 15, 1897.

H. M. M. R.

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**George Benson Dunmire, M.D.**

Dr. George Benson Dunmire was born May 2, 1837, at McVeytown, Mifflin County, Pa. He was son of Gabriel Dunmire, b. Sept., 1809, who was son of Henry Dormeyer (b. 1768, d. Sept. 19, 1844), and Catharine Geyer (dau. George Geyer), who was son of Jacob Dormeyer, who was son of Jacob Dormeyer. The family came from the Palatinate of Germany, arriving at Philadelphia in 1749 and settling in Lancaster County.

During the Civil War he enlisted in the 125th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, in 1862, and served with it for nine months. Subsequently, he received a commission as First Lieutenant of the 46th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. At the close of the war he studied medicine, and was graduated from Jefferson Medical College in the class of 1865. He practiced medicine in Philadelphia until his decease on November 2, 1905.

For many years Dr. Dunmire was Treasurer of the Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania. In addition, he was a member of the Philadelphia County Medical Society, the Pathological Society, the Obstetrical Society of Philadelphia, and the American Medical Association.

He was elected to membership in the Pennsylvania-German Society on January 15, 1897.

H. M. M. R.

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**Daniel Rhine Hertz, D.D.S.**

Daniel Rhine Hertz was born May 19, 1837, in what was then the parsonage of the old Bethany Reformed Church, at Ephrata, Pa. He was the son of the Rev. Daniel Hertz, b. Apr. 23, 1796, d. Sept. 22, 1868, then pastor of said congregation, who was son of Ludwig Hertz, b. Apr. 15, 1759, d. Mar. 28, 1821, son of Rosanna Hertz, b. Jan. 9, 1762, d. Mar. 1, 1814. His mother was Maria A. Hoover, b. July 14, 1804, d. Dec. 24, 1845, dau. of Christian Hoover.

The young man was educated in the common schools of his native township, Prof. Beck's school at Lititz, and at the Millersville Normal School. After teaching a public school in East Lampeter township for two sessions, he entered the office of Dr. Moore, at New Holland, and took up the study of dentistry, and later entered the Pennsylvania Dental College at Philadelphia, from which institution he graduated with honors. He successfully followed this profession for a period of over forty years, being recognized as one of the leading dental practitioners of the North End.

He was a life-long and very active member of the Bethany Reformed congregation at Ephrata, having served as an elder of the church for many years. He had always been prominent in all measures tending to advance the interests of Bethany congregation. His hospitable house was generally the home of the non-resident visiting ministers of the church. He also took a very active interest in





Sunday School work. He was one of the organizers of the old Union Sunday School at Ephrata, and served for many years as its superintendent.

He was an active and very prominent member of Lodge No. 43, F. and A. M. of Lancaster, having joined the organization in 1869, and having attained very high honor. He was a member of Royal Arch Chapter, No. 43, and Goodwin Council, No. 19, Royal and Select Masons; Lancaster Commandery, No. 13, Knights Templar. He was also an active member of Washington Camp, No. 227, P. O. S. of A., of Ephrata, being a Past President of that order. He was for many years a member of the A. O. U. W., of Philadelphia. He was one of the reorganizers of the Ephrata Monument Association, which organization was instrumental in having the splendid soldiers' monument erected on Zion's Hill, near Ephrata. He was a member of the Harris Dental Association of Lancaster. He assisted in the organization of the Ephrata Borough Board of Health in 1893, and was its first president. He served on the Board until 1901, when he resigned.

Dr. Hertz is survived by his wife, *nee* Lizzie Hibshman, and one son, Dr. J. D. Hertz, of Stamford, Conn., and one daughter, Miss Lena M., residing at home. Dr. S. G. Hertz and Dr. E. A. Hertz, both of Philadelphia, are surviving brothers of the deceased.

His decease took place at 8.45 P. M. on Sunday, October 1, 1905, after an illness of some six months.

He was elected to membership in the Pennsylvania-German Society on April 13, 1899.

H. M. M. R.



**Hon. John H. Weiss.**

“John H. Weiss, the sixteenth President Judge of the Courts of Dauphin County, died at his home, in Harrisburg, on the morning of the 22d day of November, 1905, in the sixty-fifth year of his age.

“He was the eldest son of John and Martha Weiss, and was born near Schaefferstown, in Lebanon County, on the 23d day of February, 1840. His early years were passed in labor upon the farm where his parents lived, and in attendance upon the common schools in its neighborhood, where his education began. He continued his studies in the Millersville State Normal School, and completed them, in 1863, as a graduate of Jefferson, now Washington and Jefferson College. His faithfulness to duty was early attested by the distinction he gained as a scholar in those institutions of learning.

“He commenced the study of law in 1863, in the office of Hon. David Mumma, of Harrisburg, Pa., and pursued it with such diligence, understanding and devotion that, when he was admitted, on fifth December, 1865, as an attorney-at-law of the Dauphin County Court, he had already given full assurance of his early usefulness and eminence at this bar. His success in his profession was immediate, and he quickly gained a numerous and important clientage, which he steadily enlarged and maintained until he passed from the labors of a lawyer to those of a judge. His conduct as a lawyer commanded and rewarded the long trust the public placed in him. In all his pro-



professional work he was ideally faithful to the welfare of all his clients, shrinking from no study, however severe, and declining no labor, however arduous, which could promote or safeguard their interests. He was preëminently a safe counselor, and his advice was much desired, by reason of its rare sense and wisdom. He did not delight in speech to juries, preferring to avoid it; but, to an extent that he never would admit, he had, and when required he used, the gift of clear statement and sensible presentation of the causes of his clients, which profoundly influenced the jurors who listened to him.

“Amid all his professional cares, he did not neglect his duty as a citizen. For many years he was a leader in the politics of his city and county, and a trusted adviser in those of the State. He was a man of large public spirit, of sincere interest in the welfare of his fellow-men, and of much service, in useful and disinterested ways, to his city and its people. His friendships were many and true, marked on his part by manifold acts of endearing tenderness, and ended only by death.

“The charm of scholarship and the grace of culture adorned him, and until the end of his days he delighted in literature, in painting, and in all the arts which refine life and console the spirit. He was an attendant of the Presbyterian Church, and had an unshaken belief in the truths of religion as revealed in the Holy Scriptures. He was a devoted son and brother, and his home was blessed by his love for his wife and children, and by their love for him. His nature was social, his hospitality generous, and his kindness of heart and its many manifestations, associated, as they were, with knowledge and humor, made his society a pleasure to his fellow-men. His many excellences of mind and character, of temperament and manner, were



so plain to the public view that when Judge McPherson resigned his office of Additional Law Judge of this district to accept the office of District Judge of the United States, Judge Weiss was, on March 14, 1899, appointed his successor, in answer to the unanimous request of the members of this bar, and he was chosen by the people of this district, without division of party, at the November election of 1899, to be his own successor for the full judicial term of ten years.

“He continued to serve as Additional Law Judge until the death of Judge Simonton cast upon him the office of President Judge of these courts. His years of judicial service were less than seven in number. But brief as that service was, it was long enough to prove, by many tests, that Judge Weiss had maintained unimpaired the high renown of the Bench of Dauphin County for ability, for learning, for justice, for honor, and for humanity, and to make his death a loss to the administration of the law, and a personal sorrow to every member of this bar.”

“Judge Weiss was a member of Common Council in 1877 and at his death one of the Public Library trustees.

“He was married in June, 1870, to Mary Virginia Fox, daughter of John E. Fox, a prominent Philadelphia banker and broker, who survives him with three children, District Attorney John Fox Weiss, Miss Caroline and Miss Marion Weiss. A son, Frank, died a few years ago in his early youth, and two daughters, Mary Virginia and Elizabeth Boggs, died in infancy.”

Judge Weiss was elected to membership in the Pennsylvania-German Society on October 24, 1901.















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