THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

The annual meeting of the society was held in Stevenson Hall of the Historical Building on January 31. The reports of the treasurer and the director for 1932 were presented, Messrs. Thomas Stephen Brown and Frank L. Duggan were re-elected trustees, and Mr. Edward O. Tabor gave the annual address on "Western Pennsylvania as a Battlefield of the Early Protestant Churches." Three other meetings were held during the first quarter of 1933: on January 10, Dr. Alfred P. James read a paper on "Opportunities for Research in Early Western Pennsylvania History"; on February 28, Dr. Marian Silveus read a paper on "The Election of 1896 in Western Pennsylvania" and Mr. Charles M. Stotz gave an illustrated talk on the work and plans of the Western Pennsylvania Architectural Survey; and on March 28, Mr. Earle R. Forrest of Washington, Pennsylvania, read a paper on "William Holmes McGuffey and His Readers" and Mr. Alston G. Field, one on "The History of Business—A Business of History."

The annual historical tour conducted jointly by the society and the summer session of the University of Pittsburgh will be routed this year through the southwestern part of the state. The dates provisionally selected are July 14 and 15, and the itinerary under consideration will touch upon points of historical interest in Allegheny, Washington, and Greene counties and extend into a neighboring portion of West Virginia. All who are interested, especially any with suggestions to offer, are invited to communicate with Mr. Franklin F. Holbrook or Mr. C. Stanton Belfour, in charge of preparations, respectively, for the society and the university.

Thirteen people were elected to active membership in the society at the January, February, and March meetings: John Ihlder, Eliza Keller, Charles F. Lewis, Captain J. Clark Mansfield, Marie R. Messer, Robert R. M. Thorne, John F. Tracey, and Dr. Charles R. Young, of Pittsburgh; Walter I. Bates of Meadville, Albert G. Brehm of St. Marys, the Reverend James R. E. Craighead of Saltsburg, Mrs. William J. Crittenden of Shields, and Dr. Thomas W. Lingle of Davidson, North Carolina. Dr. George P. Donehoo of Harrisburg and Dr. Charles H. Ambler, professor of history in West Virginia University, were elected to corresponding membership at the February meeting.

The society lost four members by death during the quarter ending March
Samuel Bailey, Jr., of Pittsburgh, January 30; Grace S. Williams of Pittsburgh, February 16; Kirk G. Bigham of Pittsburgh, February 17; and Margaret B. Barnett of Markleton, March 12. The deaths of Charles N. Boyd of Butler, March 12, 1932, and of Theodore W. Siemon of Edgewood Park, September 23, 1932, have not previously been reported in the magazine.

The monthly radio talks supplied by the society and the survey in the "Pittsburgh Today" series of station KQV were continued by talks on "The Historical Survey on the Job," by Franklin F. Holbrook; "Does History have a Value to the Community?" by Leland D. Baldwin; and "A Whole Background for a Whole Community," by Randolph C. Downes.

The use of the society's collections by people outside the staff of the society and the survey is undoubtedly increasing. The statistics, which were kept for the first time during the quarter ending March 31, show a total of 113 visits of readers. Considerable historical information has also been supplied to inquirers by mail and by telephone. The number of visitors to the museum during the quarter, exclusive of attendance at the meetings of the society, was 114.

Special Washington and Lincoln exhibits were displayed in the museum during February, and a collection of old textbooks, including McGuffey readers, was exhibited to illustrate Mr. McFarland's paper at the March meeting of the society. Some thirty museum objects with accompanying labels were loaned to the women's guild of the Sixth Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh for display at a benefit party.

A meeting of the Business and Professional Women's Club of Wilkinsburg held in the Historical Building on January 24 was addressed by two members of the staff. Dr. Ferguson spoke on the economic backgrounds of western Pennsylvania history and Mr. Holbrook outlined the work and plans of the society and the survey.

The society and the survey are greatly indebted to the Reverend Alexander Daroczy of McKeesport for extensive assistance in arranging and listing the files of Hungarian-American newspapers and other material in the society's possession. This task is now approaching completion.

In January the director visited New York, Philadelphia, and Harrisburg, making note of important materials for western Pennsylvania history in the depositories of those cities and representing the society at the annual meetings of the Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies and the Society for Penn-
sylvania Archaeology. While in Philadelphia he spoke before the history club of the University of Pennsylvania on the work of the survey. He gave a radio talk over station WCAE on February 8 on behalf of the Western Pennsylvania Architectural Survey, spoke at a luncheon given by the committee on church history of the Presbytery of Pittsburgh on February 20, and addressed the General John Neville chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution on March 22.

Dr. Russell J. Ferguson, research associate on the staff of the survey, is the author of an article entitled "The Lure of Pioneering in Historical Research," in the Mississippi Valley Historical Review for March.

Dr. Alfred P. James, formerly research associate on the staff of the survey, addressed the Hungry Club of Pittsburgh on January 13 on the subject, "New Light on the Early History of Western Pennsylvania."

ADDITIONS TO COLLECTIONS
FRANKLIN F. HOLBROOK

A valuable collection of original records and other materials relating to the history of Spang, Chalfant & Co., Inc., of Pittsburgh, manufacturers of steel tubular products, and to its founders, Henry S. and Charles F. Spang, has been received from the company through Mr. Gordon Fisher, chairman of the board of directors. The collection reflects various aspects of a century-long development, from the time when the firm of H. S. Spang & Son, formed in 1828, established an iron works at Etna, through the days of Spang & Co., 1845–58, to recent activities of the present corporation. Included are six volumes of original company records, such as journals, ledgers, and production records, 1830–85; a file for the years 1920–30 of the Welder, latterly known as the Spang Standard, a monthly published by and for employees of the company; and small groups of correspondence and papers relating in part to affairs of the company but in the main to activities of the Pittsburgh and Butler Turnpike Road Company, 1835–51, of which Charles F. Spang was secretary, and of the Allegheny and Butler Plank Road Company, 1851–53, of whose board of managers Mr. Spang was a member.

To Miss M. Cornelia Shaw of Sewickley the society is indebted for the gift of a number of items relating to her father, Cornelius N. Shaw, managing editor and part owner of the Pittsburgh Dispatch, 1880–84, and of a miscellane-
ous collection of old letters, newspapers, programs, and picture postcards for the most part relating to Pittsburgh and its vicinity. Of particular interest are the items relating to or associated with Mr. Shaw. These include a small photograph of him as a young surveyor; a transcript of a diary kept by him while on a trip from Pittsburgh into the Middle West by river and rail in 1868; and a series of lengthy communications submitted for publication “To the Editors of the Dispatch” in 1882, by John Quincy Sullivan of Butler, who sought to expose the machinations of a political “ring” allegedly responsible for corruption and crime affecting distilleries, banks, government offices, and even the safety of individuals in Butler County.

Indications of a wealth of material relating to western Pennsylvanians in the Revolutionary War to be found in the declarations of Revolutionary soldiers on file in the United States Pension Office appear in transcripts of selected items from the declarations of a number of Westmoreland and Beaver county men recently received by the society through Dr. John W. Oliver from Dr. W. F. Wagner of Washington, D.C.

Through its facilities for making miniature reproductions on film, the society has acquired photographic copies of a ninety-nine-page journal of the Stoystown and Greensburgh Turnpike Road Company, 1815-26, the original of which is in the possession of the Reverend Felix Fellner, of St. Vincent Archabbey, Latrobe; fourteen letters of James Buchanan loaned by Mrs. Clara Y. Miller of Meadville; and a number of miscellaneous items such as old documents, maps, and prints.

Recollections of the Carlisle Infantry, together with a roster of the personnel of a detachment that crossed the lines into Canada in the War of 1812, as recorded by Lieutenant William Wright, one of the officers, have been received in the form of a photostatic copy of a document in the possession of a great-grandson of the author, Mr. C. L. Lapish.

Mr. John M. Fetherston has presented to the society a photostatic copy of a document preserved in the Library of Congress that marks an important stage in the westward expansion of the United States. It is the letter addressed by Patrick Henry “In Council” at Williamsburg, Virginia, January 12, 1778, to Colonel George Rogers Clark, directing the latter to proceed with his expedition to the Illinois country for an attack upon the British post at Kaskaskia.

One of the unrealized possibilities in the political organization of the trans-
Allegheny region is recalled by a document in the possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, a photostatic copy of which has been acquired. It is "The Memorial of the Inhabitants of the Country West of the Allegheny Mountains," dated 1775, "To the Honourable the President and Delegates of the thirteen United American Colonies in General Congress Assembled," praying to be constituted a separate colony to be called "Westsylvania." The text of the memorial is published, with variations of spelling, style, and phraseology, in Crumrine's History of Washington County, 187 (Philadelphia, 1882), and in the History of the Upper Ohio Valley, 1:44 (Madison, Wisconsin, 1890).

A transcript of an original document entitled "Rules of the Hopewell Library Company—1813" and a list of other materials in private possession at Baden, Pennsylvania, have been received from Mrs. Margaret Moore Felton, teacher of history in Aliquippa High School, as by-products of her own and her students' activities in the field of local history.

A bound volume of the Pittsburgh Mercury and of the same weekly continued with the addition of the words and Allegheny Republican has been presented by Mr. Thomas O. Hasley. The volume contains the issues of this paper from April 7, 1830, to November 30, 1832, a period not previously covered by files of the Mercury in any of the more generally known newspaper collections in the Pittsburgh district.

From the office of the Elizabeth Herald, through the courtesy of the editor and manager, Mr. W. A. Baer, the society has acquired unbound files of most numbers of the Herald and of its predecessor, the Elizabeth Black-Diamond, from September 12, 1874, in the second year of publication, through the year 1931, and of the Clairton Crucible for its first five years, 1902–06.

A file of the Somerset County Star, a weekly published successively during the period represented at Salisbury-Elk Lick Post Office, Elk Lick, and at Salisbury, has been presented by Mr. Robert H. Johnston of Salisbury, the editor and publisher. The file includes most issues from January 22, 1903, the beginning of the ninth volume, to August 1, 1929, with which issue publication of the paper was discontinued.

Through the courtesy of Mr. Oliver J. Keller, editor of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, the society has received from the office of that newspaper sixty-eight bound volumes of the Pittsburgh Sun, a daily superseded by the Pittsburgh
Sun-Telegraph in 1927, covering the period from March 1, 1906, the date of the establishment of the Sun, to December 31, 1919.

Continuing its efforts directed toward building up a file of originals or reproductions of all available issues, particularly for the period 1786–1800, of the pioneer trans-Allegheny newspaper, the Pittsburgh Gazette, the society has acquired from the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and the Philadelphia Library Company photostatic copies of thirty-six issues of the years 1787–88 and 1793–98.

A set of twenty-eight scrapbooks filled with newspaper clippings and other printed matter, 1880–1912, relating to the public life of the Honorable John Dalzell, member of Congress from Pittsburgh, has been deposited with the society as a temporary loan by the library of the University of Pittsburgh.

Mrs. Elvert M. Davis of Philadelphia has presented a collection of clippings taken from Sunday issues of the Pittsburgh Gazette Times, 1923–25, of long articles, usually illustrated, written by George T. Fleming on a wide variety of subjects of local historical interest.

To the collection of materials relating to the Forbes Road assembled by the late George H. Rankin and presented to the society by Mrs. Rankin, the latter has added a photostatic copy, in eight sections, of a map of the Forbes Road in the possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

About thirty books and pamphlets, most of them relating to Pennsylvania history, have been received as gifts from General Albert J. Logan. Among them are William P. Clarke’s Official History of the Militia and National Guard of Pennsylvania, in two volumes (Philadelphia, 1909–12); the States Publications Society’s Pennsylvania in the World War, an illustrated history of the 28th Division, in two volumes (Pittsburgh and Chicago, 1921); Pennsylvania in American History, by Samuel W. Pennypacker (Philadelphia, 1910); Anthony Wayne, by the same author (Philadelphia, 1908); and Some of the Public Services of Honorable Philander Chase Knox, by the late James Francis Burke (1907 ? 23 p.). Items of special local importance include five publications of the Citizens Committee on City Plan of Pittsburgh, 1921–23, and the mimeographed report of Pittsburgh’s Better Traffic Committee issued in 1927.

Significant additions to the society’s collections of books, pamphlets, periodicals, and newspapers have been received as gifts from Miss Maude G. Stewart of Northfield, Minnesota, whose father was an old-time resident of western
Pennsylvania. Included in the collection are about one hundred pamphlets and leaflets, for the most part United States and Pennsylvania state documents and campaign literature, relating chiefly to the controversy over slavery and to related issues in the years 1850–70; a file, including one number for 1863 and all numbers for the years 1866–70, of the Old Guard (New York), a monthly started as a "copperhead" publication "devoted to the principles of 1776 and 1787"; a file of many numbers of the Crawford Democrat, a Meadville weekly, 1857–66; and odd numbers of other Pennsylvania newspapers and of some from neighboring states.

Mrs. Joseph W. I. McKnight of Swissvale has presented a collection of interesting materials relating to or preserved by her grandfather, William H. Cappe, an Ohio postmaster and newspaper editor, and her father, Edward L. Cappe, a Pittsburgh pressman who preserved the old newspapers and printed ephemera that make up the bulk of the collection. Among the odd numbers of newspapers thus brought to light are issues of some twenty Pittsburgh and other western Pennsylvania publications, including a number of first issues and not a few titles hitherto unrepresented in the society's collections. Other items of general interest include a facsimile of a petition made by the citizens of Pittsburgh in 1817 for the establishment in that city of a branch of the Bank of the United States; a piece of wood from an early Pittsburgh tavern; and a cane, with concealed rapier, supposed to have belonged to President Lincoln.

Two numbers, those for November and December, 1868, of the second volume of the School Casket, a magazine published in Pittsburgh "for the school and home," and four leaflets setting forth announcements and regulations for the years 1865–67 of Linnean School, an institution located during this period first at Clinton and then at Mansfield, both in Allegheny County, are among the more interesting items in a collection of old periodicals, newspapers, and printed miscellany presented by Miss M. Beatrice McBride of Homestead.

Mr. Thomas Mellon II has presented a number of books and pamphlets, notably several on the siege of Yorktown, including The Yorktown Campaign and the Surrender of Cornwallis, by Henry P. Johnston (New York, 1881).

The society's files of serial publications of learned societies have been augmented, notably by exchange with the Minnesota Historical Society and the library of the University of Toronto, by the receipt of fourteen of the Annual Reports of the American Historical Association, 1906–31; eight numbers of the Proceedings of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, 1907–18; six
volumes of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, 1914–26; and thirteen volumes of the *Canadian Historical Review*, 1920–32.

From the Pennsylvania State Library has come the very generous gift of a copy of the now rare index volume to the *Colonial Records* and the first series of the *Pennsylvania Archives*.

Mr. Owen D. Fletcher has given the society *A Digest of the Ordinances of the Borough of Sharpsburg* (Pittsburgh, 1883), the *Pittsburgh and Allegheny Blue Book* (Cleveland, 1887), and the seventh volume of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania's *Memoirs* (Philadelphia, 1860), which includes "Denny's Journal" and the "Record of Upland."

The Bureau of Research of the Federated Social Agencies of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County has presented a copy of its *Census Tract Tables of Population and Families, Pittsburgh: 1930* (Pittsburgh, 1932), and a copy of the *Census Tract Index to Pittsburgh Streets and House Numbers* (Pittsburgh, 1932). These publications are invaluable tools for social and historical research.

Miss Neil Stewart has presented a copy of *A Memorial of the Futtehgurh Mission and Her Martyred Missionaries with Some Remarks on the Mutiny in India*, by the Reverend J. Johnston Walsh (Philadelphia, 1858). In it are sketches of a number of Presbyterian missionaries, including some from western Pennsylvania, who perished in the Great Mutiny.

Mr. Richard B. Mellon has presented a copy of *Fort Ligonier and Its Times* (Harrisburg, 1932), the latest publication of Dr. C. Hale Sipe of Butler. Among other welcome gifts of single items may be noted: a copy of the exceedingly rare and valuable *History of Pennsylvania*, by Robert Proud (Philadelphia, 1798), from Mrs. W. H. R. Hilliard; Lossing's *History of the Civil War* (New York, 1912), from Professor J. F. L. Raschen; a pamphlet on the *Semi-Centennial of the First Presbyterian Church of Coraopolis*, from Rev. E. B. Welsh; a copy of the 1932 edition of George T. Fleming's *Views of Old Pittsburgh*, from Mrs. William R. Thompson, and another of the same from Mr. B. Vincent Imbrie; and a *History of Agriculture in the Southern United States to 1860*, by Lewis C. Gray and Esther K. Thompson (Washington, 1933), from the Carnegie Institution of Washington.

Recent additions to the library by purchase include a *Handbook of Manuscripts in the Library of Congress* (Washington, 1918); *Henry Clay Frick, the Man*, by George Harvey (New York, 1928); a *History of American Eco-
nomic Life, by Edmund C. Kirkland (New York, 1932); twenty-one volumes of the Proceedings of the New York State Historical Association, 1902–32; and sixteen numbers of the annual bibliography entitled Writings in American History, 1906–27.

An interesting collection, comprised for the most part of Civil War relics, has been received as the gift of Mr. Taylor H. Beech of Wilkinsburg. Included are a drum used by Company C, 193d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers; a musket of the type shipped from England to the southern states during the war in payment for cotton; examples of buckles, bayonets, cap-boxes, and other equipment of the Union and the Confederate soldier; and battle-field relics such as bullets and a cavalry horseshoe. Of special interest at this time is a bit of scrip issued in 1819 in the amount of two dollars receivable in payment of debts due the Mercer and Meadville Turnpike Road Company, and a token issued by Pittsburgh merchants in 1863–64 in lieu of money.

A sleighing slipper or foot warmer of felt lined with buffalo hide, dating from about 1850, has been presented by Mrs. Alexander S. Hunter. Other interesting gifts to the museum include a Staffordshire platter brought to Allegheny County by early settlers, from Mrs. Raymond L. McDonald; two glass steins of Pittsburgh manufacture, from Mr. Merton J. Deyo, donor of the Deyo collection of steins; and an engraving symbolic of Lincoln’s rise “From Log Cabin to White House,” from Mr. Matthew MacDonald.

A number of interesting articles derived from early western Pennsylvania households have been received as loans from Mrs. Fulton R. Stotler. Included are a pair of ornamented “parlor” bellows of ante bellum days and a number of pieces of chinaware of varied date, make, and design.