

NOTES AND QUERIES

Notes

LUTHERAN BIBLES AT THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA.

In our former note in October, we noted that no genuine Lutheran Bible had ever been printed in America. Nevertheless one German New Testament printed here (St. Louis, 1892, quarto) contains the note prefixed to the Epistle to the Hebrews. But even this is not a genuine Lutheran New Testament, and that for two reasons:

1. In the table of contents Hebrews, James, Jude and Revelation are numbered, 24-27, whereas Luther refused to number them. Moreover the gap which he made between 3 John and Hebrews is closed up.

2. The second part of Luther's preface to the New Testament is omitted. In this section Luther calls James "a regular epistle of straw" (eine recht stroherne Epistel).

The omission of this passage and the closing up of the gap in the table of contents began very early, for they occur in the Bible of 1563.

A. J. E.

Query

JOHNS—Information desired as to names and addresses of the owners of the Family Bibles of Nicholas Johns (1688-1774), and his grandson, Thomas Johns (1770-1852), or of persons who can supply names and dates of birth, death and marriage of their respective children.

Address: Colonel Frederic L. Huidekoper, care of Morgan and Company, 14 Place Vendôme, Paris, France.

Book Notices

THE INSTRUCTION FOR JOHAN PRINTZ, GOVERNOR OF NEW SWEDEN. Pp. XVI + 287 (including Index). By Dr. Amandus Johnson. The Swedish Colonial Society, Philadelphia, Pa., 1930.

This small but exceedingly important document, which forms the core of the volume, is now presented to the reader in a carefully worked-out translation. The original Swedish has been reproduced parallel with the translation so that the reader who knows the Swedish language may check the translator's rendering throughout.

Besides the author's preface and an introduction by Dr. John Fredrick Lewis, there is an instructive biographical chapter on John Björnsson Printz. Then follows the Instruction, pp. 55-99, itself provided with an introduction dealing with earlier interest in the document and translations of it. A large portion of the book, pp. 101-281, is constituted by five appendices, respectively A, B, C, D, E. Appendix A deals with reports of Governor Printz in the years 1644 and in 1647. Under B have been included letters from the hands of Printz, Papegoja, Oxenstierna, and Brahe, all between 1643 and 1656. Under C is found the interesting correspondence (1643-1644) between Governor Printz and Governor Winthrop, five letters in all. Appendix D contains Court Records in New Sweden between 1643 and 1644. Appendix E treats of the Relations with the Dutch.

The volume is fully indexed. Twenty-four handsome illustrations and a map of New Sweden enhance the value of this important addition to our knowledge of the Swedes on the Delaware.

Dr. Johnson's thoroughness as a historian requires neither comment nor emphasis here. He is the one outstanding authority in the field. The wisdom of his introduction of originals whether in Swedish or Latin cannot be praised too highly. The copious notes, references, and corrections of predecessors in the field render the volume at the same

time an excellent source book. The work is beautifully printed and bound in light blue with impressions in gold.

To those in particular who are interested in the early history of the States of Pennsylvania and of Delaware—if not in the history of the American Commonwealth as a whole—the volume will prove a mine of reliable information such as has not been available heretofore. No library is complete without it on either side of the Atlantic. The layman too will find it fascinating reading from cover to cover. The author and all who have contributed to the work in one way or another and The Swedish Colonial Society, under whose auspices it has been printed, can justly be proud of this important historical work.

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COLONIAL IRONWORK IN OLD PHILADELPHIA. The Craftsmanship of the Early Days of the Republic. By Philip B. Wallace, with measured drawings by William Allen Dunn and an Introduction by Fiske Kimball. New York: Architectural Book Publishing Company, Inc., 1930. Price \$15.

The Introduction by Dr. Kimball furnishes an excellent review of this important work:

"In the enthusiasm for colonial craftsmanship, the work in iron has not gone unregarded, but it has been slow in receiving the attention it deserves. For many years it gained only incidental attention, in general works on colonial architecture, particularly that of Charleston and the South. More recently, the passion for collecting has focussed attention on colonial hardware, such as locks and hinges, which have received special study. The collection and publications of the late Dr. Henry Chapman Mercer called attention to the artistic work of the Pennsylvania Germans in the casting of iron, and their biblical stove plates are now well-known. It is the smelting and casting of iron only which are discussed in 'The Forges and Furnaces of Pennsylvania.' Thus there has remained a place in which a more intensive study of architectural ironwork, particularly wrought iron, would be welcome.

"This place Messrs. Dunn and Wallace have now happily undertaken to fill, so far as it concerns the work in Philadelphia. The choice of place, dictated by residence and familiarity, is a happy one. Philadelphia, in colonial days, was not only the metropolis and for a long time the capital of this country, but also the commercial center of its chief region of iron production. The material was cheap and abundant; there was plentiful activity in building. Moreover Philadelphia—more even than Boston since its Great Fire—has preserved its older sections more nearly intact than any of the larger colonial cities of the North.

"How much of the city's old iron work has survived is first realized and revealed in their plates. In the railings and gates of churchyards, on the familiar marble steps of the town houses, in the balconies and lanterns of the counting houses and banks, a surprising quantity remains, and is here recorded, both in photographs and in sensitive detail drawings. The material is here provided for a study of their evolution from the plain square bars of the pre-Revolutionary Powell railing, through the graceful and yet simple curves of the Solitude stair and of the Girard balcony, onward to the elaboration of the later works. The authors have wisely not set themselves too rigid a terminus, and have included much of considerable charm from the Greek Revival with its ornaments and even ensembles in cast iron.

"For the architect's office, where the design of ironwork is too often the mechanical exercise of some minor draughtsman, this volume will be full of stimulating suggestion. Above all it will be helpful if it suggests to the architect the employment of a smith who, like those of old, is himself an artist craftsman in iron."