

ELEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SECRETARY

OF THE

Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland,

Mr. President and Gentlemen:

As "everything has its two sides," so this Eleventh Annual Report of your Secretary will have its encouraging as well as its discouraging feature.

And as it is generally considered more wise to seize upon any discouraging feature in the path with a bold courage, permit me to call your attention, first in place, upon the discouraging feature that confronts us as we review the events of the past year. It lies — in the decreasing number of our active members.

Entering upon the year closing, the first in the second decade of our existence, with sixty-three active members upon our list, we number at its close, inclusively of the gentlemen elected at this meeting, only fifty-nine, showing an actual loss of four members.

The total loss in our membership during the year, however, was nine. Of these, five were dropped from our list for non-payment of dues; Messrs. F. Gardner, Rev. P. A. Menzel and Dr. B. C. Steiner resigned, whilst Mr. H. A. Schroeder was removed from our midst by death, which occurred October 31st, 1896.

IV

Five new members were received during the same period.

Whilst your Secretary ventures to call this loss in membership the discouraging feature of the year expiring, it is his opinion, that the cause of this decrease in numbers, does not lie in a waning interest on the part of the Community, but rather on our part in a lack of effort in securing new members and thus increasing our number.

This lack of effort, however, I am quite sure, is explained, not so much by a want of interest on the part of the members, but rather by a commendable zeal and care as to the character of this body.

Your Secretary is convinced, that by a little personal effort on the part of the members, our number can be easily doubled, add he expresses the hope, that such may be the case at the close of the year, upon which we are about entering.

Such an increase of membership is all the more desirable in view of the greater demands made upon our treasury.

And this brings me to

THE ENCOURAGING FEATURE
of our affairs.

The Annual Report,, about to be distributed, will be one of the most important publications ever issued by this Society, both in regard to its size, as well as in regard to its contents. Some very interesting papers of original research will be published in this Report, whilst others of even larger extent and of no less interesting character are already in view.

THE ORIGINAL ARTICLES
read at our meetings during the year, were:

1. *"The Early Settlements of Germans in Maryland,"* by Mr. E. T. Schultz.
2. *"The German Turner Lyric,"* by Prof. M. D. Learned, Ph.D.
3. *"History of the Germans in Virginia"* by Mr. Herrmann Schuricht.

The last two have become the property of the Society. The former will appear in our Report, about to be issued; the latter, which has thus far been but partially read, will, very likely, appear in our next Report. A number of other articles were read and brought to the notice of the Society at their meetings, but they were not of an original character.

The Society adopted during the year

A MEMBERSHIP-CERTIFICATE

of a very neat and becoming character, designed by one of our own members, viz: Prof. O. Fuchs.

The meetings of the year were regularly held at their appointed time and place, and

OUR LIBRARY

enriched by a number of valuable books and pamphlets, both by donation and by purchase.

THE DONORS,

who thus kindly remembered us, are:

1. Historische Gesellschaft des Künstler-Vereins von Bremen.
2. Bureau of Education, Washington, D. C.
3. The Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore.
4. Yonkers Historical and Library Association, N. Y.
5. The Leland Stanford, Jr., University, Cal.
6. Drew Theological Seminary.
7. The Pennsylvania German Society.
8. The Oneida Historical Society, Utica, N. Y.
9. Proprietor of Baltimore Correspondent.
10. Proprietor of Baltimore Journal.
11. Proprietor of Baltimore Sun.
12. Mrs. S. Trowbridge of Baltimore, Md.
13. Mr. L. P. Hennighausen.
14. Mr. E. T. Schultz.
15. Rev. P. Anstadt, D.D., of York, Pa.

16. Rev. B. Sadtler, D.D.
17. Mr. Moritz Sonner of Baltimore, Md.
18. Mr. Morton L. Montgomery of Reading, Pa.
19. Mr. Chas. Hennighausen of Richmond, Va.
20. Prof. H. Froehlicher.
21. Mr. L. C. Schneidereith.

Respectfully submitted,

F. PH. HENNIGHAUSEN, Secretary.

BALTIMORE, MD., February 22d, 1897.