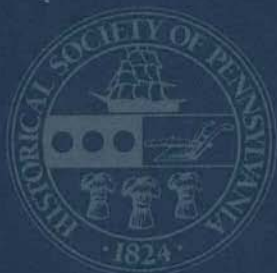


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PMHB

the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography



PUBLISHED SINCE 1877 BY
THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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COVER ILLUSTRATION: Portrait of Charles Brockden Brown; engraving by H. G. Halls, Philadelphia, after an oil portrait by James Sharples; HSP collection. Known as the "father of the American novel," the Philadelphia-born Charles Brockden Brown (1771-1810) was the author of *Wieland* (1798), *Ormond* (1799), *Edgar Huntly* (1799), *Arthur Mervyn* (1799/1800), and numerous other writings, including a tract on the rights of women. *Arthur Mervyn* is widely known for its lurid description of the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia in 1793. For another view of this novel, see Mark Decker, "A Bumpkin before the Bar: *Arthur Mervyn* and Class Anxiety in Postrevolutionary Philadelphia," in this issue on pp. 469-87.

THE
PENNSYLVANIA
MAGAZINE
OF HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY

VOLUME CXXIV

October 2000

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(ISSN 0031-4587)

THE PENNSYLVANIA MAGAZINE OF HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY is published each quarter in January, April, July, and October by THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA, 1300 Locust Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107-5699.* **Yearly subscriptions:** individual, \$35.00; institutional, \$50.00. **Back issues:** Selected issues and annual bound volumes are available. Query editors for availability and price. **Authorization for academic photocopying:** Copyright Clearance Center, Inc., Academic Permissions Service, 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923. **Submissions:** All communications should be addressed to the editor. Email may be sent to pmhb@hsp.org. Articles submitted for publication should be sent to the editor in triplicate and should conform to *The Chicago Manual of Style*. Manuscripts will not be returned unless accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope. For submission guidelines, visit the *PMHB* web page (<http://hsp.org/pmhb>) or send an SASE. The editor does not assume responsibility for statements of fact or of opinion made by the contributors.

* N.B. THE PENNSYLVANIA MAGAZINE OF HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY is currently published three times a year, with the January and April issues (nos. 1 and 2) appearing as a combined issue.

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