GERMANTOWNE CRIER



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Postal Cards Showing Market Square from East and West (see page 41).

VOLUME 18, NUMBER 2

25¢ per copy MAY, 1966

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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.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

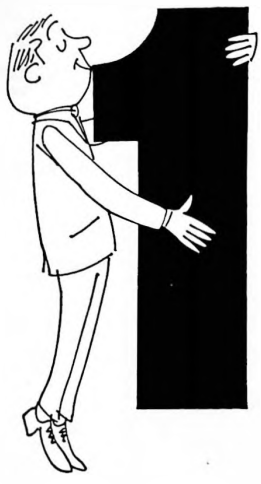
June 2, 1966—Garden Party: 7.30

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Mr. & Mrs. Joseph P. Flach
Mr. Edward Hopkinson, 3rd
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GERMANTOWNE CRIER



Volume 18 | MAY, 1966 | Number 2

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Editorial contributions should be mailed to Miss Jane Carl, 1111 Wingohocking Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19140.

Edward S. Kinley, *Advertising Representative* 7447 Devon Street, Philadelphia, Pa. 19119 Telephone: CH 8-1484

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Memorial Day and the Monument

By Martha R. Nebhut

I CANNOT remember a year when there wasn't a Memorial Day Parade on Germantown Avenue. It was a tradition in our family and nothing could keep us from Market Square on May 30th.

We were very young when it started—this way of celebrating Memorial Day! My Mother took great pride in dressing us up in our white sailor dresses with the red and blue striped collars and equally great fuss was made in arranging the huge hairbows, the fashion of the day for little girls. Then up the street we trudged, all five of us, three in sailor dresses and two in sailor suits. This was Memorial Day and we were patriotic! I remember we always managed to get a good early start to be sure of a choice spot in front of the crowd along the curb. Then the endless wait—ever so often leaning way out over the curb, peering up the "Avenue" eager for the first glimpse of the horses that always led the parade. How our excitement mounted as they came slowly closer and closer, until finally they were passing the spot where we were lined up, five in a row! Then came the flags and drums and bugles and the *color guards*. They seemed so very straight and tall. And the army trucks and tanks and the endless parade of marchers. Line after line they passed amid the shouts and orders from their leaders. And the shouts of the Balloon Men and the Peanut Vendors, and the small bands of young "hero worshippers" running along side, and the bikes decorated with red, white and blue crepe paper. I remember how we put our hands over our ears as the gun salute was fired over the monument in their annual tribute to the men who had given their greatest gift for their country. And then the hush that settled over the crowd as the beautiful, yet solemn, Taps were sounded somewhere down past the Market Square. I remember how it always seemed to get a little chilly when the Taps were being sounded, little chills seemed to appear on the small bare arms even though the day was warm and sunny. A long time, and many Memorial Day Parades later, we understood.

The Parade was over for another year, but the rest of the tradition that my Mother and Father had started for us was yet to be relived before we started with our gay colored balloons (if they hadn't burst by then). Somewhere way up high on the long list of names engraved on one of the plaques around the Monument was imprinted our Great-Grandfather's name. Each year we would climb upon the ledge around the fence and my Mother would point out the name to us explaining that we should be very proud to have our Great-Grandfather's name on the Honor Roll of the Civil War Veterans. But it was so high and out of reach. Then, as the years started passing the name seemed to get lower and lower. Soon we no longer had to climb up on the ledge as we showed it off to schoolmates and friends. We could see it now just by standing on our tiptoes. Could they really have lowered the name, or could it be that we were just growing?

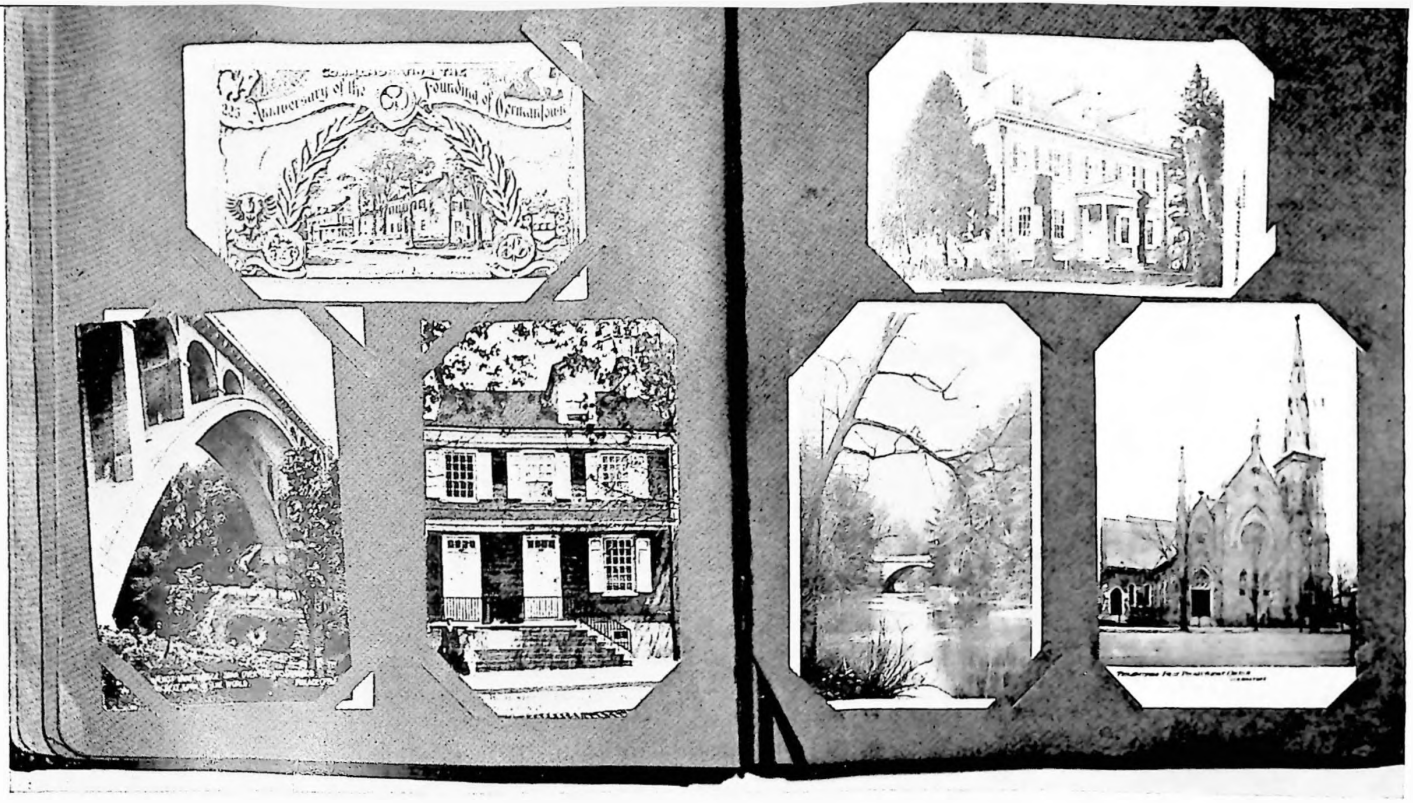
I remember *this* was Memorial Day to us and still is. It just wouldn't be May 30th without the Parade on Germantown Avenue and another look at the name on the Monument!

Guide to the Wissahickon Valley

Compiled by Frances Ballard and Marion Rivinus, and recently published by the Friends of the Wissahickon, a thirty-six-page booklet, entitled *Guide to the Wissahickon Valley*, recounts some of the delights of that primeval woodland so dear to Germantown and so unique within an urban environment.

The concise chapters of the *Guide* hint of the enjoyment to be found in contemplating the geology and wildlife of the Wissahickon gorge as well as its colorful history. The booklet also mentions trails and points of interest to be noted by visitors to the valley. The Livezey house, Valley Green, Indian Rock, and the covered bridge are among the interesting features depicted by George W. Sommer, whose numerous sketches provide a visual summary of the Wissahickon. His map of the valley, forming a two-page spread in the *Guide*, shows the locations of historic sites, recreational facilities, and routes of access to the Wissahickon.

Priced at one dollar, the booklet is available at the office of the Friends of the Wissahickon, 8503 Germantown Avenue. Copies may also be obtained at Valley Green Inn and at the office of the Fairmount Park Commission, Room 129 City Hall.



JUST A PENNY POSTAL CARD
or
A VISUAL MEMORY OF A HISTORIC CITY

By Derek Naabe

Photographs of postal cards in the author's private collection by George A. Daniels

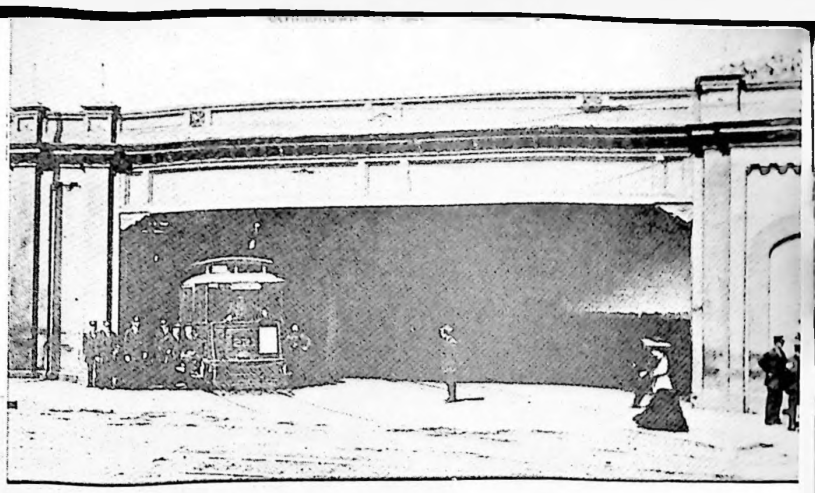
I AM sure that most of us have had postal card albums at one time in our lives, and I for one, never grew tired of looking at the scenes my album unfolded to me, transporting me to worlds I would probably never know, but felt a part of nevertheless, because of my frequent visits through the magic of its pages.

I was always anxious to receive postal cards from my friends and members of the family when they visited other places and other lands, or a card just saying "Hello—we miss you!" from someone living far away from us. It was important that these little messages of communication be placed in an album for all to view and read. They were brought out and shown at every social gathering and, in later years, recalled fond memories of people and places that could never be recaptured but through the medium of a penny postal card. Yes, these cards were something to treasure.

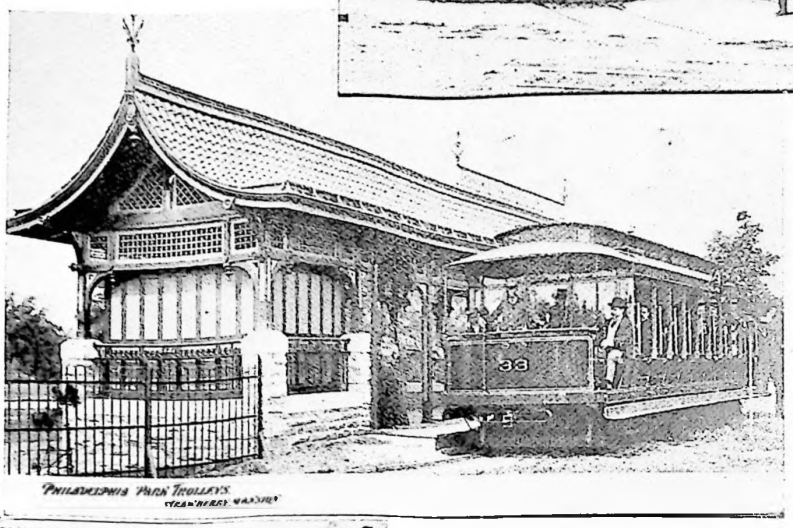
Unfortunately, these little treasures are no longer being kept as ardently as they once were and are fast being discarded as families become just a memory and the remains of the estate find their way into strange hands and strange lands, only to be sold as so much rubbish. To the average person this is the only natural thing to do, because what significance would an old postal card album have for the present generation—it would only be something more to clutter up a room, and in our modern day living there are not many attics or front parlors in which to store our mementoes of the past.

Fortunately, for posterity's sake, if for nothing else, there are people who do place the proper significance on these little mementoes of the past and they are the postal card collectors. Postal card collectors form their own clubs, hold regular weekly and monthly meetings, where cards are discussed, compared and actively traded. There are many types of cards that interest each and every member. It may be the Raphael Tuck card printed in England, noted for its beautiful art work and art subjects, with the inscription "Art publishers to their Majesties, the King and Queen," or it may be the highly collectible "Detroit" card, published by the Detroit Publishing Co., known for its excellence in color and printing. The Detroit Publishing Co. was not confined to any particular area, but was very universal in its coverage of all sections of the country. It may interest you to know that there are postal card collectors of various and sundry subjects, such as all types of Christmas cards, embossed cards, flowers of every description, trolley

Germantown car barn.



Fairmount Park trolley.



Market Street loop.

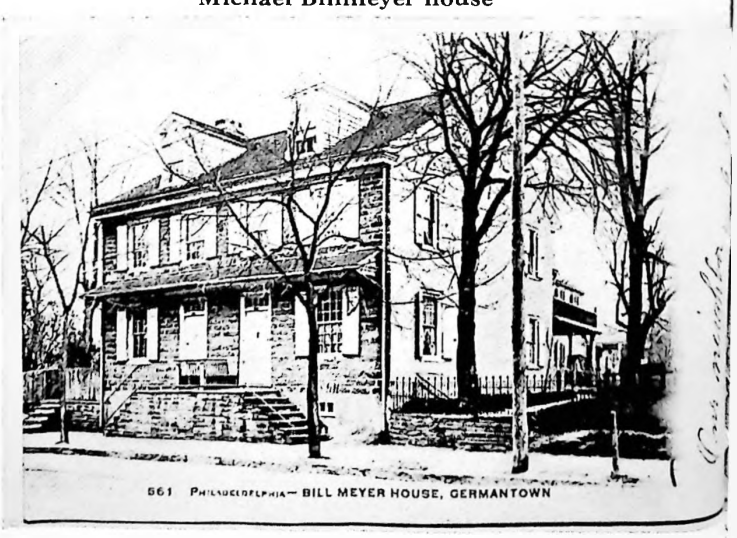


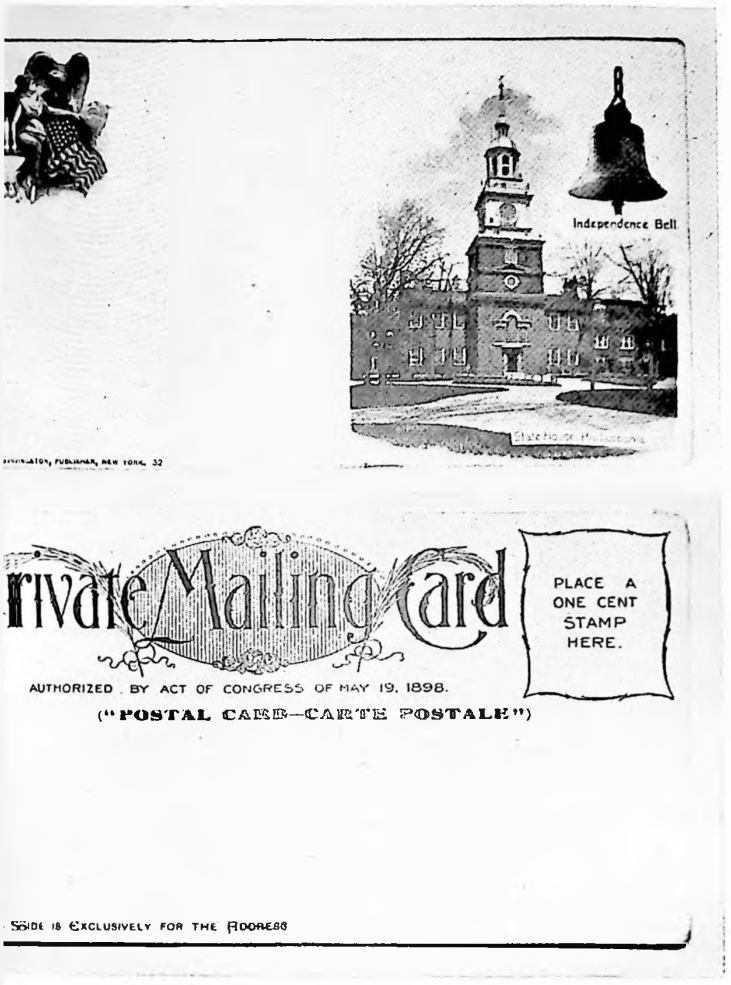
cars, railroad scenes and, of course, the all-important "view card."

In my pursuit of collecting early views of Germantown and Philadelphia, I accidentally stumbled upon an old postal card album in a second-hand store. Among the cards were reproductions of paintings and engravings executed by some of the most notable artists of the early Philadelphia and Germantown scenes. The artists represented were William and Thomas Birch, W. L. Breton, D. J. Kennedy and John Lewis Krimmel and their very names conjure up a covetous desire for possession of the original work—a collector's dream that can never be fulfilled, for they repose, completely out of reach, in our museums and staid historical societies. But, here they were for almost the asking, on a penny postal card. I was particularly happy to find the W. L. Breton cards because of the extreme rarity of his early illustrations. They are only to be found in books or historical collections. A note of interest is that the first edition of John Watson's *Annals of Philadelphia* was illustrated by Breton. He had been in this country only a short time when Watson discovered him sketching along the Wissahickon and was so impressed with Breton's sketches of Philadelphia that he at once suggested that they work closely together in illustrating this now famous book.

The cards to which I refer were reproduced and printed in color and issued during the celebration of the 225th anniversary of the founding of Philadelphia. This celebration took place in 1908 and was known as "Founders Week," this date being established by Mayor John Reyburn and his Commission, which had been created to determine the actual founding year. The year decided upon was 1683 and in order to commemorate this historical event, parades and general celebrations took place. In addition to the postal cards mentioned above, there were cards issued showing the parade and general festivities.

Michael Billmeyer house





One of the first private mailing cards (bottom). A very early view card—message to be written on the front.

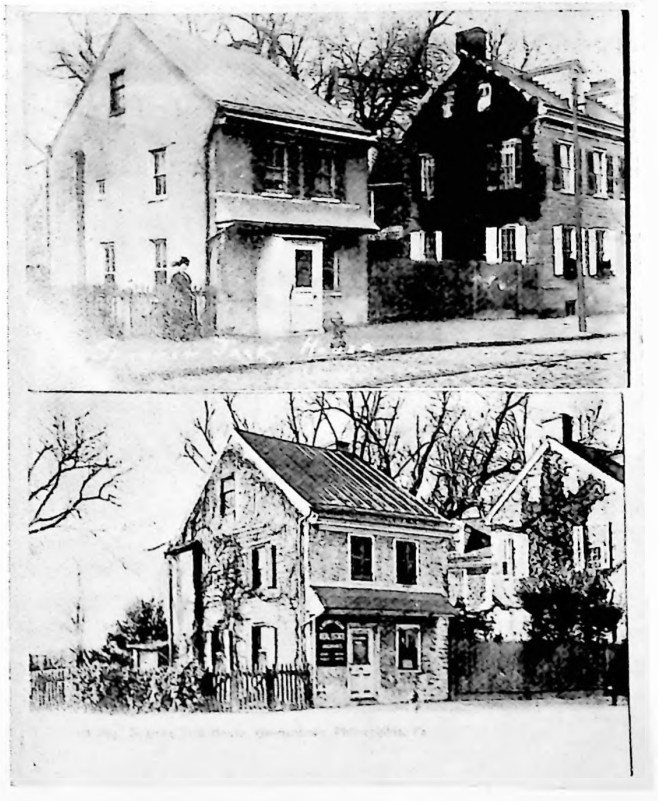
Lithography in Philadelphia has always been of the finest—in fact, far superior to some of the efforts created by our competitors in other cities. Our early lithographic establishments from the days of Bass Otis, Kennedy & Lucas, Sinclair, Duval, to name a few of the most historically important, were the purveyors of the finest in the lithographic art. They had given us a very comprehensive picture of the Germantown and Philadelphia scene from the beginning of lithography up to and through the Civil War. Lithography was to be followed by many other processes, but it is definitely not the intention of this writer to delve into the technical aspects of the printing of postal cards, for there are far too many books devoted to this fascinating subject.

Along with lithography there is no doubt that the art of photography played a major part in giving us a true and accurate picture of the Germantown and Philadelphia scene, especially where the picture postal card is concerned. I had erroneously assumed, like most people, that the postal card had always been with us, but of course this is not true. The Postal Card Law was enacted by Congress, May 18, 1898 and the original cards were known not as postal cards, but as "Private Mailing Cards." The enactment permitted cards to be sent through the mail for the first time. The front of the card showed only a partial view of a historic building or scene, allowing the remainder of the card to be used for a message. The name and address of the person to whom it was being sent were permitted on the back only. The name "Postal Card" actually originated in England and was eventually adopted by us shortly after the turn of the century. To add further clarification to the post card, allow me to mention that early cards were imported from Europe, but were not permitted to be sent through the mail until the enactment of 1898. The first view cards emanated from Atlantic City, New Jersey and the earliest I have found are postmarked 1901.

There were two Philadelphia photographers around the turn of the century who played a prominent part in early postal card printing. The first that comes to my mind is William Rau, whose photography is a collector's item, not only because of his widespread viewing, but for the quality of his work. Around 1905 W. N. Jennings ascended in a balloon and took what is termed the first aerial view of Philadelphia. His cards advertised the fact that the scene was "made a mile high in a balloon." Cards given out by business houses for advertising purposes were little lithographic gems called "trade cards" and were the forerunners of our present-day postal card in America.

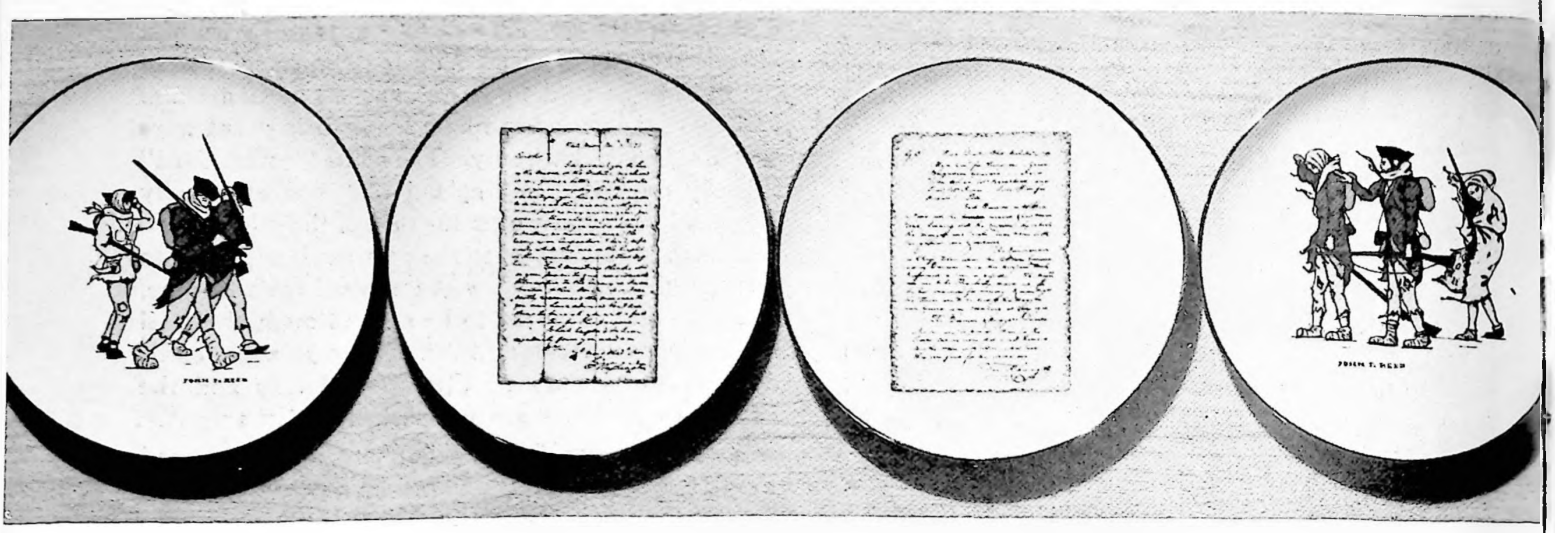
We are particularly acquainted with the picture post card because we were, so to speak, raised with it. There were pictures in books and magazines, but the

(Continued on page 48)



Sparrow Jack House—two post cards of different periods show it as a home and as a place of business.

In both views, the present Manning Smith home is pictured next door.



Four Conversation Pieces

By Jane Carl

THE Germantown Historical Society was one of the lucky five hundred (organizations as well as individuals) to receive a set of four handsome plates, especially designed to commemorate the opening of Honeywell's new plant at Fort Washington. The china plates are colorful, decorative and unique in that they depict the ragged soldiers of Washington's guard as well as documents written during the encampment at Whitemarsh which were previously unpublished. This unusual material is from the collection of John F. Reed, author of the recently published book, "Campaign to Valley Forge, July 1, 1777–December 19, 1777."

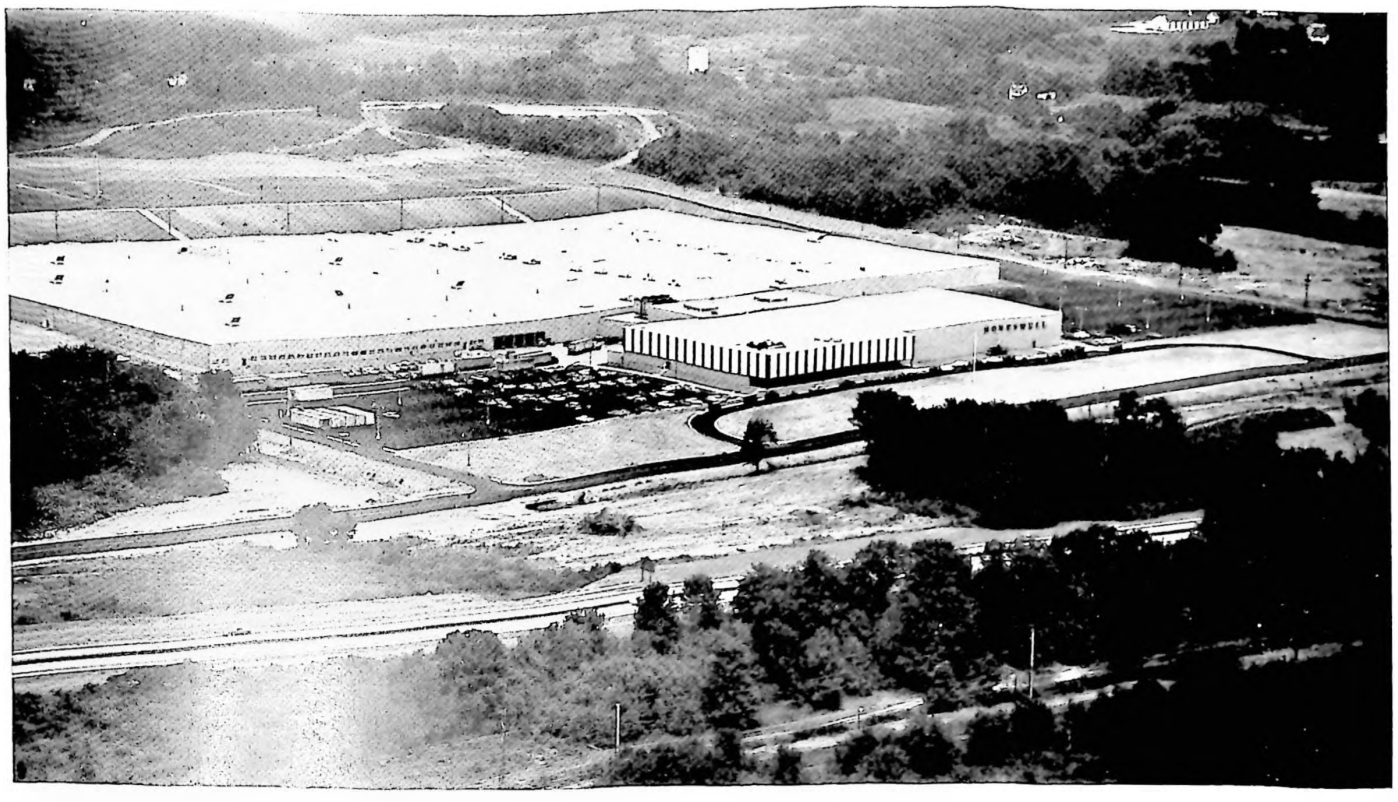
Honeywell's new building is the largest of its type in the East. Seven individual plants, previously widely scattered throughout the Delaware Valley (including Brown Instrument), have been combined and are presently operating within the walls of the new structure.

While the new building has many things to amaze many people, almost all visitors are particularly impressed with the vast area occupied by the manufacturing facilities. This section is so large that a person standing at one end of the building has difficulty in seeing the opposite end—so far off in the distance it is! Because of the size of the plant, small jeeps and scooters are used to enable employees to get around efficiently; these vehicles are a must for those whose jobs require them to move about quickly and frequently.

Superb sound engineering was employed in the construction of the plant. In the manufacturing part of the building, there are literally hundreds of machines, all engaged in a variety of different operations in the same room at the same time! And contrary to what you might expect, it is *not* necessary to shout to be heard—conversations may be carried on in the normal tone of voice!

Color is the cue for departmental identification and partitions are unknown in the office area. Even though very modern color combinations have been used, they blend well with one another as they march down the length of this very large room. The only walls to be found here are those which encompass the executives and certain services groups. Even these offer no obstruction to the long, unbroken and colorful vista because they have been erected around the perimeter of the area along the exterior walls.

Honeywell Philadelphia Division—a composite of seven individual operations—carries on a variety of manufacturing operations at this location. The company produces all kinds of instruments, with special emphasis on the large and more complicated ones. Industrial computers are also manufactured in Fort Washington. Unlike the usual computer that takes in tapes and gives out bills, industrial computers have many uses. For example, one nationally advertised baking company uses the Honeywell computer for its entire baking job. No human hand touches the operation which is completely computerized—from initi-



An aerial view of the new Honeywell plant at Fort Washington.

ally measuring the basic ingredients to removing the cake from the oven to eventually packaging it!

Since the new Honeywell Building at Fort Washington stands on the site of the Whitemarsh encampment grounds, it was decided that the dedication ceremonies should include a historic theme. The idea of the commemorative plates originated with Robert Soncini, a representative of the Ridgewood China Co. Such a remembrance would not only recall the Company of today but also the many Companies of Washington's army who almost two hundred years ago stood on the same spot—hungry, ragged but defiant against the threat of tyranny. Accompanying each set of plates was a short history of the Whitemarsh encampment, written by John F. Reed. The author says that this is second only to Valley Forge as a place remembered for human suffering during the Revolution. But the weary American army, by its determined stand, turned back a powerful foe and the British threat to end the Revolution in British victory.

These unusual plates may be seen at the Historic Musum. Once you have seen them, you'll probably be like the rest of us—talking about the china, the encampment at Whitemarsh, Washington's army and Honeywell at Fort Washington. And this will be really fine because such conversation will recall Whitemarsh and help keep alive—as Mr. Reed says—"much-too-forgotten memories."

Report of Relics Committee

By John Welthall

Recent items received from the estate of **George Clarence Johnson:**

1.—2 large Scrapbooks of data and pictures of historic Germantown homes and views.
2.—Large drawing of King of Prussia Inn.
3.—Early drawing of Grumblethorpe.
4.—Grant Simon's drawing of Grumblethorpe and Christopher Saur's home.
5.—Fifteen books on Germantown.
6.—Leather hat box and hat.
7.—Large package of newspapers.
8.—Additional costume material turned over to the costume museum.

Received from the estate of **Dr. Cheny Metcalf Stimson:**

1.—Colt Revolver Model 1860 carried by Capt. James H. Stevenson during Civil War.
2.—Picture of Capt. Stevenson (Resident of Phila.).
3.—Book titled Boots & Saddles written by Capt. Stevenson giving history of First New York Cavalry.
4.—French bayonet 1875.

These items are on display in the Museum.

Central High in Germantown

By ALBERT C. NORTON

WATSON'S *Annals of Philadelphia* devotes fifty-six pages to the story of Colonial Germantown. First settled by Germans in 1683, and granted an independent title from William Penn to Francis D. Pastorius in 1689, it long enjoyed a separate existence, far removed from the City of Penn. Some of these Germans were Friends, personally invited by Penn, while on the Continent. Others belonged to Pietist groups of the Palatinate and Lower Rhine. Following an old Indian trail northwest from the Delaware River front, they established a typical German settlement with churches, schools, and industries, speaking the German language, with German books, names, music—and at the same time, with a loyalty to the new country. They had their own Town Hall, and established their own government. Keen on education, they established their own day schools, while the Friends among them laid foundations for higher learning. The publications of Christopher Saur, and the establishment of choral organizations for the singing of Bach, Haydn, Handel, and Mozart are well known. But excepting on business, there was little intercourse with Philadelphia until the Revolution.

Then came the British advance, the occupation of the city, and the forced evacuation of government offices and officials. Many of them moved to Germantown. We are familiar with the Battle and with the battle scars that are still visible, and we admire the grand old mansions that remain. But we are not so familiar with the changes in population which ultimately united Germantown with the city proper. This started with the yellow fever epidemic of 1793, when practically all of the government offices, the President, Congress, and thousands of city dwellers found in Germantown a safe residence and a healthier atmosphere. English speech and English culture merged with the German and soon became predominant.

Philadelphia, sometime the capital, and fast becoming the cultural and industrial center of the nation, demanded schools for the widening area and the increasing population. To many this meant state-supported or "charity schools," and was frowned upon by both the early Federalist and "strict constructionist" administrations; but with the era of Andrew Jackson, there came a wider definition of "democracy." A public school system was established, and a people's college or "School of the Republic" was founded as the Central High School for boys. With the City Consolidation in 1854, boys of Germantown were admitted.

It is a long time to consider, and it was a long distance to travel, but from 1854 to 1910, fathers and grandfathers of Germantown recall the daily journey on foot, horseback, stage, street car, and train to the brick school building at Broad and Green Streets. Remenbering the well-rounded classical and scientific curriculum of the preacher-educator, John Seely Hart of Princeton, it was an arduous task for boys who had part-time jobs to make the long journey in the early days. It remained for that later master-teacher and preacher, Robert Ellis Thompson, to plead the cause of 89 such students listed in his school catalog for 1909–10, hampered by crowded conditions, the necessity for afternoon classes, and semi-annual promotions. Dr. Martin G. Brumbaugh, City Superintendent of Schools, responded by making a city-wide survey. Since Central was the only academic-commercial school receiving students on a city-wide basis, the Board of Education agreed to divide the city into five school districts with high school facilities for each. West Philadelphia received boys from Central Manual Training School. South Philadelphia was already organized and took its share—for that area; but for Frankford and Germantown, local "Annexes" were arranged with Central faculty and administration. The excellent judgment of Dr. Thompson is seen in his choice of George Alvin Snook for Frankford's Annex, and of Samuel E. Berger for Germantown. Professor Berger had come from Lehigh University at the invitation of Central's President, Henry Clark Johnson, also of Lehigh. They were already seasoned members of Dr. Thompson's master faculty, with specialties in Latin and Greek, Berger with a "peg leg," and with an occasional over-awing burst of temper (regarded as essential to good discipline). He was also a resident of Germantown and came of an ancestry adapted to the Germantown situation—also considered essential. For the English Department, Dr. Thompson chose William Woods, A.B., of Princeton—also a Germantown resident. Percival S. Strauss, B.S. (Penna.) taught the history, Roland L. Rudrauff, the art, and Charles S. Rockey, Dr. Thompson's assistant, the commercial subjects.

The last three itinerated between the Frankford and Germantown Annexes. Between 1910 and 1914 they were joined by Charles W. Meadowcroft, James H. Moffatt, John Y. Pennypacker, Walter Roberts, and Alfred High, on a part-time basis, but all of them regular members of the Central faculty.

The "Annex" building chosen was the old Germantown Boys' School at the corner of Haines and Mc-

Callum Streets, adjoining the Police Station (supposed to have had a disciplinary influence!). According to Dr. Thompson's report, and the school catalog for 1910–11 there were forty-four registrations on opening day, September 8, 1910; twenty-five for the regular and nineteen for the commercial course. The courses, texts, and methods were identical with those of the Central school building. At first, entering students spent a year at the local Annex, but for the last three years or when elective courses were chosen, they had to travel to Broad and Green Street, where all ultimately graduated with the main student body. As the Annex grew in numbers, their residence time was increased, and only two and even one year of travel was required. A few Annex students came from the Northeast Manual Training School and became regular Central graduates. There were also some Germantowners who elected to finish at Northeast Manual. Members of the old faculty still remain to tell of early experiences, and to supply our data.

Perhaps the largest handicap to those students was the inadequacy of space in the old elementary school building. There was no lunch room, no auditorium, no indoor gymnasium, and very limited outdoor play space. Nevertheless there was a wholesome independence and a freedom from formalities of the main building that quite outweighed the handicaps. The Wissahickon Valley and Park were invitingly near; there were quaint old landmarks at every turn—and just a few blocks up Germantown Avenue was the sister Annex of William Penn High School for Girls, Miss Mary Holmes, Principal. There was also a local school spirit, united with loyalty to old Central. As the MIRROR reported news and views for the main body, and occasional notes for the Annex, in the year 1911 the REFLECTOR was begun to describe local activities for Germantown. We are still searching for copies of that little paper, and for other written or printed records of the "annex years." However, from the MIRROR and former faculty members, we can report.

From Messrs. Rockey, Woods, and Rudrauff, we learn outstanding facts still retained in memory, and from Joseph Wells, a practicing engineer and graduate of an early class we look back again on student life—from eye witness and personal experience. We can even quote:

"Three hundred youths from numerous grammar schools, faced for the first time an all male faculty. That faculty, picked from the largest high school in the city must have felt let down to be transferred to the "hinterland." But they must have felt also the impact they were having on the local student body; because they drove home their subjects with an ardor and determination that was almost an obsession. Any of those subjects which were repeated in college became 'snap courses.'

"By stubborn insistence on perfection, we learned that it was humanly possible to type a full page without an error, because every member of the class did it. Only a hundred could elicit praise for mathematics, but every one tried for it. Literature, history, and science came alive to challenge minds already prejudiced to thinking Ty Cobb, Jim Thorpe, and Buffalo Bill were the real American greats.

"The faculty knew each boy by name, weakness, and strength, and took the trouble to reach them not only in the class room, but in giving them performance of their special talents in assembly, in public places and in assisting with athletic programs. The students had their fun in the privacy of their own groups, sometimes with faculty eccentricities, some of which were choice; but the respect which developed in public was so profound that the janitor had faculty status in the student mind—because he was an adult. In fact, it was the latter who organized a school pilgrimage to hear the evangelist, Billy Sunday.

"There was no physical education program. The teams were coached by pure amateurs, interested only in giving the boys a complete picture."

An athletic association was organized early in 1911, with tennis, a winning basketball team, coached by Mr. Rudrauff, and baseball, coached by Mr. Woods. Every Monday Dr. Thompson made a regular visit to the Annex, to give one of his "inimitable Scripture readings," so named by Professor Albert H. Smyth, and an equally inspiring assembly talk—reflecting some moral virtue, and a positive faith in the Divine Providence. Dr. Matthew O'Brien made occasional visits with an equal spiritual emphasis on the building of the physical mind and body. Together with Prof. James H. Moffatt, he developed winning team members of Old Central. In 1911, the cross-country team beat Frankford Annex, with Charles Rockey and John Y. Pennypacker coaching. In 1912 Prof. Strauss added zest and rhythm to the scene with a Glee Club, interspersed with duets with Prof. Rudrouff and numbers by a faculty quartet. In 1913 the Annex football team won five games, and the runners again beat Frankford Annex. Among the contributors to the MIRROR and the editors of the REFLECTOR, we find the names of Clayton Stead and J. Clinton Frearson, who have also given us information. From these we gain some idea of community and student feeling and desire for a fully accredited Germantown High School.

As early as 1911 a meeting was held in the Germantown Annex, under the leadership of Professor Berger and with William T. Tilden, popular member of the Board of Education as speaker, emphasizing the need for a separate school. The Germantown community was aroused; the Board drew up plans, and a well graded site was found at the corner of Germantown Avenue and High Street. From this point on the records have been well preserved. We have a full report of the cornerstone laying on September 26, 1914, with addresses by Superintendent Brumbaugh, Bayard Henry, Esq., William T. Tilden for the Board, and Dr. Thompson for the Central school.

The final pages of the REFLECTOR report the last

classes to travel to the main building, the continued fine spirit of the undermanned athletic teams, and best of all, in April 1915, a community-student rally at the Germantown Theater with the main address by the veteran West Pointer and mathematics teacher, Joseph C. Fox of the 85th Class at Central High. From his own Germantown home he had traveled with these boys all of those "annex years" to Broad and Green Street. Now it was his pleasure to give them his valedictory in behalf of their relation with the Central High School, and to give them also a God-speed to the completed GERMANTOWN HIGH SCHOOL,—for boys AND girls.

Mr. Joseph Wells writes again, in conclusion:

"It would be interesting to know the present status of the boys who attended that school behind the Old Town Hall on Haines Street. To my knowledge, none were infamous. One was president of the Philco Corporation; one was Sports Editor for the 'DAILY NEWS'; one was on a Destroyer in World War I, which sank two German submarines, again led beach landings in the Pacific in World War II, and finally retired as a Commander in the Coast Guard. One grew up to achieve every boy's dream, as an engineer to employ his own former teacher in a large engineering concern. Numerous others have done very well, if not spectacularly, in the professions or business."

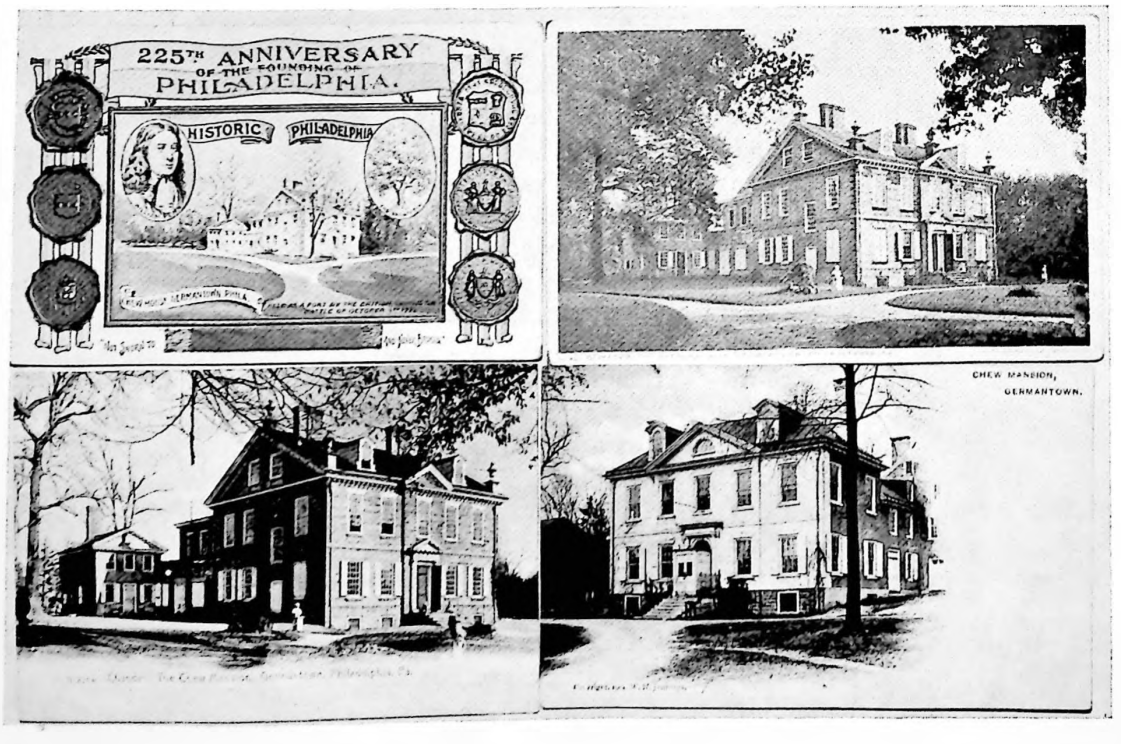
The new school of 1915 can now treasure more than fifty years of achievement of its own; but it can treasure equally and proudly the names of Dr. Robert Ellis Thompson who fathered the thought, Samuel E. Berger who faithfully and completely fulfilled his trust, and Dr. Harry F. Keller, the Central High scientist and department head who opened the new school to continue the great tradition of CENTRAL HIGH IN GERMANTOWN.

Just a Penny Postal Card

(*Continued from page 43*)

picture post card seemed to be more intimate; it had been mailed directly to us and it was ours to possess. We would look at it again and again and even if the scene might have changed through the years we could if we wished, take up our postal card album and re-live that scene as we once knew it. Sentimental? Yes, but who among us has not yearned for another glimpse of a cherished memory. It may be just a city street and all things upon it, or it may be just a building, a corner store, a street car, a theatre, or a restaurant where you ate your daily meal. It could be one or many things that could force you to pause and reflect for a moment and try to recapture a happy association.

But one day, like a thief in the night, these early associations have been stolen from you. They were like old friends and you want to reach back and bring them into focus once again, but no matter how much you try, your memory refuses to respond and as the years pass, objects and places grow dimmer and dimmer until they fade almost beyond recall. These very thoughts passed through my mind as I turned the pages of this old album. I became so deeply engrossed that time seemed to stand still. This album was like the fabled Aladdin's Lamp of long ago; by the mere turning of the page I could be transported back through the years, walking once again the streets I knew so well, greeting old friends and re-living memories that could not possibly escape me again, for now in my hands was the magic book of yesterday.



Four view cards, including a Detroit card and a card commemorating Philadelphia's 225th anniversary. Each of the four cards is labeled as the Chew Mansion, though one (lower right) actually depicts Vernon.

The Philadelphia Busybody

By PATRICIA DOLAN

Photographs by Daniel J. McCrudden, Jr.



THE BUSYBODY was a hallmark of fashionable Philadelphia in the latter part of the nineteenth century. Few homes, in many of the better areas of the city, were to be seen without one of these curious devices which overlooked the street from an upper window and reflected passers-by on the sidewalk or doorstep. Also known as Kennedy's Throwout Mirror For Ladies, the device was particularly useful to women, protecting them against undesirable callers; and convalescents, confined to the upstairs, found the Busybody a boon in helping to while away the hours.

Now coming back into vogue, the Busybody, in no way related to its human counterpart, still performs a human function somewhat like a silent butler. And while you might be quizzically gazing up at one of these unusual looking embellishments, you too, may be under close surveillance without ever being aware of it!

What is the Busybody? It is actually a set of three movable mirrors, approximately 7″ by 9″, or 6″ by 8″, set in a small metal frame on a window sill outside a second or third floor front room. It can be so adjusted, by a room's occupant, to reflect people on the sidewalk or doorstep in either direction. Devices resembling the Busybody had long been in use, according to inventor David J. Kennedy, but their construction was such that it impaired their utility and prevented their general adoption. The Busybody, popular name given to Kennedy's Patented Window Mirror, was an improvement on such devices.

The success of Kennedy's plan was evident in Philadelphia where the Busybody was in wide use between 1875 and 1910, especially on the elegant houses in the area bounded by Girard Avenue, York Street, 12th and 20th Streets. During this time, this neighborhood was one where living was gracious and grandly Victorian. Of course, the use of the Busybody was not confined to this area alone but could be seen in other less affluent sections of both the city and suburbs.

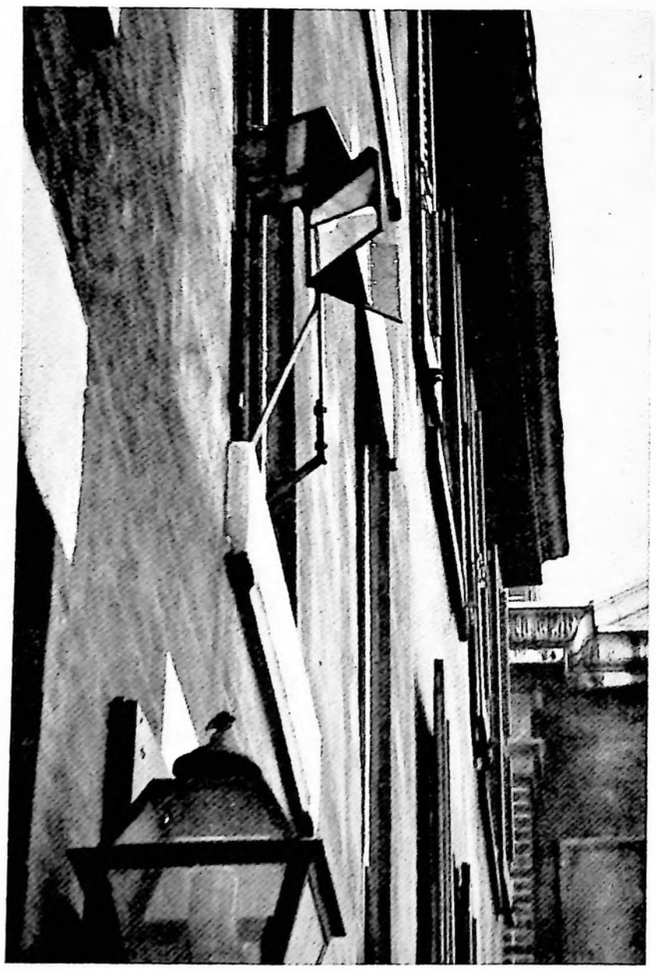
Shackleton, in his *Book of Philadelphia*, describes the Busybody as "a uniqueness of Philadelphia life, it not being an individual, but a set of smallish mirrors, one of them being on a concave curve. It is so adjusted on a second floor window that a person within the room may see, in reflection, without being seen in turn by every passer-by on the sidewalk or any caller who may be on the doorstep. All of which gives the stranger the idea of the entire city peeping at him unobserved."

In addition to its screening efficiency, its usefulness supposedly had other interesting aspects too. One owner allegedly found herself in the dilemma of either removing the Busybody or removing her dog! The vigilant canine anchored himself permanently at the window, and bellowed forth with much gusto at any activity projected via the Busybody. The distraction proved most disconcerting to those nearby, particularly in the wee hours of the morning. Last heard, however, a satisfactory compromise had been affected, and both dog and Busybody remained intact! Children too, were avid fans of the Busybody, not only on rainy days when their outside play activities were curtailed, but watching for Daddy to come home was a favorite pastime for the little ones whose homes were equipped with the device.

The Busybody could be a great source of amuse-

ment, as is mentioned in the following advertisement which appeared in 1875:

"KENNEDY'S PATENTED WINDOW MIRROR —A decided improvement on Kennedy's Double Light Window Reflector. An instrument placed on the outside of the window by which a person on the inside can, WITH THE WINDOW DOWN AND BLINDS CLOSED, IF WISHED, see all that is passing in the street for blocks both ways on both sides of the street at once. TO LADIES WHO ARE ANNOYED WITH CONSTANT RINGING OF THE DOOR BELL, it is invaluable, as with the upper mirror which is arranged so as to have their front steps always in view, they are able to see WITHOUT MOVING OR RISING FROM THEIR SEATS, who or what manner of person is at the front door, and the servant can be instructed, if necessary, to answer the door or not, by a wire gong in the kitchen. It is especially adapted to invalids, forming a constant source of amusement." D. J. Kennedy



Speculation as to the origin of the Busybody varies. Visitors to Philadelphia are usually fascinated when they spot them on homes. Some Philadelphians are of the opinion that Benjamin Franklin had something to do with inventing them. The Pennsylvania Dutch have been mentioned as possible pioneers of the device. But travelers abroad have brought back stories that they may be seen throughout Europe! New England, Baltimore, and various other places have been added to the list where Busybodys were seen. But it was the ingenious David Johnston Kennedy, born in Scotland in 1817, and a man of many accomplishments, who was first responsible for introducing the present Busybody to Philadelphia in 1875.

Although today many homes are equipped with high speed electronic inter-communication systems which quickly alert residents to a would-be caller, some still have Busybodys. Having or not having servants does not seem to be a criterion for having a Busybody. They have existed on servantless homes as well as those homes whose doors are tended by butlers.

Architecturally, however, there are limitations to using one. Only straight front homes, without porches or awnings, are suitable. Any building extension fronting a dwelling would interfere with the Busybody's perspective.

Conjecture as to reasons for their decline in use in the past has been attributed to more than one cause. Former single homes were converted into apartments, lessening the probability or need for a Busybody. Rumor has it, though, that some apartment dwellers in the new high risers are checking the possibility of installing one because "it's the thing to do!" Another aspect of their decrease in popularity has been associated with the gradual exodus of city dwellers to suburban split level and ranch type homes where the Busybody would not generally be feasible. Also, with the disappearance of the age of elegance and taste, so too, was the Busybody withdrawn from the scene, only to find its way into antique shops and collectors' hands. As the demand was lessened, they have been in shorter supply, especially in view of the fact that manufacturers, who supply the device, say they are intricate to make.

But with the massive urban renewal program which has been taking place in Philadelphia in recent years, and which has again given rise to straight front homes, the Busybody seems to be having a revival. Suburbanites are again becoming urbanites, and the Busybody is coming back into its own. At Philadelphia's Atwater Kent Museum, located near the Society Hill section of the city, there is a Busybody on view, and museum personnel have ventured to say it is coming back into vogue. Home dwellers, by no means unaware of daily statistics reflecting the increase in crime, are not by-passing the Busybody's potential.

Some people want the Busybody as a status symbol. There are also many who want one to be functional and put to the use for which it was designed, mainly to determine who a caller might be. Those who have used the Busybody feel it does double duty, it not only reflects who is seeking admittance, but the occupant does not have to respond, thus revealing the fact that she is at home. It's truly a case of "Let me see but not be seen!"

Germantown's First Baptist Church

By Edwin Iwanicki

With several active congregations presently serving the community, the Baptist denomination today is well established in Germantown. Such was not always the situation, however, for the Baptist denomination was among the last to gain representation in this community. To be sure, German Baptists of the Mennonite and Dunkard persuasions had settled in Germantown early in the eighteenth century and had established churches. Nonetheless, there was a lapse of more than a century and a half between the founding of Germantown and the establishment there of a regular Baptist church.

An initial interest in starting a Baptist church in Germantown arose about 1838, in which year John K. Hellings moved into the community. Mr. Hellings and his family had been members of the Lower Dublin Baptist Church, and, finding no church of the same persuasion in their new place of residence, they began holding weekly prayer meetings. The Hellings family was joined in this endeavor by a number of students and teachers from Haddington College, a school which had first been established near the village of Haddington, now a part of West Philadelphia. In 1837 the college had moved to Germantown, where it was conducting classes in the Germantown Academy building. The faculty of Haddington College included two gentlemen who were Baptist ministers: the Rev. Henry K. Green, the principal teacher at the school and a specialist in the classics, and the Rev. William M. Collom, who had charge of the English department. Obviously, then, a spirited interest may well have been shown for the local Baptist meetings, although it is said that there were only fifteen resident Baptists in Germantown at the time.

The prayer meetings which had been instigated by John K. Hellings came to be held alternately at the homes of three Baptist families. As the gatherings increased in popularity, Mr. Hellings, in 1840, rented the Mennonite meetinghouse, and regular Baptist services were opened to the public each Sunday. The various ministers who preached at these meetings generously contributed their services, and the meetings were well attended. The prospect of establishing a permanent Baptist church organization in the community seemed good at the time, but it proved to be of short duration. In 1841 Haddington College closed, and the instructors and ministerial students moved away. This exodus, together with the removal of Mr. Hellings, cut short the pioneer attempt at establishing a Baptist church in Germantown.

It was not until 1851 that further efforts were exerted to bring the Baptist ministry to this borough. In that year, one Mrs. McCowan, a widow, moved into the community and opened a boardinghouse for the support of orphan children in her care. Being a member of the Union Baptist Church in Milestown (a village in the vicinity now known as Oak Lane), Mrs. McCowan suggested to her pastor, the Rev. J. M. Richards, that he come and preach an occasional sermon in a small schoolroom adjoining her residence, at the southeast corner of Main Street (Germantown Avenue) and Centre (now Rittenhouse) Street. The good pastor, it is said, declined for some time, under the impression that, judging from the experience of a hundred and fifty years, Germantown was an area in which Baptists could never flourish, and Baptist preaching would do no good. Undaunted, Mrs. McCowan persisted in her solicitations, and finally Pastor Richards warily agreed to come and preach *one* sermon, which he did on the afternoon of Sunday, September 21, 1851. The small group of Baptists that gathered to hear this sermon agreed thenceforth to hold weekly prayer meetings.

The First Baptist Church of Germantown shortly after its completion. This sketch appeared on the back cover of a booklet with the reprint of the Thanksgiving sermon delivered on November 26, 1857.



Just prior to this time, in August of 1851, Germantown had gained a new inhabitant, in the person of the Rev. Dr. J. Newton Brown, who was then editorial secretary of the American Baptist Publication Society. He actively sought out other Baptists in Germantown, but, curiously enough, failed to learn of the newly-inaugurated weekly prayer meetings. In fact it is said that after frequent inquiries for five months Dr. Brown had heard of only five Baptists in the community, although a subsequent determination showed that there were about thirty at that time. Apparently, then, the prayer-meeting group, as well as the Baptist believers individually, sought no publicity for their religious persuasion.

Their air of secrecy was soon to be cast off, however, for on January 29, 1852, a special meeting of the Baptist group was held at the home of Mrs. McCowan, "to consult on the expediency of establishing public worship regularly on the Sabbath, and opening a Sabbath School." Twenty persons attended the meeting, and the Rev. Dr. Brown, who had finally made contact with the group, was chosen to act as moderator of the discussion. After full consultation, it was agreed, "with much fear and trembling," by those present, "that we were called of God to take more public steps to establish a Baptist interest in the borough of our abode." This they decided to do by holding public worship in the hall of the Fellowship Fire Company, on Armat Street, which they were able to rent for one hundred dollars a year.

Thus, on February 11, the community's weekly newspaper, known as the *Germantown Telegraph*, published its first notice regarding the newly-arisen Baptist interest:

BAPTISTS.

Several individuals connected with this denomination of Christians, residing in our borough, have organised and rented the Fellowship Hall on Armat street, near Main, for the purpose of holding religious meetings therein. The first meetings will be held next Sunday morning and evening, and thereafter regularly every Sunday at 10½ A. M. and 7 P. M. Rev. J. M. RICHARDS will preach on the first Sunday, and it is expected that the pulpit will be regularly supplied by ministers from the city, and surrounding districts. The Baptists have never had an organisation in this place, and as there are several families in our midst, of this persuasion, we hope this will be the commencement of a flourishing church.

As scheduled, the first service was held on February 15, and, on the same day, a Sunday school was started, with twenty pupils attending. On the evening of that opening day the Rev. J. M. Richards conducted the first of a series of meetings—a series which would continue for six weeks, attracting crowds to the hall night after night. The series resulted in the conversion and baptism of forty-four persons. The first baptism took place at Kelly's dam (near what is now the intersection of Chelten Avenue and Magnolia Street) on February 29, when sixteen converts were baptized, the first of them being Frederick A. Burness, the first superintendent of the Sunday school.

Week after week conversions resulted from the ministry of the Rev. Mr. Richards; again and again the waters of Kelly's dam were "troubled" as baptism followed baptism. The converts were received into the Milestown Church, but before long the number of new members had become large enough that consideration was given to the establishment in Germantown of a separate congregation. On April 14, the *Telegraph* had this news item to report:

BAPTIST CHURCH, GERMANTOWN.

A few weeks ago we adverted to the fact that a Baptist meeting was about to be opened regularly on Sunday, in the Fellowship Hall, in this borough, under the pastoral charge of Rev. Mr. RICHARDS; and we are now pleased to say, that thus far these meetings have been attended with very great success, a number of persons having been baptised and added to the infant congregation—and we learn that the prospect of building up a church here, is quite encouraging.

With confidence in "the prospect of building up a church," the Rev. J. M. Richards proceeded to negotiate for the purchase of a lot upon which to erect the sanctuary. The result of his efforts is recorded in the local press:

A NEW CHURCH.

We are informed that a beautiful lot of ground on Price street, less than a square from Main street, has been purchased by the Rev. J. W. [*sic*] RICHARDS, and presented to the new Baptist congregation just formed in this borough, for the purpose of building a meeting-house thereon. This lot is 88 by 127 feet, and cost nearly $1500. Subscriptions are now being made toward the erection of the building, and a considerable amount has already been obtained.

We farther learn that forty-four persons in all have been baptised up to the present time, eight being baptised on Sunday last; and that the congregation already consists of about eighty members.

It is seldom that we record so rapid a formation of a religious society; but it appears that ability, energy, and a good cause, can accomplish anything. [*Germantown Telegraph*, April 28, 1852.]

By a deed dated April 29, the lot was transferred from Eli K. Price to the Rev. John M. Richards.

On the same day that the deed was executed, a council was held, representing sixteen Baptist churches —those of Milestown, Chestnut Hill, Falls of Schuylkill, Roxborough, Manayunk, West Philadelphia, and ten Philadelphia churches. This council approved the formation of an independent congregation. Thus the First Baptist Church of Germantown came into being, starting out with seventy-two members—twenty-eight males and forty-four females. On May 31 the church extended a unanimous call to the Rev. J. M. Richards to become its pastor. He agreed to accept the position at a salary of four hundred dollars per year, to begin serving on October 3, 1852, until which time the Rev. Dr. J. N. Brown preached for the congregation.

Without delay, arrangements were made for the construction of a church edifice, as described in a pamphlet published by the church in 1853, bearing the cumbersome title "Church Manual: containing The Declaration of Faith, The Covenant, The Origin and Officers of the First Baptist Church, Germantown, Pa.":

Our Hall has all along been too strait for us, and measures were early taken to secure an eligible lot, and erect a commodious and beautiful, yet economical House of Worship, suited to the wants of the Church and the surrounding community. The lot selected, is a commanding one, on Price street, just above the railroad depot, and in the very centre of business travel, population, and prospective growth. Sufficient quantities of stone for the walls of both basement and superstructure are in it, and

are already partly quarried. The general plan of the building has been settled, and the drawing will be furnished by Mr. Sloan, the Architect, with all the necessary specifications for contractors. The estimated cost is $6000, of which sum about $1500 is subscribed by the infant Church alone.

Samuel Sloan (1815–1884), the architect selected to design the building, was one of the most prominent Philadelphia architects of his time. During the succeeding years of his career, Sloan would become noted for numerous distinctive designs of dwellings, schools, and hospitals, many of them employing Italian, French, and Romanesque details to achieve a pleasing eclecticism. In this instance, however, the architect designed an edifice in the imposing style of a Greek temple, with a six-columned Corinthian facade taking good advantage of a prominent location.

On July 14 the *Germantown Telegraph* announced the laying of the building's cornerstone:

CORNER STONE OF THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

By reference to a notice among the advertisements, it will be seen that the Corner Stone of the First Baptist Church in this borough, will be laid on Tuesday afternoon of next week. The chnrch [*sic*] edifice [*sic*] is being erected on Price street. The ceremonies are expected to be quite interesting. This will make thirteen different places of worship in the borough, to wit: two Friends' Meeting-Houses, two Lutheran Churches, one Episcopalian, one German Reformed, one Presbyterian, one Methodist, one German Methodist, one Roman Catholic, one Menonist, one Dunker, and one Baptist.

The notice among the advertisements reads as follows:

CORNER-STONE.—The Corner-Stone of the FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, in GERMANTOWN, will be laid, by Divine permission, with appropriate services, on TUESDAY, July 20th, at 5 o'clock, P. M. Addresses will be delivered on the occasion, by Rev. Messrs. Kennard, Remington, Burrows, and Gillette from the city, and others. By order of the Building Committee.
F. BURNESS, *Sec'ry.*

In September, the Rev. John M. Richards, who still held title to the ground on which the church building was being erected, transferred the lot "with the Stone Meeting House thereon erected" to the First Baptist Church of Germantown for one dollar.

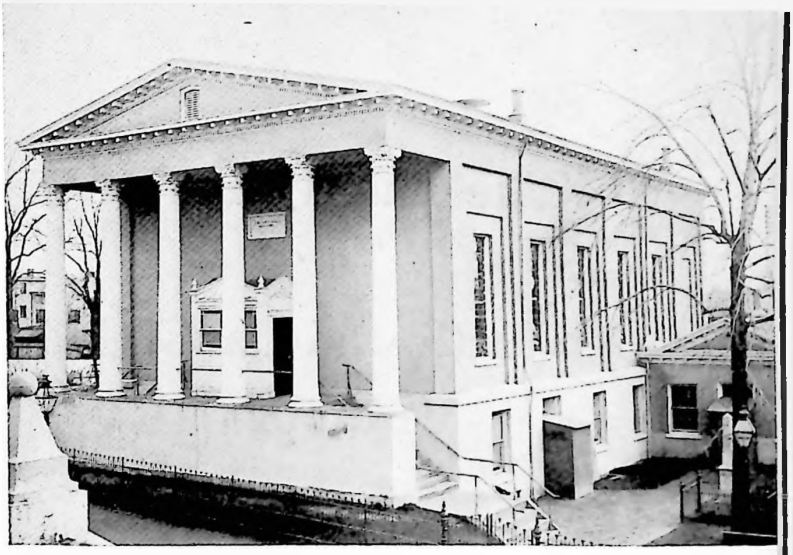
By the end of October, sufficient progress had been made on the new building that the congregation was able to remove from Fellowship Hall and conduct services in the basement of the partially-completed edifice on Price Street. The event was reported thus by the local press:

BAPTIST CHURCH.

We learn that divine service was held in the basement of the Baptist Church, in this borough, on Sunday last, for the first time. A Sunday school was also held there. This will be a splendid church when finished, being built in the best manner throughout, and is of large dimensions. It is expected to be completed before the season closes. [*Germantown Telegraph*, November 3, 1852.]

Early in 1853, a notice in the newspaper shows that the structure was nearing completion:

The New Baptist Church.—The steeple which was a short time ago placed upon this handsome Church, looks extremely well, it being remarkably well proportioned. The location of this church being quite elevated, and in the centre of the borough, and the cupola quite a prominent object, an effort is being made by subscription to place in it a clock, as a public accommodation, and we think it will be successful. The neighborhood and the Railroad Company should be especially liberal in their contributions. [*Germantown Telegraph*, January 19, 1853.]



An early photograph showing the classic Greek lines after the steeple was removed.

As it turned out, however, the endeavor proved unsuccessful, and it was not until 1857 that Germantown acquired a town clock, when one was placed in the steeple of Trinity Lutheran Church. The steeple of the First Baptist Church remained in place until 1887, when it was found to be in hazardous condition and was removed.

During the next few weeks, a number of local baptisms are reported in the *Telegraph:*

More Baptizing.—We learn that seven persous [*sic*]—four males and three females—were baptized in Kelly's dam, in this borough, on Sunday last, by Rev. J. M. RICHARDS, pastor of the Baptist church. [*Germantown Telegraph*, January 26, 1853.]

Baptizing.—The Rev. Mr. RICHARDS baptized five more persons on Sunday last, in Kelly's dam—three females and two males. The ceremony was witnessed, as it always is, by a concourse of spectators, who paid all respect to the solemnity of the occasion. [*Germantown Telegraph*, February 2, 1853.]

BAPTISM.—Within the last three weeks, a number of persons —male and female—have been baptized in Kelly's dam, in this borough, by Rev. Mr. RICHARDS, and taken into the Baptist church. We are informed, also, that on Sunday afternoon next, another baptismal ceremony will be held at the same place. These occasions are peculiarly solemn, and we are pleased to hear that the multitudes of spectators, attracted to them, observe the utmost propriety. [*Germantown Telegraph*, March 2, 1853.]

As the congregation increased in numbers, the church edifice, which cost twelve thousand dollars to build, was nearing completion. In June of 1853, the dedication of the building was announced:

BAPTIST CHURCH DEDICATION.—Our readers must not forget that the dedication of the First Baptist Church, just completed, in this borough, will take place on Sunday next. The edifice is one of the handsomest in the country, and is an ornament to the place. [*Germantown Telegraph*, June 22, 1853.]

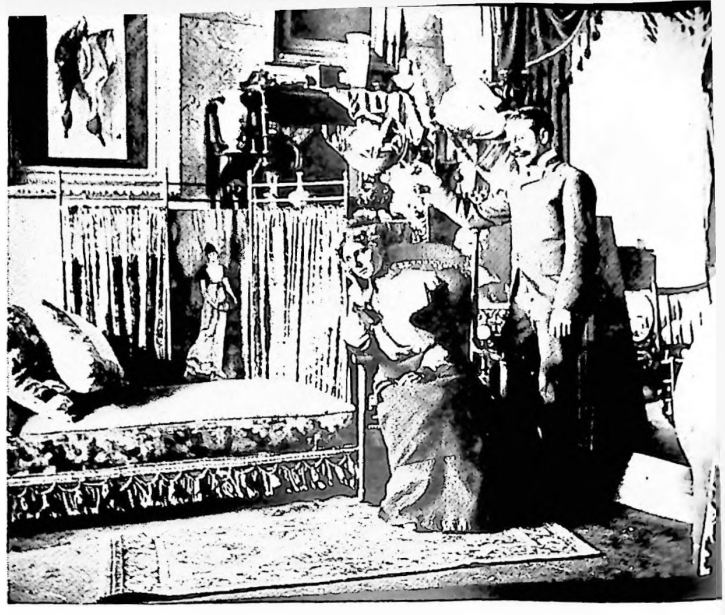
Reporting on the dedication ceremonies, the *Germantown Telegraph* recognizes the rapid and remarkable development of Germantown's First Baptist Church:

THE DEDICATION—of the Baptist Church, in this borough, on Sunday last, was exceedingly impressive, and was participated in by a crowded and interested auditory, at each of the three services. The congregation, which has already become quite large, has been entirely built up, within the last eighteen months, through the very efficient and devoted efforts of the respected pastor, the Rev. J. M. RICHARDS. [*Germantown Telegraph*, June 29, 1853.]

(*Continued on page 60*)

The Family Parlor
or
Reflections in a Gilded Mirror

By Derek Naabe



WHEN I was a boy, the family parlor was the inner sanctum of almost every home. The door was usually locked to prevent young explorers, such as myself, from entering its sacred portals and perhaps disturbing or damaging any family heirlooms, antiques or artifacts that reposed therein. This was the room of memories of things past and they appeared to me like formidable strangers from another world openly defying any intrusion whatsoever. The blinds were closely drawn so that the carpet, or any other material within its walls, would not be subjected to sunlight and ultimate fading. The door was to be opened and closed immediately, for the least particle of dust that dared penetrate caused my mother a sleepless night and it was mandatory that an inspection be made the following morning to detect any damage or dirt that I might have contributed during my pilgrimage the previous day. I thereupon awaited the inevitable ultimatum—"You are not to go in there without my express permission!"

However, being a boy and adventuresome, I stealthily sneaked in and explored on many occasions, for I found it a fascinating room, although a little scary and forbidding. Here funerals had been held and I could vividly recall a recent wedding that had taken place, as well as laughter and voices when it was opened for a special party such as my mother loved to give, causing my father to offer his usual and attempted humorous comment "Your mother wants to show off."

I can still see the old paintings encased in large ornate gilt frames that had been painted by an uncle of mine who had been judged by the self-appointed critics of his day and the family en masse, as a man to be reckoned with in the art world of the future. There were also portraits of ancestors, a gilded spoon supported by a white ribbon hanging in a conspicuous place on the wall, mainly to please a very sensitive aunt—the bowl of the spoon containing an oil painting of sheep grazing in a meadow—a profusion of glass paperweights, daguerreotypes and bric-a-brac of every description, pedestals supporting busts of ancient characters that even my mother was unable to identify, the family pedal organ that I dared not touch for fear it might betray my presence, a huge jardiniere displaying pussy willows, a fireplace that was never used, its main function being the use of its mantelpiece to support two massive gilded pitchers, a gift from my mother's Ladies Aid Society. The family Bible contained names I never knew, and pictures of strange and stern looking people stared up from the pages of an old photograph album. Could these people possibly be related to me? They seemed like sentinels of the past, admonishing me for having dared to intrude upon their privacy.

I carefully closed the album and with a fleeting glance about the room to assure myself that no memory had in the slightest way been disturbed, I walked slowly to the door, opened it, and just as slowly closed it, for I wanted to be a welcome visitor another day.

Flowergirls

By Elizabeth Reeves Humphreys

Two prim little maids walk down the aisle . . .
(Ah, not so prim!)
Look at their dancing eyes beneath
The bonnets' brim.

They patter with quite unconscious charm
(Don't be too sure!)
In slippers to match their wide blue sashes . . .
Ah, how demure!

They flutter their flounces as they pass,
Pale yellow frills,
As joyously fresh and lovely as
Two daffodils.

I see them later with bonnets off
In a field of clover . . .
Shrieking with laughter and trying cartwheels
Over and over.

Journalism in Germantown

By Edward W. Hocker

DURING two long-separated periods journalism was at the height of its glory in Germantown. One period embraced twoscore years in the middle of the eighteenth century; the other comprised twoscore years in the middle of the nineteenth century.

The third successful newspaper in America was founded in Philadelphia, and the third successful newspaper in Pennsylvania was founded in Germantown.

American journalism had its origin in Boston in the establishment of the *Boston News Letter*, in 1704. In 1710 the *Boston Gazette* made its appearance; and in 1719 the *American Weekly Mercury* appeared from the press of Andrew Bradford, in Philadelphia, this having been the first Pennsylvania newspaper.

In 1728 Samuel Keimer began the publication of the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, which, after nine months, he sold to Benjamin Franklin. Because of the large German population of Pennsylvania, Franklin concluded that a German newspaper ought to prove profitable; so, in 1732, he started one called the *Philadelphia Zeitung*. It was a diminutive publication, printed in Roman type, and after a few issues it perished for lack of support.

The first successful German newspaper in America, and the first newspaper published in Pennsylvania outside of Philadelphia, was the production of a Germantown man who possessed Franklin's remarkable adaptability but who, in moral stamina, was the superior of his Philadelphia competitor.

Settling in Germantown in 1731, Christopher Saur, a versatile German tailor, served the community as apothecary, surgeon, optician, botanist, clock and watch maker, bookbinder, and probably in various other capacities. As Germantown had no printing shop, he provided one in 1738, though he had had no training at the craft. And as another thing lacking in Germantown was a newspaper, Saur also decided to provide that, undeterred by the fact that he had had no previous experience as an editor.

Even before he issued a periodical, Saur printed handbills from time to time bearing news for general dissemination, these bills being called "broadsides." They were distributed gratuitously in markets, churches, or wherever people assembled. Saur regarded the publication of news, if reduced to a commercial proposition, as something reprehensible. As Abraham Harley Cassel says of him, his conscience for a time "would not allow him to profane his press with the publication of a newspaper." Alluding to the matter in an announcement printed in 1738, Saur wrote:

All those who have frequently inquired and who may yet in the future inquire whether there will not soon be a German newspaper published in Germantown are informed herewith that we are not at all inclined to destroy the precious time in such a manner as to be hunting something that is of no use or benefit, much less write lies and falsehoods, as is now too much the common way of the world. But for all we are willing to publish such intelligence as is true and from which good may be hoped, as often as there may be occasion to do so.

In the course of a year his conscience had evidently become more inured to the ways of a printing office, and a newspaper seemed less evil than in 1738. Accordingly, Saur's almanac for 1739 contains the following announcement:

It is now made known that we intend for the future to publish a collection of useful and remarkable events and occurrences, partly from the kingdom of nature and of whatever else may be obtained in these times of wars and rumors of wars, from Europe as well as from other parts of the world, as well as also certain well authenticated reports of the church as far as may be of acknowledged practical utility. And as there are in this country (for which God be thanked) but few learned men, the majority being either native born or farmers and mechanics, we shall therefore make use of a very plain and simple style, so that it may be understood by all, if possible, and may perhaps occasionally appear in the form of a dialogue. But we are not willing to bind ourselves absolutely for a specified time. Nevertheless we presume it will appear four times a year, namely, on the 16th of November, the 16th of February, the 16th of May and the 16th of August. The first number thereof is now coming forth as a specimen.

The first issue of Saur's paper was dated August 20, 1739. Its title was *Der Hoch Deutsche Pennsylvanische Geschichts-Schreiber, oder Sammlung Wichticher Nachrichten aus der Natur und Kirchenreich*. This may be rendered in English as follows: "The High German Pennsylvania Historical Record, or Collection of Important Information from the Realms of Nature and the Church." Apparently in this high-sounding fashion Saur was still trying to convince himself that he was not publishing a newspaper.

Certainly it was not a sensational sort of a newspaper—hardly even a newsy newspaper. The first issue had four pages, each eight by thirteen inches, and contained brief accounts of wars in Europe and Asia,

a proclamation by George Thomas, governor of Pennsylvania, authorizing reprisals against Spanish vessels, a poem by the editor and some editorial reflections, an account of an attempt at robbery and murder at Falkner Swamp, and two advertisements, one announcing the finding of a piece of gold and the other the finding of a man's coat. Nothing in the nature of news pertaining to Germantown appeared.

This first issue was distributed gratis with the almanac for 1740, and thus it was brought to the attention of the Germans of southeastern Pennsylvania. Enough subscribers were enrolled to warrant the monthly publication of the paper, beginning January, 1741. The subscription price was then made three shillings a year.

Seven years later semi-monthly issues appeared, and in 1755, when Saur's son became his father's partner, the paper was made a weekly and increased in size, though the price still remained three shillings a year. During part of the time, each subscriber had the privilege of advertising without charge.

Just as he hesitated about beginning the publication of a newspaper, so Saur hesitated about issuing his paper weekly. He said, in effect, that a publication appearing so frequently would be filled with fake news. "Even if we only write what appears credible to us," he declared in the issue of June 13, 1743, "it frequently happens not to be so. If we touch ever so little upon the domain of the church as it appears to us or as we receive it from trustworthy sources, it is always sure to bring out upon the one side or the other hate, chagrin and envy."

About this time Saur was involved in much controversy over his publication of the Bible, and this controversy found its way into his paper. Saur, being what was known as a Separatist—that is, one who had forsaken the established churches of Europe—when he announced that his Bible was to follow the authorized Lutheran version of the Halle edition, aroused the suspicions of the clergy of the Lutheran and the Reformed churches. They warned their people against Saur's Bible, fearing that this wily Separatist intended to interpolate heresies in the text of Luther. Furthermore, Saur's Bible also interfered with the sale of the imported Bibles, for which the clergy were agents. On the other hand, the Dunkers and the Mennonites also failed to show enthusiasm over Saur's Bible because it was announced as the Lutheran edition, whereas they preferred what was known as the Berleburg edition. So the controversy raged. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, the Lutheran leader, wrote of Saur: "At every opportunity he in his almanac and newspaper has criticised and slandered the Lutheran institution."

After long preparation and many vexations, Saur was able to announce, in his issue of August, 1743, the completion of the printing of his Bible—the first American edition of the Bible in any European tongue. To him it probably was a matter-of-fact business announcement. He did not realize that he was printing a "scoop" that would become history. This is the way he told of the most important thing that had happened in Germantown since the place was founded:

The Bible printed in Germantown is now finished; and as every bookbinder has not the facilities for glueing, so we will glue them ourselves, so that no inexperienced one need attempt it. When this is done and they are dry, which will presumably be toward the end of this month, then everyone can have them; and notice is given that as the majority of the subscribers have requested the remaining Books of Esra and the Maccabees, these have been printed with all Bibles, this being done according to the Berleburg translation. Whoever does not wish to have these included need only to send word and they will not be bound. The same applies to the small supplement about the variance of several translations in a few points. For those whom we promised to bind Bibles, or to have them bound, we will do it, and whoever can attend to it himself will spare us the work. Unbound the price is 12 shillings; the additional is according to the binding, whether in sheepskin, calf or other leather.

Saur stumbled upon another big "beat" when he published Conrad Weiser's "Notes on the Iroquois and Delaware Indians." These articles appeared from 1746 until 1749.

Saur did not hesitate to express his views with considerable sharpness, and his opinions often led to controversies. Because he upheld the Dunker attitude in opposition to warfare, Gotthard Armbruster strongly censured Saur in a pamphlet published in 1747. "Dreamer, sophist, stupid donkey and fool" were some of the terms that Armbruster applied to Saur. A year later Armbruster started a newspaper in Philadelphia, and Saur heaped coals of fire on his head by printing the suggestion in his paper that the dishonest subscribers to the Germantown paper who had never paid their subscriptions might not play the same trick on Armbruster.

Saur's paper had a wide circulation among the Germans of Pennsylvania, having more than four thousand subscribers. To deliver so many copies of the paper was a difficult undertaking in that day, when mails were few and infrequent. Travelers and farmers making periodical trips sometimes carried copies of the paper to subscribers; many copies were distributed at the markets and taverns; and for a time the various newspaper publishers of Philadelphia, including Saur, combined to employ a man to ride on a horse from Philadelphia to Lancaster to deliver papers. A dispute occurred as to the payment of this carrier. Saur contended that the subscribers ought to defray the expense, but they declared the price they paid Saur provided for delivery. Finally Saur consented to assume responsibility for delivery when subscriptions were punctually paid, but he refused to do so when subscribers were in arrears. After two years the carrier made an effort to collect fees from delinquent subscribers, and thereafter he refused to deliver papers to persons who paid him nothing.

Upon the death of Christopher Saur, in 1758, his

son, of the same name, who had been associated with his father in conducting the Germantown printing establishment, became the proprietor and editor of the newspaper. That he possessed a conscience which in these latter days would cause him to be blackballed by the editors union, is indicated by the fact that he sometimes labeled suspicious articles with the words, "Probably true."

The elder Saur in 1745 made a slight change in the name of the paper, from *Geschichts Schreiber* to *Berichte*. "Geschichts Schreiber" means "recorder of happenings, or history." "Berichte" means "reports." He explained that much that got into the paper turned out to be untrue, being only a report, and not a record of a happening. His son, about 1762, abandoned the old title of the paper altogether, and thereafter its name was *Germantauner Zeitung*, or "Germantown Newspaper," with a long subtitle declaring its mission to be the collection of reliable news from the domain of nature and the church, as well as helpful instruction and information for the common good.

By reason of the younger Saur's prominence in the Dunker Church, he being a bishop, and his consequent opposition to all forms of warfare, he got into difficulties with the authorities at the time of both the French and Indian War and the Revolution. In 1758, when General Forbes was fitting out his army in Philadelphia for the march on Fort Duquesne, he learned that Saur's loyalty had been questioned, and he summoned the Germantown publisher to appear before him. The general sent a squad of twelve Highlanders to bring Saur to the military headquarters, at the Stag Tavern, on the Lancaster road. Saur's explanations satisfied Forbes, and the printer was dismissed.

But in the Revolution, Saur's religious scruples brought down grave disasters upon him. His advocacy of the doctrine of nonresistance, coupled with the fact that his sons openly espoused the British cause, brought about accusations of disloyalty against Saur. The result was that the Americans confiscated all of his property, while he himself narrowly escaped death. It is not in evidence that Saur in his paper ever avowed any sentiments in opposition to the American cause. But it was a time when passions were aroused, and in the heat of the strife many patriots could not comprehend the religious beliefs which prevented an outspoken indorsement of American independence by the Dunker editor of Germantown.

Newspapermen would be interested in learning how Saur's paper reported the news of the founding of the United States. His paper was one of the first in the land to make public this great piece of news, but it did not appear under glaring headlines covering the entire first page. In the issue of July 3, 1776, there were a few lines, a translation of which follows: "Yesterday the Continental Congress declared the United Colonies to be free and independent States."

The fact that on July 3, 1776, Saur's newspaper reported the adoption of independence, which history tells took place on July 4, 1776, is verily suggestive of modern newspaper enterprise, which delights to record happenings that have not yet happened. However, the truth of the matter is that Congress on July 2, 1776, did adopt a resolution in favor of independence; but the formal "declaration" was approved on the fourth.

Another periodical which the younger Saur published was called the *Geistliches Magazin*, or "Spiritual Magazine," probably the earliest religious magazine printed in America. It was begun in 1764 and continued at least ten years. An issue of the magazine in 1773 was printed from the first type cast in America, this having been made under Saur's direction.

Not a trace remains at the present time of the buildings in which the Saurs conducted their printing business, nor is even the site accurately known, though undoubtedly it was in the rear of the Saur homestead, which stood on Germantown avenue, opposite Queen Lane. In March, 1777, the office of the paper was moved to a house adjoining the Quaker meetinghouse.

From a position of wealth, Saur, by the confiscation of his property, in 1778, was reduced to abject poverty, and in his last years he suffered extreme hardships. He made his home in Worcester Township, Montgomery County, where he died in 1784.

Peter Leibert and his son-in-law, Michael Billmeyer, acquired much of the confiscated stock of Saur's printing establishment, and after the perils of war were past they opened a printing house in Germantown, in 1784. The publication of the *Germantauner Zeitung* was resumed in February, 1785, and it was continued first as a bi-weekly and then as a weekly for twenty years or longer, the date when publication was discontinued not being known. The paper still had a large circulation throughout eastern Pennsylvania and in New Jersey and New York. In New York City alone, it had 160 subscribers in 1790. It was one of the papers which the Pennsylvania Assembly designated to print the proceedings of that body. This action caused Michael Steiner, publisher of a German paper in Philadelphia, to complain that Leibert and Billmeyer, the members of the Germantown firm, had not supported the republic in the Revolution. The partnership of the publishers continued until 1787, and thereafter Michael Billmeyer continued the paper alone until about 1809.

Several of Christopher Saur's sons were printers, and one of them, Samuel Sower, practiced his craft at Chestnut Hill from 1790 until 1794, publishing a weekly newspaper called *Die Chestnut Hiller Wochenschrift*, or, literally translated, "the Chestnut Hill Weekly Scriptures." The office of the paper, as announced in its columns, was at the tenth milestone, where the Reading and the North Wales roads meet. In 1794 Samuel Sower moved to Philadelphia and published a weekly paper there for a year, after which he located in Baltimore.

Following the discontinuance of Billmeyer's German

newspaper, Germantown was without a newspaper for more than twenty years. That was a period of transition from German to English in Germantown. For a long time the community seemed to have sunk into a state of stagnation. Fifteen years elapsed, it is said, during which not a dwelling was built in the village.

Then, one day in the spring of 1830, there came to Germantown a young man who had just completed his apprenticeship in the office of the *Norristown Herald.* Possessed of pluck and enterprise, he resolved to start a newspaper in Germantown, and on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1830, there appeared the first number of Germantown's first English newspaper, bearing the name of the *Village Telegraph.*

Philip R. Freas, the publisher and editor, was then but twenty-one years old. He was a native of Marble Hall, in Montgomery County, and had worked in the *Norristown Herald* office since his sixteenth year. The day he was twenty-one years of age, on February 22, 1830, he came to Germantown and proceeded to equip a printing office, on Germantown Avenue, above Wister Street. He enrolled 429 subscribers for his new paper, of whom sixty lived in Norristown.

In view of the fact that for more than a half-century Mr. Freas continued to publish the *Telegraph* and that he made it a remarkably successful newspaper, it may be worth while to describe the first issue. It comprised four pages, of five columns each. At the top of the first column on the first page there was an original poem signed "Edmund," and entitled "The Dying Believer to His Mourning Relatives." The remainder of the page was filled with miscellany. On page two was foreign news and general news; an article about the Indians, and a communication clipped from the *United States Gazette*, written by a writer signing himself "Franklin," who proposed the construction of a railroad from Franklin Square, Philadelphia, to "Hoffman's Spring, at the foot of Mount Airy." This writer further proposed that a "colonial city," as he called it, be laid out on the summit of the hill between Germantown and Mount Airy, which he described as a salubrious region, commanding "the most interesting magnificent view in the State, if not in the United States." This city was to be laid out on the checkerboard plan, reserving as much space for cultivation, groves and public walks as for building houses, while he specified that the houses were not to join. The name of the new settlement was to be "Montsalutis," meaning "Mount of Health."

On page three there were editorials and advertisements. Alluding to the suggestion of a railroad to Mount Airy, the editor wrote: "Of the propriety or impropriety of a railroad, as proposed by the writer, we will leave to our readers to determine." The editor announced that he would insert marriage notices gratis, and added that he "would *insert* a little of the wedding cake, too,—*if we could get it.*" The *Telegraph*'s formal salutatory announced that the paper is to be "independent, honest and dignified," that it will be "fettered by no party's arbitrary sway and biased by no political considerations." The *Telegraph* intended to advocate peace and good will and the rights and privileges of the people, and should never "become a medium of scurrility and abuse." This first issue promised a series of articles on the early history of Germantown by John F. Watson, then cashier of the Bank of Germantown, and engaged for some years in the historical research that gave him no small degree of fame. The first of these historical articles appeared in this same issue, dealing with the settlement of Germantown. The advertisements comprised less than two columns, half a column of which was a prospectus of the paper.

The *Telegraph* was published on Wednesdays, and the price was two dollars and twenty-five cents a year if delivered by post riders and two dollars by mail, payable half-yearly, in advance.

After two months the name of the paper was changed from *Village Telegraph* to *Germantown Telegraph.*

In those early numbers Mr. Freas frequently directed attention to the unsatisfactory local government, Germantown being then a village in a township —"a strange variety of a town," the *Telegraph* said. The *Telegraph* supported numerous movements to have Germantown incorporated as a borough, but not until 1844 did this attempt prove successful.

A surprisingly large amount of original verse and other original contributions appeared in the *Telegraph* during its early years; but there was a decided lack of what is today considered local news. Nothing similar to the personal items of the present-day newspaper appeared, and often more information as to affairs in Germantown was to be gleaned from the advertisements than from the reading matter. Evidently the editor considered it beneath his dignity to go out and "hustle for news," for he frequently mentions the fact that a meeting for a designated purpose was held, but as "particulars of the meeting have not been sent to us, we are unable to print the details." This attitude was even more apparent in the 'sixties and the 'seventies, when the paper had been enlarged and enjoyed a wide circulation. Then the news it contained was nearly all a condensation of the general news printed in the Philadelphia daily papers, with here and there an item sandwiched in about Germantown. No doubt the *Telegraph* gained its circulation in the farming districts of southeastern Pennsylvania not solely because of its columns of agricultural information but also because it presented a compendium of the general news of the week for readers who did not buy a daily newspaper.

For many years the messages of the presidents of the United States and the governors of Pennsylvania were printed in full, to the exclusion of all other kinds of reading matter. Indeed, in December, 1848, the *Telegraph* announced with pride that it was the first paper issued in Pennsylvania with the president's message,

being in the Philadelphia post office before midnight on Tuesday of that week.

In 1835 the office of the *Telegraph* was moved a half-square northward from its first site, to what is now the east corner of Germantown Avenue and Ashmead Street. Some years later there was another removal to an adjoining building, where it remained so long as Mr. Freas conducted the paper. Mr. Freas lived in a house adjoining the office, and, until the 'seventies, he owned the entire block of ground between Germantown Avenue and Wakefield Street and between Ashmead and Collom Streets, with the exception of a small tract at Wakefield and Collom Streets.

During the earlier years of the *Telegraph*, the proprietor, like the Saurs, engaged in various "side lines" to increase his income. Patent medicines and books were sold at the *Telegraph* office. At the time of the silkworm craze of the 'thirties, the *Telegraph* sold mulberry trees. In 1836 the editor opened an office "for procuring and loaning money."

Mr. Freas never permitted his paper to become the organ of a political party. Political matter was inserted as advertising and even in that form scurrilous articles were excluded.

As is the case with all newspaper publishers, Mr. Freas was greatly perplexed by subscribers who took the paper for years without paying for it. On March 20, 1833, he announced his intention of publishing a "black list" "next week," the list to contain the names of persons who had received the paper but declined to pay for it. Next week came, but the "black list" did not appear. Two months later, however, its publication was really begun, with the names of three men who had left the neighborhood without paying their newspaper bills. In following issues five more names were given in the "black list," and the paper reported that other publishers were adopting similar methods of dealing with delinquents.

For thirteen years the *Telegraph* was printed on an old-style Washington hand press. Then in 1843, a power press was introduced. Mr. Freas gave himself unremittingly to the work of his paper. Copies thereof show him to have been a remarkably accurate proofreader, for notwithstanding that during many years much of the paper's contents appeared in type so small as to be difficult to read, yet typographical errors were exceedingly rare.

In the 'thirties, 'forties, and 'fifties the distribution of the *Telegraph* throughout the rural districts was no easy task. The limited facilities of the post office could care for only part of the circulation. Carriers were employed to ride over certain routes, leaving bundles of copies of the *Telegraph* at stores, taverns, and schoolhouses, where the subscribers would get them.

Though the *Telegraph* was neutral in politics, it was often outspoken on questions of public policy. From its beginning, the paper urged the incorporation of Germantown as a borough, until that step was finally accomplished, in 1844. The *Telegraph* supported the effort to build a railroad to Germantown, and virtually every other movement to improve a community that did not always take kindly to improvements.

When the subject of building a town hall was under discussion, in 1848, the *Telegraph* warmly supported the plan, while a considerable part of the populace was opposed. A resident of Germantown who took umbrage at an article upon the subject printed in the *Telegraph* met Freas on the street and demanded to know "who put that piece in the paper?" Freas refused to give the information, whereupon the angry citizen thrust his fist under Freas' nose. Then the editor struck the importunate individual with his cane, and in a moment the two clinched and fell to the street. As Freas fell, his left arm struck the curb, and a bone was broken near the shoulder. But his right arm was unhurt, as was evidenced by a literary castigation administered to the opponents of the town hall movement in the next number of the *Telegraph*.

Freas never held any public office. In 1870 President Grant offered to appoint him commissioner of agriculture, but he declined the place. Among the people of Germantown he was known as "Major" Freas, though he never occupied a military position.

Gradually the *Telegraph's* advertising rates were increased until they were equal to those of the Philadelphia daily papers. In fact, the rates were too high for Germantown merchants, and they refused to advertise in the *Telegraph*. But Freas apparently was able to get all the advertising he wanted from Philadelphia merchants at his own figures, and he is said to have derived a large income from the paper.

He sold the *Telegraph* in 1883, to Henry W. Raymond, of New York, son of Henry J. Raymond, the widely-known editor of the *New York Times*. Mr. Raymond made radical changes in the policy of the paper, and after holding it a few years, he sold it. The paper has since passed through several hands, one sale being conducted by the sheriff. The most interesting episode of its more recent years was the arrest of the managing editor, David M. Pascoe, in 1908, on a charge of libel, and his conviction and imprisonment for six months. His offence was the printing of an abusive anonymous communication about the political activities of a Germantown citizen. The prosecutor of Pascoe also sued the corporation owning the paper for damages, recovering judgment for three thousand dollars. When the company failed to pay, the sheriff sold its property, in November, 1911. After a suspension of two months following the sale, the *Telegraph* was revived in January, 1912, and has since been published by the Germantown Publishing Company.

Three other weekly papers of Germantown must have a place in this record. Walter H. Bonsall, Henry Smith, and William U. Butcher started *The Germantown Guide* in 1871. Mr. Smith soon withdrew, and Messrs. Butcher and Bonsall continued the publication, the former serving as editor. After Mr. Butcher

retired from the position, Mr. Bonsall was editor and proprietor, until his death, in 1914. Subsequently the *Guide* was sold to A. Hayed Jordan. Mr. Smith started the *Gazette* in 1880 as an organ of the Republican Party; and in 1882 Horace F. McCann and Alexander Savage began the publication of the *Independent*. Messrs. McCann and Savage bought out the *Gazette* in 1896, and consolidated the two papers under the name of *Independent-Gazette*. After the death of Mr. Savage, in 1890, Mr. McCann conducted the paper.

Germantown has had three daily newspapers. The *Chronicle*, which George H. Hammersley published from 1868 until 1880, was a morning paper, and Dr. Alfred C. Lambdin was the editor. Its office was first at Germantown Avenue and West Rittenhouse Street, and then in the Vernon Building, at Germantown and Chelten Avenues. The paper was removed to Seventh Street, Philadelphia, in 1880, and continued for two years as the *Evening Chronicle*. In 1885, J. D. Houkley & Company began the publication of a daily paper called the *Evening Eagle* in the Stokes block, Germantown Avenue, below Chelten Avenue, the purpose being to make it a political organ. But it lived only five weeks. The *Independent* was conducted as a daily paper from 1886 until 1891.

To enumerate all the various short-lived journalistic attempts, such as Benjamin F. Jenkinson's *Weekly Advertiser* and John J. Holcomb's *Business Circular*, of the 'seventies, or Colin Campbell Cooper's illustrated *Germantown Social*, would only involve prolix detail. Sufficient has been told to show that in its long and honorable activity Germantown journalism has had an important part in the history of this historic place.

HISTORIC GERMANTOWN

HISTORIC GERMANTOWN FROM THE FOUNDING TO THE EARLY PART OF THE NINETEENTH CENTURY, an authoritative book on local history and architecture, is recommended to all who have an interest in Germantown. This book (150 pages, 9½ by 12 inches), published by the American Philosophical Society in 1955, was written by Harry M. Tinkcom, Margaret B. Tinkcom, and Grant M. Simon.

Photographs of historic buildings in Germantown, Mount Airy, and Chestnut Hill, descriptions of the architectural features of these structures, and measured floor plans of the buildings, drawn by Mr. Simon, comprise a large part of the book. Also included is a concise general history of Germantown by the Doctors Tinkcom, a detailed map showing the locations of local historic sites and landmarks, and a bibliography of Germantown.

This substantial volume is available for $5.00, plus a mailing charge of 50¢. Orders for the book may be sent to:

Captain Edmund A. Crenshaw, Jr.
519 Pelham Road
Philadelphia, Pa. 19119

Checks should be made payable to Captain Crenshaw.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

(Continued from page 53)

J. M. Richards continued as pastor of the church until September of 1854. He was followed by a succession of distinguished clergymen, including Cortland W. Anable, Warren Randolph, A. H. Lung, Thomas A. Gill, Melville C. Thwing, Edward N. Harris, J. O. Critchlow, J. Sexton James, Charles Colman, Thomas S. Samson, Henry W. Stringer, Desmond Heyliger, George B. MacDonald, and Ronald K. Adams.

Since its organization the First Baptist Church has, at various times, given rise to other local congregations—the Second Baptist Church of Germantown (1866), the Third Baptist Church of Germantown (1868), and Wayne Avenue Baptist Church (1900)—each of which took a substantial number of members from First Baptist.

As early as 1926 it was reported in the *Independent-Gazette* (Germantown, July 22, 1926) that "the First Church has for some years been considering the advisability of moving to a more desirable site." Nonetheless, the congregation continued to occupy its original building on Price Street until April 24, 1955, when the First Baptist Church concluded its career of service to the community (*Germantown Courier*, May 12, 1955). In that year the Price Street structure, referred to in the deed as a "stone meeting house," was sold to the Polite Temple Baptist Church, which presently occupies the imposing classical edifice.

Publications of the Germantown Historical Society

Magazine

The GERMANTOWNE CRIER, published in March, May, September, and December, is available at the subscription rate of $1.00 annually.

Nearly all of the sixty-eight past numbers of the CRIER are currently available. A complete assortment of available back issues may be had for $6.00, plus a mailing charge of 75¢.

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EARLY GERMANTOWN..... 25¢
by Judge Harold D. Saylor

WASHINGTON VISITS GERMANTOWN..... 50¢
by Charles F. Jenkins

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Checks, payable to the Germantown Historical Society, should include mailing charges as listed or 25¢ per order of pamphlets or single numbers of the magazine.

A Map of

Historic Germantown

Designed by J. Riegel, Jr.

This detailed map, elaborated with numerous sketches, shows the locations of streets, historic buildings, churches, etc. It is replete with data concerning local people, places, and events.

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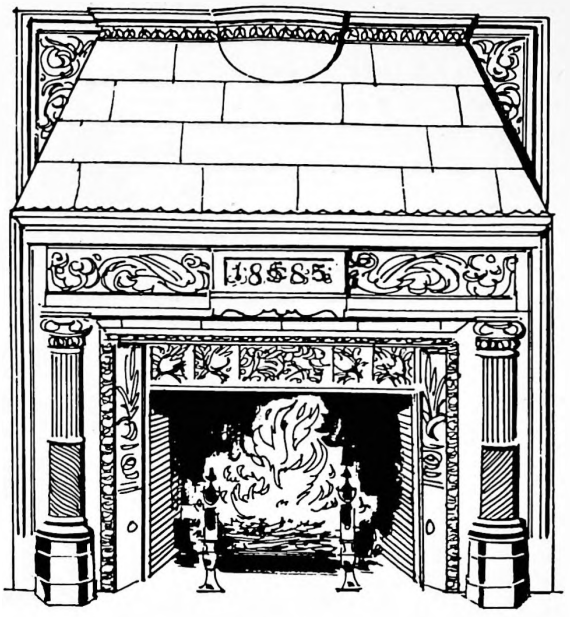
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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

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:

Life (payable quarterly or at once)	$100.00
Sustaining or Business	10.00
Annual	6.00
Junior (under 18), Teacher, or Librarian	3.00

Interested persons are invited to obtain further information by contacting the chairman of the Membership Committee:

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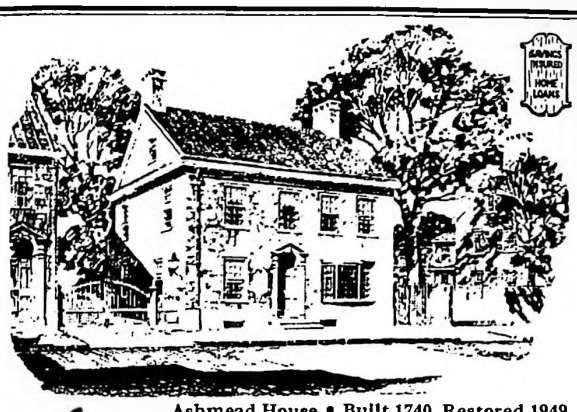
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