GERMANTOWNE CRIER

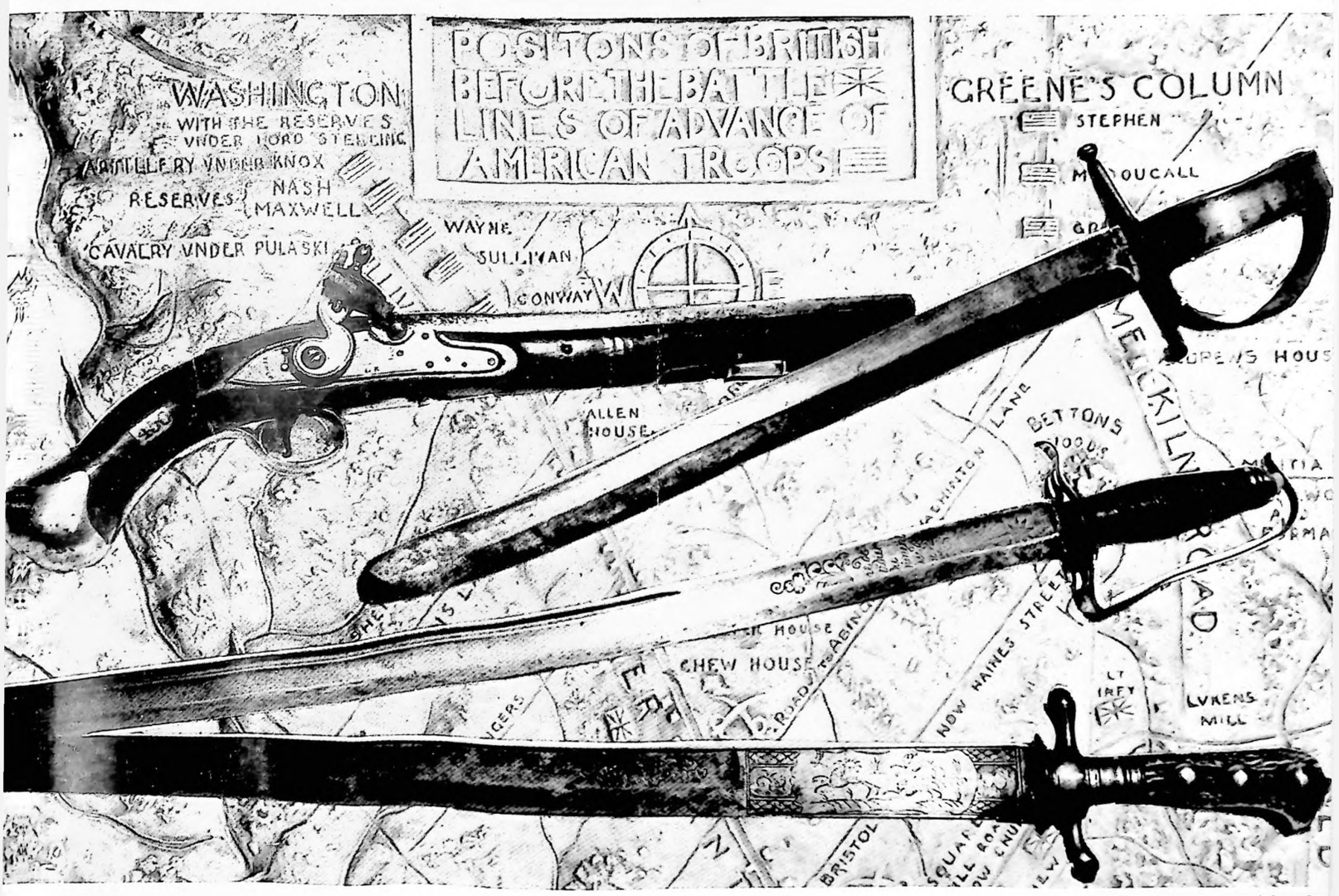


Photo by Joseph Morsello

BRITISH ARMY PISTOL, AMERICAN, FRENCH AND GERMAN BLADES IN THE MUSEUM COLLECTION (See page 7)

GERMANTOWN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Published Quarterly

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March 1955

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AIMS OF THE SOCIETY

The Germantown Historical Society is dedicated to the fostering of the cultural traditions of Germantown, the preservation of its historic landmarks, and the maintenance of the Society's Museum of historic relics.

A membership in the Society helps to further these aims. It also entitles members to attend the interesting series of monthly lectures and to receive the GERMANTOWN CRIER which is published quarterly.

Membership dues are:

Junior, Teacher, or Librarian Membership	$3.00
Annual	$6.00
Sustaining, or Business	10.00
Life (may be payable quarterly)	100.00

Subscription to the CRIER for non-members is $1.00.

The Historical Society is a source of pride and interest to many Germantowners, even outside its membership, but while enthusiasm and interest are most valuable assets, the actual necessities of operation need something sterner and more tangible.

The Society runs on an amazingly small budget and the Morris House, with whose care and upkeep the Society is proud to be entrusted, is never-theless, an arduous burden.

In making a will remember how gracious a gesture a bequest to so fine a local project would be. Thus the community would be assured of the dignified safety of its priceless historical heritage.

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AN ACTION BY THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

On motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Officers of the Society are now authorized to notify all Members of proposed changes in the By-Laws thru the medium of the GERMANTOWNE CRIER, rather than by mail, providing such notification is made at least ten days prior to the holding of a meeting at which such changes are to be voted on, (see page 27).

GIFT MAPS

Through the generosity of the Philadelphia Electric Co., we have received for free distribution a quantity of maps of the Greater Philadelphia area, made by our townsman, Jacob Riegel, Jr. Copies (in tubes) may be obtained at the Museum or the Morris House.

MUSEUM TO BE CLOSED WHILE REARRANGEMENT IS IN PROCESS

For the past several months there has been in progress a survey to obtain a more attractive means of display and logical relationship of exhibits.

Two weeks are required to complete the desired changes. Therefore the building will be closed to the public on March 14th, and reopened on March 28th, 1955.

DECORATIVE TILES

We have on sale 6″x 6″ ceramic tiles showing a front view of the Morris House.

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The speakers for the balance of the season are as follows:

March 17th:

"Medical Aspects of the Civil War" by Dr. Roy G. Williams. Dr. Williams is Professor of Anatomy at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School. In his leisure, he has devoted years of study to the Civil War.

April 21st:

"Old Quaker Meeting Houses" by Horace Mather Lippincott. Mr. Lippincott's book on this subject is an authoritative source. He was a founder of our Society and has served as Vice President and Secretary.

May

No Meeting. Germantown Week.

June 6:

Garden Party. Our speaker will be Judge Harold D. Saylor, President of the Society. He will give an illustrated talk covering the highlights of his European trip of last summer. "A Short Visit to Scandanavia and Iceland."

Many subscribers complained of missing Vol. 4, No. 4, there were but three numbers in that volume

NEW MEMBERS

Members admitted since issue of Vol. 6, No. 4, December 1954.

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GERMANTOWNE CRIER



Vol. 7 MARCH, 1955 No. 1

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SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS

Complete sets of the Germantowne Crier consisting of all numbers issued to date, are being offered (on order) at $3 per set.

The remaining copies of the "Guide Book to Historic Germantown" will be sold at One dollar each; copies of "Washington Visits Germantown" at One dollar each, in board covers, and Fifty cents in paper covers, both of these books being the work of our founder and former president, Charles Francis Jenkins.

Various issues of Volume One and Two, of the old "Site and Relic Society's" publications, are for sale at the Museum. Some of the second volumes are in the name of the Germantown Historical Society, the olde name being discontinued during that period. The prices of the separate numbers vary from 25c to $1. These can be purchased separately. The publications start from the very beginning of the Society, and many of the articles were written by old historians now dead, and constitute first hand information. An index comes for the first ten numbers, no index has been made of Volume Two. List of these early publications is available on request and will be published in next issue.

Copies of current issues of the Crier may be purchased at the Museum, the Morris House, and at various stores in Philadelphia, Germantown, Mt. Airy and Chestnut Hill.

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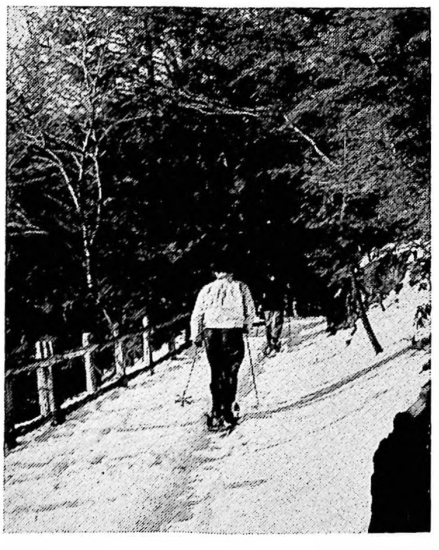
A Few Seldom Visited Historical Landmarks Near Germantown

By George E. Nitzsche

NOT FAR from Germantown, at Hartsville, on the Old York Road, is a house and barn which was occupied by George Washington and his staff as headquarters, while his army was in camp there in August, 1777. Washington crossed the Delaware about seven miles south of New Hope on Christmas night, 1776, surprised and defeated the British at Trenton on the morning of the 26th, 1776, and also defeated the British in a battle at Princeton, N. J., on January 3, 1777. General Howe then withdrew most of his troops from New Jersey, after which Washington established his headquarters for the winter at Morristown, New Jersey, from which point he could keep close lookout on Howe and his army, who were in possession of New York. Early in July, 1777, Howe was gathering together a large fleet of war vessels in New York Harbor for an expedition against Philadelphia. Washington then started his famous march towards Philadelphia, gathering together an army of approximately fourteen thousand. These were encamped during the early part of August, 1777, at Hartsville, Pa., along the Old York Road, Washington using the farm house and barn, mentioned above, as his headquarters. It was here that Washington first met the Marquis de Lafayette in August 1777, and where Washington commissioned Lafayette as a general in the Continental Army. Lafayette at that time was not quite twenty years of age. It is also at this spot where the American flag was displayed for the first time in its history. A small bronze tablet on the front of the farm house recites some of this historic data. Directly opposite Washington's headquarters, is another farm house, which was the headquarters of General Nathaniel Greene, but it bears no marker. It overlooks the old camp grounds along the creek. Both of these houses are still in excellent condition, and at present occupied and owned by private families. The interiors have been changed but little, and the exteriors are said to be just as they were during the encampment. It was from these headquarters and camp grounds that Washington's army moved to Chadds Ford and vicinity to prevent the British from taking Philadelphia. The result was the Battle of the Brandywine on September 11, 1777. On this occasion the American flag was said to be under fire for the first time; although this honor is also claimed for nearby Couche's Bridge, or Iron Hill, where there was a preliminary skirmish on September 3rd. The flag was probably carried in both places, since the Battle of the Brandywine was fought only a few days later. It is gratifying to me that the Battle Field is now a State Park. Before Washington's headquarters at Chadds Ford was burnt, I took many groups of students there from time to time, which ultimately became a tea room. It was owned, as also much of the Battle Field, by an alumnus of the University of Pennsylvania who was not interested in preserving historic sites, since I tried a number of times to start a movement for its preservation. After lying in ruins for many years, however, the house was restored a few years ago and the State took over the grounds as a State Park. It also includes the headquarters of Lafayette, and I believe that of General Howe. The place where Lafayette was wounded is marked by a monument near the Friends Meeting house which was used as a hospital, and which is still standing.

While the Americans lost the Battle of the Brandywine, it is claimed that the British here learned to respect the courage and fighting ability of the American troops. From Brandywine the British came to Philadelphia, where Washington engaged them in the Battle of Germantown on October 4, 1777. Having been defeated again, Washington gradually retired to Valley Forge in the latter part of 1777 until June of 1778, where his men suffered untold misery while the Tories and British sympathizers were entertaining British officers and soldiers in Philadelphia.

It is doubtful whether there is any other community in the United States that has as many historic landmarks and colonial buildings as Germantown and Philadelphia. Were Washington and the members of his cabinet to come back to-day and stroll along the streets of Germantown they might be able to recognize many of the seventy-five or more houses still standing as they stood when the President held his cabinet meetings in the Morris House which is now a National Monument under the immediate supervision of the Germantown Historical Society.



Snow on the Wissahickon

GERMANTOWNE CRIER

Volume 7 MARCH, 1955 Number 1

The "New Look" in Antique Weapons

By Ashley Halsey, Jr.

THE REORGANIZATION of the firearms and weapons collection of The Germantown Historical Society is now well underway with a specific goal: To present all worthwhile pieces panoramically so that visitors can see in one sweep the evolution and use of such implements in relationship to the history of the Germantown area.

To obtain the best possible presentation, the so-called Civil War room on the second floor of the society building may be adapted to house the entire display. Much of the collection has been displayed in the "Iron Room," first floor rear, where it was on the wall behind chicken wire for its protection.

In rearranging the collection, the exhibits start with the Revolutionary period; next the War of 1812 and Mexican War, and then the Civil War, plus a section of civilian hunting and "personal" guns. Space is being reserved for a small section of weapons from the Spanish-American War and World War I and II. U. S. weapons in good condition are desired as gifts to the museum. The most immediate needs are for a Krag rifle, a Model 1903 bolt action Springfield, and a Garand, preferably ones owned by Germantown veterans. Persons wishing to donate weapons may communicate with the museum or with the writer at 6369 McCallum Street, Te–9-1488, or Lo–3-6500, Ext. 350.

From previous experience in reclassifying, cleaning and rearranging handguns of the very extensive firearms collection in the Bucks County Historical Society Museum at Doylestown, I thought that I had some idea of what to expect when Chairman Frank Melvin of the Committee of Survey asked me to "look over" the Germantown collection. Since then, however, I have learned that "look over" can mean taking apart, de-rusting, polishing and re-assembling antique weapons; making minor repairs, tracing dubious histories of individual pieces, and having the mostest, mustiest fun since the archaeologists dug up Tutankhamen. The sad fact is: Nearly all the weapons in the collection have gone untouched by cleansing hands for a century or more. It usually takes two to three hours of grimy work to put one in presentable condition.

The society is fortunate in having some very good pieces, notably a pair of fine cased percussion duelling pistols and some authentic swords from the Battle of Germantown in 1777. A recent acquisition proves to be a British or Scottish officer's smallsword of the Revolutionary period. In addition, I found authentic French, German and American Revolutionary blades. The French sword, if used in the Battle of Germantown, may have been early "lend-lease" to America. French forces per se do not appear to have participated in that battle. The German blade is an excellent example of a hunting sword, with brass-studded horn hilt and a heavy blade engraved with hounds chasing a stag and a boar. As Hessian light infantry or "jaegers," literally, hunters, served on the British left flank near the Wissahickon, one of their officers may well have carried this hunting sword. The American blade which completes this edged quartet is a short, round-ended cutlass or foot artillery sword, apparently forged by a local blacksmith for use as a "chopper" rather than a "stabber," It is the homeliest of them all—and the sharpest.

Also in the Revolutionary section are a British Army pistol used in the Battle of Germantown and since converted from flintlock to percussion lock, for-

(*Continued on page 24*)

Ashley Halsey, Jr., a member of the Committee of Survey of the Germantown Historical Society, is active in four firearms organizations and specializes in antique muzzleloaders. He has written articles on firearms for The Saturday Evening Post, *of which he is an associate editor, and for other publications. He served as a Lieutenant Commander, USNR, in World War II.*

PHILADELPHIA HOSE COMPANY

From an address by RICHARD VAUX *before the Phila. Hose Company on completion of the new hall on 7th St. being the 47th anniversary of the institution of the company, Dec. 16th, 1850, held by Mr. J. B. Cooper Asst. Sec. of the company.*

IN 1800 the want of protection from fire in Phila. became too manifest; it was proved at every conflagration. At first united efforts from independent sources were relied on. Every citizen housekeeper was required by the law of necessity, and the Statute law of 1701, to provide means for general use. Fire Buckets, as they were called, made of thick leather, and intended, however, to hold water, labeled with the name of the owner, and the number, were to be kept in each house; and when needed, the owner was required to proceed to the locality with them for use.

The cisterns or pumps were the reservoirs from which the water was obtained, and the people in line, passed in these buckets, the water to the fire. Other contrivances were also in use to prevent the spreading of fire from house to house.

Let us imagine for a moment, in those early times, the alarm of "fire" given on "First-day" when, out of each pent-roof door on Front and Second Streets, and perhaps as high up town as Fifth Street, in Arch and Market and Chestnut Streets, the Quiet Quaker, in his plain neat First-day suit, his broad-brim, his breeches, and buckle shoes, and yarn stockings, with three or four of these fire buckets on either arm, proceeding in an excited gait to the nearest pump, to stand in line to pass on the water, working with conviction that it was doing unto others as he would be done by, and, after neighbor A's roof had been rid of the fire, returning home with his buckets on his arm, with soaked shoes, and muddy stockings; conscious that he has performed a voluntary task, made light by the knowledge that he is one of the many in like condition. The picture is a faithful one. He was the first of that noble band known as the Philadelphia Firemen.

In time as the city grew Engines were established by companies; to them water was conveyed by buckets. This was a great improvement at the time; still buckets were necessary. The need for a prompt supply of buckets induced a bucket company to be established. The first consisted of about twenty young men, who agreed to unite for the purposes of prompt delivery of these articles. They obtained a kind of box or crate on wheels, on which the few buckets they could collect were placed and thus proceeded quickly to the aid of the Engines. At their first turnout the number of buckets was very limited, but tradition hints that on their return, the capital of the company was greatly augmented, for all the buckets that could be found were safely deposited in the machine; and the night was spent by the young ones, in quietly painting out the names of the owners, and marking them with the title of the association. This may not inaptly be regarded as the germ of the first hose company.

Even this contrivance was at last required to yield to more urgent necessity. The Bucket Companies, and the Hook and Ladder Companies, live only among the reminscences of the "Oldest inhabitant," and "Watson's Annals." The principle of voluntary associations was rooted in the organization of society; it was one of its characteristics—part of its system of government. To carry out with new improved appliances became an obvious duty. Several large fires had occurred, and one on Sansom St. brought conviction home to the minds of many of the active youth of that time, that some mode must be devised to furnish a full supply of water, in order to stay the desolation of conflagration. To the founders of the Philadelphia Hose Company, belongs the praise and honor of suggesting and effectuating this most benevolent and public-spirited purpose.

Animated with the views and sentiments already referred to, eight young men agreed to associate for the formation of an institution, the arduous duties of which were self-imposed for general good.

On the 15th of the Twelfth month, 1803, the eight met at the dwelling place of Reuben Haines at No. 4 Bank Street, then a fashionable place of residence, to organize the first Hose Company in Philadelphia.

Although hose was used before, for a limited end, and of imperfect construction, the idea of applying a far different article to almost, if not entirely a new object, belongs to the first combination of the young men referred to. They were the founders of the Philadelphia Hose Company. Let us record their names: Reuben Haines, Robert Vaux, Joseph Parker, Samuel N. Lewis, Abraham L. Pennock, William Morrison, Joseph Warner, William Morris. They met as related; Reuben Haines, Chairman, R. Vaux, Secretary.

They discussed the objects of their meeting, proposed plans, made all their arrangements for the regular formation of a company and went to work, young, enthusiastic, hopeful, and successfully. It is worthy

of remark that they were all under age. The first new member was Charles E. Smith, one of the original movers, who was absent at the first meeting and had to leave to take his seat at the next.

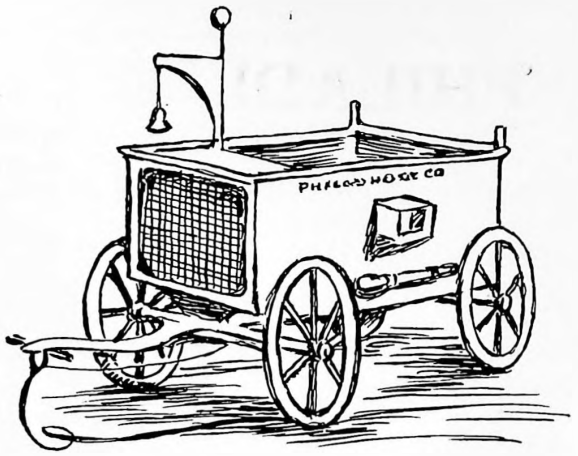
They required four hundred feet of hose, and screws: estimated at $200—a "Machine" for the hose to be carried in, to cost $50, a hose house, at an expense of one hundred dollars.

The money was to be raised. A committee on address to the citizens was appointed, and, as is not infrequent now, that committee was required to collect subscriptions. They visited noted people of the day; among the number, was a worthy lady whose large income, it was reported, bore no relation to her limited wants. She lived on Arch Street near Front, in an old fashioned house, with its pent roof, door divided horizontally, with its huge brass knocker, beautifully polished, two soap-stone steps, and the benches on either side of the door. The committee after sounding the alarm, talked of the ladies resources, her oddities, and speculated as to the amount of her donation. Waiting and conversing and, it seems, overheard—the upper half of the door opened, and the owner, with her arms resting on the lower division asked in a sharp voice, "What was wanted." Taken by surprise the committee began a history of the object which induced them to call on her. She allowed them to finish then remarked, "So, boys, you think you know all about my business do you? well as to money, here is my mite; but I just tell you out plain, I don't want you to come squirting your water works about my house; and besides, let me give you some advice, and that is to let other folks' business alone." Her simplicity and liberality were about alike; she gave them liberally of money and admonition, and they went away.

The citizens gave cheerfully, and in a short time $700 were raised by contribution. This was enough and to spare for a beginning. Reuben Haines gave the company the use of the lot No. 7 North Fourth Street, and in connection with the Philadelphia Engine Company, a house was built—so great was the anxiety for its completion, that the water was heated in the street to make mortar. The hose was obtained from Frederick Shultz, at the cost of 43 cents per foot, under a contract for 600 feet—it was made of leather sewed with thread, in sections of 50 feet each, except two of 25 feet each. The next duty to be performed was the building of the machine, and Patrick Lyon, was the maker.

It was an oblong box upon wheels, 6 feet 9 inches long, by 2 feet 6 inches wide, and two feet deep; the hose was carried in the box, without a cylinder. It was used as a reservoir also, when the hose was in service, for holding water to feed engines. This box had arms at the front and back, to assist in changing its position, and lanterns on either side, with candles; this wonder of the age cost $98.

At the second meeting of the company two resignations were received of the original eight, that of S. N. Lewis and A. L. Pennock. Young Pennock, later a most worthy and honorable citizen resigned because his guardian required it but he desired to be considered liable for all assessments. There were six meetings of the company from December 15th, 1803 to January 2nd, 1804 at which last date the officers were elected under the constitution.



Phila. Hose Co.'s "Machine" for fighting fire, copied from an old print

Before the first anniversary of the institution, every important arrangement had been made and contracting and collecting committees presented final reports. The hose, machine, and building, constitution and by-laws, directors, and standing committees were in full operation and two new hose companies were established.

The first fire at which the hose company turned out, was in old Harmony Court, south of Chestnut Street and east of Fourth Street on the second of April 1804, about three months after the first meeting of the founders.

As this was the first occasion at which the first hose carriage was in service at a fire, in Philadelphia, we propose to give a list of the members on duty. The minutes record that there were twenty members present, viz.; Reuben Haines, Robert Vaux, Joseph Parker, Abm. L. Pennock, Wm. Morrison, Wm. Morris, Charles E. Smith, Joseph Lea, Saml. Hazzard, John J. Wheeler, James P. Parke, William C. Nesbitt, Ralph Smith, Lloyd Mifflin, Daniel D. Smith, Charles Jones, James Chambers, Joshua Emlen, Charles L. Smith, and John Rakestraw.

The second hose company was called "Good Intent," third, "Resolution," and fourth "Humane." It is interesting to refer to the minutes of the Phila. Hose Company, to discern the spirit in which these rival institutions were regarded by the mother company. Addresses were made to each and in token of the good feeling of the Philadelphia a copy of its constitution and by-laws were presented in order to facilitate the new associations in their action. The correspondence evinces the best feelings, and an elevated and courteous determination to make their joint powers tend to general welfare. As already appears, the Philadelphia Hose and Engine Companies

were located at the same house, and at the fire in Harmony Court both were promptly on the ground. The engine took a favorable position, and waited the flow of water from the hose; the director of the hose who had the command, carried the attachment from the hydrant on to the fire, and with a pipe, played directly from the hose. This attracted general attention; it was the first time the hose had been used, and the observation of all was centered on the new company. A very worthy citizen with his breeches and stockings and buckled shoes, had command of the engine; he became impatient at the non-arrival of the expected water from the hose, and on ascertaining the cause proceeded to the hose director, who was, as he thought, usurping the functions of the engine. The engine director demanded the water; and the hose director refused to yield the pipe. The engine director became warm, indignant, vexed and forcible; the hose director resolute and silent. At last to give a finishing argument to the hose director he cried out with some excitement, "If thee don't put the water in the engine, I'll kick thee"—but the noise of the crowd drowned the last words and the engine had to be on that occasion satisfied with the bucket supply.

Much pains were taken by the directors of the hose to preserve order, and increase the usefulness of the company while in service.

After the other hose companies were formed, a joint meeting of the officers from each company entered into a treaty to prevent any cause of difference, and the routes to fires were agreed upon, as the localities of the companies were in proximity.

The Philadelphia, it was agreed, should keep along Fourth Street; the Good Intent, Chestnut Street; the Resolution, Third Street; the Humane, Second Street, in order to prevent clashing; and when either was better manned than the other, and behind, notice should be given before passing. It is not to be expected that among young men under twenty-one all could agree, and that unanimity would attend all their proceedings.

The directors of the Philadelphia Hose seemed to regard their position, one of vigilance and safety, and hence, from time to time, they reported views and opinions as to the general interests of the company. This contrariety of sentiments, however, had the effect to stimulate to greater exertion; the company increased in numbers at every meeting, and its financial condition was very good. Prosperous, respected and of high standing, the Philadelphia Hose Company was not exempt from trouble. The "Good Intent" was one of the new companies just in existence, and took as its model the "first institution." This gave great uneasiness to the Philadelphia, and they passed a resolution as follows: "Resolved, as the Good Intent Hose Carriage so nearly resembles our own, that a bell of convenient size be procured, and affixed to the carriage in such a manner that the discovery of the vehicle may be facilitated by those members who happen to arrive at the house after the hose is removed. The duty of carrying out this resolution devolved on Mr. Parke. It is doubtful, if the whole object of the bell is fully set out in the resolution; a very little pride was no doubt mixed up in the reason. However, be that as it may, the bell was procured, and the report to the company informed them "that it was made to move by means of a spring, which was the prime mover, and by which the effect was given to the entire structure." It was a difficult business, this fixing of the bell; at last it was set up, at the cost of eighteen dollars and eighty-one cents. The Philadelphia rung itself into new favor, and into new trouble.

The Neptune Company, a new company determined to have a bell. This information greatly troubled the Philadelphia; they addressed the Neptune—remonstrated—stated it would be a serious inconvencience to the Philadelphia, if carried into effect—they appealed to the Fire Association, composed of the different hose companies, for general benefits and unanimity of action and police regulations. The Neptune, hearing all that was said on behalf of the Philadelphia, ordered the bell maker to proceed. The Philadelphia members were indignant; they voted thirty dollars to Mr. Parke, to obtain a patent for the bell he, as the committee, had placed at the disposal of the Philadelphia. The proper papers were sent to the United States Patent Office, and, after some delay, in November, 1809, a patent was regularly issued "for the attachment of an alarm bell to a fire engine or hose carriage or other vehicle for conveyance of a fire apparatus." The bell on the Philadelphia was marked "Parke's Patent Alarm Bell." Fifty dollars was the price of the right to use this bell. Thus armed, the Philadelphia rung their bell at the Neptune, and she yielded, and took off the one attached to her carriage, and thus matters continued for some years.

But in 1812, the Good Intent was still intent upon a bell; the bell was a peculiar distinction of the Philadelphia, and a monopoly of the music was not agreeable. The Good Intent placed two bells on their carriage; this the Philadelphia looked upon as an infringement of its patent. The Fire Association, again appealed to, decided in favor of the Philadelphia. The Good Intent withdrew from the association. Still two bells were continued on the Good Intent, and at last it was determined to commence proceedings under the patent, in Circuit Court of the United States, before Judges Washington and Peters. The plaintiff retained J. R. Ingersoll Esq., the defendants, P. A. Brown and J. B. McKean, Esqrs. The trial was one of interest; the charge of the court was with the plaintiff, but the jury, after considering about ten minutes, returned a verdict for the defendants.

The Good Intent applied for readmission into the Fire Association and the Philadelphia paid its council $50 more than the agreed compensation, because it was so well pleased with his management of the case.

The Philadelphia determined to have a peculiar distinction and it invented another bell apparatus,

fixing a lever to work by cogs on one of the wheels, with a crank connected with the bell. While the wheels were in motion this bell rang continuously, with this they were satisfied as a distinguishing badge.

In 1806 a new carriage was suggested as necessary, and in the same year a new location for the hose house was desired. The committee on site reported Fourth Streets between Market and Arch, and Arch and Fourth Streets, both were unattainable. The same year, in December, the subject of firemen's equipments was brought before the company. A committee was raised, which, after much discussion and difficulty, agreed upon a uniform for the members. This was the first attempt of the kind made among firemen Hitherto, fire hats of leather, painted, and inscribed with the name of the company, and leather badges for hats, with like inscriptions, were the only uniforms per se. The committee reported the uniform as agreed upon, consisting of a shirt of net-work, woolen drawers from the loins to the ankles, and a short frock coat of dark steel mixed cloth, with a painted cape and belt, suitably inscribed; these, with the hats, constituted the first firemen's equipment.

Nothing worthy of particular public notice occurred until 1814, when it was determined to construct a hose-engine, an engine machinery, with hose carried on the same apparatus. The company had been engaged from 1810 to 1814 in considering this idea, it was carried into effect at the cost of fourteen hundred dollars.

This apparatus was a Hydraulion, and was a source of much difficulty to the company, as it required a division of the members into classes, for services as engine and hose men. The old hose carriage was removed to Twelfth and Clover Streets, and the Hydraulion was located in the new house on Fourth Street above Arch. It is worthy of remark, that to this Hydraulion was affixed a most peculiar alarm apparatus. Its novelty at the time, and even now, renders it proper to record it here. At the back of the body of the carriage was a "gong" imported from China by a member of the company; made of copper, round in shape, very thin, and about eighteen inches in diameter. When the carriage was proceeding to a fire, a man was stationed at this gong, who running, struck it continually with an implement like drummers use for the bass drum. Its sound was remarkable and attracted the most lively curiosity.

This lasted a short time but it lasted without any attempt at competition. Over this feature of apparatus the Philadelphia Hose had no proceedings at law to secure its distinction. It was odd that this company was so tenacious as to its alarm machinery. On one of the carriages was erected a bellows, located in the front locker. It was worked by the springs of the carriage when in motion. The air escaped through a vent and the noise resembled that made by a steam whistle. This was used for a short time giving place to the original bell. The Hydraulion lasted only about three years and was sold for the use of the Insane Asylum in 1817.

The hose used by the Philadelphia, was originally leather, sewed which was liable to loss and injury. The company had been constantly making experiments to improve their apparatus out of its labors grew a great improvement in hose. On the 31st of 8th mo. 1811, the company published in the public paper the following card: "The Philadelphia Hose Company will exhibit for trial an original specimen of "Rivet Hose," at their hose house tomorrow afternoon at four o'clock. The patrons of the Institution, and members of other companies, are respectfully invited to witness the experiments." The minutes of the Directors, under the same date, record that there were present all the directors. The result "was highly gratifying to all."

In October following an order for eight hundred feet of this new hose, was given by the company. The want of proper persons to fill this for the improved hose required that some of the members of the company should engage in carrying on the business to insure the completion of this order. J. Wainwright furnished the leather, and Jenkin & Son made the hose at a charge of two dollars per day. The rivets were made at Wilmington, Delaware, and called Tutania rivets. Ziba Ferris, a member of the company, manufactured these rivets, so it may be said the inventions and manufacture, both originated, and were consummated by the members of the institution.

In 1817, an Alligator's skin was presented by Mr. F. Kreeger to the hose company; this was suggestive of a new idea for hose material, some thinking that Alligator skin hose would no doubt keep up the peculiar distinction of the company. It was sent to a committee which consisted of William Lippincott and John K. Kane, who reported against this amphibious acqueduct.

In the year 1817 the company had a disposition to take out a patent for their riveted hose, but it was abandoned after much correspondence between J. Sellers, who with A. L. Pennock, was a member of the company when riveted hose was introduced. Mr. Sellers was about to start the business for himself and he was left to carry it on. Sellers & Pennock afterwards became a famous firm in this department.

In 1823, Mr. S. V. Merrick made a new engine for the company to take the place of the hydraulion. It had both a forcing and suction action; the cylinder was eight inches and a half in diameter, with eleven hundred feet of hose attached. This engine drew water eighty feet and forced one hundred and thirty-four feet from the branch pipe. On many occasions at fires this engine carried and threw the water five hundred feet.

In 1828, the company was required to leave Fourth and Arch Streets, the location granted them by the Zion Lutheran Church. They sought a suitable site and at last selected the one we occupy now. (1850)

In 1832 the company gave up all ideas about Hy-

(Continued on page 24)

North, Northeast From Germantown

By Cornelius Weygandt

IT IS A storied way, that from Germantown to North Sandwich. My home town out from Philadelphia is associated with Poe and Whittier and Whitman. A favorite walk of Poe was down Wissahickon from Kitchen's Lane. It is of this stretch with a tame elk being led by an attendant that he writes. Whittier caught our local ancestors in *The Pennsylvania Pilgrim*. I often saw Walt in our streets and in his visits to my school, The Germantown Academy.

Bucks County is full of artists, Redfield at their head, who have most notably painted the landscape of our Pennsylvania hill country. The Ramapoes in northern Jersey have still a primitive people, the Jackson Whites, on the mountainsides above Suffern. They sing old English ballads within sight of the sky scrapers of New York City. Further north, above Tuxedo, is John Burroughs' country, and beyond, along the Hudson, the countryside where Washington Irving found Rip Van Winkle.

Over in the Berkshires is Bryant's birthplace, at Cumington, and just south of it Hawthorne lived for a spell. As you come in sight of Monadnock you are just across the Connecticut from where Kipling built him a house out from Brattleborough in Vermont. Robert Frost summered in the Ossipees, just south of our journey's end in Sandwich. Just above Concord we had been close by Canterbury where once the Shakers had an herb farm and, later, a banner herd of Guernseys. Their buildings were notable and the medicines and chairs they made and the blue woolens they wove. It is Whittier's country again when you come in sight of the Ossipees, and Lucy Larcom's. Frank Bolles has celebrated the Bearcamp Valley.

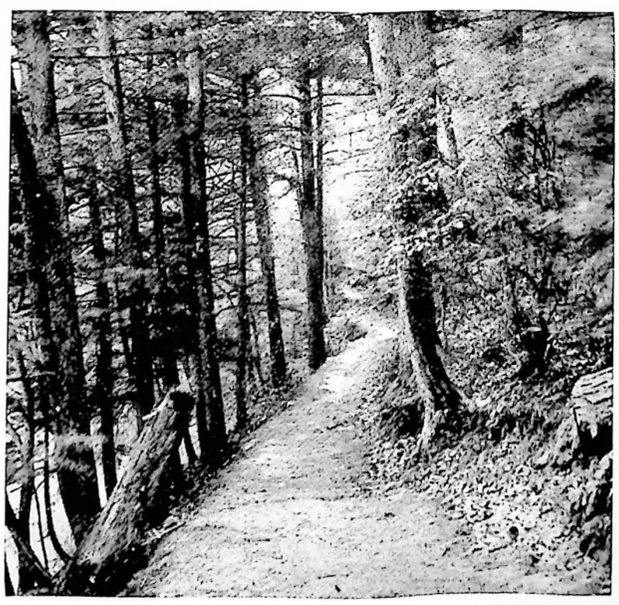
There are bright spots by the way in the four hundred and fifty miles, more or less, between Germantown in Pennsylvania and North Sandwich in New Hampshire. There are none brighter, however, than the winter home on the Wissahickon Hills we leave and the hilltop between the Ossipee Mountains and the Sandwich Mountains where an old Cape Cod house shelters us for two months or three. The acre on the Wissahickon Hills has been our home for fifty-four years, the hundred acres on Fellows Hill has given us half of June, and July, and August, and enough of fall to acquaint us with the glory maple and birch put on for autumn.

Great black oaks, two centuried, line lane and thoroughfare on the Wissahickon Hills. They give our little plastered house distinction. Sassafrases and mazzard cherries, old apple trees and dogwoods, pie cherries and a tulip poplar add to the umbrageousness of the place. Built by a German stone mason from the Moselle Valley in 1844 with his own hands, it looks much older than its years. Wine grapes on a trellis bear well after a century, and two chestnut trees he cherished lasted until the blight cut them down. The little barn he built was rebuilt into the building that shelters our car and garden tools. It is only recently the chimney swifts of the chimney he built, big enough to accommodate the activities of a sweep, abandoned its amplitude.

Box bushes and lilacs have come down to us here from old times, and periwinkle. We have added rhododendrons and roses, white phlox and purple autumn crocus, foxgloves and purple lilies, white lilacs and yellow primroses. We have brought many birds about the house all winter through by putting out sunflower seeds on the window sills, nuthatches and crested tits, cardinals and blue jays. Snowbirds and white-throats winter with us. Crows are with us all the year and Cooper's hawks. Spring brings us robins and catbirds, house wrens and thrashers, wood pewees and wood thrushes, cuckoos and vireos. Grey cheeked thrushes are transients and hermit thrushes, black cap warblers and redstarts and others of their tribe. We have nighthawks in the sky and night herons. Ten eagles we have caught sight of about our acre in fifty-four years, a few flights of Canada geese, one solitary loon.

Poets have visited us here, Yeats, and Frost, and Hodgson. Here we have grown from youth to extreme old age. Here we have had our children grow up about us. Here we have known the experiences and emotions and hazards that are the common lot of man.

No place I know is more wholly a symbol of all that



A trail in the Wissahickon Forest

Pennsylvania has been. Our house is furnished with antiques Quaker and Dutch. Here are paintings by Richards and Winslow Homer, a library that has given me criticism to write. The yesterday of Pennsylvania has begotten other books. Little beasts and birds have made friends with us here, possums and cottontails, white-bellied mice and squirrels, as well as the many birds. We have had good neighbors, good days, fairly good luck.

It is gracious old houses of grey micaschist, and of whitey-blue limestone, and of red sandstone, and of white clapboards, and their setting of rolling hayfields, and orcharded hills and fat lowlands of corn that give me most satisfaction by the way. About Germantown we have the Livezey house and farm buildings on Allen Lane, the manorial Allen house on Germantown Avenue above Allen Lane. Out northeast from Germantown on the Old York Road there are like houses and a lovely old grist mill just short of Hatboro, fine old houses of micaschist, one with a log wing in Buckingham. Across the Delaware in Jersey there is a charming old house of red sandstone in Ringoes, other red sandstone houses with Hollandish gables under the Ramapos. Such extend over to Bear Mountain Bridge over the Hudson at West Point. The drive along the eastern riverside on Bear Mountain is but a sight-seer's delight.

One year a backwater of the Hudson just below the bridge was lined with white herons. The valley in Connecticut above Danbury has many picturesque old houses of clapboard, and one stunning old house of great blocks of varied colored granite that blend well together. Litchfield has a columned church to remember, and old white houses with sunbursts over the doors. East of Torrington are great banks of laurel, and pine girdled lakes. We put up overnight at Weatogue at the Pettibone Tavern, an old inn where the food is prime and the beds comfortable. It was once furnished throughout with genuine antiques, and its then proprietress, Mrs. Tilney, sent up to your bedroom nightcaps of sherry in thermos bottles. Its breakfasts today fortify you for the two hundred and more miles ahead before you win to home on Fellows Hill. Deerfield is the very haunt of ancient peace, and Northfield a soothing village long drawn out. You will pass a crushed hedgehog in the road before you cross the New Hampshire line into Winchester. Out from Winchester the road ran over a covered wooden bridge until lately. Such a bridge still carries you over to Denman Thompson's birthplace in West Swanzey.

The high road from Keene to Concord gives you your first breath of mountain air above Granite Lake, and takes you by the site of where Stoddard glass was made. There is a two arched bridge of red sandstone in Stoddard, and another like it in Hancock, bridges as beautiful as they are functional, as fine illustrations of artisanry as the meeting house at Sandown.

There is nothing I look forward to with more anticipation than a pond of still water in New Hampshire with lily leaves over its surface and a row of red legged turtles drawn up with military precision on a half submerged log. We did not see them on the way north this year. The little pond was deep from the constant rains and no turtles visible. On the way back its water had shrunken and there were the turtles, all with their heads towards us and equally distant from one another on the log. They were sunning themselves. We were too far away from them to see their expressions, but from much watching of their kind I knew how quizzical, how other worldly, how removed from the look of most creatures they would be. It is only hedgehogs, and bats, and toads look so far out of our time and our usual environments as these turtles and the box tortoises their confreres. You run by Indian writing on a rock by Winnepesaukee, a great herd of Guernsey cattle at Centre Harbor, and the first breath taking view of our Sandwich Mountains on the high road from Moultonboro Corners to Sandwich Lower Corner.

The Hoit house and the Doughty house again give you pause in the Centre as the Wentworth pillared house with its stone walls and martin boxes has given you pause at the Lower Corners, where you have glanced northward to see the great stone wall high as a load of logs with the statute of Niobe at the end.

Good neighbors have been ours, too, about journey's end, the low house of white clapboards with its great central chimney of brick, with deer and moose, bears and bobcats, foxes and fishercats hard by. Against mountains of dim purple in the distance both north and south of us, the old house has warm sunlight on it by day and myriads of stars above it by night, Provence roses and black alder and blue bells and yellow foxgloves about it, the shelter of a great grey barn, stone walls of grey, a little orchard of old kinds of apples and of pears, winds with a burden of pine on them, white-throat song and hermit thrush song about it, bluebird warbling and tanager notes, rose breasted grosbeak and golden oriole warbling. We pick pogonias on the mountain swamps and deer grass above them, closed gentian and Labrador tea, rhodora and asters. The air is delightful, the well of sweet water that never goes dry a never-failing joy, the wild strawberries more precious than manna and honey dew.

Memories of old days here crowd about you as you drive into the dooryard with so pressing persistence you can hardly see the landscape. Your home on Fellows Hill seems too good to be true, the stone walled dooryard, the long grey barn, the Cape Cod house of white clapboards against the blue of Chocorua, and Old Shag, Toadback and Whiteface, Black and Israel. Aloof from your more southerly life as all is, it is as homey as the little house of buff-toned plaster on the Wissahickon Hills.



FAT HOG BAY, TORTOLA

Chalkley's tomb and those of his friends, can be seen at right of picture near the foundations intended for a new meeting house

CHALKLEY HALL IN RETROSPECT

By Abel J. Evans

TO THE history minded the razing of the old colonial mansion, Chalkley Hall, is looked upon as a distinct loss to Philadelphia's unequalled collection of historic homes, such as the Powel House, and others preserved in the Independence Hall area, and the many beautiful mansions still to be seen in Fairmount Park.

Unlike Germantown's battle-scarred Chew Mansion, or the venerated Morris House, honored by the visits of George Washington and members of his cabinet with weighty decisions to be considered, Chalkley Hall was untouched by any of the important events in the stirring "times that tried men's souls." Yet it has sheltered for years the memories, unforgotten, of courageous and peace-loving men and women who helped establish the pattern of our city.

The house, as originally built in 1723 by Thomas Chalkley, was a small two-story dwelling of brick. Later, in 1776, a large stone addition to it, was made by Abel James who had married Thomas Chalkley's only living daughter, Rebecca, in 1747, and had thus fallen heir to the property. It was he who gave it the name of Chalkley Hall in memory of his sainted father-in-law.

The new addition was actually a separate mansion in its own right, of a later period and on more ample lines than the old original house. On Faden's map of Philadelphia. made in 1750, one hundred years before the consolidation of the city in 1854, the mansion is designated as an unknown "hall," situated in an isolated district at the end of Sepviva street at old Wheat sheaf Lane. It was at one time a beautiful rural section, within sight of the Delaware river, near the lower reaches of Frankford Creek where sailing vessels could safely ride at anchor.

Thomas Chalkley was a remarkable man, an eminent Quaker minister, a hardy sea captain, and a successful merchant trader. Born in Southwark, London, in 1675, he came to America in 1698 especially to preach to Friends. After two years he went back to England and returned with his family. They first made their home in Maryland, but the following year moved to Philadelphia, where he had already bought a lot of ground. He records in his journal, "June 1723, 6th, Mo. moved from city to Frankford. Bought a small plantation."

Feeling that he had a Divine commission to preach the doctrine of Friends he spent much time away from home on religious journeys. At various periods he visited meetings held in the settlements nearby, North Wales, Gwynedd, Merion, Abington, Fairhill and Byberry, sometimes going as far as New Jersey or Maryland.

In 1726 he attended Germantown Friends Meeting and was there again in 1729, "at a burial of our ancient friend Dennis Cunrad, one of the first settlers of this town."

The previous year Chalkley attended meeting at old Bank Street meeting house, the second oldest meeting house built in the city. Funeral services were being held for the wife of Jeremiah Elfreth, a name still preserved in one of the city's oldest streets, Elfreth's Alley.

The shipping trade in which Thomas Chalkley was engaged often required him to sail to the West Indies.

Thirty-one days was the average time it took to go

from Philadelphia to the Barbadoes, several of his voyages continued for six weeks. When the passage was smooth and comfortable he spent the time writing, thus preserving many details of these mixed trading and preaching journeys. In spite of his advancing years he never refused an urgent call for his services in the cause of Peace and Truth. Such a call came from the rocky mountainous island of Tortola in 1741.

Of this journey, little knowing that it was to be his last, he writes; "We left the Capes the 23rd. of 7 Mo. & was Eighteen Days from land to land falling in with the Island Thomas's, one of the Virgin Islands, we turn'd it up in one day to Tortola, which made nineteen Days in all in this voyage. We saw nine Sail of vessels, but spoke with None, had a Rough Passage, the wind being very high and contrary for a week, and much rain.". . . "The 12th. of 8th. Month we went a Shore to the Governours house, where at our Landing, the Governour John Pickering and his Spouse met me at the water side and Lovingly Embraced me and led me up to his house; where on the 15th. of the month being the fifth day of the week, We had a Large Satisfactory Meeting, at which was many People, and divers not of our Profession; and hope I may note That the Good hand of the Lord was with us." The First day (Sunday) meeting of that week he writes; "another Meeting Larger than the former,". . . "The Governour told me he never Saw such a Large Gathering on the Island on any Accompt."

In spite of spending two weeks traveling up and down the island visiting many people and holding meetings he found time to write to his wife in Philadelphia. One letter contains an amusing dissertation on hoop skirts. "If Almighty God should make a Woman in the same shape her hoop made her, Everybody would say she was a monster in Nature." (Needless to say "convinced" Quakers did not wear hoops.)

In a later letter he ends in a solemn postscript; "I do not Expect to be at home these five or Six months, if ever." Shortly afterwards he fell ill and died. He was laid to rest on the island, in "a silent shady place where birds would be apt to come and sing over his grave."

The following year, 1742 John Estaugh, (the husband of Elizabeth Haddon of Haddonfield, N. J.) and John Cadwallader visited "The Newly Gathered Little Flock at Tortola." John Cadwallader had not been well on his arrival and succumbed in a little more than two weeks. Those attending the funeral were caught in a shower, from the effects of which John Estaugh was taken ill and soon died. They were laid, one each side of Thomas Chalkley. "These three valiants to be laid in the dust of our Island has been very shocking to us," wrote the Tortolan Friends to London Yearly Meeting.

Perhaps a bit of doggerel applied to one of the physicians who visited that island later might give some clue to the lack of medical knowledge of the period; I. John Lettson

Blisters, bleeds and sweats 'em.
If, after that, they please to die,
I, John Lettson.

Thomas Chalkley was survived by his second wife, the former Martha Brown, whom he married in 1714, and his daughter, Rebecca. His first wife, also a Friends Minister, was Martha Betterton who he married in England and who died in Maryland. She was buried in Friends burial ground, Fourth and Arch Street in 1712.

Thomas Chalkley had twelve children, but most of them died in infancy and early years. Thomas Jr. died in 1723, "that making the tenth death." The son George was born in Chalkley Hall soon after they moved there but he died when only eleven years old. His first child was a girl whom he named Abigail, a father's joy.

In his will he left his small library of one hundred and eleven books to Friends Meeting of Philadelphia, of which he had been a member more than forty years, "as a token of my love." This was the beginning of the Friends Library which was later housed on the grounds of Friends Select School on the Parkway.

Abel James, who married Rebecca Chalkley, was a scion of an early Welsh settler in Byberry. He was born at the home of his maternal grandfather Abel Kingstone, one of the earliest settlers of Bensalem and a member of Byberry Meeting.

His father, George James was a Philadelphia merchant and Abel succeeded him in business. At the time of his marriage he was considered one of the wealthiest men in the city. He formed a partnership in the shipping and importing business with Henry Drinker who had been an apprentice with his father. The firm of James & Drinker became leading importers of the time and operated extensively prior to the Revolution. The passage of the Stamp Act in 1765 created much excitement among the merchants in the city. Abel James was a member of the committee of merchants who signed the non-importation agreement. The tax on tea caused still greater opposition and when it was learned that the ship "Polly," with a cargo of the detested tea assigned to James & Drinker, was about to be landed the excitement was intense. There were angry threats of the excited citizens to fire the "Polly" and to tar and feather its Captain Ayers. James & Drinker were warned to withdraw as consignees, which they did.

The "Polly" arrived at Chester on Christmas Day 1773 and came up as far as Gloucester but no further. Captain Ayers decided to take the convincing advice of the tea committee not to land his cargo but to return it to England immediately. Thus was narrowly averted a Christmas Tea Party which, no doubt, would have topped the famous Boston Tea Party that took place only about ten days before.

(Continued on page 25)

One Hundred Years of Quaker Education

By R. Bruce Jones

IN 1827 occurred an historic split in the religious Society of Friends, (called Quakers). This of necessity caused a physical as well as spiritual readjustment and brought many problems. As finally arranged most of the city meetings were under the care of the Orthodox group. The so called Hicksite Friends (followers of Elias Hicks) held many of the widely spread country meetings, the one city meeting under their care being at Fourth and Green Streets.

As the majority of Friends attending Coulter Street meeting chose to join with the city Orthodox meetings, this meant that those of the other persuasion in Germantown must travel into the city or go to the Frankford meeting house at Waln and Unity streets; —either a long arduous trip on horse back or in carriages winter and summer. So within a few months a plot of ground on School Lane west of Germantown Road was purchased, and a small two-story meeting house built. As the years passed the increasing numbers who came to worship here found it no longer adequate to their needs. In 1854 additional ground was acquired, and a new, more spacious house constructed.

At this time there was among Friends great concern to supply a "suitable guarded education" to their children. To them, a "guarded education" meant a "character education," with emphasis on developing self control, and restraint, and simplicity of dress, living, and language. Formal studies were not neglected or minimized, but fell into proper perspective in this essentially religious interpretation of education. By its very nature, such an interpretation included much of the most advanced educational thinking of the day.

The small original meeting house stood idle—and there was no school in Germantown sympathetic to Hicksite testimonies. On April 12, 1855, the Minutes of the Meeting for Business state: "Germantown Friends being about to establish a school within their limits, to be under the care of the Preparative Meeting, the following Friends were appointed . . ."

The school that is today Greene Street Friends had started its history.

At the outset, the new Quaker school faced a difficult situation. No fees were charged for the education of children whose parents were members of the Green Street Monthly Meeting. Competition from the Orthodox school on Coulter Street, and also the boy's Academy across Greene Street, made it no easy matter to secure the enrollment of enough non-Friend "cash customers" to prevent the new venture from becoming a financial liability. As a possible way out of this dilemma, for a short time the Meeting turned over the operation of the school to an independent teacher. She was responsible for enrollments and collections, as well as the education of her pupils.

The need for a suitable "guarded education" for children of Hicksite Friends continued to be stressed in each Yearly Meeting. In 1857, gathering for the first time in the new meeting house at 15th and Race Streets, the Philadelphia Yearly Meeting of Friends sent forth to its Quarterly and Monthly Meetings this minute, which must have impressed itself on the committee in charge of the new Germantown school:

"The condition of Friends unfavorably situated for the education of their children in schools under the care of the Society claimed our sympathy, and all were encouraged to an increased carefulness, to avoid placing them where music and vain accomplishments have been introduced, and also against the insidious attempts . . . to improve public morals by the encouragement of theatrical exhibitions."

Quakers were not alone in favoring simplicity and moderation. On the Horse-car line, which began service in October 1859 between PhilEllena Street and Philadelphia, the bells attached to the horses' bridles were removed on Sunday. And there were many who opposed as "undemocratic" the new uniforms of the Germantown police.

It was not until 1862, however, that the Meeting decided to resume control of the school. "The subject of having a Preparative Meeting school re-established on the premises at Germantown has claimed the attention of this meeting," state the Women's Minutes for September. A new teacher was engaged during the next summer, and classes started in September, once again under the care of the Meeting.

During these War years, the Meeting house itself on week days was used as a quilting center. Finished articles were sent on to Field hospitals of the Union Army. And on First Day (Sunday), after the Meeting for Worship, the Friends made many contributions to the traveling expenses of runaway southern slaves trying to get to Canada.

The fortunes of the school improved with the end of the War. Enrollment increased—and so did the chores of John Hart, caretaker of the property. The Meeting received a request from him for a raise in salary, from $50.00 to $70.00 each year. It was approved.

Years before, John Hart had travelled to a nursery

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in West Philadelphia, and brought back the maple trees which he planted in the Meeting House yard. He had in his younger days acted as gardener at both Wyck and Loudon, and for Bronson Alcott when the latter was living at Pine Cottage. Now well past sixty years of age, he still made his home at the north-east corner of Greene Street and School Lane. After his death, in 1885, this corner property continued to increase in value. It was purchased by the Meeting from the Hart Estate, for the use of the school, for $13,500. This was not, however, until after the turn of the century.

Deborah Smith was the first teacher of whom there is any record. When school opened in the Fall of 1867 she had, for the first time, an assistant. The Principal's salary was $600; Marianna Gibbons as assistant received $400. What was their school of forty-odd students like?

Miss Deborah was a mature woman of strict principles, dressed in Quaker gray. Life to her was very much in earnest. "Every moment you live, you are nearer the grave," she repeatedly told her small charges. They were at school for a serious education, not for frivolity. Those in need of discipline were sent to stand in a corner of the schoolroom. One mischievous lad selected the most interesting corner, where lengths of pipe were stacked. As his investigating hand reached for the pipe, Miss Deborah's voice rang sharply through the room—"Not that corner!"

Marianna Gibbons, young, attractive, and loved by the children, was of a different mold. There was no music, or singing, or art on the course of studies, but Miss Marianna saw to it that there was sunshine. It is not hard to picture her ice skating with a group of her children on the pond near Pulaski on West Chelten Avenue.

In Germantown, as in the rest of America in this post-war period, self-improvement through attendance at public lectures was considered of great importance. When Horace Greeley spoke in Germantown in November 1870, he undoubtedly filled the fifteen-year-old Town Hall. His subject, "The Woman Question," gave him an opportunity to expound his reasons against giving women the right to vote. Presumably he had an enthusiastic male audience.

Such interest in education for adults corresponded with increasing interest in education for children. It was by now quite apparent that the small building on School Lane was a major obstruction to the successful operation and growth of the Friends school, if not a threat to its very existence. In April, 1874, "Men and women Friends jointly considered the subject of the better accommodation of our school." A new building was proposed, and eight Friends appointed to give the subject still further detailed attention.

While these Friends labored for the advancement of education, the professional stage came to Germantown. In the Langstroth Building at the west corner of Germantown and Chelten, on the sixth of April, the Germantown Opera House made its debut with "a grand concert." From then on, for many years, one might enjoy there such favorite shows as "East Lynne," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and "Ten Nights in a Barroom." Popular negro minstrel troupes also entertained regularly, but such worldly exhibitions were not looked on with favor in Friendly circles.

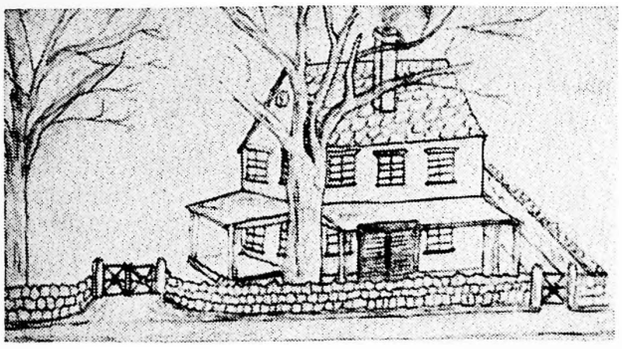
The Building Fund Drive for the new schoolhouse finally brought subscriptions totalling $2,025 by July 1876, and the committee had a builder's estimate for $2,250. It was their judgment "that they had better commence the building, with which the Meeting united." The agreement with the builder was signed in August 1876.

The new building was opened for its first term but a few days before the Centennial Celebration of the Battle of Germantown. It stood to the north of the driveway which served as the Greene Street entrance to the grounds. The driveway was still in use, and on a Wednesday morning the carriages passing by the school windows were an unmistakable signal to the children that in a few minutes it would be time to line up for mid-week Meeting—with the shortest child in the lead.

Two teachers were responsible for 47 children, of whom 14 sons and daughters of Meeting members attended without charge. But recovery from the financial panic of 1873 was not yet complete; in order to protect their investment in the school the Meeting decided "it would be best to make a small charge for members' children who have previously been schooled free." The tuition set was $5.00 per term in each of the two lower classes, $10.00 in the two upper classes.

"Our town is fast becoming a city in miniature," mourned the Germantown Guide in an April editorial. "The simple grandeur of the olden time will soon be known only to memory." During April, 1880, the school's twenty-fifth anniversary month, there was much intellectual activity in this miniature metropolis. At Association Hall, with a chorus of "at least 75 students," Miss Orum presented "The Sleeping Princess" as her annual entertainment. A musical and literary evening by the Lyceum of the Y.M.C.A. included an oration by Charles H. Willcox, a cornet solo by George Flavell, orchestral selections, songs, and humorous readings. Proceeds from the Ladies Fair at Town Hall were allocated to procuring new uniforms for the Germantown Cornet Band. Professor R. L. Quinton gave a series of lectures "freely illustrated with expensive and accurate steriopticon views" on such subjects as "The Catacombs." Samuel Longfellow spoke to the children at the Unitarian Church, and Henry Ward Beecher lectured at the Philadelphia Academy of Music.

The School Committee reported to the Meeting, in August 1884, the appointment of Elizabeth M. Roberts as Principal. It may well have been the turning point in the school's development. For over



First Schoolhouse Lane Meeting
Drawn from memory by Harriet J. Fussell

twenty years Elizabeth Roberts remained at the head of the school, guiding its destiny with a firm hand, fair in all things, respected by students and teachers alike. Through the force of her personality parents came to overlook the admitted shortcomings in the physical plant of the school, and sent their children to study under her care.

A figure familiar and dreaded in the years before the turn of the century was Aaron Ivins, the elderly Principal of the Boys' School at 15'th and Race Streets. It was his custom to visit monthly the various Hicksite schools in Philadelphia, drill the children in mathematics and observe the methods of their teachers. In manner he was very brusque, and neither teacher nor pupil looked forward to his sudden appearances. Himself an excellent mathematician, he inevitably scorned a halting response with what is even today remembered as his favorite retort: "Your wits are as slow as molasses in January!"

Another more frequent and more happily anticipated visitor was Daniel Batchellor—more properly addressed as Professor Batchellor. Before 1900 little music lightened Friendly gatherings; the Professor's subject was referred to as "Vocal Culture." Tapping his tuning fork on the edge of a desk to establish the pitch, the Professor led his young singers with energetic movements of his hands and arms. And the only audible accompaniment to this "a cappella" singing was the constant metallic rattle of the links in his stiffly starched cuffs!

After school in the Fall, the boys played soccer football out in front of the Meeting House. One goal was the carriage entrance on School Lane, the other between the two largest trees, still standing, before the Meeting House. In the Spring the same area served as a baseball field—until an American Elm and a Pin Oak were planted in 1902 by Thomas Shoemaker. The trees improved the appearance of the grounds, but most effectively ruined the baseball diamond.

Every day there was a Bible reading at the opening of school, and once a week the upper classes assembled in the second floor assembly room where each in turn was expected to recite a verse from the Bible. The children were called on in the order of their seating, starting at the back right corner of the room with the smallest child—while the older ones still studied. Some were less well prepared than others, and then Miss Roberts might be treated to a succession of very familiar and oft-repeated favorites: "God is love." "The Lord is my shepherd." "Jesus wept." "God is love." "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down." "Jesus wept." "The Lord is . . ." She was driven to rule such verses inadequate for this weekly assignment.

In September 1899, the School's first Kindergarten was started under the care of Rebecca Wistar. By training and temperament she was ideally suited to start the children's formal education. Her first class included some eighteen or twenty boys and girls, and within a very few years the increase in numbers necessitated her having an assistant. At first this very young group met in the Meeting House, and pushed the benches over to form a comfortable play and work area.

"Once upon a time there was a Kindergarten teacher by the name of Miss Rebecca," recalls one of her students. "She had red hair and a very disarming lisp. We played with clay and yarns and had half a million blocks which could be set up in a row all around the room and the kid who started them all tumbling was a lucky guy indeed. . . . My pictures show a boy of five with blond dutch-cut hair and a Peter Thompson suit with which Peter supplied a whistle on a white cord."

In the Spring of 1901 enrollment was over 100, the small building overflowing with students. Money was borrowed against the school property, and during the Summer a major enlarging and remodeling project started. All too little time had been allotted for it. The building was extended at the south (School Lane) side, cutting off completely the Greene Street carriage entrance.

The Kindergarten now moved over to the main building, and at long last Miss Rebecca was permitted to have a piano in her room! Among her young assistants in these first years in the new building were Natalie Kimber, Sue Roberts, Irene Shepherd, and Glodean Eves.

In 1905 the Hart property was purchased, at the north-east corner of Greene and School Lane, and for two years its vine-covered, three story building was used for college preparatory classes. They were under the direction of Harriet Head, who had formerly conducted her own school in Germantown. Unfortunately Elizabeth Roberts, whose strong personality had attracted so many families to Greene Street, was in failing health and physically unable to stay at her post for much of the school year. Caroline Whiteman, one of the regular staff, was placed in temporary charge, and had been serving as Acting Principal in April, 1905 when the school quietly passed its fiftieth anniversary.

After more than twenty years as Principal, Elizabeth Roberts passed away in the summer of 1906 and Anna

Lewis Garrett was appointed as her successor. The school was just starting its second half century, and had already seen advances in the industrial age that would have mystified and amazed the Friends responsible for its establishment in 1855. In the Fall of 1906, for example, a twenty-two year old youth was arrested by a motor cycle policeman "for speeding his automobile beyond the limits of the law on Lincoln Drive." He was fined for "going at a 25-mile-an-hour clip." And in the heart of Philadelphia, the new Market Street subway had been in operation for nearly a year.

The financial burden of the newly acquired corner property was excessive when compared to its value to the school. There were just not enough students to make the high school profitable in a separate building. In 1907 the corner building was sold, with the stipulation "that only dwellings shall be erected thereon and no liquor shall be sold on the premises." But the high school classes were continued, and the first graduate received her diploma in 1910.

In the Fall of 1914 Elsie Oakford, Principal of the Friends school at 35'th and Lancaster Avenue, was brought to Germantown to replace Anna Garrett, and the school was consolidated with the Friends Central School System. "All its resources which have been used to carry on an eleven year course will be concentrated on the work of the Kindergarten and Six Elementary grades. This will enable the school to offer excellent advantages to children four to twelve or thirteen years of age." This close affiliation, as part of the Friends Central System, continued until 1937.

The committee in charge of a Friends' school makes regular reports of its stewardship to its parent body, the Monthly Meeting. Such reports throw great light not only on the material situation of the school from year to year, but also upon its social and spiritual development. The following sentences, taken from the 1916 report of Greene Street Friends School to the Meeting, are of particular interest today because they so well summarize much of the School's present attitude toward education. "Greene Street Friends is not content with a thorough and practical mental development, but also feels a responsibility for the child's spiritual and physical welfare. The tendency of modern teaching is to find lessons outside books, taking the child to nature and the world around him to study. . . . We feel that our School possesses a very valuable form of discipline. The children are taught self-reliance and individual development, but also their responsibility to their neighbor and the value of cooperation, and thus discipline is maintained with few rules and regulations."

For over forty years Thomas H. Shoemaker was the School's best friend. His financial generosity made possible many minor as well as major improvements in property, buildings, and equipment, but he was loved by pupils and teachers for himself. His daily "Wilbur bud showers"—when he scattered the silver-wrapped chocolates in handfuls from both pockets—were sometimes disruptive to discipline but always left behind a glow of happiness. They also offered a natural opportunity to teach the discipline of sharing to those who needed it!

In the Spring of 1924 the School was again enlarged. The two "open air" rooms, built by Mr. Shoemaker in 1915, were moved closer to the Meeting House, and four large, sunny classrooms were added to the back of the school building. Behind the existing basement a large assembly room was constructed, partly below the surface of the ground and extending the full width beneath the new classrooms. When school opened in September there were 173 students to explore their new quarters, and classes were held for Kindergarten through Eighth grade.

In 1932 Elsie Oakford asked to be released. After 18 years under her expert guidance and leadership, the task of finding a suitable successor seemed almost insuperable. "No one could imagine Greene Street School without Miss Oakford's leadership."

Nevertheless, when school opened in the Fall of 1933 it was apparent that the Committee had done its job well. Marian Branson, the new Principal, was a woman of rare ability and charm whose philosophy of education meshed perfectly with the tradition of integrity, sympathy and kindliness which clung in and around Greene Street. In addition, her experience included teaching and supervisory work at Wilmington Friends, and three years as Principal of the Atlantic City Friends School.

The School Council was organized during Miss Branson's first year, and is still active. Some former Council members remember their meetings (in the dining room beside the fireplace, or more recently in the school library) as among the most important of their school experiences. In the Fall of 1935, "a group of mothers met to form a Mothers' Association." Mrs. James Schwartz was elected the first president of the Association which has continued, through the years, to grow in strength and in the value of its service to the School.

A special Institute of the teachers in Friends schools was held in the School Lane Meeting House on October 24, 1941, with the School acting as host. Over 200 teachers, representing schools in Philadelphia, New York, Atlantic City, Baltimore and Washington attended the two sessions, and were addressed by Rufus Jones and Burton Fowler. This occasion marked the beginning of Friends School Day, now an important date on the calendar of all Friends schools in these areas.

Greene Street has been unusually fortunate in the talents and personalities of its music teachers. Daniel Batchellor, Theodora Melchor, Dorothy Faust Casman, Frances Brill—all gave their children a personal appreciation and enjoyment of music which might

(Continued on page 26)

Conrads Weiser's Indian Friends and the Coal Lands

A little-known incident in Pennsylvania History

Written for Germantown History, Vol. II No. 7

By George Wheeler

THE TIME was 1749, sixty-seven years after the founding of Philadelphia. The Proprietaries had purchased from the Indians a fan-shaped area which was rapidly filling up with settlers. On the east it extended up the Delaware as far as the Water Gap. On the south it followed the Maryland line across the Susquehanna into what is now Franklin County. On the north and west the boundary was the Blue or Kittatinny Mountain. All the rest of Pennsylvania was still Indian country, most of which belonged to the great Iroquois Confederacy known as the Six Nations.

The seat of their government was Onondaga in New York, near the present city of Syracuse. The Delaware Indians, whose chief meeting place was Shackamaxon, now a part of Philadelphia, had by some means been made subject to the Six Nations (then the Five Nations) before the arrival of William Penn. Onondaga and Shackamaxon were connected by an important trail which was a vital factor in the control of the Delawares by their overlords. The Delawares were permitted to do as they pleased in regard to the sale of their land until 1736. After that time the confederacy claimed the absolute power to dispose of the land in the valley of the Delaware and its tributaries.

Between Onondaga and Shackamaxon the great Indian path followed as direct a course as the terrain would permit. Three intermediate points enable one to fix the route with a fair degree of exactness: Owego on the Susquehanna, Sunbury at the forks of the Susquehanna in Pennsylvania, and Womelsdorf, fourteen miles west of Reading in Berks County.

Below Reading the trail kept on fairly high ground on the east side of the Schuylkill, frequently following the watershed between streams. On this elevated ground there were no wide streams to be forded and no swamps to wade through. Wherever possible the red man chose a path on which he could "keep his moccasins dry." Examine a topographical map of this vicinity and you will note that this ancient Indian path, now called Germantown Avenue, follows the divide all the way from Chestnut Hill to Shackamaxon Street.

The earliest reference to this part of the trail is found in a letter written by Pastorius from Philadelphia on March 7, 1684: "Two hours from here lies our Germantown, where already forty-two people are living in twelve dwellings . . . The path from here to Germantown they have now, by frequent going to and fro, trodden out into good shape."



CONRAD WEISER

By 1749, the Indian path had become a public road, extending up the Schuylkill Valley to Reading, and thence through Womelsdorf to a point at the foot of the Blue Mountain about twelve miles northwest of Womelsdorf. The rest of the way to Onondaga there was still merely an Indian path. A mile east of Womelsdorf was the plantation of Conrad Weiser, who had come from central New York twenty years before. For more than a quarter of a century he was the central figure in Indian affairs in Pennsylvania.

Sunbury, then called Shamokin, was a strategic point for the Six Nations. From it there was access by water to central New York, northwestern Pennsylvania and Chesapeake Bay. For years the Iroquois Confederacy kept a sort of viceroy there to safeguard their interests. So frequently did Weiser travel over the trail between his home and Shamokin that it was often called the "Weiser Road."

In June 1749, Weiser sent an express rider to Philadelphia to notify Hamilton, the recently appointed Governor, that "some of the Six Nations chiefs" were coming down. Contrary to their usual custom, these Indians did not follow the trail from Shamokin to Weiser's. For reasons which will appear later, they took a route about thirty miles longer, down the Susquehanna to a point six miles above Harrisburg, where the river comes through the Blue Mountain. Here was a grist mill owned by the Widow Chambers which, being at the boundary, was patronized by both set-

tlers and Indians. To reach Weiser's from this place they came by the plantation of James Galbreath at the site of the present "chocolate town" of Hershey.

They stayed at Weiser's on June 22d, 23d, and 24th, and on the 25th started for Philadelphia by way of Reading. Weiser went with them to act as interpreter. Four days later they passed through Germantown and camped for the night on the grounds of James Logan at Stenton. There were 46 Indians in the party, which was headed by three Seneca chiefs. Mrs. Logan furnished supper and breakfast for them, for which the charge was three pounds, fifteen shillings. Next day, Friday, June 30, they reached Philadelphia.

At a conference with the Governor and Council, they stated the purposes of their visit, the most important of which was to make complaint that the whites were making settlements on the Susquehanna and its branches above the Blue Mountain.

They explained that the Council at Onondaga had decided to send representatives from each of the Six Nations. The Senecas started first and, when they arrived at Wyoming, above Shamokin, waited a month in vain for the others to come. Finally they decided to proceed without the other deputies. Instead of using the great trail between Shamokin and Weiser's they came down the river as far as Chamber's Mill to see for themselves whether the reports of squatters on Indian land were true.

The Indian spokesman said: "We to our surprise found the story to be confirmed . . . as our boundaries are so well known and so remarkably distinguished by a range of high mountains, we could not suppose this could be done by mistake . . . We earnestly pray that they be made to remove instantly . . . to prevent the sad consequences which will otherwise ensue."
The Governor assured them that no settlers would be permitted to occupy Indian lands, and reminded them that some such settlers had been "forcibly removed and their plantations broke up and destroyed." This was said on July 4.

But on July 7, Governor Hamilton sent a note to Weiser, saying, "The circumstances of the Province requiring that more land should be purchased from the Indians, you are hereby instructed in the most prudent manner possible to sound the three Senecas on this important point . . . apprize them of the necessity and expediency of such a purchase so as to make the first motion come from them . . . for should the Indians discover that ye Proptys want to buy, and that they are the first-movers, they would be more averse and insist on higher Terms." In other words, the Governor's pledge that there should be no trespassers on Indian lands was to be redeemed, not by ousting the squatters, but by buying the Indian land on which they had settled.

Meanwhile, to put the Indians in a good humor, the Governor on behalf of the Proprietaries gave them a liberal present, consisting of an unusual variety of such goods as were known to be pleasing to the red men—gunpowder, lead, shot, vermilion for facial decoration, shirts, plain and ruffled, guns, kettles, scissors, earrings, finger rings, small bells to be sewed on their clothing, thimbles, beads, handkerchiefs, tobacco, pipes and "1½ groce of small Brass Juice Harps."

This last item was extraordinary. The only previous occasion when such instruments were included in a list of presents was sixty-four years earlier—to be exact on October 2, 1865—when among other items were mentioned "one hundred Juise Harps." Perhaps the Governor had in mind the famous line by William Congreve, the English poet, who died the year that Conrad Weiser came to Pennsylvania, "music hath charms to soothe a savage breast." At any rate, when the Indians started for home a few days later, Germantown may have had a red letter day in its musical annals, as forty-six Indians with Jews harps strolled up the village street on their way to Onondaga, happy over the result of their conference, as well as delighted with the magnificent presents which they had received from the Governor in exchange for a "Small Bundle of Skins to make him a pair of shoes."

With a feeling of relief the authorities saw the Indians pass out of sight up the Germantown road. Their visit had been costly. The presents alone cost about one hundred pounds, yet this was only part of the outlay. It was the custom to pay the living expenses of Indian delegations from the frontier to the meeting place and back. Food was cheap but, as Weiser said, Indians always complained of being nearly starved. Forty-six Indians in a chronic condition of starvation would consume an amazing quantity of provisions.

Besides, Weiser was handsomely rewarded for his valuable services, and was reimbursed, also, for the heavy damage the Indians had done to his property during their stay there. The only consolation for the authorities was that only the Senecas had come, and not the deputies of *all* of the Six Nations.

Weiser escorted the Indians all the way back to the mill of the Widow Chambers. Before they left Philadelphia, the Governor strongly urged the Senecas that if on their way home they should meet the deputies of the other five nations, they should tell them that all the business had been attended to and should urge them to go back to Onondaga. Weiser lost no opportunity to repeat and reenforce what the Governor had said, and when he left Chambers' Mill to go back to his plantation, there was no indication that any thing more would be seen of Iroquois deputies that summer at least.

Imagine then the feelings of the authorities when a messenger rode into Philadelphia with a letter from Weiser, dated August 6, informing the Governor that the belated deputies from the other five nations were at his plantation on their way to Philadelphia, and that with them were scores of other Indians who had

attached themselves to the deputation in the hope of sharing in the food, the drink, and the gifts which were usually provided for such delegations. To cap the climax, the Senecas were coming back with them for a second visit!

This second party came down the Susquehanna, as the Senecas had done, to Chambers' Mill and spent the night of August 3d at Squire Galbreath's. From this point they sent four Indian runners to Weiser's to announce their expected visit and ask him to send them food and a wagon to transport the "lame among whom was Conasatego and two more head men besides some children and old womens." Early on the morning of August 5, Weiser sent the wagon as requested.

Later in the day he met the Indians about ten miles east of Lebanon. Weiser's account of the meeting is so graphic that I cannot do better than to quote from it. Ordinarily he would have greeted the leaders at once, but this time he "stood at a distance like a stranger for above a quarter of an hour" to signify his displeasure at their coming:

> After I sat down with Conasatego and others on the creek side where they encamped, I asked Conasatego where he was going with such great numbers of Indians. His answer was, you know where I am going by the message I sent you. I replied that when he sent the message he had not then met with the Sinicker Chiefes who had been in Philia lately and did the business that was to be done! His answer was that he met the said Indians at Shamokin and brought them back again; That not all was done what ought to have been done and as he had come so far with the deputies of every nation of the six united nations, he could not return before he had been to Philadia. I told hime he might have left the Shamokins and the rest of the Susque Hana Indians behind. He said every one was at liberty to come along or stay at home on such occasions.

The Indians, who numbered two hundred and thirty, with new arrivals coming from time to time, reached Weiser's on August 6. That day he had "a very smart conference with them," risking a serious break with the deputies in a final effort to turn them back. He bluntly informed Conasatego and the other chiefs that he

> thought it imprudent for them to go to Philia with such a great number of people that had no business there at all, than only to get drunk, etc. and as their number was so great they could not expect to get all victuals enough; that among white people everything was sold, and the money wherewith their provisions was bought was a free gift by the inhabitants; and as the Sinicker deputies had been down with a good number of other Indians not long ago and had cost a great deal of money, I imagined their going was needless, or at least they must not expect any presents without they had something else to do that I did not know.

Some of the chiefs thought it might be best to go back, but Conasatego obstinately refused to do so, and on August 8 the deputies with their great retinue of hangers-on started for Philadelphia. Weiser went with them to guard against disturbances and depredations on the way, and to act his customary role of interpreter. By this time there were two hundred and fifty Indians in the party. Ten others who were sick, in Weiser's words, "stayd at my house to give my family trouble till the rest come back from philadelphia."

There is in Weiser's account a wealth of interesting detail concerning their journey to the seat of government, their stay in the city, and their return, but time permits mention of only the outstanding events. They followed the route used earlier in the summer by the Senecas. Proud Conasatego, angry because of Weiser's criticims and the lack of support by some of the chiefs, "traveled behind all alone and for the most part of the time kept drunk," he paying the tavern keepers for his own liquor.

They camped the first night at Reading. It rained so hard all night that, as Weiser wrote, "the poor creatures nearly perished." The next day they remained in camp, for the rain still was heavy. The Indians angered the settlers by stripping the walnut trees of bark to make shelters, this being the only tree from which bark could be removed for this purpose in August. They also raided the corn fields of the neighborhood for additional food. Next day, the tenth of August, they marched in the rain to Manatawny Creek, just above the present Pottstown.

On the eleventh there was wild excitement because a drunken Indian struck a white man with his hatchet and tried to stab another. Weiser demanded that the offender be found and punished on penalty of cutting off their food supply. When the Indian was found he had been so badly beaten by others of the party who had come to the assistance of the white man that he could hardly walk; so the case was considered closed.

Then Conasatego had a quarrel with Saristagus, chief of the Oneidas, and the latter decided to go home taking with him the Oneidas, the Tuscaroras, and the Mohicans. But Weiser, fearing to let so large a group go back unescorted, persuaded them not to leave the delegation. On Saturday, August 12, they reached Whitemarsh and camped at the inn of Christopher Probst. Apparently Weiser wanted to spare James Logan from a second visit by the red men, for he wrote, "this time I Belief I must not trouble Mr. Logan." Probst's Inn was in the neighborhood of Barren Hill, and from this point they could march all the way to Philadelphia in one day.

And so on Sunday morning, August 13, 1749, the church-goers and the stay-at-homes of Germantown saw a spectacle such as had not appeared on the village street within the memory of any living person, two hundred and fifty Indians, representing all of the Six Nations and a number of other tribes, on their way to greet the Governor and hold a parley

with him and the Council, and incidentally to have a glorious time of feasting, drinking, and carousing in Philadelphia. Because of happenings in the visit of the Senecas, the Governor had forbidden by proclamation the selling or giving liquor to the Indians; but there is reason to suspect that no red man who wanted a drink was compelled to go thirsty.

The conferences between the Governor and the deputies dealt mainly with the land question. On the afternoon of Wednesday, August 16, Conasatego made a long speech in the course of which he said, "Many people have settled on the east side of Susquehanna and you thought you may have done your endeavours to remove them, yet we see these have been without effect, and that white people are no more obedient to you than our young Indians are to us. . . . On our journey [we] observed your people's settlements, and are willing to give up the land on the east side of Susquehanna from the Blue Hills to Chambers' Mill to where Thomas McGee, the Indian trader, lives, and leave it to you to assign the worth of them. . . . People tell us that the Proprietors receive immense sums of money for the lands we have sold to them and that lands are now worth a great deal of money. . . . we trust you will have a regard to this when you fix the price to be paid for them."

At the Governor's request, Weiser privately met the deputies and told them that the tract they offered was too small, being merely a narrow strip up the east side of the river to a point about fifteen miles below Shamokin. The Governor wanted the tract to extend to Shamokin and to run across country parallel to the Blue Mountain all the way to the Delaware. To this the Indians would not agree; but at a meeting on Wednesday, August 21, a compromise was reached by which the line along the river was to be practically as proposed by the Indians, but was to extend eastward to the Delaware and to include the islands in both rivers within that compass.

After reciting the boundaries of the new offer with great exactness, the Governor said:

> tho neither in this is there any considerable quantity of good land, yet in regard to your poverty more than to the real value of the tract we sent you word that on your signing a deed we wou'd pay the sum of Five Hundred Pounds.

Earlier in his speech, the Governor had put the Indians in a good humor by some friendly references to their visit. Considering how hard he had tried to keep them from coming, he must have had his tongue in his cheek when he said, "You did well to come and see us; we take your visit kindly and shall give you a substantial proof of your being welcome to the people of this Province by the present which they have provided for you." Thereupon Secretary Peters read a list of goods, almost word for word like that which had been given to the Senecas, even to "1½ groce of Jews Harps."

On August 22 the deed was signed by the twenty-four deputies. Three days later the Indians started for home, reaching the inn of Christopher Robin at Whitemarsh that evening. We have no details of their passage through Germantown that day; but in view of the fact there were more than two hundred Indians in the procession, and that there were about twice that number of Jews Harps in the combined lists of presents, their march was probably not lacking in musical accompaniment. Perhaps there was less hilarity than might be thought; since one of the signers of the deed, Tawis Tawis, a Cayuga chief, being desperately ill and unable to walk, was carried by his dusky friends on a litter.

Weiser waited at Whitemarsh for a day for some drunken Indian stragglers to come up. On August 29 the party reached Reading in a rainstorm. Tawis Tawis died that day, and was buried next day. The cost of coffin, grave, and other funeral expenses amounted to fifteen shillings.

On September 2 the Indians left Weiser's for home. About one-fourth of them took the short road to Shamokin by way of the trail over the mountains. The remainder went by the river route. At Squire Galbreath's they stopped over night, and on September 4 they reached Chambers' Mill, where they stayed until September 6. That morning Weiser took leave of them and the motley little army of red men passed northward out of sight as they followed the path around the end of the mountain.

In this brief sketch many interesting details have of necessity been omitted. The names of the innkeepers along the way and the locations of these early hostelries have barely been mentioned. Perhaps a single reference to the expenses for food at Weiser's before they started for Shamokin will give some idea of the task of caring for them. During these three days they consumed 996 pounds of beef, mutton and pork, 575 pounds of meal and 63 huge loaves of bread.

Governor Hamilton and Secretary Peters were considerably worried about what the Proprietaries would think of the purchase. It did not look at all promising as a farming region. In his letter of September 11, Peters said it "was not comparatively speaking worth one sixpence, being broken, stony, mountainous land and almost impassable, as well on account of the Kittochtinny Hills [Blue Mountain] as another range of hills at a little distance from them or rather . . . there was one continuous succession of mountains, large undrainable marshes taking up most of ye valleys." At another place he calls it "this uncultivable country."

Neither he nor any one else suspected at that time that within the rugged ridges that seemed so absolutely worthless was hidden one of the richest mineral treasures of the world. This purchase of 1749 included, with the exception of the Wyoming and the Lackawanna region, the entire anthracite coal field of Pennsylvania. The tract that to Secretary Peters seemed not worth a sixpence has produced untold millions of dollars of mineral wealth; and even the valleys which he regarded as undrainable swamps are now filled with fertile and prosperous farms.

THE NEW LOOK IN ANTIQUE WEAPONS

(*Continued from page 7*)

tunately by a technique which made minimum changes in its appearance, and also an assortment of roundshot and bullets picked up mostly in the vicinity of the Chew House. There is an American drum of the period in good condition.

In the 1812 section are a rare Commonwealth of Pennsylvania musket, 1795 model, manufactured by one of the several Evans who made military firearms up Germantown Pike in the vicinity of Evansburg. Records authenticate that this piece was carried from 1812 to 1814 by a Private William Salter, of whom it is noted: "Born and died in Germantown." Nobody, incidentally, appears to have cleaned the musket since William died. There are also several leather helmets of the period, and other relics. The Mexican War section likewise features leather helmets and relics of that period.

The society was fortunate in acquiring in February the collection of the late Stanley Hart Cauffman, Roxborough musician, novelist and artist, and a member of an old Philadelphia family. Mr. Cauffman collected a variety of military items which were given to the society through the kindness of his son, Stanley Hart Cauffman, Jr. The collection includes very early American helmets; a later, spiked dress model resembling a World War I German helmet; an early military drum, and various edged weapons.

Among the relatively numerous items in the Civil War section are Model 1861 and 1863 Springfield muskets carried by soldiers from Germantown; an earlier musket converted for Home Guard use by the noted Philadelphia gunsmith A. Wurfflein together with a recruiting poster of the Home Guard unit to which the musket was issued, and several excellent specimens of Civil War naval swords, cavalry sabers, presentation swords and revolvers. There are also hats, belts, utensils and battlefield relics salvaged from the pockets of those who gave their lives.

Some of the antique guns proved to be somewhat different from what local legend or family tales had indicated them to be. The so-called Francis Daniel Pastorius rifle is a representative Pennsylvania or Kentucky-type full-stock although the barrel apparently has been shortened and the lock was converted from flint to percussion early in the nineteenth century. Cleaning revealed a large brass patchbox of good workmanship. But the rifle's general characteristics date it fifty to seventy-five years after the death of the pioneer Pastorius. Quite possibly it belonged to a descendant of the same name during Revolutionary or post-Revolutionary times.

Another piece long ago labeled as having come from Washington's headquarters in the Morris House may well have done so, but it certainly had no direct connection with Washington, It is dated, beneath the dust and rust, 1855. Again however, it is intrinsically a worthwhile piece.

Instances of this kind are to be expected. They are found not only in museum collections where expert classification in certain special lines is lacking, but very close to home, as I can testify. My grandfather Halsey's Civil War revolver, described as one he carried "throughout the war," upon inspection bore the date 1864—a little late in the war for "throughout." And so it goes. Fortunately, most military arms are dated and bear the maker's name and an inspector's stamp, so identification is not too difficult.

PHILADELPHIA HOSE CO.

(*Continued from page 10*)

draulion and engine and returned to its original idea of a Hose Carriage was purchased for five hundred and forty dollars and in 1835 a tender was obtained. Still the hydraulion seemed to have friends and admirers in the company and in 1835 one was ordered of Merrick & Agnew; but it was not completed. A hose carriage was obtained in 1837, and again a new one in 1839. During 1848 the present carriage was made of the finest and best materials by Watson, and of the finest workmanship at a cost of $1,000.

In 1849 the company was anxious to erect a new hose house, and designs were offered. One by Charles M. Slocum, Esq., a member of the company, was worthy of much praise. At last a most suitable plan for a building was agreed upon and we are now for the first time occupying it (1850). It is a beautiful structure; convenient in all respects, and admirably adapted for its use. The company has just reason to be proud, not only of the spirit which actuated the construction, but of the ready means within its power to maintain its credit on such an outlay, (the cost of the building exceeding three thousand dollars).

The Philadelphia Hose Company was the first and forerunner of companies of volunteer firemen, whose zeal and devotion and disinterestedness for the benefit of the people challenges comparison and invites competition. Thus, the Fire Department had its origin in benevolence. It required sacrifice of self for the common welfare, impressed by a high moral sense, stimulating to a discharge of a self-created duty.

It is surely one of a class of institutions which creates a most favorable opinion of the character of the people.

John Price Wetherill was among the last of that old stock of Philadelphia Firemen, elected a member of the company 4th of April, 1816. In 1841, Sept. 15th, he became honorary member by reason of his full term of service as an active member had expired He had been president of the company since December 15th, 1829.

CHALKLEY HALL IN RETROSPECT

(Continued from page 14)

During the Occupation of Philadelphia by the British in 1777 the Quakers made efforts to remain neutral but were suspected of being disloyal to the patriot cause. For following their conscientious convictions opposing war, the taking of oaths, refusal to swear allegiance to the new government and contribute to its support, many faithful adherents to the Quaker religion were arrested. Thus it was that Abel James and Henry Drinker were arrested with a group looked upon as against the cause of the colonists and were branded as Tories unjustly.

Abel James escaped imprisonment while Drinker was one of the large group exiled to Virginia and imprisoned for eight months.

Before the war, Abel James was a frequent visitor in Germantown for he was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Union School, later called Germantown Academy, from 1764 to 1769. On the afternoon of October 4th. 1777 after the Battle of Germantown his son Chalkley James walked up Germantown Road as far as the Chew Mansion and saw eighteen dead American soldiers in the driveway in front of the much damaged house. This son of Abel James and grandson of Thomas Chalkley, was the leading Philadelphia physician, Thomas Chalkley James, who served so nobly in the yellow fever epidemic with famous Dr. Benjamin Rush and Drs. Wister and Physick. He was a distinguished member of the Philadelphia medical fraternity. As physician to the Welsh Society he attended poor Welsh immigrants at the City Hospital and was cited for his splendid services. He was presented with a beautiful silver service by the Society.

The James Wharf (later James & Drinker) was on the Delaware just above Arch Street Ferry, oft pictured scene in old Philadelphia. The James's city house was nearby and the Drinker's "Great Big House" was near Front and Race Street. But it was at "Abel James's Frankford" house that Becky James, kindly mistress of Chalkley Hall entertained her friends at tea and dinners before the Revolution.

Abel James's sister, Rebecca James, was the mother of his niece, Betsy Ross, (née Griscom), "Quaker Rebel," and famed flag maker who was read out of Meeting because she married a man who was not a Friend. Later she was considered a renegade when she joined the Free Quakers or Fighting Quakers.

Another crusader in the cause of freedom and peace whose name is indelibly associated with Chalkley Hall and Germantown through his writings is the beloved Quaker poet Whittier. His poem "The Pennsylvania Pilgrim" is a tribute of praise to Pastorius, and it gives us an interesting picture of life and times in the old German town. In 1830 Whittier became editor of the *Pennsylvania Freeman* and lived in Philadelphia for two years. During that time he was a frequent visitor to Chalkley Hall which in the hot summer he found a haven of rest and a refuge "from crowded streets and red walls weary gleam." Its yet undestroyed and beautiful surroundings,

" Its woods around
Its still stream winding on in light and shade
Its soft green meadows and its upland glade."

revived blessed memories of his early New England boyhood, he tells us in "Chalkley Hall." In "Snowbound" Whittier gives us a pen picture of a good man "Gentlest of skippers rare sea Saint" home "from his voyages on the stormy seas," and relates one of his thrilling adventures and miraculous escapes from death from "Chalkley's Journal old & quaint."

In 1789 Abel James died and a few years later Chalkley Hall was sold to satisfy creditors. The Revolutionary War had spelled ruin for the tea business and they had fallen on hard times.

The house passed through several hands until 1819 when it was bought by a member of the Wetherill family and they used it as their country home for many years. Before the Civil War the old Mansion was still in their possession. By the end of the 19th Century none of the fine wealthy old Philadelphia families were occupying Chalkley Hall. It had fallen so low as to become a retreat for poor working men and their families. The encroachment of industry had despoiled the beautiful rural scene and completely surrounded Chalkley Hall in a labyrinth of railroad tracks and factories. In 1917 the American Engineering Company bought the few remaining acres with the old mansion built by wealthy Abel James one hundred and seventy-nine years ago. The original two story house, built by Thomas Chalkley, was torn down by them more than a dozen years ago, but the Company continued to use the fine large mansion as a storage house until the end of last year, when it was demolished.

For letters & accounts of Friends on the island we gratefully acknowledge credit to *Tortola* by Charles F. Jenkins printed in London 1923.

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Obituaries

As the magazine goes to press comes word of the passing of two valued long time members of the Historical Society.

JOHN THOMPSON EMLEN was associated always with the best things. His influence in Germantown was far reaching and his constructive, understanding help will be long missed in the community.

* * *

ARTHUR M. KENNEDY was secretary and librarian of the Athanaeum of Philadelphia and author of its history. He graduated from Princeton in 1897. He was a devoted member of the Orpheus Club. Among his other interests were the Christopher Ludwick Institute, the Musical Fund Society, the Philadelphia Art Alliance, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, the Colonial Society and Pennsylvania's Sons of the Revolution. At the time of his death he had in preparation the History of Early American Settlements. A distinguished gentleman of the old school, he will be sadly missed by all of his associates.

* * *

We note with regret the death of MISS ANNA F. H. KNIGHT on January 29th, 1955. She was long a member of the Germantown Historical Society whose meetings she faithfully attended until her health failed some years ago. A sister, who is also a member of the society, and a brother, survive her.

* * *

For many years The Historical Society was the richer for the gracious and efficient helpfulness of a life member and member of the Board.

MR. THOMAS EVANS was Vice President and Chairman of the Library Committee with oversight of publications and his influence was vital in the life of the society.

For the past decade, though his interest had always remained, he had not been able to assume active responsibility and the word of his death early in February at the age of eighty five was a sadness to his many friends in the society.

His memory and his influence will live long.

* * *

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF QUAKER EDUCATION

(*Continued from page 19*)

well have passed them by with other, less vibrant instruction.

Rachel Judd and Anna Meloney, both of whom came to teach at Greene Street when Miss Oakford was Principal, have continued to be pillars of strength on Miss Branson's staff. Both have now devoted (and we use the word advisedly) over twenty-five years to the School.

Miss Judd is the ideal First grade teacher. Her hobby is "collecting children," as others collect less heart-warming and animate objects. A mixture of gentleness, firmness, tolerance, understanding and love, she is a vivid memory of childhood and a continuing friend to generations of Greene Street students.

In the Intermediate grades Anna Meloney holds much the same position. Many a youngster has found herself because of Miss Meloney, has learned good manners and courtesy as well as arithmetic and geography.

Throughout its history, Greene Street Friends has held true to the ideals of Friendly education, has endeavored to develop spiritually mature and emotionally secure children as well as to give them a sound and well-balanced formal education. This year the School is completing a century of service in the Germantown community. Today as in the past, it holds firmly to the belief that a complete education must be not only academically sound but rich in the things of the spirit.

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Amendments to By-Laws of the Germantown Historical Society

At a meeting of the Board of Managers held on January 27th, 1955, the amendments to the By-Laws listed below were approved for submission to the members for action at a special meeting to be called (in not less than 10 days after publication) by the President of the Society.

Article VIII of the By-Laws states that a copy of the proposed amendments suggested for revision shall be published in the GERMANTOWNE CRIER, and that the members have such magazine at least ten days before the date appointed for the special meeting, at which the By-Laws are to be revised.

CHAIRMAN OF PUBLICATIONS

This is official notice to the members of such proposed changes.

Article I, Section 1.

This Section has been amended to add:

(e) A Business Membership
(f) A Teacher and Librarian Membership

Article I. Section 2.

Has been amended to set forth the dues of Annual Members as $6.00 per year (instead of $5.00, which has been in effect but has not been changed in the By-Laws).

Article I, Section 4.

This provision has been changed to raise the Life Membership from $75.00 to $100.00, and to enable such payment to be made quarterly, (as well as) in a lump sum.

or

Article I, Section 5.

The dues of Junior Members have been raised from $2.00 to $3.00 per year.

Article I, Section 6.

A Business Membership has been added, and the dues are $10.00 per year.

Article I, Section 7.

A Teacher and Librarian Membership has been added, and the dues are $3.00 per year.

Article II, Section 1.

This provision has been amended to change the number of managers from 13 to 15, and to reword the said Section so as to make it more readable. Also, eight Managers will constitute a quorum rather than seven.

Article III, Sections 1 and 2.

This amendment requires the appointment of a Nominating Committee on July 1st of each year, and to post all names, nominated by the Nominating Committee, or, by any five members of the Society, on the Bulletin Board at the Museum at least two weeks before the annual meeting in Oct.

Article VI, Section 2.

The following sentence shall be deleted:
"The Chairman of each Standing Committee shall be chosen from among the Board of Managers."

Article VI, Section 6.

The Publications Committee is now a committee separate and apart from the Library Committee.

Article VI, Section 9.

The (e) Committee on Inter-Club Relations has been abolished, and (e) Publications Committee, (f) Morris House Committee, and (g) Museum Committee have been added to this Section.

Article VIII.

Has been amended so as to read as follows:

Amendments

These By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the members present and voting at any Annual Meeting of the members of this Society, or at any Special Meeting of the Society called in accordance with Article V, Section 2 of these By-Laws, provided that a copy of the proposed amendments, suggested for revision, shall have been sent to each member of the Society who shall be eligible to vote, to the last known address of such member, stating the time, place and date of such meeting, or by publishing the proposed amendments in the Society's publication, "Germantowne Crier." Such notification of proposed amendments, whether by mail or by publication in the "Germantowne Crier," must be made so that the members shall have available the proposed changes not less than ten (10) days before the date appointed for such Annual, or Special Meeting.

Article IX.

Providing for the dissolution of the Society has been stricken. The following provision has been added and is now Article IX:

Attendance of Officers and Managers

The Board of Managers may consider as having resigned, any Officer or Manager of the Society who does not attend at least two (2) meetings in any fiscal year.

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