
Memoranda

IN REFERENCE TO

Early German Emigration

TO

MARYLAND.

MEMORANDA IN REFERENCE TO EARLY
GERMAN EMIGRATION TO MARYLAND.

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ANNAPOLIS, October 6th 1890.

Louis P. Hennighausen, Esq.

Dear Sir:

It gives me pleasure to send you the data in reference to the claim of Christopher Bartholomew Mayer as a pioneer in the German Emigration to Maryland. He was the son of a Lutheran clergyman of Durlach, who was also Diaconus or Chiefmaster at Pfortzheim and other places, and was born at Carlsruhe in 1702. With his wife, two sons and two daughters in 1752 he emigrated to America, having previously in 1751 resigned his office of Notary and his citizenship of the "Free Imperial City of Ulm" in Suabia and removed with his family to the Hague in Holland.

" So great was the esteem in which he and his family were held by the Ulmers that the city Authorities had a certificate in Latin fairly engrossed and sent after him to Holland, reserving to the emigrant and his children the right of citizenship should he or they at any time return to Ulm."

That Maryland was not his destination when he left Ulm is evident from a statement in Weyermann's "Nachrichten von Ulmischen Gelehrten und Künstlern " that " he went away with his wife and children to Ebenezer in Georgia, and that on the 11th of June of the year in which he departed no less than seventeen persons followed him from Ulm."

At this time religious persecutions had driven great numbers of Germans from their homes and many found a refuge in the Lutheran settlement in Georgia in response to the generous inducements of Gen'l Oglethorpe and it was with the purpose of joining others of his faith in Georgia that he left Ulm, but from unexplained circumstances he was detained a year in Holland and, it is presumed, subsequently, went to England and sailed from Cowes for Maryland in the ship "Patience," Captain Hugh Steel, arriving in Annapolis on the 4th of October 1752. The change in his destination may have been due to the marriage of his daughter during their detention in Holland to the Rev. Bernard Michael Houseal an energetic young clergyman of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and a subsequently staunch adherent of the English Crown.

In the Letter book of Cæcilius Calvert, Secretary and acting Proprietary of Maryland during the Minority of Frederick, sixth Lord Baltimore, preserved in the recently recovered "Calvert papers" in the Maryland Historical Society, we find the following:—

"The Honble. Cæcilius Calvert Esqr. His Lordship's Secretary of Maryland to the Honble. Benjamin Tasker Esqr., first in the council of State there recommending Mr. Christopher Bartholomew Mayer to Civilitys on his arrival in Maryland."

LONDON, July the 9th 1752.

"Sir,

The bearer Mr. Christopher Bartholems Mayer a Gentleman from Germany inclining to visit the Province of Maryland, I am desired to give him a Line to you on his Arrival.

Please therefore to show him all Civilitys and make the Province agreeable to him during his stay. He wants no credit; But it is fitt he should be introduced by a proper notice being taken of him on such a occasion, I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

CÆCILIUS CALVERT."

By a strange coincidence the house whence I write and which I call the "Mayer's Nest" was owned by "Benjamin

Tasker Esq." from 1720 and it is not impossible that Christopher Bartholomew presented his letter on the same spot where I now write of him.

In the letter book on the following page and of the same date similarly addressed to Benjamin Tasker, Esquire, is a letter "for assisting the Palatines embarked for Maryland on board the ship "Patience," Captain Steele, on their arrival there."

LONDON, July the 9th 1752.

"Sir,

By the ship "Patience," Captain Steel, a number of Palatines are embarked for Maryland to settle there, which being notified to me, and a Recommendation to you desired of me, in favour of Messieurs F. & R. Snowdens & D. Wolstenholme, to whose care they are consigned and recommended.

I therefore desire you will give such necessary Assistance to these People on their Arrival, to forward them to Manockesy (which I understand is in Frederick County) or where else they shall want to go to settle within the Province, as in your Power, and that they may be accomodated in a proper manner; But the charges attending any such service to them must be done in the most moderate manner in respect to the Proprietor and to answer their requisites necessary to their service. The increase of People being always welcome, your prudence would have supplied this Letter in a kind Reception of them; nevertheless as particular occasions may require your Favour I conclude my recommendation of them, in giving them all possible satisfaction relating to the manner and Place they shall choose to settle in Maryland — I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

CÆCILIOUS CALVERT."

Some years ago it was my good fortune to save from the paper mill two parchment bound volumes entitled "Records of Arrivals and Clearances at the port of Annapolis" commencing 1748. — They are now in the Loganian Library, Philadelphia.

From these "Entries for Christmas Quarter to 1st Jan. 1753" we copy:

Oct. 4th 1752 — Ship "Patience," Hugh Steel, Master, 200 tons, 8 guns, 16 men —
 package 11 chests, 1 trunk Baggage of cloaths as per
 Cocket — From whence — Cowes. —

Dec. 23th 1752 — *Cleared from Annapolis.*

Ship „Patience," Hugh Steel, Master, built in New England 1746, registered at Cowes 23th July 1748, Owners John Brown and Jo. Stedman — Cargo — 266 hhds. Tobacco, 32 tons Iron, 4581 Staves, 1 cask seeds, 12 casks Jensing and other roots — bound for London.

So much for the ship „Patience;" of the arrival of "Palatine Passengers" as the Germans were all known as "Palatines" we have no mention except in connection with their baggage. — So in "1752 Sept. 18th, Ship "Integrity," Jo. Coward, Master, 150 tons, 6 guns and 14 men," brought "the baggage of 150 Palatine Passengers" from Cowes.

Sept. 19th 1753 — Ship "Barclay," J. Brown, Master, 120 tons, 12 men — baggage of 160 "Palatines."

Novr. 8th 1753 — Ship "Friendship," baggage of 300 "Palatine Passengers."

Jan. 16th 1755 — Ship "Friendship," baggage of 450 "Palatine Passengers."

Previous to the arrival of the ship "Integrity," the 18th Sepr. 1752, she having preceded the ship "Patience" or out-sailed her, we have no mention of the arrival of "Palatines."

It is therefore to be inferred that the two ships conveyed the nucleus of the German settlements on the Monocacy and at Frederick Town.

It is supposed that land was purchased of Danl. Dulany and of the Proprietary for the colonists and thither went Mayer and Houseal. The latter became pastor of the First Lutheran church in Frederick and subsequently went to New York, on the outbreak of the Revolution espousing the Royalist cause and finally removing to Halifax, "where he died aged 71, his children having formed English alliances of distinction."— His widow attained the age of 91 years and lies in Plymouth church yard. — Christopher Bartholomew Mayer died six

months after his settlement at Frederick and his family removed to Lancaster and York Penna. where their descendants reside. From the letters quoted he held, it seems, a prominent position with the emigrants and with his son-in-law divided the civil and religious guidance of the colonists. — He was a cousin of Christian Mayer who emigrated to Baltimore in 1784, the first president of the German Society, Consul General of Wurtemberg etc. — In the person of Mr. Charles F. Mayer, president of the Baltimore & Ohio R. R, the two branches of the family are united, his father as the son of Christian and his mother a descendant of Christopher Bartholemew.

From the "entries" at Annapolis it appears that from 1752 to 1755, 1060 emigrant Germans arrived. — In 1752 150, in 1753 460 and in 1755 450. — Of subsequent arrivals I found no records though a more careful examination may discover some. It is possible that for some cause the bulk of the passengers in 1752 took the "Integrity" instead of the "Patience" as stated by Secretary Calvert. I have given the return cargo of the "Patience" as showing the character of the trade of that day with Maryland.

An investigation of the early records of the Lutheran church at Frederick would probably give the names of some of these first emigrants. For more detailed account of the Ebenezer movement and the lives of Messrs. Mayer and Houseal I refer you to the Memoir of Brantz Mayer in possession of the German Historical Society to whom if these memoranda be of any interest I beg respectfully their acceptance.

Believe me, Sir, very truly yours,

FRANCIS B. MAYER.

