

# Bulletin

OF

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CECIL COUNTY

No. 30

Summer Hill, Maryland

October 17, 1966

## MAY 1966 MEETING

The Society's 1966 spring meeting was called to order by the President, Mrs. Argus F. Robinson, on Monday evening, May 16, in the engine room of Singerly Fire Company No. 1 in Elkton, with 199 members and guests in attendance. The invocation was pronounced by the Rev. Ralph L. Minker, and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fire Company served a baked chicken dinner which exemplified the culinary art in its finest form.

Following the dinner, a brief business session was conducted. The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with, as usual. The Treasurer submitted a report indicating that the Society was in solvent condition, with a cash balance of \$1,308.17 on hand, and the Curator invited inspection of a current exhibit in the Public Library featuring the historic churches of Cecil County.

The Secretary announced the names of the following applicants who had been elected to membership by the Executive Committee on April 22:

Clark, Mr. and Mrs. James	Lynch, Dr. Raymond A.
Cumming, Mr. and Mrs. Richard S.	McGrady, Mr. and Mrs. F. Guy
Devore, Col. and Mrs. Leland S.	Mendenhall, Robert H.
England, Mrs. Florence H.	Moore, James Ballance
George, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph E.	Renshaw, Mr. and Mrs. Julius A.
Hillyard, Mrs. Edna D.	Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Charles K.

The Executive Committee transmitted a resolution of regret upon the death of William T. Warburton, a Trustee of the Society. It was ordered that the resolution be entered upon the minutes of the meeting and that copies be given to the local newspapers for publication.

Mr. Krastel, Chairman of the Committee on Historical Markers, reported that efforts were being continued to secure a marker for the old Rock Run grist mill in Port Deposit, and Mrs. Edwards, in reporting on the status of work to preserve Richards' Oak, suggested the desirability of raising sufficient funds to insulate this giant tree from possible damage by lightning.

The President presented as the guest speaker, Mrs. Agnes F. Svedja, President of the Augustine Herman Czech American Historical Society. She described the formation and objectives of that organization, and was followed by her daughter, Dr. Norma Svedja, who exhibited a framed photograph of an oil painting which she said is attributed to Augustine Herman and is reputed to be the earliest example of American art extant.

At the conclusion of their remarks the speakers were given the customary Certificates of Appreciation and honorary membership in the Society was bestowed on them.

## THE HEATHS OF WARWICK

By the side of the highway (Maryland Route 282) in the town of Warwick is a historical marker which reads:

"GEORGE WASHINGTON  
VISITED WARWICK FEB'Y 1756. MARCH 1756.  
DINED AND LODGED AT MR. D'L HEATH'S  
MAY 1773. PASSED THROUGH SEPT. 3 AND  
OCT. 28, 1774. BREAKFASTED MARCH 23  
1791 AND AGAIN IN SEPT. 1793."

The D'l Heath referred to in this inscription was Daniel Charles Heath who was then owner of Worsell Manor near Warwick. Earliest mention of the Heath name in Cecil County is that of James Heath, who succeeded William Charles Blake in ownership of Worsell Manor in 1709.

James Heath was born in Warwick, England, where the Heaths were well and favorably known. The date of his arrival in Maryland has not been established. He was a member of an old Catholic family of that name, and the owner of "Heath's Range" and other large tracts of land in Cecil County. He died in 1731 and was buried in Appoquinimink Hundred, New Castle County, Delaware. From an obscure and almost forgotten grave his remains were transferred on August 24, 1959, to the cemetery at St. Francis Xavier Church, where his present grave is covered by the original 4" stone slab bearing the following epitaph:

"Here lyes the body of James Heath, who was  
born att Warwick on the 27th day of July 1658  
and died on the 10th day of November 1731 in  
the 74th year of his age.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE"

Upon the death of James Heath the ownership of Worsell Manor descended to his son, James Paul Heath, who was born September 5, 1712. James Paul was by inheritance a large landowner and founder of the town of Warwick, where he was engaged in merchandising. At the time of his death he owned one half of a vessel engaged in trading between his wharves on the Sassafras River and the West Indies. In his will of September 5, 1745, which was probated nearly a year later, he stipulated that "Five Hundred Acres were to be lay'd out for Warwick." It was quite natural that he should give the town the name of his father's birthplace in England. The town of Warwick in Cecil County is therefore the namesake of the great castle on the River Avon in England which is still in use as a perfect example of medieval baronial life.

James Paul Heath married Rebecca, daughter of the Hon. Daniel Dulany, a distinguished lawyer and noted Tory of Annapolis, Maryland. He left two sons, James and Daniel Charles, both of whom attended the classical academy founded by the Jesuit fathers at Old Bohemia Church. James went to St. Omer's College in French Flanders to complete his education and never returned to America. He became a member of the Jesuit Society and died in England at an early age.

By his will James Paul Heath bequeathed Worsell Manor to his younger son, Daniel Charles. Daniel was born in 1744 and married Mary Key, daughter of Richard Key, of St. Mary's County. It was during his ownership that George Washington dined

and lodged at Worsell Manor on the occasion of his passage through Cecil County in May 1773. In the General's party at that time were Governor Robert Eden, of Maryland, and John Parke Custis. Governor Eden was en route to Philadelphia to attend the spring horse races, and General Washington was taking his step-son, Jackie Custis, to New York to enroll him at King's College, which is now Columbia University. There is no evidence that Mr. Heath supported the struggle for American Independence, and it may be assumed that in view of his Dulany background he gave allegiance to the British crown.

Daniel Charles lived and entertained on a lavish scale and as a consequence his large patrimony was eventually dissipated. In 1788 his estate was conveyed by deed of trust to James Hughes, Trustee, for benefit of creditors. Mr. Heath contributed the sum of L60 to the original endowment of Washington College in Chestertown in 1782, and his son, Richard Key Heath, was a graduate of the College in 1787.

He was described as a "fallen Catholic" who was very severe in his treatment of indentured servants. Although there was every reason for him to have remained steadfast in the faith of his fathers, his conduct was a cause of much annoyance to Father Mathias Manners, the Superior at Old Bohemia Church. He threatened suits of ejectment, alleging that the land had been a gift from his grandfather, James Heath, for the support of the pastor, and that its transfer to the Catholic Church was illegal. His threats to dispossess Father Manners were ultimately terminated by American independence.

Daniel Charles Heath was listed as a pewholder in St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Middletown, Delaware, in 1795. After his death in 1799 very little is known historically about the Heath family.

## GARRETT'S FACTORIES

On January 26, 1850, the real estate of Col. William Garrett, deceased, was offered for sale at public vendue from the Court House door in Elkton. It consisted of a cotton and woolen factory, grist and saw mills, and 89 acres of land, partly arable and partly woodland.

The property was located on the Big Elk Creek, just north of the present Route 273, and was commonly known as "Garrett's Factories". The buildings comprised a cotton and woolen factory, nearly new, 85 feet long by 35 feet wide, and three stories high; a grist and saw mill in good repair; seven tenant houses for operatives in the factory; a mansion house for the proprietor, together with a substantial farm-house; also a large barn with stabling beneath, granary, corn-crib, and other essential outbuildings, all in good repair.

It was stated that the cotton factory had been in constant and successful operation for the previous 30 years, with the exception of a few months in 1840, when it was rebuilt upon an improved scale. Its connections were said to be extensive and it was well known as one of the very best establishments of its kind in Maryland. For the benefit of prospective buyers, the Great Elk Creek was described as "a copious and powerful stream of water at all seasons of the year", and stress was placed on the remarkable salubrity of the neighborhood, which was said to be noted for the purity of its fresh air and water.

No visible trace of this once prosperous business now remains and even its exact location cannot be determined.

## EVOLUTION OF ADVERTISING

Before the advent of telephone directories and their comprehensive "yellow pages", it was customary for tradesmen and artisans to offer their goods and services to the public by means of modest announcements in the columns of local newspapers. In contrast with the present day pretentious style of advertising, these announcements were one column wide and seldom exceeded two inches in depth. The subjoined examples taken from issues of the CECIL DEMOCRAT of 1848-49 not only illustrate the advertising technique of that period but outline some of the business enterprises then emerging in Elkton.

### BLACKSMITHING & WHEELWRIGHTING

The subscribers have taken the shops in "The Hollow" in Elkton, for a long time known as "Scott's" shops, and are prepared to do all kinds of smithwork and wheelwrighting in the best manner and at short notice.

They intend to keep the materials, wood, iron, and steel, and are prepared to make carts, waggons, ploughs, etc., and repair them; shoe horses and do all kinds of Smithwork. They respectfully solicit from the community a share of the work in their line of business.

Elkton, April 1, 1848

John P. Bennett  
John D. McCauley

### NEW BOOTS AND SHOES

The largest, most fashionable, and the best assortment of men's, women's and children's boots and shoes in Cecil County is to be found at the subscriber's store in Elkton, at the

### SIGN OF THE BIG BOOT

opposite the Court House.

The subscriber would respectfully inform his friends and the public generally, that he has commenced manufacturing ladies' shoes of every description. He is now prepared to accommodate all who favor him with a call with boots and shoes of the best sort at very low prices.

April 8, 1848

Thomas C. Crouch

P. S. Wanted, 10 boot and shoe makers.

### CLOCK AND WATCH MAKING

The undersigned having commenced the above business in Elkton two doors east of Johnson's Hotel, solicits a share of the public patronage. Clocks, watches, jewelry, &c., repaired in the best manner. Engravings on gold, silver, or copper, inscriptions on signs, bracelets, canes, &c., executed in superior style and finish.

May 13, 1848

Wm. L. Jones

### DENTAL SURGERY

William L. Jones, surgeon dentist, of Baltimore, having removed to Elkton, offers his professional services to the citizens of Cecil and adjoining counties. His office is two doors east of Johnson's Hotel, lately occupied as the office of the Cecil County Advocate.

TEETH extracted, filed, plugged, or inserted, upon the latest and most approved principles, at very moderate rates. Ladies will be waited upon at their residences, if desired.

May 13, 1848

William L. Jones

### NEW STORE IN ELKTON

William Pell respectfully announces to the citizens of Elkton and vicinity that he has taken the storehouse formerly occupied by Mr. J. S. Kennard, and is opening a well selected assortment of Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Queensware, &c, &c., with every article embraced in a general variety store, all of which will be sold unusually low for CASH. His principle in business is that a nimble sixpence is better than a slow shilling.

June 10, 1848

William Pell

### SADDLE, BRIDLE & HARNESS MANUFACTORY

The Subscriber respectfully informs the public that he has purchased the stock of Leonard Krauss, and has removed to a shop in "The Hollow", two doors below the Cecil Whig office, where he is prepared to furnish the public with all kinds of saddles, bridles, harness, collars, whips, spurs, &c., as cheap as they can be had in the cities.

March 21, 1849

David A. McCrea

### THE RINGGOLD HOUSE

Fisher A. White respectfully announces to the citizens of Cecil County that he has taken the centre house in Whann's Row, Elkton, immediately opposite Gebhart's (formerly King's) Hotel, and that he has opened the same as an OYSTER AND EATING HOUSE for the accommodation of the public generally. Meals will be served at all hours, and visitors supplied with all the delicacies of the season.

May 4, 1849

Fisher A. White

### WOOL CARDING

The subscriber respectfully informs the public that he has taken the woolen factory at "Garrett's Mills", six miles north of Elkton, on the Big Elk, where he is prepared to manufacture wool into ROLLS, YARN, CLOTH, sattinets, blankets, or flannel as directed, payable in cash, wool, or a share of the article manufactured. Wool may be left at the stores in Elkton, with directions, where he will return it as soon as manufactured.

May 11, 1849

George Evans

### CIGARS AND TOBACCO

The undersigned announces to the citizens of Elkton and Cecil County that he has opened a manufactory of cigars, opposite the Fountain Inn, Elkton, where he offers all kinds of Tobacco, Snuff, and Cigars, at prices which cannot fail to please. Half-Spanish and imported cigars of very superior quality, and the choicest snuff and tobacco may be had at his counter.

July 7, 1849

Wm. H. Hendrickson

### WAR VETERANS HONORED

On May 29 the Society's Civil War Centennial Committee erected plaques in Sharp's Cemetery at Fair Hill and St. John's Church Cemetery at Lewisville, in memory of the 20 Union veterans of the Civil War who lie buried in those cemeteries. The plaques were designed by Mr. Joseph E. McFadden, of Cherry Hill. The Rev. David W. Plumer, rector of Trinity Episcopal Church of Elkton, delivered the address at Sharp's and Mr. Wm. T. Mahoney, a past President of the Society, was the speaker at Lewisville. Mr. Joseph R. Grant, Chairman of the CWCC, presided at both cemeteries.

The officers and an honor guard of Mason-Dixon Post (American Legion), on Independence Day, re-dedicated the private burial ground of the Krauss family at Harrisville, where rest the remains of Leonard Krauss, one of the few Revolutionary soldiers whose graves are located in Cecil County. Members of the Post not only cleared the ground and cleaned and straightened the gravestones but erected a flag-pole within the plot and provided a flag to be flown on special occasions. The guest speaker was our President, Mrs. Argus F. Robinson, who reviewed the old soldier's life and commended the Post for its community spirit.

After serving as a foot soldier in the Continental Army, Captain Krauss acquired his military title by organizing a company of Maryland militia in 1810. He opened the Cross-Keys Hotel at Harrisville in 1802, and died on January 12, 1858, at the age of 97.

Congratulations to the Mason-Dixon Post for this mark of respect to the memory of an American patriot.

### IN MEMORIAM

The deaths of the following members are recorded with regret:

William T. Warburton — April 4, 1966  
 Dr. James L. Garey — June 25, 1966  
 W. Herbert Baker — July 1, 1966  
 Chester Reed — July 27, 1966

### HISTORY EVALUATED

It is the duty of every people to preserve for the benefit and satisfaction of unborn generations a history of their times. A little care in recording facts and providing for the safety of records would invest the story of the past with much more interest and greatly facilitate the labors of historians.

Dr. John H. Johns, Pastor Rock Church, 1862-87.

### FOR THE RECORD

At a meeting of the Executive Committee held on April 22, 1966, Mr. Frank W. Krastel, of Penns Grove, N. J., was elected a Trustee of the Society to fill the vacancy caused by the death of William T. Warburton on April 4. Mr. Krastel is a native of Cecil County and has been an active member of the Society since January 1956.

A 12-foot section of wooden well-pipe, with trestles for its horizontal support, has been presented to the Society by Mr. John B. Upp, owner of Sassafra Farm in the First District. This length of cypress pump stock is 6" square and the interior bore is 3" in diameter. Cecilton Boy Scout Troop 299 prepared the unusual relic for display. It may be seen in the Society's museum.

Through the good offices of Mr. Morton F. Taylor, a block of granite which formed the cornerstone of St. James Episcopal Church in Port Deposit has been donated to the Society by Mr. Edgar P. Hopkins. After having been in disuse for several years, the church building was bought by Mr. Hopkins and razed in July 1966. The figures carved in the stone denote the year (1871) it was placed in the church's foundation.

A recent book with the title "Fifty Early American Towns" contains pictures and historical text about each town. Massachusetts is represented by the largest number of towns (11), and Maryland with six has the second largest number. The Maryland selections are Elkton, Chestertown, Easton, St. Michael's, Oxford, and Sandy Spring.

A new postoffice building in Fredericktown was dedicated in a ceremony on July 23. It is located on Augustine Herman Highway at the north end of Sassafra River bridge. Although the building is in Cecil County, it is officially designated as the Georgetown, Kent County, postoffice. A postoffice was opened on the Kent County side in the 1890's, but on account of unsuitable facilities in Georgetown, it was moved to Fredericktown in 1905 and has remained there ever since.

Our Society was honored by being host to the Association of Maryland Historical Societies when the Tenth Annual Conference of that organization met at Brick Meeting House on Saturday, September 24. As this number of the BULLETIN was in the hands of the printer at the time of the conference, it is impossible to give a report on the proceedings on that date. Dr. John A. Munroe, head of the History Department at the University of Delaware, was scheduled to give a talk at the morning session on "Contributions of the McLane Family of Maryland". The afternoon session was to be devoted to visits to places of interest in the County, including the headquarters of the Society in Elkton.

The semi-annual round table meeting of this Society will be held in the Assembly Room of the Public Library in Elkton on Monday evening, November 21, 1966, at 7:45 o'clock. A program of unusual interest is being planned for this meeting, and members are asked to make note of the date and time.

## CURATOR'S CORNER

Our new office on the second floor of the Cecil County Library Building, just behind our exhibition gallery, is spacious and inviting. Won't some of our members please think seriously of lending a helping hand? We need help with clipping, filing, cataloging, taking inventory, and even dusting our collections and our early American kitchen.

Requests for genealogical information come in from all parts of the United States. There are more requests for information of this kind than for assistance on any other subject, and it presents a field in which our Society might render a public service. Unfortunately, we are unable to offer satisfactory assistance in many instances, simply because of lack of time. We wish we could do more than we are doing, because one of the main functions of a county historical society is to collect and furnish information that is not available from any other source. We need your help to make this Society worthy of Cecil County.

The new office has been a great help to your Curator, especially in preparing exhibits -- at last there is some place to work from. Another four-drawer file cabinet has been added, and now it's easier to find or file papers. Have you seen our new bulletin board? A recently installed overhead light makes it easier to scan the items posted on the board.

### 1966 EXHIBITIONS

January-March. An exhibition of Early American Pattern Glass from the collection of Mr. John W. Perkins, of Elkton, was displayed during this period.

April - June. Cecil County Churches: More than fifty churches shared in making this exhibition a success. Featured, in addition to photographs and beautiful paintings of some of the churches, were very old minute and record books, early silver communion sets, a baptismal basin, fine old Bibles complete with family genealogies, and hymnals of bygone days. One of the high lights of this exhibition was a magnificent brass sundial made in London in 1718 for St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, Earleville. This instrument was found during the recent restoration of the church and the churchyard. Although the sundial had been completely embedded in the soil for many years, it is still in perfect condition and the engraving is as clear today as it was almost 250 years ago.

An 18th century bench and one of 1810 from Brick Meeting House at Calvert, and a deacon's bench from the first Elkton Methodist Church on Back (now High Street) added "atmosphere" to this exhibit.

July - August. Doll Exhibit: Some thirty-five dolls from the Collection of Mrs. Thomas Hull, of Port Deposit, were shown during the summer months.

September - October. Our current exhibition entitled "Some of Cecil County's Past" has been arranged to interest our out-of-town visitors attending the annual conference of Maryland Historical Societies, which was held in Cecil County on Saturday, September 24.

Audrey S. Delano, Curator