

Cumberland County History



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Cumberland County History is published semi-annually. All members of the Cumberland County Historical Society receive a copy of the journal as part of regular membership. The regular membership fee is \$25.00 annually. Members receive other benefits, including a quarterly newsletter, special invitations to programs and exhibits, and the satisfaction of joining with others to preserve county history. Correspondence regarding membership should be addressed to the Executive Director, Cumberland County Historical Society, 21 North Pitt Street, P.O. Box 626, Carlisle, PA 17013.

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COVER: The cover sketch of New Kingstown is by Ted Mannino, of Mechanicsburg. The structures, left to right, are Trinity United Methodist Church, "Kanaga," and St. Stephens Lutheran Church.

C o n t r i b u t o r s

Raphael Smead Hays II, born in Carlisle, was graduated from Dickinson College in 1956 and later earned a master's degree at Rutgers University. He teaches American History at Gill St. Barnabas School, Gladstone, NJ.

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Washington: Revolutionary War Arsenal at Carlisle

John B. B. Trussell

As a source of manpower, leadership, and vital supplies, Carlisle and its vicinity played a significant role in the Revolutionary War effort. Nevertheless, and notwithstanding the fact that much of its present population has roots reaching well into the era of America's struggle for independence, the eastern region of Cumberland County has not until recently had its own chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. Instead, interested and eligible residents affiliated with groups centered on Harrisburg, York, Gettysburg or Shippensburg.

To fill this gap, on January 22, 1992, the Pennsylvania Society of the Sons of the American Revolution officially chartered a new chapter, centered on Carlisle. To commemorate a major Revolutionary War activity of the area, the members chose the designation, "Washingtonburg." Although it may not be familiar, it is an ancient name of Carlisle Barracks, which except for West Point is the oldest active military post of the United States Army.¹

Longevity is not the only characteristic shared by these two posts. In fact, it could be argued that in their respective ways, West Point and Washingtonburg were the Continental Army's two most vital military installations. West Point, by dominating the Hudson River, blocked any junction between the British forces in Canada and those on Manhattan, and thereby provided a barrier to perhaps the greatest threat of American defeat; Washingtonburg, by serving as the Continental Army's predominant source of munitions, made possible an eventual American victory.

The British certainly saw the importance of both West Point and Washingtonburg. Neither could be taken by direct attack, but plots were developed to take each of them by stealth. The record of Benedict Arnold's treason at West Point is well known, but the story of the plot against Washingtonburg may be less familiar.

For the sake of perspective, the account must begin with the original establishment of the military post at Carlisle in 1757 during the French and Indian War, only six years after the town itself was laid out. As the only British outpost west of the Susquehanna, it was a major center of defense against Indian attacks, which had struck as close as eight miles.² As British and Provincial strength built up,³ it developed into the chief supply depot and then the jump-off point for the 1758 offensive under Brigadier General John Forbes that forced the French to abandon Fort Duquesne, where the Allegheny and Monongahela meet to form the Ohio River.

In order to carry out that offensive, the soldiers built the first road west to what would become Pittsburgh.⁴ In 1764, after the French had been defeated and Pontiac's War had ended, the soldiers were moved away. But the road remained, making Carlisle a major way-station between Philadelphia and the west. As the focus of an expanding roadnet, Carlisle developed as a center for the Cumberland Valley's products of grain, horses and cattle. When the Revolution got under way, Carlisle naturally became an important collection point for quartermaster supplies of food, forage and livestock to support the Continental Army.⁵ This was important, but is a subject for a story in its own right.

Ordnance activities—that is, the manufacture and repair of weapons and the production of gunpowder—were a separate matter. Once the Continental Army developed some structure, these functions were concentrated in Philadelphia, but in the autumn of 1776, after General George Washington's army was defeated in New York and began to retreat through New Jersey, the fall of Philadelphia to the British seemed imminent. In December, therefore, Congress directed the establishment of two weapons storage magazines, along with what it called "elaboratories" to manufacture cannon, muskets and ammunition. One was to be at Springfield, Massachusetts, considered to be too far inland to be vulnerable to British attack. For the other, General Washington suggested York, which also enjoyed security from its remoteness. However, Congress decided in favor of the old British camp outside Carlisle—it was equally secure, it had good road connections and, perhaps above all, the availability of buildings erected by the former British garrison would reduce construction costs.⁶

Congress specified that this installation, which was to be called Washingtonburg, would have the capacity to store ten thousand stand of arms (that is, muskets with bayonets) and two hundred tons of gunpowder. The so-called "elaboratory"—not actually an experimental establishment, as the term may suggest to a modern ear, but a factory—was to manufacture cannon balls, cannon of various calibers and their gun-carriages, nails, and barrels to hold gunpowder. It also was to function as a school for artillery officers, teaching weapons maintenance and repair. It would be operated by technicians of the several skills required, who would be enlisted as artillerymen in a company assigned to the

Artillery Artificer Regiment commanded by Colonel Benjamin Flower. Issac Coren—for whom the building just across the street from the present-day Carlisle Barricks Officers' Club is named—was commissioned captain of the company. The installation as a whole was put under Major Charles Lukens.⁷

The new depot was in operation before the end of February, 1777.⁸ Springfield proved to be too far away from the center of action to provide effective support, so Washingtonburg's importance as the Army's prime source of weapons grew rapidly, especially during the next winter, which brought Washington's troops to Valley Forge.

Traditionally, the winter at Valley Forge is regarded as a time when the Army struggled to survive in the face of starvation and bitter cold. That is only part of the story. It was also a time when the Army was reorganized, and for the first time properly trained and armed.⁹ So far as the improvement in armament is concerned, much of the credit is due to the efforts made at Washingtonburg.¹⁰ Certainly, the fact that the soldiers were better armed was a factor in their admirable performance at the Battle of Monmouth during the British withdrawal from Philadelphia in June, 1778.

From that time on, there was a lengthy hiatus in major military operations by the main Continental force under Washington and the British under Sir Henry Clinton in New York. Less than a month after Monmouth, however, a force of Loyalists and Indians under Colonel John Butler moved down the North Branch of the Susquehanna in a devastating raid on the Wyoming Valley of Pennsylvania.¹¹ To put a lasting stop to such attacks, Washington began planning a massive punitive expedition against the Iroquois in upstate New York.

It was to have two elements: the main attack, led by General John Sullivan, to push north from present-day Wilkes-Barre, and a secondary effort under Colonel Daniel Brodhead, moving up the Allegheny from Fort Pitt.¹² Producing and transporting the vast quantities of materiel needed for these two expeditions brought even more intense activity at Washingtonburg.¹³

Before long, Sir Henry Clinton was fully informed. The fact was that many people in the interior of Pennsylvania were secretly loyal to the British. Some of them had supported the cause of the Colonists in the beginning, but the Declaration of Independence had profoundly changed the character of the struggle: a protest against obnoxious actions by Parliament, even by force of arms, was one thing; treason against the Crown was something else altogether. Then, there were some who thought that American defeat was inevitable, and others who had become disillusioned with the collapsing economy or the Revolutionary government's ineffectiveness.¹⁴

These people could not act openly, but they did supply information to the British Army, and some of them were anxious to do even more. The Loyalists' prime mover in south central Pennsylvania was a prominent York County landowner, William Rankin.¹⁵

He was a judge of the circuit court of appeals and quarter sessions, a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly, and a colonel of York County militia. He kept his militia rank as a cover but used his position to recruit men to the Loyalist cause. Helping him was a British deserter named Alexander McDonald, living in York County; a man named Scherrop, in Hanover; and Martin Weaver, who was a captain in the Northumberland County militia. Between them, they claimed that they had recruited some eighteen hundred Loyalist sympathizers. They also had an ally who was a colonel in the Lancaster County militia; he has never been identified, but Robert G. Crist thinks him to be Matthew Smith.¹⁶

In March, 1779, knowing that the Sullivan and Brodhead expeditions were being organized, Rankin sent a bold plan to Clinton. He proposed that Clinton direct Colonel John Butler to lead a force down the Susquehanna again, this time all the way to Carlisle. Rankin would maintain contact with him, and when Butler drew close the local Loyalists would rise and join in seizing the arsenal at Washingtonburg. This would serve the double purpose of disrupting the Rebels and arming the Loyalists. Meanwhile, Clinton could mount a small-scale operation, perhaps from Delaware Bay, to draw off the Continentals' strength. Rankin thought that such an operation "must greatly tend to finish the war."

Initially, Clinton agreed but apparently had second thoughts. In any case, he neglected to send word to Butler, who later told Rankin that he had never heard of the proposal. Perhaps Clinton doubted that Rankin actually could raise the number of Loyalists he promised. Whatever the reason, the next word from Clinton outlined a different approach. Instead of an open attack on Washingtonburg, he wanted Rankin to arrange to have the arsenal destroyed by clandestine methods.

Rankin was less than enthusiastic. He replied that he would carry out orders, and had selected Loyalists with the appropriate skills to enlist in the artificer company so as to sabotage the Washingtonburg operation, but he pointed out that the only way to arm his eighteen hundred Loyalists was to capture the arsenal, not blow it up.

He also reported that two of McDonald's men returning from carrying messages to New York had been captured and had revealed that the Loyalists were planning to attack Washingtonburg. This brought instructions from Clinton to suspend any actions, because for the time being the British could not afford to divert troops to support an operation by Rankin.



BUILT IN 1777, traditionally by Hessian prisoners of war, this structure is shown in a view photographed about 1870. It is now used as a museum at the Carlisle Barricks. Photograph from the Society collection.

Actually, Rankin's original proposal might well have been successful; if so, it could have had a devastating effect. The authorities at Washingtonburg had assumed that their distance from the British forces gave them ample protection and consequently had done little or nothing to provide local security. The capture of McDonald's men, however, brought a flurry of activity. A number of leading citizens (but not Rankin) were revealed as secret Loyalists and jailed, and two entire infantry companies were specially recruited for the Continental Army for the sole purpose of protecting Washingtonburg.¹⁷ These developments, particularly in light of Clinton's lack of confidence, put an end to serious threats of Loyalist attack or sabotage at the arsenal.

Parenthetically, Rankin continued to spin various invasion plots, but nothing ever came of them. In March, 1781, he was finally exposed and jailed, but managed to escape to New York. He left for England when the British Army evacuated the city in November, 1783, and was awarded an annual pension of 120 pounds, together with reimbursement of some 2,300 pounds for loss of his estates to American confiscation.

Washingtonburg continued to operate efficiently even when Indian raids frequently interrupted delivery of essential supplies of iron and charcoal. What finally came close to causing a complete breakdown, though, was sky-rocketing inflation that brought enormous difficulties in obtaining even the barest necessities for the troops. This prompted what one officer reported as "ill-temper among the artificers." Discipline suffered: Coren was court-martialed and cashiered for insubordination, and Lukens was relieved from command because he was unable to keep his men under control.

In August, 1781, with the Yorktown campaign about to begin and the need for ordnance service greater than ever. General William Irvine wrote from Carlisle to General Washington that the artificers "have been these several months fed only

with flour and whiskey." Evidently even the whiskey failed to make up for the limitations of the rest of their diet, for he went on to say that "as they had not meat they did not think themselves obliged to work."¹⁸

Eventually adequate rations were obtained, and the army got the ordnance support it needed. After Yorktown, of course, requirements dropped off rapidly. Finally, on May 26, 1784, Congress issued orders to disband the Continental Army, and by July the arsenal at Washingtonburg had closed down.¹⁹

It had existed for little more than seven years, but during that time it had made a vital contribution to the achievement of national independence. Granted, its accomplishment had not been as glamorous or as dramatic as other aspects of the war effort. However, in the final analysis, strategy can be pursued and tactics employed only to the extent that logistics can make them possible. It cannot be denied that Washingtonburg, which played such an essential role in such a fundamental aspect of the Revolutionary victory, fully deserves to be commemorated.

ENDNOTES

GENERAL: Extensive primary-source documentation is to be found in the chronologically organized *Colonial Records* (also known as the "First Series") of the published *Pennsylvania Archives*. Except as mentioned in Note 15, the sources cited below are faithful to the archival material, which therefore is not cited.

¹ The key words are "active" and "United States Army." As "the camp at Carlisle," founded in 1757, the post antedates West Point by more than twenty years. On the other hand, (1) it was founded as a *British Army* installation, and (2) even though it became a *U.S.* post before West Point, its subsequent existence was intermittent. West Point, by contrast, was a *U.S.* installation from its inception on January 20, 1778, and has continued as an active post without interruption. See Dave Richard Palmer, *The River and the Rock* (New York: The Greenwood Publishing Corporation, 1969), page 140. Some military posts in use by the Army until recent years date from early in the Spanish colonial era as well as the British, but these have been closed—the Presidio of San Francisco is an example.

² Lt. Col. Thomas G. Tousey, *Military History of Carlisle and Carlisle Barracks* (Richmond, Va.: The Dietz Press, 1939), page 14.

³ The British Regulars were augmented by a force enlisted by the Pennsylvania provincial government (hence the term, "Provincials") for full-time active duty. They were not militia, which served only short duty tours, and then only in times of immediate emergency; in any case, until 1777 Pennsylvania, alone among the North American British colonies, had no militia. The Pennsylvania Provincials, like those raised in other colonies, differed from Regulars chiefly in being enlisted for only twelve months at a time, although the units were renewed annually (admittedly with some personnel turn-over) throughout the French and Indian War and Pontiac's War which followed. Initially, Pennsylvania formed two battalions (one, under Conrad Weiser, to serve north of the Susquehanna; and a second, under John Armstrong, to serve south of the Susquehanna). A third battalion eventually was formed to be based at Fort Augusta (Sunbury), at the junction of the Susquehanna's north and west branches.

⁴ Tousey, 24, 28.

⁵ *Ibid.*, 63-64.

⁶ *Ibid.*, 77.

⁷ *Ibid.*, 78-79, 96, 98, 100; Col. John B. B. Trussell, *The Pennsylvania Line* (Harrisburg: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1977), pages 226-227.

⁸ Tousey, 81.

⁹ Col. John B. B. Trussell, *Birthplace of an Army* (Harrisburg: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1976), pages iii-iv, 115-116.

¹⁰ Tousey, 94. Some weapons had been sent covertly and unofficially from France, but significant quantities had to await conclusion of a formal alliance, official word of which did not reach America until May, 1778, on the eve of the army's departure from Valley Forge.

¹¹ Col. John B. B. Trussell, "Forgotten Victory: The Sullivan Expedition of 1779," *Parameters: The Journal of the Army War College*, Volume V, Number 2 (1976), page 40.

¹² *Ibid.*, 41-42.

¹³ Tousey, 117-119, 125.

¹⁴ Carl Van Doren, *Secret History of the American Revolution* (New York: The Viking Press, 1941), page 130. A prominent example of a change of heart brought on by the Declaration of Independence is provided by Lt. Col. William Allen, Jr., of the 2d Pennsylvania Continental Battalion. He fought courageously at the Battle of Three Rivers in Canada on June 10, 1776, helping to cover the American retreat to Fort Ticonderoga. After arriving there and learning that independence had been declared, he resigned his commission, returned home to Philadelphia, and early in 1777 went to

British Army headquarters at New Brunswick, New Jersey, raised a battalion (the "Pennsylvania Loyalists"), and led it through the rest of the war, fighting under British colors. See Philip R. N. Katcher, *Encyclopedia of British, Provincial and German Army Units 1775-1783* (Harrisburg: Stackpole Books, 1973), page 95.

¹⁵ The account of the plots against Washingtonburg is derived chiefly from Van Doren, 130-134, 221-224, 415 and 429. John Bakeless, *Turncoats, Traitors and Heroes* (Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Company, 1957), page 301, also addresses the plots, but his account is so full of gross errors of fact as to be worse than useless because it is misleading.

¹⁶ Tousey, 95-96. Matthew Smith, a political figure in the part of Lancaster County that is now Dauphin, had been involved with the Paxton Boys. He was captain of one of the two companies of Thompson's Pennsylvania Rifle Battalion chosen (because its indiscipline made Washington anxious to remove it from his immediate command) to accompany Benedict Arnold's expedition from Cambridge, Massachusetts, through Maine to Canada in late 1775. Smith was absent in camp (officially, sick; but according to one contemporaneous account, drunk) when the force made its disastrous New Year's Eve attack on Quebec. Mustered out when the battalion completed its twelve-month enlistment in mid-1776, he returned to politics, was appointed colonel in the Lancaster County militia, and was elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly, serving briefly in October, 1779, as Vice President of the Supreme Executive Council.

¹⁷ Tousey, 95.

¹⁸ *Ibid.*, 141-144, 146.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, 148-150.

The Smeads

Raphael Smead Hays II

Jane Smead was the niece of my great-grandmother, Jane who married John Hays, and the daughter of Alexander Dallas Bache Smead. Far back into my youth I have memories of her fortress-like, solid brick house commanding the south-east corner of West and South Streets in Carlisle. On West Street the yard was extremely deep and guarded by a high wooden fence. Only tall evergreens and hardwoods grew above fence-height, but from South Street you could look over a picket fence and peer into a magical garden. My clearest memories were of masses of white and purple flocks gently swaying in the wind. They seemed to fill the circular brick garden and were dominated by white petals, a brilliant reflection of the sun. Further back delicious greens flowed together and beckoned.

As I grew older I began to learn about my cousin and to know her. At first she seemed severe, but as I grew older I began to visit her and did so until the end of her life in 1979 when she was ninety-one years old. She was a fascinating woman, highly educated, deeply religious and imbued with great enthusiasm and desire to learn. "She was educated by her parents and by tutors and for four years studied at the Lycees of Grenoble and of Paris, France, where she graduated at the head of her class of 1910. Later she pursued post-graduate studies at Johns Hopkins University where she received the degree of Master of Arts in 1918 and Doctor of Philosophy in 1921."¹ She was also a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Over the years she taught French literature, medieval drama, modern drama, contemporary drama and poetry, and Spanish and Italian, etc. She first taught at Wilson College in Chambersburg and then at Wells College in Aurora, New York. In 1927 she returned home in order to care for her widowed father until his death at the age of eighty-three in 1931. She then began a tenure at Temple University that lasted for twenty-four years. She finished her last two years of teaching at Dickinson College. Over these many winters her house was boarded up, but then in the summer it would come alive with her return. After her retirement in 1959

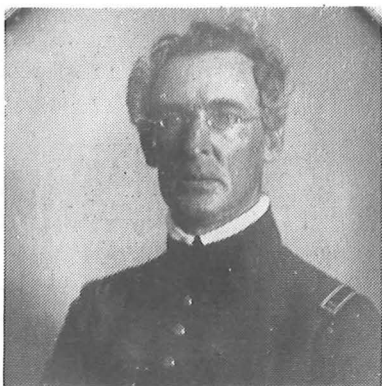
she moved back permanently. Jane often said to me, "I love this old house, every corner of it. I can still look out on the same trumpet vine I gazed upon as a child." It had been her home since 1892.

Often I would visit Jane in this house. Over the years I would take my wife, son and nieces and nephews. She was interested in everything we had to say. She always brought out ice cream and cookies for the children even to her final years when it was painful for her to do so. The young ones never bothered her, and she laughed at any prank they might pull. Through our long conversations we always talked about family history. Jane was very proud of her family. This is that story.

Jane told of a Judith Stoughton, who married a man by the name of Smead in Devon, England, and then in 1636 moved to America as a widow with a young son William. Her brother was Israel Stoughton, a member of the Massachusetts Legislature, and later an opponent of King Charles I. His son, William, was one of the judges in the notorious Salem Witch Trials. Judith Stoughton remained in this country as did following generations of Smeads.

Raphael Cummings Smead is the first Smead we know in any depth. He was born in southern New Hampshire in 1801. Four years later the entire family moved to Batavia in western New York state. Here Raphael Smead spent his childhood. In 1814 his brother Charles, fought at the Battle of Lundy's Lane in the War of 1812. War stories impressed the young Raphael. Partly because of this and a desire for adventure, Raphael Smead applied for and was accepted as a cadet at West Point in 1821. Throughout his college days he had little trouble with course work and graduated seventh in his class in 1825. The tall, thin youth made many friendships at the Academy but especially with Alexander Dallas Bache, the grandson of Benjamin Franklin. Bache became the benefactor of Raphael Smead's wife and children after his death in 1848. According to Jane, the whole family referred to her grandfather, Raphael Smead, as "Pa." Although born forty years after his death Jane always became sorrowful when speaking of his early death.

When stationed at Watervliet Arsenal in New York he met his future wife, Sarah Radcliff. They were married December 9, 1829. Sarah's father was John Radcliff, variously a merchant in New York City, Sheriff of Dutchess County, and farmer in Rhinebeck, New York [then the home of John Armstrong, Jr., once of Carlisle]. After many military assignments, Raphael Smead's family in 1845 was stationed at Fortress Monroe, Virginia. Over the period five children were born and lived to maturity. John Radcliff Smead, born in 1830, was a bright boy, friendly and outgoing but greatly resistant to discipline. Often only the physical presence of the father could gain obedience from him. Following were Elizabeth in 1835, Jane in 1837, Raphael in 1840, and Cornelia in 1842.



RAPHAEL SMEAD in 1945. Photograph courtesy of Raphael Hays II.



A. J. D. SMEAD in 1874. Photo courtesy of author.

In August, while at Fortress Monroe, Raphael Smead, at the head of Company D of the 4th Artillery Regiment, was ordered to Corpus Christi, Texas, in preparation for seizing Texas from the Mexicans. In March of 1846 2,500 American soldiers began a trek toward the Rio Grande.

In letters to his wife, Raphael relates the army "marched over level prairie with little water but covered with the greatest variety of the most beautiful wild flowers."² Continuing, "we were gratified with a view of . . . the mirage." Behind him "was a glassy lake" and, in the distance, "stretching on out of sight . . . the ocean, with islands, the reflection of clouds in the water . . . a magnificent water prospect."³ As the march progressed he said: "I have not had a cold or Rheumatism since I have been in Texas. I can now march 15 or 20 miles a day with no fatigue."⁴ Then on April 26, 1846, "There is no doubt about there being war, we have just received the disastrous intelligence that a Squadron of Dragoons has been cut to pieces and captured yesterday by a large party of Mexican Soldiers."⁵ Of Captain Raphael Smead's first introduction to combat at the battles of Palo Alto and Resaca del la Palma he says:

On the 5th about noon we met the enemy in great force, ascertained to be about 6,800 strong . . . we all went into action with a determination to conquer or die . . . a fierce artillery duel followed . . . The next day the enemy retreated . . . we went into the chapparal . . . and such a fight I do not think is on record, we marched through sweeping all before us at the rate of 1½ miles per hour, killing or taking prisoner everything that attempted to stand.⁶

However, six weeks later when riding back over these fields he was filled with revulsion at the carnage, "dead Mexican bodies, dead horses and spewed all around the implements of war."⁷

Raphael Smead then fought at the Battle of Monterrey under Zachary Taylor. Later he joined the command of Winfield Scott and was active in the capture of the Mexican fortress at Vera Cruz. It was at this time that he was ordered to Carlisle, Pennsylvania, to recruit more soldiers for the army.

From Vera Cruz he made a tortuous journey of 3,721 miles up the Mississippi, over the Ohio River and then by railroad and steamboat to Rhinebeck, New York, where his family was waiting to meet him at the house of Sarah's father, John Radcliff. Raphael Smead had aged terribly. He weighed only 130 pounds. His hair was thinning, and his gaunt face was lined and weatherbeaten from months of southern sun. His eyes were dark and sunken behind his spectacles and his demeanor more stern than ever.

A few days later he moved his family to Carlisle, rented a brick row house on the east side of Pitt Street between Louther and North Streets, and enrolled his son John at Dickinson College. He then set about his duties of recruiting able bodied men between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five. Only mildly successful, he was suddenly transferred to Columbia on the Susquehanna. With great reluctance he left his family in Carlisle and moved alone to Columbia. In a few weeks, with the few recruits he had signed up, he was ordered back to Mexico. Fighting had stopped, but the soldiers were awaiting a successful treaty with the Mexicans.

While there he wrote to his old friend, Alexander Dallas Bache, now head of the United Coast Survey, to ask a position for his son John. Bache immediately complied. By May 27, 1848, the treaty with Mexico was concluded, and Raphael Smead headed home.

At New Orleans he went aboard the transport, *Robert Parker*. He related, "I am writing now under the most unfavorable conditions, by a poor light in a hot cabin, swarming with mosquitoes."⁸ He continues in his journal on August 6th, "Taken very sick at 11 o'clock at night." On August 7th, "Very sick all day . . . passed Cape Florida yesterday afternoon." These were the last words he wrote. Raphael Smead's body was wracked by agonizing nausea and fits of vomiting. His fever subsided and then rose again, and he vomited black blood. On August 16th he was carried into Fort Monroe. A message was quickly gotten to his wife in Carlisle by messenger. Sarah, Johnny and the new baby immediately left Carlisle by hired carriage to York, over the B&O Railroad to Baltimore and then steamboat to Fort Monroe. On the 19th Sarah and Johnny went to see the feeble, prostrated body of Raphael Smead. In the evening they took the baby to the door of his room where his father fleetingly glimpsed his last child. Within a few hours Raphael Smead was dead of yellow fever. He was forty-six years old.

In her grief and confusion, need for financial security, and Johnny's desire to emulate his father, Sarah decided to seek admission to West Point for Johnny, who was now a strapping youth over six feet tall. Sarah wrote to her father who replied: "I think you have had experience enough for the miseries of an Army life that you could not be so cruel and thoughtless as to put a child in it . . . See what a life your poor husband has led and his sad and melancholy end . . . while on the Coast Survey he will be home or near home every winter."⁹ In 1850 President Zachary Taylor appointed Johnny to West Point. He excelled in mathematics

while his other subjects languished but never below that required for passing. He enjoyed to the utmost his new situation and garnered enough demerits to scare him.

While at the Academy Johnny decided to go into the artillery as his father had done. His grandfather urged him to join the engineers:

I regret to hear such a wish . . . I thought you had heard and seen enough of the Army to give you perpetual disgust and hatred to it . . . By all means go into the Engineers Corps . . . that is respectable and profitable . . . engineers here are getting large salaries Superintending the Rail Road . . . do take my advice once in your life and abandon the infamous Army where you must and will be a subordinate for life with perhaps a Captaincy when you die . . . all the wars we have to expect hereafter is a civil war among ourselves.¹⁰

John Radcliff's auguries of Civil War and a mere captainacy for his grandson, should he go into the artillery, reverberated with uncanny accuracy down a decade of turmoil. John Smead galloped over the open spaces of the West for three years before becoming a daring artillery commander in the Civil War.

"Captain John Smead was instantly killed on Saturday last August 30, 1862 [Second Bull Run], struck by a cannon ball and part of his head taken away. His remains were recovered and sent in charge of an officer to the residence of his family at Carlisle. He leaves a wife and one son."¹¹ He was just thirty-one years old.

Having lost both a husband and a son, Sarah received from the government a pension of twenty-five dollars per month, got a three month back pay lump sum payment, and received one hundred and sixty acres of bounty lands for Raphael's service in Mexico. Alexander Dallas Bache also sent fifty dollars per month. As recognition for his aid and his friendship with Raphael Smead, Sarah named her last child Alexander Dallas Bache Smead. He would become the father of Jane Smead.

Alexander Dallas Bache Smead was born on March 24, 1848, on North Pitt Street in Carlisle. In 1852 the family moved to Carlisle Barracks and lived in "Teacher's Quarters" as it was known in Indian School Days. That same year he met his grandfather at Rhinebeck, John Radcliff, who was then eighty years old. In 1855 he began school and in 1856 the family moved to 170 East High Street. In 1863 A.D.B., as he was to be called, walked to Gettysburg with seven Dickinson students to hear Lincoln's address (writing many years later that it was well received.)¹² In 1864 he went to Washington with his namesake who took him to see Lincoln. They went to the White House on business, but Lincoln was in his dressing gown and slippers playing with little Tad. A. D. B. was graduated from Dickinson College in 1868 first in a class that included William Trickett. Earlier in the year he had taken an examination that allowed him to become a second lieu-

tenant in the United States Army. This was done for an immediate and steady income for his family as well as a desire to emulate his father and older brother, John. A.D.B. had also grown tall and thin, up to six feet in height.

After a short stay at Carlisle Barracks the young lieutenant went westward in April of 1869. Upon arriving at Fort Sheridan, Kansas, in late April, he wrote to his brother Raphael, "I had the honor of seeing General Custer . . . on the way out by stagecoach bad roads delayed us . . . the dust was intolerable."¹³ From Fort Union in New Mexico he wrote again in May:

For the first two days we traveled over the bare plains—the 'Great American Desert' which we had entered upon at Ellsworth, Kansas. The monotony was broken for a few hours by the Arkansas River and some hills and trees . . . we passed a great many wagon trains with Mexican drivers and occasionally a friendly Indian.¹⁴

From there he was sent to Fort Bascom, New Mexico, which "is within a quarter of a mile of the Canadian River; a deep, narrow muddy, rapid stream shaded abundantly with large cottonwood trees."¹⁵ There he stayed until February of 1870. Then he was sent further westward to Fort Wingate and then to Fort Whipple in Arizona. A. D. B. Smead's picture of Arizona was "deep canyons, elegant forests, and deserts, extinct volcanoes, plenty of game in some parts: deer, antelope (50 to 100 in a bunch). And the sunsets!—often cloudless the whole sky a glory."¹⁶ At Camp Verde, Arizona, he contracted malaria and did not fully recover for a year.

After a trip home in 1871 he returned west and was stationed variously at Fort Laramie, Wyoming, Fort D. A. Russell, Kansas, and Fort McPherson, Nebraska.



SMEAD HOUSE at 178 West South Street, Carlisle. Photo courtesy of author.

Duties here included scouting, practice marches, hunting and fighting prairie fires.¹⁷ While stationed at Fort McPherson, Buffalo Bill was their regularly employed post guide. "He was wild in appearance, but of pleasing manners,"¹⁸

In 1874 A. D. B. Smead took a long leave of absence; in Carlisle he was admitted to the Cumberland County Bar. He went to Europe and lived in France and Switzerland; while there he perfected his use of the French language.

While returning from this leave the Custer massacre took place on June 25, 1876. A. D. B. wrote to his mother on July 6th:

The terrible news of General Custer's disaster reached us this morning. We hope it may be exaggerated. But it does not surprise us as much as it will people in the States. Only those who have seen the Sioux know what they are. The army has not credited the sensational reports of each season but we knew that it would not be child's play when the time came . . . Custer who was a rash man has sustained a Bull Run disaster on a smaller scale.¹⁹

A. D. B. moved to join his regiment, The Third Cavalry, which joined General Crook's expedition on August 3, 1876. On August 10th again to his mother, "On August 5th we came north and east with 1350 Cavalry, 480 Infantry and a train of pack mules. We are on the trail of the Sioux who moved away. They are evidently very numerous, but out of supplies for their horses and themselves."²⁰ Not until the fourteenth of September is he able to write again. This time from the Black Hills. He recounts to his mother:

Forty one days have now passed and instead of going to the (supply) wagons, the wagons are supposed to be coming to us. Supplies are also on the way to us from Camp Robinson at Red Cloud Agency, 150 or 160 miles to the south of us. Last night we were relieved from the pangs of hunger by the arrival of some flour, beef-cattle, etc., purchased by our commissary officers from citizens of the Black Hills . . . we do not care what they do to us provided only that General Crook be not permitted again to command us while in the field. He is not fit to be entrusted with the safety of American soldiers nor of government property . . . we were good troops, well equipped and all anxious to fight out at once this Sioux business. It is now a herd of broken-down, ragged and unhorsed rowdies whose ruling passion is to get home and be left alone . . . we have had a beastly march. No wagons allowed to accompany us, an insufficient train of pack mules, no shelter, nothing to cook with except tin cups, nothing to eat except hard-tack and bacon, coffee and sugar, then half-rations of that, then quarter rations, then nothing, then dried meat captured from Indians, then horse meat. Rain day after day, wet blankets night after night, summer wardrobes for almost winter weather, protracted loafing along the way when we believed that Indians could not be caught . . . then break neck speed before we should be starved or snowed in in the open country. Four hundred horses broken down and abandoned, all the rest wounded or exhausted,



MRS. RAPHAEL SMEAD circa 1850. Photo courtesy of author.



JANE VAN NESS SMEAD at eighty-seven in 1974. Photo courtesy of author.

saddles and property of all kinds destroyed, or turned away, provisions finally obtained at high rates from moving settlements . . . Strange to say that my health had remained excellent in spite of the exposure, fatigue, and hunger . . . On Saturday, September 9th—when only about 17 miles in front of us—Captain Mills found, surprised and captured an Indian village of 31 lodges. He captured 156 Indian ponies, some dried meat and other articles, killed a few Indians and having a small number of men killed and wounded . . . The Indians then rallied, attacked Mills and would have defeated him had not Crook been near enough to receive notice and hurry up. The firing soon stopped, but we had still a soldier and a guide killed. Several Indians killed and others captured after our arrival. We destroyed the village. We found a few horses saddles and other articles belonging to the 7th Cavalry and taken from Custer's men in the massacre of last June . . . One chief, American Horse, died of his wounds in our hands . . . Keep this letter to yourself; it would be insubordinate.

Jerome Greene, author of *Slim Buttes, 1876, An Episode of the Sioux War*, says this Battle of Slim Buttes, which occurred on the rugged plains of Dakota, scarcely eleven weeks after Custer's defeat, signaled the waning of Indian fortunes. "Slim Buttes heralded the retaliatory blows that ultimately broke their resistance and forced their submission."²¹

A. D. B. Smead continued on the Plains until 1880. He then retired from the army and moved back to Carlisle where he took up the practice of law. In February of 1888 he married Martha Jane Stuart. In December of that year Jane Smead was born. The three lived as a close knit family, except for some excursions by A. D. B. Smead. In 1898 he worked for and received a commission in the Signal Corps as Captain during the Spanish-American War. Although he went to Cuba it was well after the fighting had stopped. Yellow fever and other diseases remained the only enemies, but A. D. B. escaped them. Jane and her parents took interesting trips to Europe and then settled in the South Street house. Mrs. Smead died in 1927, while A. D. B. lived on until February 6, 1931. Jane Smead recalls her father's last days . . . "Only a few days before this, friends who had seen him downtown the week before, spoke to me of his light step, erect carriage, and military bearing. He was almost eighty-three."²²



CAPTAIN JOHN SMEAD (left)
circa 1860. Photo courtesy of
the author.

ENDNOTES

*All of the originals of the letters used as sources
and cited below are in the possession of the
author.*

¹ Edwin Billings Smead, *A Smead Genealogy*, (Greenfield, MA: Press of E. A. Hill and Co.: 1928), p. 63.

² Raphael Smead, Letter to his wife, March 24, 1846. One of 400 extant.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ Raphael Smead, Letter to his wife, April 26, 1846.

⁶ Raphael Smead, Letter to his father-in-law, John Radcliff, May 12, 1846.

⁷ Raphael Smead, Letter to his wife, June 26, 1848.

⁸ Raphael Smead, Letter to his wife, July 25, 1848.

⁹ John Radcliff, Letter to his daughter, Sarah Smead, August 31, 1848.

¹⁰ John Radcliff, Letter to his grandson, John Smead, November 26, 1850.

¹¹ *Carlisle Herald*, September 5, 1862.

¹² *Evening Sentinel*, November 19, 1913.

¹³ A. D. B. Smead, Letter to his brother, Raphael, April 29, 1869.

¹⁴ A. D. B. Smead, Letter to his brother, Raphael, May 3, 1869.

¹⁵ A. D. B. Smead, Letter to his mother, May 15, 1869.

¹⁶ Jane Smead, Paper given at Hamilton Library Association on her father, A. D. B. Smead, circa 1960.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*

¹⁸ *Ibid.*

¹⁹ A. D. B. Smead, Letter to his mother, July 6, 1876.

²⁰ A. D. B. Smead, Letter to his mother, August 10, 1876.

²¹ A. D. B. Smead, Letter to his mother, September 21, 1876.

²² Jane Smead, Paper given at Hamilton Library Association, on her father, A. D. B. Smead, circa 1960.

Vance McCormick's Relationship with Woodrow Wilson: A View Through Their Correspondence

LeRoy W. Toddles

Published here is an edited version of a paper produced as a paper partially fulfilling the requirements for a Master of Arts Degree in American Studies at the Pennsylvania State University at Harrisburg.

A collection of correspondence and memorabilia belonging to Vance Criswell McCormick rests in the archives of the Historical Society of Dauphin County. A part of the sixth generation of a Cumberland County family, he was born in Silver Spring Township in 1872. His family had settled along the Conodoguinet Creek before 1736. He wintered in Harrisburg and summered first at Rose Garden, Upper Allen Township, and later until his death in 1945 at the home of his wife, "Cedar Cliff," in Lower Allen Township.

Most of the communications printed below were exchanged between McCormick and President Woodrow Wilson or between McCormick and Edith Bolling Wilson, the President's second wife. The rest of these documents were originated by Annie Criswell McCormick, (Vance's mother), or Helen Woodrow Bones or John Randolph Bolling, people serving as personal secretaries to the Wilsons.

It undoubtedly does not represent all of the personal notes, letters, and telegrams exchanged between the McCormicks and the Wilsons. As incomplete as the collection may be, it is nevertheless revealing of the loyal and devoted relationship that McCormick had with the Wilsons and the newsy and friendly manner in which they communicated with one another. Generally, most correspondence between individuals, even prominent ones, is relatively mundane. While many of these thirty documents are no exception to that generalization, they reflect throughout a close relationship characterized by warmth and affection

between the McCormicks and the President and Mrs. Wilson. Moreover, with all their mention of tea and flowers, they show the sentimental, genteel traditions of the time, which is still another reason for presenting the documents here.

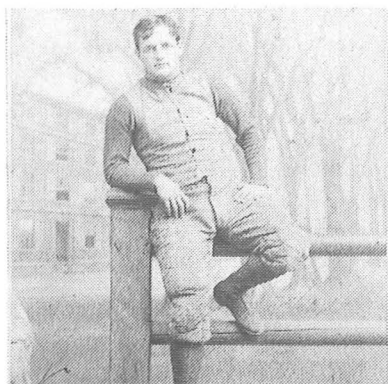
Woodrow Wilson is the best-known of the three. During his first term his wife Ellen Louise Axson Wilson died. Quickly thereafter in 1915 he courted and married Edith Bolling Galt, an attractive Washington widow. Paralyzed by a stroke on October 3, 1919, he was forced to give the responsibility for most of the correspondence to Edith. He died February 3, 1924.¹

Edith Bolling Wilson became the second Mrs. Wilson through a chain of events that began shortly after Ellen Wilson's death on August 14, 1914. President Wilson blamed his own ambition and his career for Ellen's demise. This only served to intensify his feelings of despondency and loneliness in the White House. For a while, some of Ellen's relatives stayed with the President. When they left, Wilson asked his cousin, Helen Woodrow Bones, to come and live at the White House and to take charge of things. As the months went by from the summer of 1914 to the spring of 1915, Dr. Cary Grayson, the President's personal physician, watched his patient's health decline. He also began to worry about Helen Bones, who also was becoming sick in the depressing atmosphere of the White House.

Observing that Helen was shy and had few friends in Washington, Grayson decided that Helen needed a female friend to talk to, someone who would take her out of the White House from time to time. Dr. Grayson introduced Helen to an older friend of his fiancée, Alice Gertrude Gordon. Alice's friend, Edith Bolling Galt, was a forty-two-year-old widow who owned a Washington jewelry shop.

Helen Bones and Edith Galt soon became very good friends. One day after one of their frequent long afternoon walks in Rock Creek Park, Helen took Edith to her quarters at the White House for tea. By chance, President Wilson, who was returning with Dr. Grayson from playing golf, met the ladies at the White House elevator. Introductions were made, and the men joined the women for tea. Within minutes, Edith Galt had the President laughing. On December 18, 1915, about nine months after their initial meeting, in a ceremony attended by a small number of close friends and relatives, the two were married in the home of Mrs. Galt. Upon completion of the ceremony, Edith Bolling Wilson was the second First Lady in the Wilson years.

The third principal correspondent, Vance Criswell McCormick (1872-1946), was graduated from Yale in 1893. In his junior and senior years, he starred as quarterback on the varsity football team and captained the team in 1892. He was named to Walter Camp's All-American Eleven the same year. After graduating from Yale, McCormick returned to Central Pennsylvania and coached the first Carlisle Indians intercollegiate team.



VANCE McCORMICK as a football player, class of 1894 at Yale. Photo courtesy of Historical Society of Dauphin County.

After his father died in 1897, Vance became involved in coal, lumber, and railroad enterprises as well as becoming a director of Central Iron and Steel, the Dauphin Deposit Bank, and Harrisburg Bridge Company.³ McCormick also became executor of his father's estate, estimated to be worth twenty million dollars.⁴

Being a businessman, however, was not enough for Vance McCormick. He entered politics in 1900 by winning a seat on the Common Council from the Fourth Ward of Harrisburg. On April 1, 1902, the twenty-nine-year-old McCormick became the youngest mayor of Harrisburg and presided over the most expansive era in the history of the city up to that time.⁵

Four months after becoming mayor, McCormick acquired the *Patriot*, a morning newspaper, for which he was the president and publisher until 1946. He subsequently founded *The Evening News* in 1917 and was its publisher until 1946.⁶ Immediately after acquiring the *Patriot* he began a sustained campaign to print Cumberland County news and gain subscribers there.

McCormick set about reforming the Democratic Party in Pennsylvania in 1910. As a delegate-at-large to the Democratic National Convention at Baltimore in 1912, he played an important role in getting Woodrow Wilson nominated as the Presidential candidate on the forty-sixth ballot. As a Wilsonian Progressive, McCormick won the Democratic gubernatorial nomination in 1914, but lost the general election to Republican candidate, Dr. Martin G. Brumbaugh, by 135,325 votes. McCormick never ran again for elective office but did become the chairman of the Democratic National Committee in 1916.⁷ He succeeded in getting Woodrow Wilson reelected in a close race with Republican candidate Charles Evans Hughes.

McCormick then became one of President Wilson's confidants. He was subsequently offered cabinet posts in the Wilson administration which he turned down,⁸ but did serve, during Wilson's second term, as the head of the War Trade Board, as a member of the American War Mission to the Inter-Allied Conference in London and Paris in 1917, and as an adviser to President Wilson at the Peace

Conference in Paris in 1919.⁹ McCormick's direct involvement in national politics ended with his attendance in 1924 as a Democratic delegate to the National Convention.

On January 5, 1925, Vance McCormick, at the age of fifty-two, married Mrs. Gertrude Howard Olmsted, a widow. Because there were no children produced from this marriage, the McCormick dynasty ended when Vance McCormick died at his home, "Cedar Cliff," on June 16, 1946.

SOURCES

A few comments on the source material.

1. It should be pointed out that three letters sent by Woodrow Wilson to Vance McCormick were taken back and replaced with photostatic copies by McCormick. According to Hazel S. Snyder of the Historical Society, in a note dated November 29, 1941, "Mr. McCormick took [among other things, three letters] with him . . . to put in his tin box." The other documents appear to be authentic.

2. Sundry printed media from the collection, including newspaper clippings, magazine articles, periodic biographical statements to the Secretary's Office of Yale University, scrapbooks, a campaign handbook, 121 pages of printed and bound diaries,¹⁰ and other materials have been utilized to provide data relating to the content and context of the correspondence, note of which will be made upon citation.

Out of the thirty pieces of correspondence featured in this production, only one appears to have been published in *The Papers of Woodrow Wilson* edited by Arthur S. Link. That one, the first presented here, is Wilson's letter dated November 13, 1916 to Vance McCormick. The reason for this is that the collection of documents published in *The Papers* pertain to official issues, whereas the correspondence here is of a personal and unofficial nature, although a number of entries from the *Diaries of Vance McCormick* that do pertain to official matters have been included by Link in *The Papers*.¹¹

The first letter of the Vance McCormick collection is written by Woodrow Wilson on November 13, 1916 on White House stationery. It was initiated two days after Wilson had been re-elected in a tight Presidential race with Charles Evans Hughes in which Wilson trailed in the vote tabulation until two days after the November 7 election. In the letter, Wilson acknowledges that he owes his reelection primarily to the outstanding efforts of his campaign chairman, Vance McCormick. It is interesting that had Wilson acted on his own initial reservations, McCormick would not have been appointed campaign manager and this letter and the succeeding documents would never have been written. According to Arthur S. Link, in *Wilson: Campaigns for Progressivism and Peace 1916-1917*,

Wilson's biggest problem going into the Democratic Convention in the absence of any challengers was that he wanted the National Committee chairman, William F. McCombs, replaced. After McCombs reluctantly stepped down, Van McCormick was recommended to Wilson as a successor. Link argues that Wilson "... was not persuaded that McCormick was enough of a 'Warhorse' to inspire the party faithful." Link says that Wilson wondered if McCormick was aggressive enough and whether Vance might not be too "high brow" and intolerant to handle some of the rougher elements that needed to be dealt with. Ultimately, Wilson appointed McCormick to the crucial post on June 15, 1915 "... because there seemed to be no one else available."¹²

It is indeed fortunate that no matter what the reason, McCormick was named Wilson's campaign chairman. McCormick managed what Ralph Smith, reporter for *The Atlanta Journal* proclaimed to be a "mistakeless" re-election campaign.¹³ Arthur Link, in *Wilson: Campaigns for Progressivism and Peace*, wrote that by August 10, 1916, Vance McCormick, along with other party wheelhorses, had built a campaign organization consisting of a dozen different departments or bureaus. The most important department was a publicity bureau headed by Robert W. Woolley, Director of the Mint. Woolley's bureau prepared and distributed printed campaign materials addressing every issue from the perspective of every conceivable interest group. Another important organizational strategy of McCormick's was the establishment of a smaller, western campaign headquarters in Chicago. This was to augment the activities of the National Democratic headquarters that had been set up on the second floor of the Forty-Second Street Building in New York City. According to Link, when the Maine election in early September revealed a strong, perhaps irreversible, Republican tide in the East, McCormick shifted the major emphasis of the Democratic campaign to the mid-western and western states. Finally, McCormick encouraged the forming of what appeared to be voluntary groups of former Progressives, independents, and businessmen. The Wilson Business Men's National League and the Woodrow Wilson Independent League turned out to be the most important. These stratagems originated by McCormick contributed significantly to Wilson's successful bid for reelection.¹⁴

It is through their association during the campaign that the friendship between the Wilsons and McCormick took root and from which it flowered.

The White House
Washington

November 13, 1916

My dear McCormick:

The first letter I write from my desk here must be to you. It makes me deeply glad to think how the whole country has seen and appreciated your quality. You have won the admiration and affection of all Democrats not only, but the sincere admiration of all parties. No campaign, I think it can be said, was ever conducted with such a combination of harmony and vigor and system as this one from your

headquarters and the headquarters at Chicago, and you were throughout the moving and guiding spirit. It must be a source of deep satisfaction to you that you should have won this admiration by an unselfish service of the first magnitude.

May I not say for myself how entirely I have had my trust in you confirmed, and how throughout these trying months my genuine affection for you has grown and strengthened? My own sense of obligation and gratitude to you is immeasurable.

Mrs. Wilson and all my household join me in sending you the most affectionate greetings and congratulations.

Always

Affectionately yours,
[signed] Woodrow Wilson

Hon. Vance C. McCormick,
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

The following note, handwritten on printed White House stationery by Helen Woodrow Bones, the President's cousin and social secretary, does not specify the year as part of the date.

The note was supposedly written in 1916 or 1917 at the latest. The supposition is based on the fact that the close relationship between McCormick and the Wilsons appears to have begun in mid-1916 when he became campaign manager. Conversely, it is doubtful that Helen Woodrow Bones would have remained on indefinitely as the President's social secretary and White House hostess after the Wilsons were married in December 1915.

The Mrs. McCormick addressed in this note is Annie C. McCormick, Vance's mother. Vance was a bachelor until 1925.

November twenty-ninth [?]

The White House
Washington

My dear Mrs. [Annie] McCormick-

December the seventh has been chosen for the date of the dinner the President and Mrs. Wilson are giving for Mr. McCormick, and Mrs. Wilson has asked me to write you that she trusts nothing will happen to deprive her of the pleasure of entertaining you that evening. She wants you and your daughter [Anne] and son to spend Thursday night with her and hopes you can get here early enough in the afternoon to rest before dinner. If Mr. McCormick will let me know on what train you are to arrive, the car will meet you and a warm welcome await[s] you.

Very sincerely yours
[signed] Helen Woodrow Bones

Next, is an undated note handwritten by Annie McCormick on personalized stationery printed with the address of the permanent residence of Vance McCormick, his mother, and sister. The date of this note is thought to be shortly after March 14, 1919 for the following reasons:

In *Diaries of Vance McCormick*, McCormick mentions having tea with Mrs. Wilson at 5:30 p.m. on February 13, "the day before her departure for America." A few days later, he writes about sending the President a cable " . . . en route home on the *George Washington*," (the President's ship) (p. 43), thus establishing that the president probably departed on February 13 with Mrs. Wilson. There is an entry on March 14¹⁵ in which McCormick, who was serving as one of the president's advisers at the Peace Conference in Paris in 1919, wrote that he went to Station Invalides to meet President and Mrs. Wilson returning from America. This appears to be the safe arrival referenced in Annie McCormick's note and, therefore, suggests that this note was written shortly after the Wilson's return to France on March 14, 1919.

Mrs. McCormick, in her comment about the President's health, seems to display a certain amount of prescience. Within a few days of the writing of this letter, Woodrow Wilson suffered his first stroke. The writer's statement about wanting to visit the Senate to tell some of the senators what she thinks of them is in reference to the opposition that Wilson was getting from the Republican controlled Senate relative to his efforts at the Peace Conference in Paris. The "Governor" Sproul referred to by Annie McCormick is Governor William Cameron Sproul of Pennsylvania.

[?, ?, 1919]

301 North Front Street
Harrisburg

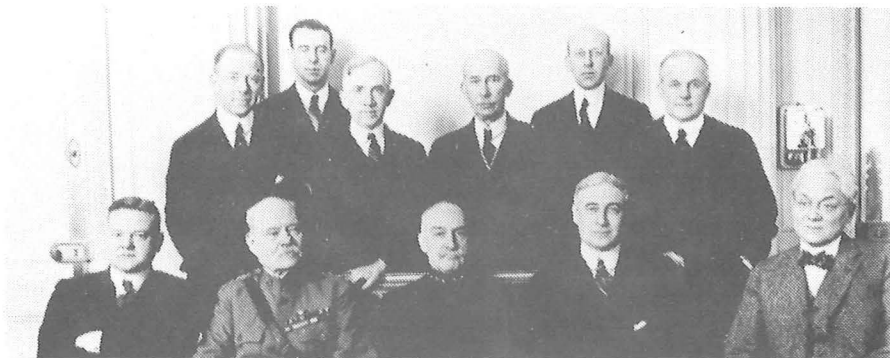
My Dear Mrs. Wilson-

It was very good to hear of your safe arrival- and also very good of you to write about my Vance- We have had very little news from him- but I know he is busy- What wonderful times you have been having- and how interested we have all been trying to follow you- I can not bear to think of President Wilson having to go back again [he had returned briefly from France]- & do hope he will not break down- I know it is all for the best- and the dear lord will take care of him- I would just like to go [to] Washington & visit the Senate to tell a few of the gentlemen there what I think of them- would'ent [sic] you like to see me? We are still very busy with our Red Cross work- I have gotten so into the way of knitting that I can not sit still without my fingers going- too much of an old blue stocking Presbyterian to knit on Sunday- but make up for it during the week- I am sure you must be tired of my wandering along- so I will say good night with a great deal of love for both you and the President- when you see Vance again tell [him] I am very gay- lunching and dining with the Governor [sic] Sproul & would like to hear oftener [sic] from him-

Very sincerely
[signed] Annie C. McC-

Anne wishes to be remembered & we both thank you very- very much-

The following is an undated handwritten note from Mrs. Wilson written on personalized stationery from Woodrow Wilson's headquarters in Paris, Place of the United States.¹⁶ This note seems to be referencing Annie McCormick's previous letter and appears to be written shortly after the Wilson's return to France on March 14, 1919.



ECONOMIC ADVISORS to the American delegation to the 1919 Versailles Peace Conference. Front row: Herbert Hoover, General T. H. Bliss, Admiral H. S. Benson, Bernard Baruch, and H. M. Robinson. Standing: Thomas W. Lamont, W. H. Shepardson, Norman Davis, Colonel E. M. House, Gordon Auchincloss, and Vance C. McCormick. Photograph courtesy of Historical Society of Dauphin County.

“11 Place des Etats- Unis”
[?, ?, 1919]

My dear Mr. McCormick:

This is such a characteristic letter from your mother in reply to a note I sent her when we were at home, that I thought you would enjoy reading it- and feel assured she has lost none of her spirit.

This is also a word of appreciation of the violets you sent me as we were leaving- and which I am late in acknowledging- though I feel sure you know I value the friendship which prompted the thought.

I saw your bishop the night we were leaving N. York- and he sent you all sorts of messages.

Hoping to see you soon- believe me.

Faithfully yours-
[signed] Edith Bolling Wilson

A handwritten note on personalized stationery by Mrs. Wilson follows in which she discusses an occasion of singing, perhaps to school children, by Vance McCormick. There is no information available concerning this event nor McCormick's talent for singing. The reference to the War Trade Board is in regard to the agency headed by Vance McCormick which controlled the shipment of goods into and out of the United States through the licensing of imports and exports.¹⁷

For two months after President Wilson suffered a stroke, his speech was thick, and he was totally bedridden. By the date of the writing of this note, handwritten on White House stationery, he had progressed to the point that he could work for about an hour at a time. Edith Wilson was making decisions about what the President should read and whom he could see. She shielded him from much of the information and advice that he should have been getting for fear of upsetting his delicate condition further.¹⁸ The state of the President's health would certainly explain why in this note Edith Wilson is scheduling a meeting in which McCormick would meet with her instead of the President.

"11 Place des Etats- Unis"
May 12, 1919

My dear Mr. McCormick:

The laugh is certainly on us! Why did you let Senator [Thomas S.] Martin in to this secret and keep us in ignorance? We- who would have been much prouder than either Miss Helena Cavanaugh, grade 6- or Miss Mary, grade 7- or the Cousin Miss Mary, of Central Wiml[?], to hear "the remarkable singing of Mr. Vance McCormick."

Now, your mother will understand why you could not write her more often- for, of course, a great singer must keep up his constant practice- besides your incidental preoccupation as Chairman of the War Trade Board.

Please, though, should you appear at the Grand Opera don't forget your old friends and the natural pride we will have in witnessing your great success!

With all good wishes
Faithfully
[signed] Edith Bolling Wilson

Jan. 14- 1920

The White House
Washington

My dear Mc. McCormick:

The President is very anxious for me to have a talk with you about a matter that is very dear to him and of great importance so I am wondering if you will be in Washington within the next few days? and if so if you will come in and see me at your very earliest convenience- Come to lunch and have some "popovers" as in the good old fighting days.

A telegram or telephone message will find me ready.

With warm remembrances to you, your dear mother & sister- believe me.

Faithfully-
[signed] Edith Bolling Wilson

In response to the preceding note from Mrs. Wilson, McCormick did meet with her. The results of that meeting are covered in a memorandum handwritten by McCormick on the back of Mrs. Wilson's January 14, 1920 note. The memorandum indicates that Mrs. Wilson offered Vance the position of Secretary of the Interior. McCormick's rationale for turning down the cabinet post is interesting and indicates that in the past he had been advising the President on a wide range of matters. That she did this, on behalf of the President, is confirmed in *When the Cheering Stopped*, where Gene Smith states that by February 1920, four months since the President's stroke, two secretaries had resigned. An assertion is made by Smith that the vacancies were filled by men asked to take the posts by the First Lady over teacups. One of these was the Department of Interior, subsequently taken over by Judge John Barton Payne.¹⁹

[Copy of Memorandum in Mr. Vance McCormick's handwriting on the back of [preceding] letter from Mrs. Wilson dated January 14, 1920]

On Monday Jan 19 I lunched with Mrs. Wilson at the White House and she told me of the President's great regret at my not accepting the appointment as Secretary of Commerce as the President wanted me in his official family as one of his advisers and that he now was insisting upon my accepting the position of Secretary of the Interior. I explained my desire to remain off the Cabinet and out of official life even as far back as 1913 when the Pa. delegation offered to back me and I still had that feeling and felt I could help the President more off than on because as soon as you were on the C., due to rank and official precedent under the Presidential system, I could only see him concerning my own department and I would lose a freedom of action which now existed, and I added that a Western man should be appointed Secretary of Interior. Mrs. Wilson was delightful and most sympathetic and we discussed for an hour ways of helping the P. in his convalescing days. Mrs. W. is a remarkable woman, full of charm and great common sense.

[Signed] V. C. McC.

The letter below is dated more than twenty months after Wilson's stroke. It was also three months since Wilson, now succeeded by President Warren G. Harding, had left the Presidency and retired to a home in Washington, D.C., located at 2340 S Street, N.W.

In this typewritten copy, marked "signed by Woodrow Wilson," he is reminiscing about the days when McCormick was one of his leading advisers. There is no indication of what has happened to the original letter. Perhaps it too was taken back and put in McCormick's tin box.

[COPY]

15th June, 1921.

My dear McCormick:

So many interesting things are happening nowadays that I find myself missing more than ever the little talks we used to have.

When you next come to Washington please let me know in advance of your coming and where I may get in touch with you after you get here. We ought to have one of our old time conferences.

Hoping that you and yours are well, and that you will give our sincere regards to your mother and sister.

Cordially and faithfully yours,
signed-- Woodrow Wilson.

Honorable Vance C. McCormick
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

The unsigned typewritten file copy of a letter from Vance McCormick, shown below, is in obvious response to Wilson's letter of June 15, 1921, in which Wilson expressed a desire to get together for one of their old time conferences. In this letter, McCormick issues an invitation to the Wilsons to visit him at Rose Garden, twelve miles from Harrisburg along the Yellow Breeches Creek in Cumberland County. It is said that it was from this country estate that McCormick hatched the plan to reform the Democratic party in Pennsylvania in 1910. The Democratic party had become part of a bi-partisan machine that at election time always meant that it was an annex of the Republican party. McCormick's fight for reform sent a Democratic delegation to the Baltimore convention in 1912 that was not controlled by the bi-partisan machine. There it stood for Wilson until he was nominated as the Presidential candidate on the forty-sixth ballot.²⁰

This letter, is another indication of the genuine feeling of affection mutually held by the McCormicks and the Wilsons. The reference to Anne is to Vance McCormick's sister who was unmarried and died at the age of 85 in 1964.²¹

[COPY]

June 18, 1921.

Hon. Woodrow Wilson,
2350 S Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

My Dear Mr. President:

I was very glad to receive your most cordial letter and to know that I can again enjoy an association which has meant so much to me in past years.

During your illness I hesitated to intrude because I know when one is not well even the calls of one intimate friend may prove embarrassing. Since your recovery, I have hoped every week that I might be in Washington when I could have the pleasure of calling upon you and Mrs. Wilson.

Since my return from Europe and retirement from official life I have been devoting myself entirely to my business which I have sadly neglected the past few years and which needed the closest kind of attention, but I am beginning to see daylight and am looking forward to a little more freedom later on.

Mother, Anne, and I would give you and Mrs. Wilson a hearty welcome if you could only run up to stay at Rose Garden for a night or as long as you could stay. It is just four hours from Washington via Gettysburg so if any time you feel you can do so you will make the McCormick family very happy by coming.

With very kindest regards to both Mrs. Wilson and yourself and hoping to see you very soon, I am

Faithfully yours,
[unsigned]

vcm-hs

The succeeding note is in response to McCormick's letter of invitation dated June 18, 1921. It declines his kind offer and counters with an invitation to visit the Wilsons in Washington. It is written on personalized stationery that reflects the Wilsons' new address. The writer, John Randolph Bolling, is Edith Wilson's brother. After Wilson's long-standing secretary, Joseph Patrick Tumulty, fell out of favor with Edith Wilson, John Bolling took Tumulty's place. Following Wilson's stroke, Mrs. Wilson so protected the President from the rest of the world that eventually even Tumulty could not pierce her protective wall. Tumulty's frustration in being insulated from the President is what eventually led to the estrangement.²²

2340 S Street N W

Woodrow Wilson
Washington D C

20th June, 1921.

Dear Mr. McCormick:

Mr. Wilson asks me to thank you for your letter of June eighteenth, and tell you how greatly both he and Mrs. Wilson appreciate the kind invitation to come to Rose Garden for a visit. Just now he would hardly be up to quite so long a trip, for while his health is greatly improved he finds it necessary to conserve his strength as much as possible.

I hope that before very long you will be coming down to Washington. Before coming, let me know in advance where you will be so I can arrange for you and Mr. Wilson to have a little talk.

With kindest regards;

Cordially yours,

[signed] John Randolph Bolling
Secretary.

Hon. Vance C. McCormick
Harrisburg, Penna.
JRB*C

What follows is an exchange of telegrams and typewritten letters generated in an attempt to fix the date that McCormick would visit the Wilsons in follow-up to the invitation contained in the preceding letter. In the telegram of July 12, 1921 from McCormick, the "tomorrow" he is talking about, July 13, is Wednesday. The response, on July 14, to McCormick's wire was not sent until the day after he said he would be in Washington and available to visit the Wilsons, if convenient. McCormick's telegram of August 2 attempts to reset the visit to next Tuesday, August 9.

The note referred to in the August 4 letter is not part of the collection but seems to contain an invitation to dine alone with Mrs. Wilson at 1:30 p.m., as referenced in the August 5 letter. This is probably another indication of Mrs. Wilson's continuing effort to shield her husband from overtaxing himself.

[TELEGRAM]

July 12th, 1921

Hon Woodrow Wilson
#2340 S St, NW, Washington, D C

Expect to be in Washington tomorrow and will be very glad to call in the afternoon, if entirely convenient.

Vance C McCormick-

[COPY]

July 16, 1921

Hon. Woodrow Wilson,
2340 S Street N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I just received your kind letter of July 14.

I understand perfectly about last Wednesday and was very sorry indeed that I was so badly tied up the following day that I could not call at that time.

I am looking forward in the near future to running down in my car and will notify you in advance so I can see you without causing you any inconvenience.

My mother and sister join me in the very warmest regards to both you and Mrs. Wilson.

Faithfully yours,
[unsigned]

vcm-hs

[COPY]

August 2, 1921

Hon. Woodrow Wilson,
2340 S Street, N W
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Wilson:

I find I can get away next Tuesday and I would like very much to run down to see you if it is convenient for you to make an appointment. If you have other arrangements that might embarrass you, do not hesitate to tell me because I will understand and try again but I expect to go off for several weeks the end of next week and would like to have the pleasure of seeing Mrs. Wilson and yourself before I go.

With very kind regards to both of you,

Sincerely yours,
[unsigned]



THIS PHOTOGRAPH was used on posters when Vance McCormick ran for Governor of Pennsylvania. He said that "we stand for clean, honest and progressive government." Courtesy of Historical Society of Dauphin County.

2340 S Street N W (6)
Woodrow Wilson
Washington DC

4th August 1921

Dear Mr. McCormick:

Mr. Wilson asks me to thank you for your letter of August second, and say he will be glad to see you at three thirty o'clock on next Tuesday.

I am enclosing a note from Mrs. Wilson, and I hope you can come to lunch with us at one-thirty on that day.

Cordially yours,
[signed] John Randolph Bolling

Hon. Vance C. McCormick,
Harrisburg, Penna.
JRB*C

[COPY]

August 5, 1921

Mr. John Randolph Bolling,
2340 S Street, N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Bolling:

Yours of the 4th inst. received.

I will be glad to see the President at 3:30 o'clock on Tuesday and am accepting also with a great deal of pleasure Mrs. Wilson's kind invitation to lunch with her at 1:30.

Yours very sincerely,

2340 S Street N W
Woodrow Wilson
Washington D C

6th August 1921

Dear Mr. McCormick:

In your note of yesterday to Mrs. Wilson you speak of coming on next "Wednesday." I am sure this is simply an oversight, and we will expect you on *Tuesday* unless you wire me to the contrary.

Yours very truly,
[signed] John Randolph Bolling
Secretary

Hon. Vance C. McCormick,
Harrisburg, Penna.
JRB*C

What follows is a telegram and a letter that seems to suggest that the December 24 telegram is a standard Christmas greeting, whereas the letter of December 25 is a personalized greeting perhaps prompted by the arrival of the flowers mentioned in the letter.

[TELEGRAM]

Washington, D.C. 1120A Dec. 24, 1921

COPY
Vance C. McCormick
Harrisburg, Penna.

Merry Christmas our Thoughts turn to you today with warm affection

Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Wilson

2340 S Street, N. W.
Woodrow Wilson
Washington, D. C.

25th DECEMBER, 1921

My dear McCormick:

The flowers came and Mrs. Wilson and I find them both beautiful in themselves and a very delightful reminder of your thoughtful friendship.

Please accept for yourself, and your mother and sister, our very warm thanks and our heartfelt good wishes for the Christmas and the New Year.

Cordially and gratefully yours,
[Signed] Woodrow Wilson.

Mr. Vance C. McCormick,
Harrisburg, Penna.

Below is a handwritten note on personalized stationery to Annie C. McCormick, Vance's mother which is signed by Mrs. Wilson. As will be seen in the second document following this one, Mrs. Wilson's wishes that Annie McCormick will get stronger and that they will see each other again went unfulfilled.

Dec 27- 1921

2340 S Street NW

My dear Mrs. [Annie] McCormick:

What a dear lady you are to send me the jelly jar of apple butter- it is the first I have had in ages and will be a real treat- I do hope you are getting stronger and that we will see you again soon.

Our thoughts fly to you very, very often and I wish you lived where we could see you- Mr. Wilson joins me in every happy wish for you and each one of your loved ones for the new year-

Please tell "Vance" that his Christmas basket is a joy- it is so glowing that it suggests his own radiant self-

Faithfully yours
[signed] Edith Bolling Wilson

Dated only as New Years Day, the following is a handwritten note on personalized stationery signed by Mrs. Wilson. A process of elimination seems to place this date as New Years Day of 1922. The note is addressed to "My dear Mr. & Mrs. McCormick." There is only one Mrs. McCormick during the last years of Woodrow Wilson's life, Annie C., who died in the early part of 1922 as seen in the next written communication.

New Years Day [1922?]

2340 S Street N W

My dear Mr. & Mrs. McCormick

The wonderful Christmas roses you sent me warmed my heart and made the house aglow with their beauty- Thank you both with the assurance of the happiness your thought gave me-

I left the day after Christmas for Albany and then to New York for two celebrations of Mr. Wilson's birthday and returned on Thursday- so you will, I know, forgive the delay in writing you.

I trust this New Year will bring to you both the most abundant good fortune- and that you will make it a happy one for me by coming for a long-hoped-for visit to Washington.

Yours with affectionate gratitude
[signed] Edith Bolling Wilson

Next are two typewritten letters on personalized stationery signed by Woodrow Wilson. The first is an eloquent and touching expression of the Wilsons' deepest sympathies with respect to the death of Mrs. Annie C. McCormick. The second letter appears to be a response to a missing note or letter from Mr. McCormick thanking the Wilsons for their letter of sympathy dated 31st March 1922. Both letters are photostated and are two of the originals taken back by Vance McCormick to be "put in his tin box."

2340 S Street N W
Woodrow Wilson
Washington

31st March 1922

Dear Friend:

We have been greatly shocked and deeply grieved to hear of your Mother's death. By some singular fatality we had indeed no news of it until today. We know her unusual quality and have therefore some partial means of judging your loss and the loss of the communities in which she played so influential and useful a part. Our hearts go out to you and your sister in heartfelt sympathy.

I hope that the memory of her wonderful life will serve in some small part to console you and compensate you for the great loneliness you must be feeling, and trust that the affectionate sympathy of friends like ourselves will also help. I feel that it was a privilege to know her and that her death deprives us of a friend whom we could value with deep and reverent affection.

Mrs. Wilson and I join in the most affectionate messages to you and I am as always

Your affectionate friend,
[signed] Woodrow Wilson

Mr. Vance C. McCormick

2340 S Street N W
Woodrow Wilson
Washington D C

11th April 1922

My Dear McCormick:

I am thankful that our message gave you and your sister a little comfort. It was intended to make you feel that you had friends at your side whose sympathy was very deep and whose sorrow for the death of Mrs. McCormick was personal.

I am so glad that we knew her and had a taste of her real quality. She was in every way exceptionally admirable and lovely.

Affectionately yours,

[signed] Woodrow Wilson

Mr. Vance McCormick
Harrisburg, Penna.

President Wilson's statement, in the handwritten note below, reflects the enduring warmth and affection that he and his wife felt regarding their relationship with Vance McCormick. This note is written on personalized stationery and signed by Woodrow Wilson.

2340 S Street
Woodrow Wilson
Washington D C

25th December 1922

My dear McCormick,

Mrs. Wilson and I were deeply pleased by your gift of roses, for we value your friendship most highly and were much gratified by every evidence of your thought of us.

We hope for you and yours everything that your hearts desire in this happy season.

With affectionate regard,
Faithfully yours,
[signed] Woodrow Wilson

Mr. Vance C. McCormick
Harrisburg, Penna.

The year that the following telegram was prepared is unknown. By its emotional tone, it may very well be after Wilson's last birthday on December 28, 1923. The fact that this is a telegram instead of a note or letter signed by Wilson might also be an indicator. According to Gene Smith in *When the Cheering Stopped*, Wilson's health was in sharp decline by the beginning of 1924. Smith states, "... in these last weeks and days, he could hardly see [Mrs. Wilson] or the letters he dictated. His pen dragged badly when he tried to sign his name. For days, in fact, he lay too weary and spent to try to lift his pen."²³

[TELEGRAM]

COPY

Washington D C Dec 30 [?]

Hon Vance C McCormick
Harrisburg, Pa

Thank you with all my heart for your birthday message stop
I feel honored by your friendship and confidence

Woodrow Wilson

Woodrow Wilson, after three days of dying his long death, passed away at 11:15 A.M. on February 3, 1924.²⁴ Vance McCormick was given the honor of serving as a pallbearer.

[TELEGRAM]

COPY

26P Vn 1142P 20 NL 1 Extra
WB Washington D C Feb 3 1924
Mr. Vance McCormick
Harrisburg, Penna.

Mrs. Wilson would like to have you one of the honorary pallbearers at funeral here Wednesday afternoon

John Randolph Bolling
Secretary

[TELEGRAM]

COPY

Mr. John Randolph Bolling, Secretary
2340 S Street, N.W.,
Washington, D. C.

Appreciate very much the honor of serving as honorary pallbearer at Mr. Wilson's funereal [sic] Wednesday afternoon Please express my deepest sympathy and love to Mrs. Wilson and all the family

Vance C. McCormick---s

The note below, on personalized stationery, is handwritten and signed by Mrs. Wilson. The heartiest congratulations is prompted by McCormick's news of his plans to marry Mrs. Gertrude Howard Olmstead, a native of Richmond, Virginia, the widow of Marlin E. Olmstead who represented Harrisburg from 1897 to 1912 in the United States House of Representatives. Vance McCormick had been an usher at his future wife's wedding when she married Olmstead.²⁵ Apparently, Mrs. Olmstead and Mr. McCormick had not set the date at the time that Vance informed Mrs. Wilson of his marital plans. He and Mrs. Olmstead were married on January 5, 1925.

Dec. 18- 1924

2340 S Street N W

My dear Mr. Cormick:

Heartiest congratulations and every happiness! My heart is very full of your joy- and your letter reaches me today on the anniversary of our wedding day, nine years ago- and I feel I can not make a more comprehensive wish for your lovely Virginia bride-to-be than that the same deep and complete happiness crown your marriage as blessed our own! My most affectionate message to her- and I am sure she will not mind if I add congratulations to her as well- for my long admiration for you and all your fineness [sic] qualifies the congratulations even though it is a term generally used in the reverse form- However, I believe you both will understand.

Of course I will treat your letter as a confidence but do let me know when the happy day is to be- and you were very dear to share this great secret with me.



Vance McCormick

I was so glad you were here on Monday- and only sorry I did not see you- it was a soul-stirring day and I am sure Dr. Alderman's address will live as a real contribution to literature- Wasn't the courage of it fine?
With renewed wishes for your real and lasting happiness- always

Faithfully
[signed] Edith Bolling Wilson

The undated note below is written in Mrs. Wilson's hand on personalized stationery with black edges and signed by her. Presumably, the black edges signify that she is in mourning. Because of the Christmas flowers mentioned in the note along with the appearance of stationery reflecting a condition of mourning, it is very probably Christmas 1924.

[Christmas, 1924]

2340 S Street

My dear Mr. McCormick

These lovely Christmas flowers bring a very deep assurance of your thought of me- and make a glow in my heart-

It makes me very happy to know of your great happiness- and I hope this new year holds for both of you every sort of joy and good fortune-

Please bring your bride down to see us- and always remember that you hold a very warm place in my heart-

Faithfully yours
[signed] Edith Bolling Wilson

The ensuing note is written in Mrs. Wilson's hand on personalized stationery and signed by her. Undoubtedly, the Wm. Wilson referenced here is William B. Wilson, former Secretary of Labor in the Wilson cabinet.²⁶ The fight Mrs. Wilson refers to is William Wilson's unsuccessful bid for the United States Senate in 1926. He was the Democratic candidate from Pennsylvania²⁷ and, apparently, was given financial aid by McCormick.

Dec. 26- 1927

2340 S Street N W

My dear Mr. McCormick:

What a beautiful way you found to add to my happiness this Christmastide.

The roses are so exquisite and are giving me the greatest pleasure.
Thank you for the friendship they represent and also let me thank you
for your letter in reply to mine about the Club-

I think it is splendid of you to finance the fight for Mr. Wm. Wilson-
and had I known of it I would not have written about another
Democratic need- but know you understand that- and here's more
strength to your arm in what you are so splendidly doing!

It would be such a pleasure to see you again- and I do hope you will
let me have that very genuine happiness where you can-

Please remember me to Mrs. McCormick and let me wish for you both
the very happiest New Year-

Faithfully yours
[signed] Edith Bolling Wilson

The following note is handwritten by Mrs. Wilson on personalized stationery
and signed by her. Her handwriting at the age of sixty-three is no longer firm and
smooth- flowing as compared to her previous correspondence. Even as recently
as her previous note in this collection, dated Dec. 26, 1927, her hand writing did
not reflect her aging.

Dec. 26- 1935

2340 S Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. McCormick:

My Beauty Roses are filling the house with their beauty and perfume
as well as bringing again the message of your thought and Christmas
Wishes.

You don't know how much that thought means to me- for it renews
the memories of the past and rekindles the friendship on which my
husband rested secure in your devotion of loyalty-

Thank you with all my heart!

It was such a happiness to see you and Mrs. McCormick at the White
House- please give her my love- and the hope that the New Year holds
for you both every happiness-

Affectionately
[signed] Edith Bolling Wilson

This collection of correspondence concludes as it began, with Vance Criswell
McCormick being thanked for the loyalty and devotion that he continuously
demonstrated to President and Mrs. Wilson. For one not acquainted with the
customs of the period, a fascinating sidelight of these written communications is
the polite formality which substantially understates the actual closeness of their
relationship.

What evidence is there that McCormick's relationship with the Wilsons was of
a special or close nature? In addition to the correspondence featured here, there
are several entries in McCormick's diary, *Adviser to President Wilson at the Peace
Conference in Paris, in 1919*, in which the author writes of having tea with Mrs.
Wilson or dining with the President along with a few other intimate friends. One
of the contributions to *Woodrow Wilson: A Profile*, edited by Arthur S. Link, is "A
Personal Glimpse" written by Dr. Cary Grayson, Wilson's personal physician. In

"A Personal Glimpse," taken from his *Woodrow Wilson: An Intimate Memoir*, Dr. Grayson addresses the question of whether the President had any personal friends. In response to this frequently raised issue, Grayson argues that the President had established many friendships during his lifetime that endured until the day of Wilson's death. Vance McCormick is included in the prestigious group of thirty-three people named by Grayson. This list includes some of Wilson's Princeton classmates and faculty associates, members of his cabinet, members of Congress, many of his diplomatic appointees, and members of the special war agencies.²⁸

In the case of McCormick, his personal friendship with the Wilsons appears to have taken root when McCormick became Wilson's campaign manager in 1916. Tom Shachtman, in *Edith & Woodrow: A Presidential Romance*, states, "Every Monday, Democratic chairman Vance McCormick came to the White House, and often spent the night talking strategy with Wilson and Edith, and eating popovers made from Edith's family recipe."²⁹ That the relationship flowered and endured is evidenced by McCormick being asked to serve as an honorary pallbearer when Wilson passed away. This is normally a distinction bestowed on only one's closest friends. Finally, McCormick was one of a small group of intimate friends that established a special trust fund for Mrs. Wilson to cover the first year of her widowhood.³⁰

This collection of letters, expressed in a newsy and friendly manner, reflects a close and affectionate relationship between McCormick and the Wilsons. For that reason, the correspondence provides a valuable view. It is also important because of the insight it offers into the many important events taking place at the time that this correspondence was written.

ENDNOTES

¹ David C. Whitney, *The American Presidents* (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday & Co., 1967), 251.

² Gene Smith, *When the Cheering Stopped* (New York: Wm. Morrow & Co., 12-25.

³ Paul B. Beers, *Profiles from the Susquehanna Valley* (Harrisburg: Stackpole Books, 1973), 169-171. Hereafter cited as "Beers." See also "The Life Record of a Public Spirited Citizen: Vance Criswell McCormick," in *Campaign Handbook and Political Guide* (Harrisburg: Democratic State Committee, 1914), 31-2.

⁴ William A. McGarry, "Woodrow Wilson's Campaign Manager," *The Evening Post Saturday Magazine*, 1 July 1916, 5.

⁵ Beers, 171-2.

⁶ Beers, 173.

⁷ Arthur Link, *Wilson: Campaigns for Progressivism and Peace* (Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1965), 9-10; hereinafter referred to as Link, *Campaigns*.

⁸ Vance McCormick, Memorandum in Vance C. McCormick's handwriting on back of letter from Mrs. Wilson dated January 14, 1920, Vance McCormick Collection, Historical Society of Dauphin County, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

⁹ Vance C. McCormick, *Diaries of Vance McCormick, Member of the American War Mission to Inter-Allied Conference in London and Paris; and Adviser to President Wilson at the Peace Conference in Paris, in 1919* (Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: By the author, 1921?), 1; hereinafter referred to as *Diaries of Vance McCormick, et al.*

¹⁰ *Diaries of Vance McCormick, et al.*

¹¹ Arthur S. Link, ed., *The Papers of Woodrow Wilson* (Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press, 1989), Vol. 60, 72, 120, 196, 306, 399, 491.

¹² Link: *Campaigns*, 8-10.

¹³ Ralph Smith, "How Vance McCormick Out-Generated, Out-Fought, and Out-Propheesied the G. O. P. Leaders," *The Atlanta Journal*, 17 December 1916, 2 and 7.

¹⁴ Link, *Campaigns*, 98-9.

¹⁵ Diaries of Vance McCormick et al, 41, 43 and 53.

¹⁶ Charles Seymour, *Woodrow Wilson and the World War*, (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1921), 258.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, 179-80.

¹⁸ Blum, 191-92.

¹⁹ Gene Smith, 143.

²⁰ Charles G. Miller, "Vance C. McCormick, Country Gentlemen: The Man Who Elected Wilson and the Place He Lives In" *The Countryside*, January 1917, 12.

²¹ Beers, 170.

²² Blum, 192.

²³ G. Smith, 233.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, 243.

²⁵ Beers, 175.

²⁶ Blum, 67.

²⁷ *Who Was Who in America*, (Chicago: The A. N. Marquis Company, 1942), 1363.

²⁸ Cary T. Grayson, *Woodrow Wilson: An Intimate Memoir* (New York, 1960), cited in Arthur S. Link, ed., *Woodrow Wilson: A Profile* (New York: Hill and Wang, 1968), 78.

²⁹ Tom Shachtman, *Edith & Woodrow: A Presidential Romance*, (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1981), 136.

³⁰ Ishbel Ross, *Power with Grace: The Life Story of Mrs. Woodrow Wilson* (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1975), 265.



FAMILY GATHERING 5 July 1897 at the McCormick summer home, Rose Garden in Cumberland County. Shown here are (seated left to right) Vance's cousin, Eliza Bradley, daughter of his aunt, Mary McCormick, and of J. Donald Cameron; Vance's uncle, James McCormick; his father, Henry McCormick; his mother, Annie Criswell McCormick; Vance; Mary, the wife of his uncle, James; his sister, Anne; his cousin, J. D. Cameron Bradley, son of Eliza; his cousin Henry Gross, son of his aunt Hannah Criswell and of E. Z. Gross; E. Z. Gross; his cousins Donald and James McCormick, sons of his uncle, James; his brother, Henry B. McCormick; his cousin, Henry, son of his uncle James; his cousin, James Cameron, son of his aunt Mary and J. Donald Cameron; Vance's aunt, Mary; his cousin Robert McCormick, son of his uncle, James; and his cousin, J. Gardner Bradley, son of Eliza.

Resistance to the War in Vietnam A Central Pennsylvania Perspective

Jon Pennington

I n 1964, just when the American involvement in the Vietnam conflict was about to explode over the American landscape, the city of Harrisburg, located in south central Pennsylvania, was conservative. In the national presidential election held that year five of the fifteen wards, including one black ward, voted for Republican Barry Goldwater, the more conservative candidate.¹ Harrisburg Area Community College (HACC) vocally supported the American war effort, and HACC sent representatives to Washington, D.C. to protest in favor of American involvement in Vietnam during a 1964 war rally.²

However, a peace movement was burgeoning. It did not begin in 1964 but rather grew partially from people who supported President John Kennedy's test ban treaty of 1963. In 1963 the President of the United States supported disarmament, an action which gave the "ban the bomb" movement respectability for some American citizens. The Council for a Sane World, otherwise known as SANE, a national organization with a Harrisburg chapter, supported the test ban and, later, the end of American involvement in Vietnam.

The peace movement would also sprout from the church. Except for SANE, most of the peace organizations in the area had a religious nature. Both *Pax Christi*, a national Catholic pacifist organization, and the Fellowship of Reconciliation, a national multid denominational organization, had local chapters then. The religious pacifists and the secular pacifists, came together to form a coalition. Milton Lowenthal, an early member of SANE, and other local people including Betty Sue Lentz and Mary Douglas decided to start a Peace Center in Harrisburg. They had no trouble soliciting support from pacifist churches, and the Reverend C. Wayne Zunkel of the Church of the Brethren and the Reverend Peter Posey from the Council of Churches were early supporters of the Peace Center. Also many from the Society of Friends or Quaker denomination, including Kay Pickering, became involved with the Center. The Peace Center had only a post office box for an address. Often,

the Peace Center would meet in the Quaker Meeting House in Harrisburg. Secular organizations were also represented, and the Peace Center had representatives from the Boy Scouts of America and the International Ladies' Garment Worker's Union.³

Because most Harrisburg activists were members of several groups at once, most members of the Peace Center were also members of SANE. Incidents that affected national organizations like SANE affected local organizations too. In 1965 the peace movement received preciously needed momentum through a large antiwar demonstration by SANE, a group that achieved their goal with a test ban and then turned its efforts to ending the war in Vietnam. They organized a Washington D.C. march on 27 November 1965 said to be the largest anti-Vietnam march in the United States to that time. The local SANE urged people to "write President Johnson and U.S. Senators, Hugh Scott and Joseph Clark and speak out "before it would be too late." C. Wayne Zunkel, pastor of the First Church of the Brethren, had been recognized as a supporter of the SANE peace march.⁴ Many members of the church were pacifists and had sons who were conscientious objectors, but Zunkel urged his congregation not to sit on their convictions but to take a stand for peace by marching for peace in Washington.

Many individuals, as the war went on, could not keep their feelings of disenchantment under the surface. This disgust with the war gradually led to aggravation with President Lyndon Johnson. These individuals showed their might in many grass-roots movements that were determined to throw Johnson out of office if he would not end the war. This led to the factional spirit of the presidential election of 1968, an election greatly affected by grass-roots movements and third-party politics that reflected the animosity felt towards the Washington Establishment.

The animosity felt towards the President that existed in 1968 had a tremendous effect on the election that year. Senator Eugene J. McCarthy of Minnesota chose to run in the presidential primaries and became an example of an individual who turned the old politics upside-down.

Public figures also turned to affect the electoral process. Dick Gregory, comedian and satirist, and Dr. Benjamin Spock, famous baby doctor and co-founder of SANE, were two individuals who decided to do something. Gregory and Spock formed the Peace and Freedom Party presidential ticket of President and Vice President, respectively.

Gregory and Spock turned out to be an ideal combination of well-known public individuals with strong pacifist convictions capable of mobilizing grass-roots support from activists such as Milton Lowenthal. In fact, in early 1968, Milton Lowenthal circulated nominating petitions for them.⁵

Realistically, the party existed not to win but to air views about the Vietnam War. They did this through rallies like one at the Pennsylvania State Capitol Steps on 19 October 1968.

After Richard Nixon was elected, the antiwar community directed their efforts toward his administration. Many of the McCarthy activists and other third party supporters who still felt that the individual could affect the political process in positive ways, including most of the main advisors in the McCarthy campaign, worked toward organizing a demonstration that was called a Moratorium for Peace that was to come to fruition on 15 October 1969. David Mixner, Sam Brown, and David Hawk were all McCarthy organizers who became Moratorium organizers.⁷ Even though Eugene McCarthy had nothing to do with organizing the Moratorium, because of the connection between McCarthy and the Moratorium organizers the protestors were nicknamed the "McCarthy Kiddy Corps" by conservatives.⁸

The Moratorium was different from most anti-Vietnam protests because the protest was so far-reaching and it affected so many people. The protest was effective because there were few instances of violence or force used by the protestors. It was called a Moratorium rather than a strike because the originators felt that the word "strike" had a negative connotation rather than "moratorium" which meant an end to business as usual. This said to some people, that the protestors' only goal was to end the war not to overthrow the institutions of the Establishment.

The Moratorium organizers in the area organized into two groups. Students at Dickinson gathered in a local chapter of the SMC, the Student Mobilization Committee to End the War in Vietnam. The students planned an 15 October moratorium and 14-15 November Memorial Death March from Arlington National Cemetery to the White House, with each student carrying a name of a person killed in the war. Carlisle students planned an eventually successful march from Dickinson to the War College.⁹ In contrast Major General G. S. Eckhardt at the War College tried to discourage the protestors but failed.¹⁰ Students had hoped to distribute literature there, but the army denied the Student Mobilization Committee's requests.¹¹ Other students planned to distribute pamphlets at the local MJ Carlisle Mall. Parents Day was also three days away, and students planned to distribute literature and read a list of the casualties of the Vietnam Conflict. The Parents Day activity showed the main focus of the Moratorium activities: to bring the reality of the war to Middle America, to have the protestors sell their antiwar beliefs to their parents and other elders.

The original strategy of the Moratorium was to have one day of demonstrations in October, two days in November, three days in December, etc. increasing one day a month. The Moratorium was successful as a one day event but was not to be successful as a continuous demonstration. The two days of protest in November turned out to be the 14-15 November Memorial Death March that was also successful but not as successful as the one day Moratorium in October. All that could be continued past November were statements that asked people to forgo Christmas shopping and instead work to end the war.¹³ All this accomplished was making some Moratorium advocates look like Grinches.

Harrisburg activists had also made Moratorium plans. Even though the Moratorium organizers were few in number compared to those at Dickinson College, they had generated formidable opposition. For example, Commander John J. Wisler of the Harrisburg American Legion tried to redbait the protestors. He flew the American Legion flag and American flag at full staff at the American Legion headquarters in Harrisburg and encouraged others to fly flags (also at full staff) and drive with headlights on in the daytime.¹⁴ Also the conservative, pro-Vietnam War, Republican Senator from South Carolina, Strom Thurmond, appeared at Harrisburg Area Community College the night of the Moratorium. Eventually Dickinson students arrived to jeer Senator Thurmond,¹⁵ but even with additional moral support from Dickinson students, the apathy or disdain that some people felt toward the Harrisburg Moratorium activists would not pass.

That did not stop Reverend Thomas N. Knadig, an antiwar priest, and Mary Douglas, co-chairmen of the Harrisburg Peace Center's Moratorium Committee, led indirectly by David Lavine, the Main Moratorium organizer for the Middle Atlantic states, from trying to generate support for what they believed in. They rallied Quakers and Peace Center members, from the Harrisburg Friends' Meeting House at Sixth and Herr Streets in Harrisburg, home to both the Quakers and the Peace Center. They initiated tree planting ceremonies and canvassed Harrisburg with literature.

Mary Douglas's involvement with the Moratorium would grow. The Moratorium led to a People's Peace Treaty, organized nationally by Robert Greenblatt, that would be a project of Mary's for several years of the Vietnam Conflict.¹⁶ She was able to get four hundred Harrisburg names from the Harrisburg treaty in the *Congressional Record* of 22-28 October 1971 with the help of Senator Mark Hatfield, a Republican senator from Oregon and an opponent of the Vietnam War.¹⁷ On Moratorium Day, Mary tried to convince the Mayor of Harrisburg, Albert Straub, to sign a Moratorium petition, but she was unsuccessful.¹⁸ The loss of that one influential signature, was counterbalanced by signatures of less politically powerful individuals who took a stand together through a People's Peace Treaty.

Soon 1969 would roll into 1970, an election year, and some tried to do their part to end the Vietnam War not by remaining as part of the electorate but by running for an elected office. In 1970 Arthur L. Berger, then a West Shore resident, ran against the incumbent representative in the West Shore ninetieth district, George Goodling, on an antiwar platform and was beaten 71,497 votes to 58,399 votes.¹⁹

Arthur Berger became known later for defending an Army veteran named Donald D. Carney in the first modern flag desecration case ever argued in the area. Carney was arrested because he sat on a flag on the State Capitol steps, supposedly to keep it dry, while wearing a T-shirt that had a design of an American flag with a swastika on it that said "America: The Fourth Reich."²⁰ A political cartoon in an issue of the *Harrisburg Independent Press*, a local counter-cultural weekly, showed Carney wearing his infamous shirt before a judge who said that

the First Amendment applied only to “political” speech, the implication being that the First Amendment protected only those “politics” that were acceptable to the court.² On appeal, Berger successfully challenged that assumption and succeeded at protecting all Pennsylvanian’s right to “symbolic speech,” which is the right of people to express opinions through clothing, artwork and other media.

Arthur Berger reminisces that he felt naive afterwards for running on a platform that called for immediate and total withdrawal from Vietnam. However, he was able to energize most Democrats, the cohesive community of independent liberals from York County and even some moderate Republicans from the West Shore. Most importantly, he was able to organize the young people. “I had busloads of college students that came to hear me speak,” Berger recalls. “I have inspired so many people. So many people from government aid positions or teaching positions have come up to me twenty years after I ran and tell me how working for me was the turning point in their lives.” Arthur Berger was just one of many individuals across the country who used their professional reputations to give credence to the anti-Vietnam War movement. According to Berger, these individuals may not have made a great impact by themselves but collectively they lent to a “mosaic effect” that forced the Washington D.C. Establishment to sit up and take notice.

That “mosaic effect” would hit Harrisburg, and it would change the Harrisburg area peace movement. J. Edgar Hoover, then head of the FBI, and John Mitchell, the United States Attorney General, made this possible. When Hoover was making a request for an extra \$14.5 million over what was allotted for the FBI in the 1970 budget, he spoke of an “incipient plot” of a militant anarchist group composed of Catholic priests, nuns, students, etc. called the “East Coast Conspiracy to Save Lives.”²² According to Hoover, the group planned to blow up underground electrical conduits in Washington, D.C., to kidnap a “high government official,” unnamed by Hoover at that time, and to demand an end to the War in Vietnam as ransom. This allegation led John Mitchell to indict Dr. Eqbal Ahmad, Fr. Philip Berrigan, Sr. Elizabeth McAlister, Fr. Anthony Scoblick, Mary Cain Scoblick, and Fr. Joseph Wenderoth on the charges of trying to kidnap Henry Kissinger and to demand the end of the war in exchange for his return. Sister Jogues Egan, Sister Beverly, Marjorie Shuman, and Paul Mayer were listed as unindicted co-conspirators. Most of all, the city of Harrisburg was selected as a site to prosecute the indicated, later to be known as “The Harrisburg 7.”

The indictment would eventually cause both Hoover and Mitchell to lose credibility. The so-called conspirators were really not dangerous enough to give the government any reasons to fear them. Catholic sociologist Andrew Greeley would consider them “totally incapable of affecting any social change.”²³ The *New York Times* considered the indictment of the Harrisburg 7 an “indictment against sober reason.”²⁴ When Tony Scoblick was indicted for the kidnapping, he said “When I returned to my cell, I asked who Henry Kissinger was,” because he had never even met the man much less attempted to kidnap him. Theodore Glick, a conspirator who was indicted later but had the charges against him

dropped, said he was indicted for a “. . . ‘conspiracy’. To do what. I’m not sure.”²⁵

As the decline of the credibility of Establishment institutions, such as the Justice Department, became evident, individuals such as Milton Lowenthal, Kay Pickering, and Arthur Berger served as a challenge to their authority. Hardly hippies and yippies of legend, these people were merely citizens of the community that calmly spoke and acted against the injustices that they saw form from America’s involvement with Vietnam. Harrisburg is no doubt less conservative because of the efforts of these individual political mavericks.

ENDNOTES

¹ *Pennsylvania Manual*, 1965-66, Harrisburg: 1967.)

² Paul Beers, “Reporter at Large,” *Harrisburg Patriot* 30 May 1979.

³ Interview with Kay Pickering, Quaker peace activist.

⁴ *Ibid.* Also files of Milton Lowenthal, Harrisburg peace movement leader.

⁵ *York Gazette and Daily*, 7 March 1968.

⁶ *Dickinsonian*, 26 September 1969.

⁷ *Harrisburg Patriot*, 8 October 1969.

⁸ *Dickinsonian*, 3 October 1969.

⁹ *Harrisburg Patriot*, 8 October 1969.

¹⁰ *Dickinsonian*, 10 October 1969.

¹¹ *Dickinsonian*, 3 October 1969.

¹² *Dickinsonian*, 5 December 1969.

¹³ *Harrisburg Patriot*, 6 October 1969.

¹⁴ *Dickinsonian*, 30 October 1969.

¹⁵ *Harrisburg Independent Press*, 14-20 October 1969.

¹⁶ *Harrisburg Independent Press*, 7-13 October 1969.

¹⁷ *Harrisburg Patriot*, 6 October 1969.

¹⁸ *Pennsylvania Manual*, 1970-71.

¹⁹ *Harrisburg Independent Press*, 2-8 December 1971 and interview with Arthur Berger.

²⁰ *Harrisburg Independent Press*, 2-8 December 1971.

²¹ Jack Nelson and Ronald Ostraw, *The F.B.I. and the Berrigans* (N.Y.: Coward: 1972), 15-18.

²² Paul Beers, “Reporter at Large,” *Harrisburg Patriot*, 30 May 1979.

²³ *Harrisburg Independent Press*, 6-13 October 1969.

²⁴ *Harrisburg Independent Press*, 21-17 October 1969.

What's in a Name?

New Kingstown

A persuasive case could be made that New Kingstown should properly be named "Junkintown." Consider, Joseph Junkin was the first settler. His home, before settling in Silver Spring Township near Stoney Ridge was a farm which lay on both sides of a line in Ireland separating County Down and County Antrim. Leaving Ulster about 1736, he settled at first in Chester County where he married a Scot, Elizabeth Wallace. They took up 500 acres of land in Cumberland County.

Elizabeth became custodian of one of the earliest places west of the Susquehanna where settlers worshipped, an outdoor chapel that eventually became known as "Widow Junkins' Tent." Located where Cumberland County officials recently proposed as a site for trash and sewage sludge transfer, it stood from about 1751 to 1830 as an elevated platform for a minister with a board nailed on a black oak tree to hold the Bible. Rude benches were the seats. The communicants were Scots Covenanters, a group with Calvinistic principles founded in 1638, predating the Presbyterian Church of Scotland. To the first communion, 21 August 1751, a service which then lasted as long as nine hours, the Reverend John Cuthbertson attracted a congregation of 250 persons. It was said to be the first Covenanter gathering in the New World. Those from distant areas stayed at Thomas Bell's Tavern which adjoins the site of the Covenanters "Tent."

The word "tent, according to Whitfield J. Bell, was being used in 1760 in Edinburgh, home of the Covenanters, to refer to a pulpit in the Orphans Hospital there.

A son, Joseph, Jr., was a captain in General James Potter's Brigade during the War of the Revolution. After fighting at Brandywine he was wounded and returned to his father's acreage where he had started to build a stone house about 1775. This structure, still standing, was later known as "The Walker Place" and then as "Kanaga" for a subsequent owner, Henry W. Kanaga. Joseph Junkin, Jr., later was ordained as a Covenanter minister. A prominent member of the congregation was the neighbor Thomas Bell.

Among Joseph Jr.'s, offspring were sixteen ministers and fifteen ruling elders. Perhaps most famous was the Rev. Dr. George Junkin, first president of Lafayette College, and later president of Miami (of Ohio) University, and of Washington College, Virginia. There his daughter Eleanor married Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson.

The name "Kingstown" did not emerge until 1818, when part of the Junkins' tract, having been split into three pieces, was sold to John King, who laid out the village. The name was changed in 1851 at the orders of the Post Office Department to end the confusion arising from the existence of a Luzerne County town, Kingston, opposite Wilkes-Barre. Three stone houses had already been constructed before King laid out his village site. The first to be constructed after King offered the land for sale was a log structure erected by John Wynekoop, a shoemaker. In 1818 a wagon maker, Henry Miller, also built a shop. The third was erected by another shoemaker, George Williams. Thomas Atchley, a carpenter, was next to build, followed by Henry Monnesmith, a blacksmith and John Shoemaker, a plasterer.

In 1842 the Reverend Jacob Boas brought together a congregation of the Evangelical Association and built Zion's Church on the site of a graveyard one-half mile west of the town. In 1865 the structure was moved into the village.

Saint Stephens Evangelical Lutheran Church traces its beginnings to 2 March 1771 when Henry Longstaff [sic] deeded two of his 150 acres of land to three elders of "The Dutch Lutheran Church or Congregation of East Pennsborough Township" for five shillings sterling to be used for a church building and burial ground. The first known minister, Jacob Goering, served this preaching point and several others in the vicinity. By 1774 the congregation is said to have built a gabled meeting house of log construction, plastered and pebbled on the outside. Inside worshippers found on the west end a high pulpit "festooned by long black curtains . . . high-backed seats made of yellow pine . . . a gallery in the end was occupied by the choir. The earliest known communions was 10 May 1789 respectively. By 1816 the minister had this, "the Longsdorf Congregation," and seven others in his charge. In 1825 the congregation became part of the Mechanicsburg charge, which also contained a Churchtown congregation formed in 1795, the Poplar Church congregation started about 1784 which moved to Peace Church in 1806, and Trindle Springs Church which was started in the 1770s.

In 1843 the church at the cemetery was torn down, the pieces sold to John Senseman for \$80, and the congregation moved one-half mile north on Locust Point Road into the village which John King was developing. Here it constructed a stone church seating 250 people and took the name "Evangelical Lutheran Congregation of St. Stephens at Kingston." In 1879 the stone church building was razed and a brick one erected in its place. This structure, destroyed by a fire in 1911 was replaced in 1913 with one built on a larger scale after a design by A. A. Richter, a Reading architect. It became a single parish church in 1954, separating from Churchtown.

In 1842 the Reverend Jacob Boas brought together a congregation of the Evangelical Association and built Zion's Church on the site of a graveyard one-half mile west of the town. In 1865 the structure was moved into the village. St. Stephens Evangelical Lutheran Church, at first known as "Langsdorf's Congregation," moved into Kingston in 1843 from a country location where it may or may not have owned a building. A third church, built on the south side of the Carlisle Pike, was described by Conway Wing as being "owned by the Adventists and by the Church of God." The first school was built on the Kanaga tract but later moved to the back yard of St. Stephens.

When I. D. Rupp published his history of the county in 1846 he stated that Kingston [sic] consisted of twenty dwellings, two stores, two churches (Lutheran and Evangelical Association) "and the usual number of handicraft found in country villages." Its water supply, he said, then traveled 1,100 feet from a spring or well on the farm of Peter Kissinger. Conway Wing, writing in 1879, noted that "New Kingston" had grown to include eighty-four dwellings, two stores, two confectionary shops, two carriage shops, one blacksmith shop, three churches, one school building, and one hotel. This landmark in the village, built by Benjamin Junkin, subsequently bore the name "Albright's" and "The Tremont House." It was located at the eastern edge of town. The population was put at 370. Wing noted also that the houses were irregularly arranged along the Carlisle Pike. His explanation was "the original lots did not run quite to the pike, and hence the owners were obliged to purchase additional pieces between their lots and the pike. Many of the new houses were therefore built on the pike, while the old houses stood back on the original lots.

In 1867 Silver Spring Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized with twenty members. The year following it erected a hall, which was also used by the local Knights of Pythias, the Grange, and the Patriotic Sons of American, when instituted 10 April 1873."

One man from the village, Jacob Shroy, enlisted in the War of 1812 forces. During the Civil War thirty-nine wore the Union army uniform. —RGC.

NOTES ON SOURCE

The principal sources of information on New Kingstown are the county histories authored by I. D. Rupp and Conway Wing, with additional data from Charles H. Glatfelter's *Pastors and People*. Information about St. Stephen's Church came from an 18-page ephemeral document c. 1985 written by its Pastor, F. D. Schaefer, furnished the author by Francis K. Richwine, Esquire, and presented to the Society.

Book Review

Drive The Road . . . Bridge the Ford. By Paul E. Gill. Carlisle: Cumberland County Historical Society, 1992. 175 pp. 150 illustrations \$24.95 plus tax.

Historians, engineers, and buffs of all walks of life can and should cheer the new work of Dr. Paul Gill, professor of history at Shippensburg State University. For a title he has borrowed a phrase from Rudyard Kipling's *A Song of the English* and for illustrations photographs from the Society's extensive collection.

The book, wrapped in a four color dust jacket which reproduces Harold Etter's painting of Burgher's Bridge and Mill, climbs to high ground first broken in 1905 by Squire John D. Hemminger, whose brief work on bridges was a paper read to the Society, and published as a 180-inch article in the *Carlisle Sentinel*. The bulk of the source material is a handwritten supplement found among Hemminger's papers, together with a file of photographs snapped in 1933 by an unidentified person who, at the request of the County Commissioners, took four pictures of all bridges existing at that time.

Dr. Gill deals with each bridge, identifying its cost, date of construction, and subsequent history. A map shows the location of each bridge as of 1935. An introduction recalls that of eighty-eight bridges known to exist during the 19th century, only sixty-four were still in use in 1900. Almost all of these will have disappeared by 2000, but Gill's volume will preserve the memories. Of the eighty-eight, forty-four were wooden (thirty-seven covered), five were of stone arch type, and fifteen were of iron or steel. Drawings that illustrate and name the various kinds of piers and trusses will make the book valuable for others beyond the normal readership of a volume of county history.

Drive the Road . . . Bridge the Ford is the product of a policy decision by the Society board to publish a series of volumes dealing with items of material culture: schools, mills, churches, taverns and barns. The directors are to be commended for their decision. They will have trouble topping the quality of this first book in the series —RGC.



BURGNERS BRIDGE, from the new Society volume. Photograph courtesy of C. H. Masland and Sons.

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