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Annual report of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland

Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland

Baltimore, Md, 1887-1901

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Thirteenth and Fourteenth Annual Reports

OF THE

Society for the History of the Germans

IN

MARYLAND,



AND A

History of the German Element in Virginia

VOL. II,

BY HERRMANN SCHURICHT.

1900.

1950 / 434

THEO. KTOH & SONS, PRINTERS, BALTIMORE, MD.




THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SECRETARY

OF THE

"Society for the History  Germans in Maryland."



Mr. President and Gentlemen:

During the past year the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland held eight meetings, the December meeting being omitted by reason of insufficient attendance on the part of the members.

No original article was furnished during this time and but few extracts of recent Historical Publications were read. The hour of meeting was generally fully occupied by the consideration of correspondence, which had largely increased. But though no original articles were furnished, the Society by the publication of Mr. L. P. Hennighausen's article: "*Reminiscences of the Political Life of the German-Americans in Baltimore During the Years 1850—1860,*" and of Vol. I of Mr. Herrmann Schuricht's manuscript, "*History of the Early Germans in Virginia,*" both of which had been read in previous meetings, was enabled to furnish a volume of such intrinsic value as to awaken an earnest interest in all parts of the Country. The daily Press, students of history, societies and individuals gave expression of their interest in this publication. The second volume of this valuable contribution of "*The History of the Early Germans in Virginia,*" is to be published during the coming year.

This Society having in previous years been very liberal in their gratuitous distribution of its publications, the demands for this last issue, a volume of 232 pages, without the offer of any return on the part of the supplicants, was quite large. The Society felt compelled to refuse these requests, except where we had the assurance that these publications would really serve their purpose or where corresponding returns were made. This action on the part of the Society is all the more reasonable in view of the fact, that each member being entitled to only two copies of the Annual Report, pays a much larger amount for these publications, than the price demanded from outsiders.

Another erroneous impression that seems to have gone out is, that this Society is a kind of Information or Intelligence Bureau, able and ready to give answer to the most perplexing inquiries concerning individual immigrants of the former century and of whom in many cases nothing further was known than the name and even that often very uncertain as to its originality. Of course, this Society is most willing to render any assistance within its power in the research of historical *facts*, but as to minor details it cannot possibly afford either time or strength.

Another pleasing feature of the past year worthy to be mentioned is the successful restoration of the "Thomas H. Hicks Monument" by the efforts of this Society, aided by the Grand Army of Maryland. Said monument by an Act of the General Assembly of Maryland has been located during the summer in the Maryland Institute and an amount sufficient towards its future preservation has been secured.

Among the Papers and Books received by our Library during the year are the following :

1. 13th Annual Report of the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society.
2. History of Tucker County, W. Va.—By Henry Maxwell.
3. History of Hampshire County, W. Va.—By Henry Maxwell and Swisher.

4. Geschichte der Evang.-Luth. Synode von Iowa.—By Rev. Deindoerfer.
5. The 78th, 79th and 80th Annual Reports of the New York State Library.
6. Second Annual Report of the New York State Librarian.
7. Obituary Record of Franklin and Marshall College, Vol. I, No. 2.
8. Leben des General-Majors Andreas Jackson.—By J. H. Eaton.
9. Jahresbericht der deutschen Gesellschaft von New Orleans.
10. Caspar Maier and his Successors.
11. History and Roster of Maryland Volunteers in the War of 1861—1865.
12. Volume VIII of the Pennsylvania-German Society.
13. The Manuscripts and Early Printed Books bequeathed to the Long Island Historical Society by Samuel B. Duryea.
14. The Dutch and the Iroquois.—By Rev. Ch. H. Hall, D. D.
15. Fund Publications Nos. 33—34, by the Maryland Historical Society.
16. Historical Discourses at the Sesqui-Centennial Celebrations of the Ev. Luth. Jordan Church of Tulpehoken and the Ev. Luth. Church of Whitehall Township, Pa.
17. Das 155ste Jahresfest der Jerusalems-Kirche in Salzburg Township, Pa.
18. Military Papers of Daniel T. Tompkins, Governor of New York 1807—1817. Second War with Great Britain Series. Volume I.
19. The Huguenot Emigration to Virginia.—By R.A. Brock.
20. Bremisches Jahrbuch, Volume 18.

The Society owes thanks to the following donors :

The Enoch Pratt Free Library ; Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society ; St. Louis Mercantile Society ; Historische Gesellschaft des Künstler-Vereins in Bremen ; New York State Library ; Franklin and Marshall College ; Historical Society of Maryland ; Leland Stanford, Jr., University ; Oelrichs & Co. ; Long Island Historical Society ; Pennsylvania-German Society ; General Adjutant of Maryland ; The Virginia Historical Society ; Mr. Hermann Schuricht ; Prof. Hanno Deiler ; Rev. Dr. Sadtler ; the Proprietors of the "German Correspondent" and the "Baltimore Journal ;" the Germania Club.

The Society laments the loss of three of its active members by death during the year, viz :

Mr. Jacob Gminder, who departed this life Sept. 10th, 1898.

Mr. Frederick Walpert, who died Sept. 29th, 1898, and

Mr. Charles Hilgenberg, who died Jan. 23d, 1899.

Mr. W. A. Marburg and Prof. H. Froehlinger resigned from their membership.

Five new members were added ; thus we enter upon the new year with the same number of active members as those of last year, viz : fifty-seven.

Respectfully submitted,

F. PH. HENNIGHAUSEN, Secretary.

BALTIMORE, MD., February 21st, 1899.

Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland.

Annual Report of the Treasurer.

BALTIMORE, February 21st, 1899.

Balance on hand February 22d, 1898 - - - - - \$478 41

RECEIPTS.

Annual Dues from 53 members - - -	\$265 00
Interest on funds on hand - - - - -	15 41
From sale of Annual Reports - - - - -	1 00
Total Receipts - - - - -	281 41
	<hr/>
	\$759 82

DISBURSEMENTS.

Annual Report and Pamphlets - - -	\$199 76
Books and Papers - - - - -	11 72
Bookbinding - - - - -	25 50
Secretary's Salary - - - - -	100 00
Postage and Expressage - - - - -	19 42
Fire Insurance for 5 years - - - - -	12 00
Entertainment - - - - -	27 10
Donations - - - - -	10 00
Commission to Collector - - - - -	12 00
Total Disbursements - - - - -	\$417 50
	<hr/>

Balance on hand February 21st, 1899, - - - \$342 32
 which amount is deposited in the Hop-
 kins Place Savings Bank.

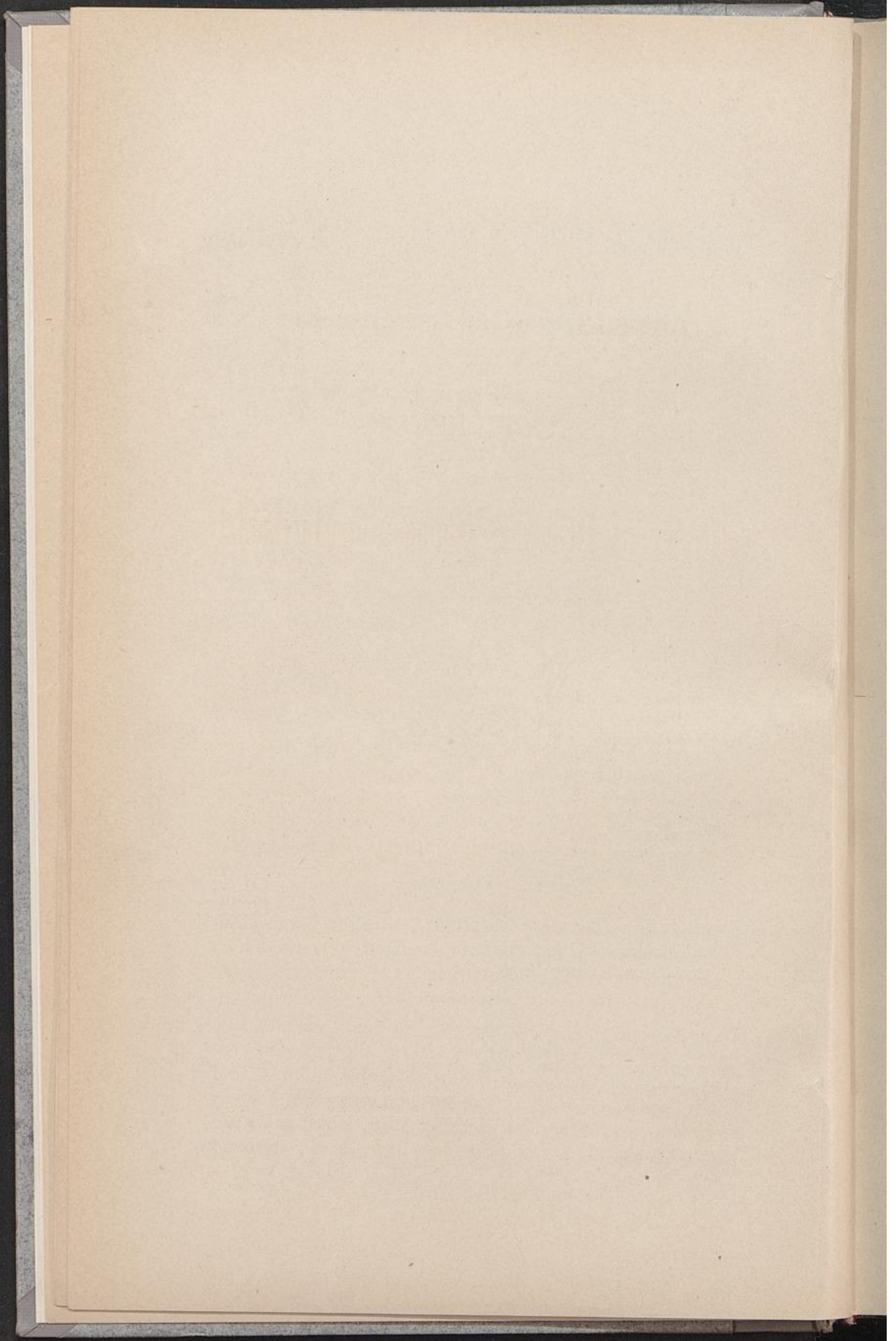
ROB'T M. ROTHER, Treasurer.

The Committee appointed to audit the accounts of the Treasurer have carefully examined and audited the same and find them correct.

J. FRED. REQUARDT.
 HENRY LINGENFELDER.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 21st, 1899.

Committee.



FOURTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SECRETARY

OF THE

"Society for the History Germans in Maryland."



Mr. President:

The Annual Report of your Secretary, it being the fourteenth of the existence of the Society, will of a necessity be conspicuous by its brevity.

The past year has been one of comparative great quietness in the history of this Society. But one original article was read at our monthly meetings, and even that only by the courtesy of a gentleman not a member of this body, and as the article referred to was prepared for a different object, it did not become the property of this organization.

Portions of the second volume of Mr. H. Schuricht's manuscript, "History of the Early Germans in Virginia," were read at some of the meetings and the whole ordered to be printed by the Executive Committee. It still remains, together with other documents, in the hands of the printer.

It has become quite evident by the wide and general interest, which the first volume of this work evoked, that this Society, by enabling the lamented author in the publication of this history and thus bringing it upon the market, has thereby accomplished a very important part toward the object of its original organization, viz: to bring to general notice the merits of

our forefathers in the development of this country and its Institutions.

I spoke of Mr. Schuricht as the lamented author, because, as you are aware, it pleased God to take him hence on May 27, 1899. Besides the one just mentioned, the Society deplores the loss of two of its active members by death and one by resignation.

The obituary notices of the departed will appear with our last year's Annual Report.

Seven active members were added to our list during the same time, making a total number of 53 active members at the close of the year.

Those who have again kindly remembered us by donations to our Library are:

The Enoch Pratt Free Library; the Ohio Archaeological and Historical Society; the Leland Stanford, Jr., University; the Pennsylvania-German Society; the American-Jewish Historical Society; the New York State Library; the Franklin and Marshall College; Historische Gesellschaft des Bremer Künstler-Vereins; Mr. H. Schuricht; Rev. Ed. Huber; Mr. Brisco Goodhart; Mr. Jos. G. Rosengarten; F. Ph. Hennighausen; the Proprietors of the "German Correspondent" and the "Baltimore Journal."

Last, but not least, the Society is again obligated to the Germania Club for the generous, gratuitous use of the place for our monthly meetings.

Respectfully,

F. PH. HENNIGHAUSEN, Secretary.

BALTIMORE, MD., February 20th, 1900.

Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland.

Annual Report of the Treasurer.

BALTIMORE, February 20th, 1900.

Balance on hand February 21st, 1899 - - - - - \$342 32

RECEIPTS.

Annual Dues from members for 1899	-	\$275 00	
Dues from members for 1898	- - - -	25 00	
From sale of Annual Reports	- - - -	19 00	
Interest from Savings Bank	- - - -	9 54	
Total Receipts	- - - -		\$328 54
			<hr/>
			\$670 86

DISBURSEMENTS.

Books and Papers	- - - - -	\$19 16	
Bookbinding	- - - - -	25 60	
Salary of Secretary	- - - - -	100 00	
Postage and Stationery	- - - - -	9 28	
Supper to members	- - - - -	29 55	
Donations	- - - - -	10 00	
Commission to Collector	- - - - -	12 00	
Total Disbursements	- - - - -		\$205 59
			<hr/>

Balance on hand February 20th, 1900 - - - - - \$465 27
 which is on deposit in the Hopkins Place
 Savings Bank, as per bank book.

Respectfully submitted,

ROB'T. M. ROTHER, Treasurer.

The undersigned have examined the above report, compared it with the cash book and vouchers and found it correct.

G. WM. SATTLER.
 OTTO FUCHS.
 KURT R. STERNBERG.

BALTIMORE, February 20th, 1900.

Committee.

IN MEMORIAM.

HENRY SCHEIB.

Rev. Henry Scheib was born July 8th, 1808, at Bacherach, a little town on the border of the Rhine. His father was a wine-grower.

He received elementary instruction at the Latin school of his native town and then entered the Kreuznach College, where he laid the foundation for his broad knowledge of classical literature. The recently founded University of Bonn offered to the young student all the advantages so richly connected with these centres of German intellectual life, while at the Utrecht University the peculiar Dutch civilization gained his heart. He did, however, not return to the "Fatherland,"—if we are allowed to give this name to Germany of those days,—having already felt the heavy hand of the "Reaktion," but looked towards the United States, whence such a hearty welcome was extended to all those labouring in a hopeless struggle. In 1835 he landed at New York. Soon he was called to Baltimore, where the pulpit of Zion church was vacant. The young preacher, inspired by the liberal ideas both in theology and politics, was at his first sermon the chosen leader of the liberal party of said church, and by his strong will and eminent qualities he succeeded in stamping his mind on the congregation.

Talent, however, as well as inclinations, led him more to emphasize the necessity of a modern school founded upon and directed after the German methods of education, chiefly taking natural history as the basis of instruction. He shared the youthful expectations of the new science which claimed to solve the enigma of existence. Exact science rather than theology seemed to him to be the source of truth. On the other side he studied universal history with the means of his time, and strongly advocated the right of the Reformation.

Zion School, therefore, could be considered as the first higher school of the city, if not of the country. It raised the intellectual standard not only of the German population, but also of the community. It was the pioneer school of Baltimore.

After fifty years of its existence the institution which stood obviously far above the ordinary parochial school began by various reasons to decline. Likewise the church, for partly the same reasons, began to be unable to influence the broader masses with former force, although the preacher was of marvelous vigor and intellectual strength, after half a century spent in the realization of his aim. His fiftieth anniversary saw the schoolman and the pastor adored and honored by all owing their education to him. At his sixtieth all those who felt their obligations to the old church and its teacher united again to do him honor.

At the sixty-second year of his pastoral career at Zion church he resigned and one year after his resignation he died, Nov. 15th, 1897. Zion church at his obsequies paid the respects due to the eminent preacher and teacher, the never-tiring worker. The congregation fully appreciated that an epoch in its history was closed which was of unique character.

At the anniversary of his death the congregation under impressive ceremonies placed on his grave at Lorraine Cemetery a monument bearing the motto of his life: Truth, Righteousness and Love.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE !

JACOB GMINDER.

Mr. Jacob Gminder was born March 1st, 1835, in Reutlingen, Wuerttemberg. He came to America in 1849 and entered the business of his uncle, who was a manufacturer of medals and uniforms for lodges and military organizations. At the latter's death Mr. Jacob Gminder took charge of the business and continued it successfully to the time of his death, which occurred September 10th, 1898. He also took an earnest interest in all popular demonstrations.

FREDERICK WALPERT.

Mr. Frederick Walpert, who died September 29th, 1898, was born in Treysa, near Cassel, September 8th, 1833. At the age of 15 years he came to America. For

thirty-five years he was at the head of the well-known firm: F. Walpert & Co., Manufacturers of Mattresses, etc. At the time of his death he was also president of "The Economy Savings Bank" and one of the directors of "The American National Bank," occupying besides many other positions of trust and responsibility.

CHARLES HILGENBERG.

Mr. Charles Hilgenberg, the third of our members departed during the past year, was born in Melsungen, Germany, on the second of January, 1829. In 1850 he arrived in Baltimore, which he made his home during the remainder of his life. He was engaged in a number of successful mercantile enterprises, taking at the same time an earnest interest in a number of social and benevolent societies. He died on the 23d of Jan. 1899.

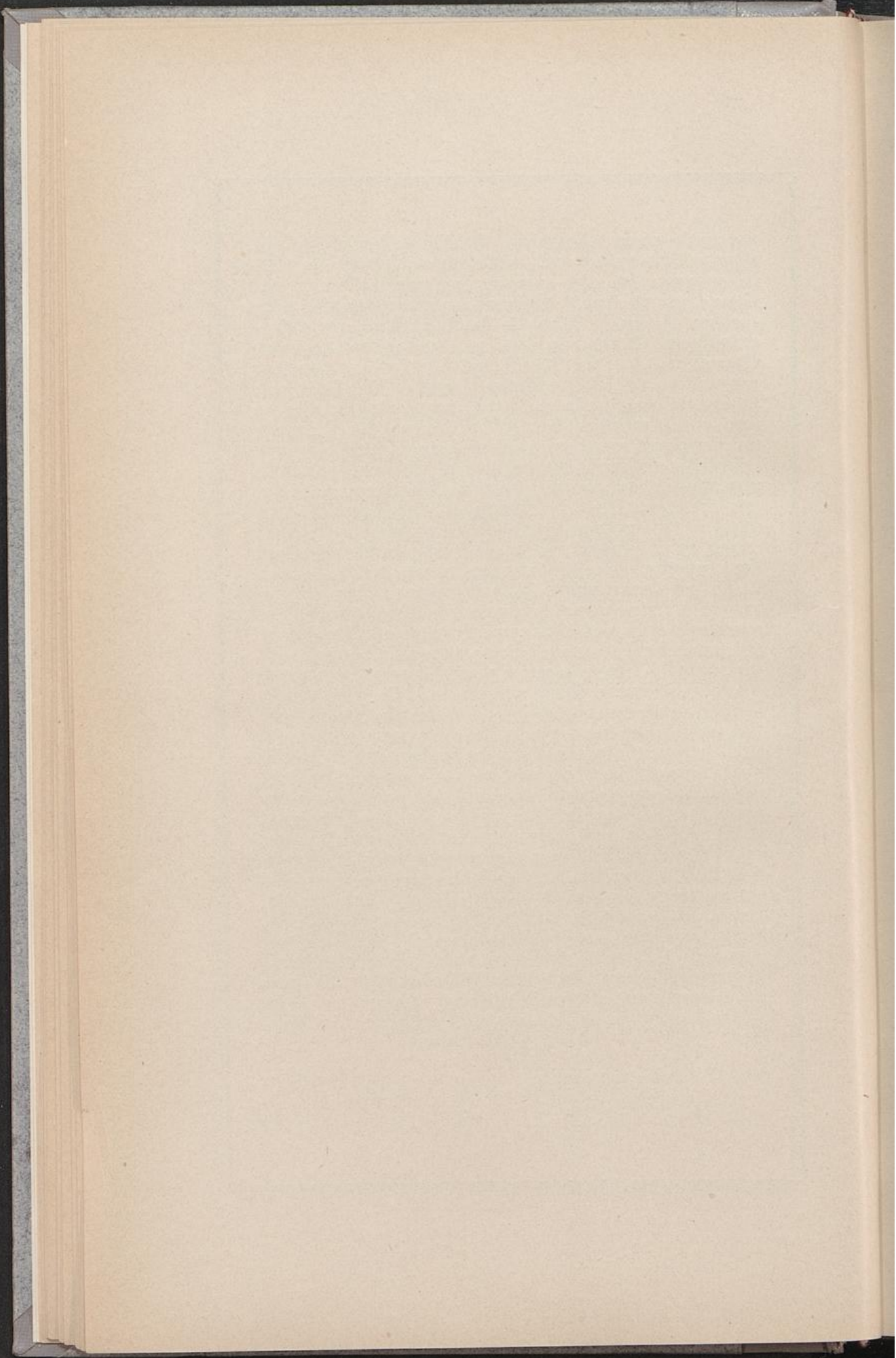
HENRY VEES.

Mr. Henry Vees, who died on the eve of our Annual Meeting, February 21st, 1899, was one of the best known German-American citizens of Baltimore. He was born near Ulm, Wuerttemberg, on the 13th of August, 1817. In 1849 he emigrated to America, making Sharpsburg, Penna., where he was engaged in teaching, his first home. A few years later he came to Baltimore, where he was also engaged for a number of years as teacher. He was a very able musician, one of the founders of "The German Fire Insurance Company" and of the "St. James Savings Bank," whose cashier he was at the time of his death. His benevolent disposition manifested itself in like manner.

ADOLPH STAIB.

Adolph Staib was born on the 20th of February 1846 in Bieberach, Kingdom of Wuerttemberg, Germany. After having finished his school education, he learned

the trade of watchmaking, thereby following in the steps of his father and forefathers. In the year 1866 he emigrated to this country, making Baltimore his home from the first. After seven years connection with the firm of Geo. W. Webb & Co., Mr. Staib established a business of his own, first on Fayette Street, between Charles and St. Paul Streets, and for the last fourteen years at No. 668 W. Lexington Street. Mr. Staib was an expert in his trade and soon came into prominence among the watchmakers of Baltimore City. At the watchmakers' meeting in Naumberg in 1887 he was awarded a diploma for excellence of his watchwork. He was also a fine portrait painter. His portrait of our late President, Rev. Dr. Morris, is strikingly life-like, equal, if not superior to the one in our room. To some extent he understood and in his family circle practiced homoeopathy. In his intercourse with his fellow-men he was very congenial. Of the kindness of his heart he gave a striking proof, when at the close of our June meeting he learned that your Secretary suffered much of insomnia; he hastened home, though a hot and sultry night, to fetch a remedy for this complaint out of his stock of homoeopathic medicines. He was a most devoted husband and father and a likewise dutiful son. For years, when his mother's birthday occurred, who is still living at the old home at the age of 89 years, he would report the same per mail to your Secretary and others, asking them to join him in rejoicing over the event, as well as in his prayer for the continued welfare of the aged lady, for Mr. Staib was also a devout Christian. Though never furnishing any article for this Society, Mr. Staib was rarely absent from our meetings and always seemed to enjoy them greatly. He was with us at our last meeting in June, apparently in his usual good health, but before the next meeting occurred, Mr. Staib was no longer among the living, having died August 28th, greatly lamented by his family, a large circle of friends and last, though not least, by the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland.



List of Active Members February 1st, 1900.

- Albrecht, Philip A 108 Light St.
 Arens, Henry..... 3 E. German St.
 Bissing, Henry W. 409 W. Saratoga St.
 Brack, Charles E. Ensor and Forrest Sts.
 Bunnecke, George..... 305 St Paul St.
 Dobler, Gustavus A..... 113 Hopkins Place.
 Dohme, Charles E..... Pratt and Howard Sts.
 Dohme, Louis..... Pratt and Howard Sts.
 Falck, John B..... 203 N. Eutaw St.
 Falzl, Franz..... 222 N. Liberty St.
 Feldner, Frederick W..... 209 Fidelity Bldg.
 Felgner, Edward L..... 208 S. Charles St.
 Fuchs, Otto.. Maryland Institute.
 Gail, George W..... 2301 Eutaw Place.
 Gans, Edgar H..... 616 Equitable Bldg.
 Ganter, Francis X..... 11 W. Pratt St.
 Hennighausen, Rev.F.,Ph.D.D.115 W. Lee St.
 Hennighausen, Louis P..... 215 St. Paul St.
 Hilken, Henry G..... 5 S. Gay St.
 Hoen, Frank N.. Hoen Bldg.
 Hoffman, J. Leonard..... 738 George St.
 Hofmann, Rev. Julius 1029 W. Lanvale St.
 Hölljes, Dietrich..... 330 S. Patterson Pk. Av..
 Huber, Rev. Eduard 1300 E. Fayette St.
 Klein, Daniel A..... 2311 N. Calvert St.
 Knollenberg, Herman.. German-Amer. Fire Ins. Co.
 Lauts, Henry 227 E. German St.
 Lerian, Jacob 66 Lexington Market.
 Leyh, Edward F German Correspondent.
 Lingenfelder, Henry 513 Law Building.
 Loewenthal, Isidore..... 847 Hollins St.
 Mayer, Frederick J..... Pratt and Scott Sts.

- Meyerdireck, Martin.....German-Amer. Fire Ins. Co.
 Niemann, Eberhard.....Wiesbaden, Germany.
 Peuss, Carl.....437 N. High St.
 Raddatz, Charles F.....Baltimore City College.
 Rauschenberg, Herman... ..Chamber of Commerce Bldg.
 Reinhard, Dr. Ferdinand.....220 W. Madison St.
 Requardt, J. Frederick322 Equitable Bldg.
 Rittenhouse, Nicholas MFoot of Cross St.
 Rother, Robert M.....Hopkins Pl. Savings Bank.
 Ruhstrat, Carl.....227 E. German St.
 Sadtler, Rev. Phil. B., *D.D.*...2 S. Huntingdon Ave.
 Sattler, G. William.....207 S. Charles St.
 Scheer, Valentine.....1016 E. Preston St.
 Schmeisser, Ernst1—19 E. Barre St.
 Schneidereith, Louis C.....208 S. Sharp St.
 Schulz, Alexander H.....German Bank.
 Spieker, Prof. Edw. H., *D.Ph.*Johns Hopkins University.
 Sternberg, Kurt Rudolph..... 2115 Calverton Road.
 Von Lingen, George AGerman Consulate.
 Weilbacher, Paul.....1600 Park Ave.
 Wood, Prof. Henry, *D.Ph.*..... Johns Hopkins University.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS.

- Learned, Prof., M.D., *D. Ph.*.....Philadelphia, Pa.
 Peschau, Prof. F. W., *D.D.*..... Miamisburg, Ohio.
 Rattermann, H. J.....Cincinnati, O.
 Rapp, William.....Chicago, Ills.
 Rosengarten, J. G.....Philadelphia, Pa.
 Schurz, Carl.....New York.
 Wolf, SimonWashington, D. C.

