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VOLUME 22, NUMBER 4 **FIFTY CENTS** **FALL, 1970**



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The Germantown Historical Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to sustaining and promoting the cultural traditions of Germantown—through the preservation of historic landmarks; the maintenance of a museum of relics, a costume museum, and a library; the sponsorship of lectures and tours; and the publication of articles relating to local history.

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GERMANTOWNE CRIER



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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

October 15

Film Topic—Windows on our Path.

Contributor—Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission—Harrisburg.

Place—Trinity Lutheran church. N.W. corner Germantown Ave. and Queen Lane.
Entrance on Queen Lane.

Parking—facility, church lot, west of church, on Queen Lane.

November

Joint meeting of the Germantown and Chestnut Hill Historical Society.

Speaker—Clement E. Conger Curator of the White House and chairman of the special fine arts committee.

Place—Second Baptist Church of Germantown. Parking in lot at rear of church. Enter church from Parking lot.

Notices will be sent out in due time.

December

No meeting due to the hustle and bustle of the holidays.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

The Germantown Historical Society welcomes new members. Privileges of membership include attendance at all lectures, tours, and other functions sponsored by the Society. Members also receive current issues of the GERMANTOWNE CRIER without charge. Society dues are as follows:

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THE SKIPPACK VALLEY

CUSTER'S FULLING MILL & SKIPPACK CREEK FARM

by EVA BOSWELL, *Historian*
Skippack Historical Society

THE CUSTER Family has been associated for several centuries with the history of Pennsylvania, the Nation and Mennonite culture. In 1907 Pennsylvania Governor S. Whitaker Pennypacker, LL.D., in one of his many historical articles, wrote: "Hermanus Custer, one of my own forefathers in the sixth generation, who is said to hark back to Peter Kuster, the (Mennonite) martyr, and Lawrence Koster, the inventor of printing in Haerlem, and forward to General George A. Custer, killed on the plains . . ." (1). In 1970, Dr. A. N. B. Garvan, Professor of American Civilization, University of Pennsylvania, in "Historical Survey of the Skippack Valley" for an ecological study by Ian McHarg Associates concluded tat Custer's Fulling Mill & Skippack Creek Farm has "significant historical associations, structures and sites". (2)

This report will discuss Paulus Kuster, who immigrated from Crefeld to Germantown in 1684, with his three sons Arnold, Joannes and Hermanus. Hermanus occupied Skippack Creek Farm from 1717 to 1760. His son John inherited the fulling mill property when Hermanus died in 1760. In 1767, John expanded the stone farmhouse (see cover sketch by Fletcher MacNeill), altering the roofline to resemble the 1765–8 Johnson House (fig. a), instead of the 1698 Heivert Papen House (fig. b). (These Germantown and Skippack houses were built by close relatives and associates. The Custers were first cousins to the Johnsons and Joannes witnessed Heivert Papen's will.) (2a)

Paulus Kuster was born (1640) in the beautiful valley of the Lower Rhine near the border of Holland, in Crefeld, a town of considerable commercial importance because of its cloth manufacturies. The Mennonites had immigrated to the Dutch border in search of freedom and peace. Holland was unusually cosmopolitan and tolerant for the times. Mennonites and Quakers were persecuted throughout Europe because they refused to take the oath required by militant civil governments.

Paulus became a mason and constructed many stone foundations for fine homes and shops. He married Gertrude Streypers whose brother, Jan, a successful merchant, bought 5,000 acres from William Penn on March 10, 1682. This was one of the three original Crefeld purchases (5,000 acres each in Philadelphia County) from which Germantown was founded.



Heivert Papen House, 6400 Germantown Ave. Built 1698, demolished 1883. Skippack Creek Farm roofline analysis indicates this was shape of house between 1702 to 1767. (photo at Library of Congress.



Johnson House at 6306 Germantown Ave., built 1765-8 for first cousin of John Custer who remodelled his Skippack farmhouse to resemble. (1850 photo, before dormers were added.)

Paulus' mother-in-law was an Op de Graef. She and her three sons* and unmarried daughter sailed from Rotterdam for Philadelphia on 18 June 1683. Paulus

is listed in the "Crefeld Anzeiger" 1684 immigration to America. (4)

One wonders why Paulus at age 44, a successful mason, with wife and four children would leave Crefeld after passing up the opportunity the previous year. Perhaps Pastorius' letter to his German Company dated March 7, 1684, was publicized and caused him to reconsider. Pastorius wrote of two things most necessary: "1. Building, commodius houses on the Germantown lots, and 2. erecting a brick kiln, for which Penn had promised the requisite ground; for so long as they could not burn bricks they must build houses of wood". (5) (Arnold, eldest son of Paulus, born in 1669, became a bricklayer**)

* Abraham and Derrick Op de Graef (with Pastorius and Garret Henderiks) on February 18, 1688 filed the first written protest against slavery in America (3)

** In 1701 Arnold was offered the honor of serving as Committeeman in Germantown, but refused because of conscientious scruples against taking the necessary oath in Court. His son Paul married Sarah Ball in 1740. Sarah Ball Custer's father, Samuel Ball, from Culpepper County Virginia, and Mary Ball Washington, mother of George Washington, were first cousins. Thus, Sarah Ball Custer and General George Washington were second cousins. (6) (7)

Learned wrote of the Crefelders: "The first year was one of great privation and not a little suffering. Provisions were scarce and had to be brought sometimes all the way from the Swedish settlement of Upland. The colony met with unexpected economic hindrance at the very onset. It was made up largely of weavers who knew but little of tilling the soil. Their products were in little demand, because the newcomers had brought with them a good supply of wearing apparel. This is seen from the slight sales at the Fair held November 16, 1684, in Philadelphia, where the Company netted a little over ten thalers.* This lack of market for their wares brought on a serious money famine, which Penn began at once to relieve by uniting with the industry of weaving that of agriculture, with emphasis upon grape culture. Pastorius as early as November 1684, writes that they shall send over a quantity of grape cuttings . . . We have also the interesting information that Penn had already planted, before 1684, a vineyard of French grapes, and that Pastorius himself had brought over with him a number of grape cuttings. In addition to lack of money and market for the products of the loom, came the great need of skilled craftmen . . ." (8)

* Thaler—German silver coin (1519-1891)—origin of word "Dollar"

Paulus Kuster apparently responded to this need and left Crefeld to join his brother-in-law who was looking after the family purchase of 5,000 acres. By 1700 he was so respected that he was chosen as one of the six Committeemen of the Corporation of Germantown. In view of the recent interest in ecology we call attention to some of the first laws enacted by the Germantown Borough. "The trees along the highway were for the benefit of the community; and no one might cut them down, under penalty of 5 pound fine." "All having families were required to work on community projects, and these owning additional property were under obligation to do additional work. Town officials were at first excused from such service, but this caused protests and the exemption was repealed." "All residents were to clean the highway in front of their properties and remove weeds. If the owners notice to clean up was disregarded for eight days a fine of 23s could be imposed." "Racing was forbidden at any time, and shooting on Sunday." (9) Germantown's Borough Charter was revoked in 1707 while Johannes Kuster was one of three burgesses of the town. One of the five complaints advanced by the King's Attorney General was that Johannes Kuster* had married a couple *outside* the corporations limits. (10)

Paulus is listed among the first patrons of Pastorius School opened in Germantown in 1702. That same year Johannes acquired land in the Skippack area and Jan Krey moved from Kreysham Valley to Skippack Creek acquiring the property which Hermanus Custer was to purchase from him in 1717 on which he developed his dyeing and fulling mill.

In January 1708 Paulus, aged 68, died. His masonry tools are inventoried in his will, the original of which is filed in Philadelphia City Hall. His wife and son Johannes died the same year, possibly from the same epidemic which periodically plagued the colonies. Hermanus left Germantown for the Skippack later that year.

Hermanus acquired a tract of 200 acres from Matthias Van Bebber on June 10, 1708. In 1717 fifty acres of that same tract was reconveyed to Van Bebber who added 50 more to sell 100 acres to the Mennonites to use for Skippack Meetinghouse, cemetery and school. (Christopher Dock taught at the Skippack School from 1718 until his death in the classroom in 1771. In 1750 he wrote the first book in America on school management in which he described motivational learning and peer tutoring, a modern education method.) Hermanus remained a trustee of the Skippack Meetinghouse from its founding in 1717 until his death in 1760. He also remained interested in the Germantown Meeting. He contributed to the stone wall which was constructed in front of the Burying ground granted by the Germantown Corporation to the Mennonites.

In the 1756 Skippack census, Hermanus was listed as a "Blu deier" and his son John, a "fuller". Both these crafts are related to cloth manufacture. Apparently the Crefeld weavers succeeded in reviving their weaving. Dyeing and fulling became a mill operation which processed the wool which was weaved in the homes. "Mennonite fine" linens and woolens enjoyed a fine reputation and market in colonial Philadelphia. Milling was one of the few uses one could make of

capital investment in colonial America, and those who succeeded became the financial successes of their community. Hermanus land holdings exceeded 500 acres. He participated in many community activities and one finds his name in Church affairs and public documents and petitions. In 1713 he petitioned for laying out of the Skippack Road from Germantown. In 1728 he was among those who petitioned the Governor General of Pennsylvania, Patrick Gordon, for relief from the only Indian engagement which happened in Philadelphia County. (Skippack Township was part of Philadelphia until 1780 when Montgomery County was formed.)

Hermanus died in 1760 and had written a detailed will dividing his property among his 7 children and wife. Provision for his wife's comfort, is so carefully and affectionately made that we quote that portion: "To my well beloved wife Isabella Kuster, I give all my Plate, Household goods and moveables. Also an annuity of ten pounds yearly for life. One third part of all ye Winter and Summer Corn that will be raised on my Dwelling place to be delivered to her clean'd yearly and Every Year . . . Also One quarter of an Acre with flax for her own Use, as also as much of ye Apples that will grow on ye sd place as She will want for her own use. As also, One half of ye Garden, for her use on ye sd place . . . My Executor shall also keep, feed and pasture one Cow along with his own for ye use of my sd Wife. And I give her also free liberty to live and dwell in my dwelling House wth free Egress and Regress during the Terms afs^{d} and my three sons Peter Paul and John shall Joyntly find and provide Sufficient fire Wood for my s^{d} Wife and keep my s^{d} Dwelling House in good repair for her during ye Time afs^{d}." His Wife, his Son Peter, and his Son-in-law Henry Pennypacker were appointed Executors. ([11])

His extensive inventory reflects the success of his milling operation developed on the 150 acre Skippack Creek property he purchased from Jan Krey in 1717. He willed to John Custer 33 acres, a messuage, tenement and fulling mill, including dams, races and water rights.

John apparently ran the fulling operation successfully judging from the 1767 expansion of the original homestead. Analysis of the current roofline and stones indicate the roof was changed from a gambrel roof structure similar to the Heivert Papen house built in 1698 in Germantown (see figure 1.), to the present structure which resembles the Johnson House (see figure 2 and cover), built in Germantown (1765 to 68), for a cousin of the Kusters. A datestone chiselled *Jc 1767* was set in the expanded wall at the apex of the roofline. John had apparently anglicized the spelling of Kuster to Custer (uncle Johannes insisted on the Dutch spelling "Koster").

In the "Historical Survey of the Skippack Valley", submitted to regional planner Ian McHarg and Montgomery County Commissioners, 1970, historians, Professor Anthony N. B. Garvan and Associate Christa Wells, reported the following about the Custer Property: "The house and premises evidence the residence of competent stone masons. The basement and cool cellar floors are covered by large flags of stone. As mentioned, the original part of the dwelling uses the local redbrown rock as evidenced in the facade of tailored or dressed courses of stone." Significant historical associations, structures and sites are described in Dr. Garvan's report. He reported the mill races on this property to be intact and stone lined. He concluded the house and cool cellar were built of stone taken from the quarry located on the property. In fact, the small 18th century barn and cool cellar were placed in the quarry excavation instead of close to the house as was customary. In its Fourth Annual Spring Tour the Goschenhoppen Historians selected

* When the civil rights of the German Township started to become insecure in 1705–6, Johannes Kuster, who had promised fealty to the English Crown in order to apply for naturalization in 1691, petitioned the Colonial Council again on June 14, 1706. *Colonial Records, II 241ff* contain the following minutes: "A Petition of Joannes Koster, and about 150 other high and low Germans, to the Govr. and Council was read, setting forth, that the Petrs., with many other aliens to the kingdom of England, by the Encouragement of the Propr. had Transported themselves into this Province, & by their Industry had changed the uncultivated Lands they had purchased into good settlemts., & for Twenty two years past had behaved themselves as Liege & Loyal subjects of England, that above 60 of the said Ptrs. at one time, viz: the 7th of ye 3 mo., 1691, had in open Court, promised allegiance to K. William & Q. Mary, & fidelity to the Propr., besides many others who had done the Like, &c. that such as have not already obliged themselves are ready to do it when they shall be admitted. They therefore request, that (seeing they are not at present believed to be secure in their Estates) for remedying the unhappiness they may be engaged in, if they be still considered as foreigners, the assembly may be convened with all Convenient speed, & a Bill recommended from this board for naturalizing all & every of the said Ptrs., that they may have an undoubted right to hold, enjoy, alienate, sell & dispose of any of their Lands, as the natural born subjects of England may or can do in this Province, & also that they may be capable of Electing & being elected, to serve in Assembly & other Offices; also, that some of the Petrs, being Mennists, who (with their Predecessory for above 150 Years past,) could not for Conscience sake take an Oath, the same provision may be made for them by a law, as is made for those called Quakers in this Province, and that the said Law may be sent homewith the rest, past by the late Assembly, in Order to obtain the Queens Royal Approbation.

"Which Petition being argued and Considered, It is Resolved, that it is highly reasonable the Petrs., and all others in their Circumstances, should be rendered Secure in their Estates and Titles to their lands in this Province, the value of which is generally, but the effect of their own labours, and in pursuance of some parts of the prayer of the said Petition leave is given to the sd. Petrs., to procure the attorney Genl. to draw up a bill for that purpose, to be laid before this Board, where it shall meet with all due Encouragement."

Nearly four years later the Bill was presented to the Council, which had the following minute entered, September 29, 1709, stating that:

"The Govr. acquainted the board, that last night the Speaker attended with several members of the House, brought him the Bill for naturalizing the Germans, which he now desired to pass, and accordingly he was pleased to give his assent to the said bill, being Intituted an Act for the better Enabling of Divers Inhabitants of the Province of Pennsylvia., To Hold and Enjoy Lands, Tenemts. and Plantation in the same Province." (*Colonial Records, II, 493–494*).

However, Johannes Kuster died in 1708, and did not live to benefit by the naturalization petition he initiated for the Germantown Settlers. Pastorius headed the list of about 150 Germantown citizens who did live to benefit from Kuster's naturalization efforts which took from 1691 to 1709 to accomplish.

the barn on this property as one of the finest existing Swiss bank barns with forbay. It was built at the end of the 18th century, or beginning of the 19th. Its condition remains excellent. Pegged joints, wide pine boards with chestnut beams and hand forged hardware fill the stone structure. The original part of the farmhouse uses redbrown rock that is tailored on the facade. The dressed coarses of stone on the facade are identical to the Heivert Papen House. It has a central chimney with corner fireplaces as found in Germantown houses. The floors are wide plant pine in some rooms and oak in others. The fulling mill floor and basement are of large flags of stone.

The elevation of the fulling mill floor, which has been incorporated into the residence** is 140 ft. above sea level. The Skippack Creek at this point is 125 ft. Yet the floor has never been known to be flooded. However, it will be if the Pa. Dept. of Forest and Waters 183 ft. dam is constructed at Evansburg. And so will innumerable other historic mill sites in the Skippack Valley be inundated.

** The property is now occupied by the President of the Skippack Historical Society, Joseph J. Peters, M.D. and family.

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Here and There Many Years Ago

UNUSUAL MARRIAGES

LAST Saturday evening a couple whose ages, when joined amounted to 136, went to the Rev. Mr. Smith's, near Germantown, and were there united by the matrimonial ceremony. They were attended by ten other persons whose ages amounted to 759. The gentleman who communicated the above to the printer, at the same time remarked that no powder was necessary on this occasion, most of the company having already experienced the usual effects of time upon their hoary heads."

Pennsylvania Journal, June 28, 1783.

"June 7, 1773, yesterday was married at Germantown, Mr. Frederick Schroeder, an eminent saddler, aged 22, to the amiable Mrs. Curfues, (Relict of Mr. Christopher Curfues), aged 96, a lady possessed of every agreeable Qualification, in the Power of an ample Fortune, blended with the external Charms of a beautiful Set of Features, to bestow

"Hail Happy Pair! May You on Earth be blest!
And by a numerous Progeny caress'd!
Brave, like their Sire, and as their Mother fair,
And, ever free from Sorrow, Pain and Care!"

Pennsylvania Chronicle, May 31–June 7, 1773.

The Rev. John Frederick Schmidt was at this time pastor of St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Germantown Avenue and Phil Ellena Street.

"Perceiving that someone has circulated reports that I have been forbidden to perform Marriages, I give notice that I have licenses with me at all times, and by authority thereof and in accordance with the laws of the state can perform Marriages. Michael Schlatter, Servant of the Word of God. Chestnut Hill, Jan. 1, 1786.

Germantown Zeitung, Jan. 10, 1786.

The Rev. Michael Schlatter, a Reformed clergyman, had not held a charge for many years. While living at Chestnut Hill he married many couples.

RENOUNCED A TITLE

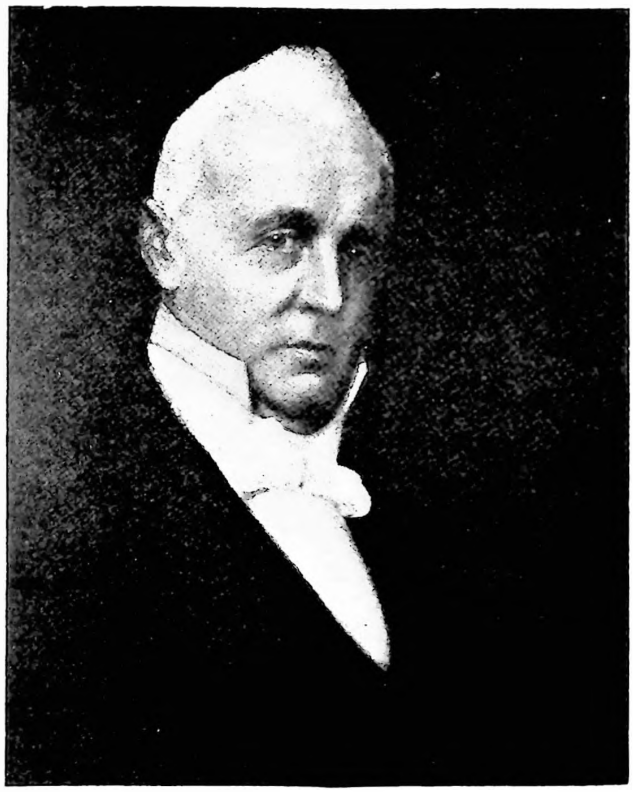
"ON the twenty-second instant was decently interred at Friends' burial ground in Germantown, the remains of Mary De Brahm, widow of John De Brahm, who bore the title in Germany (the place of his birth) of Lord John William Gerard de Brahm, which title, together with his station in the Army, he relinquished for the enjoyment of a retired life, and passed his latter years at his Seat near Germantown, in which retirement his amiable partner cheerfully accompanied him, altho' her mode of education, and former habits of life, had qualified her for the most polished fashionable circles. She was descended from one of the first and most respectable families in Charleston, South Carolina, having experienced the vicissitudes of this life in a remarkable degree. She died at Charleston in the bosom of her affectionate children, who in compliance with her desires, sent her remains to Philadelphia, in order to be conveyed to Germantown, and buried by her late husband."

Poulson's Advertiser, February 26, 1806.

JAMES BUCHANAN

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES 1857-1861

By HERMAN BLUM, PH.D.
Member, Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission



THE ONLY Pennsylvanian ever to become President was James Buchanan, and he was our only bachelor President during the whole of his term.

He served during the turbulent years from 1857 to 1861, just preceding the Civil War, and failed to meet the challenge of South Carolina's secession from the Union or the firing on Fort Sumter. Lincoln's predecessor faced these crucial events in December, 1860, and January, 1861, but passed the whirlwind they let loose on to his successor, who took office in March.

Buchanan, son of Irish immigrants, was born in a log cabin at Cove Gap, near Mercersburg, Pa., in 1791. He studied law at Dickinson College, in Carlisle, Pa., and after graduation in 1812, went to Lancaster, Pa., to practice his profession.

On December 6, 1834, the Legislature of Pennsylvania elected Buchanan to the United States Senate. This was acknowledged by him afterward to be "the only public station" he desired to occupy. In 1830 he declined an offer of President Van Buren to be Attorney General. In 1843 Buchanan was elected to the Senate for the third term. He became Minister to Great Britain, where he served for three years, just prior to his nomination for the Presidenty in 1856.

On March 9th, 1861, Buchanan returned to his home at Lancaster, Pa., known as Wheatland, rejoicing to be free from the cares of public office and welcomed by a gathering of his neighbors. He lived there for seven years.

After the Presidency, he retired to his estate, Wheatland near Lancaster, Pa. He left an estate of about $200,000.00. The Wheatland home was left to Harriet Van Johnson, a niece, who erected a memorial to him costing $100,000.00.

Love Story

Shortly after Buchanan began his law practice at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, he became engaged to Anne Coleman, daughter of Robert Coleman of that town. In 1819 after the betrothal was announced, Buchanan, returning from a trip, dropped in to see a Lancaster friend at whose home a young lady was visiting. This was reported to his fiance who wrote a jealous note, breaking the engagement.

After efforts at reconciliation had failed, Buchanan wrote to Miss Coleman that he could not but submit to her decision since he did not wich to hold her against her will. Miss Coleman suffered hysterical

convulsions as a result of this development. Gossip had it that she attempted suicide. It is uncertain just what happened to her medically, but she died shortly after the incident—on the 9th of December 1819, and her death has often been attributed to her grief over Buchanan's letter. The young man wrote her father a letter of condolence that was returned unopened and without comment. Buchanan's rejected letter was as follows:

Lancaster, December 10, 1819

MY DEAR SIR:—You have lost a child, a dear, dear child. I have lost the only earthly object of my affections, without whom life now presents to me a dreary blank.

My prospects are all cut off, and I feel that my happiness will be buried with her in the grave.

It is now no time for explanation, but the time will come when you will discover that she, as well as I, have been much abused. God forgive the authors of it! My feelings of resentment against them, whoever they may be, are buried in the dust.

I have now one request to make, and for the love of God and of your dear, departed daughter, whom I loved infinitely more than any human being could love, deny me not. Afford me the melancholy pleasure of seeing her body before its internment: I would not for the world be denied this request.

I might make another, but from the misrepresentations which must have been made to you I am almost afraid. I would like to follow her remains to the grave as a mourner. I would like to convince the world, and I hope yet to convince you, that she was infinitely dearer to me than life.

I may sustain the shock of her death, but I feel that happiness has fled from me forever. The prayer which I make to God without ceasing is that I yet may be able to show my veneration for the memory of my dear, departed saint, by my respect and attachment for her surviving friends.

May heaven bless you, and enable you to bear the shock with the fortitude of a Christian.

I am forever your sincere and grateful friend,

JAMES BUCHANAN.

Buchanan remained a bachelor the rest of his life. "Wheatland," an 1828 brick plantation house acquired in the 1840's, still stands along the Marietta Pike, just west of the Lancaster City limits, It has been faithfully restored and contains many of the original furnishings. "Wheatland" is open to the public daily, from early spring through mid-December, maintained by the James Buchanan Foundation for the Preservation of Wheatland.

The death of his sister, Mrs. Elliott Tole Lane, in 1839, and of her husband two years later, gave James Buchanan the care of their four children. The youngest of these, Harriet Lane, became an inmate of his household. Buchanan's letters to his niece began when she was a schoolgirl and were written almost daily during her absences from him after she had grown up. In the interval between his retirement from the Presidency and his death, Buchanan busied himself gathering as many documents relating to his career as he could obtain.

Although he systematically gathered data for the archives of his political career, Buchanan was equally systematic in refusing information to others who wanted research material or data.

Buchanan, exactly 6 ft. tall, was 77 years old when he died in 1868, of rheumatic gout and pneumonia.

Religious affiliation: Presbyterian.

Lincoln's opinion of James Buchanan—"Buchanan is the hard horse to beat in this race (campaign of 1856.) Let him have Illinois and nothing can beat him."—*Letter, Sept. 8, 1856.*

Letters which Buchanan wrote, reveal his thinking and characteristics, more clearly than many of his public statements and official acts. Some of these letters are personal; others politically self-serving. The original of the letters we quote here, are mostly in the archives of the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission in Harrisburg. Some of these letters were contributed to the commonwealth by the writer, from his Blumhaven Library Collection. Others were obtained through the enterprise of Dr. S. K. Stevens, executive director of the Commission and Dr. Donald H. Kent, director of its Bureau of Archives and History.

There is also reproduced here a sample of Buchanan's miniscule handwriting—a complete letter of his.

The following are a few of his significant letters:

The Presidency—Unworthy of a Gentleman?

During the last few months of Buchanan's administration, a Congressional investigating committee inquired into alleged improper activities of members of his cabinet. The committee was headed by "Honest John" Covode*, a fellow Pennsylvanian who, since he had been admitted to the House of Representatives in 1854, had been resenting Buchanan's charge that bribery had been used in his election.

Buchanan felt forced to write a defensive letter which, though designated "Private and Confidential", he addressed to the founder and editor of the *New York Herald.*

* Covode served in the House until 1871, and introduced the resolution calling for the impeachment of President Andrew Johnson.

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL

Washington 18, June 1860.

My dear Sir:

I thought I never should have occasion to appeal to

you on any public subject, & I knew if I did, I could not swerve you from your independent course. I, therefore, now only ask you as a personal friend to take 'the trouble of examining yourself the proceedings of the Covode Committee & the reports of the majority & the minority; & then do to me what you may deem to be strict justice. That Committee was engaged in secret conclave for nearly three months in examining every man ex parte who from disappointment & personal malignity, would cast a shade upon the character of the Executive. If this dragooning can exist, the Presidential Office would be unworthy of the acceptance of a gentleman. In performing my duties, I have endeavored to be not only pure, but unsuspected. I have never had any concern in awarding contracts, but have left these to be given by the heads of the Departments. I have even detested all jobs, & no man at any period of my life has ever approached me on such a subject. The testimony of Wendell contains nothing but falsehoods, whether for or against me has sworn all round.

I shall send a message to the House in a few days, on the violation of the Constitution involved in the Vote of Censure, & in the appointment & proceedings of the Covode Committee. I am glad to perceive from the Herald, that you agree with me on the Constitutional question. I shall endeavor to send you a copy in advance.

With my kindest regards to Mrs. Bennett, I remain very Respectfully,

Your friend,

James Buchanan.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT, Esquire.

A BUCHANAN AUTOGRAPH

For the benefit of the soldiers at one of the Sanitary Fairs, held during the Civil War, Ex-President James Buchanan wrote out an autograph letter any collector of Americana would prize highly. The letter was written from "Wheatland, near Lancaster," and it was accompanied by one from the Baron F. H. A. von Humboldt, who, at the age of 90, wrote a curious note in French to "Monsieur le President." The Baron's note, written four years prior to Buchanan's letter, and is penned diagonally across the sheet in miniscule handwriting and contains "a most friendly appreciation of our country."

Wheatland, near Lancaster
19 December 1863

Dear Sir,

I have received yours of the 12th Instant requesting my autograph "for the benefit of the Great Western Sanitary Fair". I sent it cheerfully. I trust that the Fair for an object so highly benevolent & patriotic may be crowned with all the success which it eminently deserves.

I send you Baron Humboldt's last letter to me, the penmanship of which is a curiosity. It contains a most friendly appreciation of our Country. He sent with it the enclosed copy.

Yours very respectfully
James Buchanan

George M'Laughlin, Esq

WHO WANTED TO HANG BUCHANAN

On April 3, 1863, the date which appears on the Buchanan letter, there was no "new Chief Justice" on the Supreme Court. Roger B. Taney who was Chief Justice in 1863 had served in that capacity from 1836 until his death on October 12th, 1864. Taney's successor as Chief Justice was Salmon P. Chase, by appointment of President Lincoln.

It has been suggested that the mystery may have developed from Buchanan's *mis-dating* of his letter,—something which, for all his stickling for accuracy in others, Buchanan was often guilty of himself. If the mistake in the date of the letter were corrected, and the date was fixed as that of 1865 and not 1863, it of course could refer to Chief Justice Chase, whose provocative temperament made him many political enemies. Chase had been Chief Justice for some six months and could readily have been referred to as the "new Chief Justice." This theory, however, is not quite tenable for there is a specific reference in Buchanan's letter to General Pleasanton. Gen. Alfred Pleasanton, who had distinguished himself at Chancellorsville, commanded a cavalry brigade at the battle of Gettysburg. And this was fought from July 1st to the 3rd, 1863. Pleasanton was born and died in Washington. So the 1863 date on the Buchanan letter, must after all be accepted as correct.

PRIVATE

Wheatland 3 April 63.

My dear Sir:

I have received a letter from General Pleasanton which contains all you could desire. He says "that the officer commanding the Brigade of my division to which Captain Kennedy belongs has promised me to give Captain K every opportunity for distinction, & as this officer, Colonel Davies, is one of the most dashing & brilliant officers in our service, no one could begin under better auspices."

I PERCEIVE YOUR NEW CHIEF JUSTICE IS ANXIOUS TO HANG ME, AND FROM HIS EXHIBITION HE APPEARS FITTER TO BE A HANGMAN THAN A JUDGE.

Yr. friend
Very respectfully
James Buchanan

W. Kennedy.

Retirement and Politics

Following a four year term as Secretary of State during Polk's administration, James Buchanan retired to Wheatland, his twenty-two acre estate. As a peaceful country gentleman he wrote about his retirement

to a justice of the New Hampshire Supreior Court, adding a political observation of the moment.

Wheatland, near Lancaster 28 Sep '49

My dear Sir

I rejoice to learn from the New Hampshire Democrat, which I presume you have forwarded, that you are now one of the justices of the Superior Court of your native State. I shall be ever glad to hear of your prosperity. The recollections of the agreeable association which I enjoyed with Mr. Eastman and yourself, during the 26th and 27th Congress, is to me a source of sincere pleasure. I have now abundant leisure to look back and review the incidents of former years and I find it a most agreeable pastime.

I reside in the country, about a mile and a half from Lancaster; and my native taste for green fields and shady woods has revived. It is very long since I have enjoyed the pleasures of idleness, or rather the privilege of doing what I pleased; I find it truly delightful. I can say in all sincerity that I ?????????? content with my lot and am not disturbed by any axious longing again to appear on the political arena.

General Taylor's cabinet are making a sad exhibition of him. He is, I have no doubt, a frank, brave and honest man; but entirely unfit for the station to which he has been elected. He has been made almost unconsciously to himself to violate his pledges to the American people. Should his eyes be ever opened to the truth, he will make short work of his present cabinet.

Please to present me in the kindest terms to Mrs. Eastman and believe me to be sincerely and respectfully your friend.

James Buchanan

Hon: Ira A. Eastman

ANXIOUSLY LOOKING TO WASHINGTON.

Four months after leaving the White House, with the Civil War under way, James Buchanan wrote a letter from Wheatland, reflecting his concern for the conduct of the war. He approved General Winfield Scott's caution in not "precipitating a forward movement" until he was fully prepared.

Wheatland 12 July 1861.

Writing to a Pennsylvania farmer in 1848 while he was in temporary retirement, Buchanan comments on "old Zach's" difficulties with the post office and appraises the qualifications of the candidate for governor of Pennsylvania.

Washington 22 July 1848

Private

My dear Sir/

In compliance with your request I saw "Old Cave" this morning who informed me that on yesterday he had opened an order to remove the grievance of which you complained.

Old Zach, finding the expense too heavy to pay the postage on all the letters he received, refused to take a parcel of about fifty out of the Post Office at Baton Rouge; whereupon they were transmitted, as the law directs, to the General Post Office in this City. Among the number the letter from Governor Morehead, announcing his nomination has been found. The whole package will now be sent back to him upon his request: / thus his postage will be greatly increased. Of course the letter from Gov: M has not been opened; but there is a letter among them indorsed in his handwriting / directed to General Taylor: & no doubt is entertained but that this is the long missing epistle.

The Governor of Penn? ought above all things to possess great moral firmness / decision of character. Without these qualifications no man is fit to administer a high Executive office. He becomes the tool of designing / interested knaves. Longstreth has no self reliance, if I understand his character. Jesse Miller, the basest ingrate / *par excellence* the most selfish man I have ever known would again be in the ascendant under the Longstreth administration; though the head of it would be an amiable, honest & intelligent gentleman.

My desire for retirement becomes stronger every day. It almost amounts to a passion. I have been so long in the political harness that it now galls me severely. My friends say I shall get tired of it. We shall see.

from your friend
very respectfully
James Buchanan

A Boyd Hamilton Esq

Washington 2 June 1838.

My dear Sir

I have not been very well and am just about starting to Virginia to pay Jefferson Randolph a visit for a few days. The heat and dust of Washington is almost intolerable.

When Gov. Dodge was here I talked a good deal to him about your father of whom he is a warm friend. He said that during Sessions of his Courts last Fall he had not been intoxicated; although he had understood he was before their commencement at Green Bay. He expressed the strongest desire that he should continue sober hereafter; because he said, if he should again get into one of his frolics, public opinion would compel him to resign. I thought all would go well until yesterday and therefore did not write to you before. On yesterday, I received a note from the President enclosing to me a letter which he had received from a highly respectable Democratic citizen at Green Bay, whose name I do not feel myself at liberty to mention, giving a most exaggerated account of his excess in drinking and in conduct since he reached that place. The letter is dated May 19. He reached there six days before the date of the letter. I called to see the President today and he is much worried on the subject. He says that several other complaints of the same kind have reached him. I write in haste and in much sorrow. I shall be back, I hope, the latter end of next week, when I should be pleased to hear from you.

Remember me to my friends and believe me ever to be

Sincerely yours
JAME BUCHANAN

Col: Reah Frazer

Wheatland, near Lancaster
19 December 1863.

Dear Sir,

I have received yours of the 12th Instant requesting my autograph "for the benefit of the Great Western Sanitary Fair." I send it cheerfully, and trust that the Fair for an object so highly benevolent and patriotic may be crowned with all the success which it eminently deserves.

I send you Baron Humboldts last letter to me, the penmanship of which is a curiosity. It contains a most friendly appreciation of our Country. He sent with it the enclosed copy.

Yours very respectfully
JAMES BUCHANAN

George McLaughlin, Esq.

Washington 23 December 1837

Dear Sir,

I am induced to address you in behalf of Mr. Welsh, at present a clerk in the Ordnance Department; because, in my opinion, he has been treated unjustly. Lest I may be mistaken in point of fact, I will state briefly the circumstances of the case, as they have been represented to me.

He was appointed the third or eight hundred dollar clerk under the law of the 20 April 1818. This Act provided for the appointment of three clerks;—the first at a salary of $1150,—the second $1000,—and the third $800. These three clerks were William Riddle, Andrew G. Glynn and George Welsh.

On the 9 May 1836, Congress provided for the appointment of five additional clerks in the Ordnance Department;—one at a salary of $1200, and the other four at salaries of $1000 each.

In the arrangement of the Ordnance clerks; Governor Cass assigns the $1200 clerkship to William Riddle who had been the first $1150 clerk under the old law;—the $1150 clerkship under the old law to Andrew G. Glynn who had been the second or $1000 clerk under the old law; and ranged the five $1000 clerks, one under the old and five under the new law, in the following order: George Welsh, Morris Adler, Samuel Rainey, Nathan W. Fales, Francis Val. Everett,

Whose Ice Cream Is This?

This question has been asked in these stores literally thousands of times in the past few years. Let us now answer the question once for all time. The answer is quite simple. It is ours! It is made especially for the 9 BIJOU ICED CREME PARLOURS here in Philadelphia, in our plant, and delivered in our truck. Our plant is located deep in Pennsylvania Dutch Country in a little town named CLEONA. It is about 5 miles west of Lebanon. Our plant is small but spotless. Our milk comes straight from those picture postcard farms in Lancaster and Lebanon Counties. Our ice cream contains none of the chemicals and glop that are so characteristic of most commercial ice creams. We have no gelatins, powdered milk, or dried fruits and artificial flavors. It is pure, delicious, and rich. It is fattening!

Our ice cream is completely unique in Philadelphia. A quart of our ice cream is as heavy as a half gallon of "super market" ice cream. It is expensive and that's why. By the pound it is a bargain! When you buy from a BIJOU, you are helping an independent businessman, not a giant corporation. Each store has its own operator, who is in business for himself. If you would be interested in going into the ice cream business we may have a store located near you, or be planning one. Our phone number is VI 9-3338 if you are interested. This then, should answer the two most asked questions: Whose ice cream, and Why is it so expensive? Now you know why BIJOU ICED CREME tastes better than all the rest, be they hand packed or not—it is!

THE FRENCH FASHION DOLL

by MAE PETERMAN M.A.
Student of The Sorbonne, in Paris



DURING a recent visit to the Museum of Cumberland County Historical Society, at Greenwich, New Jersey, I discovered a French Fashion Doll, in their Collection. When I inquired about the Doll, Mrs. Newlen B. Watson, sent the following information to me. In 1774, there was a revolutionary tea party, in Greenwich. The cargo, of an English ship was burned in the Market Square, by a group of young men.

In 1874, a centennial tea party was celebrated, in observance of the one hundredth anniversary of this event. The doll was dressed in her patriotic outfit and used as a center piece, for the tea table. After the party, the doll was presented to the ladies of the Historical Society, for posterity.

The history of Fashion dolls was at first closely connected with France. It confirms the natural preeminence of Paris, in the fashion world. An English queen would send to France, for the latest fashion styles. As early as the fourteenth century, ladies were dissatisfied with fashions of their native country. The fashion doll was the earliest method of illustrating the current mode, to foreigners.

What was the semblance of the early fashion dolls? There are a number of literary references to provide clues. In 1396, there is a record of Robert de Varennes, the court tailor, of Charles VI, receiving four hundred and fifty francs for a doll's wardrobe, which he had fashioned to be sent to the Queen of England—Isabella, second wife of Richard II of England, and daughter of Charles VI of France. When Henry IV, of France was about to marry Marie de Medici, he sent her several model dolls. They presumably were fashion dolls, to impress her with the desirability of life at the French Court.

In the eighteenth century, European travel became freer and numerous small continental courts sprang up and flourished. Consequently, the demand for fine wardrobes for the great court ladies made the doll popular. It became the custom to own a pair of dolls, one dressed in grande toilette, and the other en déshabille. They were known as the Grande and Petite. Pandoras, and showed the extravagant taste for stylish dressing. The dolls possessed every detail in hats, dresses, shoes, elaborate hair styles and a great deal of miniature beads and jewelry.

By an act of gallantry which is worthy of note, in the chronicles of history, for the benefit of the ladies, the ministers of both courts granted a special pass to the mannequin. That pass was always respected and during times of greatest enmity, experienced on both sides, the mannequin was the one object which remained unmolested.

In America, enthusiasm for the arrival of the visitors from France was great. Not until 1893, did American women begin buying Paris gowns. In that year the Parisian courtiers sent exhibits of models to the Columbian Exposition, at Chicago, in charge of Monsieur Rouff, who secured the first American customers.

When the dolls served their fashion purpose, many found their way into the nursery as a plaything. Others, like the fashion doll, in the Greenwich Museum, were carefully preserved under glass.

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LITTLE CHARLIE ROSS

by NORMAN ZIEROLD, Boston, Mass., 1967
Published by Little, Brown & Company
BOOK DIGEST by Benjamin J. Novak, Principal of Frankford High School, Philadelphia; Lecturer Pennsylvania State University, Ogontz Center, Philadelphia.



AMONG its many historical "firsts", Germantown has the sad distinction of being the setting of America's first kidnapping for ransom. Four-year-old Charley Ross was the victim, on July 1, 1874. This kind of crime was not repeated on our shores until the 1920's. The steps taken by the inexperienced officials in the case tend to drive the modern reader to despair.

The skilled author spins a gripping and macabre tale that reveals much of contemporary life in Philadelphia. As the drama unfolds, there is the widening involvement of all sorts of people everywhere. In time, the entire country and the world at large, were in the grip of fascination, horror, and indignation. The Charley Ross story has now almost become a part of world folklore.

A HEINOUS ACT

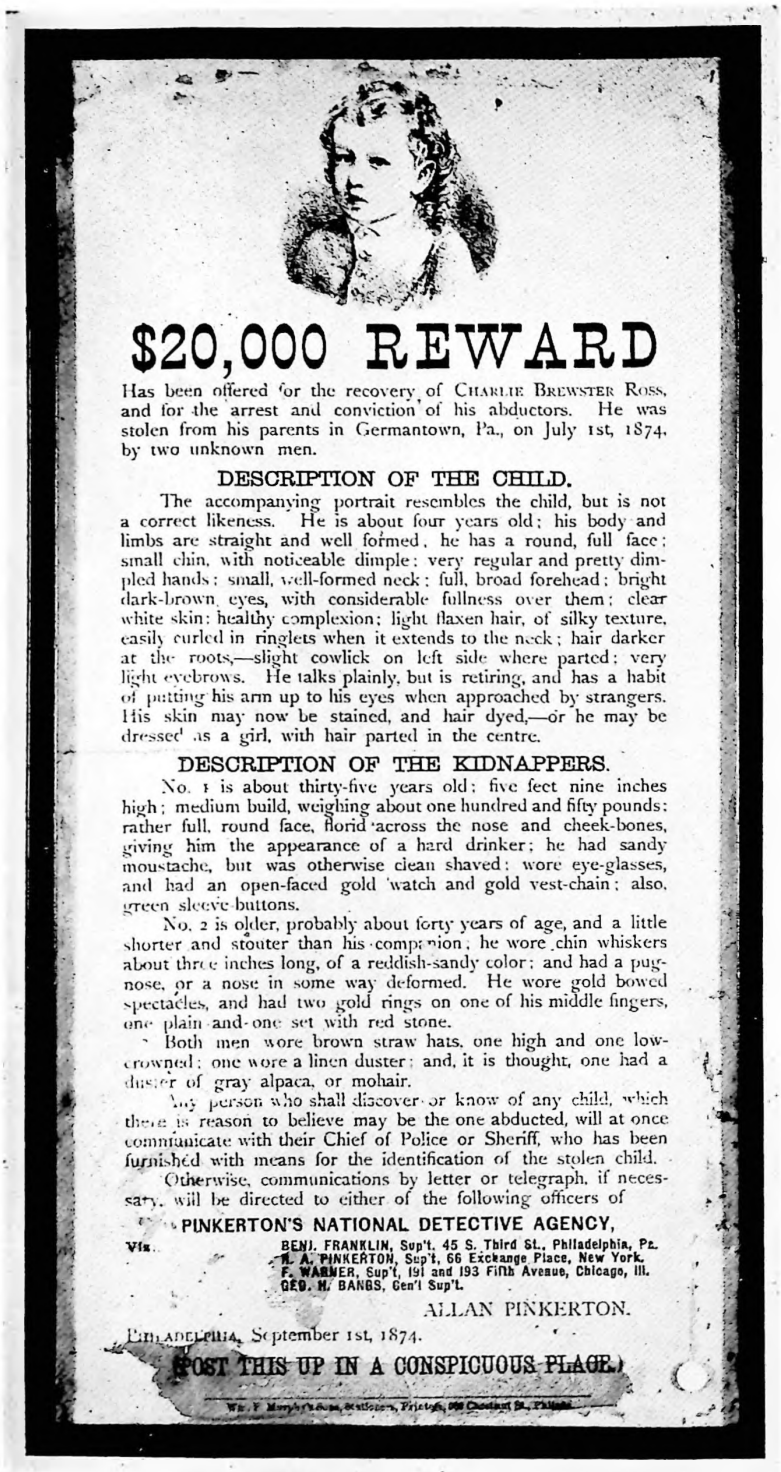
The account opens with a fetching description of nineteenth century Philadelphia. The new Girard Avenue Bridge adjoining the recently opened Zoological Gardens, was to be formally dedicated. This thousand foot long and hundred foot wide span was the widest in the world. Mayor William Stokely laid the corner of the new French Renaissance style City Hall. Horse-drawn trolleys were the backbone of transportation, while the telegraph supplemented the postal system. There were ten thousand gas street lamps.

The Ross House, a three story stone structure, was on the north side of Washington Lane near the Chew House and Chestnut Hill station. Fifty year old Christian Ross was born on November 6, 1823, in Middletown, Pennsylvania. He attended private schools. He came to Philadelphia in 1838, worked in a wholesale dry goods firm and eventually established his own business at 304 Market Street. His wife, Sarah Ann Lewis, came from a well-to-do Brookline, Massachusetts family. They had seven children;—four boys and three girls.

On June 26 of 1874, Mrs. Ross, who was in delicate health, left for Atlantic City. The youngest boys, Walter—not quite six, and Charley—age 4, were to join her there in two weeks.

On July 1, the father left as usual for his business, while the children planned excitedly for the impending Fourth of July celebration. Charles was a handsome dimpled-cheek child with brown eyes, and silky blond curls covering a broad forehead. As the boys played that afternoon on the sidewalk near their home, two men in a buggy drove up and talked with them. Despite warnings against strangers, the children were off-guard because the pair had spoken with them on several occasions before, and given them candy. On this day the added promise of a purchase of firecrackers was too much. Off the boys went in the buggy.

When Mr. Ross returned home at 6 o'clock, the servants reported no sign of the children. After searching the neighborhood, a neighbor joined the father, and as they approached the police station in the town



$20,000 REWARD

Has been offered for the recovery of CHARLIE BREWSTER ROSS, and for the arrest and conviction of his abductors. He was stolen from his parents in Germantown, Pa., on July 1st, 1874, by two unknown men.

DESCRIPTION OF THE CHILD.

The accompanying portrait resembles the child, but is not a correct likeness. He is about four years old; his body and limbs are straight and well formed, he has a round, full face; small chin, with noticeable dimple; very regular and pretty dimpled hands; small, well-formed neck; full, broad forehead; bright dark-brown eyes, with considerable fullness over them; clear white skin; healthy complexion; light flaxen hair, of silky texture, easily curled in ringlets when it extends to the neck; hair darker at the roots,—slight cowlick on left side where parted; very light eyebrows. He talks plainly, but is retiring, and has a habit of putting his arm up to his eyes when approached by strangers. His skin may now be stained, and hair dyed,—or he may be dressed as a girl, with hair parted in the centre.

DESCRIPTION OF THE KIDNAPPERS.

No. 1 is about thirty-five years old; five feet nine inches high; medium build, weighing about one hundred and fifty pounds; rather full, round face, florid across the nose and cheek-bones, giving him the appearance of a hard drinker; he had sandy moustache, but was otherwise clean shaved; wore eye-glasses, and had an open-faced gold watch and gold vest-chain; also, green sleeve-buttons.

No. 2 is older, probably about forty years of age, and a little shorter and stouter than his companion; he wore chin whiskers about three inches long, of a reddish-sandy color; and had a pug-nose, or a nose in some way deformed. He wore gold bowed spectacles, and had two gold rings on one of his middle fingers, one plain and one set with red stone.

Both men wore brown straw hats, one high and one low-crowned; one wore a linen duster; and, it is thought, one had a duster of gray alpaca, or mohair.

Any person who shall discover or know of any child, which there is reason to believe may be the one abducted, will at once communicate with their Chief of Police or Sheriff, who has been furnished with means for the identification of the stolen child.

Otherwise, communications by letter or telegraph, if necessary, will be directed to either of the following officers of

PINKERTON'S NATIONAL DETECTIVE AGENCY,

Viz.

BENJ. FRANKLIN, Sup't, 45 S. Third St., Philadelphia, Pa.
ALLAN PINKERTON, Sup't, 66 Exchange Place, New York.
F. WARNER, Sup't, 191 and 193 Fifth Avenue, Chicago, Ill.
GEO. H. BANGS, Gen'l Sup't.

ALLAN PINKERTON.

PHILADELPHIA, September 1st, 1874.

POST THIS UP IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE.

hall, a frightened Walter approached with a man named Mr. Henry Peacock. He reported that he had found the boy clutching firecrackers and crying, on the corner of Palmer and Richmond Streets in Kensington. Police at the Central Police Station at 5th and Chestnut Streets were alerted, while Mr. Ross and his nephew Frank Lewis, spent the night in a vain search of the streets. Thus began a tragedy that left the family with little rest, and with less peace of mind, for the rest of their lives.

Walter gave a surprisingly detailed description of the two men—one of whom had an oddly shaped nose, and of the horse and buggy. He even recognized many streets they had traveled. Walter had been sent by the two men into a cigar store at Palmer and Richmond Streets to purchase additional firecrackers. When he returned, he found his brother and the wagon gone.

An advertisement promising a three hundred dollar reward for the return of the lost boy was placed in the July 3rd edition of "The Public Ledger," "The Press," and "The Inquirer." Neighbors gave descriptions of the buggy and its riders. A meeting of Mayor Stokley, the district attorney, chief of police and others with Mr. Ross, brought orders for a widespread search. Mrs. Ross in Atlantic City was not immediately notified. Police posters went out. Lack of a recent photograph produced difficulties. The first of innumerable false rumors led the police to a gypsy encampment at 55th and Chestnut Streets, where suspicious laces, jewelry, and weapons were revealed, but no child.

On July 3 appeared a misspelled ransom letter in a weird handwriting, demanding money and threatening the child's life. This was the first of twenty-three letters that were to torture Mr. Ross for almost two years. Some of the letters were quite lengthy. The many misspellings doubtless were deliberate. The disguised handwriting had a backward sprawling lean—sometimes to the left and sometimes to the right. The letters all were unsigned. The police and other officials now realized that the child actually was a kidnapping victim, an act associated previously only with the bandits of Sicily. Because of this, the police enlarged their search, being especially certain to include houses of immigrant Italians.

The second letter on July 6 delivered by mail to Mr. Ross's store, demanded $20,000 ransom. It warned that the child's life would be sacrificed if detectives tried to arrest the kidnappers. Replies to the notes were to be placed in the personal column of "The Ledger." The police and the District Attorney argued against paying, saying that the child would be released once the kidnappers realized that no money was forthcoming.

Meanwhile, nephew Frank Lewis delivered a supply of posters to the New York City Police.

The police reasoned that withholding the ransom notes and other information from the press would be to the disadvantage of the criminals. This news vacuum provoked much wild speculation and distorted stories in the papers. "The New York World" attacked Christian Ross for even contemplating negotiations with the kidnappers.

A committee of prominent citizens including John C. Bullitt, William McKean—editor of "The Public Ledger," and George Harrison—president of the Board of Public Charities, met with Christian Ross on July 13. They asked Ross many searching questions and agreed even more firmly that paying the ransom would compound the felony. "The Germantown News" wrote: "Mr. Ross owes a duty to society as well as himself. —Once put a premium on ciminology and it will rapidly increase—." Mr. Ross steeled himself and

turned down offers of financial aid. Correspondence with the kidnappers via "The Public Ledger" personal column continued. The criminals became more and more insistent. As time went on, newspapers around the country clamored against police chief Kennard Jones and the inefficiency of the police department. The Baltimore News unleashed the following blast: "We think the Quaker City had better improve its police organization before it undertakes its (centennial display," (referring to the Centennial Exposition of 1876).

Notes from the kidnappers insisted that little Charley was alive and in good health. A police scheme using a "dummy" ransom box failed. An eight hundred man force tracked down clues, monitored the post office, searched stables and the Delaware River ferries, etc., etc.

Mayor Stokley reduced his visits to his Long Branch Summer retreat, in order to maintain personal touch. A popular concern was that abducting a child was a capital offense in many European nations, but was only a felony in the United States. Every citizen was exhorted to join in the search.

The Rosses were disturbed at all hours of the day and night by well meaning persons and by "cranks", who had information and schemes—mostly useless, to report. Rumors and false hopes were rife. A group of spiritualists persuaded Mrs. Ross that they had "inside" knowledge of the child's whereabouts. They saddled a pair of horses from the Ross stable and galloped off to fetch him. A wire to Mr. Ross at the store from his wife summoned him home, but he was preceded by the empty-handed spiritualists.

Apparently to satisfy the public clamor, the police arrested a blackmailer and confidence man named Christian Wooster, recently released from jail. One ransom letter stated the money demanded as 400 pounds, consequently, the abductors were thought to be foreigners, probably English. Wooster, the son of English parents, was detained at Moyamensing County Prison. He spoke of nursing an "elegant black eye" sustained in a saloon fight during the hours of the kidnapping. He was in police hands when one of the letters arrived, and could not be identified by young Walter Ross. A very colorful and articulate person, he promised to deliver lectures on police bungling when released from prison after a week there. He scheduled a lecture for Saturday night August 1, at "Odd Fellows Hall" in Frankford, complete with the four piece "Christopher Columbus Bank." Only half-a-dozen persons appeared. When last seen, he was departing with another thirsty man, for a drink of the "fermented essence."

Various individuals, and groups offered to raise the $20,000 ransom money, despite official reluctance. With Mayor Stokley's approval, the sum was to be offered as a reward for the arrest and conviction of the abductors. As time went on, the newspapers continued their speculation and criticism, including reports that Christian Ross's private life was not above reproach. He might even be in collusion with the kidnappers. The texts of the ransom letters still were not released to the press. "The Herald" offered Ross $500.00 for the facsimiles of the letters. "The Reading Daily Eagle" wrote that Ross had been leading a scandalous life with another woman. Ross won a libel suit, the proprietors of the paper drawing a fine of $1000.00 and a reprimand.

Amidst all of the false alarms, a July 30th letter demand that Mr. Ross deliver the money at a midnight rendezvous at Albany, New York. The tedious train trip was in vain. There was no contact with the abductors.

The sparring by letter and the newspaper personal columns was resumed. The authorities adopted a tougher, more peremptory line. Ross poignantly said later: "The public are clamorous for the arrest and punishment of the kidnappers at any cost—It is comparatively easy to sacrifice another man's child for the public good—."

THE NEW YORK SCENE

In a letter dated August 4, the kidnappers stated they were leaving Philadelphia that night. About that time George Washington Walling,—newly appointed superintendent of New York Police, wired the Philadelphia authorities that he had important information on the kidnappers. A man known as Old Gil Mosher suspected his brother Bill as being involved in the kidnapping. Old Gil, a person of rather tarnished character, was motivated apparently by the reward and a falling-out. He reported that his brother Bill had several months before proposed kidnapping one of Commodore Vanderbilt's grandchildren, but the scheme was rejected as being too risky. Bill Mosher was said to associate with a younger man named Joseph Douglas. The two men probably now were living in Baltimore. Bill's handwriting was found to match that of the kidnapper's letters. Here seemingly were real clues at last!

William Mosher was born on Christmas day 1822, in New York. Failing at his first marriage, during which he operated an oyster bar, he took to illegal pursuits, drifting away from his family. He remarried and took up with a young bachelor named Joseph Douglas. The two travelled in a small boat, engaging in thefts along the coasts of Long Island, New Jersey and Connecticut. They were frequently in trouble with the police, who often found it difficult to make charges stick. It was known also that Mosher's nose was deformed by disease, with flattened bridge and upward flared nostrils. He was sensitive about this, and often hid his deformity with a handkerchief. The little finger of his left hand was a withered, useless, claw-shaped appendage. Mosher often covered this deformity with a glove or a sheath arrangement. The pair also manufactured an insecticide which they

peddled from door to door, travelling with a horse and wagon. A thorough police search of Philadelphia and Baltimore failed to unearth either suspect.

Old Gil Mosher also revealed that Bill's wife was the sister of a one-time New York policeman named William H. Westervalt. He had been appointed to the force late in 1872 and was dismissed in January 1874 for an improper report on a betting establishment. Westervelt blamed politics for the dismissal, and was suing the New York Commissioners for reinstatement. Westervelt, a man in his middle thirties, could not be identified by young Walter Ross as one of the two abductors.

A group of prominent Philadelphians raised a new subscription of $20,000, and engaged the services of Allan Pinkerton and his National Detective Agency. They too offered rewards, and made a saturation distribution of more than seven million circulars. These went to every county sheriff in the United States, to railroads and steamship lines, and to many foreign countries. The United States Secret Service also offered its services.

When Phineas T. Barnum came to Philadelphia with his "Roman Hippodrome", he found everyone interested and concerned about the case. Sensing a money-making "spectacular", he quickly tried to become involved himself.

Among the countless false leads from all over the country, Canada, and Cuba was a little Frankford boy. Avid amateur sleuths suspected that the boy had a lisp when he pronounced his name as Charles Loss. This proved, however, to be his correct name.

Meanwhile, Westervelt agreed to help Superintendent Walling of the New York Police to find Mosher and Douglas, although he did not believe them to be guilty. As a humane man and a father of children of his own he might be persuaded to help, especially with a $20,000 reward available. Westervelt was found to have a wife and two small children. Since his dismissal from the police force he was not regularly employed and his family was often in distress. Walling wrote a note for him to help him find a steady job and agreed to intercede with the police commissioner in his behalf. Throughout the ensuing months Westervelt was destined to lead the authorities on many frustrating and fruitless chases. Thanks to him, the police always were just too late or just too soon.

So the matter dragged on throughout August.

One among many oddities was that circulars depicting Bill Mosher showed a handsome nose, despite the unvarying reports that his nose was deformed. There were persistent unsubstantiated reports that coordination of effort and systematic interchange of significant information among the police in several cities and among private investigators, was quite deficient. Superintendent Walling appears to have been especially at fault in failing to share data that might have brought the case to a resolution.

The seventeenth letter was postmarked New York and dated September 6.

Westervelt on September 11 expressed concern about possible harm coming to his sister and her children if she betrayed her husband—Bill Mosher. He now revealed that he had spent some time during June with the Bill Mosher family in Philadelphia where he had peddled stove blacking and other items door-to-door. Superintendent Walling was understandably chagrined that Westervelt had not told him about this before. The Moshers had moved to Philadelphia in January. Bill Mosher used the alias of Henderson, while Douglas was known there as Clark. A check of their third and Monroe Street address was fruitless. Westervelt also said that Mosher had showed him a recently purchased dark bay horse.

Westervelt likewise revealed that his sister (Mrs. Mosher) had been living with them in New York. Westervelt reiterated that he did not want to harm his sister and her husband, but would not object to assisting in seizing the partner. The dilemma was that the arrest of Douglas without the arrest of his partner might be a risk to the child. Walling expressed confidence that this could safely be done. He secretly ordered that Westervelt be followed. Westervelt soon discovered this and objected, whereupon the "shadow" was ordered off.

The two months of strain took their toll of Christian Ross, who became ill and incoherent. He was confined to bed, and the family physician ordered him removed to his mother's Middleton, Pennsylvania, home for convalescence. Mrs. Ross's brothers Henry and Joseph Lewis, assumed the major family burdens for the time being. A long letter dated September 25, reported the kidnappers as living in New Brunswick, Canada, and proposed a simultaneous exchange of child ransom there.

A series of burglaries on the Long Island shores led Superintendent Walling to intensify the search there. Westervelt said that the suspects had a green "clinker-built" boat. By now he had had more than a dozen meetings with Walling. A New York Tavern owner meanwhile reported to the police that he had several times served men answering the descriptions of Mosher and Douglas. Both spoke and had behaved suspiciously. They had, moreover, conversed with Westervelt—also an habitué of the saloon. Walling immediately heatedly challenged Westervelt with this, who claimed rather lamely that the meetings were accidental, and that he had had no chance to communicate before about them to the police. Apparently warned off, the pair never returned to the tavern.

By mid-November, after four-and-a-half months of agonizing, the Ross family decided to deal directly themselves with the criminals. There was, however, no reply to their last two newspaper "personals". On this sad note, correspondence ended.

By now, Superintendent Walling was growing increasingly impatient with Westervelt, and accused him of assisting the kidnappers, rather than the police. Thanks to Westervelt, it was charged, Mosher and Douglas were always one step ahead of the police.

During this frustrating period of doldrums, came a significant and ghostly development. At two A. M. in the early hours of December 14 during a driving storm, a robbery was staged at Bay Ridge on Long Island. The scene, the handsome home of Judge van Brunt was unusual on being furnished with a burglar alarm system. It signaled the intrusion in the bedroom of the judge's brother's home nearby. Four armed citizens there converged quietly, while the unknowing thieves methodically ransacked the place for more than an hour. The plan was to capture the thieves, but when surprised and ordered to surrender, they began shooting. In the ensuing battle, both intruders were shot down. The elder man was killed, and the mortally wounded younger man identified himself as Joseph Douglas. He whispered "It's no use lying now. Mosher and I stole Charley Ross from Germantown". Asked why they had taken the boy he replied: "To make money". Despite persistent questioning he insisted that only the dead Mosher knew where the child was. In his last words he said "Superintendent Walling knows all about us. The child will be returned safe and sound in a few days."

The corpse of the elder man did have a deformed nose and withered finger. Later young Walter Ross identified both bodies as the men who abducted him and his brother Charley. Mrs. Mosher under questioning denied any knowledge of the entire affair, and William Westervelt volunteered the astonishing information that he had seen both men just the day before their death.

At the time of their deaths, Douglas was 28 and Joseph 52.

Hopes of Charley's safe return began to sag. The black sailboat used by the abductors had been stolen from a Bridgeport, Connecticut owner in September. The boat had been made four years earlier by Mosher himself while in jail. Oddly enough, the boat was claimed by a young woman calling herself Mary Douglas, purportedly a sister of the younger abductor. Although she had lived with him for a time, she was said to be neither his sister nor his wife.

The abductors' horse next turned up at Van Fleet's stables in Newark. It had been left by a young man who never returned to claim it. Despite its malnourished condition the animal matched all the descriptive details and was at once identified by Walter Ross. Neither the young man who left the horse, nor the animal itself was ever traced.

Westervelt had all-along maintained that he could not supply a sample of Mosher's handwriting. He now finally produced a letter, the penmanship of which proved without a doubt that Mosher had written the anonymous letters to Ross.

During Christmas week 1874, Mrs. Ross's brothers advertised in all the major newspapers of the country a $5000 reward for the return or information about Charley Ross, within 10 days. The hope that the child would return by Christmas was dashed. The only bright spot was Christian Ross's progress in regaining his health.

FRUSTRATING DECADES

1875 dawned a depressing new year. Intensive questioning of Westervelt, old Gil Mosher, and William Mosher's widow, increased the suspicion that they were concealing facts. William McKean, of the Philadelphia Citizen's Committee, took on an increasingly active role, often going up to New York to attend the interrogations. As Westervelt became entangled in more discrepancies, and demonstrated repeated instances of withholding information, the authorities began to conclude that he must have been an accomplice. On April 13 Superintendent Walling informed Westervelt that Ross and the people in Philadelphia wanted to see him. He took an afternoon train, after being given ten dollars for expenses.

A bench-warrant had been secured for a Philadelphia arrest. Upon his arrival, William Westervelt was placed behind bars at Moyamensing Prison. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ross pleaded with him unsuccessfully for information about their child. He still stoutly maintained his ignorance, but assured them that little Charley was still alive when his brother-in-law was killed. He had told so many different stories, however, that by now who knew what to believe?

The newly elected district attorney of Philadelphia—Furman Sheppard, drew up a five-count bill of indictment, accusing Westervelt of: (1) Abduction; (2) Harboring the child after abduction; (3) Conspiring to abduct; (4) Conspiring to extort money; (5) and conspiring to deprive the boy of his liberty.

The district attorney put off the case throughout the summer, hoping for new developments, but trial was at last begun August 30 in Quarter Sessions Court, before Judge Elcock.

As the trial proceeded it became evident that Westervelt, during his many visits to New York police superintendent Walling, had deliberately misled the authorities. Many witnesses appeared. During the second week, on Thursday, September 9 to be exact, a certain Miss Lucretia Peers of Brooklyn testified that she took a horse-car on July 6, 1874 near Brooklyn City Hall and sat opposite a man with a young child answering Charley Ross's description in appearance and dress. The boy was crying and seemed to be frightened of the man. The man said "Hush!" to the now screaming child; then he quieted the boy by saying "go see mama" and giving him crackers. Mrs. Peers identified a picture of Charley as being the child, and also was positive that Westervelt was the man she saw on the horse car.

Mrs. Westervelt with two children, impressed the court with her dignity and bravery. When she told of the hardships resulting from her husband's irregular livelihood, she so moved people that a subscription fund was later raised for her. She was unaware, she claimed, of Westervelt's connection with the kidnappers or of his visits to the police. She had, however,

on several occasions housed Mrs. Mosher and several of her children. Westervelt himself was called to the stand on Tuesday, September 14, before an overflow audience. In four days of testimony he denied ever having been in Germantown, or of knowing anything about the abduction or whereabouts of the child.

The summation for the defense, rebuttal by the prosecution, and charge by the judge, brought the court to Saturday evening. A deadlocked jury finally brought a verdict when the court reconvened on Monday. The jurors found Westervelt guilty of counts three, four and five, but not of the first two charges of abducting and harboring the child. On October 9, Judge Elcock sentenced the prisoner "to pay a fine of one dollar plus costs of prosecution, and to imprisonment at solitary confinement at labor in the Eastern Penitentiary for seven years".

Kidnapping for ransom did not recur in the United States for many decades. Ironically, half a century later, kidnap-murderers Nathan Leopold and Richard Loeb of fourteen-year-old Bobby Franks, told psychiatrists that they had studied the Ross case, and had modeled much of their strategy from Mosher and Douglas.

With the case seemingly closed, speculation and interest still remained high. Would prompt payment of the ransom have produced the safe return of the child? The name Charley Ross was a household byword. In 1876, Christian Ross was prevailed upon to write his story in a book called "The Father's Story of Charley Ross, the Kidnapped Child".* It became a "best-seller". In order to help the beleaguered man, whose business had been neglected, Governor Hartranft appointed him master-warden of the port of Philadelphia, paying a salary of $2500 per annum. The long-suffering father was invited to Bridgeport, Conn. by B.T. Barnum. Ross thought that he might have some clue; instead, Barnum proposed a $10,000 reward for the safe return of the boy, with immunity to the kidnappers. In exchange, Barnum was to exhibit the boy, in order to recoup his expenditure. The elder Ross was shocked at the proposal, but agreed, with the condition that if the boy was found the family should have the option of reimbursing Barnum. An announcement was widely circulated in newspapers across the country. The effort produced only "false alarms". As for circuses, Mr. Ross found during the course of his extensive travels, that many of them had wax figures of his son, most of them in no way resembling Charley, on display to gaping crowds.

The 1870 decade wore on with an endless stream of claimants. The railroads and Western Union gave Mr. Ross free service. Because the matter was on everyone's lips, children having light curly hair and brown-eyes often were dubbed "Charley Ross" by their playmates. Sometimes even stray little girls gave the name of Charley Ross, and insisted that theywere the lost boy—sometimes telling all sorts of fanciful stories based presumably on what they had heard of the case. A seven-year old Jimmy Blanchard of Milford, New York, was found on a train in New England, and completely duped the St. Albans Vermont sheriff, and the New York Times which had published his fanciful story in detail. Jimmy's family reported that the tearful and protesting boy often ran away from home and fabricated tales to play on the sympathies of credulous listeners.

On January 18, 1881, William Westervelt was released from the Eastern Penitentiary in Philadelphia. He had been a model prisoner and rejoined his family in New York, still stoutly maintaining his innocence. He quietly dropped out of sight.

By this time Christian Ross had investigated over five hundred cases. He said "had I become enthusiastic over everyone I would have been in Kirkbride's (a Philadelphia insane asylum) long ago, —I suppose I shall continue to see boys until I die, but I no longer expect to find Charley in any of them.

Now adolescent boys betook themselves to Ross's Germantown home. Pennsylvania governors, through eight administrations including several changes of political party, reappointed Ross master-warden of the port of Philadelphia. He took this post seriously, and discharged his duties well. In June 1897, nearly twenty-three years after the abduction, Christian Ross died peacefully in his sleep.

A month after Ross's death a New York newspaper carried an interview with Ellsworth Mosher, the son of old Gil Mosher, (and nephew of William Mosher). This laborer of respectable reputation, said that sixteen years before workman had torn down a building in New York where Gil Mosher's wife had at one time run a restaurant. The skeleton of a small boy was found in the walls. Old Gil, according to Ellsworth, said that it was the remains of little Charley Ross, but gave no further details, and advised Ellsworth to say nothing until after Christian Ross's death. The story could not be verified.

Sarah Ross continued the search, seeing a parade of adolescents, young men, and then middle-aged claimants. When she was not journeying for clues or writing letters, she was active in charities. On December 13, 1912, her heart gave out as she stepped into the parsonage of her church. Her sons—including Walter, and daughters continued to search. In 1924 the fiftieth anniversary of the abduction was observed with many newspaper and magazine articles.

The Ross House was sold by Mrs. Ross to the Cliveden Presbyterian Church, which tented it out until the structure sagged with age and neglect. It was razed in 1926 to make way for a new church building.

On February 5, 1939, a certain Gustav Blair, sixty-nine years old, announced in Phoenix, Arizona that he was suing the Ross family to establish his identity as Charles Ross. He was not concerned about inheri-

* Published by: John E. Potter & Co., Philadelphia

tance or property rights he said, but wanted the right to bear his correct name. On May 8 he appeared before the superior Court in Phoenix. A long and imaginative story was spun to a jury which decided in eight minutes that Gustav Blair indeed was entitled to be called Charley Ross. No members of the Ross family appeared, thus Judge Rodgers issued a default judgment against them. Since the court had no jurisdiction beyond the Arizona County, Blair (or should it be Ross?) said he planned to leave at once for Philadelphia and sue there for a share in a supposed $400,000 family trust fund. Furthermore, on the July 1 abduction anniversary, he would be remarried at the Cliveden Presbyterian Church under the name of Ross. Reverend Harold Melcher, the pastor, refused the request. Blair never appeared in Philadelphia. He did go to Hollywood, and bruited his claim on various media until his death in the early 1940's.

Walter Ross, at this time said that more than five thousand applicants had come forward to show that they were Charles Brewster Ross, but none could be proven. The death of Walter in 1943 did not end the procession of claimants. Little Charley Ross became a nation's obsession. Even madmen in insane asylums would cry out "I am Charley Ross".

So ends a tragic story that in a real sense has no end.

BENJAMIN J. NOVAK
Oct. 1970

STATON'S
Galleries

ART
FRAMING
RESTORATION
SINCE 1893

5321 Germantown Ave.
Germantown, Pa. 19144
GE 8-6416

GErmantown 8-6328

KIRK & NICE

Undertakers

SINCE 1761

6301 GERMANTOWN AVENUE, PHILADELPHIA

Whittier's Tribute to Pastorius

For two reasons John Greenleaf Whittier's poem, "The Pennsylvania Pilgrim," is unique in literature. It is the only endeavor of a noted New England author to deal at length with a phase of Pennsylvania history, and the only instance where a famous American poet has taken the settlement of Germantown as a theme for his pen.

Whittier was first brought into contact with the story of Germantown and its founders when he lived in Philadelphia, from 1837 until 1840, editing an anti-slavery publication and entering with enthusiasm into the fight against slavery. Naturally his sympathetic attention was directed to the protest against human slavery uttered by Pastorius and his associates in Germantown in 1688. It was an exciting period which Whittier spent in Philadelphia, witnessing mob violence directed against anti-slavery leaders and culminating in the burning of their headquarters Pennsylvania Hall.

But not until many years later did the great Quaker poet make use of the Germantown theme. He wrote "The Pennsylvania Pilgrim," comprising 500 lines, in the winter of 1871–2, and it was published in a book with several other poems in 1872. Whittier at first made the title "The Germantown Pilgrim." His Boston publisher objected to the word "Germantown." Thereupon the author changed it to "Pennsylvania Pilgrim," which he believed to be "A rather pleasant sounding alliteration."

Passages from the "Pennsylvania Pilgrim"

Glad even to tears he heard the robin sing
His song of welcome to the western spring,
And the blue-bird borrowing from the sky his wing
And when the miracle of autumn came
And all the woods with many-colored flame
Of splendor, making summer's greenness tame,
Burned unconsumed a voice without a sound
Spoke to him from each kindled bush around,
And made the strange, new landscape holy ground!

* * * *

Who knows what goadings in their sterner way
O'er jagged ice, relieved by granite gray,
Blew round the men of Massachusetts Bay!
What hate of heresy the last wind woke!
What hunts of pitiless power and terror spoke
In waves that on their iron coast line broke?
Be as it may, within the land of Penn
The sectary yielded to the citizen,
And peaceful dwelt the many-creeded men.

* * * *

And lo! the fulness of the time has come.
And over all the exile's Western home,
From sea to sea the flowers of freedom bloom!
And joy bells ring, and silver trumpets blow;
But not for thee, Pastorius! Even so
The world forgets, but the wise angels know.

THE FRIENDLY LANGUAGE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA GERMANS

Among the Pennsylvania Germans the Mennonites, Brethren and Schwenkfelders all bear resemblance to the Society of Friends of which religious body the founders of Germantown were members. But the great mass of the Pennsylvania Germans are of the Lutheran or Reformed Faiths. Nevertheless the dialect of the Pennsylvania Germans is akin to the speech of the Friends in that in addressing one another they always use "da"—equivalent to "thee" or "thou"—and not the high German "me" or "you."

In literary German "she" is used in addressing superiors or as a mark of courtesy, while "du" is employed in speaking to inferiors or in conversation among intimates. But in the Pennsylvania German dialect, as well as in most of the European German dialects, "du" only is used.

STAGECOACH LINE

"Germantown Stage—Notice is hereby given, That the Subscriber (having to carry goods and Passengers from Germantown to Philadelphia, every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and back again the same Day. To set out from the Sign of the King of Prussia in Germantown, about Seven o'Clock in the Morning, and from the Sign of the George, in Second street, Philadelphia at Five o'Clock in the Afternoon. Where the Attendance will be given by Jacob Coleman.

"N. B. Those in Philadelphia who incline to take an Hiring any Time on the above Days, before the Stage returns to Germantown, may apply to said Coleman at the Sign of the George, who will agree upon reasonable Terms."

Pennsylvania Gazette, April 2, 1761. The King of Prussia Inn, which Jacob Coleman conducted, was on the west side of Germantown Ave., north of School Lane.

Portraits of 13 President's Wives Are Missing From Display In The White House

Janet G. Blum

Spiritually and socially, the wives of our Presidents are important, but historically they have had minimal recognition.

The portraits of thirteen of our Presidents wives are missing, and this was checked with the Secretary of the Curator at the White House. It was revealed that the following are missing.

1—Mrs. John Adams
2—Mrs. Thomas Jefferson
3—Mrs. John Quincy Adams
4—Mrs. William H. Harrison
5—Mrs. Zachary Taylor
6—Mrs. Millard Fillmore
7—Mrs. Franklin Pierce
8—Mrs. Andrew Johnson
9—Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant
10—Mrs. James Garfield
11—Mrs. Chester Arthur
12—Mrs. William McKinley
13—Mrs. Warren Harding

Note: Mrs. Jefferson and Mrs. Arthur never lived in the White House.

It was only last May that Mrs. Nixon unveiled an oil portrait of the famous Dolley Madison. This picture does not belong to the White House. It is only on loan from the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

Mrs. John Adams, the celebrated Abigail was the only woman who was the wife and the mother of a President. Abigail bore John Adams five children, among them John Quincy Adams, who became our sixth President.

When John Adams was elected President, the White House was still unfinished and Abigail stayed home on the farm, milking cows, churning, knitting, and patching. The White House at that time did not have a bath room or stairs. Water had to be hauled from a well several blocks away.

Among the Presidents' wives, Mrs. Andrew Jackson was accused of not having divorced her first husband before marrying Jackson. She remarried Jackson three years later but Mrs. Jackson never lived in the White House.

First Lady portraits now in the White House—Mrs. George Washington by Eliphalet Andrews (after Gilbert Stuart) in 1878; Mrs. James Madison by Gilbert Stuart in 1804 (on loan to the White House); Mrs. James Madison, artist unknown, circa 1840; Mrs. James Madison by Mary Ursula Whitlock in 1912; Mrs. James Monroe by Eben F. Comins after Benjamin West in 1932; Mrs. Andrew Jackson by Howard Chandlier Christy in 1941; Mrs. John Tyler by Francesco Anelli in 1846–8; Mrs. James K. Polk by George Drury in 1883; Mrs. Abraham Lincoln by Katherine Helm in 1925; Mrs. Rutherford B. Hayes by Daniel Huntington in 1881; Mrs. Grover Cleveland by C. Gregory Stapko in 1952; Mrs. Benjamin Harrison by Daniel Huntington in 1894; Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt by Theobald Chartran in 1902; Mrs. William Howard Taft by Bror Kronstrand in 1910; Mrs. Woodrow Wilson by Adolfo Muller-Ury in 1916; Mrs. Woodrow Wilson by Feodor Zakhorov (?); Mrs. Calvin Coolidge by Howard Chandler Christy in 1924; Mrs. Calvin Coolidge by Feodor Zakhorov in 1928; Mrs. Herbert Hoover by Richard M. Brown in 1950; Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt by Douglas Chandor in 1949; Mrs. Harry Truman by Greta Kempton in 1967; Mrs. Dwight David Eisenhower by Thomas E. Stephens in 1969; Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson by Madame Elizabeth Shoumatoff in 1968.

It is especially noteworthy that there is more than one portrait of some of the Presidents' wives in the White House. These are: three portraits of Mrs. Madison, two of Mrs. Wilson and two of Mrs. Coolidge.

The following are portraits of Presidents' wives in the White House which are not life portraits: Mrs. George Washington, the portrait in the East Room was painted by Eliphalet Andrews in 1878; Mrs. James Madison, the original portrait of Mrs. Madison by Gilbert Stuart has been placed on loan to the White House from the Pennsylvania Academy; the White House has a copy of the original Stuart painted in 1912 by Ursula Whitlock; Mrs. James Monroe, a copy painted in 1932 by Eben F. Comins after Benjamin West; Mrs. Andrew Jackson, a copy painted in 1941 by Howard Chandler Christy—she never lived in the White House; Mrs. Abraham Lincoln, the portrait was painted in 1925 by Katherine Helm, daughter of Mrs. Lincoln's half-sister; Mrs. Grover Cleveland, painted in 1952 by C. Gregory Stapko after Andres L. Zorn; Mrs. Benjamin Harrison, painted in 1894, two years after her death, by Daniel Huntington; Mrs. Herbert Hoover, painted in 1950 by Richard Brown after Philip de Lazlo de Lombos.

Mrs. Blum is the wife of Dr. Herman Blum, who is the Philadelphia member of the Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission. She is president of the Republican Women's Club of Philadelphia, and a trustee of the Frankford-Philadelphia Hospital.

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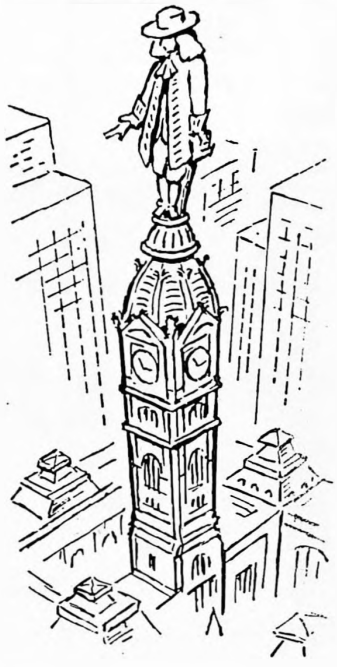
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