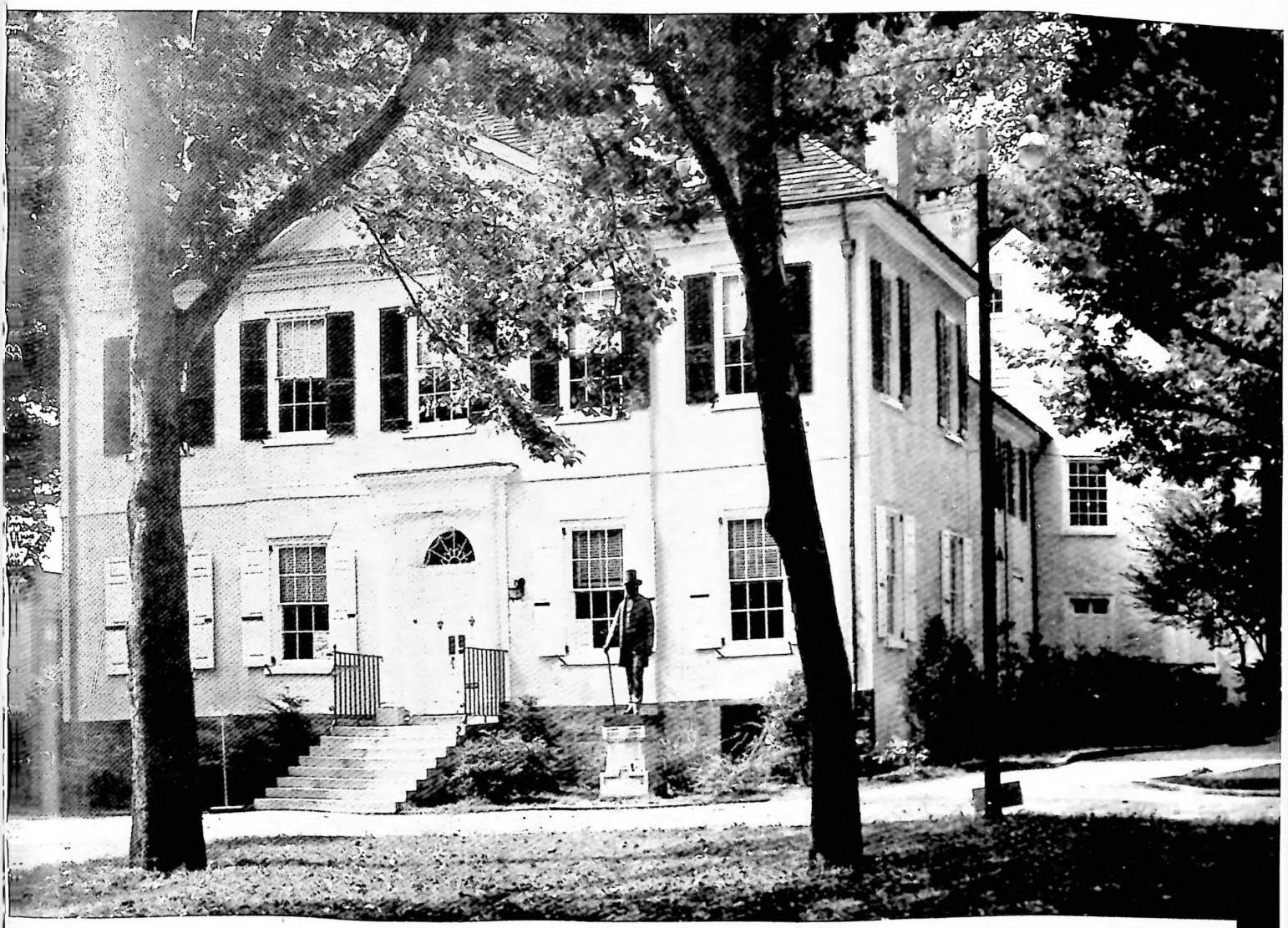
GERMANTOWNE CRIER



Vernon, the Wister House in Vernon Park (*See page 6*)

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AIMS OF THE SOCIETY

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

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

Membership dues are:

Junior, Teacher, or Librarian Membership	$3.00
Annual	6.00
Sustaining, or Business	10.00
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The Historical Society is a source of pride and interest to many Germantowners, even outside its membership, but while enthusiasm and interest are most valuable assets, the actual necessities of operation need something sterner and more tangible.

"The Society functions on an amazingly small budget in maintaining its Museum in the Hacker House and its Library and publications offices in the Baynton House next door. Properly caring for and safeguarding these buildings and their contents, and operating the Morris House, with which the Society is proud to be entrusted, impose an arduous financial burden."

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

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SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS

January 15, 1959

At the Art Museum, Benjamin Franklin Parkway at Fairmount. A private view of the new Decorative Arts Wing of the Art Museum. Led by Mr. Henri Marceau, Director of the Museum.

February 19, 1959

At the Women's Club of Gtn., Assembly Hall. Mr. Edmund Bacon, Exec. Dir. Phila. City Planning Commission on "City Planning and the Preservation of Historic Buildings."

March 19, 1959

At the Women's Club of Gtn., Assembly Hall. Mrs. A. William Ball, Jr., authority on Colonial silver, on "William Ball, Philadelphia Silversmith, His Life and Times."

April 16, 1958

At the Women's Club of Gtn., Assembly Hall. Mr. Earl J. Heydinger, of the National Park Service, who is connected with the Hopewell National Monument, on "The Schuylkill, Lifeline to Valley Forge."

All meetings are scheduled for 8:00 P.M.

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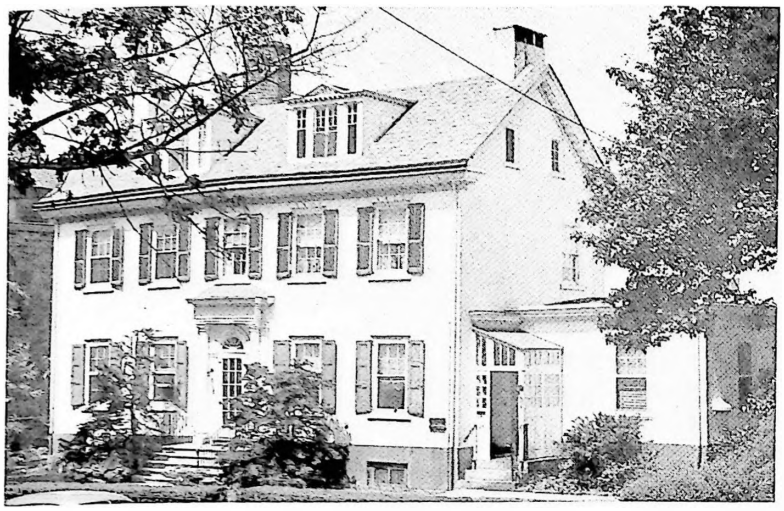
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Vol. 10 DECEMBER, 1958 No. 4

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Complete sets of the GERMANTOWNE CRIER consisting of (39) all numbers issued to date, are being offered (on order) at $4 per set plus 50c postage if mailed.

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

Various issues of Volume One and Two, of the old "Site and Relic Society's" publications, are for sale at the Museum. Some of the second volumes are in the name of the Germantown Historical Society, the old name being discontinued during that period. The publications start from the very beginning of the Society, and many of the articles were written by old historians now dead, and constitute first hand information.

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

"HISTORIC GERMANTOWN" a special limited edition book of 150 pages, published with the cooperation of the American Philosophical Society, includes an outline of the early history of Germantown, together with views of historic Germantown houses with their plans and architectural and historic information.

The books are 9½ by 12 inches, bound in hard covers, and are available at cost of $5.00 per copy delivered, or $5.25 by mail to any address. Please address requests accompanied by check to order of Germantown Historical Society to: Captain Edmund A Crenshaw, Jr., 519 Pelham Road, Philadelphia 19, Penna.

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Published March, May, September, December—Germantown Historical Society

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REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

THE SOCIETY had a good year ending October 1, 1958. At the annual meeting the Treasurer reported that our assets had increased by nearly $8000 due to an increase in life memberships and investment enhancements. The mortgage on the Baynton House, $10,000 over two years ago has been reduced from $6600 to $4000. Various funds in trust, in savings and checking accounts and in securities total about $30,000.

Regular meetings of the membership, which were well attended, were held as scheduled except for the March 1958 meeting which was cancelled owing to the severe snow storm. The Board of Managers and the Executive Committee met regularly. At the garden party in June more people were present than ever before. Our membership reached the highest figure in our 58 year history, namely, 785.

The GERMANTOWNE CRIER, was always interesting and was published, as for some years past, without going into red figures at any time. Many thanks are due to our advertisers, the efforts of our Publications Committee, and the members and subscribers for this record.

The 275th Anniversary of the Founding of Germantown was celebrated in various ways. At the annual meeting on October 23rd Mr. Joseph Haines Price spoke on "Life in Early Germantown". The September and December numbers of the CRIER emphasized the history and the heritage of Germantown.

In the Spring the members of the Mennonite Church celebrated the arrival of their predecessors in their ancient church structure where they were addressed by their pastors and your president.

On October 6th, the day of the arrival in Philadelphia of the original thirteen settlers, the Pastorius Day Association, Inc. under the leadership of Mr. Herman Witte, met in Town Hall in Philadelphia to celebrate the occasion. Dr. Wilhelm Grewe, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, and your president addressed the 1600 persons present. A large choir and the Olney Symphony Orchestra provided music of a high order.

On November 6th the Germantown Community Council held its annual dinner at Penn Charter School to which members of our Society were invited. Dr. Millard E. Gladfelter, Provost of Temple University, the well-known authority on the culture, folklore and history of the Pennsylvania Dutch, spoke on "Seed for a Nation".

We look forward to another successful and worthwhile year in the life of the Society. We are sure that all will continue to join together in carrying out its mission of preserving the fine heritage of the Germantown community.

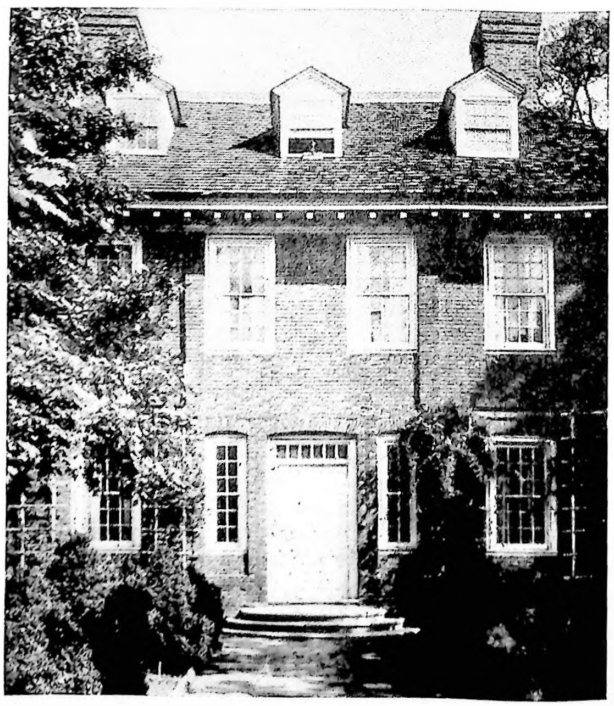
Vernon, One of the First Small Public Parks in Germantown

GERMANTOWN maintained its rural aspect up to the later years of the nineteenth century, little thought was given to the creation of small parks until the early nineties. Then, in 1802, City Councils were induced to buy the Wister estate, known as Vernon, on the west side of Germantown Avenue, north of Chelton Avenue, together with a row of old stores, at the cost of $300,000 and on this site established Vernon Park. John Wister had bought the place in 1912 from James Matthews, who had built the house in 1803. Prior to that the land had belonged to Christopher Meng. Meng, as well as Wister and his son John, gave much attention to the cultivation of unusual trees, so there was a rare variety of vegetation on the tract when the city acquired it, some of which was permitted to remain, along with the Wister House.

Other small parks were subsequently established as follows: Clifford Park, Wissahickon Avenue, above Walnut Lane, 1904, the gift of George W. Thomas to the Fairmount Park Commission.

The former home of Edward W. Clark, School Lane and Wissahickon Avenue, 1911, the gift of the Clark family.

(Continued on page 15)



Front Door, Stenton Mansion
18th and Courtland Streets

GERMANTOWNE CRIER

Volume 10 DECEMBER, 1958 Number 4

Old Germantown Houses

By Judge Harold D. Saylor

IN THE previous issue of this publication appeared the author's "Early Germantown", an account of the founding of the community two hundred and seventy-five years ago. Therein reference was made to two booklets published by the Society: Charles Francis Jenkins' "The Guide Book to Historic Germantown" and "Washington Visits Germantown". Reference was also made to "Historic Germantown", the report of the survey made by Grant Simon and containing a history written by the Doctors Tinkcom. To these works and to "Portrait of a Colonial City" by Messrs. Eberlein and Hubbard the author of this article is indebted for much of the material hereinafter following.

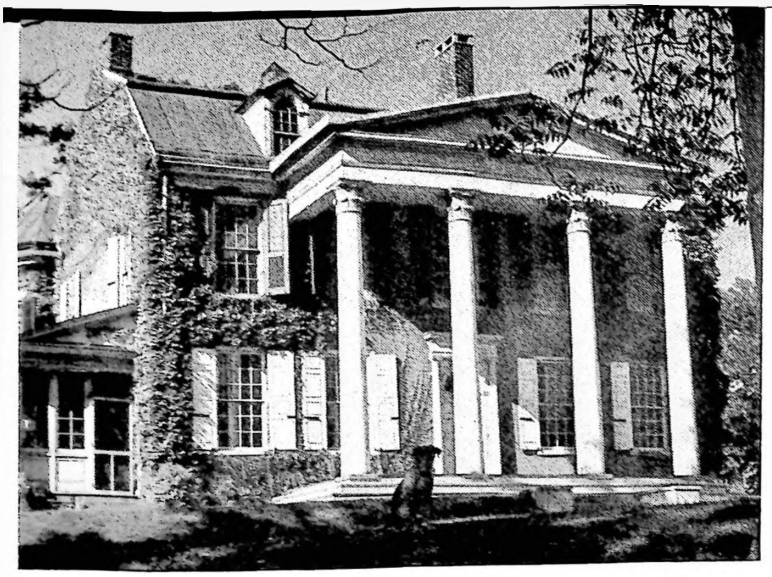
At the conclusion of "Early Germantown" it was stated that it is the duty of the community and the purpose of the Germantown Historical Society to preserve the better known houses and other buildings that survive from the early days so that they might continue "to evoke for us memories of a great past and to serve as inspiration to those of coming generations." What and where are these old houses?

We will now set forth on a tour of old Germantown commencing in the neighborhood of what is now generally known as Wayne Junction and proceeding north on Main Street with short side excursions on the way. But first we shall consider Wakefield and Stenton, famous houses south and east of Neglee's Hill.

At 16th Street and Lindley Avenue is Wakefield, the home of Thomas and Sarah Fisher, which was built about 1795. In the same park which is now in the custody of the Fairmount Park Commission is a smaller colonial house known as Little Wakefield. On this land the Wakefield Mills were established at an early date by William Logan Fisher whose father, Thomas, married Sarah, granddaughter of James Logan.

At 18th Street and Courtland Street is Stenton, erected in 1727–34 by James Logan, friend, secretary, and confidential agent of William Penn. It is owned by the city and is in the custody of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Stenton contains furniture of the Colonial period, much of which belonged to Logan. The house once had one of the finest libraries in Colonial America. It is now known as the Loganian Library of the Library Company of Philadelphia. General Washington occupied the house on the evening of August 23, 1777 when the American Army was on its way to oppose Howe at the Brandywine. General Howe was quartered there at the time of the Battle of Germantown. While attending the Constitutional Convention, Washington spent the day and dined on Sunday, July 8, 1787 with Dr. George Logan, grandson of James Logan, and an accomplished horticulturist. Notable and distinguished personages of the Colonies and of foreign nations were frequently guests at Stenton, historically and architecturally one of Philadelphia's most famous houses.

Belfield, on Clarkson Avenue east of Wingohocking Creek and of Stenton Avenue, is a house of the Colonial and Federal periods, with numerous separate buildings. A small house adjoining the main structure was built in 1708 by one Nevie. Here Charles Willson Peale lived from 1810 to 1826. He kept a small menagerie which he later transferred to Independence Hall where as a part of his natural history museum it occupied the second floor. His garden, one of the finest in the community, was "the admiration of numerous visitors". This property was given in 1826 by William Logan Fisher to his eldest daughter Sarah on her marriage to William Wister, the eldest son of John Wister of Vernon. The house is occupied by their descendants.



Loudoun House

Places of historic interest on Germantown Avenue (Main Street) are listed below in the sequence of modern house numbering beginning at Neglee's Hill and moving north.

4518-20 Naglee or Neglee House (1727), is one of the older Germantown houses. It was owned by John Naglee from 1727 to 1752. During the Battle of Germantown it was occupied by two sisters. The hill north of Wayne Junction was sometimes known as Logan's Hill and presently as Neglee's Hill for the house.

4650 Loudoun or Logan Mansion, on the top of Neglee's Hill, was built in 1801 by Thomas Armat of Loudoun County, Virginia, for his son. It was given by Maria Dickinson Logan to the Fairmount Park Commission which now maintains it. At the time of the Battle wounded Americans were carried to the top of the hill before their removal to the city. This is the most imposing house of the Federal Period in Germantown.

4810 Site of the Toland House (1740) which at the time of the Battle was the home of George Miller, an officer of the American Army.

4821 Mehl House. So-called for the family which held the land from 1763 to 1865. Some soldiers killed in the Battle are said to have been buried at the gateway. The rafters of the rear barn-like building are of unhewn trees. The present owners allow its use as the home of the Germantown Theatre Guild.

4825 Ottinger House (1781) built by Christopher Ottinger, a soldier of the Pennsylvania line who volunteered at 17.

4840 Site of the Wagner-Mechlin House (1747), which was one of the main hospitals after the Battle. The big wooden doors taken from the stable at the rear were used as operating tables. Many who died here were buried in a trench in the rear.

4900-08 Wachsmuth-Henry House (1760). Boyhood home of Alexander Henry, three times Mayor of Philadelphia (1858–1865) and a member of Congress.

4901 Hood's Cemetery (1693) or the Lower Burying Ground at Logan Street occupies ground presented to the Borough of Germantown in 1693 by Jan Streepers, one of the community's thirteen founders. In 1868 it was conveyed to the Hood Cemetery Company. Here are graves of many early settlers and officers killed in the Battle of Germantown, including British General Agnew and Colonel Bird. The oldest stone is marked 1707–08. Christian Frederick Post, a noted Moravian missionary to the Indians, is buried here.

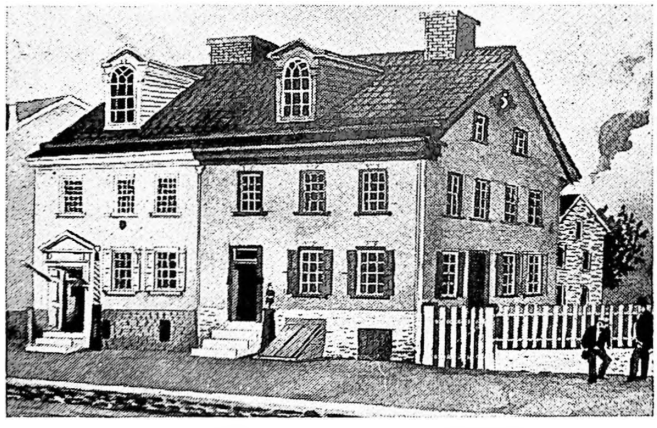
5011 The Royal House is named for the family which owned it from 1812 to 1891.

5031 Site of Duy's Tavern. The Farmers and Merchants (1809).

5058 General Wayne Hotel. Famous Colonial hostelry. The present structure in large part dates from 1866 when the early Federal period building was enlarged. It was the meeting place for the Germantown Blues.

5106-10 Barron House was owned by Commodore James Barron from 1839 to 1845. He had been in command of the "Chesapeake" in the engagement with the "Leopard" and was twice commandant of the Philadelphia Navy Yard.

5109 Site of the house of Thones Kunders or Thomas Kunder, one of the original thirteen settlers. Here were held the first meetings of the Society of Friends in Germantown. Here in 1688 was signed the first protest against human slavery in the New World. The paper was written by Francis Daniel Pastorius. One of Kunder's descendants who used the name Cunard, adopted when the family emigrated to Canada, founded the Cunard Steamship Company.



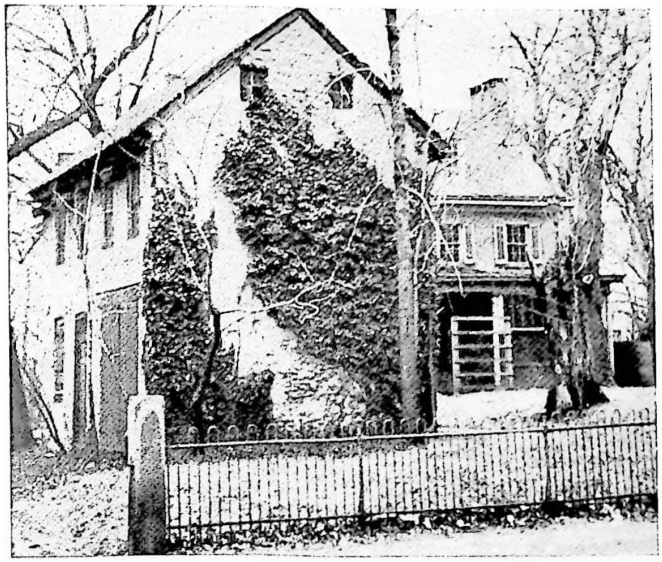
Thones Kunder House, on the left, 5109 Germantown Ave.

5112 Daniel King House (1809).

5122 Site of Roebuck Tavern (1740) which was demolished in 1854.

5139 Dorfenille House. The remaining two-thirds of a house probably built by Godfrey Dorfenille in the 1790's.

5140 Site of the William Wynne Wister House occupied by Gilbert Stuart, the artist, from 1796 to 1800. The second story of the barn on this site was used as a studio. Here were painted the famous portrait of Washington now in the Athenaeum of Boston and also the Lansdowne portrait in possession of the Philadelphia Academy of Fine Arts. An



House of Samuel Bringhurst
Gilbert Stuart House, at right,
5140 Germantown Ave.

incendiary fire destroyed the studio in 1854 but the ivy-covered walls long afterwards remained. The old building in front of the property was occupied in 1809 by Samuel Bringhurst who made iron work there for his carriages. All is changed now. What was the first school house in which Jacob Bockius, a noted teacher, once taught and what was long known as "The Corvy" or Crow's Nest are now gone to make way for a supermarket.

5203-05 These two houses were formerly one dwelling house where Dr. Theodore Ashmead lived. Owen Wister, author of "The Virginian" was born here July 14, 1860.

St. Stephen's Methodist Church was opened in 1856. On its site stood the carpenter shops of Frederick Fraley which were used for manufacturing gun carriages for the American Army until burned by the British.

5208 Squire Peter Baynton House. This property was acquired by the Germantown Historical Society in 1956 and presently houses the library and the publications office.

5213 The Rectory of the Methodist Church was built about the end of the 18th Century. It was once the home in 1796 of Henry Fraley, carpenter and drum-maker.

5214 Conyngham-Hacker House (1772). Occupied by Isaiah Hacker and by David Hayfield Conyngham and once used as a boarding school. At the time of the Battle the British second line formed a parallel at about a quarter mile south of the front line on School House Lane. The second line flanked the road before the door of this house.

In 1927 Isaiah Hacker Howell and Susan Hacker Bodine presented this house to the Germantown Historical Society for its use as a museum. The grounds extended to Greene Street until the Howells made a gift of the rear area to the city as a park.

5218 Howell or Stephenson House was owned in 1795 by William Forbes and later acquired by the Hacker family. The metal cornice was originally on Dr. Bensell's house at the corner of School House Lane and the Main Street.

5219 Site of Bringhurst-Jungkurth House. Here lived from 1775 until 1795 the wagon-builder who built in 1780 a "chariot" for President Washington. He was among the first to build the "Germantown" wagons. He was one of the founders of Germantown Academy and for many years a trustee. The house was razed in 1955.

5222-24 Theobald Endt House. The scene of one of the several conferences to unite the various German Protestant churches and sects which Count Zinzendorf promoted without success.

5226 Bechtel House (1742). This was once the home of Rev. John Bechtel, a close friend of Count Zinzendorf. He prepared a catechism for the Reformed Church which Franklin printed in 1742 and he was pastor of the Market Square Church. Later he joined the Moravians. This house in recent years was used as a depository for antiques. Upon its restoration it is hoped that it will be used by the Germantown Historical Society as an addition to its museum facilities, through the kindness of the new owner.

5231-37 Site of John Bringhurst's "Big House".

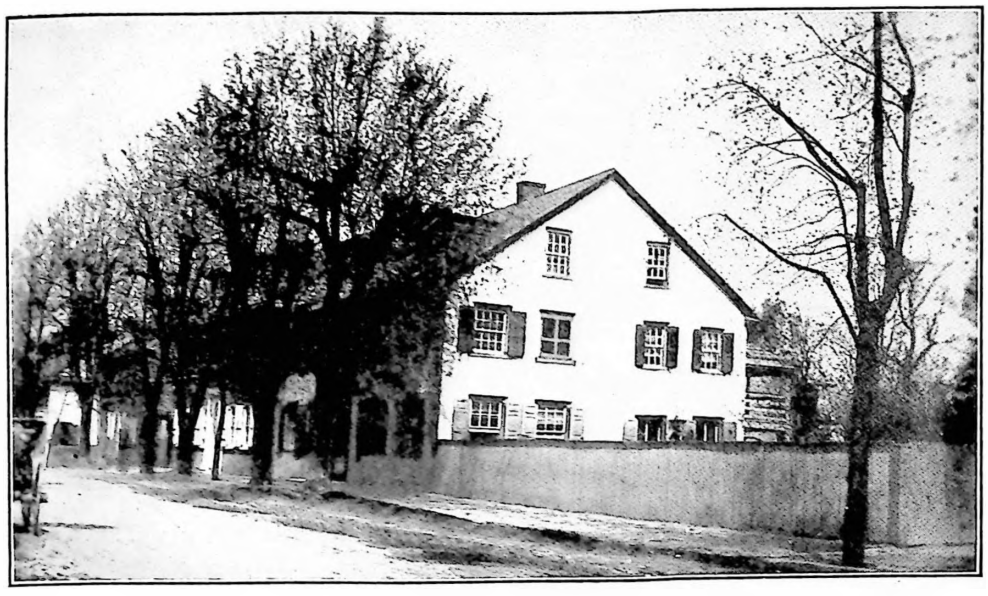
5242-44 Site of the Indian Queen, a noted tavern owned by Michael Ritter. What was formerly Bowman's Lane became Indian Queen Lane.

5255-63 Site (1693–1758) of the home and printing establishment of Christopher Sauer (Sower) who in 1739 issued the first German newspaper in America. Here in 1743 he published the first Bible in a European language in America, forty years before an English Bible was printed in the Colonies. Christopher Sauer, 2d, printed editions in 1763 and 1776. In 1770 here was printed the first book on pedagogy in America. The house and outbuildings were removed about the year 1860.

5267 Grumblethorpe or the "Big House" of John Wister, erected as a country seat in 1744 of stone quarried nearby and of joists hewn from oaks in Wister's Woods. During the autumn of 1777 the family removed to Penllyn to escape possible annoyance by the British Army. General James Agnew occupied the house at the time of the Battle and died there of wounds received near its close. Here was born Sally Wister whose "Journal" or "Diary" gives graphic accounts of country life during those trying times.

This magnificent example of early Germantown domestic architecture was saved for posterity by the late Miss Frances A. Wister who organized the Grumblethorpe Committee and the Philadelphia Society for the Preservation of Landmarks, which as the owner is presently faithfully restoring it to its 1744 condition, including the original pent roof and balcony.

5269 Anthony Gilbert House. Home in the



Christopher Sauer House

1830's of a blacksmith known for his great strength, now known as the Grumblethorpe Tenant House and owned by the Landmarks Society.

5275-7 JOHN FANNING WATSON HOUSE. The home of John F. Watson, author of "The Annals", who was cashier of the National Bank of Germantown which occupied this house from 1825 to 1868. At one time during Washington's residence in Germantown two of his cabinet members lived here,—Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of State, and Edmund Randolph, Attorney-General of the United States. This property has recently been acquired for preservation.

5281 FOLWELL HOUSE at the corner of Penn Street was owned by William Folwell, merchant, from 1806 to 1811.

5300 Site of one of the Christopher Sauer properties. There is a tradition that the first type cast in America by Jacob Bey was made in the cellar of this building between 1772 and 1774. The house in its present state is the result of four building operations dating from the first quarter of the Eighteenth Century. It is the parsonage of Trinity Lutheran Church, an offshoot of St. Michael's Lutheran Church, established in 1836.

5311 Site of ISAAC SHOEMAKER'S HOUSE.

5404 FRIENDS' MEETING HOUSE AND LIBRARY. Originally the Friends met in the Kunders House at No. 5109 Main Street. In 1693 Jacob Shoemaker conveyed to the meeting fifty acres of land. A stone meeting house was erected in 1705 in the present old graveyard. This was replaced in 1812 by a building which in 1871 was succeeded by the present school buildings on Coulter Street. In the Friends' Library will be found a photograph of the 1688 Protest against Slavery and nearly all the literature published on the history of Germantown.

The ground north of Coulter Street on the east side of Main Street is occupied by St. Luke's Church, the first Episcopal congregation organized in Germantown (1811). The first building was erected on this site in 1818, the present building in 1876.

5425 Site of the birthplace of LOUISA M. ALCOTT, author of "Little Women" who was born November 29, 1832, the 33rd birthday of her father, A. Bronson Alcott. Property is now occupied by the Masonic Hall.

The MARKET SQUARE, purchased in 1703 from James De La Plaine, at one time was the center of activity in Germantown. Here in Colonial days were located the market, the prison, the Middle Ward Fire Company, the public scales and the stocks. Indians on their way to the city were fed here from a table now in the possession of the Historical Society. The Paxtang Boys met here in 1764. The monument now occupying the Square was erected here in 1883 to honor Germantown citizens who served in the Civil War.

The Square is faced by important houses of the Colonial and Federal periods. On the west side are or were the following:—

5430 HOME OF CAPTAIN ALBERT ASHMEAD who commanded a troop of country cavalry and escorted General Lafayette from Trenton to Philadelphia when he visited America in 1825. It had been purchased in 1796 by John Ashmead in whose family it remained until 1902. William Ashmead, his grandfather, after the Revolution manufactured the Germantown Wagon here and on the adjoining property. The house was used as a show room. For many years this was the home and office of Dr. James Wister, an officer of the Germantown Historical Society.

5434 ASHMEAD HOUSE. This and the house at 5430 were purchased by John Ashmead in 1796. This house was subsequently owned by Elliston Perot Morris in whose family it continued until 1948 when it was acquired by the Northern Liberties Saving and Loan Association. It has restored the exterior faithfully and converted the interior for banking purposes.

5442 PEROT-MORRIS-DESHLER HOUSE (1772–3). Built by David Deshler, a West Indian merchant. After the Battle of Germantown, General Howe

(Continued on page 17)

ANNALS OF PHILADELPHIA AND PENNSYLVANIA

Being a Collection of Memoirs and Anecdotes and Incidents of the city and its Inhabitants

By John Fanning Watson

IT WAS a signal and blessed providence which first induced so rare a genius, so excellent and qualified a man as Penn, to obtain and settle such a great tract as Pennsylvania, say 40,000 square miles, as his proper domain. It was a bold conception; and the courage was strong which led him to propose such a grant to himself, in lieu of payments due his father. He besides manifested the energy and influence of his character in court negotiations, although so unlikely to be a successful courtier by his profession as a Friend, in that he succeeded to attain the grant even against the will and influence of the Duke of York—who, as he owned New York, desired also to possess the region of Pennsylvania as the right appendage of his province.

This memorable event in history, this momentous concern to us, the founding of Pennsylvania, was confirmed to William Penn under the Great Seal on the 5th of January, 1681. The cause of the name, and the modesty, of the founder, in finding it imposed on him as a family distinction and honor, is so characteristic of that great and good man as to deserve a few lines of extension to explain it. It is expressed in the simplicity and frankness of private friendship, saying (vide his letter to Robert Turner,) "This day my country was confirmed to me by the name of Pennsylvania, a name the King would give it, in honor of my father. I chose New Wales, being, as this, a pretty hilly country; but Penn, being Welsh for a head,—as Penmanmoire in Wales, and Penrith in Cumberland, and Penn in Buckinghamshire, the highest land in England—they called this Pennsylvania, which is the high or head woodlands, for I proposed (when the Secretary, a Welshman, refused to have it called New Wales) Sylvania, and they added Penn to it; and though I much opposed it, and went to the King to have it struck out and altered he said 'twas past, and would take it upon him; nor would twenty guineas move the under Secretaries to vary the name;—for I fear lest it should be looked on as a vanity in me, and not as a respect in the King, as it truly was, to my father, whom he often mentions with praise." If the cause was thus peculiar in its origin, it is not the less remarkable in its effect, it being at this day perhaps the only government in existence which possesses the name of the founder.

The Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania were printed in Three Volumes. Printed by Edwin S. Stewart, 9 South Ninth Street, in 1900. Volume 1 was "Enclosed in its Manuscript in 1842."

Penn being thus in possession of his province, forthwith proceeded to allure the good people of Europe to its settlement and improvement. He published terms, at 40 shillings per 100 acres, and one shilling per 100 acres for quit rent. He did not sell such small parcels himself, but in "shares" of 5000 acres each for Lb 100. How little this seems for land now bringing from 100 to 300 dollars an acre, and yet how great is the consideration that he possessed 26 million of such acres.

These generous terms soon caused many purchasers in Europe. Thus was formed in London, Bristol &c, the "Free Society of Traders"; of which Nicholas Moore, Predt. and J. Claypoole, were conspicuous members and also residents of Philadelphia.

They bought at first 20,000 acres; and their appurtenant city lots "was an entire street, and on one side of a street from river to river," comprising therein 100 acres, exclusive of 4000 acres besides in the Liberties. Contemplate the value of all this ground now, in comparison of its original cost of only Lb 400 then! What a result in 160 years! They set up a glass house, a tan yard, a saw mill, and a whalery. A society of Germans was also formed at Frankfort, in Germany, with a view to send out settlers. These took up Germantown township, Manatawny, etc.

In consequence of his numerous applications for sales, he, in July, 1681, gave out his, "Deeds of Settlement," wherein he states the terms of their residence, and their privileges as his colonists.

The first colony, the venturous pioneers to this new state left England in August 1681, in three ships; and the first arrival was the ship John and Sarah, from London, Captain Smith! The name of this vessel, and the Captain, and of those who were passengers therein, became memorable in the future city, as they came in time to be "the first landers," etc, by the succeeding generations. When they had lived to see the rising importance of the growing city they must have felt themselves ennobled by their identity with its primitive existence. Among those primitive names was Nathaniel Allen, (a name conspicuous in the Annals of Philadelphia) John Otter. Edmund Lovett, Joseph Kirkbride, etc. This little colony was the more memorable, because the other two ships were prevented for some time from increasing the population. For one, the *Amity*, Captain Dimon, from London, was blown off her course to the West Indies, and did not land her disappointed passengers in Pennsylvania until the next spring; and the third ship, the

Factor, Captain Drew from Bristol, having made as high as Chester on the 11 of December, was frozen up the same night, and so made their winter there. What a cheerless winter it must have been. How different from their former comforts and homes. There several of them had to crowd into little earthy caves and huts constructed for the emergency.

It is a prevailing and general mistake to suppose that the primitive emigrants made their way direct to Philadelphia. Such a place was not known before their departure from England. Therefore, those who arrived first and did not purpose to locate as farmers in the country had to wait the choice of a site and a survey. This we learn from several incidental facts, such as these, viz.—Penn's letter of February, 1681, to Robert Turner, says "care is taken already to look out a convenient tract of land for a settlement" and "they who go first will find inhabitants able to yield them accommodation there." Penn's "instruction to his commissioners," of the 14th of October 1681, designating the natural advantages to be sought after in their selection of a city plot, is evidence that the choice was left to their discretion after arrival. That the city was not surveyed and laid off as soon as some of the emigrants needed, is indicated both by tradition and the fact that the first intended surveyor, William Crispin, died in England, and that Thomas Holme, his successor as surveyor general, did not arrive in the province until the end of June 1682. Penn's letter, written when at Philadelphia in 1683, speaks thus exultingly of the site at length chosen, as if it had been before a matter of much anxiety and search, saying, "Philadelphia, the expectation of those concerned in this province, is at last laid out to the great content of those here." Then the pre-eminent local advantages are thus strikingly portrayed, saying, "of all the many places I have seen in the world, I remember not one better seated; so that it seems to me to have been appointed for a town,—whether we regard the (two) rivers, or the conveniency of the coves, docks, springs, the loftiness and soundness of the land and the air," &c.

I infer from the premises, that as the primitive comers knew not of such an appointed spot as Philadelphia, but were aware, through Penn's previous correspondence with Jersey, that the then existing small village of Upland (now Chester) was peopled by Swedes and some Friends from Jersey, they therefore would be predisposed, as I conceive, to make their first landings at that place. So in fact Mrs. Sarah Shoemaker, who died in 1825, at the age of 92, assured me she was expressly told by her grandfather, James Lownes, who was one of the emigrants who tarried for a time at that place. As we know that many vessels arrived with passengers during the year 1682 (say 23 ships) we must conceive the great influx into Upland of the earlier part of them, and how very natural it should have been to many of them then who had begun to make it a kind of home, to wish the intended city to be located there. We suppose from this cause, though, we have no records to that effect, that the tradition, so often repeated, has come down to us, that Chester was once proposed as the great Emporium of our State. The town and borough of Philadelphia was located in 1682.

The way the first purchasers or adventurers made their settlements was, first to make their caves or shelter in which to place their families and effects, then to get a warrant of survey, and to go out and wander about for their choice of localities. In doing this they had no paths or roads to direct them, save near the river side. All was wilderness, and without the marks of travelers, except occasional Indian paths from their abodes. Old inhabitants, who have conversed with their grandparents, have told me, that the intercourse from Germantown to Philadelphia was only a foot or horse path for some time after the first settlement there.

The very name of Philadelphia is impressive, as importing in its original Greek sense—Brotherly Love: thus giving to the original place the peculiar characteristic trait of unity of interests and purposes, i.e., the "City of Brotherly Love."

William Penn did not embark with his first colonists, but he sent out his cousin, Captain William Markham, as his first deputy governor, to supply his place, and also to make needful buildings and preparations for the reception of the founder when he should arrive. To this end the finer parts of the frame work required for construction of "Penn's Cottage" in Letitia Court, and for "Pennsbury Palace," were freighted from England, together with Penn's workmen, (called "servants," in the parlence of the day,) to set them up.

The founder set sail from England in August, 1682, with Captain Greenway, in the ship *Welcome*, of 300 tons:—a propitious name, and peculiarly so to those before arrived colonists who were anxiously waiting his arrival. The passage was good, and the ship well filled with additional passengers, mostly Friends. But having had the misfortune to get the small pox on board, it proved fatal to nearly one third of the original hundred! What a calamity in the outset! Poor adventurers!—How these evils must have depressed their spirits and embittered their voyage! What a spectacle, to see such numbers of their endeared relatives and companions in peril cast daily into the deep! The recital of this voyage were dwelt upon by the aged and listened to by the young, in many succeeding years.

They arrived first at New Castle on the 27th of October 1682,—a day hereafter to be devoted to commemorative festivals, by those who venerate the founder and his primitive associations. Here the founder was hailed with acclamations by the Swedes and Dutch then there. He forthwith made a call of the people at the Court-house, to address them on the business of his government. The ship, with the passengers proceeded further up the river to the general rendezvous or settlement.

In the full vigor of manhood and manly beauty, as Penn then was, he being but 38 years of age, all his actions and deportment among those honest foreigners were such as entirely won their love and regard. They forwith besought him, in most earnest entreaty, to unite their territory also, and so become their chief and governor. Fancy need not invent fiction to adorn the scene which must have occurred among the rustics of the then rustic "Delaware Town."

Won by their entreaties he was induced the same year to declare them united, by an act of union passed at Chester. It must be added, however, that at a later period the members of the Assembly from those counties, headed by David Lloyd, a leading member, insisted upon, and finally procured their separation from, and independence of, his government!

William Penn soon left New Castle, and went thence to hold the first assembly at Upland! Nicholas Moore, a lawyer from England, was made speaker. In three days, having much unanimity and cordiality, they passed all the laws previously constructed in England, consisting of sixty-one subjects, called the Great Law of Pennsylvania. Some of them, framed for a professedly religious community, and having for their object the leading into religious affections by civil checks and restraints, may seem sufficiently peculiar in our modern lax conceptions to deserve some mention—such as, "A law against drinking of healths," another against spreading of false news, one against clamorous persons, soldiers and railors; finally these laws intended to be permanent, and to have had a perpetual moral tendency, were to have been read as occasional reading lessons in the schools. By the close of the year 1682, such had been the tide of emigration, induced by the popularity of Penn's character as a mild, generous, and a wise Governor, that as many as 23 ships had arrived with passengers since the spring.

In those times the Indians and Swedes were kind and active to bring in and vend at moderate prices, proper articles of subsistence. Provisions, says Penn, were good and in vast quantities. Wild fowl was abundant. Wild pigeons, says another, were like clouds and often flew so low as to be knocked down with sticks. Wild turkeys sometimes were so immoderately fat and large as to have weighed 45 lbs. Some of 30 lbs. sold at one shilling, deer at 2 shillings, and corn at 2 shillings and six pence. The waters abounded with fish. Mahlon Stacy from Jersey wrote, "We have peaches by the cart load. The Indians bring us 7 or 8 fat bucks a day. Without rod or net we catch abundance of herrings, after the Indian manner, geese, ducks, and pheasants, are plenty."

In the year 1683-4 the emigration was very great. They came from England, Wales, Ireland, Holland, and Germany. Few or none of the French took any

(Continued on page 25)



STREAM IN WINTER

Spanning the Wissahickon in the park
There stands an arch of stone, as modest, peaceful,
Steadfast as a gray-haired Quakeress.
It was December, and the kind of day
When mothers tell their boys to play indoors.
I leaned upon the parapet and let
My eyes rove o'er the scene to see if hardy
Nature held some beauty still which Winter
Had not wrested from her frosty fingers.

The glassy, olive water pulsed, then ruffled
As a hundred tiny ripples scurried
Like so many sheep before a collie.
Flung upon the surface was a drab
And shapeless rug, the leaden sky's reflection,
Patterned here and there with dabs of blue
Where heaven's eyes peeped through the veil of clouds.

In shallow spots the water throbbed in steely
Ribbons, drawn between the shoulders of the
Rocks; or, more disturbed, became a snowy
Beard for ev'ry stony jaw below.

The scene was but a microcosm, its beauty
Only miniature, its music muted;
Yet it seemed to bring a whispered message:
"However few may heed, the wind and water
Still flow on; so, too, the love of Him
Who charts the course of galaxies that numb
The brain, yet guides each drifting seed below."

G. Frederick Stork

Mr. Stork, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Wharton Stork of Chestnut Hill, is teacher of English at Plymouth Meeting—Whitemarsh High School. His creative work includes, Composing, and last summer he and co-writer won a prize for the best musical setting of a lyric called, "The Ballad of Paul Bunyan."

THE SKIRL OF THE PIPES AND THE SWIRL OF THE KILT

By Dorothy Frieder Lorch

FROM a distance came the haunting rhythm of a brave Scottish March as I waited for traffic signals to shift at the intersection of Germantown Avenue and Bethlehem Pike. . . . There is an irresistible magic brought down wind as the drone and chant of bagpipes skirl the air; a hazy cloud of mist disperses in trailing wisps, the tang of moist salt air braces; sunlight streams in shafts across a sea coast moor of rolling hills blanketed under soft rustlings of pink, white and purple heather: The pipe sounds draw near, then retreat, then advance again as the breeze shifts the sounds, and the transportation to a wild Highland Heat is completed. These visions pass in a memory picture as the first skirled notes waver to the ear.

Following the skirling, fearing the sound would fade into a dream, I was led into the parking lot near the diner at the end of the trolley line in Chestnut Hill. There to my delight, were numerous pipers; plaid bags pressed to their sides, the carved chanters rakishly a-tilt with ribbons flying gayly above the pipers' heads. Some were in groups softly playing Bonnie Dundee, several around the Pipe Sergeant were tuning their drones to a like pitch, while other individuals at a slight distance walked the slow pipers tread, practicing alone.

The Major Domo and Drum Major, Mr. John Shanks, very cordially answered all the questions that tumbled forth in my enthusiasm at finding an honest-to-goodness Scottish Band part of the many numerous joys and endless charms of Germantown.

The early history of our country includes much concerning the Scotch-Irish who migrated freely to all thirteen colonies and formed the third of the major racial elements who settled the province and determined to a great extent the course of its history.

These hardy people, thoroughly Scotch in race, religion and traditions migrated to the American Colonies because of religious and political oppression forced upon them by the English overlords on the one hand and the combative Irish on the other. They were originally induced to migrate to Ireland to occupy lands which had been confiscated from the Irish rebels during the reign of Elizabeth and James I. They occupied Ulster which comprised nine counties in Northern Ireland. The attempts of the native Irish to expel the Scotch, and the efforts of the English to make them conform to the Church of England were alike futile.

Their migration to the colonies was contemporaneous with the German immigration and almost as large. At the time of the Revolutionary War the Scotch-Irish, in Pennsylvania alone, were numbered at 70,000 and by 1790 about 80,000. Whereas the Celtic Irish in Pennsylvania in 1776 numbered about 4,000 and by 1790 had only grown to about 8,000; and the Scotch at the close of the colonial period numbered only about 15,000.

Pennsylvania being the principal camping ground of the Scotch Irish, these hardy, self reliant, adventurous people so well adapted to the conquest of the wilderness were the typical frontiersmen of the time, leading the Westward advance of settlement; forming the first line of defense against the hostile Indians of the West and principally West Pennsylvania, which was one of the largest and extensively pioneered colonial state groups carrying great influence at the time of the Revolutionary War.

Unfortunately, about ten years after the Indian Wars, previous to the Revolution, during the period of our nation's Provincial Government, at which time many changes in state politics took place, altercations ensued between the Scotch-Irish Frontiersmen and the Quaker Party, due to opposition of feelings between the two parties in dealings and treatment of captured Indians.

These frontiersmen had formed the first line of defense, losing the lives of their families, bearing the brunt of pushing forward in the wild, new land, clearing it and making it safe for the less hardy to follow and live peaceably. Naturally these brave people were not in favor of coddling the enemy Indians who had scalped them and raped their wives, sisters, and daughters. Whenever they tried to make peaceful negotiation they encountered trickery and bloodshed. The Quakers on the other hand had had less difficulty —in most instances the Indians who were opposed to the white man enfringing his territory moved Westward, leaving the coast to the white man. Those fewIndians who remained became integrated and caused no trouble. The Provincial Government depended greatly on the frontiersmen to hold the hostile Indians in submission, away from the rural towns and seaboard cities.

When the Scotch-Irish frontiersmen discovered that the provincial government had, despite evidence of complicity with the hostile Indians in Pontiac's War, taken the Indians of the Lehigh Valley under its protection they determined to march on Philadelphia and demand redress for their wrongs. About six hundred armed backwoodsmen set out as delegates in 1764, thoroughly incensed against the Quakers, asserting the government was more ready to protect the savages than the white settlers. Word reached the city that they were coming. The aid of British regulars was requested and a volunteer army, consisting of 6 companies of foot soldiers and two cavalry and a battery of artillery! The quarters occupied by the protected

Indians was fortified with cannon. When the Six Hundred Scotch-Irish arrived at Philadelphia they found the ferries on the Schuylkill guarded and the city defended by a superior force and they halted at Germantown, six miles away.

There Governor John Penn appointed commissioners to enter negotiations with them. The frontiersmen contented themselves with appointing a committee to prepare a memorial of their grievances to be presented to the provincial authorities. They expressed dissatisfaction that Indians were protected instead of being punished. Also entreated that no Indians be allowed to live in the settled parts of the colony in time of war. The government was asked to forbid any private person to enter into negotiations with any hostile Indian Tribes. Trade to cease until the Indians had restored prisoners captured in the late war. And at this time they also asked for more representatives in the Government.

The Revolution brought about a new alignment of political parties. The old alliance between the Anglicans and the Scotch-Irish was broken as was that between the Quakers and the Germans. The Constitutionalist Party consisted of the Scotch-Irish, Presbyterians of the east, most of the Lutherans and reformed Germans and the middle and lower classes of Philadelphia. The Anti-Constitutionalists were the Anglicans, Quakers, the non-combatant German sects and the commercial interests of Philadelphia. The Constitutionalists formed the Radical Whig Party and took over the State and this party was solidly in back of the Revolution.

In spite of differences between the political parties they firmly stood together and fought in one common cause for which purpose they had all come to this new country. This is the inheritance we have from our forbears that in time of trouble and strife from without we stand together as one country, one people. We came, our fathers and great grandfathers, all for the same purpose, to find liberty with justice, where all men might live together peaceably, having faith in God as God called each heart to believe; without force or violence from any religious, political or governmental dictatorship.

Seeing the Germantown Drum and Pipe Band perform in full Clan regalia with filibig kilts and jaunty sporran purses rising and falling to a lively march; their tartan plaid blankets draped from hip and pinned with clan crest to shoulder and bonnets set saucily, all the strong, marching legs stepping out in unison, catching a glint of sharp dirk thrust in Skean dhu strapped beneath the sock at quick hand's grasp: this colorful sight is not just a parade scene with the Drum Major in his high fur "Shaka" busby leading toy soldiers to delight the spectators with a "Do", nor are the serious drummers, spinning and twirling their sticks, for added effect, as the streamers fly merrily above the high, chanting cry of the pipes: These men are the treasure holders of the brave, dauntless courage and high-spirited pride handed down from the Scotch-Irish and mingled with all the other fine qualities brought to this country by all the racial elements that make up our wonderful United States.

We can all stand side by side, whether our backgrounds were English, German, Scots, Irish, Polish, Swedish, Jewish, African, Asiatic or American Indian and gayly march in step together to the Skirl of the Pipes—the Swirl of our tartan kilt, "The Stars and Stripes Forever".

Reference . . . History of Pennsylvania
Dunway—2nd edition

Germantown Pipe and Drum Band practice outdoors every Monday evening 8:00 P.M. Chestnut Hill Parking lot weather permitting; or indoors at St. Paul's Episcopal Church Recreation Building winter or inclement weather. Visitors Welcome.

Band available for charitable affairs, holiday parades, etc. Mr. John Shanks, Drum Major.

VERNON—*(Continued from page 6)*

Cliveden Park, Wister Street and Belfield Avenue, 1911, the gift of the Chew family.

Wister's Woods, Wister Street and Belfield Avenue. This tract was made a wild flower reservation in 1922.

Fernhill Park, Morris Street and Abbottsford Avenue, 1912, partly given by the McKean family and partly purchased by the city.

Pastorius Circle, Hartwell Avenue, Chestnut Hill, 1916, acquired by the city at the cost of $156,000.

Awbury Arboretum, Washington Lane, east of Chew Street. Partly the gift of the Cope family and partly purchased by the city.

Carpenter's Woods, Wissahickon Avenue above Carpenter Lane, 1920 a tract of twelve acres being placed under the jurisdiction of the Fairmount Park Commission at cost of $122,000.

Wakefield Park, east of Wister's Woods, in 1922.

From GERMANTOWN, *By* EDWARD W. HOCKER

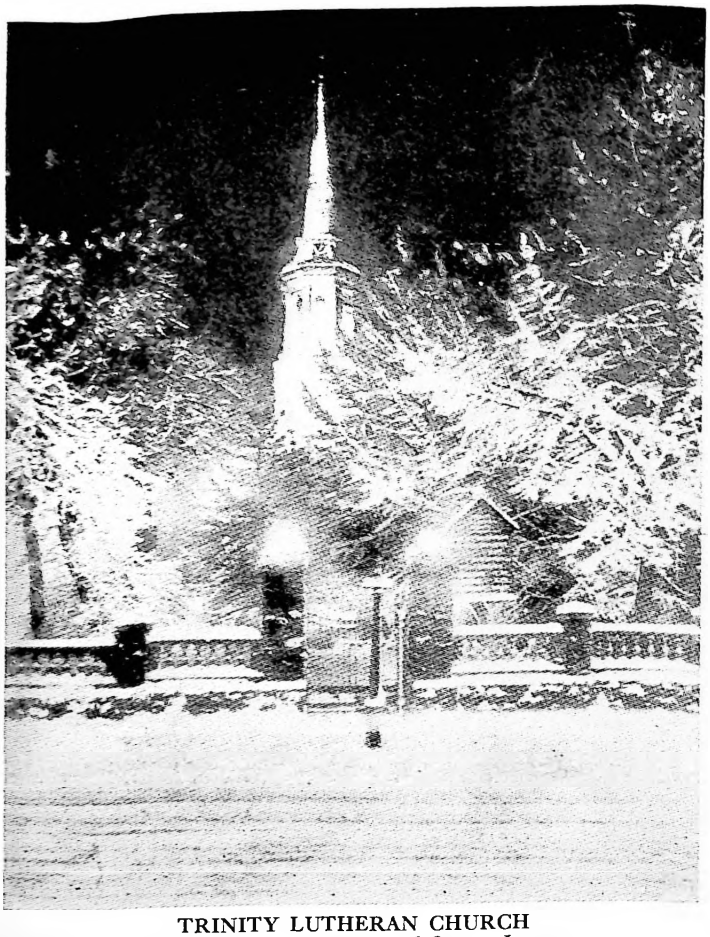
A CHRISTMAS CAROL

What sweeter music can we bring
Than a carol, for to sing
The birth of this our heavenly King?
. . . . . .

The Darling of the world is come,
And fit it is we find a room
To welcome Him. The nobler part
Of all the house here is the heart

Which we will give Him; and bequeath
This holly and this ivy wreath,
To do Him honour; who's our King,
And Lord of all this revelling.

ROBERT HERRICK (1591–1674)



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Germantown Avenue and Queen Lane

EXCERPTS FROM

"IN THE CANDLE'S GLOW"

By Alice H. Finckh
From the American-German Review, December 1947
by permission of the author and editor.

The earliest of all authenticated records to date, places the first American Christmas tree in, perhaps, the most unlikely of all sections of the country, New England. Unlikely, because the Puritan settlers in Massachusetts had established a tradition of austerity in which any sort of joyous celebration had no part, though by the beginning of the nineteenth century, this austerity had been modified. But unlikely, too, because so few Germans chose New England as a place to live, and of these few, hardly any achieved such prominence that their actions were recorded. It was Dr. Charles Follen who with his wife, Eliza Cabot Follen, erected a tree for the delight of their little son on Christmas Eve, 1842, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The Follens shared their tree with Harriet Martineau and others of their American and English friends, knowing that an essential part of the miracle of a tree is that it be shared with others. Both Mrs. Follen and Miss Martineau left accounts of this first Christmas tree. Its candles have sent their beams far.

My Trip to Germantown

A tour of the Germantown Mennonite Church and the Germantown Historical Museum on June 28th, 1958 of a group of about 15 young people from the Deep Run Mennonite Church, Bedminster, Pa. with their pastor.

MY TRIP to Germantown was a very interesting one. The church was a small stone building. If you were driving past it you could easily miss it.

This year we are celebrating the 275th Anniversary of the founding of the Germantown Mennonite Church and the coming of the Mennonites to America. Since this church was the first Mennonite Church in America it has great historical value.

As you go inside the church, although small, in appearance it is much like other churches. In the front of the room is a table which looks like a ordinary one. However, this table was used 270 years ago to sign the first protest against slavery in America.

In the room behind the sanctuary there were historical documents fastened to the wall. There was also a list of the ministers and the early members. The first minister was William Rittenhouse who also established the first paper mill in America.

The church today has a small congregation and a minister. They have built a small kitchen in the back room.

Included in our trip to Germantown was a tour through the Germantown Historical Museum. This museum has numerous interesting things. There were old guns, swords, furniture, dolls, crude tools, handmade quilts and many other odd things. Dummies were dressed in the ladies' fashion of that day. I also saw an old-time fire engine. The museum was a very interesting and educational part of the trip.

I think everyone, at some time, should visit these two places. Any member of the church should want to see where their religion got its start, and how people lived at that time.

Written by Doris Moyer
Pipersville, Pa.

Old Germantown Houses

(Continued from page 10)

moved his headquarters here from Stenton. President Washington and his family lived here for three weeks in 1793 and six weeks in 1794 during the ownership of Colonel Isaac Franks. Yellow fever drove many residents from Philadelphia and during these periods Germantown was the capital of the United States. While Congress did not meet here the Executive carried on domestic and foreign affairs business as Jefferson, Hamilton, Knox, Randolph and other officials attended cabinet meetings here. In 1953 the family of the late Marriott C. Morris gave the property, including its fine garden, typical of old Germantown gardens, to the National Park Service as an historic site. It is in the custody of the Germantown Historical Society and is open to the public daily.

5448 BRINGHURST HOUSE. Built about 1760 by John Bringhurst and purchased in 1844 by James Ashmead of the family with which the Bringhursts were closely related as coach and carriage makers. The chaise and carriage making business was conducted here.

5450 THOMAS ARMAT HOUSE. Built about 1792 on land bought by George Bringhurst in 1726. Thomas Armat, who presented the town with the hay scales in the Market Square, the revenue from which was given to beneficial societies, bought the house in 1807 and occupied it until 1831.

5452 Site of house erected by John Ashmead in 1711, its front being rebuilt in 1790.

5454 Site of JOHN ASHMEAD HOUSE (1711), which, Mr. Jenkins says, was occupied in March 1742 by Count Zinzendorf who in May opened a school for young women with twenty-five girls and teachers. That June the school was transferred to Bethlehem where it still exists as the Moravian Seminary. Other writers claim that the original school was held in the Bechtel House.

In the JACOB TELLNER house once standing at the southwest corner of Main Street and School House Lane it is said that William Penn once preached. Dr. George Bensell razed the house to make way for a handsome new residence in 1795 which was in turn replaced in 1880 by the building of the Saving Fund Society of Germantown which now occupies the corner and adjacent properties with its Georgian banking house erected in 1929–30. The Society owns and is preserving the two ancient houses lying south between the bank and the Perot-Morris-Deshler House.

On the east side of the Market Square are the following:

The FROMBERGER HOUSE at the corner of Church Lane was probably the first brick building in Germantown. It reflects the architecture of the fine houses in Philadelphia. Traditionally it was used by the First Bank of the United States during the yellow



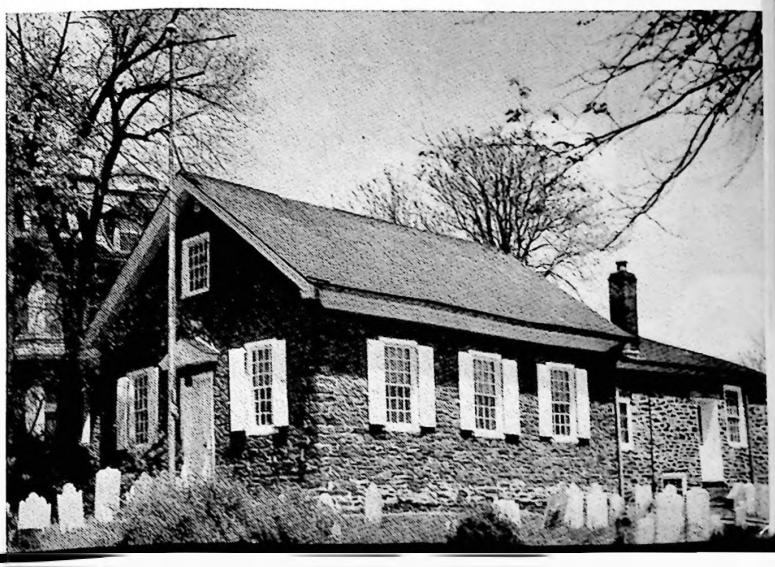
The Perot-Morris-Deschler House, facing Market Square

fever epidemics of 1793 and 1798. For five years the house was used as a place of worship by the Episcopalians while St. Luke's Church was being built. In 1829 a tavern was kept there. Later it was known as the Harkness House and was the home of the Y.W.C.A. In 1955 the house became the property of the Germantown Fire Insurance Company which has beautifully and authentically restored it for use as a home office.

The MARKET SQUARE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH on the same side is the third church edifice, built in 1888, on the site of the German Reformed Church. The original church was built in 1733 and enlarged in 1762. There President Washington worshipped during his sojourn in Germantown. The first bell, cast in 1725, is still preserved in the church as are the choir angels carved in 1762. When the Paxtang Boys were encamped in the square they discharged their muskets at the weathercock on the church. Count Zinzendorf preached here his first sermon after his arrival in America in December 1741 and on June 17, 1742, his last on leaving.

On the northern side of the Market Square was once located the De La Plaine House purchased in 1775 by Squire Joseph Ferree who lived here at the

MENNONITE CHURCH



time of the Battle. It is said that weeping women and children found refuge in the cellar during the fighting. When George Whitefield visited Germantown he preached from a balcony to the great crowd assembled in the square. The house was razed and the building now on the site was erected in 1885 to house the Mutual Fire Insurance Company which

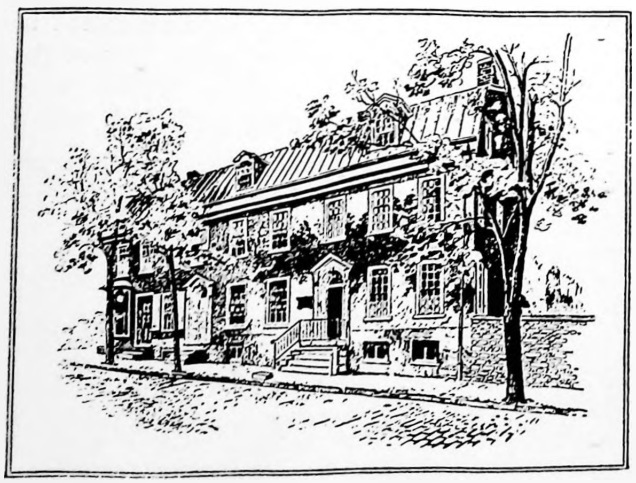


De La Plaine House

later changed its name to the Germantown Fire Insurance Company and removed to the Fromberger House. It plans some day to raze its old building and build on the site a reproduction of the De La Plaine House.

5500 At the southwestern corner of Main Street and School House Lane was once located HANS GEORGE BENSELL'S HOUSE which was erected early in the Eighteenth Century by Carl Benzelius. Until 1806 it was the home of the Germantown Library.

5504 Watson in his "Annals" states that Generals Washington, Knox and Greene slept in the house that occupied this site. In the fall of 1798 the Bank of the United States had its office here. Presently these properties are occupied by the Girard Trust Corn Exchange Bank which a few years ago merged with the old National Bank of Germantown



King of Prussia Inn

chartered in 1813 and from 1814 to 1825 located at No. 5504. In 1825 it removed to No. 5277 Main Street, where it remained until 1868.

One square west of the Market Square at Greene Street are the buildings of GERMANTOWN ACADEMY founded in 1759. The main building, of which the cornerstone was laid in 1760, and three other buildings built contemporaneously therewith were built for the Germantown Union School. After the Battle the building was used as a hospital and British soldiers are buried in the grounds. When in 1793 it was expected that Congress would meet in Germantown the use of the Academy building was tendered but when the yellow-fever abated Congress assembled in Philadelphia on December second. In 1798 the Bank of North America and the Bank of Pennsylvania occupied the building when yellow-fever again drove people from the city. The bell in the belfry was brought to Philadelphia in 1774 in the tea ship "Polly" which was not allowed to land its cargo, so only in 1784 was the bell brought again from England. A part of the weathervane is a crown representing the royal insignia, symbolic of the reign of George the Third.

NO. 130 WEST SCHOOL HOUSE LANE, built about 1763 by David James Dove, once a teacher at the Academy, was later used by the German teacher, Rev. Frederick Herman. From November 1st to 10th, 1793 Washington occupied rooms in the house and important cabinet meetings were held here. His stepgrandson, George Washington Parke Custis, was a pupil at the Academy.

JAMES MATTHEWS HOUSE at 107 West School Lane was purchased in 1807 by Matthews who sold it to the Academy in 1810 for $3200. In 1895 the Academy sold the property which is now a private residence. This is a fine house typical of Germantown Federal architecture.

5516-20 Site of the old KING OF PRUSSIA TAVERN (1757–1838) where Thomas Jefferson and James Madison lived for a considerable time during November 1793. On one occasion Alexander Hamilton and General Henry Knox dined with Jefferson there. The first stage coach with an awning plied from here to the George Inn at 2nd and Arch Streets in Philadelphia three times a week.

On Chelten Avenue just west of Main Street the FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH occupies land that was once a famous orchard belonging to Thomas Kurtz, a great horticulturist and botanist.

North of the church on the west side of Main Street is Vernon Park including the old Wister Mansion known as Vernon. Much of the land belonged to Melchior Meng, a founder of the Academy, whose house once adjoining No. 5708 was occupied by wounded soldiers at the time of the Battle.

The earliest part of VERNON was built in the 1750's but the fine Federal front of the mansion was built in 1803 by James Matthews. He sold the property in 1812 to John Wister who lived here until he died. His



Vernon, drawn by John Richards about 1865

son, John, a member of Congress, occupied Vernon until his death in 1883. In 1892 the property was bought by the city. The house was occupied by the Free Library of Philadelphia and from 1907 to 1927 by the Site and Relic Society, now the Germantown Historical Society, as a museum until it removed to the present quarters in the Conyngham-Hacker House.

In VERNON PARK are located the branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia, the Battle of Germantown Monument, bearing a bas-relief map of the battlefield, the monument erected by Congress and the patriotic German societies to commemorate the coming of Francis Daniel Pastorius and the first settlers, and a memorial to the Germantown men and women who served their country in the Second World War.

5735 The old Reading Railway Station which was in use until 1864.

5845 The house located here at the time of the Battle was torn down in 1926. The tollgate for the turnpike stood in the street below this house and opposite Rittenhouse Street.

5849 Site of the early home of the Young Men's Christian Association. Here the First Presbyterian Church was organized in 1809 as the "English Church of Germantown". The church house built in 1812 remained here until 1870.

5909 Birthplace of Henry VanDyke, the distinguished diplomat and author, on November 10, 1852.

5918-26 The KEYSER HOUSES date from the nineteenth century and are of stone, stuccoed. They occupy property once belonging successively to Charles Engle, a tanner, and two cordwainers.

5930-36 Site of the 1854 TOWN HALL which was used as a hospital during the Civil War. In the modern Town Hall (1923) are memorial tablets honoring Germantown youth who died in the First World War.

5938 Site of ENGLE HOUSE thought to have been built by Benjamin Engle, a tanner, about 1759. It was moved back from Main Street in 1905 to make room for a store and demolished in 1955 to become a parking lot. What is said to have been the first tannery was operated here. It was one of the most important of the early houses.

At 910 East Haines Street stands the farmhouse of CHRISTOPHER LUDWIG which has been somewhat modernized but retaining dormers and a pent roof.

The MORRIS-LITTELL HOUSE stood at the southeast corner of Germantown Avenue and High Street where the High School is now located. On these grounds, the site of either the first or the second botanical garden in America, was the home of Dr. Christopher Witt. The First Methodist Church of Germantown, organized in 1796, is now located at the northeast corner.

The house at 25 High Street was built in 1796, by DANIEL PASTORIUS, great grandson of the founder. It was formerly located on Main Street where the First Methodist Church building now stands. Over the doorway of the house are carved the words "Procul este profani" which Whittier says were carved over Francis Daniel Pastorius' first doorway.

Succeeding the former St. Michael's Episcopal Church, the Church of God on High Street east of Baynton Street occupies the site of the old WARNER BURYING GROUND. In the church are stones marking the graves of two Doctors Warner. There is said to be also the grave, now unmarked, of Dr. Christopher Witt who is said to have issued the first medical certificate in America in 1765. A plaque on the church building reads—"Burial Ground. The Hermits of the Wissahickon."

6000 This house is an example of the two and a half story stone house with which both sides of the Main Street were once lined. Once the property of Joseph Johnson it is now a combined apartment and office building.

6019 GREEN TREE TAVERN (1748). This was the home of Daniel Pastorius who kept the tavern until his death in 1754. The letters in the date stone stand



Green Tree Tavern, 6023 Germantown Avenue, erected 1748 by Daniel Pastorius. Date stone bears letters "D. S. P."

for Daniel and Sarah Pastorius. Once it was known as the Sadler's Arms, the Hornet's Nest, and the widow Mackinett's Tavern. The Public School of Germantown—The Germantown Academy—was organized here in 1759. It was a resort famous for driving and sleighing parties from the city. It had been intended to hold a dinner for Lafayette here in 1825 but the party was so large that Miss Ann Chew, a young lady of 16, presided at a dinner given in Cliveden instead. Moved northward from its original site the house is now owned by the First Methodist Church.

6021-23 Site of houses of the WARNER FAMILY early identified with the Pietist hermits of the Wissahickon particularly Dr. Christopher Witt, the survivor of this remarkable body. Born in England in 1675 Dr. Witt came to Pennsylvania in 1704. A most remarkable man, he painted what is believed to be the first oil portrait in America, that of Johannes Kelpius, and is said to have started the first botanical garden in America, antedating that of his friend John Bartram on the Schuylkill by about twenty years.



Wyck

6026 **Wyck** (1690). This fine mansion was originally two houses with a driveway between them. A portion of one of the houses was built in 1690 by Hans Milan and is thought to be the oldest house in Germantown. Its halls were used as a hospital after the Battle. A reception was tendered Lafayette here in 1825. The house was acquired by Caspar Haines in 1793 and it was remodeled in 1824 by William Strickland. It has remained in the possession and the occupancy of the Haines family for seven generations.

6043 SHIPPEN-BLAIR HOUSE. At the corner of Walnut Lane is the first three story house built in the community and said to have been built by Christopher Witt. In 1789 it was bought as a summer home by Dr. William Shippen, at one time "Director General of all the Military Hospitals in the United States." For many years the house bore the marks of the bullets fired during the Battle. Here also lived Dr. Shippen's son-in-law, the Reverend Samuel Blair, a chaplain in the American Army and a man largely instrumental in establishing the First Presbyterian Church. Elected President of Princeton College he relinquished the appointment in favor of the famous Dr. Witherspoon. Later this house was called "The Laurens". Its door frame was originally on the Bensell House at School Lane.



Johnson House

At the northeast corner of Herman Street and Main Street stood the school of Christopher Dock, author of the first American book on pedagogy.

6105 Site of BLAIR HOUSE, built in 1806 by the Rev. Samuel Blair for his son, Samuel, Jr. Demolished some years ago.

6112 DIRCK JANSEN HOUSE (c. 1760) is a two and a half story house of stone, stuccoed. Presently occupied by offices.

6119 MENNONITE MEETING HOUSE (1770). On this site stood a log house erected in 1708. The present stone church was erected in 1770 and is still in active use. William Rittenhouse, first paper maker of the colonies, was first pastor here. Original pews continue in use and the table on which in 1688 was signed the first protest against slavery in America is used in communion here. General Agnew received his mortal wound nearby on the day of the Battle. In the burial grounds are found the names of Engle, Rittenhouse, Kulp, Nice, Keyser and others.

6205 Site of the DIRCK-KEYSER house, a very fine two and a half story house built about 1744 by Jacob Keyser whose ancestor Dirck emigrated from Holland in 1688. A member of the Mennonite Church, he had been a silk merchant in Amsterdam. The property remained in possession of the Keyser family until 1943. Most unfortunately this splendid example of Germantown domestic architecture was destroyed about 1950 to make way for a supermarket and parking lot. It was a typical early Germantown stone house with a pentroof running across the front and a cellar door on the sidewalk.

6239 Site of the WASHINGTON TAVERN, typical of the large number existing in Germantown in the early days such as the Buck, Indian King, Indian Queen, Crown and Cushion, Roebuck, Fountain, Black Horse, White Lamb, Treaty Elm and King of Prussia.

6300-06 The JOHNSON HOUSE, built by Dirck Jansen, 1765–1768, is one of the largest and most comfortable of the old Germantown houses. The Johnsons had their tannery at the rear of the property. The house has a pent roof and hooded doorway. It

was in the thickest of the fight on October 4, 1777. Bullet holes in the woodwork and shell-chipped stone are visible. A section of the fence bearing the marks of battle is in the museum of the Germantown Historical Society. The house served as a station on the underground Railway. It was in the possession of the Johnson family until 1917. It was purchased in 1920 by the Woman's Club of Germantown which presently occupies it.

6301-05 At the northeast corner of Washington Lane and Main Street stands Germantown's oldest business enterprise, the undertaking establishment of KIRK AND NICE. Founded before the United States of America came into being, the firm has always been conducted on this site by succeeding generations of the founders. Jacob Knorr, cabinet maker and undertaker, bought land here in 1761 and built his first shop. The initials K & N in the 1776 date stone stand for Knorr and Nice.

6309-13 CONCORD SCHOOL HOUSE (1775). Built in the year of the Battle of Concord by private subscription to provide a school for the residents of Upper Germantown. With the cemetery to the north this school is maintained by the Trustees of the Upper Germantown Burying Ground. It was sometime



Chew House

known as Ax's Burial Ground still surrounded by the original wall built in 1777. The oldest known grave is that of Cornelius Tyson, 1716. Here are buried American soldiers killed in the Battle, including Major Irwin and Captain Turner. The school house was the birthplace in 1853 of the Junior Order of United American Mechanics and is now the home of the Charter Oak Library. In 1903 the Site and Relic Society occupied the first floor with its museum.

6316 NATHAN (OR PETER) KEYSER HOUSE occupies property purchased by Dirck Keyser in 1756. The tanyard on the land was operated by Keyser and his son Peter. The mansard roof was a nineteenth century addition to the two story stone building.

6335-47 Site of the RODNEY-KEISER HOUSE demolished about 1920. The upper portion was built by John Keyser and occupied by him and his family during the Battle. It was the home of Rev. John Rodney, Rector of St. Luke's.

6358 JOHN HENRY SPROEGELL HOUSE is thought to have been owned by John Henry Sproegell about 1710. Anthony Gilbert and William Keyser, a tanner, were later owners.

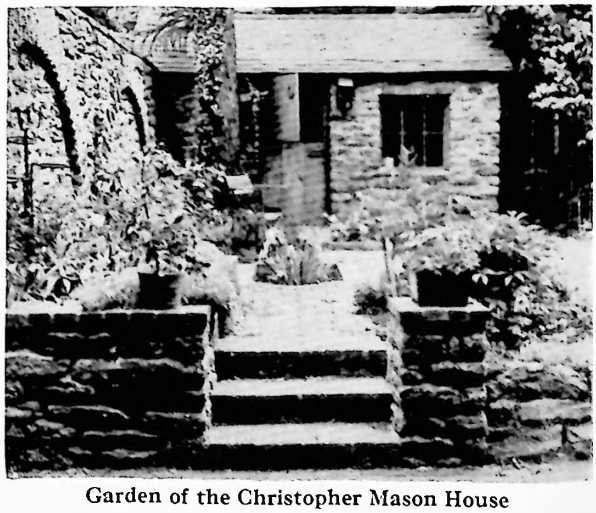
6373-79 Five houses built about 1800 are in various stages of disintegration. Nothing remains of the interiors. The exteriors have been altered to an extreme.

6374 This house likewise considerably altered, was once the property of Jacob Engle, a cooper, and later of a clockmaker, John Heilig.

6401 CLIVEDEN was built in 1763–4 by Benjamin Chew, Attorney-General of the Province, Provincial Council member and later Chief Justice. The heaviest action of the Battle took place here. The British held the house as a fort and successfully withstood artillery and infantry fire from the Americans across Main Street at Upsala's original building. Owned and occupied by members of the Chew Family since its erection, except between 1779 and 1797 when Blair McClenachan owned it, this solid and well-preserved example of elegant American Colonial architecture is surrounded by spacious well-kept grounds.

6410-30 UPSALA (1798). Built by John Johnson and considered one of the finest examples of Colonial and Federal period architecture. Saved a dozen years ago by generous and civic-spirited citizens from the wreckers this beautiful house is owned and maintained by the Upsala Foundation. The wing to the rear was standing at the time of the Battle. American artillery in position at the front fired on the Chew House.

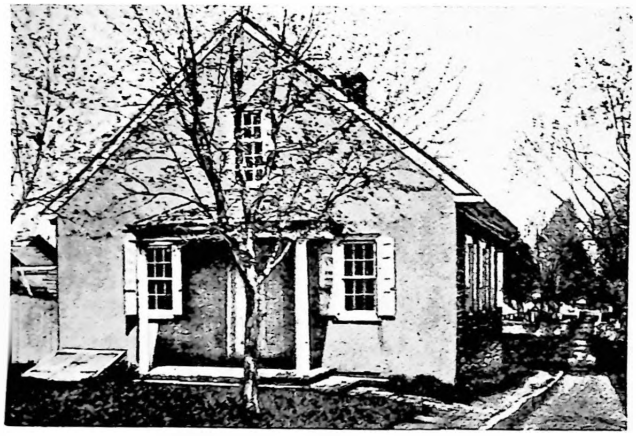
6500 SPARROW JACK HOUSE. This little old house was there at the time of the Battle. For a long time it was the home of John Bardsley, an Englishman who was a painter by trade. Germantown's Councilman, William F. Smith, arranged for sending him to England in the early 1869's to import English sparrows in order to destroy a plague of caterpillars. This was apparently the first introduction of the English sparrow to America on any great scale.



Garden of the Christopher Mason House

6504 Daniel Billmeyer House. Also known as the Mathieu House, this fine mansion exemplifies domestic architecture of the Federal period with a rear wing dating from Colonial times. It was purchased by Michael Billmeyer in 1793. It remained in the family until 1913.

6505-07 The Michael Billmeyer House. Said to have been a single residence at one time, this fine Germantown Colonial house was acquired by Hans (or John) George Bensell in 1727 and sold to Michael Billmeyer, printer, in 1789. It was occupied at the time of the Battle by the widow Deshler and her family. When it was discovered that the Chew House (then in clear view to the south) was occupied by the British, Washington halted here to confer with his staff. The stone cap of the mounting block on which he stood to observe the siege is now at the museum of the Historical Society. The telescope he used is in



CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

the possession of Germantown Academy. Michael Billmeyer, a celebrated German printer, published here the "Germantauner Zeitung", an almanac, and scores of books. Billmeyer continued his trade here until about 1830. He was for some years the official German printer of the Pennsylvania Assembly.

6514 Christopher Mason House (1798), also known as the Elkinton House, stands on land acquired by Mason in 1797. This house shows the transition between the Colonial and Federal periods. The rear or kitchen wing is earlier than the Federal front, having been built about 1765, the date inscribed in the chimney.

6613 Church of the Brethren or Dunkers who first came to America in 1719 and organized a church in 1723 under the leadership of Peter Becker and met in members' houses. A log meeting house was built in 1760 and the front of the present church was built in 1770. Christopher Sauer was one of the bishops. This is the Mother Church of the Brethren in America.

Nearly opposite the church, during the Battle, General Francis Nash commanding North Carolina troops was mortally wounded and Major Witherspoon was killed by the same cannon-ball. In the church loft were stored some sheets of the third edition of Sauer's Bible. British cavalrymen used many as litter for their horses while others used sheets as wadding for their muskets.

6669 At Phil-Ellena Street stands the original "Beggarstown" School (1740), the oldest school building in Germantown. Now the property of St. Michael's Lutheran Church. It was restored in 1915.

6671 St. Michael's Lutheran Church was founded at the southeast corner of Main and Phil-Ellena Streets in 1737. The present structure is the third on the grounds where are buried well-known personages including Christopher Ludwig, Baker-General to the American Army and Major Witherspoon, son of Rev. John W. Witherspoon, President of Princeton. He was killed in the Battle of Germantown. Ludwig's large flat tombstone originally raised on pillars in the graveyard is now at the museum of the Historical Society. Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg was an early pastor.

6843 Paul House. Occupied by the Gorgas Family at the time of the Battle. Now considerably altered; the interiors destroyed.

6901 Gorgas House built by Joseph Gorgas was once the home of Colin Campbell Cooper, artist and writer.

6926 House of William Liebert, a bookbinder. Now part of Lutheran Home.

7127 The Mount Pleasant Inn stands on land bought by William Allen in 1778.

7142 Sebastian Unruh built this house about the year 1781. It remained in the Unruh and Hergesheimer families until 1843. At one time a stage coach stop known as "The Black Cat", this house with its dormers and stucco removed has been restored to its Colonial condition and is now Rothe's flower shop.

7301 At the head of Allen's Lane on the east side of Main Street was once situated "Mount Airy", the summer home of Chief Justice William Allen. It was occupied in 1826 by the American Classical and Military Institute where Civil War Generals Meade and Beauregard and the latter's brother were educated. The house was demolished in 1846.

Here is now located the Lutheran Theological Seminary. On the grounds stands the fine sculpture which honors Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, "Patriarch of the Lutheran Church in America, Pastor in Philadelphia, 1742–1787." There is also a plaque stating that on October 4, 1777 the American Army under Washington attacked British pickets on this ground and thus began the Battle of Germantown.

The three story stone house covered with gray stucco is now known as "Hagan Hall". It contains the seminary's administrative offices.

7331 A two and a half story stone house built in 1792, once belonging to Joseph Miller and later to James E. Gowen, is now the property of the seminary.

7402 At the northwest corner of Gowen Avenue and the old Main Street there is a one and a half story stone house with a larger stone house adjoining. The double house is of the Federal period.

7406 A two and a half story stone house with stucco stands on the grounds of the Pennsylvania Institution for the Deaf.

7413 Another James Gowen house with three stories in stone. Also of the Federal period.

We have now completed our tour of the old villages of Germantown and Cresheim and have reached the Cresheim Valley. Beyond lie what had been known as Sommerhausen and Crefeld. We have come a long way from Wayne Junction along old Main Street and we have made some brief detours on the way. Before concluding our story we must make reference to other houses not located on the Main Street.

On Midvale Avenue at Stokley Street once stood the long white house known as CARLTON amid green surroundings. Built by Henry Hill about 1780 to replace the old farmhouse which had served both General Washington and the Hessian commander, General Knyphausen as headquarters. A fine old stone barn and wall faced Midvale Avenue. All demolished in 1951 except a part of the barn to make room for garden type apartment houses.

On the eastern edge of Germantown near Branchtown, was BUTLER PLACE, the house built by Pierce Butler, a southern planter. Here lived FANNY KEMBLE, the English actress who became the grandmother of Owen Wister, the author.

GLENFERN, THE LIVEZEY HOMESTEAD at the foot of Livezey Lane, running north from Allen's Lane near its western extremity, was built about 1745. Situated in a beautiful section of the Wissahickon Valley, it consists of three adjoining stone houses built from time to time by the Livezey family which operated the famous Livezey Mill which was razed when the property came into the custody of the Fairmount Park Commission. The walls of the stone barn and of a portion of the mill and also the spring house still remain. The mansion is the home of a canoe club.

THE MONASTERY, also in the Wissahickon Valley near Kitchen's Lane, was erected by Joseph Gorgas between the years 1756 and 1762 upon the site of a log cabin built in 1737. Despite the name the house is not known to have been used for monastic purposes although close by in the stream was the Baptistry where the Dunkers baptised their converts. The house is presently used by the Fairmount Park Guard.

In the Wissahickon section of Fairmount Park which is part of the Germantown community stand a number of fine old houses of Colonial days. Where Rittenhouse Street joins the Wissahickon Drive is a little house, built about 1707, by William Rittenhouse. It was the birthplace in 1732 of David Rittenhouse, Pennsylvania's first and greatest astronomer. This is the most interesting and historic of a group of five houses known as RITTENHOUSE TOWN, along Monoshone Creek, now called Paper Mill Run. On the right bank there is a stone marker on the site of the first paper mill erected in America (1690). The mill was washed away in 1701 and was succeeded by three mills, the last in 1780. All of them are gone. William Rittenhouse, the paper maker who came to America in 1690, was an early Mennonite preacher and the great-grandfather of David who was to become president of the American Philosophical Society, Treasurer of the State and Director of the Mint.

SPRING BANK on the west side of Wissahickon Avenue near Westview Street was built probably in 1730. With 60 acres it was conveyed in 1736 to William Rittenhouse, grandson of the original settler, William Rittenhouse or Ruyttenhuysen. The stuccoed house has been added to at various times and is on different levels. The old dependencies—smoke house, dairy, spring house and fish pond, fortunately remain. "Mom Rinker's Rock" and the William Penn statue "Toleration" are nearby at the edge of the Wissahickon ravine.

Near the mouth of Wissahickon Creek still stands a gambrel-roofed house known as SHOOMAC OR SUMAC PARK. Parts of this structure apparently date back to the end of the 17th century when the Robeson family, among the earliest of Philadelphia's industrialists, established mills in the valley. In 1789 Peter and Jonathan Robeson bought the old house, mill and land. They carried on the flour and saw mills and farmed the land. Peter later bought his brother's interest and lived there until his death about 1833. The eminent French traveller and diarist, the Duc de la Rochefoucald-Liancourt was a guest here in 1795. The house fell on evil days and for a long time was a refreshment parlor. A fine structure, if restored, it would make a valuable addition to the chain of Colonial houses in Fairmount Park. Unfortunately it is now marked for destruction to make room for a traffic interchange ramp, despite persistent and ardent efforts of many individuals and societies to save it from the grasping hands of "progress".

SUMMARY

Before leaving the subject of "Old Germantown Houses" it seems appropriate to take stock of the situation as it is today. What houses are likely to

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survive 20th century progress and which ones are not yet in safe hands?

Stenton, Loudoun, Vernon, Glenfern, the Monastery and Rittenhouse Town are all reasonably assured of care and survival. They are owned by the city or the Fairmount Park Commission and are far enough away from the automobile speedways to escape demolition unless our city becomes little more than a grid of highways, interchanges and parking lots. The Morris House is owned by the Federal Government and seems to be in absolutely safe hands.

The Johnson House, Upsala, the Conynghan-Hacker and Baynton houses, the Concord School House, the Friends' School, the Germantown Academy houses, the Mennonite, Dunkard and Lutheran churches and the Green Tree Tavern are in the hands of those who are not unmindful of the cultural value of these examples of a fine and ancient heritage. The same can be said for Wyck, Cliveden and Belfield whose owners for many generations of the same family have lovingly cherished and protected their inheritance. Other less famous places are presently owned and occupied by appreciative men and women who by intent or by fortuity have not had to surrender to the demands of a materialistic age. The Fromberger, Ashmead houses, the Savings Fund properties, and the houses of two savings and loan associations are being preserved by their owners.

Other houses remain which at any time may fall into danger. Not so many years ago Carlton, the Dirck Keyser House, the Engel House and the Bringhurst-Jungkurth House were erased from the landscape. The efforts of this society to save them were abortive. The society did not have the money to buy them when they came on the market. In the case of the Engel House it did not have the money to move it although it was generously offered as a gift. Only the Baynton House has thus far been saved by the society itself. The Bechtel and John Fanning Watson houses were rescued by one of our members who will definitely preserve them for the benefit of this or other societies or at least of the people, now and in the future.

Conclusion

This society and Historic Germantown, Inc., a non-profit corporation created to raise funds for the acquisition and restoration of ancient houses, assisted by the Philadelphia Historical Commission, will continue their campaign. Of course funds will be needed for success in carrying out our purposes. It is hoped that individuals and corporations and foundations will contribute to the effort to preserve in Germantown the irreplaceable evidence of a great past that it may continue to "serve as inspiration to those of coming generations", as was said in the brief account of "Early Germantown". We are trustees for those who follow us. Let us acknowledge our obligation to them as we in turn honor those to whom we have succeeded as the beneficiaries of a rich historical and cultural inheritance.

ANNALS OF PHILADELPHIA AND PENNSYLVANIA

(Continued from page 13)

fancy to us. The Germans from Cresheim, near Worms, were nearly all Friends, and all of them made their settlement at Germantown. By this emigration, says Sewall, they providently avoided the desolation of a French war, which soon laid waste their former possessions. The Welsh made a very respectable emigration at this time. They bought up 40,000 acres of land, in 1682, and formed their settlements after the names of their native homes, in Merion, Haverfield, Radnor, Newtown, Goshen, and Uwechland.

Well might the city of Philadelphia, which imports brotherly love, be so called, when we contemplate the benevolent motives of its founder. "Our view (says A. Soules' publication of 1684) was to have freedom of worship, and to live in greater simplicity and innocency on a virgin elysian shore."

William Penn had scarcely fulfilled two years as a patriarch among his colonists, before he was imperiously called to return back to England. Lord Baltimore had made such influence at court against Penn's title to Pennsylvania limits, as threatened to impair his claim:—he therefore, in the 6th month of 1684, embarked for England. His words at parting were very pathetic and affectionate, saying,—"and thou Philadelphia,—the virgin settlement, named before thou wert born,—what love, what care, what service, and what travail, has there been to bring thee forth, and preserve thee from such as would abuse and defile thee; I long to be with you, and hope to see you next fall." But earnest as were his wishes for return, it was fifteen years before he could accomplish the wish above expressed!—to wit, in 1699.

In 1690 he had been ready to return but he was arrested on groundless suspicions. William and Mary had come to the throne and his friend King James had gone into hiding. Pennsylvania had been given over to the rule of Governor Fletcher of New York, the excuse given, that Penn refused to have a standing army to protect his province.

When Penn returned in 1699 he was not the buoyant young man of his first arrival, his waist had thickened, and he wore a wig, one of his legs had been injured. It was to trouble him the rest of his life. The wife of his youth Gulielma, had died. With him was their daughter, Letitia and his young second wife, Hannah Calowhill. Shortly after their arrival their son John, the American was born in the Slate Roof House. On this trip a young man, James Logan, had accompanied them. He was to serve the Penns for the rest of his life.

In 1701 Penn renewed his treaty with forty Indian Chiefs who came to Philadelphia to settle the friendship. The same year he held an Indian council at Pennsbury Mansion. But Penn was not destined to stay in his beloved province, the powers in England decided to cancel his rights to Pennsylvania unless he would return and sign another compact with the Government in power.

Penn wrote to James Logan July 1701 "I cannot prevail on my wife to stay, and still less Tishe. I know not what to do."—and as if fearing some would demur to his going, he adds, "to all that speak of it, say, I shall have no need to stay (in England) "and a great interest to return." One of the last public acts of Penn was to present on the 28th of October, 1701, his colony with a new charter. The Charter of Privileges. It was the only charter Pennsylvania had until 1776.

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Attempts to Divide the Twenty-Second Ward

THE FIRST of numerous attempts to have the Twenty-second Ward divided took place in 1869. Each attempt was the occasion of a sharp controversy among the citizens of the ward.

In 1764 the terms Upper, Middle and Lower Ward were applied to the territory of the three fire companies of that time. But the designation was only for the purposes of the firemen, and had no municipal significance.

Until 1840 there was but one voting district for the entire township. That year the township was divided into two wards. Washington Lane being the line. The population of the township in 1840 was 5483. This division was solely for the convenience in voting. The polls of the Lower Ward were at Germantown Academy, where formerly the entire township had voted. The Upper Ward had polls at the Golden Swan Tavern, Germantown avenue and McPherson street, Mount Airy. Each ward had its election officers, but no other officials. Township officers were still elected for the township as a whole. Following an election the election officers of the two wards would meet at the Washington Tavern, Germantown avenue and Washington lane, to count the vote for the township.

This arrangement continued only four years, for in 1844 Germantown was incorporated as a borough. The borough comprised the lower part of the old township, extending northward as far as Carpenter lane on the west side and Gorgas street on the east side. The region north of this line continued to constitute Germantown Township.

When the borough and the township became part of the city of Philadelphia, in 1854, these two districts, together with Bristol Township, constituted the Twenty-second Ward of the city.

In response to a petition from citizens, in 1896, the court appointed a commission to consider the advisability of dividing the ward. According to law, if such a commission reported favorably and the court approved the report, then a vote on the question would be taken in the ward, at the next election. The report of the commission in 1896 favored dividing the ward, but at the polls there was a majority against it.

The question was revived in 1900, and this time at the election there was a majority for dividing the Twenty-second Ward. The territory comprised within the original township of Germantown remained the Twenty-second Ward, and the old township of Bristol became the Forty-second Ward.

A petition to divide the Twenty-second Ward was filed in court in 1907, but the court declared it defective because of illegal signatures. In 1914 an attempt was made to have the ward divided, but the commission reported adversely. Again in 1921 a commission held hearings on the question when political interests favored dividing the ward, but there was strong opposition, based largely upon historical sentiment and led by the Germantown and Chestnut Hill Improvement Association. The commission's report indorsed division of the ward. The Improvement Association asked the court to quash the report because one member of the commission had signed the petition asking for the appointment of the commission. Judge Norris B. Barratt upheld the contention and set aside the report, appointing a new commission. The new commission held no hearings and filed no report.

Once more in 1926 a commission on Ward division was appointed and public hearings were held. Again there was a favorable report, and again the issue was taken to court, the Improvement Association holding the report was not filed within the time set by law. The Philadelphia court approved the report but an appeal was taken to the Superior Court. The favoring division then withdrew the original application, thus ending the matter.

The following session of the Legislature passed a bill making mandatory the division of any Philadelphia ward having a population of more than 70,000. After receiving protests from Germantown civic organizations, Governor John S. Fisher vetoed the measure.

The Forty-second Ward, once part of the Twenty-second, was divided into three wards in 1932.

—*From* GERMANTOWN
by EDWARD W. HOCKER

A Bill recently passed divides the ward in two: west and east of Germantown Ave.

A CHRISTMAS POEM

Come, bring with a noise,
My merry, merry boys,
The Christmas log to the firing;
While my good dame she
Bids ye all be free,
And drink to your heart's desiring.

With the last year's brand
Light the new block, and
For good success in his spending,
On your psaltries play,
That sweet luck may
Come while the log is a-teending.*

Drink now the strong beer,
Cut the white loaf here;
The while the meat is a-shredding
For the rare mince-pie,
And the plums stand by
To fill the paste that's a-kneading.

*Kindling

ROBERT HERRICK (1591–1674)

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