

## NOTES AND QUERIES.

## Queries.

WANTED: A portrait of George Bridport of Philadelphia, the decorator of the ceiling of the old Hall of the House of Representatives, burned by the British, in 1814.

From 1813, to 1819, he was a resident of Philadelphia, and was engaged some of the time in connection with his brother Hugh Bridport, a portrait and miniature painter.

George Bridport died in Havana, Cuba, March 2, 1819.

His portrait is needed to complete Government records. Address, Charles E. Fairman, Art Curator U. S. Capitol, Washington, D. C.

## Book Notices.

PENNSYLVANIA HISTORY TOLD BY CONTEMPORARIES. By Asa Earl Martin, Professor of American History in the Pennsylvania State College, and Hiram Herr Shenk, Archivist, State Library, Pennsylvania. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1925. 12mo, pp. 621.

In this compact and exceedingly useful text-book, a highly successful attempt is made to assemble source material illustrating the relation of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvanians to important national events. The sources are well selected and their arrangement is topographical. Preceding each selection is a brief introductory note explaining the significance of the source quoted. The book is splendidly adapted for study in connection with a standard history of the United States. The Table of Contents and the Index provided facilitate the use of the volume, which doubtlessly is designed as a text-book to be used in the schools of Pennsylvania. E. S.

AFRICA IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION. Translated from *Histoire Impartiale des évènements militaires et politiques de la Dernière Guerre dans les quatre parties du monde*. (Paris, 1785, Tome II, pp. 57-61.)

The loss of Pondichéry . . . was at least compensated by the acquisition of Senegal, the most important establishment of the English on the coast of Africa. This island, which had belonged to us, was ceded to England by the treaty of Paris in 1763. The trade of Senegal consists in gum, ivory, cotton, wax, ambergris, indigo, negroes and gold-dust. The heat of the climate is excessive, and the winters there are hotter than our summers. Among a great quantity of plants which grow in Senegal, in a perfection equal to their abundance, we may specify the pineapple, the fig, the pomegranate and the grape. There is no country in the world where poultry multiply so successfully and where they are finer. The Senegal turkeys, guinea-fowls, geese and ducks are especially admired. The water-fowls are excellent there, and fishing leaves nothing to be desired in quantity and quality. Such is the island, limited enough as to size (for it is only three miles long by a quarter wide) but important by reason of its trade and its productions, which has just returned to the dominion of its former possessors. Fort St. Louis is the principal defense of Senegal, and serves, so to speak, as key to the great establishment of Gorée, whose refuge it became upon the evacuation of that island, where the English found never a cannon, when they disembarked in the month of February following.\*

---

\* Senegal had been captured on January 30, 1779.

The French thought lightly of the conquest of Senegal, merely detaching two frigates of forty guns and two small armed craft to attack Fort James on the River Gambia. This was in no state for defense, and capitulated unconditionally on February 11. The Governor had had the intention, just before, of driving us from the river, and for this purpose he had assembled all the English merchants established on the banks of the Gambia. While they were debating together upon the means of carrying out this project, the French appeared, captured the merchants and their craft, and spared not at all those of the Nationals who had connections with the fort, whose works they totally destroyed. They sent the artillery therefrom to Senegal, which they fortified so much the better and left there a garrison of about three hundred men. This expedition netted to the French nine thousand pounds sterling in wealth taken from the English merchants, who all received orders to leave the country. The troops then marched towards the coast, with intent to ruin the fortifications of the island of Bance on their way. For this purpose all the craft taken on the River Gambia were made ready. Thus, in consequence of sheer neglect, one of the richest countries of the known world was lost for England.

We learn that, at the same period, M. de Vaudreuil, while sailing along the coast of Senegal, had captured twenty-two slave-ships belonging to the English, and these prizes were estimated at seven or eight million. This commander, having nothing further to do in these parts, then prepared to set sail to join the Count d'Estaing.

To the gains of the French in Africa we may add the rich prize of *The Osterley*, a vessel of the English [East India] Company, whose cargo was valued at three hundred thousand pounds sterling. This ship, which sailed from India on December 16 [1778], was sighted on February 22 [1779], by two French frigates, which captured it off the Cape of Good Hope.

Such were, on the eve of the campaign of 1779, the respective positions of the belligerent Powers in the three quarters of the world: Africa, Asia and America. The preliminaries of this campaign were still more formidable in Europe.

A. J. E.

**PENNSYLVANIA PLACE NAMES.** By A. Howry Espanshade, State College, Pennsylvania. Published by the author. 375 pages and map. Price \$3.50.

This very well printed and especially well written book covers a most interesting field of investigation for the student of Pennsylvania history as it relates to the place names found in the state. The field covered by the book is well stated by the author in the Preface—"Pennsylvania Place Names is an historical commentary on the names of all the Pennsylvania counties, county seats, and towns with a population of five thousand or more, and on the most noteworthy village and township names."

This plan of work is most interestingly and critically carried out. The book has a splendid Index, which makes it of real value to the historical student.

The only criticism which the reviewer has to make concerning this valuable work, is that the author depends too much upon Heckewelder for the origin and meaning of Indian words which are not derived from the Delaware language, but from one of the Iroquoian languages. Heckewelder often attempted to make a name of undoubted Seneca origin, resemble a word of Delaware origin—and, he then gives the meaning of the Delaware word which sounded like the Seneca word. There are several such Iroquois names given in the book, with Heckewelder's origin and meaning. Oswayo, the name of the river and township, in Potter county, is given the significance of "place of flies"? from *Utscheja*, according to Heckewelder. The name is not Delaware, but Seneca, and is a corruption of *Osoayeh*, which signifies "pine forest." The Oswayo

valley was filled with the finest pine forests in the state when the first settlers entered it.

Another word is Venango, which the author gives as being derived from the same word as Shenango and Chenango, meaning "bull thistles." The only resemblance which these corruptions of *Ochenango*, meaning "large bull thistles," bear to Venango is the "ango." The name Venango is, without question, derived from *onenge*, meaning a "mink." The name Venango as often written by the early writers has the form Wenango (Evan's map, 1755), which more nearly approaches the Delaware form of Winingus. The form Weningo is given by Edward Shippen in 1753 (Col. Rec. V. 660). The word cannot possibly be derived from *Ochenango*, meaning "bull thistles."

Apart from these few errors, which are to be expected, the book is most scientific and accurate. The author does not profess to be a student of the Indian names, as he says in his Introduction, "The present writer has no knowledge of the Indian tongues, and has therefore been obliged to lean wholly upon the authority of others." It is in no sense a fault in the writer to lean upon Heckewelder—we all do that. But, sometimes Heckewelder is mistaken, when he tries to force the meaning of a Delaware word into one which has an Iroquoian origin, simply because its phonetic values are the same—for example.

The book is a worthy contribution to the historical works relating to Pennsylvania.

G. P. D.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE UNITED STATES IN THE OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE BRITISH HISTORY FOR SCHOOL USE. By Roscoe Mongan, B.A. London: George Gill & Sons, 1925. 82nd edition or impression, pp. 226, 12mo [B. C. 55—A. D. 1923].

P. 112. Many of the Puritans, finding they could get no toleration in England, sailed to America, and founded settlements on the eastern seaboard of that newly discovered continent. Here, for a time, these "Pilgrim Fathers" suffered many trials and hardships; but their settlements developed into important English colonies, which, in process of time, declared their independence, and thus they laid the foundation of the republic we know as the United States.

P. 136. Richard Baxter, George Fox and William Penn were eminent Puritan divines.

Pp. 146-149. *The American Colonies*. The American colonies established by the British in North America first demand attention. The New England States in the North were peopled largely by the descendants of those sturdy Puritans, who settled there in the days of the Stuarts. They inherited the independent feelings of their fathers, and by their thrift and energy had established much power and wealth. Dutch settlers who had fled from persecution at home, had established themselves at New York, and on the shores of the commercial waters around. Pennsylvania was founded by William Penn and his followers, whilst those who established the more southern colonies of Maryland, Virginia and the two Carolinas were mostly Catholics and Cavaliers. Though proud of their mother country and very loyal, the colonists were prepared to resist any violation of their privileges.

*Stamp Duties*. The War of American Independence, in 1775, was caused by repeated attempts of the British to force various Duties upon the North American colonies, though they had no representatives in the British parliament. The British parliament decided that it was proper to make the colonists pay something towards the expense of defending them during the late war, and the Stamp Act was brought in by Grenville, 1765; repealed by Rockingham, 1766; who retained the duty on tea, but abolished other duties imposed in 1767. When the tea-ships arrived at Boston in 1773, they were boarded by Americans disguised as Indians, and their cargoes were thrown into the water. The

cause of the colonists was vigorously supported in the British parliament by Pitt, Earl of Chatham, Edmund Burke, and Charles James Fox, but the obstinate king would not heed their warnings, and repressive measures were adopted. A Congress of Delegates from the British colonies was held at Philadelphia, 1773 [sic]; they entered into Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union in 1775, in which year the British and Americans came into collision, in a skirmish, at Lexington. The thirteen American colonies then assumed the title of the United States, July 4th, 1776. George Washington, who afterwards became the First American President, was appointed commander-in-chief, and the struggle between the mother country and her offspring States commenced in real earnest.

*War of American Independence.* The first encounter of any importance occurred in 1775, at Bunker's Hill, where the Royalists obtained a dearly won victory. After this, the United States drew up their "Declaration of Independence," and renounced their allegiance to Britain. The capitulation of Burgoyne's army to the Americans led by General Yates [sic], at Saratoga, in 1777, and the arguments of Dr. Franklin, who conducted the correspondence, induced France to recognise the United States and to enter into an offensive and defensive alliance with them, 1778. The same course was followed by Spain in 1779 and by the Dutch in 1780.

[On p. 148, opposite the rest of the account, is a well-executed map, which puts crossed swords at Lexington, *Kentucky*, with the date, 1775, and makes West Point identical with Jersey City. The battle of the Brandywine, 1777, is placed in Virginia.]

The Earl of Chatham, who had hitherto taken the part of the Colonists, was so enraged at this union of the colonies, with the natural enemies of Great Britain, that he arose from a sick bed, and went to the House of Commons to oppose the separation of the colonies. At the end of a remarkable oration he was seized with a fit, and a few days afterwards died. In 1776, the British evacuated Boston, whilst the Americans failed in their invasion of Canada and also withdrew from New York. In 1777, Washington sustained a defeat on the Brandywine; Howe's army occupied Philadelphia, which he evacuated in 1779 [sic], and fighting became general on the high seas. In the year 1778, the British, under Lord Keppel, fought an undecided engagement with the French fleet off Brest. The French took Dominica, St. Pierre, and Miquelon; whilst the British captured Pondicherry. In the year 1779, the French took St. Vincent, Grenada, and the Spaniards unsuccessfully besieged Gibraltar, which was relieved by Admiral Rodney. The termination of the war was caused by the surrender of Lord Cornwallis's army to General Washington, at York Town in 1781, the year in which William Pitt, second son of the Earl of Chatham, made his first speech in the House of Commons. The independence of the United States was recognised by the Treaty of Versailles, 1783, when an interchange of conquests took place between France and Britain, and the Floridas and Honduras were restored to Spain. Canada, however, in the great division of the spoils of war, remained in the hands of the British.

P. 158. *American War of 1812.* A Second war with America, in 1812, was caused through Britain claiming the right of searching American vessels for seamen to serve in the British Navy, and on account of various commercial disputes. The Americans failed in their attempt to conquer Canada, and though generally successful at sea were defeated in the ocean duel between the *Shannon* and the *Chesapeake* in which the British ship, *Shannon*, although inferior in men and guns, captured her antagonist in fifteen minutes. This war was concluded by the Peace of Ghent, in 1814.

P. 171. The Southern States seceded from the United States, 1861, and the war which ensued produced great distress in our cotton manu-

facturing districts, as the supply of cotton failed. At the close of the war, claims were made on Britain for damage done by piratical cruisers, particularly the *Alabama*, belonging to the Southern States, which had been fitted up in Birkenhead. Ultimately, the matter was arranged, and Britain paid a heavy indemnity to the United States, 1872.

P. 176. The Atlantic Telegraph was successfully laid from Ireland to America, 1866, since which time the Atlantic has been spanned by various lines between the Old and New World.

P. 177. The Venezuelan dispute with America was settled in November, [1896], and in January, 1897, an Arbitration Treaty was signed, though the American Senate rejected it in the following May.

P. 181. The French, German, Austrian, Russian and Italian papers all contained graceful tributes to the well-deserved popularity of King Edward VII; whilst those of the United States treated the Coronation as if it formed a part of their own Constitution, the Stock Exchange of New York being closed for the day.

Pp. 185-186. Whilst there [meaning the Prince of Wales in Canada, 1860], he accepted the invitation of the President of the United States of America, and visited many important towns, upon all occasions meeting with a hearty reception by the people.

P. 189. In September, 1910, a dispute, which had been in existence for over 130 years between the Governments of Great Britain and the United States as to their respective fishing rights in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and off the Atlantic shores of North America, was finally settled by the Court of Arbitration at The Hague. The friendly relations between Great Britain and the U. S. A. caused an amicable decision in which the fishermen of the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland derive great benefit from the award of the Court of Arbitration.

*Note by the Transcriber.*

These are all the references to us besides one or two about Virginia, an account of "the Seven Years' War" (1756-1763) and the following brief mentions: p. 175, Queen Victoria's popularity here; p. 187, Anglo-American Arbitration Agreement; p. 190, half a line about our presence in "the Great War";<sup>1</sup> pp. 209 and 213, on Emigration; p. 225, these battles of the American Revolution and the European and Asiatic wars which became a part of it:

"Lexington .....	British v. Colonists (Indecisive) ..	1775
Bunker's Hill .....	British v. Colonists .....	1775
Brandywine .....	British v. Colonists .....	1777
Stillwater .....	Colonists v. British .....	1777

Ushant .....	British v. French (Indecisive) ...	1778
Siege of Gibraltar ..	British v. French .....	1779
Cape St. Vincent ...	British v. French .....	1780
Dogger Bank .....	British v. Dutch .....	1781
Puerto Novo .....	British v. Hyder Ali and French..	1781."

The victor stands first. These last battles confirm what was said in *The Pennsylvania Magazine*, 1913, p. 89: "Like the French and Indian struggle, the Revolution was a world-war: not only did the Delaware and the Thames resound with the din of arms, but the Senegal,<sup>2</sup> the Essequibo, the Guadalquivir, the Rhine, the Seine and the Ganges." In the same magazine, 1921, p. 388; 1922, p. 78, it was pointed out that the American Revolution came to an end in India, when our allies, the French and the Dutch, made peace with the English: March 11, 1784. (Cf. 1924, p. 96.)

<sup>1</sup> The English do not call it *the* World-War, having had several more before it.

<sup>2</sup> Added in 1925, in consequence of the translation just made for the same magazine, on Africa in the Revolution.