

**AN ACCOUNT OF THE MANNERS
OF THE GERMAN INHABITANTS
OF PENNSYLVANIA, WRITTEN
1789. NOTES ADDED**

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An Account of the Manners of the German Inhabitants of Pennsylvania, written 1789. Notes added by Benjamin Rush & I. Daniel Rupp

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BENJAMIN RUSH & I. DANIEL RUPP

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Yours truly
J. D. Puff.

AN ACCOUNT
OF THE
MANNERS
OF THE
GERMAN INHABITANTS
OF PENNSYLVANIA,

WRITTEN 1789,

BY

BENJAMIN RUSH, M. D.

NOTES ADDED

BY

PROF. I. DANIEL RUPP,

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PREFACE.

BENJAMIN RUSH, M. D., the *Author of the Account of the Manners of the German Inhabitants, of Pennsylvania*, was a native of Pennsylvania, born December 24, 1745, at Bristol, Bucks County. He was educated at Princeton College, N. J. Studied Medicine in Philadelphia, London, Edinburg and Paris. In 1769, was made Professor of Chemistry, in the Philadelphia Medical College, and became a contributor to Medical Literature. He was elected a member of the Continental Congress; he advocated and signed the Declaration of Independence. In 1777, he was appointed Surgeon-general and Physician-general, of the Continental army. His duties did not prevent him from writing a series of letters on the Constitution of Pennsylvania, which was changed by his influence. He resigned his post in the army, because he could not prevent frauds upon soldiers in the hospital stores.

In 1785, he planned the Philadelphia Dispensary, the first in the United States; and was a member of the convention, which ratified the Federal Constitution. Retiring from politics, he

became Professor of the Theory and Practice of Medicine, in Philadelphia Medical College; and was so successful in the treatment of yellow fever, 1793, that he was believed to have saved the lives of 6,000 persons. His practice, in consequence, became so large that he prescribed for one hundred patients a day, whom he saw, even at his meals. His Medical works produced honors from several European Sovereigns. In 1799, he was appointed Treasurer of the United States Mint, which post he held until his death, in Philadelphia, April 19, 1813.

He was one of the greatest and best men that have adorned his country. Few men have been greater ornaments to their country than *Dr Rush*; and, very few, indeed, had acquired a greater reputation, both at home and abroad. He was a beneficent philanthropist and an exemplary christian. *Thatcher's Med. Biog.*, *Chamber's Ency. Davenport*.

AN ACCOUNT
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MANNERS OF THE GERMAN INHABITANTS
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THE State of Pennsylvania is so much indebted for her prosperity and reputation, to the *German* part of her citizens,* that a short *Account* of

* Governor George Thomas, of the Province of Pennsylvania, wrote to the Bishop of Exeter, England, April 23, 1747. "The Germans of Pennsylvania, are, I believe, *three-fifths* of the whole population, (*whole population*, 200,000). They have, by their industry, been the principal instruments of raising the state to its present flourishing condition, beyond any of his Majesty's Colonies, in North America."

Papers relating to the History of the Episcopal Church, in Pennsylvania, by W. S. Perry, D. D., p. 265.

Pennsylvania took the lead of all the colonial states in agriculture, because of the many German settlers. In 1751, there were exported 86,000 bushels of wheat, 129,960 barrels of flour, 90,743 bushels of Indian corn. The total exports of 1751, exceeded in value, one million of dollars. I. D. R.

their *Manners* may, perhaps, be useful and agreeable to their fellow citizens in every part of the United States.

The aged Germans, and the ancestors of those who are young, emigrated chiefly from the Palatinate, from Alsace, Swabia, Saxony and Switzerland: but natives of every principality and dukedom of Germany, are to be found in different parts of the state.* They brought but little property with them.† A few pieces of silver

* In the *Ship Lists*, the name *Palatines*, is indiscriminately applied to all imported Germans into Pennsylvania, prior to 1741; afterwards, they are designated, *Foreigners*, inhabitants of the *Palatinate*, and places adjacent; *Wittembergers*, from Erbach, foreigners from *Wittemberg*, *Alsace*, and *Zweibruecken*: from *Nassau*, *Hanau*, *Darmstadt*, *Alsations*, *Eisenberg*, *Basel*, *Swabia*, *Mannheim*, *Durlach*, *Rittenheim*: inhabitants of *Lorraine*, *Mentz*, *Franconia*, *Hesse*, *Hamburg*, *Saxony*. After 1754, principalities, the dukedoms, districts, places or towns, are not designated in the *Ship Lists*.

† Many who at home, had owned property, and converted it into money, were robbed in transitu, by ship owners, importers, sea captains, and Neulander. The emigrants chests, with their clothes, and sometimes their money, were put on other vessels or ships, and left behind. These chests were rifled of their contents. The