

THE PHILADELPHIA WINDSOR CHAIR  
AND ITS JOURNEYINGS

By HARROLD E. GILLINGHAM

It is not an uncommon thing to read in a catalogue describing sales of furniture in other cities such items as a "Philadelphia type Windsor Chair", and one naturally wonders how these chairs came to be at such distances as Charleston and Boston, and that they are so similar to the Windsor chair commonly made and used in the Quaker City during the eighteenth century.

While it has been conceded that the Philadelphia cabinet and chair makers, from about 1740 to 1790, were superior to those working in other sections of the Atlantic seaboard, and that they produced articles for household use and adornment far superior to other craftsmen—save perhaps the cabinet-makers of Newport, Rhode Island—it is natural to feel somewhat proud of our early citizen-joiners who were capable of executing articles of this nature which commanded such an extended market as did the Windsor chair.

"Philadelphia made Windsor Chairs" were advertised in New York journals as early as 1763,<sup>1</sup> and, in 1766, a Charleston newspaper carried an advertisement of Sheed & White offering Philadelphia made Windsor Chairs which had been imported in the brig *Philadelphia Packet*. These were described as being "well painted, high back'd, low back'd, sack back'd, and settees or double seated, fit for piazzas or gardens, childrens dining and low chairs."<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Luke Vincent Lockwood, *Colonial Furniture in America*, II. 74.

<sup>2</sup> Alfred Coxe Prime, *Arts and Crafts in Philadelphia, Maryland and South Carolina*. Boston: The Walpole Society, 1929.

These two notices apparently give some collectors of early American furniture the idea that the Windsor chair came into general use about that time. Such is not the case. Evidence has recently come to the attention of the writer which shows that this type of chair was made in Philadelphia as early as 1745-1747, and also as the years went on, both before and after the Revolution, this class of chair was shipped in great quantities to the other colonies, to the West Indies and even to European ports.

Credit has been given the Philadelphia chair-makers for having first produced the Windsor chair in America, and while its origin was undoubtedly English, it has not yet been definitely established just when it first made its appearance in this city. Then, too, the American Windsor chair differs somewhat from the English type. Probably because the local craftsman changed its model to suit the plainer taste of his clients and thus produced a somewhat different type of chair, known today as the American Windsor.

The *South Carolina Gazette* of October 3, 1754, has the following advertisement:

Any Person may be supplied with black chairs at 12 l. per dozen, white ditto at 9 l. low chairs at 15 s. a piece, and children's chairs at 12s.6d. and 15 s. by applying to me, at my plantation on John's—Island, or Mr. Thomas Legare next door to the Exchange Coffee House in Charles Town. Solomon Legare, Jun.<sup>3</sup>

At the prices mentioned these could hardly have been mahogany chairs, and as Legare did not say he made chairs, they might possibly have been of the Windsor type, which were made in Philadelphia and shipped to Charleston. As there was much commerce between the two cities it is reasonable to suppose the Philadelphia styles were soon to be found in the Southern settlements.

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<sup>3</sup> Alfred Coxe Prime, *Arts and Crafts in Philadelphia, Maryland and South Carolina*. Boston: The Walpole Society, 1929.

Inasmuch as Philadelphia has been given credit for first producing this particular type of furniture in the Western hemisphere, it is well to look into the matter of the early chair-makers of this city and where they sold their product.

JOHN GILBERT, who was styled a *Turner* when he took George Doblewart as a servant-man, and recorded the fact before James Hamilton, then Mayor of the city, on December 12, 1745;<sup>4</sup> yet he called himself a *Windsor chair-maker* in his will, proved in 1788. He no doubt made such chairs much earlier in his career. Unfortunately the inventory of his estate does not mention the stock on hand at the time of his death.

SAMUEL AUSTIN, who is also mentioned in Mayor Hamilton's book of Indentures as having taken a servant man, John Erwin, on September 15, 1746, was styled a *Joyner* in that record;<sup>5</sup> but when he died, in 1767, there was listed among his effects, thirteen Windsor chairs, undoubtedly of his own making.

JOSEPH ARMITT, who was styled a *Joyner* when he married, in 1738, took John Hill as an apprentice, who had formerly been indentured to Caleb Evans a chair maker.<sup>6</sup> Armitt can definitely be classed as a Windsor chair maker when he died in 1747. The inventory of his estate included such items as 72 banisters for chair backs; 200 feet of maple lumber, 500 feet of "Bottoming Stuff" and 650 feet of poplar boards, which were probably for chair seats. The appraisers of his estate were meticulous in their description of his stock on hand and itemized it carefully; including therein "5 Windsor Chairs" which they valued at £1-15-0. This fixes without doubt the fact that Windsor chairs were made in Philadelphia by 1747.

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<sup>4</sup> Original manuscript record in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*



ords as the writer has been privileged to examine, many of the Windsor chairs shipped to Southern ports, as well as to New England and New York, were forwarded by local merchants whose places of business were near that of Trumble.

The ship *Philadelphia* sailed from this port on September 2, 1789, with four dozen chairs shipped by Francis Trumble to a customer in Charleston, South Carolina, and on December 12, 1789, the brig *Charleston* left for the same port with fourteen dozen Windsor chairs, sent by "Mr. Trumble," noted on the manifest. One hundred and sixteen more Windsor chairs from Trumble are mentioned in the manifest of the *Columbia* sailing March 19, 1790, for the South Carolina port, as well as thirty-nine others sent by James Raguet, who shipped all kinds of merchandise to his Southern customers.<sup>10</sup>

JOSIAH SHERALD was styled a "Rush-bottom and Windsor Chair maker" when he applied for a license to marry Rachel Knight on June 14, 1762, and in his advertisement in the *Pennsylvania Gazette* of September 5, 1765, he advised the public that "at the Sign of the Gold-headed Cane, in Second-street, a little below Dock Bridge," he made Rush-bottom as well as Windsor Chairs, Couches and Canes. He also offered "Five Pounds a Cord for Hickory Wood, or any smaller Quantity in Proportion"; evidently for his Windsor chairs. His name also appears in account books of the Wharton family, where it is entered "Josiah Shearel, Chairmaker" and no doubt he, too, supplied some of the Philadelphia merchants with the many Windsor chairs shipped from this city from 1766 to 1800.

JOHN BIGGARD advertised in the *South Carolina Gazette* of March 24, 1767, that he had lately arrived

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<sup>10</sup> Original manifests in possession of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

from Philadelphia and was prepared to supply the citizens with "Windsor and Garden Chairs, Walking sticks, and many other kinds of Turnery ware."<sup>11</sup> How he succeeded we are not advised, but judging by the thousands of Windsor and other chairs recorded as being sent to Charleston from Philadelphia, one would think the local craftsmen were not well patronized, and that the Charlestonians insisted upon having the genuine Philadelphia production.

BENJAMIN TROTTER (1699-1768), styled himself a *Chairmaker* in his will, proved April 1, 1768, and the inventory of his estate shows he made all kinds of chairs. Windsor chairs are listed as well as "a quantity of Chair Rounds." The versatility of his craftsmanship is likewise evidenced by the inventory which included "8½ Doz. Walking Sticks & Rodds" and "3½ Doz. Straw Hatts, some platt &c." His name appears in several account books of early Philadelphians, in 1751, but no actual records have been found to show what he charged for his chairs.

SAMUEL WILLIAMS, a *Joyner* and *Lumber dealer* in Fourth below Market street, advertised, in 1770, that he had for sale "Windsor Chair plank"<sup>12</sup> and, in 1773,<sup>13</sup> "a very large parcel of 2 inch poplar plank, for chairs and bellows." This was evidently for chair seats which were generally made of poplar; that being a softer wood to work in, and the saddle seats more readily fashioned from that wood.

JEDEDIAH SNOWDEN of Market street west of Front street advertised, in 1773, as a Cabinet and Windsor Chair-maker.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Alfred Coxe Prime's *Arts and Crafts in Philadelphia, Maryland and South Carolina*.

<sup>12</sup> *Pennsylvania Chronicle*, July 11, 1770.

<sup>13</sup> *Pennsylvania Journal*, June 2, 1773.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, November 24, 1773.

There were other chair-makers in Philadelphia, such as Robert Barton, who advertised in 1739; Joseph Saul, a *Chair and Spinning wheel maker*, in 1746; James Cresson, a *Chairmaker*, who died in 1746; Caleb Emlen, who made white chairs, children's chairs, and red chairs, and who died in 1748; and, Enoch Flower of the District of Southwark, who died in 1773. But sufficient evidence has not come to light to class them as Windsor chair-makers.

Following these craftsmen were many others who made Windsor chairs; the directories, from 1785 to 1800, give perhaps a score or more who produced this particular type, but we are only interested here in the earliest producers of such pieces and where they sold them.

Unfortunately, no account books of our early cabinet-makers are known. Comparatively few such records of our first merchants remain for the student. Such as have been examined may be found in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, in a few libraries that thought it necessary to preserve such records of old Philadelphia mercantile life, and in one or two private collections, which the writer has been privileged to use. Records have been seen which show that over six thousand chairs (mostly described as of the Windsor type), were shipped from Philadelphia to other colonies, to the West Indies, and even to Europe, prior to 1790; yet in very few instances are the names of the chair-makers mentioned in the record. Nearly all the shipments seem to have been made by the merchants—or in some cases by the Master of the vessel himself—and we are unable to ascertain which of the several Philadelphia Windsor chair-makers actually produced those which were exported to other places. And, too, there

are few shipping reports to be found; a very limited number of the Custom House papers during the Colonial period are in the collections of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania. It is believed that records of the Customs Department prior to the Revolution were destroyed when the British army occupied Philadelphia in 1777-1778.

### **Port of Salem in New-England.**

THESE may Certify that there hath been here  
duly Enter'd and Landed from on Board the  
*M<sup>o</sup>g. Thos. m<sup>o</sup>th. Joseph M<sup>o</sup>th<sup>o</sup>*  
Master, from *Philadelphia*

*Three hundred & eighty seven bar  
Flour, four tons four hundred three  
to Shipping Quarters, from two Wds from one  
Dish of five Tables thirty five Seal  
L. Coller Shirts, & three bags of Oats*

*Ad. Brascarene  
Compt*

Conformant to Bond there given  
*8. April 1767*  
Dated at the Custom-House in Salem,

*6. Aug. 1767*

1648

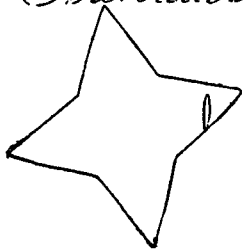
From the original in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania

During the Colonial days the English law required the Captain of the ship and one other person—usually the owner—to give a bond that all shipments of iron and lumber, or the products thereof, should not be landed in Europe, North of Cape Finisterre (France), except in Great Britain, Ireland, in the Madeiras, and the Azore Islands.

When such a cargo was shipped—say for instance to a New England port—the proper officer there made



Barbados.

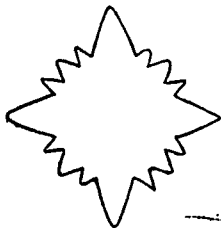


THESE are to certify all whom it doth concern,  
That there hath been landed here out of the Ship  
or Vessel called the *Irish ship* whereof  
*Thomas Parre* - is Master, of the Burthen  
of *One hundred* - Tons, or thereabouts,  
navigated with *Ten* - Men, *Plantation*  
built,

*Ten Thousand One Hundred Slaves,*  
*Heading, Six Dozen chairs, One*  
*Plough*

*John G. Clarke*

*Chap.*



Which said Iron and Lumber appear by Cocket dated  
the *Thirteenth* Day of *May* - 1767 to  
have been shipped and laden at the Port of *Philadelphia*  
in *Pennsylvania*

Given under our Hands and Seals at Barbados, the  
*Fourth* Day of *August* One Thousand  
Seven Hundred and Sixty *Seven*

*William Lander*  
*Dea. of the*

*John G. Clarke*

*Chap.*

*Certificate for shipping a Bond given in the Plantations for a Ship that loads  
Iron and Lumber, agreeable to Act 4 Geo. III. Cap. 25. Sect. 23.*

From the original in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania

an official return to the Customs officer at the port of shipment, advising just what cargo had been received. Or, perhaps, the captain of the ship was required to return it, as proof of delivery, in accordance with the bond, to relieve the bondsmen of their liability. These bonds were apparently required for every voyage the vessel made with such a cargo.

Fortunately, a few of these official returns are still to be seen, and from those examined one finds that in the twenty-five months following July 12, 1766, over four hundred and fifty chairs were shipped to the Barbadoes and other West India ports, to say nothing of other pieces of furniture mentioned. The fact that the captain or merchant shipper called them simply "Chairs," is not sufficient evidence that Windsor chairs were forwarded; but as that style was then so popular, and as they were shipped in quantities varying from six pieces to ten dozen at a time, one is justified in assuming they were the Windsor type of chair.

The following table is taken from the few remaining papers, in the files of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, connected with the shipment of iron and lumber products from Philadelphia, and might go on indefinitely, if space permitted; but sufficient is given to show the frequency of such shipments during this pre-Revolutionary period. In this and the following tabulations it has been thought best to leave out the character of the vessel, whether a sloop, brig, schooner or ship; and as there were four *Betsys*, from different ports, the frequency of such sailings is explained.

Date	Vessel	Destination	Merchandise
1766			
July 12,	<i>Ranger</i>	Barbadoes	1 couch & 6 chairs
Aug. 12,	<i>Rosanna</i>	do	42 chairs, 3 tables
Oct. 24,	<i>Black Jocke</i>	do	24 chairs, 3 wheelbarrows
1767			
Jan. 12,	<i>Friendship</i>	do	60 chairs
Jan. 24,	<i>Barbadoes Packet</i>	do	6 Windsor chairs
April 8,	<i>Hannah</i>	Salem in New-England	1 desk & 2 tables
May 12,	<i>Sally</i>	St. Christophers	2 desks, 1 book case
May 19,	<i>Friendship</i>	Barbadoes	6 dozen chairs
June 11,	<i>Hannah</i>	St. Christophers	2 cases Joiner's work
June 30,	<i>Sally &amp; Jenny</i>	New Providence	12 chairs
Aug. 10,	<i>Friendship</i>	Barbadoes	72 chairs
Aug. 21,	<i>Phoebe</i>	do	60 chairs
Dec. 14,	<i>Mercury</i>	do	35 Windsor chairs
1768			
Jan. 23,	<i>Barbadoes Packet</i>	do	24 chairs
June 20,	<i>Hannah</i>	do	36 chairs
Aug. 30,	<i>Polly</i>	"Port of Salem New-England"	1 box containing a clock

manifest does not specify Windsor chairs, it is more than likely that they were chairs of that type than of mahogany or walnut, judging by the number mentioned.

Manifest of the cargo on board the ship Industry  
Samuel Gaskill Master for New York bound Aug. 30<sup>th</sup> 1783  
2 Men built in New Jersey in 1782 Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> in New Jersey  
in 1783 owned by William Kemble

Shipped by  
Robt. Purcell Fifty Bbls Flour  
Four Do  
Five Bbls  
Two Do  
Four Bbls  
Two Whys  
Two Bbls

One Do of Caske Wine  
Three Whys  
Two Trunks  
Three Table  
One clock  
One Nest of Drawers  
Twenty Six Chairs  
One Dress  
Eighteen Seventeen hundred & Eighteen Ply  
Six Bbls Stacks

Sworn before me James Gaskill  
Nov. 14. 1783

From the original in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania

Other shipments of chairs and furniture immediately follow. These, as well as the succeeding tabulations, are from books and papers in the Historical Society's collections.

## To New York

1783		
June 13	<i>Betsy</i> <sup>16</sup>	22 packages of furniture, shipped by John Ross, a Philadelphia merchant
Aug. 4	<i>Two Friends</i>	A quantity of Furniture, shipped by Thomas Feyres, also 1 Desk[ <i>sic</i> ] & 1 Looking Glass, by Philip Moore
Aug. 5	<i>Letty</i>	18 Windsor chairs, sent by Mr. Cox [ <i>sic</i> ]
Aug. 23	<i>Polly</i>	26 chairs by William Curless and sundry Household furniture by Forbes[ <i>sic</i> ]
Aug. 23	<i>Betsy</i>	"3 Dozzin Cheers, 6 Tables, 7 Washing Tubbs, 1 Spinnet, 12 crates Delf Ware", by H. Levy
Nov. 14	<i>Industry</i>	3 tables, 1 clock, 1 nest of drawers, 26 chairs and 1 desk, all shipped by Robert Russell
1784		
April 13	<i>Sally</i>	3 doz. chairs & sundry furniture
April 29	<i>Black Duck</i>	Sundry furniture
June 21	<i>Betsy</i>	6 chairs
Sept. 4	<i>Betsy</i>	2 large couches
1785		
April 23	<i>Betsy</i>	177 packages containing furniture
1789		
Dec. 10	<i>Nancy</i>	6 cheres [ <i>sic</i> ]

<sup>16</sup> It has been thought best to omit the description of a vessel as a brig, sloop, schooner, snow or ship. Likewise the home port of the ship. There were four *Betsys*, of different rigging, and from different ports.

Boston and other New England ports received their share of chairs from the expert Philadelphia craftsmen, as the following table indicates:

1783	July 5	<i>Ranger</i>	to Boston	18 chairs
1784	Jan. 24	<i>Polly</i>	"N. England"	32 chairs
	Apr. 14	<i>Betsy</i>	"Beverly, N. E."	31 Windsor chairs & 19 pcs. mahogany
	Nov. 6	<i>Betsy</i>	Rhode Island	13 chests, boxes & cases of furniture shipped by Meyers Fisher, a Philadelphia merchant
1785	Aug. 2	<i>Betsy</i>	Boston	14 arm chairs
	Sept. 1	<i>Delaware</i>	Rhode Island	1 dozen Windsor chairs
	Sept. 29	<i>Winthrop</i>	Boston	18 Windsor chairs
1789	Oct. 28	<i>Betsy</i>	do	1 chest drawers, shipped by John Vaughn to Thomas Amory
	Oct. 31	<i>Alice</i>	Salem	22 Windsor chairs & 1 spinning wheel

The people of the Southern states were good patrons of the Philadelphia Windsor chair-makers; Charleston, South Carolina seems to have taken more than any other section. From March 26, 1784, to August 24, 1786 (about eighteen months), there were 1,760 chairs sent to that city alone, while 1,734 went to various Virginia ports. Georgia was third, receiving 538, with North Carolina running close behind with 474 to its credit. Various towns in the West Indies had 1,180, and 192 of these went to Grenada in the Windward Islands.

The South American port of Surinam, in Dutch Guiana, received a shipment of four and a half dozen chairs; and on December 14, 1784, the Danish Brig *Goodlookout* sailed from Philadelphia for Hamburg, Germany, with "26 doz. Chairs and 4 Settees" in her cargo. This was the largest shipment of chairs to Europe, and to the most distant port, which has been noted. Surely these records prove the popularity of the Philadelphia made chairs.

As time went on, and the Windsor chair from Philadelphia became better known, the shipments materially increased. During the last four months of 1789, and the beginning of 1790, every week saw a greater number leave this port. They were sent in lots varying from one dozen to twelve dozen, together with other varieties of furniture. In the majority of instances the lots are described as "Chairs" or "Windsor Chairs"; but now and then they were more particular and said "Green Windsor Chairs." One entry reads "Red chairs." Mahogany pieces were usually so described; for instance, the *Nonpareil* left Philadelphia on March 31, 1790, for Norfolk with "eighteen chairs, six Windsor chairs, ten mahogany Tables, one Desk, and 1000

feet Mahogany lumber'' consigned to Mr. Featherbridge. In August, 1789, the sloop *Philadelphia* carried to Charleston, twelve Windsor chairs and two settees (shipper's name not given); also six dozen Windsor chairs and three chaises, shipped by John Bringhurst, a local carriage builder. The *Charleston Packet*<sup>17</sup> seems to have traded regularly between this port and the South Carolina city in 1784 and 1785, and on almost every voyage South her manifests show chairs as part of the cargo. In one instance there were thirteen dozen; and one is inclined to believe they were all Windsor chairs.

In only three instances do the entries show the name of a local chair maker shipping his product direct from his workshop to customers. These are by Francis Trumble, heretofore mentioned.

During the period from 1789 to 1790, there were 454 chairs sent to Virginia; 178 to Georgia; 280 to North Carolina; 1,790 to Charleston; 450 to the Barbadoes, and 690 to other ports in the West Indies.

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<sup>17</sup> The manifest, dated August 4, 1783, states that the Philadelphia built brig, *Charleston Packet*, 48 tons burthen, William Allibone, Master, was owned by William Allibone, John Patton and Francis Gurney, all of Philadelphia.



## Shipments of Windsor and other chairs and furniture from Philadelphia

Date	Vessel	Destination	Merchandise
1783			
June 11	<i>Commerce</i>	Georgia	60 chairs by Richard Mason
June 18	<i>Suckey</i>	Newberne	13 pieces of mahogany furniture, sent by John W. Stanley & Co., local merchants
June 28	.....	Antigua	30 Windsor chairs, sent by Jacob Jarvis
July 22	<i>Betsy</i>	Virginia	12 chairs
July 28	<i>Richmond</i>	do	3½ doz. chairs, sent by Samuel Inglis & Co.
Aug. 5	<i>Pochahuntus (sic)</i>	do	12 Windsor chairs, sent by Nixon & Foster
Aug. 6	<i>Eighty Three</i>	Antigua	3 doz. Windsor chairs, sent by "T"
Aug. 15	<i>Daphne</i>	Virginia	3 doz. Windsor chairs & three sulkeys sent by Joseph Snowden
Aug. 23	<i>Fanny</i>	St. Croix	6 doz. Windsor chairs, sent by Robert Stephen-son
Aug. 28	<i>Virginia</i>	Alexandria	28 Windsor chairs & 6 Tea Kettles sent by Mordecai Lewis & Co.
Aug. 28	<i>Delight</i>	South Carolina	3 doz. chairs & 5 tables, by Haines & Crawford
Aug. 30	<i>Betsy</i>	Alexandria	12 Windsor chairs by Thos. Fitzsimmons
Aug. 30	<i>Williams</i>	North Carolina	"36 chairs here made" <sup>13</sup> sent by Hewes & Anthony
Nov. 5	<i>Nancy</i>	North Carolina	12 chairs, 1 dining table and 1 grain fan, sent by William Dunkin [sic]

<sup>13</sup> This is the only instance where the manifest states that the chairs were locally made.

Summa 720 LIBERTATE  
et bene publico.



PHILADELPHIA August 30, 1783.

**MANIFESTO** of the Dist<sup>ct</sup> of Columbia, cases, - Moses Ventris  
Master, bound for Canton, in North Carolina, -  
built by John Green at Philadelphia built in 1782 viz. all built 73 Aug 1782 owned by  
Moses Ventris

6 cases iron Saw Iron  
33 rods ironage Thirty three rods  
3 barrels Three barrels  
3 Greenstones Three Greenstones  
1 Mill Stones Two Mill Stones  
1 1/2 One Alder Dry Goods  
2 cases Two cases  
2 barrels Merchandise Two Barls  
1 barrel Barrels One Parcel  
11 1/2 boxes Merchandise Eleven Boxes  
10 1/2 bags Maize Shorten Bags  
2 barrels D<sup>o</sup> Two Barls  
1 Barrel, nails, & hammer One Nailen  
15 Barls Shorten Length  
20 iron bottles Twenty Iron Bottles  
25 1/2 1/2s Twenty five Iron Pots  
2 barrels fruit Two barrels fruit  
36 Chairs here made Thirty six Chairs  
1 Case of 75 Merchandise One Case  
2 Cases D<sup>o</sup> Two Cases  
1 Case D<sup>o</sup> One Key  
1 Cask D<sup>o</sup> One Cask

Shipped by ship:  
Crewed by Anthony

Shown before me 30th Aug. 1783

Thos. Philp.

Moses Ventris  
James Fort

From the original in The Historical Society. Interesting from the standpoint of illumination. Shows the Flag with thirteen stars and Latin motto. The words, "here made," after 36 chairs, indicate local production

## Shipments of Windsor and other chairs and furniture from Philadelphia—Continued

Date	Vessel	Destination	Merchandise
Nov. 19	<i>Philadelphia</i>	Charleston	24 chairs by J. Hazlehurst 24 chairs by Isaac Hazlehurst 7 doz. chairs by James Hill 6 doz. Windsor chairs by Patrick Rice 36 Windsor chairs by Tench Cox 18 Chairs & 1 settee by George Meade 6 doz. chairs, shipped by Sykes & Wharton 1 case Looking Glasses, marked P F B, sent by Thomas Fitzsimmons
Nov. 28	<i>James</i>	South Carolina	
Nov. 28	<i>Maria</i>	Jamaica	
1784			
Mch. 24	<i>Lethe</i>	Virginia	4 dozen chairs
Mch. 25	<i>Patty</i>	North Carolina	2 dozen chairs
Mch. 26	<i>Daphne</i>	Virginia	2 doz. chairs & sundry furniture
Apr. 3	<i>Pallas</i>	do	48 chairs
Apr. 13	<i>Sally</i>	New York	3 doz. chairs & sundry furniture
Apr. 14	<i>Jane</i>	Antigua	2 dozen chairs
Apr. 29	<i>Black Duck</i>	New York	sundry furniture
Apr. 30	<i>Industry</i>	Virginia	"& furniture"
May 14	<i>Fortune</i>	do	18 chairs
May 18	<i>Charleston Packet</i>	Charleston	5 doz. chairs and 5 carriages <sup>19</sup>

<sup>19</sup> Philadelphia had many carriage and chaise makers; some known as early as 1729. Of the later eighteenth century craftsmen of this line may be mentioned John Bringhurst of Germantown, 1762; George Bringhurst, Fourth between Arch & Race streets; David & Francis Clarke, Sixth between Market & Chestnut streets; Joseph Cornelius, working in 1762; Henry Esler of Pine street; Conrad Hanse, at Fourth and Walnut streets; John Johnson; Michael Kainer; Peter Lesling; Samuel Loftis; Caspar Muratt; William Scull; Frederick Schryder; William Todd; Isaac Wayne; Way & Hunter, and George Whey (*sic*); any of whom may have exported the products of their shop to the Southern states.

May 22	Northampton	North Carolina	5 dozen chairs
May 25	Favorite	Richmond	12 chairs & sundry furniture
May 31	Clementina	Charleston	1 doz. Windsor chairs and 6884 bricks
June 2	Friendship	Georgia	92 chairs & 3000 bricks
June 10	Betsy	Virginia	18 chairs
June 11	Martin	Antigua	26 chairs & 2 nests tubs
June 12	Friends	Charleston	24 chairs
June 12	Polly	Antigua	21 $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. chairs
June 19	Philadelphia	Charleston	Sundry furniture, carriages & Windsor chairs
June 19	Portsmouth Packet	Virginia	12 chairs
June 21	Betsy	New York	6 chairs
June 24	Charleston Packet	Charleston	12 $\frac{1}{2}$ dozen chairs
July 1	Harrison	Barbadoes	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ doz. Windsor chairs & 4 wheelbarrows
July 10	Dauphin	Maryland	48 chairs & 93 dishes
July 21	Betsy	Savannah	36 chairs
July 24	De Statd Lier	Baltimore	12 mahogany chairs
July 29	Isabella	Savannah	12 chairs, furniture & 34 tea-kettles
Aug. 3	Philadelphia	Charleston	"48 W. Chairs" & 4 carriages
Aug. 4	Friends	do	11 doz. Windsor chairs
Aug. 6	Frolic	Virginia	24 chairs
Aug. 13	Friendship	North Carolina	2 doz. Windsor chairs
Aug. 28	Cohansey	Virginia	6 chairs
Aug. 28	Industry	do	12 chairs
Sept. 4	Betsy	New York	2 large couches
Sept. 11	Virginia	Virginia	18 chairs
Sept. 11	Nancy	do	8 Windsor chairs

## Shipments of Windsor and other chairs and furniture from Philadelphia—Continued

Date	Vessel	Destination	Merchandise
Oct. 2	<i>Race Horse</i>	do	1 doz. Windsor chairs
Oct. 7	<i>Dispatch</i>	do	1 cradle, 17 chairs, 5 tables, 1 cedar chest, 1 walnut chest, 3 chests drawers, 1 desk
Oct. 9	<i>Dolphin</i>	do	36 Windsor chairs & 6 arm chairs
Oct. 19	<i>General Washington</i>	do	10 chairs & 1 phaeton
Oct. 23	<i>Dispatch</i>	do	1 doz. Windsor chairs & 1 ships head
Oct. 23	<i>Support</i>	North Carolina	30 chairs & sundry furniture
Oct. 29	<i>Neptune</i>	Virginia	6 doz. Windsor chairs
Nov. 8	<i>Dauphin of France</i>	North Carolina	18 chairs, 4 prs. shovels & tongs
Nov. 9	<i>Industry</i>	Virginia	2 dozen chairs
Nov. 24	<i>Phoenix</i>	New Providence	18 Windsor chairs
Nov. 26	<i>Hetty</i>	St. Thomas	24 chairs
Dec. 1	<i>Friendship</i>	North Carolina	66 chairs
Dec. 3	<i>Love and Unity</i>	Maryland	48 chairs, 1 case glassware "& a Qt. of Earthenware"
Dec. 3	<i>Montgomery</i>	Virginia	2 desks, 2 tables, 21 chairs, 1 phaeton
Dec. 10	<i>Dolphin</i>	Georgia	12 chairs
Dec. 14	<i>Friendship</i>	Charleston	6 chairs & 2 carriages
Dec. 14	<i>Goodlookout</i>	Hamburg	26 doz. chairs, 4 settees
Dec. 18	<i>Philadelphia</i>	Charleston	60 chairs, 9 carriages
Dec. 21	<i>Abigail</i>	North Carolina	6 chairs
Dec. 22	<i>Nancy</i>	Charleston	11 doz. chairs
Dec. 24	<i>Havanna [sic]</i>	do	36 chairs
Dec. 29	<i>Good Intent</i>	Savannah	4½ dozen chairs

1785	1	<i>Barbadoes Packet</i>	Barbadoes	6	Windsor chairs
Jan.	22	<i>Janet</i>	North Carolina	16	chairs
Jan.	24	<i>Polly</i>	N. England [sic]	32	chairs
Feb.	9	<i>Charleston Packet</i>	Charleston	4	doz. chairs
Feb.	21	<i>Industry</i>	Virginia	10	doz. Windsor chairs
Feb.	24	<i>Friendship</i>	Georgia	1	chaise & 18 chairs
Mch.	7	<i>Philadelphia</i>	Charleston	84	chairs
Mch.	22	<i>Romulus</i>	Virginia	5	doz. Windsor chairs
Mch.	26	<i>Betsy</i>	do	1	doz. Windsor chairs
Mch.	26	<i>Nancy</i>	do	19	doz. chairs, 1 phaeton & carriages
Apr.	2	<i>Lydia</i>	North Carolina	12	chairs, 13 Dutch ovens
Apr.	2	<i>Rose</i>	Georgia	3	carriages & 48 Windsor chairs
Apr.	5	<i>Dolphin</i>	Virginia & Maryland		Sundry furniture
Apr.	7	<i>Fame</i>	do	16	chairs
Apr.	9	<i>Industry</i>	do	18	chairs
Apr.	9	<i>Charleston Packet</i>	Charleston	6	doz. chairs
Apr.	12	<i>Mary</i>	Virginia & Maryland	12	Windsor chairs & sundry furniture
Apr.	14	<i>Betsy</i>	"Beverly, N. E."	31	Windsor chairs & 19 pcs. mahogany
Apr.	14	<i>Fortune</i>	do	34	pcs. mahogany
Apr.	14	<i>Polly</i>	New York		sundry furniture
Apr.	15	<i>Speedwell</i>	Granada	48	chairs
Apr.	16	<i>Friendship</i>	North Carolina		"one dozen Green Windsor Chairs"
Apr.	16	<i>Nancy</i>	Virginia	2	dozen Windsor chairs
Apr.	21	<i>Philadelphia</i>	Charleston	6	chairs, 1 dray & 3 carriages
Apr.	23	<i>Betsy</i>	New York	177	"packages cont. furniture"
Apr.	26	<i>Betsy</i>	Virginia	66	chairs

## Shipments of Windsor and other chairs and furniture from Philadelphia—Continued

Date	Vessel	Destination	Merchandise
May 6	<i>Chesapeake</i>	Virginia	12 Windsor chairs
May 6	<i>Portsmouth</i>	do	5 Windsor chairs
May 14	<i>Friendship</i>	North Carolina	18 chairs
May 14	<i>Charleston Packet</i>	Charleston	48 chairs
May 31	<i>Georgia Packet</i>	Georgia	54 chairs, 2 carriages
June 4	<i>Philadelphia</i>	Charleston	5 doz. chairs, 1 fire engine <sup>20</sup>
June 11	<i>Friendship</i>	North Carolina	1 doz. chairs
June 11	<i>Mercury</i>	St. Croix	12 chairs
June 16	<i>Mary</i>	North Carolina	2 doz. chairs
June 20	<i>Polly</i>	West Indies	12 Windsor chairs
June 23	<i>Speedwell</i>	Grenada	6 doz. chairs
July 2	<i>Dolphin</i>	Virginia & Maryland	1 doz. chairs
July 2	<i>Don Unzaga</i>	St. Eustatia	18 Windsor chairs
July 7	<i>Harry</i>	Maryland	2 dozen chairs
July 9	<i>Industry</i>	Hispaniola	7 boxes furniture, 2 beds, 1 table
July 16	<i>Barbadoes Packet</i>	Barbadoes	3 doz. chairs
July 18	<i>Charming Polly</i>	Virginia	5 doz. chairs, 1 carriage
July 22	<i>Friendship</i>	North Carolina	2½ doz. chairs
Aug. 2	<i>Antelope</i>	New Providence	1 dozen chairs
Aug. 2	<i>Betsy</i>	Boston	14 arm chairs
Aug. 25	<i>Sally</i>	Barbadoes	48 chairs

<sup>20</sup> Parnell Gibbs is recorded in the 1785 directory as a fire engine maker, at Coats's Alley, between Front and Second streets.

Sept.	1	<i>Delaware</i>	Rhode Island	1	dozen Windsor chairs
Sept.	5	<i>Speedwell</i>	Grenada	6	doz. chairs
Sept.	15	<i>Mercury</i>	St. Croix	18	Windsor chairs
Sept.	20	<i>Ann</i>	Maryland & Virginia	3	doz. chairs
Sept.	27	<i>Duxbury</i>	Virginia	1	doz. chairs
Sept.	29	<i>Winthrop</i>	Boston	18	Windsor chairs
Oct.	4	<i>Helena</i>	Charleston	11	doz. chairs & 24 stools
Oct.	7	<i>Trinidad</i>	North Carolina	1	table, 6 chairs, 2 pr. bedsteads
Oct.	17	<i>Friendship</i>	Georgia	50	chairs
Nov.	5	<i>Georgia Packet</i>	Savannah	3	doz. chairs
Nov.	10	<i>Petersburg</i>	Virginia	10	doz. chairs & 10,000 bricks
Nov.	11	<i>Nancy</i>	do	9	bundles chairs, 4 tables, 1 desk
Nov.	26	<i>Charleston Packet</i>	Charleston	2	doz. chairs, 1 case drawers
Dec.	16	<i>Polly</i>	do	3	doz. Windsor chairs, 1 riding chair
Dec.	17	<i>Phoebe</i>	do	7½	doz. chairs
Dec.	21	<i>Becky &amp; Polly</i>	St. Eustatia	24	chairs
Dec.	24	<i>Petersburg</i>	North Carolina	2	doz. chairs
Dec.	24	<i>Nancy</i>	Virginia	30	chairs, 2 carriages
Dec.	26	<i>Pigou</i>	Charleston	7	doz. chairs, 1 chaise & 6 ploughs
1786					
Feb.	6	<i>Charleston Packet</i>	Charleston	1	doz. chairs, 1 sulkey, 2 chaises, 2 chariots & 1 kittereen
Feb.	24	<i>St. John</i>	Tobago	8	dozen chairs
Mch.	3	<i>Bristol</i>	Virginia	150	Windsor chairs
Mch.	6	<i>Black Drake</i>	Savannah	24	chairs, 2 wagons, 12 wheelbarrows
Mch.	8	<i>Becky &amp; Polly</i>	St. Eustatia	60	chairs
Mch.	11	<i>Molly</i>	West Indies	2	dozen chairs



## Shipments of Windsor and other chairs and furniture from Philadelphia—Continued

Date	Vessel	Destination	Merchandise
Mch. 13	<i>Hector</i>	do	12 doz. chairs, 2 settees
Mch. 15	<i>Phoebe</i>	Charleston	36 chairs, 2 carts, 14 wheelbarrows and 1 kit- tereen
Mch. 18	<i>Georgia Packet</i>	Savannah	4 dozen chairs
Mch. 20	<i>Hetty</i>	St. Eustatia	6 doz. chairs
Mch. 28	<i>Friendship</i>	Virginia	6 doz. chairs
Mch. 30	<i>Philadelphia</i>	Charleston	137 chairs
Apr. 11	<i>Betsy</i>	Virginia	2 doz. chairs, 1 bedstead, 27 looking glasses, 2 stills
Apr. 12	<i>Two Betsys</i>	do	5½ doz. chairs, 2 bake-ovens
Apr. 30	<i>Dispatch</i>	St. Croix	3 doz. chairs
May 3	<i>Friendship</i>	Baltimore	6 doz. chairs
May 12	<i>John</i>	North Carolina	14 chairs
May 13	<i>Phoebe</i>	Charleston	30 chairs
May 13	<i>Nancy</i>	Virginia	2 doz. chairs, 9 chair bodies, 4 tables, 1 desk
May 19	<i>Black Drake</i>	Savannah	2 doz. chairs
June 3	<i>Harriett</i>	Surinam (Dutch Gui- ana, South America)	4½ doz. chairs
June 7	<i>Constance</i>	Charleston	12 doz. chairs
June 7	<i>Two Betsys</i>	Virginia	24 chairs, 1 table, 2 bedsteads, & 4 doz. Windsor chairs
June 13	<i>Hetty</i>	St. Eustatia	38 Windsor chairs
July 5	<i>St. John Baptist</i>	Cape François	4 doz. Windsor chairs
July 15	<i>Black Drake</i>	Savannah	6 doz. chairs

July 22	<i>Minerva</i>	St. Croix	3 doz. chairs
July 25	<i>Charleston Packet</i>	Charleston	4 doz. chairs
July 25	<i>Two Betsys</i>	Virginia	3 doz. chairs
July 26	<i>Betsy</i>	West Indies	4 doz. chairs, 3 riding chairs
Aug. 4	<i>Polly</i>	St. Eustatia	4 doz. Windsor chairs
Aug. 9	<i>Bedford</i>	do	5 mahogany bedsteads
Aug. 19	<i>Savannah</i>	Virginia	93 chairs
Aug. 24	<i>Industry</i>	North Carolina	24 doz. chairs
1789	[The records from September, 1786, to July, 1789, have not been examined.]		
Aug. 2	<i>Industry</i>	St. Johns, N. B.	1 mahogany bureau, 2 settees, 1 chair, 4 looking glasses
Aug. 20	<i>Success</i>	Charleston	7 Windsor chairs, by John Lynch
			27 do do by R. Corry
			14 Children's chairs by C. P. Raguet all con-signed to Condy & Bryan
			26 Windsor Chairs
Aug. 22	<i>Folly</i>	Richmond, Va.	12 Windsor chairs & 2 settees
Aug. 22	<i>Philadelphia</i>	Charleston	36 Windsor chairs & 3 wheelbarrows
Aug. 29	<i>Charleston</i>	do	4 doz. Chairs, shipped by Francis Trumble
Sept. 2	<i>Philadelphia</i>	do	2 tables, 1 desk & 1 bedstead, shipped by John & Wm. Montgomery
Sept. 2	<i>Dolphin</i>	Virginia	1 desk, 1 doz. chairs, and 4 doz. Windsor chairs
Sept. 3	<i>Two Betsys</i>	do	5 doz. Windsor chairs
Sept. 3	<i>Betsy</i>	Richmond	3 doz. chairs, by Thomas Geise
Sept. 7	<i>Federal</i>	Madeira	18 Windsor chairs, taken by Capt. John Gar-diner
Sept. 10	<i>Mercury</i>	St. Croix	

Shipments of Windsor and other chairs and furniture from Philadelphia—*Continued*

Date	Vessel	Destination	Merchandise
Sept. 14	<i>Washington</i>	Cape François	4 doz. Windsor chairs
Sept. 17	<i>Charming Sally</i>	do	5 doz. Windsor chairs, shipped by William Davidson, Master
Sept. 23	<i>Jack</i>	Norfolk	4 doz. Windsor chairs & 3 settees
Sept. 28	<i>Lark</i>	West Indies	3 doz. Windsor chairs & 3 settees
Sept. 9	<i>Philadelphia</i>	Charleston	48 Windsor chairs, sent by Matthias Kelly
Oct. 1	<i>Friendship</i>	do	24 children's chairs, shipped by C. P. Raguet
Oct. 3	<i>Sally</i>	Alexandria, Va.	4 chests Drawers, five tables, 1 cupboard & 4 bedsteads, consigned to Lewis D. Hetherington
Oct. 7	<i>Philadelphia</i>	Charleston	3 Spinning wheels, 35 chairs, & 2 settees
Oct. 8	<i>Venus</i>	Petersburg, Va.	6 Chairs, consigned to Samuel Myers
Oct. 9	<i>Wilmington Packet</i>	Wilmington, N. C.	12 Windsor Chairs, 1 looking glass, 1 mahogany dining table, 1 tea table, 1 breakfast table, 1 bureau shipped by William Richards of Phila. to Severin Erickson of Wilmington. 7 chairs consigned to H. Cammel, also 10,200 bricks, iron, steel, etc.
Oct. 10	<i>Commerce</i>	Norfolk	12 Windsor Chairs, sent by Hugh Patton
Oct. 15	<i>Tappahannock</i>	Port-au-Prince	2 dozen green Chairs, 2 settees & 1 case containing tables
Oct. 21	<i>Two Betsys</i>	Norfolk & Richmond	12 Winsar [ <i>sic</i> ] Chairs consigned to William Baadall
Oct. 22	<i>Delaware</i>	Virginia	5 doz. Chairs & 6 tables, consigned to Francis Knox

Oct.	28	<i>Betsy</i>	Boston	1	chest Drawers, shipped by John Vaughn to Thomas Amory
Oct.	30	<i>Hetty</i>	Charleston	2	mahogany tables, shipped by N. Matthewson
Oct.	31	<i>Alice</i>	Salem, Mass.	22	Windsor Chairs & 1 spinning wheel by Edmund Needham, the Master of ship.
Dec.	8	<i>Richmond</i>	Richmond, Va.		John P. Raguet shipped 48 Windsor chairs to Jno. Richards of Richmond, and Jones & Lownes sent 2 tables to McCool & Lunleft
Dec.	10	<i>Nancy</i>	New York	6	Cheres [ <i>sic</i> ]
Dec.	10	<i>Polly</i>	Norfolk	6	Dozen W. Chairs [ <i>sic</i> ] sent by John P. Raguet to George Kelly
Dec.	12	<i>Recovery</i>	Trinidad	48	Windsor chairs, sent by Benjamin Fuller
Dec.	12	<i>Charleston</i>	Charleston	14	doz. Windsor Chairs sent by Mr. Trumble to John Minnick
Dec.	14	<i>Industry</i>	St. John, N. B.	2	mahogany Bedsteads, 2 bureaux, 1 Desk and 1 knife box, and 18 Chairs
Dec.	16	<i>Polly</i>	Newberne	8	boxes Tables, a quantity of Chairs
Dec.	17	<i>Hector</i>	West Indies	3	dozen Windsor chairs
Dec.	17	<i>Charming Sally</i>	Cape François	12	Windsor chairs
Dec.	16	<i>Linnet</i>	Virginia	12	chairs, shipped by Peter Galledit
Dec.	18	<i>Betsy</i>	Port-au-Prince	16	dozen Windsor Chairs shipped by Vanuxem & Lambert
Dec.	19	<i>Friendship</i>	Charleston	4	dozen Windsor Chairs by C. P. Raguet
Dec.	19	<i>Philadelphia</i>	Charleston	2	tables & 2 dozen & 10 Mahogany Chears, also 1 Rideing Chear and 6 Wealbarrows [ <i>sic</i> ]
Dec.	21	<i>Sea Flower</i>	Port-au-Prince	8	dozen Windsor Chairs and 5 carriages
Dec.	26	<i>Nancy</i>	Newberne	24	Chairs, shipped by J. Lockwood & Co.

## Shipments of Windsor and other chairs and furniture from Philadelphia—Continued

Date	Vessel	Destination	Merchandise
1790			
Jan. 2	<i>Sophia</i>	Cape Francois	3 dozen Windsor chairs, shipped by Nicholas Hagenan, owner of sloop
Jan. 4	<i>St. Andrew</i>	do	2 dozen chairs, 1 phaeton and 1 sulkey
Jan. 5	<i>Newbern Packet</i>	Newberne	38 Green Chairs, shipped by Abraham Gurley, also 2 boxes of Looking glasses and 1 Coach with Harness complete [ <i>sic</i> ]
Jan. 7	<i>Shillelah</i>	Petersburg, Va.	14 chairs sent by Thomas Lea to James Conan, and 48 chairs by Claudius Raguet to John Richards
Feb. 25	<i>Two Sisters</i>	West Indies	2 dozen Windsor chairs
Mch. 6	<i>Delaware</i>	Charleston	12 chairs shipped by C. Bethell to John Williams. M. Mellecamp had 9 chairs and 12 arm chairs on same ship
Mch. 9	<i>Columbia</i>	do	116 Windsor Chairs, sent by Francis Trumble to John Minnick, and James Raggee [ <i>sic</i> ] and 39 Windsor Chairs, 2 Carts and 23 wheelbarrows consigned to Condy & Bryon
Mch. 13	<i>Polly</i>	Port-au-Prince	3 Sophas
Mch. 17	<i>Richmond</i>	Norfolk	2 tables and 1 desk
Mch. 17	<i>Washington</i>	Christiana Bridge	6 Chairs, consigned to Dr. A. Mitchell, of Fair Hill, Md.
Mch. 18	<i>Charming Sally</i>	Cape Francois	3 doz. Windsor chairs

Mch. 23	<i>Recovery</i>	Trinidad	36	Windsor Chairs, consigned by Benjamin Fuller
Mch. 25	<i>Polly</i>	Savannah	36	Windsor chairs, consigned to Edward Burrows. 41 more shipped by Claudius Raguet to same consignee
Mch. 27	<i>Eliza</i>	Richmond	2	doz. Windsor chairs to James Kernon
Mch. 31	<i>Nonpareil</i>	Norfolk	18	chairs, 6 Windsor Chairs, 10 Mahogany Tables, 1 Desk and 1000 feet of mahogany lumber, sent to Mr. Featherbridge
1797				
July 6	<i>Robert</i>	Baltimore	14	Packgs. Household furniture consigned to Howell Price, Baltimore
July 7	<i>Industry</i>	Norfolk	7	Dozen Chairs (Windsor) shipped by Lawrence Allwine to Robert Farmer, Norfolk
July 7	<i>Amity</i>	Portsmouth	18	Windsor Chairs shipped by Moses Woodward, Jr., Master of vessel
July 8	<i>Rebecca</i>	Alexandria	18	Windsor Chairs shipped by Reed & Forde of Philadelphia to Walter Smith at Alexandria
July 12	<i>Ann</i>	St. Domingo	18	Windsor chairs
July 12	<i>Fair American</i>	Norfolk, Va.	$\frac{1}{2}$	doz. Windsor Chairs, 1 Franklin Stove, shipped by Saml. Decker, Master
July 14	<i>South Carolina</i>	Charleston	1	Chair & forty-eight Windsor Chairs consigned to John Garman, Charleston
July 15	<i>New York Packet</i>	do	52	Windsor Chairs 2 Settees, shipped by John Murphy to John Drummond

Shipments of Windsor and other chairs and furniture from Philadelphia—*Continued*

Date	Vessel	Destination	Merchandise
July 15	<i>Maria</i>	do	24 Windsor Chairs shipped by M. Murphy, Jr., to John Drummond
July 15	<i>Tryal</i>	Alexandria	15 Chairs, shipped by Col. Copperthwait to Thomas Sprosse
July 15	<i>Dolphin</i>	do	6 doz. Chairs shipped by Mr. Allwine to Clingman & Megraie
July 18	<i>Good Intent</i>	Petersburgh, Va.	12 chairs, shipped by Tarascon & Jeumel to Dallest & Calier, Norfolk
July 18	<i>John</i>	Cadiz	2 Dozen Windsor Chairs shipped by David Callaghan
July 27	<i>Sally</i>	Alexandria	3 Couches, 7 Chairs, 6 Mahogany Chairs, 2 Desks, 1 Looking glass, shipped by Joseph Burroughs
July 27	<i>Nancy</i>	Petersburg, Va.	2 Doz. Windsor Chairs, shipped by "Burr" to S. Denke of Petersburg

Thus the entries continue, and might be carried on indefinitely if time and space permitted. Some periods have been omitted, as the records are incomplete; but from what has been given it develops that in a period of about seven years over thirty-six hundred chairs were sent from Philadelphia to Charleston alone, and one begins to doubt if there were many chair makers South of Philadelphia who produced the Windsor type of chair in any great numbers, or if all such pieces to be found in the South were not made in the Quaker City.

PENNSYLVANIA *VERSUS* THE THEATRE

By WILLIAM S. DYE, Jr., A.M., Ph.D.

Professor of English Literature at The Pennsylvania State College

The founding of the American colonies was coincident not only with most important historical and political events in England, but also with exceedingly significant literary events. Jamestown was settled in the early years of the Stuart régime; the New England colonists came when the Puritan revolt, that was to dash itself madly and successfully on the second of the Stuarts, was gathering so much momentum that those in authority were quite willing to have these recalcitrants move to the new world; and the Dutch came to New Netherlands and settled in between the Virginia and the New England colonists, a rather interesting way of separating cavalier from Puritan in the new world, during the time when civil war was brewing in England. By the middle of the century, while Cromwell ruled in England, the Swedes had come to the Delaware, and during the Restoration period not only did Englishmen settle in the Jerseys but they also drove the Dutch from New Amsterdam. As the last quarter began, Penn received his grant to Pennsylvania. When his colony was only six years old, the Stuarts from whom he had received the land, gave place to William and Mary—part Orange, part Stuart.

The century thus given over to colonization is replete also with literary geniuses and remarkable literary productions. By the time the first colony was established, William Shakespeare had already reached the apex of his career; Ben Jonson was in the heyday of his dramatic production, while a host of lesser dramatists crowded the boards with good plays. Fran-



cis Bacon was in full stride, music flourished, song writers sang sweetly. Two years after the colony was established, the King James version of the Bible was published. In the years immediately succeeding the founding of New England, the early poems of the Puritan genius, John Milton, were given to the world, and, side by side with him, a group of Anglican and Puritan apologists, was writing, as was a fine coterie of poets, some ribald, some pious. The later years of the century saw the rise into literary prominence of a new company of writers. In the first decade after the Restoration, when Milton was producing his most lasting poems, John Dryden was rising to fame. At the same time, there was being produced and published the first comedy efforts of that brilliant, outspoken, licentious crew of restoration dramatists.

It is to be remembered that not only did the political and social conditions in England strongly influence those instrumental in founding colonies in the new world, but the literature and its attitude toward the conditions and thought of the day profoundly affected their points of view and their early attempts at literary production. This study, dealing only with the colony of Pennsylvania, is concerned entirely with the effect produced by conditions in England on the thought of one group of writers, the Puritans, and on the actions of another, the Quakers, as these actions were expressed in certain definite repressive laws.

In order to understand the effect of these conditions on certain Pennsylvania laws, it is not only desirable but necessary to examine in part, at least, the attitude of the proprietor, William Penn. Penn, the scion of a wealthy and influential family, had turned Quaker. In the latter part of the sixties, he was incarcerated in the Tower and there he wrote his book "No Cross, No Crown" (1668), setting forth his attitude toward the religious and social questions of the day.

When the country became more settled after the War of Independence, the chairmakers as well as the merchants appear to have been busy supplying the inhabitants of the Southern states and the West Indies with Windsor chairs. It is greatly regretted that the books of record do not always show the names of the shippers, and this information can only be gathered from scattered sources and the facts pieced together. For example, if the outward bound shipment books show a certain vessel carried chairs, and one is fortunate enough to know which merchants generally shipped such material, or, if his books show the purchase of chairs from a local maker about that time, then, in some cases it can be definitely shown that they went on such a ship as the Customs books record. As a general thing it was from a local merchant, and not the craftsman, that the purchaser in other ports, secured the chairs along with other merchandise. In very few instances are both the shipper's and the consignee's name given. If the latter, then it is usually found that he is a merchant and not a consumer. Then again, many cargoes were sent out on a "Venture" by a local merchant or by the captain and vessel owners themselves; in which case the seller here or the buyer at the port of destination is not revealed.

On June 7, 1783, the sloop *Sally* sailed for New York with "1 Desk, 1 Table, 1 Tea Board," shipped by "Mr. Buckley." Two days later the *Charming Polly* had in her cargo a desk, a book-case and sundry furniture, shipped by John Larboteaux. On November 19th, the ship *Philadelphia* carried 26 chairs, 3 tables, 1 desk, 1 nest of drawers and a clock, but neither the shipper nor the consignee is mentioned in the entry. On July 5, 1783, the *Columbia* had in cargo "One hundred & Twenty Chairs" shipped by Jacob Jarvis, the owner of the ship, to be delivered in New York.<sup>15</sup> While the

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<sup>15</sup> Original manifest in The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.