RHS: Summer 2022

May 20 – 7:00pm ON ZOOM, The Local Evolution of Memorial Day from the Civil War to World War One. Bill Jeffway, the Executive Director of the Dutchess County Historical Society,

Bill will introduce us to some of the local persons who died in service to our country, who have been, and remain, the focus of these solemn rituals. We will get a close-up look at some of the permanent monuments and memorials visible from our car as we drive by every day, but that may not fully appreciate.

President's Message

This month's program marks the end of our Spring season. Stay tuned for the August newsletter which will list the first of our Fall programs. In addition to the program described above we have two special events this month.

On Saturday May 14th at 10:00 AM, we will be celebrating—at their original site—the restoration of the Astor Gates. Once mounted on the two stone pillars in front of today's Baptist Church, where Astor Drive meets Upper Montgomery Street, the gates will return where they stood from the late 19th century until the mid 20th century, serving as the entrance to Astor Drive. The Astors referred to the road as their F&R Road, since it connected Ferncliff to Rhinebeck. Village Mayor Gary Bassett has arranged for the intersection to be closed to traffic during the ceremony, and the Baptist Church is allowing us to use their parking lot. We're hoping many of our members will turn out to join us for this celebration.

Then on Saturday May 28th at 10:00 AM, a long-overdue recognition of one of the region's most prominent religious figures will take place at Quitman House, at 7015 Route 9, just north of the intersection with 9G. Courtesy of the Pomeroy Foundation, a sign will be unveiled recognizing the minister, Rev. Frederick H. Quitman, D.D., who came to Rhinebeck in 1798 to serve congregations here and in neighboring communities. It was no less a figure than George Washington who had encouraged him to move to New York; a further indication of his prominence is his election by fellow ministers to head the New York Ministerium. Town Supervisor Elizabeth Spinzia has graciously agreed to do the unveiling, and we're hoping many of our members turn out for this important event as well.

David Miller, President



Source: Bonnie Wood touches Madame Anna Bishop Schultz's sunken unmarked gravestone on far left and Anna's son Augustus Bishop's broken gravestone at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Red Hook, NY. The other portion of the broken stone leans against Richard Barringer's intact gravestone, Photographer: Alice Clarke Benson, April 20, 2022.

PASSAGES: Madame Anna Bishop & Martin Schultz

I stand transfixed as a glint of sun reveals the previously unreadable inscription at the site of two stones—one broken and one unmarked—in St. Paul's Cemetery Red Hook, New York on the 20th of April 2022. Eerily two days before the 145th anniversary of Augustus Bishop's death, the decades-long search for the gravesites ends. The inscription reads:

Sacred to the memory of Augustus H. E. Bishop, son of the late Sir Henry and Lady Bishop Schultz, died on the 22nd day of April 1877 in the city of New York, aged 39 years. Native of England. In the midst of life he found death.

This reference to Lady Bishop may be the only time Anna agreed to be called Lady in deference to her estranged

husband Sir Henry Bishop. At her death a few years later on the 19th of March 1884, newspapers described Madame Anna Bishop Schultz's burial beneath the unmarked stone next to her son in the Schultz family plot; her final wish had come true. Since neither burial is included in records at St. Paul's Church, Red Hook town or village offices, the local funeral home or in transcriptions and notes taken from the original records, the 'glint of sun' on this day provides closure to the search for Madame Anna Bishop Schultz's final resting place.

Respect and Contentment

Anna and her second husband Martin Schultz celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary in his home state of New York on the 20th of December 1883; they had been married in St. Pancras's Church in Anna's hometown of London, England. Residing in her small Greenwich village house at 205 West Eleventh Street and later in an apartment at the Bristol on 11th Street, neighbors may heard the lovely tunes produced by the accomplished pianist and the sometimes clunking of her piano students. Perhaps they felt her warmth and desire to serve her community by doing what she did best- singing. Whether she joined choirs of various denominations or performed on international stages, her singing voice was recognized for its magnificence. A short ten years earlier on the 4th of July 1873, Anna performed as soloist with the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in the first concert held at the Salt Lake City Tabernacle. In the first years of their marriage, "prominent citizens" of the surrounding area met, discussed and then "unanimously resolved that Anna Bishop be solicited to give a Ticket Concert at the Village of Red Hook at such time as would be most convenient to her"! Whether performing locally at churches or venues like that of Rhinebeck's Starr Institute on the 31st of October 1862 when visiting Schultz family and friends or for international heads of state, Anna provided joy and often sang "Home Sweet Home" with lyrics by American John Payne and music by composer Henry Bishop. This excerpt is especially poignant:

> "Mid pleasure and palaces though we may roam, Be it ever so humble there's no place like home!"

Source: Davis, Richard. Anna Bishop, Currency Press.. Source: "Austral Harmony", The University of Sydney.

Source: "Grand Musical Entertainment in Red Hook: Madame Anna Bishop Coming!, Red Hook Weekly Journal, 30 October 1862, Hudson

River Valley Heritage.

Romance or Scandal

Years earlier when her father, an Englishman with French ancestry, recognized her musical talent, he sent Anna to the Royal Academy of Music where composer Henry Bishop was her teacher and mentor. Shortly after her musical debut at age 21 in 1831, Anna married Bishop, who was twenty four years her senior. Madame Anna



Source: Madame Anna Bishop print inscribed "To my esteemed Friend Edward F. Massonneau Sr. from Anna Bishop Schultz", was displayed on the living room wall at the Trail's End residence of Martin Schultz's niece Emma Schultz Tipple Coon until 1986, Courtesy: Bonnie Wood Trail's End Collection Milan NY.

Bishop's interests in Italian opera heightened, and in 1839 Anna leapt into either the sinister clutches or romantic arms of harpist and conductor Nicholas Bochsa, twenty-one years her senior. Anna not only left her husband but also their three children. References that Anna and Bochsa were George DuMaurier's inspiration for the singer Trilby who fell under the spell of the musician Svengali in his romantic novel Trilby published in 1894 were unconfirmed. Regardless, public opinion of her affair with Bochsa kept the scandal alive for decades. Henry Bishop's eventual agreement to a legal separation not a divorce did not lessen the scandal. Within months of each other, Bishop died on the 30th of April 1855, and Bochsa died on the 6th of January 1856. Although Anna never married Bochsa, she commissioned a monument featuring a mourning female and a harp for his gravesite.

Passage

Although they boarded separately in 1855, Martin Schultz first met and befriended the ailing Bochsa and Anna while enroute from San Francisco to Australia. He continued to support Anna during her period of mourning after Bochsa's death, and she soon asked him to be her manager. Martin was an American born in the hamlet of Rock City in Dutchess County, New York on the 1st of May 1815 to Rhinebeck natives David Schultz, grandson of Palatine descendant Christian Otto Schultz, and Lucy Griffin, whose ancestors in America date back to the 17th century. His letters home documented his advancement from diamond merchant and investor in New York City to investor and speculator in San Francisco and international mines in China and South America. Reading Martin's letter home from San Francisco on the 4th of September 1855 once again, I stop to wonder as I read:

Dear Parents,

...At present, I am rather undecided what I shall do for the next few months. I am not in a position just yet to come home...

Source: Martin Schultz Letters Courtesy Alice Clarke Benson.

The events of 1855 proved life-changing personally and professionally as he gained an internationally acclaimed celebrity wife and accepted a new career as Anna's business manager. Martin's travels as a young single man were the perfect apprenticeship to accompany Anna on her concert tours to five continents.

Survival

In 1866, forty-six years before the sinking of the Titanic, Anna and Martin were aboard the *Libelle* enroute from Honolulu to Hong Kong when their ship struck Wake Island, an isolated island in the Pacific Ocean. The Captain and seven to ten passengers who left on a small boat were never found. Anna's brief description of the second boat seems unfathomable. She wrote:

You will be shocked to learn we have been wrecked on Wake Island on the 5th of March, and lost all. We were three weeks on the uninhabitable island. No water, and had to wait three days before we could get any from the ship. We had no clothing but what we stood in up to arriving on this island. The governor (Francisco Moscoso y Lara of Guam) and inhabitants have been most kind, and furnished us with a few materials to

make up a little clothing. They have no stores here. We came, twenty-one of us, in an open boat, fourteen hundred miles. You cannot imagine how we suffered all one night, ... thinking every moment would be our last; but the Almighty was watchful over us...

Source: "My Dear Watson", Red Hook Journal, 3 February 1867, Hudson River Valley Heritage.

I still imagine Anna and Martin at home in the midst of Greenwich Village. What stories they might tell!





Source: Martin Schultz and Madame Anna Bishop, Schultz family album. Courtesy Alice Clarke Benson.

Epilogue

Nine years after Madame Anna Bishop was buried beneath an unmarked stone, Martin heard her heavenly singing voice once again.

On the 27th of January 1893, *The New York Times* published "Anna Bishop's Husband? Idle Old Martin Schultz Dies of Typhus Fever". Here is an excerpt:

An idle tramp who died of typhus fever on Wednesday morning at North Brother Island, is believed to be the Martin Schultz who was the husband of Anna Bishop... He was knocked down by a horse last week and taken to a hospital with a broken shoulder. While under treatment, typhus supervened, doubtless contracted in one of the wretched lodging houses which he frequented. It was reported yesterday that nobody had applied for permission to bury the body, and it will be disposed of by the hospital authorities.

Source: TimesMachine January 27, 1893.

By Bonnie Wood, Martin's 2nd great-grandniece

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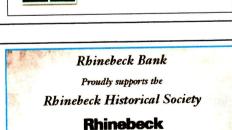
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