NEWS AND COMMENT

ASSOCIATION NEWS

The third annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical Association will be held in Pittsburgh on Friday and Saturday, April 19 and 20, 1935. Judge Robert M. Ewing, president of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, has been appointed chairman, and Mr. Franklin F. Holbrook, acting director of the society, has been named secretary of the committee on local arrangements. Dr. Alfred P. James, professor of history at the University of Pittsburgh, is chairman of the program committee.

HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

A meeting of the standing committees of the Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies was held in Harrisburg on October 18, 1934. The president of the Federation, Major Frank W. Melvin, presided. He spoke of the evidences of real revivification of the work of historical societies throughout the state, and called attention to the many things accomplished, which should be held up as examples to the constituent societies. Mr. A. Boyd Hamilton, chairman of the Historical Activities Committee, reported on the activities of many historical societies and also discussed the need for a Hall of Records where the valuable papers of the various departments of the Commonwealth could be stored. After a very interesting meeting in which a large number took part, the various committees met to outline their work for the coming year.

The thirtieth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies will be held at Harrisburg on January 17, 1935. The committees of the Federation will meet in the morning. The luncheon will be given at the Penn-Harris Hotel. Governor Earle will present greetings and Superintendent of Public Instruction James N. Rule will make an address. After the luncheon, the business meeting will be held.

The Historical Society of Dauphin County, of which Mr. A.
Boyd Hamilton is president, has inaugurated a series of reminiscent addresses by outstanding professional men. The first was given at the October meeting by Dr. D. S. Funk, the oldest practicing physician in Harrisburg. The tenth annual tour of the society was held October 17, 1934, and covered the sites of colonial forts along the Blue Ridge in Lebanon county, formerly part of Dauphin county. The tour also included sites of early industrial plants and some of the older churches. The luncheon was held at the new Indiantown Gap Military Reservation, where Rev. W. E. Swoope of Lebanon, Chaplain of the 104th Cavalry, spoke on the historic background of the area covered by the new Military Reservation. The tract figured prominently in the French and Indian War.

Plans to secure federal aid for the preservation of Manada Furnace are being made by a committee of citizens in which the Historical Society of Dauphin County is represented. Manada Furnace was built by the Grubb family about 100 years ago. It has been idle since 1873 and is the only stack of that period standing in Dauphin county. This project is part of a general plan which calls for the marking of sites of iron-making and other manufacturing establishments in the county, built prior to 1850. The society has also taken the initiative in preparing for the celebration of the Sesqui-Centennial of Harrisburg and Dauphin county in 1935, and at its instance a general committee has been named with Judge Frank B. Wickersham as chairman.

The 200th anniversary of the birth of Daniel Boone was celebrated by the Historical Society of Berks County on November 2, 1934. A pilgrimage was made to the birthplace of Boone and to Exeter Meeting House where an address was made by Dr. Francis R. Taylor, Philadelphia. In the evening a dinner was given at the building of the society. Addresses were delivered by Judge Samuel M. Wilson of Lexington, Kentucky, and Mr. Daniel K. Miller of Birdsboro.

The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania opened its 1934-35 season with a meeting held on October 30, 1934, at which Mr. Richard T. Wiley of Elizabeth read a paper on "Colonel Stephen Bayard, his Wife and Their Town." In connection with a community-wide celebration of the 175th anniversary of the
establishment of Fort Pitt, held November 8-10, 1934, the society presented a special exhibit in the rooms of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce. On November 22, 1934, at a downtown luncheon meeting of the society, several speakers representing various civic and cultural interests discussed the value of an active historical society of the community it serves. At the October meeting, forty-three individuals and two organizations were elected to membership.

The forty-fourth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania German Society was held at Hershey on October 19, 1934. The business session was held in the morning and was followed by a visit to the Hershey Chocolate Corporation and Hershey Industrial School. In the afternoon during the historical session, speeches were delivered by Captain H. M. M. Richards and Mr. John E. Snyder. Dr. Samuel K. Brecht spoke on "Early Education Among the Schwenkfelders," and Mr. Arthur D. Graeff gave an address on "Relations Between the Pennsylvania Germans and the British Authorities." The session closed with a play, "Die Mutter," written by Rev. Thomas R. Brendle in the Pennsylvania German dialect. The play was directed by Mr. Henry Miller of Whitehall High School.

Several Saturday afternoon excursions were conducted during the past fall by the City History Society of Philadelphia. On October 6, 1934, Mr. W. F. Estlack led the group to Old Swedes' Church, Old Shot Tower, Workman's Court and the Graphic Sketch Club. On October 20, 1934, the tour was conducted by Mr. James K. Helms to historic and unfamiliar spots along the upper Wissahickon. The excursion of November 3, 1934, under the leadership of Mr. Leigh W. Prentice, included a visit to Drexel Institute, especially the Art Gallery and Museum. Mr. Gilbert S. Bailey conducted the tour on November 17, 1934, to the Academy of Natural Sciences and to the Inquirer Building. All persons interested are invited to join in the excursions of the society.

A meeting of the Snyder County Historical Society was held at Susquehanna University on December 10, 1934, Dr. William Russ, Jr., read a paper on "Franklin Weirick and the Selinsgrove Times." A paper written by the late Charles P. Ulrick was also read.
The Historical Society of Pennsylvania held a stated meeting on November 12, 1934. Dr. Charles Lyon Chandler delivered an address on "The Life of Joel Roberts Poinsett."

The Germantown Historical Society held its annual tour on October 6, 1934. Hope Lodge, Highlands, the Sally Wister House and Graeme Park Mansion were visited. At Gwynedd Meeting House, Mr. Edward W. Hocker, the librarian of the society, read an interesting paper on "Sally Wister and Her Famous Diary." On October 26, 1934, the annual business meeting was held. Following this meeting, Miss Anna Linn Bright gave an interesting and instructive talk on "Colonial Homes and Gardens of Tidewater Virginia." Many beautiful pictures were shown.

On November 26, 1934, a meeting was held in Gettysburg for the purpose of organizing the Adams County Historical Society. Mr. Charles E. Stahle was elected president of the new organization. Other officers and a board of directors were also chosen. Mr. John D. Keith addressed the group on a number of interesting historical sidelights of local history, not generally known. Judge Donald P. McPherson presented to the society the original minute book, the constitution and other papers of the first historical society in Adams county, of which his father, the late Hon. Edward M. McPherson, was president.

Because the year 1934 marked the 250th anniversary of the founding of Newtown and the 200th anniversary of its Presbyterian Congregation, the Bucks County Historical Society joined in the celebration by holding its autumn meeting at "Madryn," the home of the Misses Chambers at Newtown. The program included the following papers: "The Life and Expatriation of Judge Gilbert Hicks," by Miss Sarah W. Hicks, Newtown; "The County Court at Newtown," by Judge Calvin S. Boyer, Doylestown; and "The Press and Printers of Newtown Before 1868," by Mr. Edward R. Barnsley, Newtown.

The Historical Society of Montgomery County held its annual tour on October 6, 1934. Visits were made to Ephrata, Cornwall and Lebanon. The activities of the society during September
centered in the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the establishment of Montgomery county. At the November meeting, Mrs. Frank Rittenhouse read a paper on "The Raid of Captain Andrew Knox," and Mr. Chester P. Cook spoke on "Map Making and Some Maps of Montgomery County." On December 15, 1934, Mr. William H. Richardson presented an address on "Pictured High Lights of Montgomery County."

The twenty-seventh annual dinner of the Chester County Historical Society was held on November 10, 1934. Addresses were made by President J. Carroll Hayes, Dr. Henry Pleasants, Mr. Paul Teamer, Dr. Christian C. Brinton and Dr. Albert Cook Myers. At the meeting held on November 20, 1934, Dr. Theodore Diller, Pittsburgh, presented an address on "Thaddeus Stevens." Brief comments were made by Dr. N. W. Cameron, Mr. Paul Teamer, Dr. C. W. Heathcote, Mr. W. Tollinger, Mr. Horace M. Engle, Mr. Joseph Cope and others. Attention was called to Mr. T. F. Woodley's new biography of Thaddeus Stevens.

On December 5, 1934, Chapter II of the Colonial Dames of America heard very interesting addresses by Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Pell on "Fort Ticonderoga." Mr. and Mrs. Pell have made an intensive study of the history of the old fort.

At the autumn meeting of the Perry County Historical Society held on December 3, 1934, Dr. George H. Ashley, State Geologist, delivered an illustrated lecture on the geology of Perry county.

At the October meeting of the Potter County Historical Society Mr. Hayes Englert gave an address on "Highlights of the Pennsylvania Game Commission." Dr. E. H. Ashcraft spoke on "Observations of the Last Half Century." The society is now located in rooms furnished by the county commissioners in the basement of the Coudersport Court House.

The Historical Society of Frankford inaugurated its fall program with an "Open House Reception" to members and people of the community on October 16, 1934. At the November meeting, Mr. Samuel D. Milner spoke on "Cedar Hill and Its Many Historical Associations," Part I, and gave Part II of the same
topic on December 4, 1934. On December 18, 1934, a Christmas Party was held with a very interesting and varied program.

The Clinton County Historical Society held a meeting on December 3, 1934, at which Colonel Henry Shoemaker spoke on "Historic Spots in the Balkans."

The Union County Historical Society has been reorganized and has planned an extensive program for the winter months. President F. P. Boyer, of Mifflinburg, has announced the beginning of a county-wide membership drive. Among the first of the planned projects of the society is the erection of a marker at French Jacob's Mill, the place of a massacre of a patrol of Revolutionary soldiers by the Indians.

GENERAL

The contribution of the Pennsylvania Germans to early colonial decorative art has been given recognition in the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Two new rooms have been opened, which contain the furniture, pottery and metal work of colonial Pennsylvania German homes. The collection was presented to the museum by Mrs. Robert W. de Forest. While the loss of these treasures from Pennsylvania is to be regretted, it is gratifying to know that they are safely housed and carefully cared for.

On October 6, 1934, a "Pageant of Progress" was given in Frankford under the direction of the Symphony Society of Frankford, with appropriate music by the orchestra of that organization. The pageant, representing symbolically the development, by steady industry and sober thrift, buttressed by religious faith and education, of a great community out of primeval wilderness, was written by Dr. John C. Mendenhall.

The 1934 Spring Bulletin of the Friends' Historical Association includes an account of the celebration of the 250th anniversary of the founding of Newtown. One of the papers read at the celebration held at George School, was written by Sarah Gilpin Underhill, a recent graduate of the school, entitled "The Indians of Bucks County Two Hundred and Fifty Years Ago." This inter-
estingly and well-prepared paper has been published as a reprint by the Friends' Historical Association.

The Keystonians, a group of thirty men of Harrisburg, have planned a series of talks on "The History of the Government of Pennsylvania." The following have been given: October 1, 1934, "The Quaker Experiment, 1775-1790," by Dr. Curtis W. Garri-son; November 23, 1934, "Pennsylvania in the Revolutionary Period, 1775-1790," by Dr. J. Paul Selsam; December 21, 1934, "Development of the Commonwealth and Internal Improvements, 1790-1838," by Mr. C. H. Werner, of Wernersville. Other talks in the series will be given during the spring of 1935.

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Dr. Rayner Wickersham Kelsey, late professor of American history at Haverford College, who died on October 29, 1934. By the death of Dr. Kelsey, the state has lost an outstanding scholar and an able teacher.

Governor Pinchot proclaimed October 24, 1934, as Penn Day, to commemorate the 290th anniversary of the birth of the founder of the Commonwealth. The day was observed in the public schools and in many other educational institutions.

A large number of interesting Indian relics were found recently in the Wapwallopen section by Mr. W. J. Robbins, archaeologist, who discovered the location of an Indian camp there. According to Mr. Robbins, the designs on the pottery found indicate the work of Algonquin Indians.

Organized in 1714, the Abington Presbyterian Church observed its 220th anniversary during the week beginning September 30, 1934. The Rev. Roland Bruce Lutz is pastor of the church, which ranks among the oldest in the country. It has had a continuous history of growth and development, and when Montgomery county was founded 150 years ago, the Abington Presbyterian Church and the Abington Friends' Meeting were the only religious bodies in the area immediately north of Philadelphia.

The discovery of a small sketch, showing the front of William
Penn's home at Pennsburg, has solved a difficult problem for the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, which has undertaken to restore the old mansion. Dr. Albert Cook Myers has found among his personal collections of Penn material a crude contemporary manuscript drawing of the front of the Pennsburg house, which will greatly aid the work of reconstruction.

The site of Fort Hand, a Revolutionary frontier fort was appropriately marked on October 6, 1934, when a four ton boulder, with a bronze plate, was dedicated by the Fort Hand chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Vandergrift. The dedication was made by Mrs. Samuel G. Henderson, assisted by Misses Wynne Henderson, Alice Kerr, Nancy Ellen, Ruth Tanner and Mr. Robert Hallstein. Dr. C. Hale Sipe of Butler gave the dedicatory address.

The first number of “The Quarterly Bulletin” of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society, under the editorship of Mr. Howell E. Rees, has recently appeared. It consists of thirteen mimeographed sheets. In addition to articles, it contains a short editorial and two pages of news notes.

A marker has recently been placed on the site of old Fort Ligonier. The dedicatory ceremonies were held on November 14, 1934. Dr. C. Hale Sipe made the principal address and Mr. L. C. Walker, of Derry township, traced the history of the historic fort. The exercises were in charge of the William Kenly chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Dr. Albert Cook Myers delivered a brief radio address on the occasion of the 290th anniversary of the birth of William Penn, on October 24, 1934. The address has been printed in the last Bulletin of the Friends’ Historical Association, and has been reprinted in Bulletin No. 3 of the Pennsylvania Historical Commission.

Excellent work is being done by the Perkiomen History and Science Society through the medium of its magazine, The Perkiomen Region, which is under the able editorship of Mr. H. W. Kriebel of Pennsburg. The October, 1934, number is devoted to
an article by Dr. Ralph L. Johnson and Dr. David H. Bergey on "Genealogical Landmarks and Milestones of the Lower Perkiomen Country." The article is based on much careful research and is an illustration of important work that can be accomplished in local history. In the January, 1935, number of the magazine appears another valuable contribution to local history in the publication of "The Minutes of the Vestry of St. James' P. E. Church, Perkiomen, 1738-1859," in addition to several other articles.


NOTEWORTHY ACCESSIONS TO PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETIES AND LIBRARIES

BY CURTIS W. GARRISON

Curators and librarians throughout the state have reported the following interesting additions to their manuscript collections during the last quarter:

The Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Among recent acquisitions of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania perhaps the most important single document is the diary of Deborah Norris Logan (1761-1839), wife of Senator George Logan and a notable figure in the literary history of Pennsylvania. The diary originally contained seventeen large octavo volumes and covered the years 1815-1839, but volumes III and IV (1818-1819) are missing. Historians are indebted to Deborah Norris Logan for her assiduous labors in sorting and bringing to light the rich Logan papers at "Stenton," the famous family seat. One of the volumes mentioned in her diary, James Logan's letter book for 1731-1742, and a letter book of Jonathan Dickinson for 1697-1701 were acquired with the
diary, together with letters of Mary Norris, 1786-1799. Among other recent acquisitions are: William Tilghman's letter book (1785-1827), and ledger, (1813-1827); nine letters of Peter S. DuPonceau, 1842-1844; an interesting Revolutionary document of camp life, Ebenezer Elmer's journal, 1779-1781, containing a mixture of camp humor, poetry, songs, facetious general orders, and medical notes; minute book concerning the settlement of affairs of the Schuylkill Bank, 1840-1843; Charles Thomson's farm diary, 1792-1793, and letter to Governor Weare, January 16, 1784; indenture signed by Philadelphia entrepreneurs for operating a New Jersey lead mine, 1724; Edwin Grebel Papers, 175 letters, maps, and miscellaneous documents relating to the Civil War, Philadelphia Society, and travels; deed and power of attorney signed by William Penn, 1684 and 1702; 628 World War posters.

Julian P. Boyd.

The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania. Among recent accessions may be noted a considerable collection of printed, manuscript, pictorial, and museum materials relating chiefly to General Alexander Hayes, first commander of the 63rd Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers in the Civil War, and to veterans' associations organized among the members of this and other units after the war; a group of warrants, surveys, deeds, and other papers relating to ownership, over a long period of years, of lands centering in Cross Creek Township, Washington County; the minute book and roll of members of the western Pennsylvania branch of the Association of Soldiers and Sailors of the War of 1812; a toll book of the Monongahela Bridge Company, 1818-45; an assistant quartermaster's bill for services at Fort Wayne in 1796; and a payroll of artificers at Fort Defiance the same year.

F. F. Holbrook.

Bradford County: Tioga Point Museum. David Paine's Book of Maps (manuscript), undated, showing thirteen maps of farms in Bradford County and Tioga County.

Jessie Welles Murray.

Dauphin County Historical Society. Collections and single manuscript volumes include the following: records of the Wheel and Cycling Clubs of Harrisburg; minutes of Harrisburg Board
of Trade, January 1886 to September 1915 (2 vols.); journal of a walking trip to Pottsville by the late Colonel Henry McCormick and a number of his schoolmates, October 1847; business papers of Christian Kunkel, one of Harrisburg's first merchants. Single manuscript items included an interesting collection of deeds made by the executors of John Harris and others, 1804-1863; a list of members of the Dauphin County Total Abstinence Society, 1837; and early records of the Dauphin County Historical Society.

Mrs. Meade D. Detweiler.

Luzerne County: Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. The only collection of note received was the papers of the Hoyt family, 1793-1874, consisting of 57 personal letters addressed to Samuel and Elias Hoyt from prominent people; 482 pieces relating to real estate, farm products, railroads, surveys, coal, etc., some from Eckley B. Cox; a great variety of legal papers relating to elections, patents, wills, life insurance business, civil war pensions, etc.; and maps, plans, and surveys of Wilkes-Barre and surrounding counties (350 pieces).

Frances Dorrance.

Montgomery County: Haverford College. The following diaries were received: Mary Swett, Friends' Minister of Haddonfield Meeting, New Jersey, giving notes about meetings visited in England in 1801; James Tyson, diary, 1859-1861 (3 vols.), while he was a student at Haverford and University of Pennsylvania, where he received a medical degree in 1863; William Hunt, Friends' Minister of New Garden, North Carolina, journal, 1754-1772 (written by one of his contemporaries). Collections received included obituary notices of Philadelphia Friends, 1850-1900, contained in a scrapbook and indexed; eighteen small booklets containing historical notes on Friends' meeting houses in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware and Virginia, with pictures; manuscript account book and account sheets of Jonathan Richards, Indian Agent for the United States at Wichita, Kansas, 1870-1873. Interesting single items included deed from William Penn to Morris Lewhelin (Llewellyn), January 19, 1681, for land near Ardmore, being one of the first grants made by him; letter of John Greenleaf Whittier to Isaac Wendell, 1887, April 21, asking for
a daguerreotype by Bass Otis of himself; an autographed excerpt from “Thanatopsis.”

Anna B. Hewitt.

**Historical Society of Montgomery County.** Records of tombstone inscriptions of Old Mennonite Cemetery of the Hereford Congregation of Mennonites, in the borough of Bally, Berks County; and records compiled from the record books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Trinity of Norristown, Montgomery County; copy of a letter of Samuel Fothergill, after the decease of a friend, to his wife in America, 2 mo. 1, 1757.

Emily K. Preston.

**Philadelphia: Historical Society of Frankford.** Manuscript sheets of Oxford Township census for 1830; constitution and minutes of The Infant School, founded in 1832; various docket books of justices and aldermen, 1836-1862, especially those of Israel Elliot; school diaries of Israel Elliot, 1825-1848; cash book of Lower Dublin Academy, 1823-1827, containing also cash account of All Saints’ Church, 1812-1814, and account of Director of the Poorhouse of Lower Dublin, 1810-1811; correspondence and bills of Lower Dublin Academy; and various deeds and leases.

Caroline W. Smedley.

**Susquehanna County Historical Society.** Honor roll of Revolutionary soldiers containing 192 names with genealogical sketches; minutes of the Baptist Church, Montrose, 1819-1933; record of churches chartered in Montrose, 1817-1933; marriages and obituaries of Rev. James Wheeler Raynor; photographs of women workers for the Sanitary Commission, 1861-1865, and pictures showing return of colored troops to Montrose, who were in the Civil War.

Fannie L. Bunnell.

**Historical Society of York County.** The following church records were translated by Mr. H. J. Young: Moravian Archives of York, Sherman’s Lutheran of West Manheim Township, Sherman’s Reformed of West Manheim Township, Christ Lutheran of York, First Reformed of York, private record of Jacob Lischy, V. D. M., 1743-1769. Many genealogical records were also received.

H. J. Young.