

GENERAL VON STEUBEN IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

The title of this article is, of course, meant to be ironic. The city of Washington, D.C. was, in fact, established in 1800, some five years after Steuben's death. Implicit, however, is the idea that the name Steuben did exert a major symbolic influence in the city until the outbreak of World War I. Physically, Steuben's influence is demonstrated by the fact that there have been two public monuments to Steuben in the city as well as a bust in the Pentagon, although the bust is not generally accessible to visitors.

Steuben's name as well as his fame frequently served the local German-American community as a rallying point. He became an icon for Americans of German descent, particularly in the Washington area. Many hoped that Steuben's military success as a commander of troops, his capability in drilling and organizing the American Revolutionary Army, as well as his national popularity generally would somehow redound to the benefit of all German-American immigrants. They felt that by identifying with the Steuben name they could counterbalance anti-immigrant and anti-German sentiment within the country. The Germanic heritage they shared with Steuben would reflect well on them as well.

Beginning in the 1850s, German-American groups in Washington sponsored Steuben festivals to capitalize on the good will many felt for Steuben himself. The events became popular summer activities for the entire community. The festivals were also an occasion to raise money to erect statues in honor of General von Steuben, at first for other cities and later for Washington

itself. This article will describe how the name Steuben was used as an heroic symbol by the German-American community in Washington for most of the nineteenth century and then trace the history of the two major statues erected in the general's honor.

GENERAL VON STEUBEN VISITS MOUNT VERNON

The contention that Steuben was never in Washington, while technically correct, does not tell the whole story. Steuben was, in fact, in the immediate Washington area at least once prior to the actual founding of the city. On 3 November 1780, Baron von Steuben and General Nathaniel Greene, both then serving on General Washington's staff, departed from Philadelphia and headed south to begin the American campaign against the British forces under Lord Cornwallis in Virginia and the Carolinas. By November 12th, the two generals reached Mount Vernon, the plantation home of General George Washington near Alexandria, Virginia. There they were graciously received by Mrs. Martha Washington, who put up them for the night. In reaching Mount Vernon, which is just a short distance from the eventual border between Virginia and District of Columbia, Steuben is likely to have ridden across land that was to become the national capital.

Afterwards, Gen. Greene wrote a polite thank-you letter to General Washington saying: "Mount Vernon is one of the pleasantest places I ever saw ...Baron Steuben is delighted with the place and charmed with the reception we met with."¹ However, Greene's description was apparently somewhat exaggerated, because

Steuben wrote to his aide, Duponceau, that he was charmed by Martha Washington's hospitality and he revered General Washington greatly, but that the Mount Vernon mansion itself did not meet his taste, concluding that if "General Washington were not a better General than he was an architect, the affairs of America would be in a very bad condition."²

STEUBEN AS A SOLDIER AND A PERSON

It was not only the general's success as a professional soldier and organizer of armies but also his character which ultimately caused the name Steuben to become an important symbol for German-Americans in the nineteenth century. Steuben was first and foremost a professional soldier and diplomat. A soldier like his father before him, he was trained as a staff officer under the harsh discipline of King Frederick the Great and was considered a courageous and resourceful soldier in several engagements during the Seven Years War. The harshness and brutality of military life during this period is well illustrated by the story of Frederick the Great and Captain Zieten.

At one point during the campaign in Silesia, Frederick gave orders one day that all fires and lights were to be extinguished in his camp by a certain hour. To make certain that his order was obeyed the King himself made an inspection of the camp. As he passed by the tent of Captain Zieten, Frederick noticed the glimmer of a candle and upon entering found the officer sealing a letter to his wife. Frederick demanded to know what Zieten thought he was doing and asked if he did not know of the orders for lights out. The captain threw himself at the king's feet, unable to deny or excuse his disobedience. Frederick instructed him to sit down and add a postscript to the letter, which Frederick himself dictated: "Tomor-

row I shall perish on the scaffold." Zieten wrote what he was told and was duly executed the following day.³

The brutality demonstrated by King Frederick was not part of von Steuben's character, but he was always a proud and professional soldier. As an officer and commander, Steuben could be severe and berate his subordinates in very stern fashion, even if his words came out in a rather comical jumble of German, French, and English. Steuben the inner man was, however, friendly and generous. Almost everyone with whom he came in contact admired him. His greatest weakness was his inability to manage what little money he had. In this regard he was apparently hopeless.

Washington's admiring farewell letter to Steuben is well known. It was significant that Washington wrote his letter of generous praise as the very last action he took as commander-in-chief of the American army. The salutation, "My dear Baron," was unusually warm for the cool and dignified Washington, who hardly ever used such intimate phraseology in public correspondence.⁴

More striking yet was the admiration Steuben evoked from his troops. As he was leaving the army in the summer of 1783, the officers of two New York regiments got together and penned him their own farewell letter which read:

... permit us, the Officers of the two New York Regiments of Infantry to express our feelings towards you on this occasion. The essential and distinguished services you have rendered this Country, must inspire the breast of every Citizen of America with sentiments of gratitude & esteem, but we, Sir, feel sentiments of another nature. Your unremitting exertions on all occasions to alleviate the distresses of the Army—and the manner in which you have

shared them with us, have given you more than a common title to the character of our Friend—as our Military parent we have long considered you. —Ignorant as we were of the profession we had undertaken, it is to your Abilites & unwearied assiduity we are indebted for that Military Reputation we finally attained. We therefore feel ourselves bound to you by the strongest ties of affection, and we now take leave of you with that regret, which such sentiments must occasion.

Wishing you long to enjoy in health and happiness, those rewards which your services have merited & which a grateful people cannot fail to bestow, we have the honor to remain.

Sir,

Your most Obedt. and Very humble servants⁵

POST-REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD

Steuben embodied the ideal of the war hero and was known nationally as the "drillmaster" of the Revolutionary War, but it was in the 1850s that his name took on special significance for his fellow German-Americans. Growing anti-immigrant sentiment, sometimes referred to as "nativism," became powerful, and at times there were outbreaks of violence toward immigrants. It was this threat which turned German-American attention once again to Steuben, the national hero.

Nativism was a political movement which opposed and feared the large influx of Roman Catholic immigrants from Germany and Ireland. Some Americans, especially those who were well-to-do, viewed the immigrants as a threat to traditional American culture and its unique political system. A political party was formed to combat the perceived threat from immigrants. Officially the party was known as

"The American Party," but it was popularly known as the "Know-Nothings." Its main political ideology was "nativism," or America for Americans, and one of its primary goals was the enactment of tougher anti-immigrant legislation. The Know-Nothings achieved considerable success in a few local and state elections in the 1850s, but had little success nationally. Both Baltimore and Washington, D.C. elected Know-Nothing mayors and councilmen in the 1856 municipal elections.

The outspokenness of some radical German political refugees from the failed revolution of 1848 played into the anti-German sentiment in America. For example, the German Democratic Association, composed largely of so-called Forty-Eighters, loudly supported rather extreme views, such as the abolition of the American presidency, the right of the people to change the Constitution as they pleased, and universal suffrage, to name a few of its milder proposals. Additionally, some among the Forty-Eighters made no effort to Americanize themselves because they expected the imminent overthrow of the reactionary German state governments and their own quick return to the Fatherland. The most arrogant felt that all America should be Germanized.⁶ Such views, however, were not representative of most Germans, nor of most Washington Germans.

Nevertheless, Washington's German and Irish immigrants suffered verbal and physical attacks at the hands of Know-Nothing thugs. In 1854, a gang attack on the crowd at the Washington *Sängerbund* picnic resulted in several serious injuries to the peaceful German picnickers. The high point of the Know-Nothing aggression came during Washington's mayoral election in 1857. At that time Washington and neighboring

Baltimore were home to several gangs of violent rowdies. These gangs were sometimes hired to cause trouble at the polling stations during elections.

Baltimore had by far the more notorious gangs, many with colorful names. One of the Baltimore gangs, the Plug Uglies, was hired by the Know-Nothings to come to Washington on Election Day to intimidate Irish and German voters. Arriving by train from Baltimore, the Plug Uglies bullied their way to the second ward polling station at the Northern Liberties Market (present-day Mt. Vernon Square) and began pushing and using shoemaker's awls to stab several "foreign-looking" citizens lined up to vote. A riot ensued, and election officials closed the polls. Mayor Magruder of Washington rushed to the White House to ask President Buchanan for help in restoring order. The President obligingly ordered out the U.S. Marines, who promptly marched up Seventh St., N.W., at the double. Shots were fired on both sides, but the Plug-Uglies were no match for the marines; order was restored, and the election proceeded. The result of this incident was several deaths and serious injuries to innocent voters and bystanders, including a few Germans.

In the face of the common threat Washington Germans closed ranks as seldom before. German organizations such as the *Turner*, the volunteer militia companies, the singing groups, and the German-language churches grew stronger and more popular. A specific response was for organizations to jointly sponsor social events, which were popular and well attended by local German-Americans. It was at this time that the first Steuben Festivals were started. These events, while often open to all, specifically served to weld the German community together. The added attraction

was that the festivals were fun and popular with the general public as well.

Baltimore also held activities to promote cohesion in the German-American community. Commenting on a Steuben Festival in Baltimore, Dieter Cunz, the eminent German-American historian wrote:

It was seldom possible to unite all these divergent groups so that they could appear together ...The Steuben celebration of 1858 was such an occasion. It was hoped that by forcefully drawing the attention of the public to General Steuben, who immediately after his arrival in America reorganized the American army and then rendered valuable assistance to the birth of the young nation, the nativists and Know Nothings, who were trying to hinder immigration and naturalization, could be made ridiculous. All the Germans were united in the battle against the KnowNothings.⁷

THE STEUBEN FESTIVALS OF THE 1850s

There were two large German-American festivals in the 1850s, both of them honoring von Steuben. Detailed accounts were carried in the local newspapers. The second Steuben Festival on 19-20 September 1859 was the more dramatic. Severe weather hit the city with full force just before the scheduled event. Heavy rain brought flooding along the banks of the usually peaceful Potomac. The Festival was to be held at Arlington (aka Custis) Springs (now Arlington National Cemetery) on the Virginia side of the river, but the main route to the Festival over the Long Bridge (near today's Fourteenth St. Bridge) between the District of Columbia and the Virginia shore was under water and impassible.

The big question for the festival organizers was how to get participants to the event. Because the Steuben Festival two

years before had been such a great success, large crowds were anticipated—and not just from the local German-American community. The Steuben Association together with local German-American organizations, including the marching bands, the singing societies, the *Turner*, and the Yaeger (Jäger) Militia Company, organized the festivities. As with the very popular *Oktoberfest* celebrations of today, the organizers anticipated that many Americans with no particular German heritage would also attend and enjoy the fun, dancing, contests, and feasting which formed an integral part of the event.

One possible solution suggested was to hire boats in Georgetown, then a Washington suburb, to ferry the crowds across the turbulent waters. Due to the unexpectedness of the storm, however, no boats had been booked ahead of time, and none was available. Indeed, the roiling water in the river would have meant an extremely risky crossing, and the relatively few boats available even in the best of times could not in any case have easily accommodated the large crowds of eager passengers.

The only solution was to walk from Georgetown to Arlington over the old Aqueduct (near the present-day Key Bridge between Georgetown and Rosslyn). The Aqueduct was essentially an enlarged footpath alongside the pipeline bringing drinking water from Virginia to the District. As a result, on a fine sunny day in Washington, hundreds of people set out from their homes on foot, crossed the Aqueduct, and marched a mile further back along the Virginia shore before reaching the Arlington festival grounds. Because of the crowds, progress was slow, but hundreds of citizens were determined to attend and enjoy the Steuben Festival.

What was the festival like? The local newspapers gave glowing accounts. It all started with a big parade. When the signal gun was fired early on Saturday morning, the long procession of marchers started off from the City Hall (near present-day Judiciary Square) and made their way to the Aqueduct Bridge. The various divisions of marchers were led by Wither's, Wagner's and Schroeder's Bands, three very popular and well-known German-American marching bands. The route of march was down Third Street, N.W., westward along the Avenue (as Pennsylvania Avenue was then called), past the "President's House" (now the White House), around Lafayette Square (where the Steuben Monument was later erected), and finally further along the Avenue to Georgetown and the Aqueduct. Large crowds watched the parade and then fell in behind the marchers for the trek to Arlington.

On the festival grounds, the activities were numerous. The younger set and the adept of foot headed for the dance pavilion where Fisher's string band held sway. *The Washington Star* reported that the dancers' quick feet were busily employed during the day in treading the intricate mysteries of the waltz. In back of the pavilion was a speaker's rostrum decorated by draperies, which were festooned with picturesque medallions. To the right was a large painting of General Steuben and to the left one of Benjamin Franklin. Over the rostrum hung the flags of the organizations sponsoring the festival. Mr. Eberly, president of the Steuben Association, addressed the crowd in German and then in English, congratulating one and all on their successful efforts in organizing a festival to celebrate the life and accomplishments of General von Steuben.

Following the speeches, the *Washington Star* reported that:

the company then dispersed through the grounds to enjoy themselves during the succeeding hour in the thousand diversified amusements provided, for which our Teutonic fellow-citizens are so justly celebrated, delightful vocal and instrumental music from the singing societies and the several bands forming a prominent ingredient. At one o'clock, the Turners marched with their band to a site on the grounds where targets had been set up for a crossbowshooting contest. The athletes among the Turners then performed gymnastic exercises to loud applause. One of the hits of the day was the greased poleclimbing contest and it was noted that no one got more than half way up the pole.⁸

Another popular contest was the cock-striking competition. In this event a rooster was placed on the top of a barrel and covered by a basket. Contestants were blindfolded, spun around several times, and sent off with a stick to try to knock the basket off the barrel. Anyone who hit the basket, with only one swing being allowed, got the rooster as a prize. Amid much laughter at the many contestants who tried and failed to find the mark, three contestants did manage to topple the basket and win a rooster.

There are several reasons why a Steuben festival attracted visitors in such numbers. For German-Americans it was a chance to meet and greet their fellow ethnic friends and relations. There was an element of showing off as well as of pride. They gathered to celebrate an authentic German-American hero, General Baron von Steuben, who was recognized as such by everybody from George Washington on down. For the attendees as a whole, the festival was a joyful occasion for parents and children alike,

where *Gemütlichkeit* was pervasive and enjoyment the order of the day.

Toward evening, tired but satisfied and happy with the fine outing, the crowds wandered back across the Aqueduct and walked home. As the *Evening Star* reported it: "During the entire day the utmost good feeling prevailed inside the grounds, and at early nightfall the procession formed in line, and proceeded homewards in good order."⁹ What else would one expect from a German crowd?

THE STEUBEN MONUMENT OF 1870

The Civil War of 1861-1865 and the turbulence of Reconstruction brought an end to the earlier form of Steuben festivals, but German-American gatherings continued in local beer gardens and at popular picnic spots around the District. One of the most popular spots was the *Schützenverein* Park on Seventh St., N.W., in Washington. The Steuben Memorial Committee, which had collected money for a statue of Steuben at the earlier festivals continued its fundraising. After many years of fundraising by the Committee enough money had been collected to erect a monument consisting of a large stone block surmounted by a larger-than-life-size bust of General von Steuben. The dedication ceremony was scheduled to be held during the *Schützenverein's* Grand May Festival on 16-17 May 1870 on the grounds of the *Schützenverein* Park. *The Evening Star* excitedly anticipated the event:

The Steuben Monument—The corner stone laying on Monday next at 4 o'clock our German citizens will lay in the Schützen Park the corner stone of the monument to the memory of Baron Steuben, a distinguished volunteer officer in the Revolutionary War. The monument is being cut by Mr. Jacques Jouvenal of this city and

will be surmounted by a bust of Steuben two and a half feet in height while on the panels of the pedestal will be appropriate inscriptions. The Grand Lodge of Masons will lay the corner stone and the Saengerbund will sing appropriate pieces, while the Marine Band will perform suitable selections of music. The President, the Cabinet officers, General Sherman, Vice Admiral Porter, Baron von Gerolt, the American Ministers, both Houses of Congress, and distinguished personages have been invited and will attend. Senator Schurz of Missouri and Rep. Mr. Degener will speak in German, and in English. As General Steuben has rendered valuable aid to the American people in the War of the Revolution. It is to be hoped that all will turn out to honor his memory.¹⁰

The day began with a salute fired in the *Schützen* Park at 9 a.m. followed by a parade, which began at the Victoria Hotel on Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W, The U.S. Marine Band led the procession followed by well over 100 members of the *Schützenverein*. The route of march was a long one and it wasn't until 1:30 in the afternoon that the parade arrived at the park. *Schützen* President Vogt gave a short speech of welcome followed by lunch. Target firing commenced immediately afterwards as well as ten-pin bowling and other amusements. The Marine Band played concert music, and a good string orchestra performed in the pavilion. The German singing societies also performed.

President Grant, accompanied by General Horace Porter, arrived on the grounds at 4 p.m. and was greeted by the Reception Committee while the Marine Band played "Hail to the Chief;" and a twenty-one-gun salute was fired. The President, the Cabinet members, General William T. Sherman, several Senators and

Congressmen, the German Ambassador, Baron Gerolt, and the other distinguished guests were served an "elegant collation."

After lunch Mr. Anton Eberly, president of the Steuben Association, made remarks in German and English honoring the service and the memory of Baron Steuben and related the many difficulties and delays over the years in completing the project to erect a statue in his honor. The tenacity of many German-Americans over the years had now come to a successful conclusion, and the monument was finally ready for dedication. Eberly emphasized that Baron von Steuben was not only an illustrious American patriot and hero in the War for Independence, but also a respected hero and role model for all German-Americans.

As was often the custom in those days, the corner stone of the monument was laid in a ceremony conducted by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Washington D.C. The main speaker for the occasion was the newly-elected and famous German-American, Senator Carl Schurz of Missouri, who gave a stirring address in German. He pointed to the paradox that troops trained by von Steuben had fought against the German Hessian mercenary troops serving in the British army. Schurz deprecated the fact that the feudal German rulers had in effect sold the Hessians to King George, and added that that this was in stark contrast to the volunteer service of Baron Steuben in the American Revolution and very different from the many willing militia and regular soldiers of German-American background who served in the Union Army during the Civil War.

Despite the enthusiasm and ceremony surrounding the installation of the Steuben statue, the saga of the Steuben monument in Washington is finally a sad one. The monu-

ment stood in *Schützen* Park for twenty-three years. When the Park was closed in 1893, the monument was moved to the grounds of the German Orphan Home in Anacostia, a distant suburb in Southeast Washington. The memorial suffered a similar fate in 1966, when the old German Orphan Home was sold and a new orphan home constructed in a wooded area outside of Washington near Upper Marlboro, Maryland. The monument was relocated to an obscure spot adjacent to the new orphan home—neglected, scarcely visible, and in need of repair. In a further ironic repeat of history, the future of the Steuben monument is once again in question. The board of directors of the German Orphan Home sold the property in 2000, and the monument was moved to a private location, leaving the question of whether the statue will ever find a permanent home unresolved.

THE STEUBEN MONUMENT IN LAFAYETTE PARK

The final appearance of Baron Steuben as a symbol for German-Americans, both locally and nationally, occurred in the early part of the twentieth century. The event signaled a highpoint for German-Americans never again equaled. On 7 December 1910, a statue of Frederick William Augustus Henry Ferdinand, Baron von Steuben, Major General and Inspector General in the Continental Army, was unveiled in the northwest corner of Lafayette Park directly across from the White House in Washington, D.C. Several years before, Representative Richard Bartholdt of Missouri had spearheaded a drive in Congress to secure funds for a Steuben statue. On 27 February 1903, Congress finally voted an appropriation of \$50,000 to commission a monument and erect it in Lafayette Park.

The December dedication was carried out with great pomp and ceremony. Secretary of War, the Honorable Jacob Dickinson, presided. Kaiser Wilhelm II sent a large contingent from Germany, including some German troops. The German Ambassador, Count von Bernstorff, led the German delegation. A large group of American politicians and military leaders attended. German and American military units, including bands, and many local and national German-American organizations marched through the streets of Washington, viewed by the thousands of spectators who lined the route. President William Howard Taft gave the dedicatory address and the President's daughter, Miss Helen Taft, unveiled the monument. In his address, the President said:

When Baron Steuben came to this country he found Germans who had preceded him, and who, like him, had elected to make this their permanent home. Since his day millions of his countrymen have come to be Americans, and it adds great interest to our celebration and emphasizes the propriety of the action of Congress in erecting this statue to know that the German race since the Revolution has made so large a part of our population and played so prominent a part in the great growth and development of our country... The Germans who have become American citizens and their descendants may well take pride in this occasion and in this work of art, modeled by the hand of an American of German descent (Albert Jaegers), which commemorates the valued contribution made by a German soldier to the cause of American freedom at the time of its birth.¹¹

German-Americans celebrated the occasion in great numbers and were actively involved in the planning of the day's events. Both vis-

iting and local German American organizations took active roles. A mounted escort made up of the officers and delegates of German-American societies accompanied Grand Marshal Charles Schwegler of the U.S. Volunteers to lead the parade. Schwegler and his escort were followed by German-American Civil War units of the Grand Army of the Republic, the American Legion of the day. Other units of the parade included: veterans of the Steuben Regiment (Seventh New York Volunteers), the National Association of German Veterans and Warrior Societies of North America, the Northeastern Singers' Association, the Turner Societies of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia; and the Virginia and West Virginia State associations of German-American societies.

In the evening, four large banquets were held to celebrate the day and to toast Baron von Steuben. At the Willard Hotel, some five hundred guests heard from Ambassador von Bernstorff and Dr. Charles Hexamer, president of the National German-American Alliance. Members of the Society of the Cincinnati,¹² which Steuben had helped found, met at the Army and Navy Club. The Washington *Kriegerbund* hosted a banquet for visiting *Kriegerbund* members and other veterans' groups from several cities along the Eastern seaboard. Last, but not least, there was a *Kommers*—a tribute in song typical of many Turner events—hosted by the *Turnverein* of the District of Columbia at the National Rifles' Armory for hundreds of visiting Turners from all over the country.

The ceremonies all in all were impressive, probably the high tide of acceptance and recognition for German-Americans by the city of Washington and by the country as

a whole. While it was not the first time that a President, the Cabinet, and other high officers of the country all attended and helped celebrate a German-American event in the city, it was certainly the last time. A few short years later, the outbreak of World War I, and a generation after that, the horror of World War II, practically eliminated German-Americans from prominence in national public life, a position from which they have yet to recover.

CONCLUSIONS

General Baron von Steuben was vital to the emergence of an effective American fighting force. Without his organizing ability, it would have been very difficult to achieve victory in the War of American Independence. Steuben's importance was recognized nationally by erecting monuments and memorials around the country. Washington D.C. alone had two major statues plus a bust in the Pentagon. As a private citizen, von Steuben was a man known for generosity and warmth, one who inspired friendships. Among his close friends and supporters were such exalted names as George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and Alexander Hamilton. There were also those among the ordinary citizens, particularly soldiers who served under him, who named their children after him or changed their own names to Steuben in honor of a man they respected, loved, and admired.

German-Americans of an earlier era looked to Steuben in their time of need. His name was used in Washington over the course of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries as a heroic symbol around which German-Americans could rally and with which they could identify. During the difficult period of attack by the Know-Nothings, the Steuben Festivals served to build favorable public support for beleaguered Ger-

man-Americans. The events were popular with the general public and boosted German-American prestige. They also served as fundraisers to collect money to commission a statue.

During the Civil War, German-American militia units in Washington City and many German-Americans serving as soldiers in the Union Army brought further credit to local ethnic Germans. In recognition of this service as well as the positive and productive roles played by German-Americans in general, the nation's highest officials, including Presidents Grant and Taft, cabinet officers, Congressional leaders, together with other high officials, were willing to attend dedication ceremonies for Steuben monuments in the city. The dedication of the Steuben statue in Lafayette Park next to the White House was the high point because its symbolism went beyond the city

to have national as well as international implications.

The high tide for German-Americans in nineteenth- and early twentieth-century America was short-lived. The high spirits and goodwill of those days were quickly dampened by the two World Wars. The positive symbolism of Steuben proved powerless against the negative impact of those wars on Germans and German-Americans. The sad saga of the Steuben statue in *Schützen* Park seems to mirror the downward spiral of German-American prestige. Once the largest ethnic group in America—widely respected and admired—German-Americans are now possibly the least well-known major ethnic group and are struggling with little success to regain a visible place in current American society.

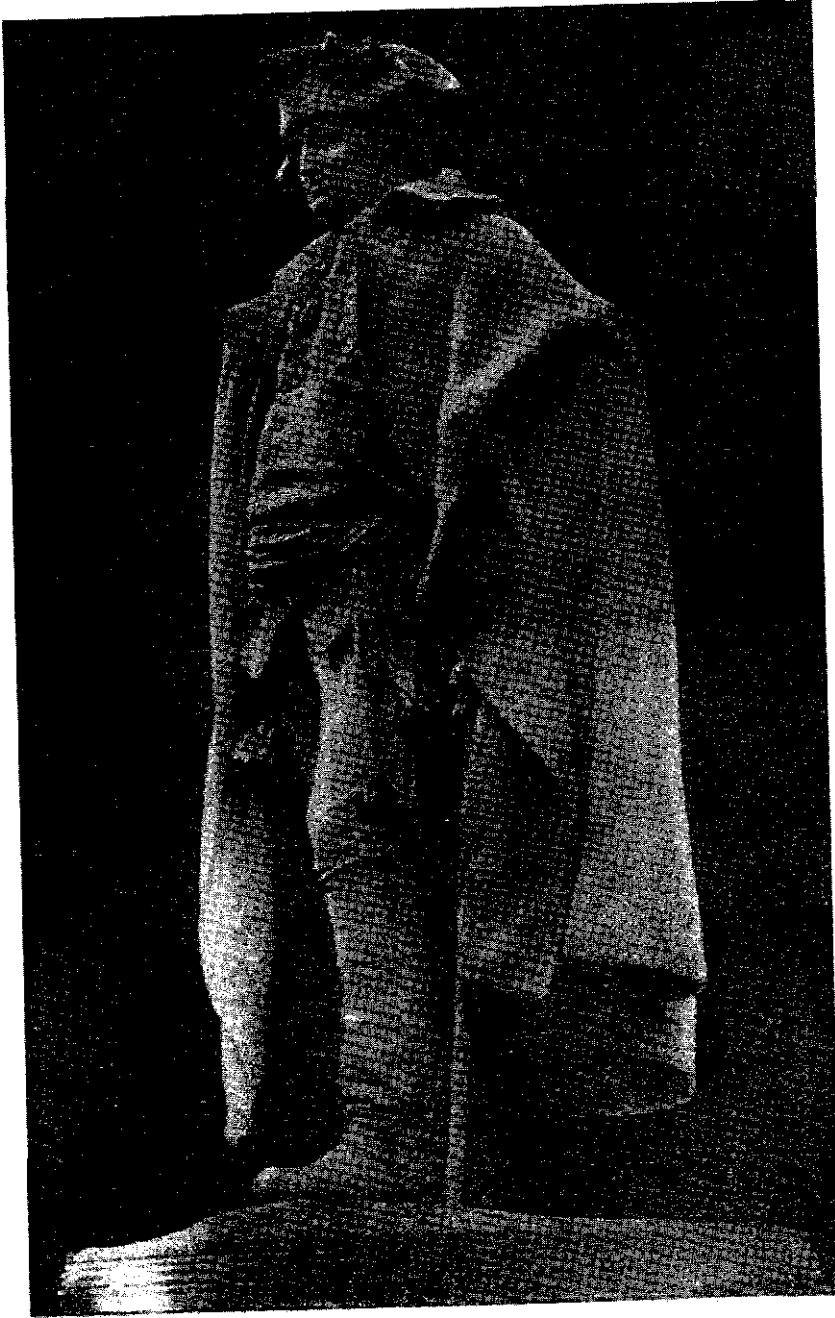
—Bradford W. Miller
Silver Spring, Maryland

Notes

- 1 John McAuley Palmer, *General Von Steuben*, (Port Washington: Kennikat, 1966) 238.
- 2 Palmer, 238.
- 3 Clifton Fadiman, ed. *The Little, Brown Book of Anecdotes* (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1985), 221.
- 4 Palmer, 315.
- 5 Palmer, 315.
- 6 Laurence F. Schmeckebier, *History of the Know Nothing Party in Maryland*, (Baltimore: Johns Hopkins UP, 1899) 47ff (Schmeckebier cites the arguments of T.S.Baker's "Lenau and Young Germany in America")
- 7 Dieter Cunz, *The Maryland Germans*, (Princeton: Princeton UP, 1948) 281-282.
- 8 *Evening Star*, 20 September 1859: 3.
- 9 *Evening Star*, 20 September 1859: 3.
- 10 *Evening Star*, 13 May 1870: 3.
- 11 *Proceedings Upon the Unveiling of the Statue of Baron von Steuben*, (Washington, DC, GPO, 1912) 49-51.
- 12 The following is quoted from the Society's website <<http://www.pasocietyofthecincinnati.org/Cinnweb/SOC/1-1-lmain.asp>>:

The General Society of the Cincinnati was founded in May, 1783, at the Verplank house, Fishkill, New York, by Continental Army officers who fought in the American Revolution. This was before the Treaty of Peace was signed and before the British evacuated New York. The Honorable Major General Baron von Steuben, being the senior officer, presided at the organizational meetings. Within 12 months, Constituent Societies were established in the 13 original states and in France under the auspices of the General Society of the Cincinnati. Of the 5,500 officers who were eligible to join, about 2,150 did so. George Washington was elected the first President General of the Society in December 1783 until his death in 1799. He was succeeded by Alexander Hamilton.

The Society is named for Lucius Quintus Cincinnatus, a Roman farmer of the Fifth Century B.C, who, like Washington, was called from his fields to lead his country's army in battle. Cincinnatus, as did Washington, returned from war a triumphant leader, declined honors, and went back to his farm. Washington, as did Cincinnatus, lived up to the Society's Motto: "He gave up everything to serve the republic."



General Baron von Steuben