

# *Proceedings of the Semiannual Meeting*

APRIL 20, 1976  
PHILOSOPHICAL HALL,  
PHILADELPHIA

ON MONDAY, April 19, the evening before their semi-annual meeting, members of the American Antiquarian Society and their guests were received with a warm welcome, accompanied by refreshments, at the rooms of the Library Company of Philadelphia. Following the reception, the assembly moved on to dinner at the building of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The repast was followed by a viewing of a stunning exhibition, *A Rising People: The Founding of the United States, 1765-1789*, which had been mounted by our three Philadelphia hosts in concert.

The semiannual meeting of the AAS took place at Philosophical Hall of the American Philosophical Society held at Philadelphia for Promoting Useful Knowledge at 11:00 A.M., April 20, 1976, with the following members present: Thomas Randolph Adams, Karl John Richard Arndt, Hamilton Vaughan Bail, Whitfield Jenks Bell, Jr., William Henry Bond, Julian Parks Boyd, Carl Bridenbaugh, John Caruthers Broderick, Edwin Harrison Cady, Richard Crawford, Bruce Goddard Daniels, Everett Lee DeGolyer, Jr., Henry Bowen Dewey, Ernest Stanley Dodge, Robert Abraham East, Luther Harris Evans, Frederic Breakspear Farrar, Malcolm Freiberg, Hannah Dustin French, Pierce Welch Gaines, Archibald Hanna, Jr., George Laban Harding, George Lee

Haskins, Howell Johnson Heaney, Brooke Hindle, Robert Bruce Hitchman, Carlisle Hubbard Humelsine, Howard Bonar Jefferson, Oliver Ormerod Jensen, John Jeppson, 2nd, Gordon Willis Jones, Albert T. Klyberg, Bertram Wallace Korn, John Emerson Langdon, Irving Lowens, Marcus Allen McCorison, Neil MacNeil, John William Matheson, Clarence William Miller, James Eugene Mooney, Andrew Oliver, Dorothy Burnett Porter, Benjamin Arthur Quarles, Edgar Preston Richardson, Charles Henry Sawyer, John Edward Sawyer, Stuart Capen Sherman, Willman Spawn, Robert Ernest Spiller, Richard Charles Steele, Roderick Douglas Stinehour, Roger Eliot Stoddard, George Thomas Tanselle, Thaddeus Wilbur Tate, Jr., Milton Halsey Thomas, Arthur Bernon Tourtellot, James Russell Wiggins, Edwin Wolf II, and Richard James Wolfe. Also present were a number of guests.

President Wiggins presided. He introduced Julian P. Boyd, the president of the American Philosophical Society, who welcomed the members of this Society to Philosophical Hall. The reading of the minutes of the one hundred and sixty-third annual meeting was waived. President Wiggins then reported the deaths of the following members:

Robert Dechert	November 8, 1975
Kenneth Ballard Murdock	November 15, 1975
Carleton Rubira Richmond	December 13, 1975
Penrose Robinson Hoopes	January 14, 1976
George Leslie McKay	January 17, 1976
Bradford Fuller Swan	February 20, 1976
Richard Walden Hale, Jr.	February 25, 1976

The report of the Council was presented by Mr. Jeppson and the Treasurer's report by Mr. Daniels. Mr. McCorison on behalf of the Council and the members of the Society thanked Elliott B. Knowlton for the signal services to the Society which he has performed as Development Officer from June 1,

1968. Mr. Knowlton will retire from this post at the end of June 1976.

The following persons were elected by ballot to membership in the Society, with Hannah D. French and Howell J. Heaney acting as tellers: Natalie J. Allen, William Bentinck-Smith, Sacvan Bercovitch, Sacket Roland Duryee, George Edmund Gifford, Jr., Amy Bess Miller, Lawrence K. Miller, Mary Beth Norton, John Davison Rockefeller IV, Rutherford David Rogers, Frederick G. Ruffner, Beatrix Tyson Rumford, Gordon Stewart Wood, Robert Coldwell Wood, and Jacob Zeitlin.

Carl Bridenbaugh then presented a very interesting description of the technological investigations pursued by members of the Library Company of Philadelphia or of the American Philosophical Society before the American Revolution reached Philadelphia. His paper was entitled 'Putting Philosophy to Use: Voluntary Associations for Propagating the Enlightenment in Philadelphia, 1727-1776.'

President Wiggins closed the meeting by thanking the speaker as well as the officers and staff members of our Philadelphia hosts, the American Philosophical Society, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, and the Library Company of Philadelphia. The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 P.M. Members and guests were then entertained with refreshments and luncheon, the guests of the American Philosophical Society.

Marcus A. McCorison  
Recorder

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