GERMANTOWNE CRIER



Three Pastorius Houses
Founder of Germantown, Francis Daniel Pastorius

His home was the small house in the center of the picture. It was removed in 1860.

The house on the left was built in 1748 by his grandson, Daniel Pastorius. It stands at 6019 Germantown Avenue.

The house on the right was built in 1796 by his great grandson, Daniel Pastorius, and was moved around the corner to 25 High Street, in 1898.

"*Procul este Profani*" appears over the doorway, it being part of a quotation from Vergil which Pastorius inscribed over the door of his first cave house: "*Parva domus, sed amica bonis. Procul este Profani.*" "A little house, but a friend of the good; keep away ye profane."

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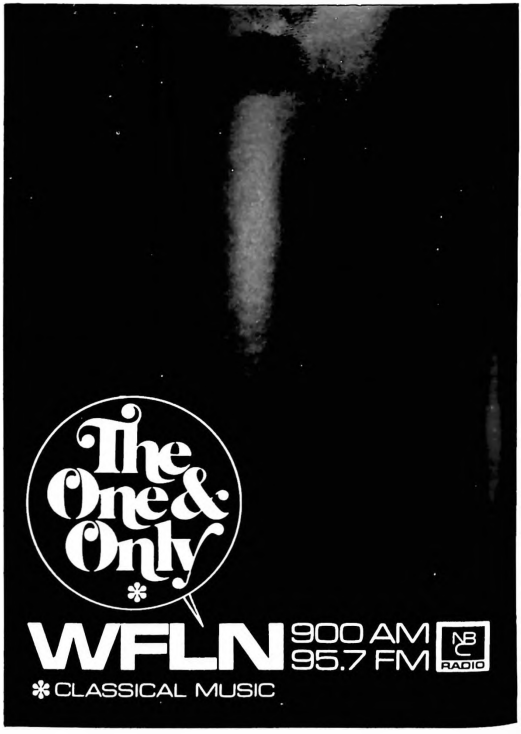
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The Germantown Historical Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to sustaining and promoting the cultural tradition of Germantown—through the preservation of historic landmarks, the maintenance of a museum of relics, a costume museum, and a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

Please see Membership information on Page 11
following our President's Report

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Volume 30 | WINTER, 1978 | Number 1

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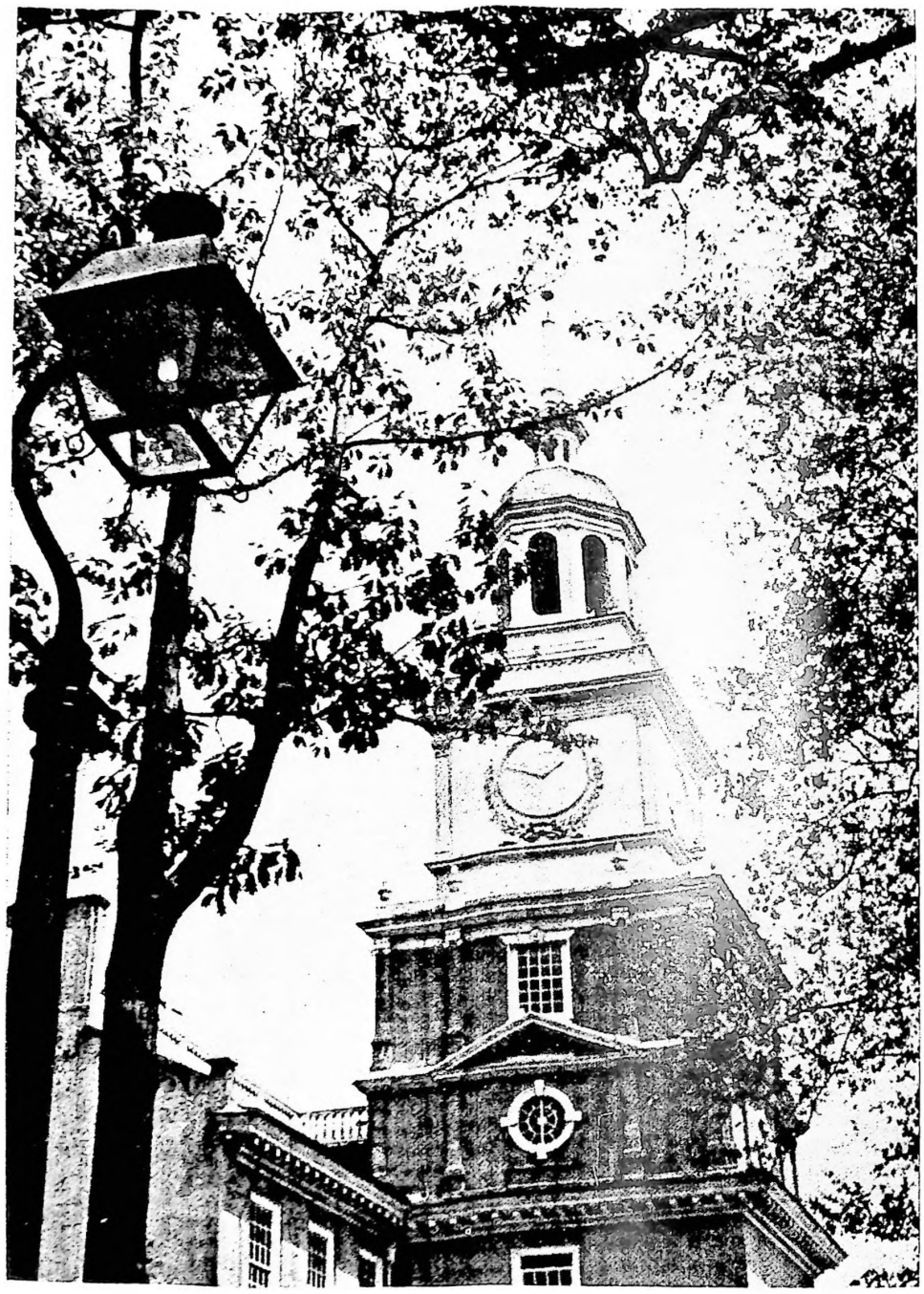
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History was made here, too

On May 6, 1761, with the founding of Kirk & Nice, the first and oldest funeral establishment in America.

Kirk & Nice is small building (with sign on front) at far left. Larger building in center of picture is old Washington Hotel. Narrow street separating two buildings is early Washington Lane.

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The First Government in Germantown

For the government and the execution of justice in the then small communion (of Germantown) was only necessary

1 Bailiff
4 Burgesses
6 Councilmen
1 Recorder
1 Clerk
1 Treasurer
1 Coroner

and several minor officers. The Bailiff and the two oldest Burgesses were the Justices of Peace or Aldermen.

The Bailiff, the 4 Burgesses and 6 Councilmen composed the Council or Borough Government.

The first Bailiff in 1691, was Francis Daniel Pastorius. His successors as Bailiffs were: Dirck Op de Graeff, Arnold Cassell, Reinert Tisen, Cornelius Sieverts, Aret Klinken, Daniel Falkner, James Delaplaine and Thomas Rutter.

On May 31, 1691, a charter of incorporation was issued incorporating Germantown into a Borough, when the above mentioned government was established. An order was issued that on the nineteenth of first month in each year the people shall be called together and the laws and ordinances read aloud to them.

From — Naaman K. Ployd's Scrap Book



Town Hall World War Memorial.

You've got to be a citizen in order to vote; but you've got to do a great deal more than vote to be a citizen.



Old Town Hall built about 1856.

Our First Naturalized Citizens

On May 7, 1691, Thomas Lloyd, Deputy Governor, granted naturalization to sixty-four of the first inhabitants of Germantown, they promising faith and allegiance to the King of Great Britain, and the Proprietary William Penn. These persons were:

*Francis Daniel Pastorious
Jacob Telner
Dirck Isaac Op de Graff
Herman Isaacs Op de Graff
*Tunis Conderts
Abraham Isaacs Op de Graff
Jacob Jones
*Johannes Cassels
*Heirert Popen
Herman Bou
Albertus Brandt
*Jacob Schumacher
Dirck Keyser
*Arnold Cassell
Pieter Dirck Keyser
Jan Lansen
Jan Duplouvys
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*Reinert Tissen
*Jan Lucken
*Peter Klever
Heinrich Frey
*Hans Andreas Kreamer
*Jurgen Schumacker
*Isaac Schumacker
*Peter Kurlis
Gerhard Levering
Herman Op de Trap
Dirck Op de Kolk
*Anthony Loof
*Jan Williams

*Quakers

From — "Germanopolis" souvenir book of 225th anniversary of first permanent German settlement in America.

October 6, 1908

A good way to make the world better is to begin with the home town.

President's Report



Frederick C. Fiechter, Jr., Esq.

AS GERMANTOWN comes down the home stretch to its Tricentennial, this annual report of your President, may be a useful, as well as a traditional device, for making more readily available to posterity some high lights of who did what when and where we are and where we are going in sustaining and promoting the preservation and maintenance of the Society's resources. Thus, here and now, it is my privilege to follow Harold Saylor's long, thoughtful, and inspiring trail. It is only possible to meet this challenge by the continued selfless support of all of our hardworking, understanding Board. It deserves the approbation of the membership.

Unlike construction and destruction, maintenance is difficult to measure. Even when not unappreciated, it is rarely newsworthy. Only when its absence makes correction expensively imperative does its importance become noteworthy, short of the indefinite future after present maintainers have gone to their reward.

Notwithstanding the financial generosity of individuals, limited funds require priorities even in routine physical maintenance, too often aggravated by the waste and discouragement of vandalism or theft. Notwithstanding people whose generous unsparing service, not to mention wisdom and courtesy, is known to many of you, limited person-power requires priorities in making our facilities fully available to nonmembers.

Membership remains rather constant through continuing efforts of the Membership Committee. Meeting attendance remains subject to considerable fluctuation, although the Meetings Committee does a commendable job, sometimes in the face of formidable television competition. Between the mental and physical (delicacies) fare available, no attendant has gone too far wrong. Visitors to our facilities are, surprisingly enough, increasing in over-all numbers as well as in age-span and scholarship. Who can measure the educational opportunities afforded the local school youngster seeing what our museums and library offer right in his or her own neighborhood?

Without the aforementioned financial generosity focusing on our needs, we could expect to lose rather than gain ground. The actual accomplishments of the past year will have to be assayed sometime in the future. We recognize the room for improvement in periodic appropriate recognition of local lives lost in military operations down the years, including the too many in this century. Let's make it clear we don't forget those whose task was not to reason why.

We have endeavored to be good neighbors, and have continued to cooperate with other organizations having similar or complementary objectives. Special appreciation is given to Trinity Lutheran and Christ & St. Michael's Churches for the use of their meeting rooms. Fortunately, you have benefitted from a few younger activists, and more will be as welcome as they are necessary, since too many of us are old and getting older. Still, lest we forget, maintenance is an unexciting game, scarcely for the impatient enthusiast.

On behalf of the Society I wish to personally thank each and every officer and Board member. They are all known to you. But the name of an outstanding example of one of many donors is less available: Mrs. Florence Baker bequeathed 55 items of 18th and 19th century furniture, many of rather substantial value, to the Society. They were received from New York City the end of last year and some pieces are now on display.

This edition, like any other, of the *Crier* speaks for itself. To publish the commendation it receives is contrary to editorial policy perhaps because in the ultimate analysis each reader is his own best final judge. Whatever those decisions, you know the *Crier* is our Society's best, and essentially only, public relations vehicle. Help its Committee with ideas or, still better, with appropriate articles. Please patronize its advertisers.

As we anticipate doing our cooperative part in attaining the Tricentennial goal in the most effective condition possible, it is encouraging to note the increasing attention on the part of government and foundations in abetting our objectives. Indeed, preservation is beginning to join research and development on

the wave of the future. Both are desirable. A difference is that while research may wait, preservation cannot.

For the fiscal year ending September 30th some significant Treasury income figures include:

Dues		$3,978.50
Donations		3,081.50
Rental income	$20,138.00	
Less expense	17,417.22	
		2,720.78
Admissions		111.98
Crier Sales and Advertising		3,189.25
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We sincerely regret to include following deceased —

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Mrs. Horace Williams

Early Transportation on the Great Road in Winter

By MARGARET BACON BOSTWICK

One wintery afternoon while sitting at the Museum window waiting for the arrival of visitors, I daydreamed of traveling up and down the Great Road by horse and sleigh.

Here comes the blue and red pung, or "box" sleigh, with the high oval back. It would be coming from Loudoun. The Ashmead ladies were going calling. They would sit in the back with a heavy robe over their knees and a tin foot warmer which has been filled with hot coals. Each lady has fur wristlets and a cape. The coachman sits on a little bench up front.

The next pung coming down the road is a high-backed one painted two shades of grey and near it is another painted green and black. Both have very high backs and sides to keep the wind out, also the flying snow clods from passing horses. All of these are more or less farm sleighs from the upper part of the Great Road. Mother and the farm products are in back, protected, while father and son sit on the front seat, exposed to the weather.

The pung may be drawn by one or two horses, heavy farm animals weighing a ton or over. They are the pride and joy of the farm family. Cold enough to show their breath, both horses and riders will be glad to get into the warmth. I wonder if they are going to the Ridge Avenue Market or perhaps farther into town. Ah, the cheery jingle of the bells; here comes Master Wister in his two seated little red sleigh. He has learned to handle his pony and is exceedingly proud of this accomplishment. My dreaming fades with the passing of a bus, trolley and tractor-trailor. Oh for the peace and sweet smelling air that used to permeate the Great Road.

(The pungs and a sleigh may be seen in the Von Trott Annex of the Society's Museum.)

Germantown Historical Society

ANNUAL COMBINED MEETING

Chestnut Hill Historical Society

and

Germantown Historical Society

The Society's first 1978 evening meeting was held on Thursday, January 19th at the Aulenbach House, 29 West Tulpehocken Street at 8:00 P.M.

Mr. Henry J. Magaziner, well known Philadelphia architect and long time member of our Society, presented "The Palladian Connection — a case of architectural genealogy."

Refreshments were served and a very interesting evening was enjoyed by all who came in spite of the horrible weather.

Henry W. Johnson
Meetings Chairman

Mount Airy Builder Ashton Stephen Tourison (1851-1944)

By PHYLLIS KNAPP THOMAS

Today's Mount Airy residents may not realize they owe a debt of gratitude to far-sighted builder and developer Ashton S. Tourison.

At the turn of the century, when most of the land in Mount Airy between Germantown Avenue and Stenton Avenue was still farmland, Mr. Tourison believed in looking ahead. As early as 1885 he built the first house (No. 32) on the south side of East Sedgwick and opened that street to Chew Avenue. All the houses on the south side of that block represent his work. Eventually he constructed many elegant residences in the area bounded by Germantown Avenue, East Mt. Airy Avenue, Stenton, and East Gorgas Lane, as well as some on West Mt. Pleasant and West Mt. Airy Avenues.

As more and more people moved into the area, travel to and from Philadelphia's Center City became increasingly important. A number of railroad stations of the local Pennsylvania line were built by Ashton Tourison. Around 1910, after pressure on city officials from the thriving Tourison business, the tracks of the railroad line known as the Reading were raised from Vernon Road past East Mt. Airy Avenue to eliminate dangerous grade crossings.

Other Tourison buildings contributing to life in Greater Germantown in those days included Manheim, the Germantown Cricket Club on Manheim Street; the Second Baptist Church's main edifice (the southeast corner of Upsal Street and Germantown Avenue); and a large building then known as the Sedgwick Theater (south of East Mt. Airy Avenue on Germantown Avenue's east side).

The Tourison family has long been associated with the history of Philadelphia. Ashton's grandfather, Stephen Tourison, came to America from France with Lafayette at the time of the Revolution. His occupation was shipwright, or ship carpenter. In 1807 Stephen was married to Elizabeth Poirier (or Poiroie) of Acadian background at the Church of the Holy Trinity. In 1845, three years before he died at the age of ninety-two, he is listed in the city's *Directory* as owner of a shop at 188 Lombard Street.

Stephen's and Elizabeth's son Ashiele (Achille) or Ashton Stephen, Sr. (1811-1866) married Mary Ann Rahn in 1837 and settled in Mount Airy. Their marriage certificate was signed by the Rev. J. W. Richards of St. Michael's Lutheran Church. In those days the farm belonging to Mary Ann's parents extended into the Cresheim Valley from Allens Lane west of where the local branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad is today.

Ashton Stephen, Sr. — father of the noted builder — fought in the Mexican War from 1846 to 1848 and returned home wounded in the leg by a musket ball. On March 4, 1848, according to Hocker, "he was received at the borough limits with a cannon salute, and was escorted by the Germantown Blues and the Chestnut Hill Brass Band to Cox's hotel, at Germantown Avenue and Manheim Street, where Captain Miles of the Blues made an address, and refreshments were served." Later at Mount Airy another salute was fired in his honor.

At the time of the Civil War, Ashton, Sr., served as a captain from September, 1861, to August, 1863. A son of Captain Tourison, William Henry, lost his life as a young man in the Battle of Gettysburg and was buried in St. Michael's historic churchyard.

Tourison descendants have continued to reside in Mount Airy to this day.

For further information about the Tourisons, see Thomas Bateman's *Tourison and Allied Families* (New York: American Historical Society, 1952) and Edward W. Hocker's *Germantown: 1683-1933* (Germantown, 1933), pp. 215-6, 229.

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The Mount Airy Schooldays of Charles Fleury Bien-Aimé Guillou

By LISABETH M. HOLLOWAY, MS in LS

Installment II

The first installment of this paper appeared in the preceding issue (Vol 29, No. 4, Fall, 1977, pages 87-91). It contained an introduction to Guillou and to his account of his old school (from which all quotations are taken, unless otherwise noted), and biographical notes on the first three of its Principals. The present chapter resumes with the last two Principals, and comments more briefly on some of the faculty. The next installment will sketch the French refugee connection with the house "Mount Airy," with Guillou's recollections of its adaptation to school purposes, and something of its schoolboy life. We will conclude in a fourth chapter with reminiscences and notes of a number of Mount Airy's most distinguished alumni.

Auguste Louis Roumfort [né Bouchard],[1] son of Antoine, co-Principal with Constant 1826 to 1828, and Principal till 1834, apparently attended the school during his father's incumbency. According to Madame du Pont, he was intended for the navy after his father's death. However that may have been, by the fall of 1814 he had volunteered to serve in the Germantown Blues, a company of militia under the command of Brigadier-General Thomas Cadwalader. Assigned to the defense of Philadelphia, the Blues found themselves in early September encamped within a mile of the Victor du Ponts' farm in Delaware. There Auguste could slip away for a hot drink and a short nap in a real bed; unluckily he napped once too often and in the wrong place — he was caught asleep on guard duty. Only through the direct intervention of Victor du Pont did he escape serious consequences. (Hereafter, his service during the War of 1812 is never mentioned.) The incident is reported by Mme. du Pont in a letter dated September 2, 1814, without giving the date of the incident itself.

On the 23rd of September, a remarkably curt note of recommendation was written on Auguste's behalf to the authorities at the U.S. Military Academy:

> Louis Auguste Roumfort for the military school lives in Philadelphia 8th Street at Mrs. Bouchard's recommended by Thos. Law Esquire.
>
> Tench Ringgold Sept. 23 1814

On October 4, 1814, Auguste — henceforward Roumfort — wrote from Philadelphia "thankfully" accepting his appointment as cadet, and arranging to leave for West Point at once. (Possibly he was taken as replacement for a cadet withdrawn after opening of term, thus accounting for the very brief correspondence in respect to his application, as compared to the fuller folders of other accepted candidates.) He goes on to say that he was "at Camp Brandywine as a volunteer when your letter reached me," and signs himself "L. A. Roumfort." In later years, he normally signed himself "Auguste L. Roumfort."

Cullum's register of West Point graduates lists him as "Graduate no. 161, from Pennsylvania, 1817"; and reports him promoted 2d Lieutenant of Marines, 1817, and resigned, 1818. According to the obituary in the *New York Times*, years later, he left his military career with reluctance, for "pressing family reasons."

By November of 1818 he was back at Mount Airy, where his fellow-teacher, John A. Quitman, characterized him as "teacher of mathematics, a military martinet." During the next two years, before Charles Guillou arrived at the school, Roumfort was married to Mary M. Kline, of Germantown, and became the father of a son, Louis-Henri, who died young, according to the student roll. Another son, Charles E., was born in 1828; he was educated in the common schools of Philadelphia, married Elizabeth Haas of Chestnut Hill, and learned the baking business, moving to Harrisburg in 1853 and there establishing the Roumfort Baking Company. The surname is to be found in Harrisburg directories as late as 1923.

When Roumfort entered into partnership with Constant in 1826, a new plan of organization was devised for the College, now to be known as the American Classical and Military Lyceum. Roumfort wrote to E. I. du Pont, June 11, 1825:

> We do not intend to introduce military instruction to the prejudice of the other branches of education. . . . The police regulations now in force at West Point, will be adopted for the government of the Lyceum as nearly as the nature of the case will permit. Military discipline . . . will be rigidly enforced. Theoretical and practical military instruction will be given at times which in other institutions are appropriated to unprofitable amusements. The following branches of science and instruction will be considered a complete course of studies: The Latin, Greek, French, Spanish and English languages, mathematics, natural and experimental philosophy, civil and military engineering, history, geography, three annual courses of lectures adapted to the comprehension of youth delivered to the whole body of students; viz., one on chemistry, one on mineralogy, and one on moral

> philosophy, lastly theoretical and practical military instruction. Drawing, music, dancing and equitation will also be taught by the best masters in Philada. . . . The frequent transition of occupation will relieve [the students'] minds from that languor and satiety resulting from constant application to the study of elementary books, besides from their military character they will be better prepared to receive and embibe those sentiments of honour, candour and rectitude, which are the attributes of the officer and the gentleman. . . .

The new Prospectus reprints two letters to "Colonel" Roumfort — the title evidently relates to his command of the student cadet corps — from West Point professors, commending the objectives of the new Lyceum as appropriate to a preparatory institution for the Military Academy.

According to Guillou's indignant account, Roumfort displayed his own inadequacies as an instructor in the higher mathematics just before the reorganization of 1826. The Great Blackboard Incident takes up two pages of Guillou's manuscript. He had ingeniously devised a negative demonstration of a geometric theorem, correct but differing from the textbook, thus confounding Roumfort, who accused him of not having studied his lesson. Guillou retorted with spirit, and Roumfort retaliated by sentencing him to solitary confinement, of which more later. Guillou says that soon afterwards Roumfort was relegated to elementary instruction in mathematics, and to conducting military drill.

About this time, Roumfort began to enter the more congenial world of local politics, even achieving the Colonelcy of the Germantown Blues, the same company which had witnessed his youthful dereliction of duty. "The habits and hours of this business disagreed *in toto* with his duties as an educator and manager of youth," says Guillou. "This incompatibility led to frequent disagreements between the principals and finally became the irremediable cause of their separation." When Blondin Constant left Mount Airy in 1828, the Guillou boys, Constant, Charles and Alfred, also departed.

Roumfort began to experience some lessening of patronage. John Pemberton, writing on his behalf to President Andrew Jackson in December, 1832, politely attributes this to "his zeal for the democratic cause," which has led to "the withdrawing of a number of the sons of the opposition, so much as to make him desirous of employing his talents in some other way." This and perhaps other political intervention brought about his appointment in 1835 as Military Storekeeper at Philadelphia, and soon after as Superintendent of the Military Arsenal at Bridesburg. It is curious that at this time, when he was seriously contemplating giving up the school, Roumfort and his wife should have bought the Mount Airy property (April, 1833); they sold it in June of 1835. (Mary died in July, 1839). In 1844 Roumfort is said to have participated actively in the suppression of the Native American Riots in Philadelphia, ranking as Brigadier-General of Militia.

Here, or hereabouts, in his wrath, Guillou would have ended the mortal — instead of merely the Philadelphia — career of Auguste-Louis Roumfort, dating his death August 2, 1848 — the *4* is unmistakable — instead of August 2, 1878. In reality, Governor Shunk in 1849 appointed him Superintendent of Motive Power on the Philadelphia and Columbia Railroad, then owned by the State. When the new Pennsylvania Railroad Company was formed, Roumfort was made Superintendent of the Middle, or Harrisburg, Division. (A charming drawing of the first station at Harrisburg shows the General, seated in his favorite corner of the portico — it almost seems that he has his feet up on the railing — awaiting the whistle of the next train, when he would issue his celebrated stentorian roar, signaling for the warning-bell to be rung. All accounts of Roumfort, even Guillou's, stress his imposing military figure and his strong, authoritative voice.) He is described as "the first disciplinarian of the road," putting the stubborn up-country trainmen (descendants of Gallitzin's obstinate parishioners?) into uniform, organizing baggage-services, and so on. After resigning in 1862, he was elected by a slim majority the second Democratic Mayor of Harrisburg. (His opponents pointed out that the General could adduce only one year spent in the regular military service of his country.) During his mayoralty, obituaries to the contrary, he seems to have taken only a ceremonial and official role. The real wartime activity at Harrisburg, "the chief military rendezvous of the state," was directly under the control of Thomas A. Scott, vice-president of the road.

What is really interesting about Roumfort's obituaries — especially the one in the *New York Times,* August 3, 1878 — is not that they did not uncover his long-buried early deficiencies, or that they overpraised the late Mayor, respectably dead at 83, but that they and most other printed accounts assert that he taught the Confederate generals P. G. T. Beauregard and Fitzhugh Lee at Mount Airy. This is not impossible in respect to Beauregard, although his biographers report his military training, prior to West Point, to have taken place at the celebrated military school of the brothers Peugnet in New York. But it is quite impossible in respect to Lee, who was born the year Mount Airy closed.

The last of Mount Airy's Principals, *Captain Alden Partridge,* 1785-1854,[2] scientist, engineer, and controversial commandant of West Point during Roumfort's attendance there, seems to have had the least influence on the school. No doubt his acquaintance, however slight, with Roumfort, was the link which brought him to Mount Airy, but even his considerable abilities resulted only in "an unsuccessful attempt in the end of 1835, to gather up the fragments."

After his failure, Roumfort sold buildings and land — at a profit, surprisingly — to William Rogers, who used them as a summer residence, and for some years the Mount Airy hilltop was out of the education-business.

Many Wild Schemes

Today's parent, accustomed to some knowledge of and participation in, the conduct of his child's school, whether public, religious, or private, would raise his eyebrows at all of this. Nowadays, the wonderfully shaky finances of Mount Airy and its rapid succession of proprietors (five in 28 years), would tend to lower credit ratings and cause a loss of custom among the best families. (Of course it should be said

that refugee enterprises throughout history have been conspicuously susceptible to under-capitalization and other diseases of transplantation. Not the least of these is the traditional reluctance of American immigrants, from the Puritan of the mid-17th century to the anti-Nazi of the 1930's, to settle down again promptly, once uprooted and carried overseas. The French émigrés of the late 18th and early 19th centuries were surely as footloose as any, and by over-competing with each other in teaching and school-keeping, saturated their market, and practically forced each other into a kind of pedagogic vagabondage.[3]) Whatever the extenuating circumstances, however, a good look at some few of Mount Airy's faculty would surely have raised our hypothetical parent's eyebrows still higher.

For his family's amusement, John Anthony Quitman[4] lightly sketched some of his colleagues of the Senior Common Room soon after he came to it, at the age of only twenty, with a year's teaching already behind him at Hartwick Academy in New York State.

> [To his father from Philadelphia, August 13, 1818.] I arrived here on Tuesday. I went, in company with Mr. Goodman, to Mount Airy, to see Mr. Constant, President of the College. I found him a Frenchman in every respect. The result of our conversation, however, was an agreement on my part to stay a year with him as teacher in the English department, for $350, besides boarding, lodging, washing and fuel. I anticipate, from the regulations of the establishment, pretty tight times. I am not afraid, however, to engage in any thing for a year. It will extend my knowledge of the world. . . .
>
> [To his brother from Mount Airy, November 8, 1818.] My life is very different from what it was at Hartwick. There I had my sleigh-rides, my skating, my picnics and evening parties; here my occupation is study, and my amusement is study: nor do I regret it much. I prefer my Spanish to any pleasure. I am usefully employed; but yet I recur with regret to the charming female society I once enjoyed. It seems to be necessary to my happiness that I should have some sweet object for my affections to repose on. As I have none here, I can only sigh for those I left behind me. Germantown is famous for its scandal, not for its sociability. . . .
>
> [To the same from Mount Airy, March 21, 1819. After remarking that Philadelphia is a "dull place for adventurers," with little opportunity for young men with little money, he goes on:] . . .If I can have any encouragement to go [elsewhere] . . .I will bid this place a long adieu. Do not understand that I am discontented with my situation; on the contrary, I am every day more pleased with it; but I want something more than a mere support, and my duties here leave me no time for myself. I am engaged in my class-room six hours every day; besides this on Fridays I keep studies, that is, I rise at 5 A.M. and keep 70 boys at their books for one hour; and then in the evening from 7 to 8. Every morning (except Mondays) I am required to be on duty at 6.o'clock, and I retire at 12 P.M. My leisure moments are spent chiefly with the teachers. Mr. Haslam, the classical teacher, is an English Unitarian minister, a singular, wavering character, fond of nothing so much as roast beef and plum pudding, and withal a great gallant. Mr. Kaumfort [sic], teacher of mathematics, a lieutenant of marines, is a military martinet in every respect. Mr. Bulkley, my colleague, is a poor, sheepish Yankee, afraid of a fly, and the butt of all the others. Mr. Mareno [i.e., Merino], a Spaniard, is a great politician, familiar with the diplomacy of Europe. Lastly, Mr. Burquese, a Frenchman from Bonaparte's army, a very odd genius. Of such a compound does this fraternity exist. They are all young men, and have many wild schemes; but upon the whole, they are very amiable and desire to make my situation agreeable.

On October 19, 1819, bearing "a Credential very flattering indeed" from Constant, Quitman left Mount Airy to become, eventually, a Major-General of Volunteers in the Mexican War (when, no doubt, his Spanish came in handy), Governor of the State of Mississippi, and a strong states-rights' man in the preliminaries of the North-South conflict (he died July 17, 1858 in Natchez). While Guillou himself would have had no personal acquaintance with Quitman, Victor Guillou studied under him: "a pleasant and magnetic speaker, he was long and affectionately remembered by many of his pupils."

Except for the four teachers mentioned in Bouchard's estate papers of 1812, William R. Thompson, a Mr. Hutton, a Mr. Gallery, and Blondin Constant, Quitman's tantalizing glimpses give the earliest description of Mount Airy's faculty.[5] Mr. Haslam may be the James [?] Haslam who arrived in Philadelphia April 30, 1817 on the ship *Jane*, and may possibly be the 79-year-old James Haslam whose burial service was conducted on September 27, 1839 by W. H. Furness of the First Unitarian Church, Philadelphia. As to the sheepish Mr. Bulkley, in the absence of a forename, one hardly ventures a guess; and the oddities of Mr. Burquese, or the oddities of Quitman's spelling, have conspired against his memory also.

Both Quitman and Guillou speak warmly of Merino, though their evidence conflicts as to whether he was a young man (Quitman) or an old one (Guillou):

> Felix Merino, a Spaniard from Madrid, was an excellent and painstaking teacher of Spanish. He was at one time "chancellor" (i.e., secretary) to the Spanish consulate in Philadelphia. But he realized that the office was less remunerative than the schoolroom, and after an unsuccessful trial to perform the two duties together faithfully, he resigned from the Consulate and remained a successful teacher, up to the end of his life. We boys nicknamed him (Merino) "Sheep". With averted heads we "bah'd" at him as he passed. This very much annoyed the kind old gentleman: but he was always unable — or feigned inability — to identify his tormentors. He subsequently taught Spanish at my mother's Seminary, in Portico Row, Spruce Street. One of his daughters, Miss Florence Merino, was for several years instructress in Spanish at the Girard College, Philadelphia

Naturalized in Philadelphia June 12, 1812 as a Spaniard, Felix Merino appears in the 1820 census as Constant's immediate neighbor in Germantown. His

household consisted of four males (none over 26, if the record is accurate) and five females.[6] Merino served as Instructor in Spanish at the University of Pennsylvania from 1825 to 1829; no further record of him has been found.

According to the 1820-1828 roll of faculty and students, other foreign-language teachers included Henry B. Pearson, "an accomplished and successful teacher of Greek and Latin," well-liked although (or perhaps because) he was a strict disciplinarian, and nicknamed "Pedes" Pearson behind his back, for his bandy legs and splayed feet. Jas. Ph. Puglia, "teacher of Spanish, Portuguese and Italian," is listed in Philadelphia city directories of 1811 and 1813 as "sworn interpreter of foreign languages and health officer," an odd combination of professions, even for a refugee. A. Villeneuve taught French; Raphael Medina, Spanish; and E. I. De la Puente, Spanish.

Guillou recalls Frederick D. Mancourt; "second-class teacher of French and Arithmetic," as having "courted and married Miss Livesey (pronounced *Lewsly),* daughter of the manager of a flour mill," under the alert, interested observation of "us boys." (We do not dispute the pronunciation, nor the alertness of the boys' observation, nor even the flour mill, but the lady would seem to have been Maria Wise, daughter of John Wise, who did indeed manage a flour mill on the Wissahickon.) A German by birth, Mancourt filed naturalization papers in Philadelphia September 24, 1823. After leaving Mount Airy, he settled for a time in Allentown, where the 1830 census shows him, aged no more than 30, with a household of six persons, three being young children. In 1833 and 1834, the *Leigh Herald* records him as principal of the Allentown Academy, a public secondary school, where Constant visited him for several weeks. By 1851 the family had migrated westward to Madison, Indiana, where Maria Mancourt, aged 46, died of cholera on July 11th.

Burd Patterson, "nephew of Dr. Burd," who owned the great mansion at Chestnut and Ninth Streets in Philadelphia, is listed by Guillou as Professor of Latin, but without notice of his subsequent distinction as an industrialist in Pottsville. Here he pioneered the manufacture of iron with anthracite coal, winning 1839-1840 Nicholas Biddle's prize of $5,000 for this achievement. Patterson was first president of the first association of coal operators in the country, and his descendants continued prominent in mining and transportation in the state.[7] W. Peters, T. Whiteman, Nathan Gallup (marked "deceased") and I. Wells completed the faculty in Greek and Latin.

A. Abadie[8] appears twice on the 1820-1828 roll, as teacher of French and of Drawing and Fencing. After Napoleon's downfall, Hilarian Abadie (who died in 1849 at the age of 78) brought his family to Philadelphia, where Abadie & Sons opened a seminary on 8th Street (still another refugee school!) and issued in 1823 *A French Grammar, or, Theoretical and Practical Lessons in the French Language . . . . with Dialogues, Anecdotes, and a Number of New and Useful Tables.* A. Abadie married Adéle, the only daughter of "Madame Williams, a Swiss lady, who spoke English very well, albeit with a foreign accent. She was manager of the housekeeping department, of the vestiary, the laundry, the kitchen, and the servants' work in all its branches." A younger brother, Eugene Hilarian Abadie, was a student with Guillou, and will be mentioned later.

Patrick O'Flaherty, M. L. Tracie, and Thomas Clason[9] are listed in the 1820-1828 roll as teachers of Elocution; Charles Douglas and I. Chamberlain taught Grammar; and A. Bingham, Mathematics and English.

Thomas Hall, M.D., taught Mineralogy and Chemistry — Guillou thinks him a medical graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, though the University does not claim him. He had his own classroom at Mount Airy, equipped with "a pneumatic trough, bell glass receivers, retorts, crucibles, etc., an Electrical (cylinder, friction) machine, Leyden jars, isolators and a variety of electric, galvanic and magnetic apparatus, and an assortment of chemicals, etc." Charles and Constant Guillou served as student laboratory assistants, and developed a taste for "physical research" which was of value to Charles as a student of medicine, and provided Constant a lifelong hobby in photography, printing, and other practical applications.

The most impressive member of the Mount Airy faculty in many ways, was Francis Joseph Grund, 1798-1863,[10] teacher of German and mathematics; journalist and editor; author of *The Americans in Their Moral, Social and Political Relations* (London, 1837; 2 vols.), *Aristocracy in America (From the Sketch-Book of a German Nobleman* (London, 1839; 2 vols.), and *Thoughts and Reflections on the Present Position of Europe and its Probable Consequences to the United States* (Philadelphia, 1860), as well as several texts on chemistry, physics, algebra, and plane and solid geometry. A graduate of Heidelberg, Grund returned to Europe during Buchanan's administration as American Consul at Le Havre. His death in September of 1863 apparently resulted from a heart seizure, suffered while seeking police protection from an unruly Philadelphia mob, protesting his speech a few days before, denouncing Copperhead tendencies in the Democratic Party. Guillou, describing himself as Grund's favorite pupil, credits him with inspiring his own habits of systematic thought and study. Certainly in his breadth of competence and of interest, in his involvement in political affairs, and in his productivity, Grund anticipates twentieth-century intellectual activism to an unusual degree.

Guillou paid proper tribute to the non-teaching members of the staff:

> A lowly, but very useful, member of the establishment was Christophe. He was our baker, butcher, pigsticker and general utility man. I never heard his family name, if he had one such. He too like the principal [Constant] was an Alsatian, and was as devoted to him as a dog to his master. He was also very obliging in his way to us schoolboys, and he underwent our tricks and annoyings good-naturedly.
>
> We will close our review of the staff with the music. Charley Moore, the drummer, and Henry Bender, the fifer, were accomplished performers in their way. Both had been in the United States' military service, in their respective capacities during the war of 1812-1814. Besides this, they

had attended numberless militia parades, as leaders of their special instruments. Indeed, they continued to functionate at all such "turnouts," even during their more permanent engagement at the Military Lyceum.

Charley Moore, robust and corpulent, was in private life a shoemaker, and after the disruption of the school, lived many years in Germantown practicing his trade.

Henry Bender, small, slight and wiry, was a good tailor; and for many years after leaving the school, up to the time when last heard from, he was making and mending clothes for the country boys ("rips" we used to call them) from Nicetown, beyond Chestnut-Hill, and as far as White Marsh. . . .

In spite of the natural tendency to recall in later years the more singular personalities and events of their schooldays, the Mount Airy boys certainly spent a very large part of their time in classroom and study. These rather frivolous recollections are really only a sort of raffish obligato against a steady bass ground of theorems, conjugations, and military drills. To judge by their subsequent performance as generals, admirals, legislators, doctors, clergymen, and businessmen of substance and ingenuity, Mount Airy well and truly taught its boys the learning of their day. One profession they do seem to have avoided, however. With the limited exception of Roumfort himself, none of them, as far as is known, except by way of temporary expedient, seems to have become a teacher.

— To be continued —

1. Auguste-Louis Roumfort Bouchard's misadventure on duty appears in: du Pont, Josephine, "The Youth of 1812; More Excerpts from the Correspondence of Josephine du Pont and Margaret Manigault," edited and translated by B. B. P. Low, *Winterthur Portfolio* 11:190, 1976. The correspondence relative to his application to West Point is at the U.S. National Archives, Washington, D.C., among U.S. Military Academy Papers, Letters of Recommendation for Cadets (microfilm 688, roll 3, Cadet no. 90, 1814). Charles E. Roumfort is written up in *Commemorative Biographical Encyclopedia of Dauphin County* (Chambersburg, Pa., M. Runk & Co., 1896), p. 644. Roumfort's letter to E. I. du Pont is to be found in Eleuthera Bradford du Pont Collection (File 81, Misc. Corresp.), Eleutherian Mills. Pemberton's letter to the President is deposited with the Pemberton Papers at Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Manuscript Collections. The account of Roumfort's career with the Pennsylvania Railroad, and the picture, appear in W. B. Wilson's *History of the Pennsylvania Railroad* (1899), v. 1; and his career as mayor is summarized from brief references in J. M. Book, *Northern Rendezvous; Harrisburg during the Civil War* (Harrisburg, Telegraph Press, 1951).

2. Partridge's energetic and contentious career, to the end of his West Point period, is described in highly partisan fashion by Col. Lester A. Webb, in *Captain Alden Partridge and the United States Military Academy, 1806-1833* (Northport, Ala., 1965). A second volume was to have discussed Partridge's later career as founder of schools, especially military schools, and as educational reformer.

3. Since publication of the first installment of this paper, the writer's attention has been drawn to four additional letters of Blondin Constant in the Rodrigue Papers at the American Catholic Historical Society (St. Charles Seminary). Written from Frankfort, Kentucky in 1829, from New Orleans in 1830, and from Havana in 1839 and 1840, these letters glimpse Constant's wanderings and disappointments in search of another Mount Airy, which was evidently the apex of his American career. The gracious assistance of Sister Margaret Rose, SSJ, of Mount Saint Joseph, and Mrs. Alice Whittlesey, of the Society, is gratefully acknowledged.

Besides other competitors to be mentioned in the course of the paper, we will note only one. In 1828, Victor René Value, 1790-1860?, announced his *Academie Classique et militaire de Mantua* ("village situé 2-½ milles ouest de Philadelphie"), whose name seems a deliberate echo of Mount Airy's current title, "American Classical and Military Lyceum." The year 1828 saw the completion of Sully's portrait of Value and his young daughter Charlotte; he had the family painted by Eichholtz as well, at a cost of $135. In 1816 he had advertised a dancing school in Trenton; in 1823 he published in Philadelphia the first part of a projected arithmetic text, and in 1832, a work called *Experience Consulted, or, Rational System of Teaching Modern Languages*. Value seems an entirely characteristic example of the emigrant French schoolmaster.

4. See Claiborne, John F., *Life and Correspondence of John A. Quitman* (New York, Harper, 1860), pp. 30-35.

5. Except as noted, none of these names, French or otherwise, is indexed in the Philadelphia ship-lists of 1800 and onwards, preserved at the Federal Archives Branch in Philadelphia, or in the WPA indexes of naturalization-papers (1789-1880) and of Philadelphia burials (1803-1860), both to be found at the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

6. Perhaps the Eliza Merino who was buried from the Almshouse in Philadelphia May 7, 1848, aged 54, was Felix's wife; the Gonzalo Merino who died April 29, 1838, aged 10, may have been one of his sons.

7. See Wilfred Jordan's *Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania Biography*, v. 4, p. 1432.

8. For information on the Abadie family, I am indebted to Miss Patricia McAndrew, of Bethlehem, Pa.

9. In March, 1835, according to Edward Hocker's abstract (see his typescript classed as L-1-17, Germantown Historical Society Library), the *Germantown Telegraph* reported a London newspaper account of the death in that city, by poisoning from charcoal-fumes, of "Isaac Starr Clason and a female," in reduced circumstances. Clason, "a teacher at Mt. Airy College about 1830, a strange character, imposing in dress, with many debts," came from New York with a fortune, which he lost, and married bigamously a young girl of Germantown. Parts of this story, suitably laundered, are quoted by the Rev. S. F. Hotchkin *Ancient and Modern Germantown*, etc. p. 372) on the authority of H. W. Andrews, a former student. Hotchkin calls him "Mr. Claisson of New York, Professor of Belles-Lettres," and says that he married a Germantown lady and died in London. Guillou does not mention him. Whatever the truth of this melodramatic report, the printing of it in a local newspaper must represent the nadir of Mount Airy's public relations.

10. Grund's career in literature is outlined by Allibone, and by Scharf & Westcott (ii:1170). *The New York Times* notices appeared on October 1 and 2, 1863.

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A Philadelphia Story

By Margaret Hall Smith

Have you ever heard the story told
Of the master of Stenton years ago,
One James Logan, not yet old—
And an Indian chief he used to know?

Friends they were, the Red, the White.
Each held the other in high esteem.
They had the thoughts that great men might,
And the dreams that great men dream.

It was an Indian custom then,
To take the name of an honored friend,
And so this chief was known to men
By an Indian-English blend.

But Logan said, "I cannot change
My name, for I am forced to sign
Officially. It would be strange
To add another name to mine.

But on my land there is a glade
Where water rushes over stone,
And flows along a pathway made
To echo every rippling tone.

And this fair stream shall bear your name
For it runs clean and strong and free,
As Red men were when White men came.
Wingohocking it shall be.

The village on the Delaware
Grew up and spread its arms about,
Until a city, pulsing there,
Crowded farm and woodland out.

Logan's vast estate was sold.
And now the garden, house and street,
Are all we ever can behold
Of where two friends were wont to meet.

And locked beneath imprisoned ground,
Forever hidden from the sun,
Beyond the range of sight or sound,
Wingohocking's waters run.

Reprinted from September, 1949 "Crier".

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.

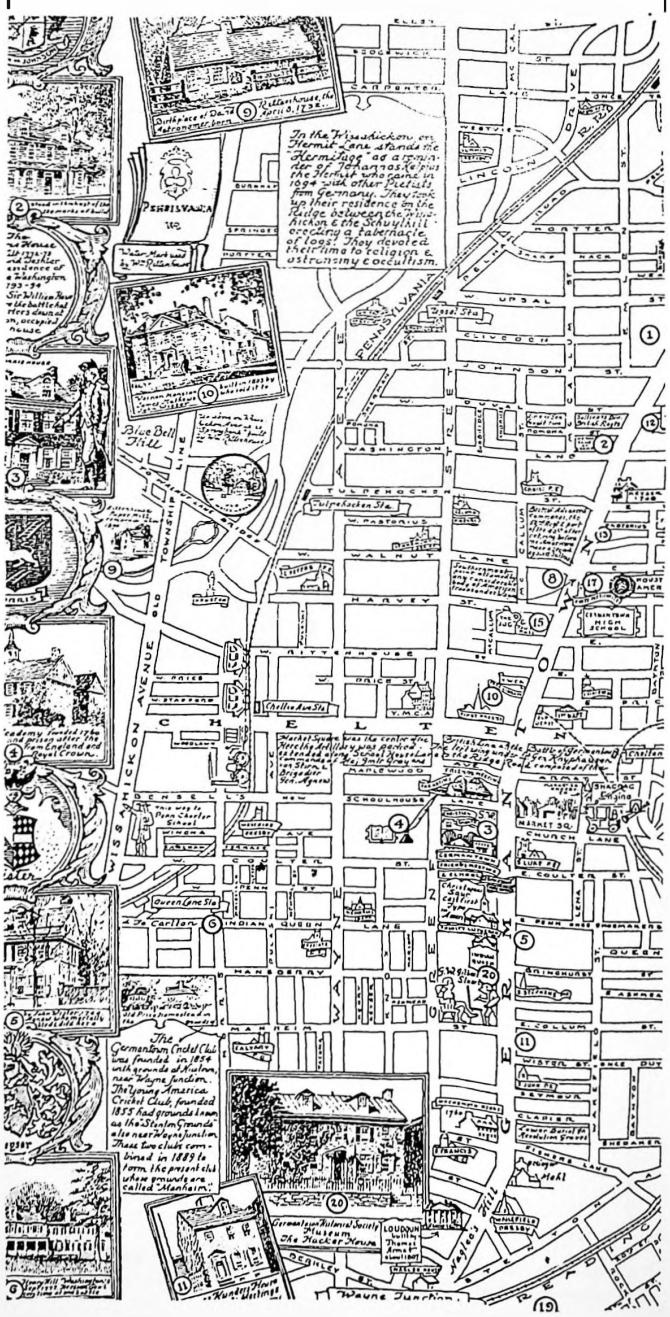
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Add 50 cents to cover postage and handling



Gala held at "Loudoun" commemorating the 200th Anniversary of "The Battle of Germantown" on October 4, 1776

This very important event was celebrated by the people of Germantown. The re-enactment of the battle took place at "Cliveden" on October 1st. The day was warm and wet — it rained and it rained and it rained. The soldiers participating in the action were thoroughly drenched but everything went off as planned and was very impressive.

A Soiree (The Camp Followers' Ball) followed at "Loudoun." By evening the rain stopped and by ten o'clock the moon was shining bright. "Loudoun" is so often spoken of as a fabulous house for entertaining. The Armats saw to that when it was constructed, choosing large rooms and lofty ceilings with a large Corinthian columned piazza across the front of the house — perfect for dancing.

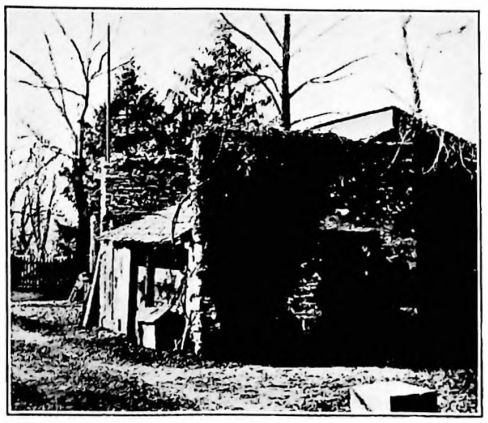
All this resulted in the proper background for such an enjoyable costume party. Officers of the First City Troop in full dress and their ladies, General Howe with full entourage, a French Marquis and his lady, several ladies in formal Colonial dress and others depicting the historic name of the party, as "camp followers." Romig, Carney and Lewis, at their very best, furnished appropriate music. Refreshments (supplied by Germantown Historic District Committee) were excellent and relished by all.

Of special interest, which added color to the festivities, were the Heraldic banners that flew from houses in the "historic district." As a community project in connection with G.H.D.C. the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Sciences reproduced on canvas, banners showing the Coat of Arms of many of the families who built their homes on Germantown Avenue. These were placed where they could be seen and were flown during the week of October 1st through 8th. We doubt if there is another district that can lay claim to such heraldry.

One should remember that during this memorable time Hessian mercenaries under George III were encamped on Neglee's Hill. These men fought and died in the Battle of Germantown and those who fell were interred on this ground — "Loudoun" was built on Neglee's Hill in 1796-1801.

The Germantown Historic District Committee, all volunteers, want to thank the many who have contributed to the success of our work and our parties. The Committee will carry on its work on Germantown Avenue in early spring. We are looking forward to continued support — help is needed.

Amelia N. Farr
Committee Chairman



Gilbert Stuart Studio

The Covey

By MARGARET BACON BOSTWICK

Many of us remember "The Covey" which was situated at 5200 Germantown Avenue. The house looked like an old grey-stone farm house with a long airy porch. It sat in the middle of the block surrounded by beautiful trees and where the driveway entered the avenue stood a small granite barn. All of the buildings were demolished and the trees cut down, and in the place of this historic landmark the present Acme Store was built.

Gilbert Stuart lived in "The Covey" and the barn was used as his studio where he painted President George Washington several times. In New Bedford, Massachusetts a 5 by 8 foot portrait of President Washington hung for over 100 years in a boys' club. Lately it has been identified by Art Historian, Charles Merrill Mount of Arlington, Virginia as a Gilbert Stuart, probably painted in Germantown about 1800. This portrait has been given to the New Bedford Public Library by the boys' club where one may see a bit of Germantown moved to Massachusetts.

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Germantown Schools

From the Germantown Telegraph —

Contributed to Site & Relic Society Journal — May 15, 1919 by Mr. E. W. Hocker

May 16, 1832—Two infant schools. First, Miss Milnor, 60 children. Mr. Alcott conducts the other, which is a boarding school, where the children "seem delighted." Mr. and Mrs. Russell's boarding and day school, under the patronage of the trustees of Germantown Academy. Miss Lorrain's boarding school. Miss Rooker's day school. Mr. Ford's boarding school for young ladies.

1834 — Richard L. Dickson, teacher and designer of plain and ornamental writing; Writing Academy.

December, 1834 — The Misses Coxe open a "female school" for boarders and day students.

May, 1835 — William Kulp, Jr., advertises to open a select school in the Concord School House, May11; $4 a quarter.

September, 1836 — Young Ladies' Seminary, formerly Miss Loraine's Main Street and Shoemaker's Lane; W. D. Howard, principal.

April, 1837 — F. Spencer succeeds Mr. Lukens as teacher at Concord School — both sexes — also teaches painting. "Strictly select."

April, 1838 — Anna Mapother opens boarding and day school in large brick building, Market Square and Church Lane. Teaches English, French, Spanish, sewing and needlework.

May, 1838 — P. A. Cattanio opens German and French school at J. Mushler's house, nearly opposite the Bank.

1839 — Sarah J. Campbell, select school for girls at Miss Rooker's.

September, 1839 — Rydal Mount Institute, Mrs. Fales, boarding school for girls, in mansion built by Mr. Garden but which he never occupied, now Rev. Mr. Green's.

March, 1841 — Mrs. Fales moves to West Chester.

1840 — Robert H. Thomas, Select Seminary for both sexes, Concord School House.

1851 — Rev. Roger Owen and Joshua T. Owen open Chestnut Hill Academy, boarding school for boys.

1851 — Female Academy, Pine Place, Mrs. H. A. Robinson, principal.

1855 — Select School for Boys, hall of Fellowship Fire Company, Armat Street; George R. Barker, principal.

November, 1858 — Free night school and reading room opened in Town Hall "by some of our citizens." For young men over sixteen and adults. Begins with forty members. Teacher every evening; books and materials free. Lectures on Saturday nights. Continued during winter.

1860 — George R. Barker's English and Classical School, Price Street. The Misses Aertsen's School for Young Ladies, Price Street. Germantown Female Seminary, Walnut Lane; Prof. W. S. Fortescue, principal.

1861 — Saralton Female Seminary, Linden Street, taken by Mrs. Mary Wilcox. Miss De Forest's School for Young Ladies, Harkinson Building, Main Street. German School for young business men, Prof. Wm. Furgang, Main Street, below Fisher's Lane, classes two nights a week.



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The Annual Tea held by the Women's Committee of the Deshler-Morris House was held on Sunday, December 4, 1977 from three to five o'clock. The house and decorations were charming and a large attendance brought many complimentary comments.

Chairman of the Tea was Mrs. Nicholas A. Clemente.

The Deshler-Morris House served as the residence of President George Washington, first in 1793 when the yellow fever epidemic made it necessary for him to leave Philadelphia (then the capitol of the nation) and again in 1794 when he lived there with his wife, Martha, and her two grandchildren.

Mrs. James D. Bishop
Chairman, Women's Committee

1731 — "The Mother of all the North American subscription libraries" (to use the words of the founder himself) was originated by Benjamin Franklin.

1749 — The first company of American stage players was organized early in 1749 in Philadelphia.

1728 — John Bartram commenced on the bank of the Schuylkill the first of America's botanical gardens.

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Lady Bicyclists

Bishop Coxe, addressing the young lady graduates in a Chicago school, said he hoped he might never see any of them astride a bicycle, for it reminded him of the witches of old riding their broomsticks. All these crazes, such as roller-skating, the sunflower mania, Nellie Bly-ism (that is, a desire to wear men's caps and boots and travel all over the country alone), all slang expressions, etc., are very short-lived. These particular fads are, as a rule, not taken up by people with a proper sense of decorum; and although we have the utmost admiration for the woman who can do something clever without making herself too conspicuous, we have yet to meet the heroine of a career who is not brazen and tiresome — it is not her fault, but the result of contamination. No one can elbow the street crowd without losing some of the sweetness we prize in woman; the gain that comes from the outer world — the shop, the rostrum, and the public procession — is more than outweighed by loss of modesty, gentleness, faith and womanly dignity.

—Dr. G. A. Williams in *The Doctor*, as reprinted in *The Medical Visitor* [a journal for homeopathic physicians], vol. 9, p. 117, 1893.

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