

**MEMORIALS OF THE
HUGUENOTS IN AMERICA. WITH
SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THEIR
EMIGRATION TO PENNSYLVANIA**

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Memorials of the Huguenots in America. With Special Reference to Their Emigration to Pennsylvania by A. Stapleton

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A. STAPLETON

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THE MORNING DAWNS.
HUGUENOT DESCENDANTS DAUGHTERS OF THE AUTHOR.



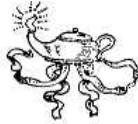
Memorials of the Huguenots in America

With Special Reference to Their Emigration to
Pennsylvania,

—BY—

Rev. A. Stapleton, A. M., M. S., D. D.

Life Member of the Pennsylvania Historical Society—Member of the Pennsylvania
German Society,—Author of "Natural History of the Bible."—"Compend
of Church History,"—and "Evangelical Annals"—"Flashlights
on Evangelical History"—"Old Time Evangelical
Evangelism."



*"Sir, it is the part of the Church of God to endure blows, and
not to deal them; but your Majesty will please remember that it is
an anvil which has already worn out many a hammer."*

Theo. de Beza to the King of Navarre!

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AUTHOR'S PREFACE.

IT must be apparent to the reader that the gathering of material for this work was immeasurably difficult because of the scanty and scattered sources of information. With the exception of the excellent work of Prof. Charles W. Baird (1) and several monographs by the American Huguenot Society, no work on the Huguenot emigration to America has hitherto appeared. True, the Virginia Historical Society has published a small volume on the emigration to that Province, and chapters devoted to the settlements in New England and South Carolina are to be found. Still the reader will find that, with the exception of a few newspaper articles, the history of the Huguenot emigration to Pennsylvania has hitherto remained unwritten. It is chiefly on this account that our resources have been specially devoted to their emigration to this Province.

The question may be pertinently asked why so much pains have been taken to gather particulars concerning so small a proportion of our Colonial immigrants as the French Protestants? The answer is found in their *character*. The Huguenots were something *more* than immigrants seeking a home in a new land. They were *refugees*, stripped of all human rights, both civil and religious, by the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, and not until the Edict of Toleration, in 1787, could they claim a right to full liberty of conscience in their home land.

In the industrial arts, learning and religious thought, the Huguenots were of the most advanced and enterprising type of civilization, and the impressions they have made on the institutions and character of the lands of their exile were more profound and far reaching in proportion to their numbers than that of any other class of immigrants.

This is pre-eminently true of America, as we believe this work will abundantly demonstrate, and we believe that the study of this element of our Colonial population will be pursued with greater interest by future historians as their mighty influence in shaping the character and destinies of our country is more fully recognized.

(1). "The Huguenot Emigration to America."

With the passing years they disclose the original virility of their character by continually adding new names to America's roll of honor. To such imperishable names as *Jay*, *Boudinot*, *Bowdoin*, *Marion* and *Laurens*, of the Provincial period, they have added others of equal greatness, and whose force of character and sterling worth is in no small degree attributable to their Huguenot ancestry.

In later years Presidents *Tyler* (1), *Garfield* (2) and *Roosevelt*, *Alexander Hamilton*, the *Bayards* of Delaware, Commodores *Stephen Decatur* and *W. S. Schley*, and Admiral *George Dewey*, then also the poets *Whittier* (3), *Thoreau*, *Lanier* and *Emily Bouton*, have all contributed largely to make America great.

Although, as already indicated, the literature pertaining to the subject of this work is very scanty, we may state that considerable data was found in county histories, especially in the works of Prof. I. Daniel Rupp and General W. H. M. Davis. The Pennsylvania Archives, "Notes and Queries" by Dr. Egle, "Documentary History of New York," "Baird's Huguenot Emigration to America," besides the publications of the Pennsylvania Historical and Pennsylvania-German Societies, have all yielded valuable materials. We are under very great obligations to a large number of local historians and private individuals for clues and suggestions that in many instances led to important results. We are specially indebted to the following gentlemen for valuable assistance: The late Hon. John Blair Linn, of Bellefonte; Mrs. Cora Weber Lindsey, of Pittsburgh; Henry S. Dodderer, Editor of "The Perkiomen Regeon," Prof. Julius F. Sachse, author of several works of great value on the emigration to Pennsylvania. John W. Jordan, of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, all of Philadelphia: deB. Randolph Keim, of Reading, and Editor of "The Keim and Allied Families"; James B. Laux, of New York; Rev. P. C. Croll, Editor of the Pennsylvania German, and lastly, the lamented Dr. W. H. Egle, of Harrisburg, late State Librarian, and Editor of the Pennsylvania Archives, to whose valuable assistance we are deeply indebted. As a matter of mournful interest we may state that one of the last acts of his busy life was to furnish the introduction to this work a few days before his death.

If we have in a measure succeeded in rescuing from oblivion the memory of a people who have been such a potent factor in shap-

(1). President Tyler descended from Dr. Louis Contesse, an eminent physician, who fled from France to Virginia after the Revocation (Va. Hist. Col.).

(2). President Garfield descended from Maturin Ballou, a refugee to New England.

(3). The ancestor of Whittier was a refugee named Foullevert, who fled to England from Brittagne in the early stages of the persecution (vide Am. Meth. Ill. Monthly, vol. 11, p. 229).

ing the character and destinies of our land, and preserved to posterity the names of many from whom it is an honor to claim descent, we shall consider ourselves well rewarded for our many years of toil.

REV. A. STAPLETON.

CARLISLE, PA.

