NEWS AND COMMENT

ASSOCIATION NEWS

At the invitation of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, and the history department of the University of Pittsburgh, the third annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Historical Association will be held in Pittsburgh on April 19 and 20, 1935, in conjunction with the sixth annual History Conference sponsored by the history department and the extension division of the university. An interesting program of conferences, luncheons, and dinners has been planned. Dr. Alfred P. James, professor of history at the University of Pittsburgh, is chairman of the program committee, and Major Ewing and Mr. Franklin F. Holbrook, director of the historical society, serve respectively as chairman and secretary of the committee on local arrangements.


One session of the program will be devoted to archival research and another to the Conclusions and Recommendations.
of the Commission on Social Studies of the American Historical Association. The latter will be discussed by Mr. R. O. Hughes, Board of Education, Pittsburgh; Professor P. W. Hutson, University of Pittsburgh; Mr. John F. Brougher, Department of Public Instruction, Harrisburg; Mr. Percy B. Caley, Schenley High School, Pittsburgh, and others.

With deep regret we record the death of Dr. Herman Vandenburg Ames, a charter member of the Pennsylvania Historical Association, who died on February 7, 1935. Dr. Ames was professor of American constitutional history at the University of Pennsylvania and from 1907 to 1928 was dean of the Graduate School of that institution. He was the author of several historical monographs, and edited State Documents on Federal Relations, The States and the United States. He also contributed to various periodicals. The Association has met a great loss in the death of Dr. Ames.

HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

The thirtieth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies was held on Thursday, January 17, 1935, at the Penn-Harris Hotel, Harrisburg. The session opened with a noon luncheon. Major Franklin W. Melvin, president of the Federation, presided. He read a telegram from Governor George H. Earle, expressing his regrets at being unable to keep his engagement to address the meeting. In the absence of Governor Earle, Insurance Commissioner Owen B. Hunt made a brief address. Dr. James N. Rule, Superintendent of Public Instruction, the other scheduled speaker delivered an address on "The State's Interest in History." He described the activities of the Historical Commission and in closing gave a brief history of the ancestors of Governor Earle. The following officers were elected: Major Frank W. Melvin, president; Hon. Henry C. Niles, first vice-president; Mr. Ross Pier Wright, second vice-president; Dr. Homer Greene, third vice-president; Mr. John F. Brougher, secretary; Mr. John E. Potter, treasurer; Dr. Albert Cook Myers and Mr. Henry Paul Busch, members of the executive committee, terms expiring 1938.

"Science and Technology in Western Pennsylvania" was the
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general subject of a meeting of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania held jointly, on December 31, 1934, with two sections of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Papers were presented as follows: "Scientific and Technological Contributions of Western Pennsylvania: A Survey," by Dr. John W. Oliver; "Some Contributions of Western Pennsylvania to the Electrical Industry," by Mr. F. C. Hanker; and "The Scientific and Technological Development of the Glass Industry in the Pittsburgh District," by Professor Harry S. Hower. At the annual meeting of the society on January 29, 1935, Major Robert M. Ewing presented a memorial sketch of the late General Albert J. Logan, and Dr. Samuel B. Linhart gave a review of "The Critical Period in the History of the University of Pittsburgh." Former Governor John S. Fisher was elected president in the place of Major Ewing, who declined renomination for reasons of health. Reports for the year included the announcement of a net gain in membership of 141.

For the ninth consecutive year, Dr. Frederic A. Godcharles of Milton was re-elected president of the Northumberland County Historical Society at a meeting held on January 8, 1935. Plans were made for an elaborate program to be held in November to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the organization of the society.

At the meeting of the Chester County Historical Society held January 15, 1935, Dr. Henry Pleasants read an interesting paper on "Anthony Wayne." At the February meeting of the society, Dr. Arthur E. James, a member of the faculty of Lincoln University, gave an address on "Explosives, and the History of the DuPont Family."

On March 4, 1935, at the annual meeting of The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, Dr. George Herbert Ryden, professor of history and political science at the University of Delaware and State Archivist of Delaware, delivered a scholarly address on "The Relation of the Newark Academy of Delaware to Higher Education in the American Colonies."

Two films from Yale University's historical motion picture series: "The Chronicles of America," were shown by the Lycoming
Historical Society on December 13, 1934. The films portrayed "The Eve of the Revolution," and "The Declaration of Independence." In addition to the motion pictures, the program for the evening provided for a visit to the society's historical collections, at the Andrew G. Curtin Junior High School.

The Lycoming Historical Society presented two speakers at its meeting held January 24, 1935. Colonel Henry W. Shoemaker, former United States minister to Bulgaria, chose as his topic: "Bulgarian Folkways." He compared the present state of simple life among Bulgarian peasantry with that of earlier generations of Pennsylvanians. Mr. Chester D. Clark, of Williamsport spoke on: "Pioneer Life in the New Purchase." The "New Purchase" was the last large area which the proprietors of Pennsylvania purchased from the Indians. This area, opened to settlement prior to the Revolution, included much of what is now Lycoming county. Mr. Clark has engaged in extensive research in the life of that early period.

Mr. A. Carson Stamin, one of the leading attorneys of Harrisburg, has been elected president of the Historical Society of Dauphin County, succeeding Mr. A. Boyd Hamilton who has filled his two years as president of the society. Other officers elected were: Vice Presidents, Doctor Charles S. Davis, Superintendent of Schools of Steelton, and Mrs. Meade D. Detweiler, Harrisburg; Secretary, Mr. Edward Flickinger, Harrisburg, succeeding the late Dr. Harvey B. Bashore, who died after serving for twelve years; Treasurer, Mr. Fred J. Bolton, Hummelstown; Trustees, Mr. A. Boyd Hamilton, Harrisburg, and Miss Martha O. Seiler, Harrisburg.

The progress made through the several centuries is depicted in the large number of historical articles on display in the museum of the Greene County Historical Society at Waynesburg. Household articles of pioneer days, furniture of the colonial period, early guns and muskets, and other materials are under the care of the society's curator, Mr. Frank B. Jones. The society also has a valuable collection of early letters, journals and diaries.

At a meeting of the Historical Society of Frankford, held
January 8, 1935, Dr. Joseph H. Willits, Dean of the Wharton School of Finance and Commerce, University of Pennsylvania gave the address of the evening. The society held its thirtieth annual meeting on January 29, 1935. Mr. Julian P. Boyd spoke on "Coöperation Among Historical Societies."

The activities of the Wyoming Historical and Geological Society during 1934 were reviewed by Colonel Dorrance Reynolds at the annual meeting, held on February 14, 1935. Colonel Reynolds pointed out the important aspects of the work done by the society during the past year, and also the valuable additions made by the collections of the society.

The Wyoming Historical and Geological Society reports that Volume V of the Susquehanna Company Papers, edited by Mr. Julian P. Boyd, librarian of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, is in press. The second number of the Bulletin of the society has also been distributed. It contains: "Aboriginal Man Along the Middle Susquehanna," by Mr. Henry F. Adolph, Curator of Archaeology; "A View of Susquehanna Valley Towns in 1834," edited by Dr. J. Orin Oliphant, Professor of American History at Bucknell University; and also brief notices.

The society has started coöperation with the local schools in connection with the museum. Through the generosity of the University of Pennsylvania Museum, Philadelphia, a well rounded archaeological collection on Palestine, Egypt, and Mesopotamia, with emphasis on Ur of the Chaldees, has been lent the society. The entire collection was exhibited in the museum, then divided for exhibition at the high schools. Another phase of coöperation is the placing of museum cases in the Osterhout Free Library and its four branches, the exhibits, as setting for books on the subjects illustrated, will be routed in two week periods. Still another museum project was the use of two booths at the Better Housing Exposition in March. One represented the pioneer kitchen, with the banner "How our ancestors lived"; the other contained show cases on "local archaeology." The latter included: "The use of anthracite" (the local basic industry); and a case of revolutionary and later general material; with the banner: "Our local history makes our community. Help us preserve it."

Another line of work has been developing the value of the
national elements in our population, as an effort to build understanding and good will. A series of exhibits began with one on Polish arts and crafts; a second now showing is on Pennsylvania German home arts. Others will follow next year. The most interesting event was the December meeting, when groups in native costume, sang in their national languages the Christmas music of the different countries represented, ending with “Oh, Come all Ye Faithful,” in English. The resulting feeling was a realization of community unity.

A meeting of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania was held on January 14, 1935, to discuss “William Penn’s Place in the Hall of Fame and the Proposed Reconstruction of His County Seat Pennsbury.” Brief addresses were made by the following: Dr. James N. Rule, Mr. Charles F. Jenkins, Miss M. Atherton Leach, Dr. Albert Cook Myers, Mr. Donald A. Cadzow, and Mr. Henry Paul Busch. Objects recently excavated at Pennsbury were exhibited. At a meeting held on March 11, 1935, Mr. Frederic R. Kirkland delivered an address on “An American Library of One Hundred Titles: 1765-1865.” Introductory remarks were made by Mr. A. Edward Newton.

At a special meeting of the Delaware County Historical Society held on March 29, 1935, at the Friends’ Old Meeting House, Chester, Mr. Charles Lyon Chandler, manager of the foreign trade department of the Corn Exchange Bank of Philadelphia, gave a scholarly address on “Early Shipyards on the River Delaware.” The meeting was open to the public.

GENERAL

Several observances of the 229th anniversary of the birthday of Benjamin Franklin, held in Philadelphia on January 18, 1935, prove that the spirit of the sage still lives on. President Franklin D. Roosevelt joined in paying honor to Franklin. In his behalf, Major Paul Murray, assistant chief of staff of the 79th Division, bore a wreath to the services at Christ Church. It was carried, with other wreaths in a procession from the church to Franklin’s grave. In the procession were members of the Poor Richard Club, foreign consuls, representatives of universities, colleges, learned societies, patriotic organizations and civic groups, as well
as representatives of institutions of which Franklin was a founder, including the American Philosophical Society, the University of Pennsylvania, the Library Company of Philadelphia, the Saturday Evening Post, the Pennsylvania Hospital, and the Philadelphia Contributorship. The speakers at the services included Dr. Louis C. Washburn, rector of Christ Church and Mr. H. H. Frynett, president of the Poor Richard Club. The President's wreath was placed on Franklin's grave by Franklin Bache Huntington.

Dedication of a boulder monument marking the site of the old block house at New Brighton was made on February 2, 1935. The principal speaker was Judge Frank E. Reader. The granite monument, weighing about a ton, was erected by the Fort McIntosh Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

The Work of the Eastern States Archaeological Federation, founded two years ago, is of vital importance to Pennsylvania archaeology. At the second annual meeting, held at the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences, February 23, 1935, a constitution and a number of by-laws were adopted, and addresses given by Dr. Carl Guthe on a “National Program for Archaeologists”; Dr. Arthur C. Parker “On Uniform Nomenclature”; James Griffin on “Methods of Manufacturing Indian Pottery”; and William A. Ritchie, “Field Methodology” as used in the Rochester Museum. The minutes of the meeting and the addresses by Parker and Griffin will be published in the April issue of the “Pennsylvania Archaeologist,” quarterly bulletin of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology. Copies may be obtained from the Federation's recording secretary, Miss Frances Dorrance, president of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology.

At the annual meeting of the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology held in Harrisburg, January 17, 1935, it was decided to prepare an illustrated lecture for the use of organizations needing program material on the subject. It is hoped to have this ready in the autumn. It was also decided to begin a bibliography of Pennsylvania archaeology by a committee of regional members to compile data on collections in each region. Offers of help from interested people will be welcomed by the committee. When
completed, this will be an invaluable source index. Full minutes of the evening's symposium on "Field Work in 1934"; "Significance of the Indian Pipes of the Susquehanna Watershed"; etc., will be printed in the April issue of the "Pennsylvania Archaeologist," of which Dr. Frederic A. Godcharles of Milton, is editor. The publication of this quarterly continues regularly. It is distributed free to members and is also for sale. Mr. Henry F. Adolph, secretary of the society, published a series of articles on Archaeology of the Wyoming Valley in the Wilkes-Barre Record, January 23, 26, 1935.

The Pennsylvania Folk Festival to be held at Allentown on May 3 and 4, 1935, will represent the folklore of the Pennsylvania Germans in the first state-wide festival ever held in this state. The festival under the direction of George G. Korson, and a State Advisory Committee consisting of ten prominent folklorists, educators, historians and authors, headed by Col. Henry W. Shoemaker, has attracted not only state-wide but nation-wide attention. Representatives will be chosen from among those participating in the Allentown festival to represent the state in the National Folk Festival which will be held at Chattanooga, Tenn., May 14 to 18, 1935.

Plans are being made for the formation of a Pennsylvania German Folklore Society. The organization committee consists of Dr. E. J. Balliet, Northampton; Dr. P. A. Barba, Mr. John Birmelin, Dr. Harry H. Reichard, Dr. John Baer Stoudt, Hon. Frank M. Trexler, Mr. Samuel Ziegler and Dr. E. M. Fogel, all of Allentown. The new society plans to publish annually a volume concerning folklore, music, and art.

A well prepared memorial to the College of Electors of the Hall of Fame, University of New York, submitting the name of William Penn, has been published by the Associate Committee of Women of The Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania.

Dr. C. Hale Sipe made an address on "From Trading Post to Metropolis" at the banquet held on November 9, 1934, in connection with the Pittsburgh Jubilee Celebration of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Sipe gave his lecture on "The
Glorious Beginnings of Pennsylvania," to the Senior and Junior Women's Clubs of New Castle, the Presbyterian Brotherhood of Beaver, the Women's Club of Donora, and also at the University of Pittsburgh, in the interest of the Swedish Room of the Cathedral of Learning.

"Selections from the Journal of Lucien C. Boynton, 1835-1853," edited by Dr. Solon J. Buck, which appeared in the Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society for October, 1933, has been issued as a reprint. The journal contains much material about life and conditions in New England, the Middle States and Virginia during the period covered.

The D. Appleton-Century Company has recently published Sources of Culture in the Middle West, edited by Dixon Ryan Fox. Four addresses delivered during the 1933 annual meeting of the American Historical Association, at a special session devoted to a discussion of the origins of culture in the Middle West are presented. The book is the first of a series of historical essays under the editorship of Professor William E. Lingelbach.

The Carl Schurz Memorial Foundation began publishing, in September 1934, an excellent quarterly magazine called The American-German Review. The chief objective of the Foundation, which was established in 1930, is the promotion of cultural relations between the people of the United States and the German speaking peoples. Of special interest to Pennsylvanians in the December number of The American-German Review is an article on "Francis Daniel Pastorius," by Charles Francis Jenkins, and notes on the exhibit of arts and crafts of the Pennsylvania Germans in the American wing of the Metropolitan Museum. Subscription to the magazine is included in the $10 annual membership in the Foundation. Without membership privileges, the magazine is $2 a year.

An abstract of the paper of Dr. John W. Oliver on "Henry Marie Brackenridge, Frontier Journalist and Jurist," read at the 1934 spring meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, is contained in the report of the meeting published in the September number of the Mississippi Valley Historical Review.
The Washington Society of Alexandria, Virginia, has recently issued a new four-page publication: *The Journal of the Washington Society of Alexandria*. In a brief article, the history of the society from 1800 to the present is traced. The secretary of the society is Mr. W. L. Norford, Gadsby Tavern, Alexandria, Virginia.

The Department of Public Instruction, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has recently issued Bulletin 83 on *Penn Day*. The bulletin is well illustrated and is intended primarily for use in connection with future Penn Day anniversary programs. It contains a wealth of information on Pennsylvania government as well as material relating to William Penn, making it helpful as a supplementary aid in classes in the social studies at all levels in both elementary and secondary schools.

The United States Department of Agriculture has issued as Miscellaneous Publication, No. 172, a *Bibliography on Land Settlement with Particular Reference to Small Holdings and Subsistence Homesteads*, compiled by L. O. Bercaw, A. M. Hannay, and Esther M. Colvin, under the direction of Mary C. Lacy, librarian of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The bibliography is well annotated. Books, pamphlets, and also magazine and newspaper articles are listed. A number of items relate to community farming and vacant lot cultivation in Pennsylvania.

Dr. Frederic A. Godcharles is the author of a four-volume subscription work on *Pennsylvania, Political, Governmental, Military, and Civil*, published by the American Historical Society, Inc., New York, 1933. A fifth volume, known as the "Biographical Volume" has also been published.

The December, 1934, number of *The Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine* includes the following articles: "Colonel James Burd in the Braddock Campaign," by Lily Lee Nixon; "Dorothea Dix and Social Reform in Western Pennsylvania, 1845-1875," by Marion Hathway; and "Fort Ligonier: Additional Light from Unpublished Documents," by Alfred P. James.

The January, 1935 number of the *Pennsylvania Magazine of*

Dr. Wayland F. Dunaway’s History of Pennsylvania is now “in press” and will be published in July. The publishers are Prentice-Hall, Inc., New York.

NOTEWORTHY ACCESSIONS TO PENNSYLVANIA SOCIETIES AND LIBRARIES

BY CURTIS W. GARRISON, PH.D.

The Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania. Recent acquisitions of the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania include a transcript of a diary and letters of Robert Simpson, a Scotch apprentice boy in Philadelphia, 1790-1807; a bound set of photostatic copies of title pages and frontispieces of “School Books of Sarah Jane Negley Mellon and Hon. Thomas Mellon”; and files of Pennsylvania newspapers, including two bound volumes of the American Citizen (Butler), 1863-67; about sixty issues of the Butler Eagle between 1870 and 1906; and forty-nine bound volumes of the Pittsburgh Sun, 1920-27.

Franklin F. Holbrook.

Bradford County: Tioga Point Museum. Handwritten and typewritten notes and photostats used in preparing the “Clark Manuscripts,” by Mrs. Louise Welles Murray. Historical Calendar of Collections of General John S. Clark comprising manuscripts, and letters, with many copies from early maps and illustrative drawings prepared by Mrs. Louise Welles Murray, Director of Tioga Point Museum, Athens, Penna., under supervision of the committee appointed by the society chairman, Professor W. J. Hinke, with the advice of noted research workers of Pennsylvania, 1930. (thirty-two pages; not published). Issued for the use of students of history and archaeology especially in New York and Pennsylvania.

Note: General Clark was a noted archaeologist whose important collection on Pennsylvania archaeology is in Auburn, N. Y.

Jessie Welles Murray.
Chester County Historical Society. A collection of miscellaneous papers and letters relating to the Love, Taggart, Marshall, Buffington, and other families was the most important accession during the last quarter. Manuscripts giving a brief history of the Long family, and the usual number of deeds, newspapers, and relics were also received.

John G. Bullock.

Delaware County: Friends Historical Library, Swarthmore College. The manuscript diary of Samuel Bunting, a farmer near Darby, 1810-1864 (eighteen small volumes). A typical passage in 1810 lamenting the loss of his first crop of corn illustrates the style: “When it had attained to the height of four or five feet a thunder gust came along one afternoon, driven furiously by the wind, and horrible to relate, my flourishing corn, my first crop, the pride of my heart, lay prostrate on the earth, ruined, a total wreck of my fond hopes.” Letters of Patrick Henry, Elias Hicks, John Churchman, Dr. Joseph Parish and others, for particulars of which write the librarian. Also, genealogical material such as family Bibles, marriage certificates, Quaker graveyard epitaphs, three parchment deeds (1727) for a tract near Kennett’s Square, signed by William and Laetitia Aubrey and the Proprietors.

John Russell Hayes.

Lancaster County Historical Society. Papers which might be designated a Hubley collection, bearing mainly on the Revolutionary War. There were apparently three Hubleys: Lieutenant Adam Hubley, Captain James Hubley, and Captain George Hubley. The items consist of accounts of payments for services, returns of supplies, commissions (nine pieces); letters relating to personal and business matters, including an invitation from George Washington to Captain Hubley to dinner (seven pieces); and a sketch of a land survey on the northeast branch of the Susquehanna in 1785, done by Adam Hubley and Peter Dehaven. A sketch of a land survey in Northampton County by Owen Biddle, made September 13, 1765, and several deeds, 1765-1791, for land in Kent County, Maryland, and near Manheim in Lancaster County, were also received.

Gertrude H. Haldy.
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Luzerne County: Wyoming Historical and Geological Society. The director calls attention to the collections of Zebulon Butler and Matthias Hollenback. These have not been received recently but have never been made available to the public; therefore, the report on them is of interest to readers. The collection of Colonel Zebulon Butler consists of eighty-one letters, 1772-1823, relating to war, politics and personal business, especially to land transactions of the Susquehanna Company. The Hollenback papers, which embraces also those of George Matson Hollenback, son of Matthias, consist of fifteen boxes of letters, deeds and land papers, 1797-1863. These take up business letters; paper mill; Susquehanna Coal Company: personal account of Matthias Hollenback and of Ebenezer Bowman and George Enszlene with Hollenback; Wyoming and Lehigh Valley Railroad and Susquehanna Canal; timber and coal land in Carbondale; North Branch Canal-Wyoming Railroad; Wyoming bank matters in legislation; and twenty-two letters relating to the Asylum Company settlement. There are also five large account books, 1773-1862, containing many personal references.

Frances Dorrance.

Lycoming Historical Society. One interesting document has been received, which, along with an affidavit already in possession of the society, constitute the only legal evidence known substantiating a decision of the Tribunal of the Fair-Play Men. It is well known that this organization was a self-constituted system of government holding jurisdiction in the West Branch country in matters pertaining to lands not recognized as having been included in the new purchase of 1768 and, therefore, outside the pale of the Provincial Government. The validity of their findings was recognized when civil authority was later extended to this area. The document is a four-page portion of a deposition made by Mrs. Eleanor Coldren at Sunbury in 1797 in the matter of disputed title to lands opposite the Great Island in what is now Clinton County, tracing the ownership of the land back to 1774. In this deposition she reports the findings of the Fair-Play Tribunal when the title was at issue in 1775.

Bruce A. Hunt.

Historical Society of Montgomery County. A typewritten
volume on the Upper Merion Schools by Lloyd A. Moll; drafts of six old roads leading out of Norristown made by S. Cameron Corson, former borough engineer, from old maps; and a type-written history of the Roberts family and fifteen allied branches, by Ellwood W. Roberts, entitled: "Kith and Kin for Three Hundred Years."

Emily K. Preston.

Northampton County: Easton Public Library. Copies of two important translations of German churches, which were made by Dr. W. J. Hinke, have been obtained, namely: Reformed and Lutheran congregations of Nazareth Township, formerly Dryland Church, now Trinity Lutheran and Dryland Reformed, 1763-1807; and a church in Upper Mount Bethel Township of the same denominations, 1774-1833. A copy of a typewritten record of the Stone Church near Kreidersville, Allen Township, 1772-1797, was also received.

Henry F. Marx.

Northampton County Historical and Genealogical Society. An oil painting of Governor Wolf was presented to the society by Dr. James N. Rule, Superintendent of Public Instruction, on October 25, 1934, which was accepted on behalf of the society by Senator Warren R. Roberts. A map of the subdivision of a tract of 8000 acres, northeast of Bethlehem, laid out by the Penns in the last decade of the eighteenth century, was the gift of Dr. E. M. Green.

A. D. Chidsey, Jr.

Philadelphia: Department of Records of the Friends' Yearly Meeting of Philadelphia and Vicinity. The following minutes of various Monthly Meetings and Schools were deposited: Joseph Sturje Mission School Minutes, (three books) 1882-1913; Benezet House Association Minute book of combined schools, (one book) 1917-1920; Benezet House Executive Committee Minutes, (one book) 1926-1931; Goshen Monthly Meeting Men's Minutes, (one book) 1877-1927; Goshen Monthly Meeting Women's Minutes, (one book) 1867-1911; Goshen Monthly Meeting Marriages 1787-1928, (one book); Goshen Monthly Meeting Certificates (Issued) 1828-1930, (one book); Abington Monthly Meeting

Eleanor N. Melson.

*Philadelphia: Historical Society of Frankford.* A small collection of documents relating to the Castor family was received. The original patent papers of Thomas Shallcross for street railway cars, and various deeds were among the single items received recently by the society.

Caroline W. Smedley.