

S. C. High Local - Class

*A. J. Salley, Jr., Columbia, S. C.*

*April  
18,  
1908.*

# SPEECH

Delivered by

## HON. HERMANN RIDDER

at the

One Hundred and Forty-Second  
Anniversary Dinner

# GERMAN FRIENDLY SOCIETY

CHARLESTON, S. C.

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January 15th, 1908

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PRESS OF  
WALKER, EVANS & COGSWELL CO., CHARLESTON, S. C.  
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Mr. President and Gentlemen:

The closing paragraph of an introduction to the printed rules of the *German Friendly Society*, published in March, 1869, reads as follows: "A strong hope in the future and a firm reliance upon our united efforts in behalf of the Society induce us to believe that prosperity will again smile upon our cherished institution."

When I look around me to-night I have before my eyes the strongest evidence of the realization of that hope, of the righteousness of that belief. Your society enjoys an enviable reputation, for it is strong in membership, sound in its financial affairs and faithfully working along the lines of the purpose and principles of its founders, your *ancestors*, who had imbued it with the noblest traits of German *characteristics*—honor, patriotism and charity. Honor was to them, as it is to you, dearer than life. Patriotism, within them as within you, sleeping but not dead, has risen and will rise in majesty on every meet occasion. And charity is the very cornerstone upon which your society is founded.

Michael Kalteisen, your first president, was the ideal of an honorable citizen, a staunch patriot and a man of charitable intent. His memory will always be kept green within the circle of your society and his shining example will at all times stimulate the ambition of every member. His life is written upon the pages of this country's history, and on this, as on every other festive occasion of your society, it is but meet to picture before your eyes a short sketch of his useful and honorable career.

Born in the village of *Wachtelsheim*, in *Wurtemberg*, on the 18th of June, 1729, we find him in 1762 established in business in Charleston, where a large German population had already gathered. In 1766 with fifteen of his countrymen he founded the *German Friendly Society*, which at the time of the Revolution numbered one hundred members and was financially strong enough to advance two thousand pounds for defence against the Crown. Through his efforts

the German *Fusiliers*, the oldest military organization in this country, was organized on the 12th of July, 1775, and in the following year, at the outbreak of hostilities, this organization counted over one hundred Germans in its ranks. Its first officers were: Captain, Alexander Gillon, who was a member of your society; First Lieutenant, Peter Bocquett (brother of the general of that name), also a member of your society; Second Lieutenant, Michael Kalteisen; and Ensign Guideon Dupont. In 1779 the German Fusiliers took part with the Colonial forces under General Lincoln and the French squadron under D'Estaing in the siege of Savannah, when Captain Scheppert was killed in the same assault in which Pulaski fell. In the same year Captain Gillon was intrusted with the task of organizing the South Carolina fleet and was sent to France to buy three frigates. The Prince of Luxemburg let him have one for three years on a guarantee of its safe return and one-fourth share of all prize money. Gillon finally led a squadron of eighty sail and captured the "*Bahamas*." He left a son, also a member of your society, who in 1817 was a member of the German Fusiliers, which organization still exists to this day. Kalteisen died in 1870: a tablet dedicated to his memory was destroyed by the fire which in September, 1864, consumed the old hall of the society on Archdale Street.

Thytker, who came with the Norsemen centuries before Columbus, may have cast anchor on the shores of South Carolina, and there may have been Germans among those seafarers that made the unsuccessful attempt at settling at Port Royal in 1652, but of this we have no historical evidence.

Accompanying the expedition fitted out in 1663 by the English Carolina Company for the purpose of exploring the Carolina coast, which sailed from Barbadoes in the fall of that year, was a German from Switzerland, Peter Fabian, of Berne. In the report of that expedition, which was published in London in 1665, the distances are given by German, not English, miles, which fact has led to the assumption that the report was written by Fabian.

Lederer's expedition was a myth.  
In his journal "he gives a topographical  
description of the country he visited & the  
steps he was obliged to take to reach it."  
Salzburger & Credibility  
Lederer.

The first white man who set foot on the soil of South Carolina at a time—almost a hundred years before the foundation of your society—when this region was the undisturbed realm of the red men of the forest, was a German, Johann Lederer, a scholarly man, who in 1669 and 1670 undertook three exploring tours from Virginia into the Carolinas and penetrated as far as the Santee River. Lederer never reaped the fruits of his scientific and hazardous exploits. On his return to Virginia he was persecuted and took refuge in Maryland, where Sir William Talbot, governor of that province, recognizing the value of his discoveries, collected and translated from Latin his writings and diary and had them published in London in 1672.

“The influence,” writes the Rev. Mr. Bernheim, pastor of St. Paul’s *Evangelical* Lutheran Church at Wilmington, North Carolina, in his history of the German settlements in North and South Carolina, “that this German explorer exerted by his account of the country he visited must have had its effect in the speedy settlement of the Carolinas, inducing many of our forefathers to emigrate to this country and seek their fortunes in the wilds of America. It is certain that about ten years later (1680) the tide of German emigration to America commenced its flow; doubtless such men as Johann Lederer and later Louis Mitchell, (Franz Louis Michel, from Berne, Switzerland), whose journals of exploration were published, contributed greatly towards this happy result and in making America wealthy in the development of her agricultural resources when the thrifty farmers of Germany tilled her virgin soil.”

The same year that Johann Lederer reached the interior of South Carolina, the first English colonist under Colonel William Sayle arrived at Port Royal, near Beaufort, and a few months later located themselves “for the convenience of pasture and tillage” on the banks of the Ashley River, and near its mouth laid the foundation of old Charlestown. This was in 1670.

When the colony of Salzburgers, with their pastors, Bolzius and Gronau, landed at Charleston in the early days of March 1734, before reaching their destination at Eben-

ezer, Georgia, we have a statement in Bolzius' Journal (found in Force's "Collections of Historical Facts"), dated Charleston, March 7, 1734; "We found here some Germans who were glad of our arrival and will come to us in order to receive the sacrament."

It seems that these early German settlers referred to by Pastor Bolzius had taken advantage of a donation by Queen Ann of England of lands in the Province of South Carolina to the German refugees from the Palatinate, who during 1708-09 were driven from their homes. Influenced by the glowing descriptions of explorers returning from America, they had gathered by thousands and tens of thousands on the streets and public squares of London, waiting for transportation to the Promised Land. As we find no German settlement in the interior of South Carolina at that time, those emigrants having accepted Queen Ann's grant, most likely remained and located at Charleston.

In "Urisperger's Nachrichten" Pastor Bolzius gives us a lengthy account of his visit to Charleston in May, 1735, in company with Baron von Reck, Lord Commissary of the Ebenezer colony: "A certain glazier and his wife who are from the Palatinate went with us to the Holy Supper. . . . They concluded to remove to Ebenezer as soon as feasible. . . . They had many children which will enlarge our small school. Both these parents will be very useful to us in our house arrangements." The Rev. Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, D. D., having been sent from the Mission Society of Halle, Germany, to labor in Pennsylvania, landed at Charleston, Sept. 21, 1742. While waiting for transportation to Philadelphia until November 12, he stayed at the house of a painter named Theus, the brother of a reformed minister who worked in Saxe-Gotha, South Carolina, along the Congaree River.

When New Netherlands became through the armed intervention of Sir Robert Carr, subject to the British crown and was named after the Duke of York, to whom his brother, King Charles II., had donated it, many of the Dutch colonists emigrated to the Carolinas, a number of families settling at Charleston on James Island.

The first white settler in the section of Orangeburg, South Carolina, was Henry Sterling, a trader by occupation, who located on Lyon's Creek in 1704. Three ship-loads of German and Swiss emigrants arrived at Orangeburg from 1735 to 1737.

About the same time Saxe-Gotha Township, now Lexington County, South Carolina, was settled by emigrants from the Rhine, Baden and Wurtemberg; the colony was named in honor of the wife of the then Prince of Wales, who was a Princess of Saxe-Gotha.

In 1731 John Peter Purry of Neufchatel, Switzerland, formerly a director general of the French East India Company, visited the Carolinas. His account of soil and climate of South Carolina and of the excellence and freedom of the provincial government, drawn up at Charleston and published in Switzerland after his return, induced a number of his countrymen to emigrate. They founded (1732) Purrysburg on the east banks of the Savannah River. On his trip to Charleston in May, 1734, Bolzius visited Purrysburg. He writes in his journal: "As many wealthy people live here it is to be hoped that in a short time Purrysburg will become a considerable town. The inhabitants labor industriously in their gardens and fields and persons can already procure here fresh meats, eggs, garden vegetables, even more than in Savannah."

Another German settlement in South Carolina was the Lutheran colony at Hard Labor Creek in Abbeville County. In his "History of South Carolina" Hewatt tells their story. After the close of the Seven Years' War a Prussian Officer named Stumpel applied to the British government for a tract of land in America. Having received some encouragement he returned to Germany, and by deceitful promises he enticed some five or six hundred ignorant people from their mother country. He took them to England and left them to their fate in a starving condition so that the government had to take charge of them. They were provided with tents and one hundred and fifty stand of arms from the Tower and sent on two ships to Charleston, where they arrived in

April, 1764, and put en route for Hard Labor Creek, Londonderry Township.

I have mentioned the German explorer, Franz Louis Michel. At the beginning of the eighteenth century he had been sent by the authorities of the Canton of Berne as an exploring agent to locate some suitable land for a colony. He spent a number of years on this continent and was well acquainted with the country. On the strength of his reports Baron Christopher de Graffenried, of Berne, induced a large number of his countrymen, about 1,500 souls, to emigrate with him to America. The Baron met Michel in London, and the two gentlemen accepted a fair proposal of the Lords Proprietors of the Carolinas. Graffenried and Michel took along some 650 German *Palatinais*, filling two vessels. They landed in December, 1710, in Pamlico Sound, and sailing up the Neuse River they halted on its confluence with the Trent River, where they built the town of New Berne, North Carolina. These settlers had not enjoyed their new homes more than a few months when they were attacked by Tuscarora Indians, who *massacred* more than sixty of these poor people before support came to them from South Carolina under the command of Colonel Barnwell.

Graffenried returned to Switzerland, leaving the German colonists, already *impoverished* by the Indian war, in a most destitute condition, for he had mortgaged their lands to Colonel Pollock in order to satisfy a debt. Some of his descendants are still residing in different portions of the Carolinas, and among the present inhabitants of that region you will find many names which, although Americanized, are identical with those of the first settlers, as can be found on old documents, for instance, on a list of jurymen in the Craven Precinct dated 1723, which has been preserved to this day.

Of the hardships and dangers of the ocean voyage which those early emigrants had to endure no modern traveler can form an adequate conception. Pent up and huddled together in the hold of a sailing vessel, constantly threatened by an almost unavoidable outbreak of disease, which sometimes

raised the death rate to a terrible figure, those poor people, who had sold their belongings for a pittance, often insufficient to meet the expenses of the journey, left behind them no hope of ever returning to the land of their fathers and the home of their youth, whilst before them was only the doubtful vision of an uncertain future; these poor people, I say, must have suffered untold agonies, not for weeks, but for months, sometimes for many months. In comparison the conditions offered the steerage passenger on board one of the gigantic steamers of the Hamburg or Bremen lines to-day may well be pronounced luxurious.

Pastor Josua von Kocherthal, of Landau, in Bavaria, one of the early explorers, in his plea for Carolina says that when everything is favorable the voyage from England could be made in five or six weeks, and even in exceptional cases in four weeks, but that under other circumstances it might consume half a year.

The voyages of William Penn were made under most favorable circumstances, and yet the first to America in 1683 consumed two months, his return in 1684 seven weeks, and his second trip to America in 1699 more than three months. The first convoy of German Pietists, however, who began to emigrate to Pennsylvania in 1694, was on board the Sarah Maria from Feb. 13 to June 19, more than four months.

Forty years later we find the Salzburgers making their way to the coast of Georgia, one transport, which left England at the very beginning of January, 1734, reaching Charleston March 18 (two and one-half months), and another, which left the coast of England Oct. 28, 1735, arriving at Charleston Feb. 15, 1736 (three months and eighteen days).

Henry Melchoir Muhlenberg in 1742 left the coast of England June 13, and did not set foot upon solid land until Sept. 23, a voyage of three months and ten days. Pastor Handschuh, who arrived in 1748, went on board Sept. 25, 1747, but because of an accident to the vessel the final start was not taken until Jan. 14, and Philadelphia was not

reached until April 5, six months and ten days from the time of embarkation.

With half of the shipping engaged in illegitimate business, as smuggling, privateering and piracy, the risk of sailing without a convoy of men-of-war was great, while the difficulty of securing such a convoy was another source of vexatious delays. The coasts of the Carolinas and Georgia were favorite lurking places for pirates, as can be learned from the work on "The Carolina Pirates and Colonial Commerce 1670-1740," published by Johns Hopkins University.

In June, 1718, Edward Teach, known as "Blackbeard," appeared at Charleston with four vessels, the largest of forty guns, and with four hundred men in his fleet, and remaining there for days captured all the vessels entering or leaving the harbor. Sending a boat to Charleston, he forced the Governor of South Carolina to furnish him with medical supplies under the threat of the execution of certain prominent citizens whom he had taken captives. Teach was captured soon after this bold move by an expedition sent against him by Governor Spotswood, of Virginia.

Major Stede Bonnett rivaled Teach in his career of crime. On September 27, 1718, a battle was fought at Cape Fear between two vessels dispatched thither under Colonel William Rhett by the Governor of South Carolina, and the ship of Bonnett. He and his men were captured after five hours' hard fighting. The *Carolinians* lost twelve killed and twenty-eight wounded.

During the month of November, 1718, not less than forty-five pirates were executed at Charleston. Other pirates of that period were Captain Knot and Captain Kidd. The *latter* had been commissioned in 1679 by Governor Belamy, of New York, and was executed in 1700 on Belamy's order.

I have elaborated upon documentary testimony of contemporary writers as to the character and the mode of living of the German settlers in South Carolina in order to demonstrate their thrifty habits and their perseverance frequently under adverse circumstances, as well as the benefit

the American colonies derived from their efficacy in developing the resources of the country. They led useful and honorable lives and were grateful for the opportunities given them to found a new existence. *They soon imbibed the spirit of freedom and independence, and when the colonies rose in revolt against the oppressions of the British crown, these Germans and their descendants eagerly embraced the cause of the Revolution.*

*It was the late Rev. George C. Heckman who said: "There would not have been a united colonial rebellion nor any United States of America but for the patriotism of the Germans of the colonies."*

A letter dated "Philadelphia, June 20, 1775," and published in the London Remembrancer, says: "It is amazing to see the spirit of the Germans among us. Thousands of them have served as soldiers in their own country. They speak with infinite pleasure of sacrificing their lives and property for the preservation of liberty, which they know full well how to value from its deprivation by despotic princes."

The example set by the founders of your society in organizing for armed resistance was soon followed by the Germans in other parts of the American colonies. *It was the bravery of the Pennsylvania Riflemen, a German regiment under Colonel John Peter Kichlein, that has earned for the battle of Long Island the name of "The Thermopylas of the American Revolution."* As an American historian has written: "These men stood their ground until as many as seventy-nine men in one company had been killed and the rest of the army had completed its retreat."

In his pulpit at Woodstock, Virginia, the Rev. Peter G. Muhlenberg pulled off his ecclesiastical gown and stood in the uniform of an American colonel before his astonished congregation, whose ablebodied members followed his regiment into the war. At Oriskany, Nicholas Herkheimer, although fatally wounded, and his sturdy German farmers of Mohawk Valley withstood the terrible onslaught of the Tories and their Indian allies and drove them into flight. Lutherloh and Weissenfels recruited German regiments in New York and brought valuable support to the cause of Liberty.

In the winter of 1776, after Washington had crossed the Delaware and what was then left of the Revolutionary host hovered in a starving and beggarly condition at Valley Forge, there appeared the great Inspector General of the Revolution, the *disciplinarian* and drill-master who transformed that helpless and hopeless crowd into a fighting army, enabling it soon after to win the battles of Princeton and Trenton, the man and soldier who has truly and deservedly been called "the right arm of Washington," and who, every unbiased historian of to-day admits, saved the Revolution at its most critical period—Baron Friedrich Wilhelm von Steuben. For six years after the close of the war Steuben had to fight Congress for material recognition of his services, and not until now, more than a century after his death, has the sense of the nation's gratitude been sufficiently aroused to honor his memory by the erection of a Steuben statue at Valley Forge.

Closely connected with the history of your city is another German soldier of the Revolution, Baron John De Kalb, an excellent *tactician* and a *heroic* fighter, who in the campaign for the attempted succor of Charleston, stood in the battle of Camden (Aug. 16, 1780) like Warwick once in the battle of Barnet, amid heaps of the slain, until he fell, bleeding from eleven wounds. Even his *adversary*, Cornwallis, bowed in admiration before such fortitude and had him tenderly cared for until he succumbed to his wounds three days later.

George Washington was surrounded by numerous Germans, either serving as officers on his military staff or in other capacities, lending efficient aid in carrying on the war. His mounted body-guard, led by Major Barth van Heer, consisted of fourteen officers and fifty-three men, *nearly all Germans*. David Ziegler, born in 1748 at Heidelberg, who remained in active service after the close of the war, *was at one time Acting Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army*. He afterwards settled in Ohio and was, in 1802, elected the first mayor of Cincinnati.

It would lead me too far to enumerate all the names of Germans who distinguished themselves during the war of

the Revolution; suffice it to point out that among the original members of the Society of the Cincinnati there were from one State alone, New York, fourteen Germans. Nor dare we undervalue the moral support the struggling colonies derived from the friendly attitude of Frederick the Great. In a letter addressed Dec. 18, 1777, by Count Schulenberg, Prussian Minister of Foreign Affairs, to Arthur Lee, one of the Commissioners despatched by the American Congress to Europe, we find the following: "The King, who always graciously receives the news you send me and expresses his satisfaction when it is in your favor, has seen the passage of your brother's letter, and I can assure you, sir, that His Majesty will not be the last Power to acknowledge your independence."

Five days later Frederick issued his order refusing transit through Prussian territory to the troops hired by the British from the Duke of Hesse and other small rulers in Germany. The stigma of shame and contempt has ever since clung to the name of "Hessians," yet these poor people, far from enlisting voluntarily in the British ranks, were simply conscripts and sold like cattle. Schiller has stigmatized this trade of men in "Kabale und Liebe," and Immanuel Kant went still further and embraced the cause of the American colonies with all the energy of his great intellect. Lessing and Klopstock have spoken in the same strain, although in more cautious terms.

Friedrich Kapp puts the total of 29,166 as the number furnished by Hesse-Cassel, Brunswick, Hanau, Waldeck, Anspach and Anhalt, and out of these only 17,313 returned to their native country. Considerably more than 10,000 remained here, in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania and the Carolinas. An American historian writes: "One thing the British Government had entirely overlooked, namely, that numbers of the American citizens were Germans and German descendants, possessed of German characteristics and speaking the German language. No sooner did the Hessian soldiers come into contact with these German-American citizens than they deserted the ranks of the British army whenever they found a safe opportunity of so doing

and fled to the German settlements to be delivered from the dangers and hardships of a war in which they had no interest. In this manner were the German settlements at the North, where the Hessians first landed, supplied with a valuable addition to their strength, and further South, particularly in the Carolinas, many honest, industrious and useful German settlers came in good time to supply the loss that had been caused by the war."

The first German graduate of West Point Academy, Julius F. Heilman, was the son of a surgeon of Riedesel's German Brigade in Burgoyne's army. He was appointed cadet in 1803, rose to the rank of major of the Second United States Artillery, and fell in the Seminole War in 1836 in Florida.

The famous Indian fighter, Gen. George A. Custer, was a great-grandson of an officer of the Hessian soldiers. His ancestor was *paroled* after Burgoyne's surrender, 1778, and settled in Pennsylvania, changing his name from Kuester.

Of the many Germans whose prominent services will not be forgotten in the South, I will only mention William Langenheim, of Texas; his associate, Gustav Schleicher, born in Darmstadt in 1823, the first German member of Congress, and your own townsman, J. A. Wagener, who came from Bremerhaven and started in 1844 the *Deutsche Zeitung*, which afterwards went into the hands of F. Melchers, and is now ably edited by Mr. Albert Orth. Col. Wagener was elected Mayor of Charleston the same year that Wade Hampton was elected Governor of South Carolina. When Melchers came to Charleston in 1846 there were scarcely fifty of the old German families left, but he found quite a numerous German population which had emigrated during the ten or fifteen years previous.

While the average American readily concedes to the German immigrants and their descendants their very large contributions to the material and intellectual growth of this country, reclaiming it from its *primeval* condition, developing its resources, promoting industries and arts, and while he also acknowledges their loyal allegiance to their adopted

country and their valorous deeds in the defense of its freedom and independence, there are, outside the limited circle of students of history and political sciences, not many people cognizant of, and still fewer willing to admit, the important part the German element has had in shaping the character of the American nation.

An American writer has said: "The germs of parliamentary constitutions are to be found in the forests of ancient Germany. The Roman lawmakers found in Germany a new theory of the State. The Teuton does not derive law directly from the will of the nation; he claims for himself an inborn right which the state must protect, but which it does not create, and for which he is ready to fight against the world." Here we have indeed the fundamental thought of American independence, which took tangible form in demonstrative resolutions such as the "Mecklenburg Declaration of Independence" (the authenticity of which has lately been questioned), or in practical action such as the organization, as early as 1772, of "The Patriotic Society of the City and County of Philadelphia," and above all in the united support of the Revolution by the Germans, *which was essential to the ultimate success of the cause of American freedom.*

To the same theory—that the citizen is the protector of the state instead of its *protege*—may be traced the attitude taken by the German-American citizens on all questions of personal liberty, their independence in politics, as also their disinclination to take public office. This signifies by no means a want of interest in public affairs; on the contrary, questions of policy are at all times largely discussed in the leading German newspapers and at public and private German gatherings, with the result, traceable also to the same source, that on every political issue of paramount importance, *German sentiment is singularly united.* This being a recognized fact has made the Germans a political factor in the United States, as it has also elevated them in the esteem of their mother country, *which has at all times and on every occasion shown her sympathy and good will to the United States of America.*

The German Americans constitute a very large body of independent voters throughout this country. As a rule on election day you will always find the Germans supporting the candidates whose announced principles they believe in, regardless of the party to which these candidates are allied. The Germans are not office seekers. Their time and their energy are devoted to developing whatever business they may be engaged in. But this does not signify that they are indifferent to their duties as citizens. It does mean, though, that in political matters they are not blind followers of any one party. *They are absolutely and in every sense independent citizens, and as such we are safe in saying that the German element holds the balance of political power in this country.*

Comparatively few Americans realize how large a place numerically the German element holds among the American people. But when it is recalled that the United States census shows that more than fifty per cent. of the inhabitants of the United States have German blood in their veins it is easy to see how much reason we have to be proud of America's *achievements*, for we have had a conspicuous share in them. Briefly I have called attention to some of the things Germans have done for this country, from its very earliest days. The sturdy German immigrant fought for liberty in the Revolutionary war. He helped lay the foundation for our great country of to-day. It is a regrettable fact, though, that very few Americans are aware of these things. I am sure that the historical facts I have incorporated in this address will be new to most Americans. Why is this? Simply because American historians have failed to give to the German element the credit that is their due for establishing and developing this country. *If we are to have an honest and thorough record of American achievement from the early days to the present time the history of the United States must be rewritten, so that credit shall be given to the German element for their part.*

In this connection I want to emphasize the fact that it is absolutely necessary that our school books should be revised so that the youth of the land, so many of whom are of our

own blood, may not grow up wholly ignorant of what German Americans have done to upbuild this nation.

First, last and all the time, our German citizens are thorough Americans. While they revere their fatherland they love the new land with all the intensity of real patriots. Our great country, with its unlimited opportunities, furnishes a chance for a brilliant future for themselves and their children. They appreciate all this, and in return they are ever ready to sacrifice their lives and everything they possess, if need be, in defence of the land of their adoption.

The independent spirit displayed by German Americans has often led to their attitude on certain questions being misunderstood by other citizens. When Germans on the Sunday question refuse to accept a strict puritan interpretation the taunt is flung at them that they care more for a glass of beer than they do for law and order. Nothing could be more unjust than this charge. It isn't the chance to have his glass of beer that the German cares so much about. What concerns him is the determination that his personal liberty shall not be abridged. He is not an intemperate man and he sees no good reason why he should be deprived of the right to enjoy a custom that is universal in the old land. He does not seek to dictate to any body of citizens what they shall do. He recognizes their privilege to do as they please so long as they do not infringe the rights of others. Therefore, he cannot see why his own personal liberty should be circumscribed. At all times the German-Americans have proved themselves to be one of the most law-abiding elements of every American community. From the country's early days to the present time they have by their industry and thrift contributed much to America's greatness. It is a pity that their views on the Sunday question should be misunderstood, and I have thought it well to digress a little to represent them in the proper light.

In the world's history two hundred years are only a minute space of time, but in the character of the *interdependence* of two nations it is a mighty progress from the emigrant farm laborer to the exchange professor. Between two nations with so much in common in the past and so

many ties in the present, a firm, mutual friendship is but the command of nature and common sense. Between America and Germany there ought to exist, and, in fact, there does exist, no rivalry, but an alliance in the industrial development of the world's commerce, such as unites them in the work of civilization, education and training. Let me quote from an article that appeared in Lippincott's Magazine six years ago: "Germany and America may well move forward in harmony, each maintaining all its independence of method and thought and action, yet both gaining strength from a better understanding and mutual self-help by which each may supplement the needs of the other." There is not the slightest doubt of the sincerity on the part of the leading spirits, the intelligent people and the governments of the two nations, in their desire to maintain and promote that mutual understanding and friendship rooted in "Your Founders and their Fatherland."



# German Friendly Society

*Charleston, S.C.*

4/16/08.

Mr. A.S. Salley, Jr.,  
State Historian,  
Columbia, S.C.

Dear Sir:-

I am directed by The German Friendly Society of this city to forward you a copy of the address delivered by Hon. Hermann Ridder on the occasion of the 142nd Anniversary of that Society, and take great pleasure in sending you this copy under separate cover by this mail.

Respectfully yours,

*Julius G. Jahns*



April 18, 1908.

Capt. Julius H. Jahaz,  
Charleston, S.C.

My dear Captain Jahaz,

I beg to thank you and the German Friendly Society for the pamphlet containing Mr. Ridder's speech at the late anniversary dinner of The German Friendly Society. It is always gratifying to find myself remembered by my friends of my real home. It is especially gratifying to be remembered by my German-American friends. It shows that they appreciate the work that I have done for the history of the German settlement of Orangeburg and the other items of historical value respecting our German citizens that I have from time to time put in enduring shape. Aside from that, the tie of blood binds me to the Germans. I am descended from half a dozen or more of the German families who early settled in Orangeburg, actually descending from one of those families through both my father and my mother, so that, although my family name is English, I really have more German blood than English in my veins.

Please extend my thanks to the Society, and believe me.

Yours very truly,

