

JONATHAN HAGAR,
THE FOUNDER OF HAGERSTOWN
BY
BASIL SOLLERS

DURING the first quarter of the eighteenth century, the Monocacy river was the extreme boundary of civilization in Maryland. Westward extended the original wilderness, utilized only by the Indians and the white trappers and hunters. When the first tracts of land in this region were patented, the patentees were thought to have committed great folly, since the land would not repay the purchase money and the quit rents for many generations. In this the wisecrates were wrong, however, since the population increased to such an extent in fifty years, that in 1776 a new county was formed composed entirely of what had been original wilderness in the first quarter of the century. The following very liberal proposals by Charles, Lord Baltimore, published March 2nd, 1732, probably set the current in motion.

"Wee, being desirous to increase the number of honest people within our province of Maryland and willing to give suitable encouragement to such to come and reside therein, do offer the following terms:

"1 st. That any person having it family, who shall within three years come and actually settle, with his or her family, on any of the back lands on the northern or western boundaries of our said province, not already taken up, between the rivers Potomack and Susquehanna, where, we are informed, there are several, large bodies of fertile lands, fit for tillage, which may be seen without any expence, two hundred acres of the said lands, in fee simple, without paying any part of the forty shillings sterling for every hundred acres, payable to us by the conditions of plantations, and without paying any

quit rents in three years after the first settlement, and then paying four shillings sterling for every hundred of acres, to us, or our heirs, for every year after the expiration of the said three years.

"2nd. To allow to each single person, male or female not above the age of thirty, and not under fifteen, one hundred acres of 'the said lands, upon the same terms as mentioned in the preceding article.

"3rd. That we will concur in any reasonable method that shall be proposed for the ease of such new-comers, in the payment of their taxes for some years ; and we doe assure all such that they shall be as well secured in their liberty and property, in Maryland, as any of his majesty's subjects in any part of the British plantations, in America, without exception; and to the end all persons desirous to come into and reside in Maryland, may be assured that these terms will be justly and punctually performed on our part. Wee have hereunto sett our hand and seal at arms," etc.

" The richness of the soil, and salubrity of the air," says Mr. Eddis, "operated, however, very powerfully to promote population ; but what chiefly tended to the advancement of settlements in this remote district, was the arrival of many emigrants from the Palatinate, and other Germanic States. These people, who from their earliest days, had been disciplined in habits of industry, sobriety, frugality, and patience, were peculiarly fitted for the laborious occupations of felling timber, clearing land, and forming the first improvements ; and the success which attended their efforts,

induced multitudes of their enterprising countrymen to abandon their native homes, to enjoy the plenteous harvest which appeared to await their labors in the wild, uncultivated wastes of America."

Mr. Wm. Eddis, from whose "Letters from America," the above extract is taken, came to the province of Maryland in 1769, to fill an office in the gift of Governor Eden. By the law of the province it was necessary that he reside here three years before taking office. He spent a portion of these years in traveling in various parts of the country. His letters written to friends in England, and published in London, 1792, long after his return to that country, give us a most interesting and authentic account of the province in the period of his residence here from 1769 to 1776. After describing Frederick as observed in his travels west, he says, "About thirty miles west of Frederick-town, I passed through a settlement which is making quick advances to perfection. A German adventurer, whose name is Hagar, purchased a considerable tract of land in this neighborhood, and with much discernment and foresight, determined to give encouragement to traders and to erect proper habitations for the storage of goods, for the supply of the adjacent country. His plan succeeded; he has lived to behold a multitude of inhabitants on lands, which he remembered unoccupied; and he has seen erected in places, appropriated by him for that purpose, more than an hundred comfortable edifices, to which, the name of Hagar's Town is given, in honor of the intelligent founder." This passage was my first introduction to Mr. Hagar, which resulted in the publication of a short article in "The Tutor" some years ago in which I brought together a few facts relating to him. Doubtless it was owing to this article that I was honored by a

request to read a paper before you to-night. In doing so, I must beg you to remember that the material at my command is necessarily scanty, in isolated and widely scattered fragments, which can only be gathered by much patient labor, and often only by accident. There was during Mr. Hagar's life but one paper published in the province and that was engaged in the dissemination of foreign news more than in the recording of local affairs. Such facts as I have been able to gather I shall now lay before you, dwelling more at length upon those which appear to me to possess the most general interest, or to need explanation.

Jonathan Hagar was born, if his age at the time of his decease is correctly given, in the year 1714. He obtained a patent for two hundred acres of land, Dec. 16th, 1739, which he named "Hagar's Choice," in what is now Washington, then a part of Prince George's, afterward a part of Frederick County. He probably resided there prior to that date, since "a bounded white-oak standing on the side of a hill within fifty yards of said Hagar's dwelling-house," is mentioned in his boundary lines. In 1740, he married Elizabeth Kershner, or Grischner. April 21st, 1752, his daughter Rosina was born and Dec. 13th, 1765, his son Jonathan. In 1753, he obtained a patent for 1780 acres of land, and named it "Hagar's Delight," the difference in size making the difference between his choice and his delight, I suppose. In 1762, he obtained "Stony Batter," one hundred and eighteen acres, and "Exchange," twenty-four acres; in 1763, "Brightwell's Choice," fifty acres, "Addition to Stony Batter," eighty acres, and "Found it out," sixty-two acres; in 1765, "New Work," seven hundred and fourteen acres. Thus he obtained by patent eight

tracts of land, aggregating two thousand four hundred and eighty-eight acres.

February 11th, 1762, the following communication was sent to the "Maryland Gazette," in which it was inserted:

"To the public.

"The opening of the river Patowmack and making it passable for small craft, from Fort Cumberland at Wills's Creek to the Great Falls, will be of the greatest advantage to Virginia and Maryland, by facilitating commerce with the back inhabitants, who will not then have more than 20 miles land carriage to harbour, where ships of great burthen load annually, whereas at present many have 150; and what will perhaps be considered of still greater importance, is the easy communication it will afford with the waters of the Ohio.

"The whole land carriage from Alexandria or George Town will then be short of 90 miles; whereas the Pennsylvanians (who at present monopolize the very lucrative skin and fur trades) from their nearest sea port have at least 300: a circumstance which must necessarily force that gainful trade into this channel, should this very useful work be affected; and that it may, is the unanimous opinion of the best judges, and at moderate expense. compared - with the extraordinary convenience and advantages Which Must result from it." The communication stated that "it is proposed to solicit the public for their contributions by way of subscription." Eleven managers were appointed for Virginia and the same number for Maryland. Two of the managers, One from each colony, were to act as treasurers. "Some Skillful gentlemen" had "agreed to view" the Great Falls in the spring, 0 and if they should report the opening or passing of them practicable (which is now gen-

erally believed) it is proposed that whatever balance remains in the Treasurers' hands after compleating the first design, shall be appropriated to that purpose."

In the "Maryland Gazette," June 10th, 1762, "The managers have now the pleasure to inform the public, that subscriptions are filling very fast, and that people in general, but more especially in the back countries, and those bordering upon Patowmack, discover so much alacrity in promoting the affair, that there is not the least doubt but a sum will be raised, sufficient to carry on the work by the day appointed for the meeting," 26th day of July next.

I mention this enterprise at length because Jonathan Hagar was one of the managers for Maryland, and laid out in the same year a town on land belonging to him, which he named Elizabeth town, after his wife. Thomas Cresap, also one of the managers, advertised lots at Oldtown, "one hundred lots or thereabout " were to be laid out contiguous to Frederick Town, on land belonging to Daniel Dulany, and lots were for sale at Fort Cumberland. There was a general movement looking to the opening up of the back country, the establishment of towns for commercial purposes, and the opening of channels of communications which should draw to these towns the lucrative trade in furs and skins of the western wilderness. This movement was led by the great landholders of that region, one of whom was Jonathan Hagar. It was the beginning of the contest to secure the transportation of western products to the seaboard; a contest which is still waged with the greatest bitterness, and every movement in which is watched with the most lively interest. Jonathan Hagar was not the least successful among the many competitors for the stream or emigration flowing into those

parts, for his town, as we have seen, consisted in 1770 of "more than an hundred comfortable edifices."

In 1771, Mr. Hagar, or Capt. Hagar as he is sometimes called, was elected a delegate to the General Assembly of the province. He had been naturalized in 1747, and, as his legislative career throws considerable light upon the status of a naturalized subject in the first three quarters of the eighteenth century, I shall discuss it as fully as my information will allow.

In the Lower House of Assembly, convened by Robert Eden, Esq., Governor, Oct. 2d, 1771, the committee on elections and privileges reported, among other things, Oct. 5th., "That Messrs. Jonathan Hagar, William Luckett, Charles Beatty, and Thomas Sprigg Woottan, delegates for Frederick County, are duly returned," and further, "Your committee beg leave to report to the Honorable House, that they are informed and believe, that Mr. Jonathan Hagar, a member returned for Frederick County, is not a natural born subject, that he came into America, and was naturalized some time before the said election." After the report of the committee had been read a second time, it was resolved, "That this House will, on Tuesday next, at the sitting of the House, take into consideration that part of the said report relative to Mr. Jonathan Hagar." On Tuesday, Oct. 8th, "The House proceeded to take the same into consideration, and permitted Mr. Hagar, on his prayer to be heard by counsel. The counsel appeared, and being heard, he withdrew." On motions to that effect, the following British Statutes, Provincial Act and Resolves were read, viz.: 12 and 13 W. III, c. 2; 1 Geo. 1, c. 4; Act of Assembly of 1716, Chap. XI; 13 Geo. II, c. 7; Resolves of the Lower House of Assembly of Oct. 18th,

1753, and 22 Geo. II, c. 45. "Then the House took the several Statutes, the Act of Assembly and the Resolves above mentioned into consideration; and after some debate thereon, Mr. Hagar withdrew, and Mr. Speaker, by the direction of the House, put the following question: "That Jonathan Hagar, returned as a representative for Frederick County, not being a natural born subject, nor descended from a natural born subject, but naturalized in the year 1747, since the Stat. of 13 Geo. II, agreeable to said Stat., long before said election ; hath been a resident of this province ever since, and hath a freehold of fifty acres of land, be eligible?" Resolved in the negative.

"In consequence of the foregoing Resolution, Mr. Hagar was called in, and Mr. Speaker, by the direction of the House, acquaints him that he is discharged from any further attendance on this House as a member thereof."

The vote stood twenty-four in the negative to twenty-three in the affirmative in a House composed of fifty-eight members, thirty from the Western and twenty-eight from the Eastern Shore. Three members were absent or did not vote from the Western Shore, and eight from the Eastern. The voting members of the Western Shore where Mr. Hagar was best known, stood fifteen to twelve in favor of his eligibility, and the voting members of the Eastern Shore stood twelve to eight against it. On the affirmative we find the names of Thomas Johnson who in 1775 nominated George Washington as Commander-in-chief of the Continental Army, and in 1777 became the first Governor of the State of Maryland; of Wm. Paca, signer of the Declaration and third Governor; and of Wm. Smallwood who distinguished himself as a General in the Revolutionary war, and became fourth

Governor of the State. The most distinguished name on the negative is that of Samuel Chase, in after years judge of the Supreme Court of the United States.

An examination of the law in the order in which it was read before the House in their deliberation on Mr. Hagar's case, aside from its bearing on the legal status of a naturalized subject in 1771, shows conclusively, that the contest was between the progressive spirits and the conservative; for the law was against Mr. Hagar's eligibility.

The Statute of 12 and 13 W. III, Cap. 2, entitled "An Act for the further Limitation of the Crown, and better securing the rights and liberties of the subject," provided in 1700 that "after His Majesty, and the Princess Anne of Denmark, and in default of issue of the said Princess Anne and His Majesty respectively, the Most Excellent Princess Sophia, Electress and Duchess Dowager of Hanover" be the next in succession to the Crown ; and among other things, "that after the said limitation shall take effect as aforesaid, no person born out of the kingdoms of England, Scotland or Ireland, or the dominions thereunto belonging (although he be naturalized or made a denizen, except such as born of English parents) shall be capable to be of the Privy Council, or a member of either House of Parliament, or to enjoy any office, or place of trust, either civil or military, or to have any grant of lands, tenements, or hereditaments from the Crown, to himself or to any other or others in trust for him." Stat. I Geo. I, Cap. 4, 1714, explains that the provisions of the above act were not intended to apply to any person who was naturalized at or before His Majesty's accession to the Crown, but "for the better preserving the said recited clause entire and inviolable"

directs that in all future bills for naturalization the above shall be inserted.

The Act of the Maryland Assembly of 1716, Chap. XI directing the manner of electing delegates, &c., says in the preamble "the safest and best rule for this province to follow in electing such delegates and representatives is the precedents of the proceedings in Parliament in Great Britain, as near as the constitution of this province will admit." After directing the manner of electing delegates in Sec. 2, and compelling attendance in Sec. 3, the act provides in Sec. 4, "That no ordinary keeper within this province, during the time of his ordinary keeping, or any other person disabled by any laws of England from sitting in Parliament shall be elected, chosen or serve as a deputy or representative in the said General Assembly, so to be hereafter called, convened and appointed, as aforesaid." This was the law as it stood in 1771.

Stat. 13 Geo. II, Cap. 7, 1740, was the law under which Mr. Hagar was naturalized, and not as stated by Mr. Scharf (Hist. Md., Vol. II, p. 156, note) by the General Assembly. The preamble states that "many foreigners and strangers from the lenity of our Government, the purity of our religion, the benefit of our laws, the advantages of our trade, and the security of our property, might be induced to come and settle in some of His Majesty's colonies in America, if they were made partakers of the advantages and privileges which the natural born subjects of this realm do enjoy;" and it is enacted "that from and after the first day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and forty, all persons born out of the legiance of His Majesty, his heirs or successors, who have inhabited and resided, or shall inhabit or reside for the space of seven years or more, in any of His Majesty's colo-

nies in America, and shall not have been absent out of some of the said colonies for a longer space than two months at any one time during the said seven years, and shall take, make and subscribe" various oaths, declarations and professions of faith established by law for the security of the throne and the protestant religion, "before the chief judge or other judge of the colony wherein such persons respectively have so inhabited and resided, shall be deemed, adjudged and taken to be His Majesty's natural born subjects of this kingdom, to all intents, constructions and purposes, as if they and every of them had been or were born within this kingdom." Every judge was required upon the taking the oath, &c., "in open court between the hours of nine and twelve in the forenoon" "to make a due and proper entry thereof in a book to be kept for that purpose in the said court," and the secretary of the colony was directed to make a similar entry in a book for the purpose in his office. A certificate under the seal of the colony was then given to the person naturalized, "which shall be deemed and taken to be a sufficient testimony and proof thereof, and of his being a natural born subject of Great Britain, to all intents and purposes whatever, and as such shall be allowed in every court within the kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, and also in the said colonies in America." The ample rights conferred by naturalization under this act were however materially effected by two provisos, first, that no person, except a Quaker or a Jew, should be naturalized "unless such person shall have received the sacrament of the Lord's supper in some protestant and reformed congregation" in Great Britain or the colonies, within three months next before taking the required oaths, &c.; second, that no person so naturalized shall be of

the Privy Council, or a member of either House of Parliament, &c.

A portion of the Resolves of the Lower House, Oct. 18th, 1753, reads "Resolved also unanimously, That all the Statutes of England, made for the security, confirmation or advancement of the rights, liberties and privileges of the British subjects, for the prevention or detection of bribery and corruption, and the maintenance and preservation of freedom in elections, the direction and regulation of returning officers, except in such cases wherein sufficient provision hath been or shall be established by Acts of Assembly, have the force of laws within this province, and as such ought uniformly and inviolably to be received and observed."

Stat. of 22 Geo. II., cap. 45, 1749, provided for the naturalization of foreigners who should serve on board English vessels engaged in the whale fisheries, and has for our purposes no interest except the provision that such naturalized subjects shall not be of the Privy Council, members of either House of Parliament, etc.

We have thus seen that laws of England passed in 1700 and 1714, before the election law of Maryland, as well as those passed in 1740 and 1749, all declared the ineligibility of naturalized subjects to seats in parliament; that the Maryland Act modeled the House of Delegates of the colony on the House of Commons of Great Britain, and made ineligible to it, all who were by English law ineligible to parliament; that the Resolves of 1753, declared all these British Statutes to be in force in Maryland; and yet Mr. Hagar lost his seat by a single vote.

But the House of Delegates did not let the matter rest here. The law as it stood did not allow Mr. Hagar a seat, and the House proceeded to change the operation of the

English laws by passing a provincial law covering the ground, and thereby superseding them so far as they affected the right of a naturalized citizen to a seat in the House. This was done so expeditiously that it not only prevented similar injustice to other naturalized subjects, but enabled Mr. Hagar to take his seat before the close of the session.

Mr. Hagar was rejected Oct. 8th. Oct. 9th an order was passed for the issue of a now writ of election to the sheriff of Frederick County "to elect a delegate to serve in this present session of Assembly, in the stead of Mr. Jonathan Hagar, whose seat is declared vacant." A committee was granted leave to bring in a bill "for vesting in such foreign protestants as are now naturalized or shall be hereafter naturalized in this province, all the rights and privileges of natural born subjects." Mr. Hagar's colleagues from Frederick Co., and two others of the minority, with Mr. Chase of the majority in the vote of rejection, were placed on the committee. The bill was brought in and read the first time Oct. 11th, the second time Saturday, Oct. 12th, sent to the Upper House Monday, Oct. 14th, and returned on the same day endorsed, "Read the first and second time by a special order, and will pass." Oct. 16th, "Mr. Speaker left the chair, and (with the members of this House) went to the Upper House, and there presented to his Excellency" the above bill and another for the adjournment and continuance of the High Court of Appeals. "Both which his Excellency passed into laws in the usual manner" "by sealing it with the Right Honorable the Lord Proprietary his Great Seal at Arms and subscribing it on behalf of the Right Honorable the Lord Proprietary of this Province *I will this be a Law.*"

Thus in eight days from the declaration of his ineligibility Mr. Hagar was rendered

eligible, for the new act conferred all the rights and privileges of natural born subjects without the obnoxious proviso of the English law.

Nov. 16th, Mr. Hagar, having been re-elected, qualified and took his seat to serve in his own stead, in time to vote in favor of that famous address to Governor Eden, protesting against his attempt to fix the fees of officers by proclamation, a subject which agitated the minds of the good people of Maryland until the opening scenes in the revolutionary drama distracted attention from all minor matters.

The act which gave Mr. Hagar his seat reads: "Whereas many foreign protestants have already settled in this province, and others from the lenity of our government, the purity of our religion, and the benefit of our laws, may be hereafter induced to settle there-in, if they were made partakers of the advantages and privileges which natural born subjects enjoy:

Be it therefore enacted by, etc., That all such foreign protestants who have been already naturalized in this province pursuant to the directions of the Stat. 13 Geo. II., cap. 7—before quoted as that under which Mr. Hagar was naturalized—"and all foreign protestants who shall be hereafter naturalized in this province pursuant to the directions of the said statute, shall be deemed, adjudged and taken, to be natural born subjects, to all intents, constructions and purposes as if they, and every of them, had been born within the kingdoms or Great Britain or Ireland, or within any other of his majesty's dominions, any law to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding,"

Mr. Hagar was re-elected a delegate to the Assembly of 1773. The committee on elections and privileges again reported, June 26th, that Jonathan Hagar was not a natural

born subject, "and is the same person who was returned a Delegate. for Frederick County to the late General Assembly, October Session, 1771, and by the late lower House voted and declared to be ineligible for that cause." Frederick, the last Lord Baltimore, died Sept. 14th, 1771, and as the legislature which passed the act of 1771 was called Oct. 2d, in his name and by his authority, doubts were entertained as to the validity of the laws passed by it. In case the laws were not valid, Mr. Hagar was still ineligible, until they had been made valid by a new act confirming them. Here was a new difficulty, but the House made quick work with it. The report was read and they concurred therewith, except that part relative to Mr. Jonathan Hagar.

"Ordered, That that part be referred for consideration oil the third day of the next session of Assembly. Ordered, That the clerk or this House give Mr. Hagar notice thereof."

Mr. Hagar continued a member of the House to the end of the session, though he had leave of absence from June 24th to July 3d. His name is found with the majority in several divisions, and he was placed on several committees.

"Both the Jonathan Hagers," says Mr. Scharf, "father and son, were very popular with the citizens of Hagerstown, and enjoyed almost unbounded influence. The elder Hagar was accidently killed on Nov. 6th, 1775, in his sixty-first year, at a saw-mill near Hagar's mill by a large piece of timber rolling upon and crushing him. The timber was being sawed for the German Reformed Church, which Mr. Hagar was very active in building." In "an act for the benefit of the vestry of the German Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in and about Elizabeth Town, at St. John's Church,

in Washington County," we learn that Jonathan Hagar conveyed three lots of ground, to wit: lots number 131, 132 and 221, situated in said county, containing half an acre each, to certain trustees in trust for the Lutheran congregation of Elizabeth Town. These lots are not found on the original plat, and must have been part of all addition to the town made at a later date. Mr. Hagar's religious faith is best shown by the quotation of a passage in his family Bible, the translation of which from the German is found in a note, page 1060, Scharf's Western Maryland. Speaking of his wife, he says: "We lived together until the 16th of April, 1765. Then it pleased the Lord to call her, after severe suffering, out of this world. 'What God does is well done.' Her funeral text is recorded in 2 Tim. i, 12. The hymn was sung, 'Lord Jesus Christ, true man and God,' also the hymn, 'Think ye children of men on the last day of life.' O, my child, lay rightly to heart the words of this hymn, and do right and fear God, and keep His commandments. And if you have anything, do not forgot the poor, and do not exalt yourself in pride and haughtiness above your fellowmen. For you are not better than the humblest before God's eyes, and perhaps not as good. And so, if you have no fear of God within you, all is vain. My child, keep this in remembrance of your father, and live according to it, and it will go well with you here while you live, and there eternally."

Mr. Hagar intended that the town he had founded should bear the name of Elizabeth-Town, in honor of his beloved wife, but by the operation of the law of the survival of the fittest, it was destined to commemorate its founder. The public were better acquainted with Jonathan Hagar and his work, than with Elizabeth, his wife. To many it was always Hagar's town. Indeed

before the town was in existence so well was Mr. Hagar known that neighboring farms were located as "near Capt. Hagar's in Frederick County." Others gave it its legal name. Even in the laws it is mentioned indifferently as Elizabeth-Town and Hagar's Town after 1802. This "struggle for existence" between two names has interested me much. In 1770, Eddis says the name of Hagar's Town is given to it "in honour of the intelligent founder." A letter from a school boy to his father, Capt. Wm. Heyser, at the American Camp, Philadelphia, is dated "Hagar's Town, Oct. 12th, 1776," Hart and Rochester advertise "nails, brads and sprigs of their own manufacturing in Hager's-Town," over date "Hager's-Town, August 20th, 1790." The "Washington Spy," of January 1st, 1790, is printed by Stewart Herbert "Elizabeth (Hager's) Town,"—that is, Elizabeth Town, or if you like it better Hager's Town. In the laws we find "an act to establish a market-house in Elizabeth-Town," in 1783 ; Commissioners of Elizabeth-Town were appointed and incorporated as such in 1791. The laws further mention it as Elizabeth-Town in 1792, 1793 and 1794. An issue of the "Herald and Advertiser" is dated "Elizabeth (Hager's) Town (Maryland), Wednesday, March 31st, 1802." Two laws mention Elizabeth-Town," in 1802, and in 1804 one mentions Hager's-Town, which is the first recognition of this name in the laws. In 1807 it is twice called Elizabeth-Town and twice Hager's-Town, and tile "Hager's-Town Bank at Elizabeth-

Town" is established. In the "Description of the States of Maryland and Delaware, by Joseph Scott, Philadelphia, 1807," he says, "Elizabeth-town, commonly called Hagers-town, a handsome and flourishing town, and the capitol of the county. It is situated near Anti-Etam creek and 71 miles from Baltimore, and contains about 300 houses, a court house, jail market house, school house, and four churches, viz.: one for German Lutherans, one for German Calvinists, one for Episcopalians and one for Roman Catholics. The town has a great number of clock and watch makers, blacksmiths, coppersmiths, gun and lock smiths, hatters, tanners, boot and shoemakers, saddlers weavers, dyers, potters, coachmakers, and taylors; also a rope and nail manufactory."

The laws mention in 1808 Elizabeth-Town twice, in 1810 Hager's-Town, in 1811 Elizabeth-Town, and Hager's-Town twice, and in 1812 Hager's-town. In 1813, the name was changed from Elizabeth-Town to Hager's-Town by act of the legislature, though the first mention of the name in its present form, Hagerstown, which I have been able to find in the laws, is in 1829.

Thus the justice of the people has proved in this case stronger than the affectionate desire of the founder, and legislative enactments. The fittest name has survived. Long may "Hagar's Town" flourish in honour and prosperity, a living memorial of "its intelligent founder."

Editor's Note:

The article by Mr. Sollers has been reset in the current two-column format but is otherwise reprinted *verbatim* as it first appeared in the *Second Annual Report of the Society for the History of the Germans in Maryland* (1888), pages 15-30. Mr. Sollers spoke at a meeting of the Society and, as is still the custom today, his remarks were subsequently published in the Report of the Society.