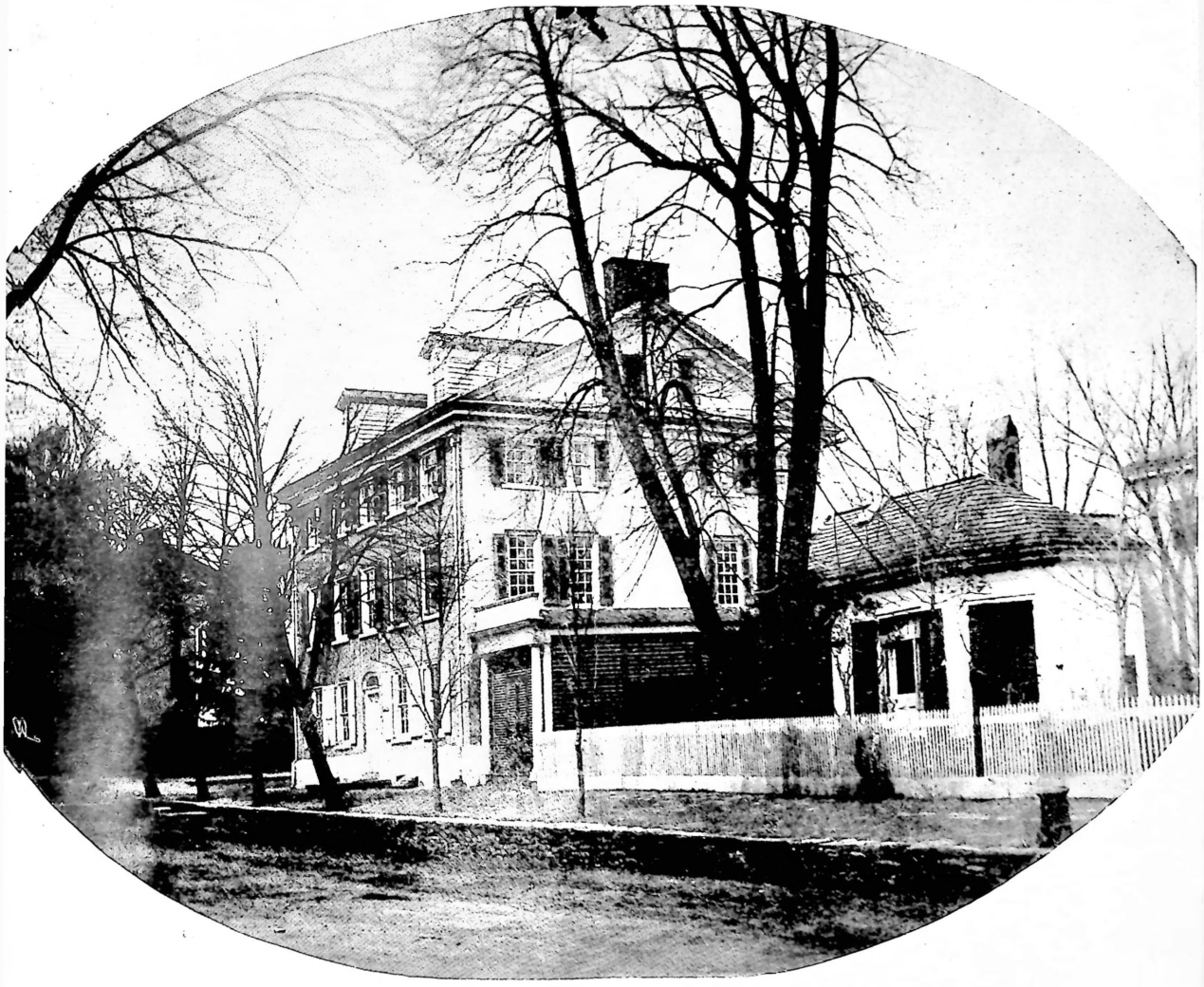
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Volume 3 . . . Number 1

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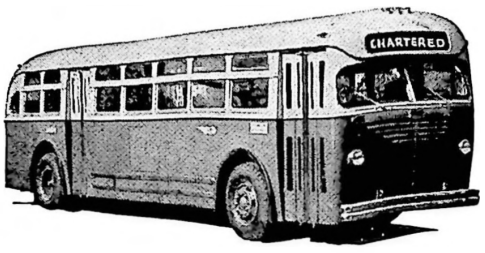
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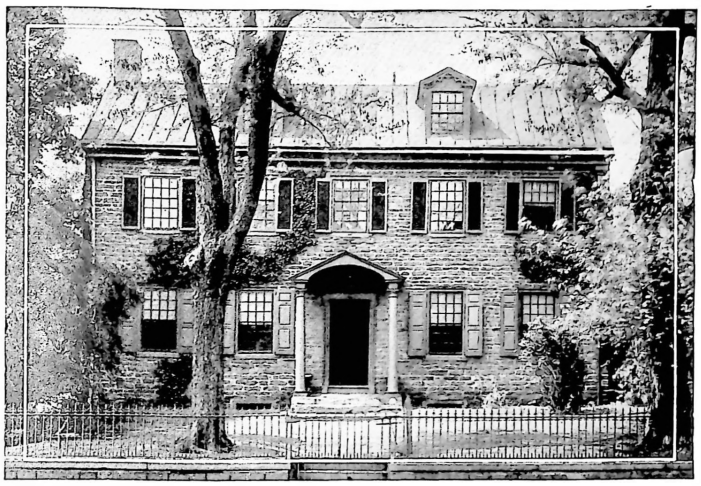
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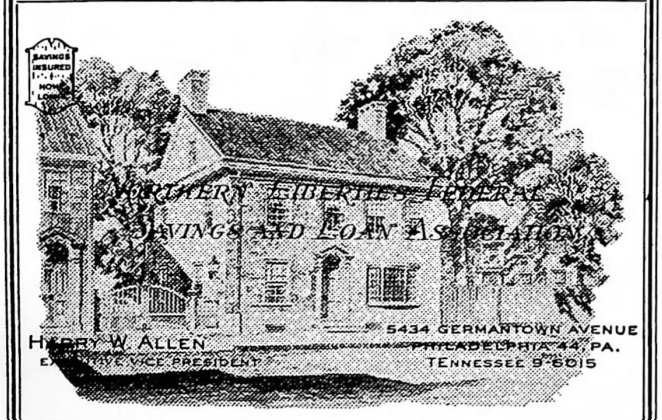
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GERMANTOWNE CRIER



Vol. 3 MAY, 1951 No. 1

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

My dear Mr. Stradley:

I am glad to accede to your request for a copy of the address I delivered in Philadelphia on January 2 on the occasion of the transfer of custody over the Independence Hall group of buildings from the City of Philadelphia to the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior. I am glad to authorize you to publish this address in the GERMANTOWNE CRIER, the official publication of the Germantown Historical Society.

I should like to take this opportunity to express my own appreciation for the splendid achievements of the Germantown Historical Society in the preservation and exhibition of the Deshler-Morris House in Germantown under the provisions of our cooperative agreement. I accepted title to this historic property on behalf of the United States under the authority vested in me by the act authorizing establishment of the Independence National Historical Park. This action was made a great deal easier for me because of the prospect that we would have full and active cooperation and assistance from the Germantown Historical Society in preserving the traditions and associations, as well as the physical fabric of the house itself. The consummation of our agreement and the effective administration of the property by your Society have demonstrated that this prospect is now a reality. The Deshler-Morris House has turned out to be the first unit of the Independence National Historical Park officially transferred to the United States after the legislation was enacted and the first to be publicly opened for the benefit and inspiration of visitors.

Please accept my very best wishes for the New Year for yourself and for your many able associates in the Germantown Historical Society

Sincerely yours,

OSCAR L. CHAPMAN,
Secretary of the Interior

Mr. Leighton P. Stradley, President
Germantown Historical Society
1222 Western Saving Fund Building
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

ANNOUNCEMENT

The editors of the GERMANTOWNE CRIER announce with regret that the present May number of their publication is to be the only number issued this spring. Due to delay caused by changes in the publishing staff it was impossible to get out a March issue.

Fall and winter numbers will follow in time, and all existing subscriptions will be extended to include the first issue in nineteen fifty-two.

GERMANTOWNE CRIER

Volume 3 MAY, 1951 Number 1

Northwestern Germantown

By Gertrude H. Woodward

THE GERMANTOWN CRIER of March, 1950, had an article by "S. W. H." about "West Walnut Lane." Tulpehocken Street was also mentioned—where "S. W. H." had spent her girlhood. In the Crier of December, 1950, J. Mitchell Elliot told of the Old Germantown Water Works, which had been in the valley below Tulpehocken and Wayne Streets, and now a third octogenarian brings her memories of this loveliest part of old Germantown. It may not have rivaled in beauty West School House Lane, but that section is in the 21st Ward and therefore not really in Germantown.

In our northwest corner of the 22nd Ward, three streets came to an end—Wayne Street and Washington Lane met and abruptly ended. Tulpehocken Street also stopped at Wayne Street, except for the unused road which led down the catalpa-shaded lane to the old Germantown Water Works and dam.

I well remember one Sunday noon when our nurse took us to the "Dam" to see a baptism. An open space about ten feet square had been cut in the thick ice. A Negro preacher stepped from the bank into the icy water and there baptized about ten Negroes, completely submerging them in the water. This baptism was an unusual occasion, but there was ice on the pond almost every winter and skating was safe and excellent. It was exciting to be part of a long line formed by boys and girls holding hands while a strong boy in the lead "cracked the whip" and you, somewhere near the end of the line, were swung around almost in a semicircle. I still think the noise of skates on the ice is one of the most delightful of all sounds.

Not only was there skating, but coasting could almost always be counted on in those colder winters. There were many safe hills for coasting, but I remember especially one Saturday my brother took the long "double-runner" sled to Blue Bell Hill and about eight of us spent the morning coasting from the top of the hill down West Township Line (now Wissahickon Avenue) all the way to the corner where we turned into old Rittenhouse Street and coasted down to the "second quarry." We returned by way of the old bridge near David Rittenhouse's stone house and on up the hill to our starting place. This was certainly before the era of motor cars.

Both "S. W. H." and J. Mitchell Elliot wrote of the "Tank Lot." It was where "S. W. H.'s" brother saw a racoon and where J. M. Elliot played cricket. The "Tank Lot" was a high field on the southeast side of Tulpehocken Street from Wayne Street almost to Greene Street. On it had been the high black iron stand pipe built to contain the water pumped from the Water Works in the valley below. It was an interesting day to us children when the old landmark was pulled down. This open lot was high above both Wayne and Tulpehocken Streets. Down its steep bank and along its board side-walk was a lovely wild garden, full of tall Queen Anne's Lace and blue chicory in summer, and goldenrod and wild asters in the autumn.

Perhaps the most exciting thing to us about the "Tank Lot" was that it belonged at that time to the Queen of Spain—Isabella II.

We lived opposite the west end of this "Tank Lot" and I can think of nothing quieter than the summer Sunday afternoons spent under the trees on the corner of our lawn. Nothing ever went by, Wayne Street and Tulpehocken Street having met and ended. There



Old Germantown Water Works as Seen from Old Walnut Lane Bridge
Photograph taken in 1883 by J. Mitchell Elliot

always seemed to be a delicious cool breeze coming from the west over the green pasture fields and trees beyond. Only one house was vaguely visible beyond the great cherry tree on Wayne Street. This house was most interesting to us for in it lived Mrs. Bernard Henry, (not to be confused with Mr. and Mrs. J. Bayard Henry who lived in this same house many years later). Mrs. Henry was the widow of Dr. Bernard Henry, who was lost at sea when he and Mrs. Henry were returning from their wedding journey. She then became an invalid, never getting up from her bed or couch. It was, therefore, very puzzling to be told that Mrs. Henry had "built" the Germantown Hospital. How could a woman who never went out "build" the hospital on the other side of town? All Germantown should be grateful to this invalid lady who began the hospital so many years ago.

Perhaps best of all of this northwest corner was our nearness to the Wissahickon, a joy in spring and summer, a delight in winter when the road was full of fast moving sleighs. The Wissahickon Drive and Fairmount Park were always lovely. I remember hearing my father say that when he drove to the opening of the Centennial Exhibition on the 10th of May, 1876, the whole drive was almost lined with dogwood trees in full bloom.

To us on Tulpehocken Street "Down Town" and "Into Town" meant two very different things—"Down Town" meant the Main Street any place between Rittenhouse Street and "Jimmy Jones's"—you might go there at anytime, but especially on Saturday mornings. "Into Town" was quite a serious affair. From our end of Tulpehocken Street it meant a long mile's drive, the last part of which was usually taken with the horse almost on a gallop, to the Reading Railroad Station on Chelten Avenue. Usually one had to hurry into the waiting cars in the station. There the most interesting object was the window by which you sat. It had three perpendicular iron rods or bars. These were for your safety, for if you had carelessly put your head out of the window it would have been knocked off by an approaching train. After leaving Chelten Avenue Station you soon came to "Duy's Lane." Here the car in which you were riding was on such a slant that your only hope of the train not falling over was the brakeman who worked violently with the iron wheel brake on the car platform. You finally arrived at Green Street (Green without the E) and by horse-car made your way to Chestnut Street. You did not take this journey often when you were a child.

Northwest of where Wayne Street and Washington Lane ended, Mr. George C. Thomas' beautiful place began (this Mr. Thomas was the uncle of the better known George C. Thomas of Chestnut Hill). Through a hole in the stout fence surrounding his woods we entered into an enchanting spot. A small stream came from the Dirk Keyser property, but more important was the large stream which was the main supply of the Water Works Dam. In the wooded hills sloping to these streams grew the loveliest of wild flowers, blue and white hepaticas, spring beauties, bloodroots, anemones, Jack-in-the-pulpits and yellow dogtooth violets, each growing just where you expected it. The first devastation of this lovely spot was the cutting down of dogwood trees in full bloom and tall chestnuts and oaks to give space for the road-bed of the Chestnut Hill Branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Then came the wider devastation of the woodland beauty for the road we all use with comfort and satisfaction—Lincoln Drive. Years later, I wrote to Mr. Thomas telling him of the great delight his woodland flower garden had been. He answered in a kindly letter—"Thank you over and over again for having written to me. Some people think Lincoln Drive is an improvement, but only those who knew its loveliness know how much beauty was sacrificed to build it." All Philadelphians, and especially those living in Chestnut Hill and beyond, should be grateful to Mr. George C. Thomas, Sr., for leaving to Fairmount Park his woodland property which extends from Lincoln Drive to Wissahickon Avenue. It is a beautiful place, one part filled with what I am sure are the oldest rhododendrons anywhere outside of North Carolina.

I wish to end this long article about Northwest Germantown, of happy memories, by heartily endorsing J. Mitchell Elliot's expressed hope that some day the former beauty of stream and pond may again return and take the place of the present wretched condition of the Old Water Works Pond.





Nankin Teapot and Plate **Two fine examples of Lowestoft China**
Exhibited at the Morris House

Tea Equipage

By William P. Harbeson

SHE was an exuberant autumnal lady, an American in the Louvre. "Doing the pictures," she said. Or rather at the moment not doing them, for while others of her party listened to the shepherd as he chanted the praises of Mona Lisa, she lolled on the red velvet sofa. And finding another lazy one, she said: "Dearie, I don't know what you think of this stuff. It bores me. But I know where you can buy the sweetest little necklace outside." . . . And so she achieved art.

. . . Nor so differently, either, from many others. The old galleries were something of an ordeal. Pictures were mounted above each other, and hung so close together that they had no breathing room, without any relation of artist or subject, as if the only aim were to cover a vast wall with a mosaic of canvas and gold framing. If you wanted to focus on one, your eyes grew weary. If you wanted to see those up high, your neck muscles cried out in pain. Hard on body and spirit. You can still see this arrangement at the Pitti. The other galleries, happily, have changed. Now the pictures are hung low and widely spaced. You can see them relaxed and with pleasure.

Our museum at Fairmount has gone one step further. There is a series of authentic period rooms furnished even to the bibelots and mantel array. And then on the chimney breast or over a cupboard, there is a fine painting. You see it not only undistracted, but as it formerly was, in the setting it completed and adorned; more than that, as the expression of an era, a fashion, a country, which is as it should be.

Even the little things are remembered, bits of crockery here and there. In the MacIntyre room a saucer-topped table boasts its array of tea-pots, creamers, cups and saucers—"the tea equipage" as Dr. Johnson put it, who never spoke except augustly. It seems as if the old family would come in any moment and begin the old life again. The final, intimate touch, this; for nothing brings us so familiarly together as the little ceremony of breaking bread with one's friends.

We are apt in our antique ramblings to overlook the porcelain side of things; yet china shows the same architecture, the same whims of fashion, as furniture does, and more domestically. The saga of American table ware is interesting to dwell upon. We were of course an emigrant civilization, travelling from divers countries to a world like an uninhabited island, so far as we were concerned. We lacked the fortunes that enabled princelings in Europe to fill their palaces with rare porcelain, valued as much as Turkey rugs and pictures and old armor. We were far away from the potteries where these things were fashioned. There were no kilns here in the early days save those for crudest kitchen stuff, like the slipware of the Pennsylvania Germans—heavy red pottery with a thin yellowish green glaze and crude amusing designs in bright yellow; in the museums now not because it is artistic or beautiful, but because it shows a beginning, a real folk-art. And our native porcelain had to wait until Tucker set up his ovens here in the 1830's.

So the keepsakes in our cupboards are, like ourselves, voyagers from afar. You find a good deal of the shiny white pottery called Queen's Ware, and made by Wedgwood, along with its kindred expression in Liverpool (in later years decorated with American ships and scenes, and sought after as Americana). Or occasionally tea-sets of old Newhall. One antique

shop hereabouts lately showed in its window a pleasing example, crudely but pleasantly modelled, and painted brightly with Chinese figures evidently copied from eastern originals. There is also a good deal of the beautiful soft-paste Worcester and Caughley, with blue landscapes that seem almost to melt into the creamy glaze. Transfer-ware, besides, from the same factories, with pictures reproduced mechanically from prints and chintzes.

But the large "sets," the important memorial and decorative pieces, were almost all of Celestial origin, brought by our merchant adventurers from Cathay. This is generally called Lowestoft, though it has absolutely no connection with the English coastal town, but is actually Chinese export ware. The great eastern works of art, the finest porcelain ever made, were beyond the reach of any save moguls and princes. Besides, their forms were not adapted to western use. The rise of a large, well-circumstanced middle class in the 18th century created a desire for elaborate services to adorn the dinner table. And the Chinese were quite willing to gratify the demand, and incidentally do very well by themselves financially, by fashioning a porcelain purely for occidental use, modelled from the forms sent out to them from Europe, and decorated according to the tastes of the varying countries. They could do it, be it remembered, far more cheaply than Dresden or Sevres could possibly compass. Let us be frank about this ware. It was not quite the best quality. The body was of a rather coarse clay analagous to majolica. The slightly grayish glaze was pock-marked, giving it a bubbly surface. No mandarin would have countenanced it. But it has real charm, and like Cleopatra, infinite variety, since the types to be seen in various countries are surprisingly different and represent the native decorative characteristics as well as their national potteries could do. The big East India companies filled their holds with what they called India-China.

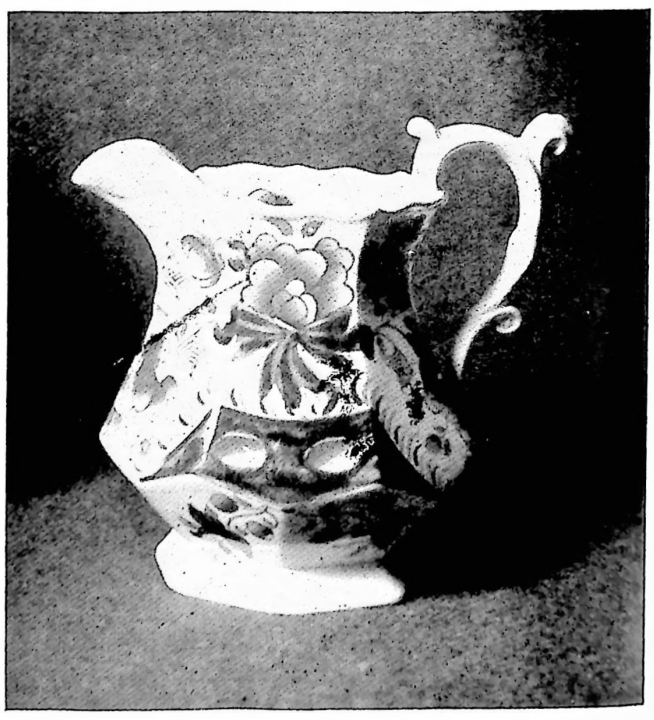
The most exciting examples of this for-export-only china are the Jesuit pieces. Those heroic missionary orders, with their base at Macao, anxious to bring religion into daily life, would bring religious prints to be reproduced faithfully on dishes—a humble pitcher with a saint and his emblems, as if etched on the surface; plates with the Crucifixion or the Resurrection copied to the smallest detail from an engraving back-home. They also copied, in color this time. scenes from court-life by Nattier or Lancret, somehow giving an oriental twist to the original, in the faces, and even in the trees. East is east and west is west in these as well as other matters. Such are items that lovers of the exotic like to gather together. Most of what we had in America followed English models, with sturdy tea-pots, helmet pitchers and tiny handleless cups. You had your dish of tea then, drinking it from the saucer. We also find mantel garnitures of five baluster-shaped covered vases crowned with the dog Foo.

The ware is little esteemed in Europe. It is prized by us because of its associations with elegant colonial houses. Of course the most treasured examples are memorial or presentation pieces like the punch bowl given Commodore Barry by the citizens of Charleston and painted with his frigate in battle array. Such things are jealously guarded, and if they do get away, find places in museums. History enters the picture.

Lowestoft—let us use for once the usual name—was largely made, and almost entirely decorated, at Canton. Toward the century's end its popularity was shared by what is popularly known as Chinese Blue and White, coming from the same sources. This is the alluring Nankin or Canton, the finer grades, touched up with gold, being ascribed to the former place. The decorations are of fantastic little pavilions or pagodas, bridges that go from nowhere to nowhere, and delectable princesses with parasols, and landscapes out of never-neverland. Charles Lamb liked these playthings so much that he used them as the theme of his happiest essay. Oscar Wilde collected them and talked about them in epigram and rhapsody, so that the ladies of the 1880's used to let their tea grow cold as they looked at the fairy tales on the saucer. The Chinese seemed to do everything well. Even the 19th century medallion and later Canton still have their rare appeal.

England also catered to us. The Staffordshire potteries made for our "Country Dutch" the gay stuff usually termed Gaudy Dutch. It is very striking, with pleasant motifs in brilliant color suggestive of the flowers painted on the wedding-chests up Lebanon-way, or from taufscheins, or again curious bird-

(*Continued on page 30*)



Gaudy Dutch Pitcher

The Quakers in Colonial Germantown

By Horace Mather Lippincott



Friends' Meeting House on Coulter Street

THE history of Germantown begins in Holland and Germany when the early Quakers went there from England "in the cause of Truth." Their converts became the settlers of Germantown which included Chestnut Hill.

John Stubbs, an old Cromwellian soldier, and William Caton, a lad of 18, landed at Rotterdam, Holland, in the autumn of 1655 and in spite of poor interpreters succeeded in convincing a number of people. In the summer of 1656 John Stubbs and William Ames spent a longer time in Holland, and Caton made a second visit. The next year Ames came again and with him Humble Thatcher, and later Caton spent a year among the now well established Meetings. In 1659 Caton paid a fourth visit and found good meetings established in several places, notably Amsterdam, Leyden and Rotterdam. In the summer of 1657 Ames and George Rolfe visited Creisheim, a village in the Palatinate near the border of Holland, on the right bank of the Rhine, not far from Worms (in 1752 its name was changed to Kriegsheim). Here was a Mennonite center and Friends found a favourable "opening." A year later Ames and John Higgins were there and in 1661 Caton and Ames continued some time among them.

In 1671 William Penn traveled in Holland and Germany and in 1677, accompanied by George Fox, Robert Barclay, George Keith, Benjamin Furley and other leading Friends, made a more extensive journey thence. Penn writes from Worms, 25th Sixth Month, 1677:

> ". . . we returned that night by the Rhine to Worms, from whence we the next Morning (being the First Day of the Week) Walked on Foot to Crisheim, which is about six English miles from Worms. We had a good Meeting from the Tenth until the Third Hour, and the Lord's Power sweetly opened to many of the Inhabitants of the Town that were at the Meeting; yes, the Vaught or Chief Officer himself Stood at the Door behind the Barn, where he could hear, and not be seen; who went to the Priest and told him, that it was his Work, if we were Hereticks, to discover us to be such, but for his Part, he had heard nothing but what was Good, and he would not meddle with us. In the Evening we had a more retired Meeting of the Friends only, very weighty and tender; yea the Power rose in an high Operation among them, and great was the Love of God that rose in our Hearts at the Meeting to visit them; and there is a lovely, sweet and true sense among them. We were greatly comforted in them, and they were greatly comforted in us. Poor Hearts, a little Handful surrounded with Great and Mighty Countries of Darkness; 'tis the Lord's Great Goodness and Mercy to them, that they do so finely keep Natural in the Seed of Life. They were most of them gathered by dear William Ames."

These Friends were greatly persecuted and when, a few years later Penn invited them to join his Province of Pennsylvania where religious toleration would be theirs, they gladly accepted and formed the Frankfort Company with Jacobus Van DeWalle of Rotterdam as President. Holme's map shows the 5700 acres as belonging to "Jacobus Van de Walle and Company."

In the Abraham H. Cassel collection at Juniata College, Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, there is a well preserved manuscript written by Pastorius in 1691 which records the beginnings of the Dutch-German immigration to America from the year 1681, when William Penn was granted his Province, to the laying out of Germantown and Chestnut Hill in 1684. The title is "Some Memorandums Concerning the Dutch Purchasers And the laying out of Germantownship in Pensilvania." It is written on two sheets of Klaus Rittenhouse paper made on Paper Mill Run where Lincoln Drive enters Fairmount Park, and is as follows:

> "Some Memorandums Concerning the Dutch Purchasers And the laying out of Germantownship in Pensilvania. Taken out of a High-Dutch Manuscript, Written by Francis Daniel Pastorius In the year 1691.
>
> Whereas Soon after King Charles the Second

Did Grant the Province of Pensilvania to William Penn Esquire that he Should be Proprietor and Governour of the Same; Several persons in Germany and Holland (:To wit Jacob Van Den Wallen, Johan Jacob Shutz, Daniel Behagel, Caspar Merian, John Wm. Uberfelt, George Straus, Johana Elenora Merlau, Abraham Hasevoet, Gerhart Van Mastrich, Thomas Van Willich, Johanes Lebrun, John Laurens, Balthaser Jawert, Johanes Kemler, Jacob Telner, Dirk Sipman, Jacob Isaacs, Lenart Arets, John Strepers & Gerit Remkis:) Did purchase of the sd William Penn 43000 acres of Land By assistance of Benjamen furly then Agent of the sd William Penn at Rotterdam; whereupon In the year 1683 the 20th of August the abovesd F. D. Pastorius attorney for the sd German Purchasers arived at Philada. in the sd Province. And the same year on the 6th day of october arived at Philada. aforesd, Dirk op den Graef, Hermian op den Graef, Abraham op den Graef, Lenart Arets, Tunes Cunrads, Renier Tysen, William Streper, John Lensen, Peter Keurlih, John Simons, Johanes Bleickers, Abraham Tunes and John Lucken in behalf of the Low Dutch purcharsers. And then they all togeather went to the sd William Penn & Desired of him that all the land purchased by the High-& Low-Dutch purchasers Should be laid out & Survey'd in one tract And that by Navigable Water as it was promised to the above sd first purchasers beyond the Sea. But because the sd William Penn would not pleasure us in the Same, but in the Meantime untill the Arival of more Dutch famylies; Did profer us a township, not far from the City Liberties about two miles above the falls of Sculkill; Which tract of land we went to See on the 16th & Several following days of the sd October but by reason of the hills we Dislik'd the Same, and on the 20th of the Same Month we Reported to the sd William Penn, that we would rather go to the Woodward on an Even tract of ground which proposal he liked well & on the 22nd Ditto went with us to View the Same tract where Germantown now is laid out, And then in the year 1684, the 20th and following days of ffebruary Germantownship was laid out by Thomas ffairman according to the Tenor of the Warrant we had Received of the sd William Penn. And then at the Begining of our Setling in Germantown Did Request the Proprietor to grant Certain privileges to our Dutch Nation who according to his honourable Mildness Did grant our Request and promised to gratifie us with profitable priveledges; But in the mean time and before the sd priveledges were Executed we were under the Jurisdiction of the Courts at Philadelphia. Lastly in the year 1691 the 18th of february Arived here (.Inclosed in a Letter to the sd ffrancis Daniel Pastorius.) by the way of New york a Charter for the Germantown Corporation, Dated at London the 12th day of August 1689. By which (:after having the great Seal of this Province affixed thereunto:) our former way of Officiating Ceased, And we from the 2d day of June in the Same year did begin in our General Court & Court of Record Did officiate for the Germantown Corporation."

The land was divided into four villages—Germantown extending to Abington, now Washington Lane; Cresheim to Limekiln Road, now Mermaid Lane; Sommerhausen to Chestnut Hill and Crefeld to Whitemarsh. Thirteen families came over in the *Concord*, James Claypole, Master, in 1683 arriving on the 6th day of October as Pastorious recites. On the 24th their township was laid out and on the next day they met in his Cave on the bank of the Delaware River, near the now Front and Spruce Streets, and made selection of their plots of land by lot. The fact that these foundling families were Dutch and not German has escaped notice until comparatively recent times. It seems worthwhile to briefly state the facts.

The earliest map of Pennsylvania was made by Thomas Holme, Survey General for William Penn. He began it in 1681 and published the completed map in 1687. This shows the area now comprised in the 22nd ward of Philadelphia and including Germantown and Chestnut Hill, as "The German Township." But the late Dr. William I. Hull, Professor of American History in Swarthmore College did long and careful work in the Holland and Germany from whence the settlement arose and in his *William Penn and the Dutch Quaker Migration to Pennsylvania* supplemented by an article in the *Bulletin of Friends Historical Association* for the Autumn of 1938, he proves that the settlers were *Dutchmen and not Germans*. The choice of Francis Daniel Pastorius, an accomplished German, as the agent and organizer for the Frankfort Company no doubt fastened the name of his homeland upon the settlement and this was confirmed by numerous later settlers from Germany. Krefeld at the time of the migration was ruled by the Stadholder of Holland. Many of the Quakers converted by visits from William Penn, and other prominent Friends, were living over the border of Holland in the Palatinate of Germany because of persecution.

The Krefeld emigrants to America, Dr. Hull reminds us, were descended from Dutch Mennonite Ancestors who had come into the district from Holland during three generations before the emigration to

(Continued on page 22)

Library of Germantown Historical Society

By Edward W. Hocker

CONCERNING the library of the Germantown Historical Society a competent observer once wrote that there is not another like it in the country—a library of several thousand volumes and much additional miscellaneous matter all bearing upon the history of one community that is not even a municipality but only a segment of a city.

When the Germantown Historical Society had its beginning, in 1900, as the Site and Relic Society of Germantown, its plans for activity, as indicated by the society's name, dealt mainly with the assembling of "relics" and the erection of markers at historic sites, though soon the publication of papers read at its meetings also was undertaken.

Ere long a few members called attention to the need of a reference library to provide information about the local history of the community. Edwin C. Jellett, indefatigable compiler of local history, led in the project, and strong support came from Dr. I. Pearson Willits, Dr. Herman Burgin, Dr. Naaman H. Keyser and others. In 1908 a beginning was made in assembling a library, generous gifts coming from members.

The society then had its museum in the Wister house, in Vernon Park. For the new library a small room at the rear of the second floor was set apart, and at the election that year Dr. Willits was chosen librarian. Mr. Jellett was the first chairman of the library committee. As he found opportunity Dr. Willits arranged and catalogued the books and he would make appointments to meet applicants for information. He held the position until he became president of the society, in 1921.

When the society took possession of its present quarters, in 1927, at the same time changing its name to Germantown Historical Society, more space became available for the library. However, until 1937, there was no arrangement to have the library open to the public at a specified time. Then the custom was adopted of welcoming anyone interested on Tuesdays, from one to five P. M. Since then few Tuesdays have passed without visits of inquirers and gifts of material suitable for the library's shelves, so that now about 3000 volumes are available, besides hundreds of pamphlets and photographs, and also newspaper files and manuscripts, all cross-indexed to facilitate the pursuit after the elusive fact.

While the library accepts anything having some bearing upon Germantown history, certain phases of



BIBLIA,
Das iſt:
Die
Heilige Schrifft
Alten und Neuen
Teſtaments,
Nach der Deutſchen Ueberſetzung
D. Martin Luthers,
Mit jedes Capitels kurtzen Summarien, auch beygefügten vielen und richtigen Parallelen;
Nebſt einem Anhang
Des dritten und vierten Buchs Eſrä und des dritten Buchs der Maccabäer.
Germantown:
Gedruckt bey Chriſtoph Saur, 1743.
In Pennſylvanien.

Title Page of a Saur Bible

this history are outstanding. It would be a satisfaction if it could be said that the library is rich in material relating to the founding of Germantown. However, the Historical Society of Pennsylvania was in the field long before the Germantown Society and it gained possession of large quantities of early Germantown documents, especially Pastorius manuscripts. However, the Germantown Society's library does have some treasures dating back to the founders, notably deeds recorded here when Germantown had an independent government with its own recorder of deeds, 1683–1707. As to printed accounts of the founding, there is no lack.

A second outstanding feature, of course, must be the battle of Germantown. Printed details in ample assortment await the inquirer.

The library takes special pride in its Wissahickon collection. Much of this came from the late Edwin C. Jellett. Likewise his manuscript notes may be encountered in other sections of the library. Occasionally a diligent and weary-eyed investigator suddenly goes berserk while reading the Jellett manuscripts and demands that the librarian forthwith transcribe them by typewriter so they may become legible. The threatened riot is scarcely controlled by the information that Mr. Jellett had a typewriter but refused to use it.

In the library are comprehensive groups of books printed in Germantown by the two Christopher Sowers, Michael Billmeyer and Peter Leibert, including a good representation of the Sower and

Billmeyer almanacs, but only a single copy of the Sower newspaper and also of the Billmeyer newspaper. Most of the Germantown imprints, as well as numerous other items in the library, have been given by Mr. Charles F. Jenkins, former president.

It was the original intention to include not only books about Germantown but also books written by residents of Germantown. This latter department has so far made only limited progress. Gift of books by Germantown authors would be gladly received.

Good use has also been made of photography, and several volumes of pictures of old houses, many no longer standing, are frequently consulted. There are photographs taken as early as 1859, when photography and especially outdoor photography, was in its infancy, while daguerreotypes in the collection were made even earlier.

Newspaper files are representative of Germantown journalism since the founding of the first English-language newspaper here in 1830. The office file of that newspaper, the *Germantown Telegraph*, from 1830 until 1880, like so many other Germantown treasures, fell to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. But since the library was opened stray copies of the *Telegraph* have come in at intervals, so that the present file, though fragmentary for some years, is nevertheless valuable. A file of the *Germantown Guide*, 1871–1927, is nearly complete, and there are partial files of the *Independent-Gazette* and other papers.

Newspaper clippings are helpful to many seekers. Numerous scrapbooks are filled with such clippings, all indexed. Heaps of loose clippings are usually donated following the death of an ardent collector of the printed word, whose less enthusiastic heirs find a proper way of disposing of the accumulations.

Few groups of books are more frequently consulted than the fifty volumes of newspaper clippings which Miss Jane Campbell compiled while she was historian of the society, 1908–1924. These comprise the current history of that era, and there is an index.

The majority of visitors want family history. Many are under the impression that a readymade answer to their inquiries will promptly be handed out, and they are surprised, if not dismayed, that usually a process of piecing together brief records of marriages, deaths and the like is necessary, involving many hours of searching. The library endeavors to provide such genealogical information not only through published books but also by means of indexed lists of marriages and deaths copied out of newspapers, tombstone inscriptions from all old burial grounds in the area and other typed records not to be found in books.

In the course of its existence two wills have benefited the library. Dr. I. Pearson Willits left $500, the income from which is for the library. Edward I. H. Howell, who gave the society the building it occupies, also bequeathed $1000, the proceeds being for the library and the museum.

Proper care of the invaluable collection and adequate facilities for research have become problems. A few friends of the library are still optimistic enough to envision attainment of an undertaking suggested some years ago—the construction of a fireproof structure in the rear of the society's building, this structure serving to house the library and also to provide an auditorium.

(Letter of Benjamin Chew to General Lafayette dated May 18, 1829, the original of which was donated to this Society by Mr. Arthur Bloch.)

Philadelphia 18th May, 1829

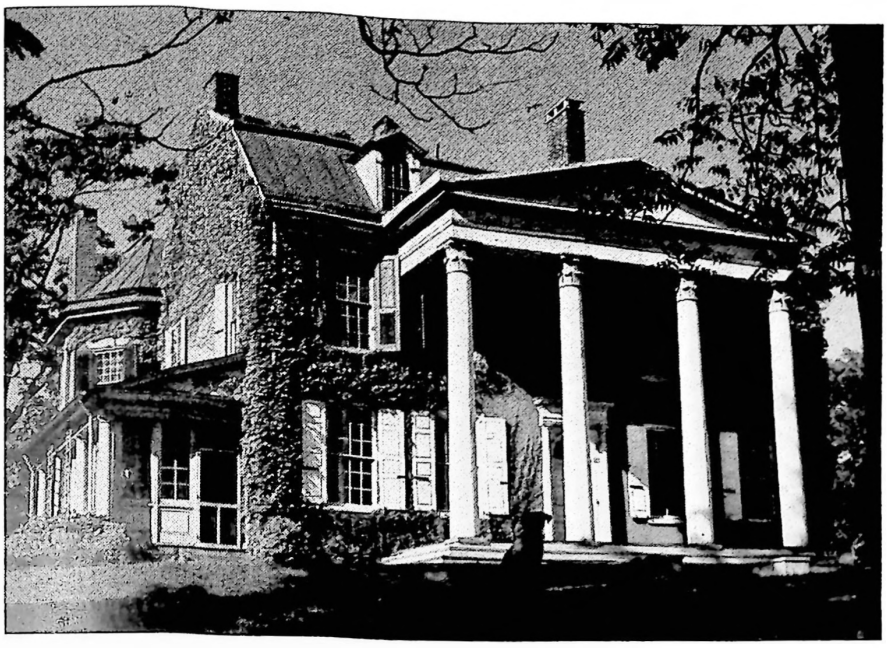
Genl. LaFayette
Sir:

It is the pride of every American to claim an acquaintance with you—but when I call to mind the extraordinary manner in which you recognised my Name on my first visit to you on your arrival in Philadelphia, as among those familiar to you in the Scenes of our Revolution, I am led to flatter myself that it may not yet have escaped your recollection. The incidents which in a moment you then brought to my view, excited my admiration of that Gift which a bountiful Nature among many other Blefsings had conferr'd upon you. Presuming therefore that I may not be forgotten by you, and as the distance between us and my advance in Life equally afford scarcely a probability that I shall have an opportunity of offering my personal Respects to you, I am led to do it by Deputy, and take the Liberty of introducing my young Friend Dr. William Johnson of Germantown, the next neighbour of that House under whose Roof I had the Honor of receiving you in 1825, which house in its deserted State in 1778, you informed me, was the Scene of an interview between you and your since deceased Friend Col. Fitzpatrick of the British Army. Restored to a better State, altho' once the Scene of Battle, the Echoes about it should resound with Joy and Transport, were it again enlivened with another visit from a Character that not long since deservedly excited our enthusiasm through our Continent, experienced by few who have preceeded you in any Country—whose name is still venerated among us.

But of my young Friend—being about to visit France in pursuit of improvement in medical Science, he would return almost unacceptably to his Friend, if he omitted the opportunity of presenting himself in the neighbourhood of Le Grange. My Object therefore is the adventuring this as a Pafsport to him, afsuming the privilege of soliciting for him that kindnefs which I am sure you would extend to me and that it may be in his power to relate the existence and enjoyment by the inhabitants of that celebrated residence of every Happinefs which it is the ardent Wish of every American you may long pofsefs.

With very great respect and the continued admiration of your valued Life. I remain

Your obedt. Servt.
BENJAMIN CHEW



Louden House

An Account of Germantown Day

JULY, 20, 1825

By R. Bruce Jones

JOEL ROBERTS POINSETT was sent by President John Quincy Adams as our first Minister to the young, bewildered, and still faction-torn Republic of Mexico. Poinsett left the shores of the United States in the Spring of 1825, at a time when the name of General Lafayette was resounding throughout the land. The 68-year-old patriot, only surviving general of Washington's armies, was then in the midst of a truly triumphal tour of the country. He reached Philadelphia July 16, 1825, and spent the day of July 20 in Germantown.

Poinsett, a man of unusual talents with an equally impressive circle of friends, would have been greatly interested in an account of Lafayette's visit to Germantown. The following completely fictitious letter was found, in the proverbial trunk in an attic, by an imaginary descendant of Philadelphian Richard Rush. Rush and Poinsett became great friends as the years passed by, especially through their mutual interest in the proper handling of the bequest of James Smithson. The letter which is appended may well have furthered the ripening of friendship between them.

The letter is dated July 21, 1825.

Joel Roberts Poinsett, Esq.
United States Embassy
Vera Cruz, Mexico

Dear Roberts,

It has been many weeks since any word from you has come to me here at home, but no doubt pressure of new responsibilities to our Government, and the difficulties of treaty negotiations in opposition to our friends the English, have forced you to limit somewhat your personal correspondence. My own new responsibilities in the Treasury Department, as well as the eight years I have just passed in England, give me a keen and sympathetic understanding of your present delicate situation. All the more reason, then, to keep myself green in your memory by sending you news from America—and especially just now when I have a subject particularly suited to attract your interest.

General Lafayette has been in Philadelphia for the past five days, and I was privileged to be near him during much of that time. It is of this series of events,

(*Continued on page 18*)

MAY 13—MAY 20 √ CHECK YOUR CALENDAR FOR

Sunday, May 13—

√ **Special services in Germantown Churches.**

Many faiths and many creeds in our Community work together regularly in a spirit of harmonious friendship and understanding. As this the fourth annual Germantown Week begins, let us all attend services in our chosen place of worship.

Monday, May 14—

√ **Vernon Art Exhibit in Vernon, Vernon Park.**

Under the chairmanship of Mrs. Earl Horter, this year's exciting exhibit will be open daily during Germantown Week from 11 A.M. to 5 P.M.

Germantown Business Men's Association Community Luncheon.

School Music Festival—8 P.M.

With eight schools participating in the choral singing, and the addition of a ballet presented by a group from Germantown Friends School, the Festival promises to be the finest performance to date. The combined chorus, numbering about 350 voices, will be directed by Elaine Brown of Temple University.

The participating school choruses, each of which will be presented under the leadership of their regular conductors, are: Cecilian Academy, Boys Glee Club of Central High School, Germantown Friends School, Germantown High School, Lankenau School for Girls, Boys Chorus of LaSalle College High School, Ravenhill Academy, and Springside School for Girls.

Tuesday, May 15—

√ **School Students' Tour of Historic Houses, 9:30 A.M. to 11:30 A.M.**

This tour includes eight houses, for groups of children accompanied by teachers, and has been arranged in cooperation with the District Superintendent of Schools and School Principals.

Wednesday, May 16—

√ **Vernon Fair in Vernon Park, 11 A.M. to 6 P.M.**

Just around the corner from Summer, Vernon Fair Day has many attractions to tempt us into the warmth of the sun. Gayly decorated booths featuring plants and flowers, books and records, gadgets, novelties, surprise packages galore. Mouth watering delicacies for the hungry, bargains for the thrifty, something "just right" to take home to friends or family who could not come.

Admire the sleek new models at our own Community Automobile Show, or stroll to the Greene Street side of the Park and enjoy vicariously the "Fun Spot" for children. (The children's features are on from 2:30 to 6:00 P.M.)

Special luncheon (and only 85c) served in Vernon from 11:30 A.M. to 2 P.M.

Clothesline Art Exhibit in Vernon Park, 10 A.M. to 8 P.M.

Arranged in conjunction with the Vernon Fair by the Art League of Philadelphia, this colorful and unusual exhibit will continue, weather permitting, on Thursday and Friday.

Thursday, May 17—

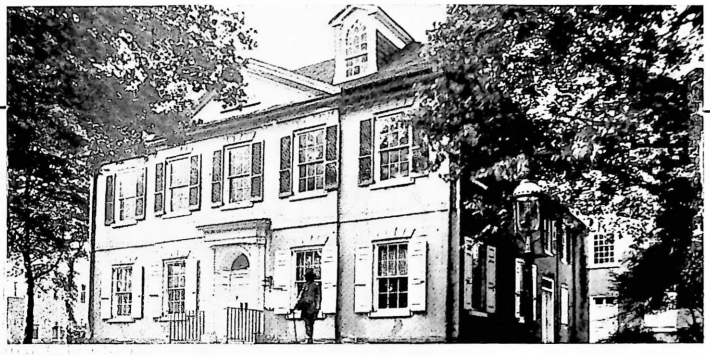
√ **Rain date for Vernon Fair.**

Golden Opportunity Day—to take advantage of special sales in our community stores and shops, have a more leisurely look at the Vernon Park art exhibitions.

Friday, May 18—

√ A second Golden Opportunity—and a good day to get acquainted with your Community Council, sponsors of this tangible expression of "Unity in the Community" which we all now know as Germantown Week. Visit Council headquarters in historic Vernon, learn what has been done in and for our Community. Then consider whether you would not wish to become a member of this constantly growing force for better living.

GERMANTOWN WEEK



VERNON—*Council Headquarters*



GERMANTOWN WEEK was originally conceived and continues to be sponsored by the Germantown Community Council. Support Germantown Week, ask your friends to support Germantown Week. Help us to make Germantown the wonderful place it can be in which to live, to shop, to work and to play.

Saturday, May 19—

√ **Tour of Historic Houses and Gardens, 1 to 5 P.M.**

Two houses never formerly included in the Germantown Week Tour have been added, as well as the delightful privilege of visiting several of our most beautiful privately-owned gardens. The houses included are:

Stenton . . . . . 18th and Courtland Streets
Loudoun . . . . . 4600 Germantown Avenue
Wakefield . . . . . 16th and Lindley Avenue
Hacker . . . . . 5214 Germantown Avenue
Grumblethorpe . . . . . 5261 Germantown Avenue
Trinity Lutheran Church . . . . . 5300 Germantown Avenue
Ashmead . . . . . 5434 Germantown Avenue
Morris . . . . . 5442 Germantown Avenue
Wyck . . . . . 6030 Germantown Avenue
Concord School House . . . . . 6309 Germantown Avenue
Upsala . . . . . 6430 Germantown Avenue
Billmeyer N. E. corner Germantown & Upsal Street

The gardens which this year for the first time are included in Germantown Week, are:

Mrs. John C. Gilpin—Sugarloaf, 9230 Germantown Avenue
Mrs. W. Griffin Gribbel—Mermaid and St. Martin's Lanes
Mr. Charles F. Jenkins—Kitchen's Lane west of Wissahickon
Mrs. J. Aubrey McCurdy—7315 Elbow Lane
Mrs. Charles Platt—Prospect Avenue north of Graver's Lane

Sunday, May 20—

√ **"Fellowship through Music"—4 P.M.**

An inspiring and thrilling concert by the combined Choirs of Germantown Churches and Synagogue, under the musical direction of Dr. Lawrence Curry. First Methodist Church, Germantown Avenue and High Street.

GERMANTOWN DAY, 1825

(Continued from page 15)

and most particularly of yesterday's celebration in Germantown, that I wish to write.

This beloved Frenchman's tour of our country has been almost riotously successful, from the day when he landed at the Battery in New York harbor last August to the occasion of yesterday's festivities. Everywhere the populace has welcomed him with enthusiasm and transports of affection. You will no doubt recall with what great feeling he himself spoke of this last January 4, upon the occasion of the dinner which you gave in his honor in Washington.

In the South, in the West, even in staid New England, he has been the lion of the hour. And but a few days ago, he was the willing but modest hero of New York's greatest Independence Day celebration.

But I promised you an account of Lafayette's visit to Philadelphia—unneeded digression is one of my major faults!

The Marquis and his entourage landed at Philadelphia last Saturday the 16th, and were guests of honor at a tremendous dinner which I also attended that evening. The weather had been overly warm, with an undue amount of moisture in the air even for my native city, so that it was deemed wise for the elderly gentleman to rest on the day following. But on the eighteenth he was up and about, attended a concert in the evening, and on the following day readily assented to a tour of inspection to the increasingly famous Fairmount Water Works.

This would have intrigued you, Roberts, for I know your record of achievement in public works in South Carolina, and your intense interest in all engineering or scientific accomplishments.

Although the trip to Fairmount consumed no little time and, because of the continuing heat, no little energy, General Lafayette was ready for the ride to Germantown early the following morning. Having left our city lodgings in good time, we travelled briskly and arrived at the foot of Negley's Hill about fifteen minutes before nine in the morning. It was then that we first learned of the special significance of the day.

July 20 had been proclaimed as Germantown Day, in tribute to General Lafayette. Some thirty-odd years ago, when President Washington lived for a time in Germantown, there had been another such community celebration which had been the occasion of much favorable comment throughout the Nation. The leading citizens had now decided that with the visit of General Lafayette they had again a suitable cause for commemorative action, and that the community at large applauded this decision was obvious from the throngs that lined the old Germantown Road and made our entry into the town a triumphal procession.

A company of artillery, stationed on the lawn in front of gracious Loudoun, fired a salute to the General as we came in sight. Drawn up to meet us were the Germantown Cavalry and the Germantown Blues, the Hiram Lodge of Masons, and the manufacturers and Benevolent Societies of the community. They made a grand spectacle, with light from the morning sun glancing from their swords and the polished barrels of their rifles!

The General, riding in an open barouche drawn by four spirited grays, was escorted up Germantown Road to the hospitable door of Cliveden for breakfast. Here the escort halted, and the Cavalry and Blues formed ranks through which the General passed and was greeted on entering by his host, Benjamin Chew. I am sure you remember his father, the old Chief Justice.

While all the members of the escorting party, as well as many men and women of Germantown, were being introduced individually to the great French patriot, Auguste Levasseur and I inspected the battle scars of cannon and musket balls left on the house since the days of our great War for Independence. (You remember Augie Levasseur—the chap who told the story about the wine merchant—don't you? He and George Washington Lafayette, the General's son, were quite the life of your party as I remember!) Levasseur told me that the old gentleman's limp, which I had noticed and remarked upon, comes not from the wound he received in the Battle of Brandywine, as I had assumed, but rather from a fall on the ice in 1803. Here is a case of truth less romantic than legend!

My French companion was much interested in anecdotes of Philadelphia and Germantown, and I was not slow to give him an account of some of them. I told him that although the township of Germantown now numbers 4,500 souls, it had not always been as citified as it appears today. I personally have heard many citizens reminisce about the deer, wolves, bear and wild turkeys they used to see in Germantown, and Jacob Keyser himself told me of the small but uncommonly ferocious bear he had killed in one of the back lots of the town within the last twenty years.

Colonel Levasseur did appear somewhat incredulous when I spoke of the man who could toss a boulder the size of a cow over a barn roof, and then run around to the other side quickly enough to catch it as it fell. But he was both amused and shocked by the boldness of Philadelphia thieves, when I told him of the unsuccessful attempt a few years back to rob the Philadelphia Bank at the southeast corner of Fourth and Chestnut Streets. You may recall this incident, Roberts, for it received prominent notice in the papers at the time. Three men had entered a culvert in a boat from the Delaware River, had got up as far as the Bank, and were digging into the foundations in an attempt to get at the vault from beneath! Discovered by the cashier and the watchman, they escaped, but one of the scoundrels was caught later that night. The boat, found in the culvert, was equipped with shovels, spades, and pick-axes—and

food provisions such as ham, crackers, cheese and dried beef!

Finally, Levasseur and I went in to our own breakfast, and found the table presided over by our host's charming young daughter, Ann Sophia Penn Chew. Miss Ann Johnson of Upsala, Mrs. Morris and the two Miss Morris's, were the only other members of the fair sex at table.

(Parenthetically, my dear Roberts, it is time you found a wife, and you might do worse than look over some of these young lasses of Germantown.)

Breakfast, as one has come to expect of the Chews of Cliveden, was excellent, but I shall not tantalize your epicure's taste by recounting our menu. The General climbed in his barouche, and we rode north up the Germantown Road to Mount Airy College, then on to Chestnut Hill whence we could view Barren Hill, the site of Lafayette's retreat in May of 1778, which nevertheless helped found his reputation as a masterful tactician.

Lafayette appeared quite moved by this glimpse as it were into the past, and remained lost in thought during the ride back to Germantown and the home of Reuben Haines. And here, in the spacious gardens of gracious Wyck, was held the major portion of the day's formal exercises.

Reuben Haines is thirty-nine years of age, Secretary of Philadelphia's Academy of Natural Sciences, and one of Germantown's leading citizens. He first introduced Dr. Joseph Rittenhouse, a member of the highly regarded Rittenhouse family descended from David Rittenhouse, and the doctor demonstrated that he is both versatile and fun-loving by singing an old ballad that is believed to have been brought to Pennsylvania from Germany nearly one hundred years ago. It concerns a young man, proudly dressed in a complete outfit of new clothes, who points and gestures to his different articles of apparel while he sings and dances. It is a cumulative ballad and takes some little time in the performance, but the liveliness, originality, and constant variety of Dr. Rittenhouse's rendition made it for me one of the brightest spots of the day.

Afterwards I took the good doctor aside and persuaded him to copy out for me the words and the tune. The final round, which of course includes all that has gone before but involves the maximum of energy and boisterousness on the part of the performer, is as follows:

"Oh, I wear such a pretty little hat
With such a pretty little tassel.
Little tassel, little hat,
Little tail, little coat,
Little collar, little jacket,
Little cuffs, little shirt,
Little buckle, little belt,
Little buttons, little pants,
Little stripes, little stockings,
Little strings, little shoes, shoes.
Oh I am such a lusty boy
Oh I can dance so flashily!"

Perhaps you may persuade some of your new Mexican friends to attempt this with you. I assure you, it would eliminate the restraint occasioned by your diplomatic trials and excursions!

Following this frolicsome exhibition, Charles J. Wister, a local poet and writer of some reputation, introduced the townspeople to General Lafayette. Among the names I remember were Charles Bockius, Dr. John Lange, his wife Susannah and his daughter Louise, Elizabeth Knorr, and John Ashmead. These are all good old Germantown families, and I had met some of these people before on one or another of my many trips to Germantown.

Then Charles Pierce, acting as chairman of a committee from the Germantown lodge of masons, gave an address which I shall pass over here. Suffice to say that Lafayette is a mason—and you are a mason—and therefore you should know what one mason might, in such circumstances, say to another!

The cashier of the Germantown Bank, John Fanning Watson, had prepared a small round wooden relic box, and this was presented to the distinguished visitor by Reuben Haines. Lafayette appeared very flattered to have received this, and pledged that he would keep it among the precious memorials of his tour.

Lafayette had for some time been resting in a large armchair on the right side of the passage, nearest to the Germantown Road, between the two buildings of Wyck. He was now sufficiently recuperated to return to his barouche, and with Charles Wister accompanying him drove on down the Germantown Road and over to the Academy on School House Lane.

Quite apparently our entourage was expected, for Schoolmaster Walter Johnson, his instructors and his pupils, were drawn up on the lawn to receive us. Schoolmaster Johnson's address should in part be of interest to you, because of its reference to the Continent where some years since you labored in the interests of Freedom and the Rights of Man. I am able to copy it out here for you, having purchased the entire speech penned in a clear round schoolboy hand from one of Mr. Johnson's well-scrubbed and enterprising pupils. Apparently our friend was hopeful of preserving his words for posterity!

"We claim to possess a peculiar felicity in having our lot cast on the classical ground of America, amidst scenes which daily and hourly call to mind recollections as dear to our hearts as they are sacred to patriotism. . . . We view with mingled emotions the indelible stains left by the blood of Revolutionary martyrs around many of the domestic hearthstones in our village, and in the retentive materials that compose this our hall of instruction. . . . Our youth

(Continued on page 24)

Address of Secretary of the Interior Oscar L. Chapman at Independence Hall

We are assembled here today to participate in ceremonies which have a special significance for all the people of America in the challenging period in which we live. In these ceremonies we are signalizing the participation of the Government of the United States in the preservation and protection of a site and group of buildings where decisions were made which have guided us throughout our history. Independence Hall, Carpenters' Hall, Christ Church and the other structures in this vicinity are intimately associated with our most precious heritage from the past—our independence as a Nation and our freedom as a people.

It is especially fitting that we are holding this observance in this critical period when the people of our Nation are once again shouldering heavy burdens in the defense of freedom. Never since our Nation was created by the great events witnessed in these buildings has our freedom been in greater danger. Never has it been more important that we unite around the foundation stones of our democratic system.

The American people have always astounded the world with the energy and resourcefulness with which they join together in a common cause when their security and freedom are threatened. This ability and this resolve are inspired by the shared beliefs and the common tradition which we have derived from the epic events here commemorated.

Now, more than ever, therefore, the preservation and interpretation of our historical memorials is of the utmost importance. In this period in which communist totalitarianism is leaving no stone unturned in a desperate effort to undermine and destroy every fundamental American ideal we need the inspiration which these shrines so richly offer. The sense of intimacy with the past which we feel when we view the actual scene of a great event in American history is an important factor in broadening our understanding of both the heritage and the destiny of our country. When we view the ground at Valley Forge and Morristown, for example, where hungry and half-naked American soldiers endured the terrible winters of the American Revolution we realize that others before us have suffered privation for the idea of America. We take courage from their heroic example.

Here at Independence Hall we can sense more keenly the great ideal which the founding fathers of our country sought so earnestly when they created the immortal documents which brought the United States into being. This understanding of the spirit and tradition of our country is essential to its continued existence. A people without a vital understanding of their past, their purpose, and their destiny cannot long endure.

We need to focus the attention not only of America but of all the free peoples of the world on this great well-spring of democracy. At this hallowed spot was adopted the Declaration of Independence which proclaims for all the world to hear our fundamental belief in the rights of all mankind. Here was written the American Constitution which guaranteed these inalienable rights to all Americans and stands as a bright beacon of hope for the enslaved people of the globe.

We know from our study of history that there comes to all civilizations a time of supreme crisis in which the principles and ideals which cement them together are subjected to an acid test. If these principles are no longer a living and driving force in the culture of the people, they are undermined and destroyed, and with them, the civilization itself. I believe that our democratic civilization is facing that supreme test today in the form of a concerted effort by communist forces, using every weapon of propaganda, subversion, and brutal aggression, to eradicate the fundamental belief in the dignity and freedom of the individual to which our Nation has been dedicated.

I know that the American people have the will to meet this grave test. To cope with the threat to our survival, nevertheless, will require the same courage, patience, and creative intelligence that was displayed by the great men who met here almost 175 years ago to found our Nation. Just as these men persisted in their all-important tasks, despite the greatest of obstacles, so must we. We must discard petty partisan differences and prejudices in the interest of the common cause, as the founders of our Nation did.

The unprecedented national emergency which confronts us is a call to greatness. We need to rally all of the productive power of America for the critical job of providing the planes and tanks and ships to defend the cause of freedom. We must, however, do more than demonstrate once again the tremendous productive power of our American economy and our American way of life. We must carry the message of our will and our determination to preserve the heritage of freedom to all the peoples of the world who are confused and divided by the blandishments of communism. Once again we must proclaim for all peoples the noble principles forged here so many years ago

when the Declaration of Independence was adopted. Let me quote its immortal words:

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. That to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed."

This is the revolutionary call to freedom—a call which still echoes around the globe. How hollow and how hypocritical are the protests of those who have attempted to weaken the hold that these words have had on the minds and hearts of men everywhere.

The hope and inspiration which the message of the Declaration of Independence contains cannot be stilled; they offer the world's people the same hope for progress, peace and plenty today as they did when they were written.

Let us rededicate ourselves to these principles in the firm resolve that they shall never perish.

A significant part of this rededication is taking place today in this demonstration of the full appreciation of our people of the meaning and importance of our heritage from our founding fathers. Congress reflected this desire in providing for the establishment here of the Independence National Historical Park in legislation authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements with the city of Philadelphia and Carpenters' Company to assist in the preservation of Independence Hall and Carpenters' Hall. As the House Committee on Public Lands noted in reporting the legislation, this authority "is intended to provide aid to those agencies in caring for these irreplaceable shrines of unquestioned national importance and to provide a basis for a coordinated program of public use and education for these shrines and the historic sites and buildings proposed for inclusion in the Independence National Historical Park."

It is, of course, as a result of that authority and the splendid cooperation of the Philadelphia city officials that we are engaged in these ceremonies marking the formal transfer of responsibility for the management and maintenance of the Independence Hall group of buildings to the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior.

This transfer of responsibility is not accompanied by any transfer of title to the properties. Independence Hall, with its symbol of American spirit in the Liberty Bell, remains the property of the city. Likewise, Carpenters' Hall, owned by Carpenters' Company since it was built in 1770, will be opened to the public as part of the National Historical Park but it will remain the property of the company.

Congress also provided for Federal Government participation in the preservation of this site by authorizing the purchase of four tracts of land in the immediate vicinity of Independence Hall as part of Independence National Historical Park. On these areas are situated historic sites and buildings so closely related to events that took place in Independence Hall that they constitute essential parts of the historic fabric of American Independence.

In this building and in that portion of the old city of Philadelphia which immediately surround it is concentrated more important history than in any other comparable area in our country. Inevitably, the passage of time and changes it has wrought have created conditions which do not offer ideal settings for Independence Hall and its associated buildings. The visitor interested in savoring the history with which these buildings abound sometimes finds it difficult even to locate them, hidden as some of them are behind other structures. Few persons are even aware of the sites of Benjamin Franklin's home and print shop, only a short distance from here. And how many can point out the site where once stood that gathering place of revolutionary patriots, the city tavern?

The Independence National Historical Park project proposes a decided change in the outward appearance of this history-laden section of the city. Certain buildings will be removed and the area will be landscaped to provide a dignified and fitting setting for the structures which are to remain.

One of the happiest features of this undertaking is that its accomplishment will exemplify true cooperation between all of the public agencies involved. The agreements worked out with the city of Philadelphia, the Carpenters' Company, and the corporation of Christ Church have been possible only because their representatives caught the spirit of the undertaking and brought to the arrangements a firm determination to complete the job effectively and in the public interest.

No less gratifying is the program of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the development of a magnificent mall which is to face this building and extend down to the Delaware River. The commonwealth's investment in this part of the undertaking will add greatly to the beauty of the park.

The American people will gain richly from the complete coordination of effort which has marked this undertaking in all of its phases, beginning with the splendid job completed by Judge Lewis and the distinguished members of the Philadelphia National Shrines Park Commission in establishing the scope and objectives of the work.

The city of Philadelphia by its action in 1816 in purchasing Independence Hall placed itself in the vanguard of those public agencies which realized the value of safeguarding the places and buildings which have been the sites of great milestones in the history of the American people. This public awareness of the enduring value of the symbols of our heritage has been growing by leaps and bounds in the past generation. It has been accompanied by the realization that the rapid growth of our cities threatens many historic buildings and sites with destruction or impairment. Congress reflected this public realization in approving

the Historical Sites Act in 1935, asserting that "it is a National policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings and objects of National significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States."

Recently, representatives of a great number and variety of organizations formed the National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings through which efforts in this direction may be funneled and concentrated on a National scale. This council supported the action of Congress in 1949 in authorizing the establishment of the National trust for historical preservation in the United States to supplement the work of the National Park Service of the Department of the Interior in holding intact sites, buildings, and other objects significant in American history.

This increased interest of the American people in the preservation of historic sites demonstrates, I believe, our keen understanding that the past bears witness to the continuity of our national life and provides guidance for the tasks of the present. What we do today and what we shall do tomorrow, whether in making the great decisions that may shape the future of mankind or in the course of our daily lives, is to a large degree determined by the first principles of thought and action which have woven themselves into our national consciousness over the long course of our history.

We can draw abundant lessons from the example set by the far-sighted men who worked here to establish a new Nation. The paramount job that they faced was creating unity among separate States and interests which were all too disposed to quarrel among themselves. But in every critical test they heeded the warning, "united we stand, divided we fall," and submerged their differences through a clear understanding of the fatal dangers of partisan or sectional advantage-seeking. Today we must do the same. We face the most urgent task in our history in assuming the call to world leadership. As President Truman recently said, we must understand that we cannot achieve peace by ourselves but only by cooperating with other free nations and with men and women who love freedom everywhere.

Mayor Samuel, it is an honor to accept here in this historic spot the Trusteeship of Independence Hall and its related grounds and buildings in the name of all the people of the United States. The National Park Service as the custodian of these buildings accepts this new and vital responsibility with a solemn determination to do the kind of job which will add further to the public usefulness of this shrine. In carrying out this task, it will have my constant support and encouragement. We are deeply proud that this responsibility has been entrusted to us and that we undertake it with the warm good will of the city of Philadelphia and the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

THE QUAKERS IN COLONIAL GERMANTOWN

(Continued from page 12)

America, and especially during and after the Thirty Years War." Dr. Hull cites evidence that these Dutch emigrants "retained their ancestral language, both in Krefeld and in Germantown." Pastorius did not settle in Germantown "until nearly two years after Dutch Quakers from Krefeld had founded it." In fact it was not until all expectations of the arrival of a group of emigrants from Frankfort was given up that "Pastorius threw in his lot permanently with the Dutch Quakers in Germantown." Dr. Hull concludes, "In face of the evidence briefly summarized above—geographical, political, cultural and especially linguistic—how can anyone reject the conclusion that Germantown (the term here used includes Chestnut Hill) was founded, not by Germans, but by Dutch."

It is easily seen what influence the German emigration had after the persecution resulting from the repeal of the Edict of Nantes and the change in the dynasty of the Palatinate. Neighbors no doubt heard of the freedom and lands received by their Dutch friends who had gone to the new country. In addition to Germans from the valley of the Rhine, there were more Hollanders, Swiss Mennonites from Holland, French Huguenots who had fled to the Palatinate and Germans from Franconia, Suabia and Wurtemberg. All these spread out over the countryside taking up the rich land in what is now Montgomery County. As settlement began a name for the locality to designate their homes no doubt appeared. Many villages and towns were named for places in the old homeland, prominent owners and settlers and the Inn names became identified with the locality.

One of these original settlers was Thones Kunders (afterwards called Dennis Conrad), who built his house of stone, a part of which remains at number 5109 Germantown Road. The first meetings of the Society of Friends in Germantown were held in this house in 1683, and it was from this little meeting that the first public protest against slavery, written by Pastorius, went forth in 1688. It was directed to the Monthly Meeting then called both "Dublin" and "Cheltenham" and afterwards Abington when located in that township near Jenkin's Town.

Meetings were also held at the houses of other Friends, in James De La Plane's house at Germantown Road and School House Lane, at Shoemaker's house "in the meadow" a quarter of a mile east of Germantown Road on Shoemaker's Lane now Penn Street, where William Penn preached to the people from the doorstep, and at other dwellings for about seven years.

In 1690, Jacob Shoemaker, who came over from Cresheim with Pastorius in the ship *America*, August 20, 1863, gave the meeting three perches of land on

Germantown Road where Coulter Street now runs westward. Here it is believed a log Meeting House was built. The ground was a part of the larger lot purchased by Friends in 1693 and was of the tract granted in 1682 by William Penn to Jacob Telner, who conveyed it in 1688 to Herman, Dirck and Abraham Op den Graff. They sold 125 acres to Jacob Shoemaker in 1691, and he sold 75 acres in 1693 to Heivert Papan, 50 acres in Germantown and 25 acres "in Crefeldt, the utmost village." In the Germantown lot the three perches given Friends in 1690 were excepted. Shoemaker sold his remaining 50 acres "in Kriesheim" to Reiner Germans. In 1705 Papans sold his Germantown 50 acres to Friends for £60, David Lloyd drawing the deed. The money was raised by subscription and the minutes of Abington Monthly Meeting of Twelfth Month 26th, 1704, say that Germantown Friends laid before the meeting their new meeting house to be built "next summer" and subscriptions were requested by the next Monthly Meeting. These came in sums from 4 shillings to £10—4s. One hundred and thirty Philadelphia Friends gave £12–7s 8d, eighteen Frankford Friends £22–8s, thirty-seven Abington Friends £21-6s, chiefly in wheat at 4s, and Byberry Meeting gave 40 bushels of wheat, amounting to £8–3s. The price of labor was 3s 6d, boards 10s per hundred, lime 14d, bricks 22s per thousand, linseed oil 8s, nails 1s 2d, shingles 10s per thousand, timber 6s per ton, sawing 10s per hundred. This account of the purchase of the land by Friends is taken directly from the original records and from a manuscript of Francis Daniel Pastorius, who kept them. On this lot in the present old graveyard, along the Main Street, a stone meeting house was erected in 1705. This house was replaced in 1812 by another building, which stood where the present school building stands, and this in turn was succeeded by the present building in 1869, the old stone being placed in the adjoining committee building.

The old minutes show the extreme and watchful care exercised over the conduct of the members and the earnestness of these early Friends to establish Quakerism as a way of life. Members were dealt with for absence from meeting, sleeping, administering oaths, excess indulgence in spirituous liquors, marriage out of meeting and with deceased wife's first cousin, and failure in business. In 1739 Peter Shoemaker and Thomas Roberts were appointed to prevent burials in the burying ground "in a clandestine manner." In 1756 a query was answered that Friends were not clear in respect to the taking of tobacco and snuff in meetings, "but it is not very obvious"! Some "give way to sleep," the reading of pernicious books, keeping improper company, frequenting places of diversion, making wills, priests' wages, slaves, horse racing, back-biting and tale bearing and other affairs of personal conduct were queried after and minuted. One of the Logans was dealt with for coming to meeting in riding clothes with top boots and many caped great coat. Perhaps he was the hero of the Nicholas Waln story.

Nicholas Waln was at one time the most prominent Friend in Philadelphia and distinguished for his piety, virtue and wit. He was the most successful lawyer in the Province and rode about in a canary-colored coach. In 1772 he forsook the law and declared in Meeting that he would consecrate his life to Friendly concerns. One day while walking along the street in his plain clothes he met a dandy of the town offensively fripped out in the extreme fashion of the period. He had on a well-fitted topcoat surmounted at the shoulders by a collection of little capes each a bit smaller than the one beneath. Walking up to the festive youth, Nicholas took hold of the lowest cape and said, "Friend, what is this?" The facetious youth replied, "That is Cape Henlopen." Touching the cape next above, Nicholas inquired, "And what is this?" "That," said the young popinjay, "is Cape Hatteras." "Then," said Nicholas, touching the jack-a-dandy's head with his finger, "this must be the lighthouse!"

Abraham Deaves was of a family long prominent in Germantown Meeting. He lived at Main and Harvey Streets, with his sisters, Johanna and Priscilla, he was a concerned Friend. In 1802 Priscilla became so absorbed in a case which came before the Meeting for discipline and took a long time for settling that her mind became unbalanced when it was decided contrary to her judgment. She conceived it her duty to preach upon all occasions upon the text, "The Innocent Suffer, while the Guilty Go Free." Friends continually remonstrated with her, but to no avail, until positive action became necessary. When she arose as usual upon the succeeding First Day and commenced her address, some of the women Elders gave the signal and two lusty men walked gravely to her side and cautioned her to desist upon penalty of removal if she refused. As was expected, she took no notice of them but continued her sermon. Whereupon they quickly picked her up and bore her down the aisle to the door. During her progress she startled the congregation by exclaiming, "I am more honoured than our Lord. He was carried on the back of one ass, while I am borne on the backs of two." It is needless to say that Priscilla was never allowed in the Meeting again.

Germantown's Whitall family, had an ancestor, Joseph Whitall, who is said to have discovered a burglar in his room one night. Taking his pistol in hand he said, "Friend, I wish thee would move to one side, I am about to shoot where thee is standing." The same Friend was a sea captain and one tranquil night in the Caribbean while seated by the rail he espied a piratical looking fellow coming up a rope to the deck. Taking his knife he cut the rope, remarking as he let the fellow down to a watery grave—"Friend, if thee wants that rope, thee may have it."

Perhaps these anecdotes will give a more sweet flavor to our opinion of the early Quakers.

The Quakers' flow of wit is no less in evidence than their appetites, which are proverbial, the natural outcome of industry, thrift and a notorious cuisine. The idea that they were a sour-visaged lot which the "world's people" seem to have and which has been advanced in books is about as reasonable as calling a landscape red, because the little red barn in the foreground is of that color. So it is that peculiar and literally rigid members of a sect often give the color to the whole body in popular estimation. These anecdotes are recited here in an attempt to correct the impression that the founders of our Commonwealth were stiff-necked ascetics. Their houses, books and manners show that they were cultured and refined, fond of beauty and of pleasant things, and with a lavish hospitality which means kindness. They were not peculiar except that they practiced moderation according to the admonition of William Penn: "Choose thy cloaths by thine own eyes, not anothers. The more simple and plain they are, the better. Neither unshapely nor fantastical, and for use and decency, not for pride. I know of no religion which destroys courtesy, civility and kindness." He summed up the Quaker faith in one simple line, "The less form in religion the better since God is a Spirit."

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GERMANTOWN DAY, 1825

(Continued from page 19)

seldom grow weary with dwelling on the deeds of ancient heroes, save when they pause amidst these objects that remind them of our great national struggle, to compare those heroes with the liberators of our own hemisphere; with the Washingtons and Lafayettes of both Americas."

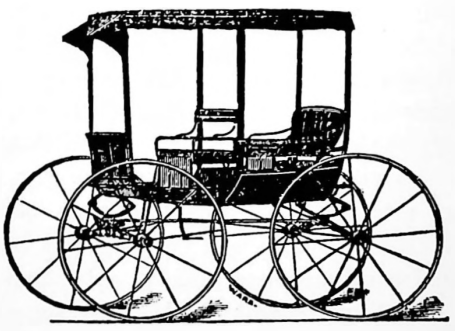
The aging General was then introduced to young Fernando Bolivar, sixteen-year-old nephew and adopted son of Simon Bolivar. Lafayette spoke very kindly to the lad, and of the hope which the freedom-loving world placed in his famous uncle. One could almost imagine that Lafayette was thinking of his own younger days, when as a youth in his twenties he had fought for liberty at the side of Washington.

Refreshments were again provided, this time out of doors on the lawn at the Academy, but beneath the shade of a magnificent elm. And then, as soon as the inner man was appeased, we set out for the Ridge Road and our long ride in to Philadelphia. There the General and I both were forced to undergo another formal dinner. After such a long, full, and stimulating day in Germantown, I found it extremely difficult to keep from nodding. I can only say that the General, despite his advanced years, must have the heart of a lion and a constitution beyond compare. He shows amazing fortitude to have weathered a constant round of such celebrations week after week and month after month!

So there is Germantown Day in this year of grace 1825. The second such community celebration, and if I may anticipate the future, it will not be the last. Few communities in our land are as ably equipped for occasions of this nature. Along cultural, spiritual, and educational lines, in its interest in Government and in the production of its industry, in its honored place among the historic sites of our Nation's earliest years—Germantown stands in the first rank of all our towns. May it long prosper in this Land of Liberty!

Far off in the hinterlands of Mexico, I hope you have enjoyed reading about Germantown Day as I have enjoyed writing it for you. And I pray that your duties at the Embassy will soon permit you to write to your obedient servant,

RICHARD RUSH





ABOUT OUR AUTHORS

MRS. GEORGE WOODWARD (Gertrude Houston Woodward) was born in Germantown and lived at the corner of Tulpehocken Street and Wayne Avenue until her father built their new house at St. Martins in 1887. In that neighborhood she has lived ever since.

She was educated at Mme. Clements School, the then fashionable school for girls in Germantown. In school days and afterward, art was one of her hobbies and in later years she did fine work, especially in water colors.

Her interests after her family, were first her church. She held office in the women's organizations of parish and diocese and was a member of the Womens Auxiliary Board of the Protestant Episcopal Church.

In community affairs, she and Mrs. Walter Clark organized the Service House in Chestnut Hill, afterward known as the Community House.

When only a girl, she, with some of her girl friends, started and managed Buttercup Cottage, the first summer home for working girls in or near Philadelphia. It continued its good work for over sixty years.

She has always been interested in our old houses and traditions. Lest we forget, or have not heard, especially the new comers (those who have not lived at least twenty-five years in Germantown), the generous gifts her father gave to the city, in recognition of which the Commissioners of Fairmount Park erected a statue of Mr. Houston at the juncture of Harvey Street and Lincoln Drive.

Dr. Woodward's contributions to our city and state are known even to the newcomers.

DR. WILLIAM PAGE HARBESON is a recognized authority on ceramics, and has one of the outstanding collections of china in the country.

For many years he has spent his summers abroad, seldom failing to return with rare pieces to add to his beautiful and interesting treasures.

Dr. Harbeson is a member of the Faculty of the English department at the University of Pennsylvania, and is also an author and lecturer of note.

Germantown can proudly claim him as a son, for while he has lived the past few years in West Philadelphia, he spent the greater part of his life here.

Widely known and loved, he has many times been chosen as the most popular professor at the University in the annual student poll.

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Copy of Column from "The Village Telegraph"

Printed and Published, Weekly by P. R. Freas & Co. in Germantown, Philadelphia

Issue of Wednesday, March 17, 1830

"DOMESTIC RECORDS"
From the *United States Gazette*

"To the Citizens of Germantown & Philadelphia
A Magnificent and Beneficent Project

While contemplating the numerous and important benefits, which may be confidently anticipated from rail roads, one of a peculiar and interesting character has suggested itself to my view, not comprised in the catalogues of useful results heretofore published. The principal objects promised to be effected by rail roads, are the cheap and expeditious transportation of produce, goods, minerals, manufactures and travellers. Their preference over canals or rivers is obvious, in three essential particulars. First, they are independent of deficiency or excess of water, and of frost; second, they produce no fogs or other injury to the health of the people travelling on them, or dwelling in their vicinity; third, they admit of greater velocity, with less expense in producing it. In addition to all these privileges, another may be derived from them, which in my estimation, is of superior value to the whole of them, in promoting human happiness and the preservation of health and life. It is, that the necessity of condensing vast numbers of people into sea-ports, whether for commerce, trade, manufactories or dwelling places, no longer exists. By the help of rail roads, the principal part of the population attached to sea-ports and towns adjoining navigable rivers, may be located several miles from the wharves, and generally upon elevated ground. It is well known that various diseases, particularly among children are more prevalent in the compact towns, situated on the banks and alluvial bottoms of tide waters, during several of the summer and fall months, than in the elevated situations a few miles from their shores, where their damp and sometimes malignant exhalations seldom reach. The merchants, mechanics and teachers of Philadelphia, may now have their dwelling houses, workshops and schools located 7 or 8 miles from the city, and with the aid of a rail road, visit the city daily, with as little delay and inconvenience as they could walk the distance of a single mile. The incalcuable advantages of pure country air, independent dwellings, yards, and gardens &c. are of far greater value than the saving which would at the same time accrue from the difference in the cost of house lots or rent. The difference in the

cost of lots, would probably be from 10 to 100 fold, and of house rent from 3 to 10 fold. But the consideration of health alone is sufficient to decide the preference in favor of a country residence.

I now therefore, respectfully propose for the consideration of the citizens of Germantown and Philadelphia, the following project:—That a double rail road be constructed without delay, from Franklin Square in Philadelphia, to Hoffman's Spring, at the foot of Mount Airy, near the 8 mile stone, entering the valley through which the spring flows, at William Fisher's factory. This elevated healthy region of rocky hills and dales, has been a resort for the recovery and preservation of health ever since the memorable attack of the yellow fever upon the people of Philadelphia, the repetition of which is not impossible. Dr. Wistar held the salubrity of Mount Airy, in so high estimation, that he called it the Montpelier of America. I would propose that a colonial city be laid out and commenced on the summit of the hill between Germantown and Mount Airy; the elevation of which is the same with Mount Airy, and commands the most interesting magnificent view in the state, if not in the United States.

I would recommend that the town be laid out upon the plan suggested by Mr. Jefferson (in the manner of a chequer board), reserving an equal surface of ground for cultivation, or groves, and public walks, as for building lots; and these to be so spacious that the houses may be erected without being joined to each other. In order that the proposed city may have a name distinct from any other, and significant of its design, I would propose that the name be MONTSALUTIS (Mount of Health).

Citizens who may be disposed to investigate the propriety of the project above proposed, for the purpose of ascertaining the probability of its being a profitable object for the employment of capital, merchants, manufacturers, mechanics, teachers, and all others interested in the result, are respectfully invited to converse with each other on the subject, and if the plan should be generally approved, to propose a public meeting, for the purpose of making arrangements to carry it into effect.

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Early Transportation

By Norman H. Keyser

PART II

ABOUT 1829 a public meeting was held in Germantown to discuss the subject of a railroad to Philadelphia. Several gentlemen who had visited the gravity railroad at Mauch Chunk, gave a glowing account of it at this meeting. The company was organized and received its charter February 17, 1831, under the name of Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad Company. The intention was to build the road on the west side of the town, but through the influence of Thomas R. Fisher, of "Wakefield," the route was changed to run on the east side. This necessitated bridging Germantown Road. The work on the abutments was done by a prominent mason of our town, Alexander Provest. Although heavy iron work has replaced the light superstructure then used, the stone abutments are still standing and in a good state of preservation. The bridge is known as the Turnpike Bridge. The road started at Poplar Street, and terminated at Cedar Hill, the elevation between Bringhurst Street and Shoemaker's Lane.

On June 6, 1832, the road was opened with great ceremony. The President, Edward H. Bonsall, had invited the Councils of the city of New York to be present. The cars were made in Baltimore, and were drawn by horses, six trips a day being made. The fare at first was 25 cents, but in 1834 it was reduced to 12½ cents, or as the coin was then called, a Levy.

On November 23, 1832, the first locomotive manufactured in the United States, "Old Ironsides," made by Mathias W. Baldwin, was placed on the road. The contract price for the machine was $4000. It was of an ingenious design and beset the builder with many difficulties in its construction, but as it varied slightly from the specifications, the railroad company insisted on a reduction of $500. The making of this locomotive led to the founding of Baldwin's Locomotive Works. Baldwin had so much trouble with the first locomotive that he vowed he would never build another. His second venture, however, was more successful and he afterwards made considerable money, building himself a mansion on Chestnut Street, where the Randolph Theatre now stands.

In March, 1833, the road was authorized to extend the single track on Ninth Street as far south as Vine Street, and to continue it to the terminal in Germantown, one hundred yards west of Main Street, the road having extended no further south than Spring Garden Street. When it was carried to Main Street, the tracks ran up alongside of Shingle's Tavern. Reeder's Tavern was north of it, about where Parker's store (Goodwin's) now is.

The rails of the first road were set on stones fastened with iron saddles, the spikes which held the cradles being soldered firmly in the stones. A number of these stones were used in the foundation walls of the Main Street station, and could be seen when the areaway was open in front of the building. When excavations were made in Vernon Park for the Carnegie Library, William H. Emhardt recovered one of these stones and an iron cradle, and placed them in the Site and Relic Society Museum, in the Concord School House.

The second locomotive, named "Rocket," was built in England in 1837, by Braithwaite & Company, of London. It went into commission in March, 1838. It weighed 5¼ tons. In a short time the company had several locomotives built. They were named "Comet," "Meteor," "Fort Erie," and "Superior," and ran their trains more frequently. The experiences

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of some of the first employes who worked on the road are very interesting. The crew that ran the last train out of Philadelphia in the evening, to get back to the city, where they lived, would push a coal car out from one of the coal yards, get in and run the car by gravity to Ninth Street and Girard Avenue, where they would push the car into one of the yards in the vicinity, then go home, returning on a passenger train in the morning, taking their train back to Philadelphia.

The first two conductors appointed on the road were Joseph Kite and Daniel Dungan. There was no conductor on the first train down in the morning, so one of the passengers would collect the fares and turn in the money and tickets on arrival at Ninth and Green Streets. Hillary Krickbaum collected these fares so often that the company finally appointed him conductor of the road. This was the third appointment. John Markley was engineer of "Old Ironsides." All the coal dealers of the town had to handle their own coal cars. They were obliged to take their horses and draw the coal cars up from Nicetown planes, and when discharged, send them back by gravity. After the track was extended to Chestnut Hill, for a long while there was no telegraph communication, and should an accident or breakdown occur, one of the trainmen was dispatched to Germantown on foot to notify the Superintendent. The company intended extending the road from Germantown to Norristown, and had so far progressed that they made numerous excavations. A deep cut was made west of Main Street, on the Wister property opposite the station. There is also one, still in evidence, back of Robert Moffley's grounds, on Wayne Street, and there was another near the Wissahickon Creek. They had gone thus far when the project was abandoned, because the engineers declared it to be impracticable to build a bridge for railroad purposes over the Wissahickon. The excavation on the Wister property remained there until the city secured it for park purposes. It was in the part of the ground that was allowed to grow wild, so as to shield the stables and back buildings on the north from view of the house. Creeping vines ran over it, tall trees added to the beauty and dogwood grew in and around it.

The difficulties of crossing the Wissahickon were finally overcome. The engineers found a point near the mouth of the stream where a bridge might be built at an elevation of about seventy-five feet. It was a wooden structure, 473 feet in length, and was the highest of any bridges built up to that period. The road was opened to Manayunk on October 18, 1834.

In 1839 the Philadelphia & Reading Railroad Company was formed. They built a line on the west side of the Schuylkill with a terminal on Broad Street, near Race. The first engine on this road, strange to relate, was not run out of Philadelphia, but taken to Reading on a canal boat, and there transferred to the tracks.

One of the first anthracite coal burning locomotives, the "Hiawatha," an invention of James Milholland, was placed on the road in 1859; it was characterized by the smokestack broadening out at the top. This type of engine was used as switching engines in the seventies. They were a familiar sight around the car yards. The "Rocket" was in use until 1879, and its performance was 310,164 miles. This record is considered remarkable. The engine is still in good running order, and during the World's Fair in 1893, ran to Chicago under its own steam. It is now in the Field's Museum, at Chicago. "Old Ironsides" was considered a national curiosity, and was placed in the National Museum at Washington, but unfortunately was lost when that institution's building was burned.

In September, 1863, the historic, old Robeson Mill, known in Revolutionary days as the Vanderen Mill, which stood directly underneath the Wissahickon bridge, caught fire from some unaccountable cause, and with it the bridge was destroyed. It was the day on which the 119th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers were sworn in, and as their march was out Ridge Road to their camp grounds, they were able to assist the firemen in fighting the fire. The old bridge was replaced with a plain truss bridge on wooden girders. The railroad company has since erected on the same site one of the most beautiful stone viaducts in this part of the country.

About 1858 the horse car line was established on Germantown Road as far as Church Street. These



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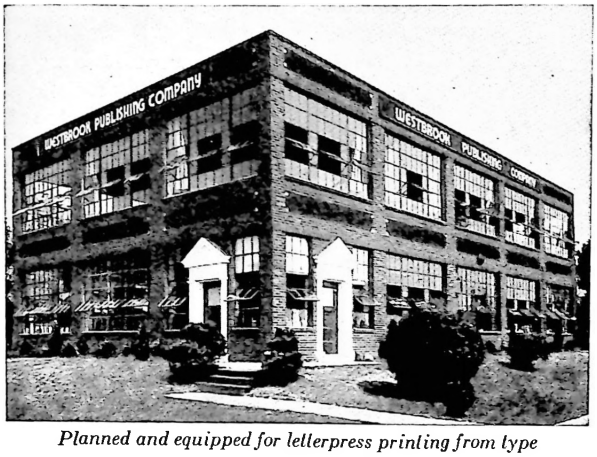
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cars ran south on Fourth Street. About 1872 there was a competing line of coaches, known as the Herdic coaches, that took passengers south on Broad Street, landing them in a more central part of the city. A dummy line was projected on the plank road, now Wayne Street, with a terminal on Chelten Avenue in front of where the First Presbyterian Church now stands. It was a financial failure. As an evidence of the great progress that has been made, the Indian footpath, of which I first spoke, has been transformed into a well-paved and well-lighted avenue, nine miles long, commencing at Laurel Street, Philadelphia, and ending at the County Line, Chestnut Hill, and now known as Germantown Avenue.

TEA EQUIPAGE

(Continued from page 10)

creatures that seem to have started their flight from Persia, hovered a century or two over Germany, and then settled here. There is an array of this china in the Pennsylvania-German room in our big museum. They are singularly vivid against the kitchen background of oak, and while once easily come by, now number their price in pearls. We have caught up with them.

From Staffordshire likewise came the luster ware of the first-score years of the 19th century—pink cups and saucers with little houses, or copper luster pitchers and mugs decorated with bands of vivid enamel, and flowers in relief. And silver luster, undecorated, that looks singularly like its metal counterpart.

Many families still cherish from the romantic 30's—Walter Scott's era—plates in lavender or blue on white, with mountain scenes or castles, and called on the back "Tyrolean" or Abbot's Hall, from the picture presented. These were for ordinary use. In the parlor, or when company came, people brought out French white gold-banded china, very recherché and restrained. Even the smaller houses boasted a little cabaret of the sort.

The history of early dishes in America comes to an end with the '30's. For then Tucker opened in Philadelphia the first kiln for the creation of real porcelain on this side of the water. It was inspired by the French models of the time with the spray of naturalistic flowers and the simple gold band. But it had too, its individual forms and color harmonies, so that it is always easy to recognize the type—either the original or the many early imitations. The days of our borrowing were over. We were On Our Own. Yes, one looks back with pleasurable nostalgia at the prentice period with its suggestions from almost everywhere. We are a various people and nothing sums it up more succinctly than these early pieces in the cupboard. The early days represent beginnings, and they are the most interesting of all things.

Recent Acquisitions

From Mr. George M. Muschamp the Library of the Germantown Historical Society has received a typed and bound compilation of historical documents and photostats pertaining to the Unruh house, built about 1735 and situated on Rodney street, above Gorgas lane, near Ivy Hill Cemetary, in the newly developed district of Woodcrest. Since acquiring the Unruh house Mr. Muschamp has devoted much study and effort to the restoration of the landmark, and photographs show the results obtained. Accompanying Mr. Muschamp's compilation is a 40-page genealogical account of the Rubicam family, by Milton Rubicam. This family owned the site prior to its purchase by the Unruhs.

More than 10,000 items are contained in 91 large envelopes filled with newspaper clippings, pamphlets, leaflets, etc., assembled by the late Marriott C. Morris from 1895 until 1945 and donated to the library by Mr. Morris' son, Mr. Elliston P. Morris.

A ticket on the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad, good between Germantown and Philadelphia, is the gift of Mr. William H. Emhardt. The ticket is not dated but the fact that it was issued prior to 1870 is evident because the company's name on the ticket was not used after 1870, when the road was leased to the Philadelphia and Reading Company.

Other contributions of library material have been received in the three months beginning November 1 from Dr. Henry Pleasants, Jr., Mrs. Orlando Crease, Jr., the Rev. E. E. Jackson and Dr. James W. Wister.

The Library would welcome books written by Thomas A. Daly.

Gift to Germantown Historical Society

Mr. Arthur Bloch, President of N. Snellenburg & Co., presented the Society with a letter from Benjamin Chew to General Lafayette, dated May 18, 1829. A copy of the letter appears in the Crier.

The Society wishes to acknowledge its indebtedness to the courtesies of Mr. Bloch in selecting the Society to hold the original letter.

This letter has been framed and can be seen at the Museum, together with a letter dated October 10, 1777, from Thomas Rodney, Esq., to General Rodney, giving an account of the Battle of Germantown. The original of this letter also was a present to the Society by Mr. Bloch.

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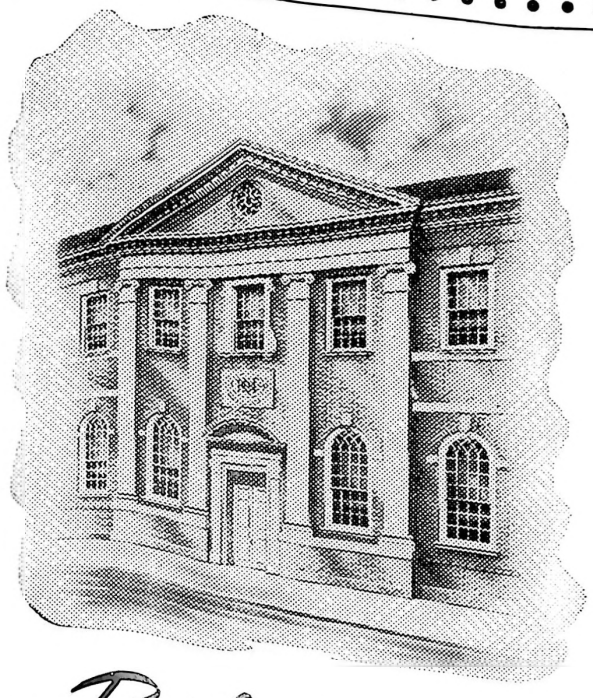
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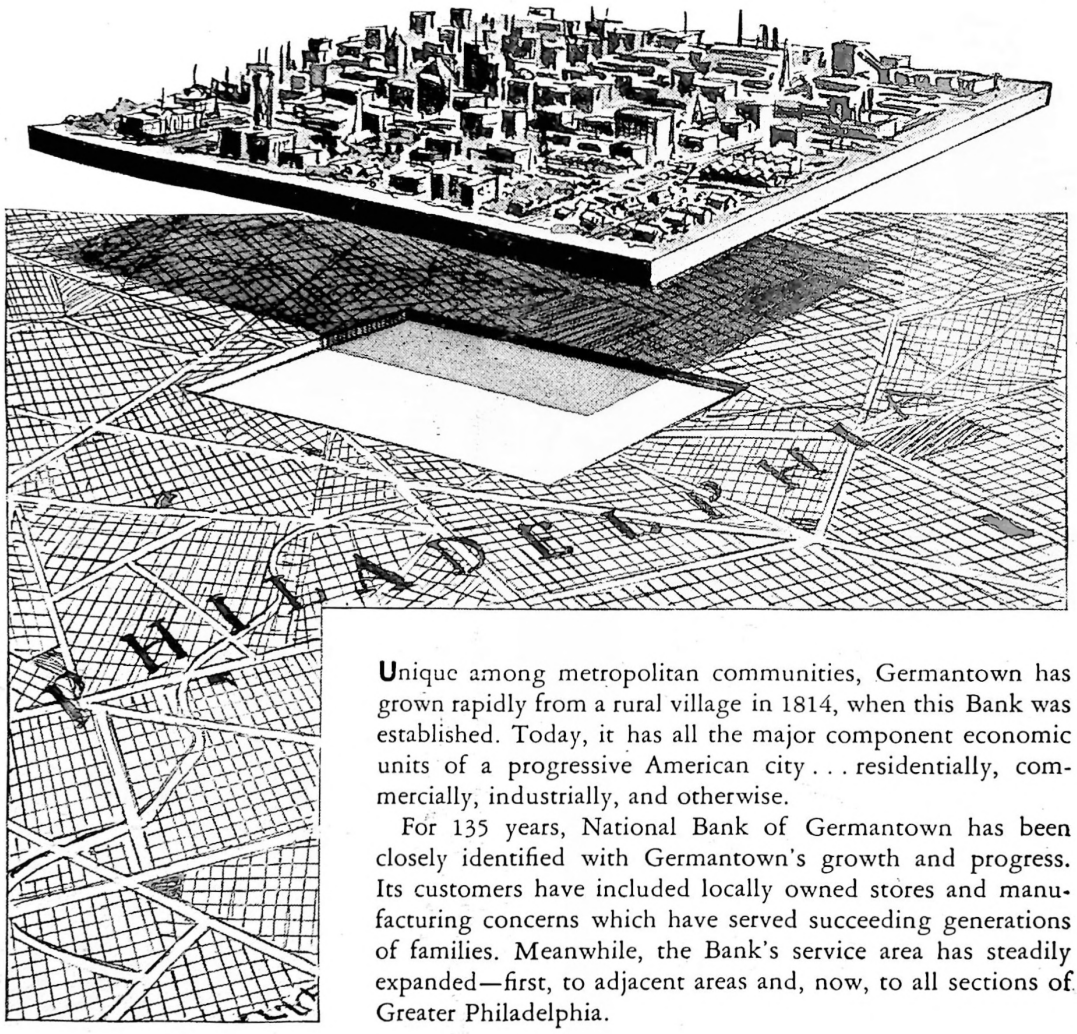
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