

NOTES FROM THE LIBRARY

KEARNY AT SEVEN PINES

THE Library has been fortunate in securing recently an author's signed manuscript of *Kearny at Seven Pines* by Edmund C. Stedman (1833-1908), the American man of letters so well known two generations ago. This poem has particular interest to citizens of New Jersey, for General Philip Kearny was one of the most distinguished soldiers that the State furnished to the Union Army in the Civil War, and his death in 1862 at Chantilly, Virginia, while on a reconnoitering tour was lamented by the whole State. Indeed, so cherished was his memory that when, in 1912, his body was moved from a vault in Trinity Churchyard, New York, to the National Cemetery at Arlington, the State erected an equestrian monument over his grave. Residents of Kearny, New Jersey, will be reminded also of the fact that their city was named after the general, on whose farm their homes are built.

The special value of the manuscript before us is that it contains two or three variant readings, and since they are in the hand of the poet himself, they seem worth recording. It is interesting, moreover, that, having begun his poem with two lines which are not in the printed texts, Stedman wrote in the margin the two lines with which the poem usually begins. The text which follows is exactly that of the manuscript, including the mis-

spelling of General Kearny's name. The notes give the variants of the printed version.

KEARNEY AT SEVEN PINES

So that story of Bayard is still on its journey,—

Of Kearney, our Bayard, who knew not to yield!¹

'Twas the day when with Jameson, fierce Berry, and Birney,

Against twenty thousand he rallied the field.

Where the red volleys poured, where the clamor rose highest,

Where the dead lay in clumps through the dwarf oak and pine,

Where the aim from the thicket was surest and highest,—

No charge like Phil Kearney's, along the whole line.

When the battle went ill, and the bravest were solemn,

Near the dark Seven Pines where we still held our ground,

He rode down the length of the withering column

And his heart at our war-cry leapt up with a bound;

He snuffed, like his charger, the wind of the powder,—

His sword waved us on and we answered the sign:

Loud our cheer as we rushed, but his laugh rang the louder,

"There's the devil's own fun, boys, along the whole line!"

How he strode his brown steed! how we saw his blade brighten

¹ Printed versions read: So that soldierly legend is still on its journey,—

That story of Kearny, who knew not to yield!

In the one hand still left—and the reins
 in his teeth!
 He laughed like a boy when the holidays
 heighten,
 But a soldier's glance shot from his
 visor beneath.
 Up came the reserves to the mellay infer-
 nal,
 Asking where to go in—through the
 clearing or pine?
 "O, anywhere! Forward! 'Tis all the same,
 Colonel:
 You'll find lovely fighting along the
 whole line!"
 O, evil the black shroud of night at Chan-
 tilly
 That hid him from sight of his brave
 men and tried!
 Foul, foul sped the bullet that clipped the
 white lily,
 The flower of our knighthood, the
 whole army's pride!
 Yet we dream that he still,—in that
 shadowy region
 Where the dead form their ranks at the
 wan drummer's sign,—
 That he rides, as of old, down the length
 of his legion,²
 And the word still is Forward! along
 the whole line.

R.K.

*"A MISSIONARY CUTTING
 AND GATHERING MASHINE"*

AN item of interest recently acquired
 by the University Library is a *Letters
 Patent* which was granted to James
 Ten Eyk, for the invention of "a
 reaping or cutting Machine." The
 document embossed on vellum is of
 three leaves (held together by a yel-
 low ribbon) with writing on pages
 one, three, four, and five, and is folio
 in size (14 $\frac{3}{8}$ " x 11 $\frac{3}{16}$ "). It was

² Printed versions read: Rides on, as of
 old, down the length of his legion,

given, "at the City of Washington,
 this second day of November in the
 year of our Lord one thousand eight
 hundred and twenty five," under the
 hand of the President of the United
 States, John Quincy Adams, and
 bears his signature as well as that of
 the Secretary of State, "H. Clay."
 The great seal of the United States
 is affixed thereto. Certification that
 the Letters Patent were examined
 and found conformable to law is at-
 tested to by the Attorney General of
 the United States under his signature
 —"Wm. Wirt." The second and
 third leaves constitute the "Schedule"
 or a description of the invention
 given in the words of the said James
 Ten Eyk, with signatures of "Geo.
 Hadfield" and "S. A. Elliot" as wit-
 nesses. On the verso of the third leaf
 we find penned: "Patent Office Re-
 ceived April 25 1837 and recorded
 anew in this office Henry L. Ells-
 worth Commissioner of Patents."

During the past ten years the Uni-
 versity Library has received manu-
 scripts, letters, and documents of the
 Ten Eyk family of North Branch,
 Somerset County, New Jersey. James
 Ten Eyk, the patentee, was the fifth
 in line of descent from Coenrad Ten
 Eyk, who emigrated from Amster-
 dam, Holland, in 1650. He was born
 in the old homestead at North
 Branch, on May 2, 1773, passed his
 days there as a farmer, and died at the
 age of eighty-one years, on July 4,
 1854. Mr. Ten Eyk was a member
 of the Reformed Protestant Dutch
 Church of North Branch. Among the

Ten Eyk Papers in the Library are found broadsides fully describing and advertising James Ten Eyk's *Reaping, Cutting, and Gathering Machine*, together with various printed forms for the use of Agents appointed to sell the right of using this machine. In the hand-writing of James Ten Eyk we find a detailed description for the making of the machine, with expenses involved including "Bord for Carpenter 10 days . . . \$2.00." A receipt, dated October 17, 1825, acknowledges payment of thirty dollars made by James Ten Eyk "being the treasury fee for his patent for a reaping and mowing machine."

The importance of reaping by machinery was recognized at an early period, ten patents having been granted during the years 1803-1825, prior to Ten Eyk's, to residents of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York and Rhode Island. Ten Eyk's reaper had a horizontal cylinder, with spiral knives cutting against straight edges. It was calculated to work by manual labor, or with a horse. Among the advantages of his machine Ten Eyk mentioned the facts that "one hand and a horse will cut and secure as much as three cradlers and three binders, in one day; the grain and seed thus gathered is easier and sooner thrashed; one man can do the work of six men in the thrashing; leaving the straw in the field, saves all the drawing of the manure; the bringing it to the barn, & the stowing of it away, may be done with the one sixth less labour than the usual

way." Despite his claims, Ten Eyk's reaper proved a complete failure judging from printed accounts available. Nevertheless in 1848 when Cyrus McCormick applied to the Patent Office for an extension of his patent of 1834, it was refused by the Examiner, Charles G. Page, on the basis that it "was not new at the time of granting said letters patent, that . . . its operation is similar to the revolving frame of James Ten Eyck, patented 2d November, 1825." In justice to McCormick, however, it must be stated that Examiner Page made a mistake in the comparison of drawings and that later McCormick was recognized as the inventor of the first successful reaper in America. After the burning of the Patent Office in 1836, James Ten Eyk's patent of 1825 was one of four "restored."

The document before us is of historical significance, therefore, not only on account of its signatures, but also as a representative of the participation of an important resident of New Jersey in the early development of agricultural machinery. It is to be regretted that Ten Eyk's reaper was not more successful, for in a description headed "Missionary Cutting and Gathering Mashine," Ten Eyk penned: "A Certain proportion of the profits of this mashine is to be dedicated to the Use of Foreign misionary and domestick Society, for Churches unable to Support the Gospel, Free Schools, and Simenaries of learning."

VIRGINIA S. BURNETT