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STATE OF DELAWARE



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HISTORIC MARKERS COMMISSION  
709 Equitable Building, Wilmington

November 29, 1932

Dr. George H. Ryden  
University of Delaware  
Newark, Delaware

Dear Dr. Ryden:

I have your letter of yesterday enclosing extract from Major Andre's Journal for which accept my thanks. I had not seen it in the Wilmington papers. I am informing Chancellor Curtis with regard to your comments as to the inscription for Old Swedes' Church. This marker has already been ordered but as the proof has not yet been received there is still a chance to make any corrections which seem necessary.

I am informed that the Vestry gave very careful attention to the word "steeple" and decided that that was the word they wished to use. With regard to Cranehook I think it should be borne in mind that the marker is for Old Swedes' Church, and Cranehook is only incidental, for which reason it probably has as much attention in the inscription as the facts warrant.

With reference to the name of the first pastor if there is any error it should undoubtedly be corrected. This is also true as to the word "Trefaldighets". Neither the spelling in this inscription nor that of one used on a marker in New Castle agrees with the spelling in a record quoted by Amandus Johnson which has just been called to my attention by Miss Lincoln.

The matter of the inscription for John Dickinson has been brought to my attention by several members of the Friends' Meeting. They all seem to be of opinion that the inscription you submitted is entirely too long. It was my understanding that both your inscription and the short one suggested by me were to be submitted but I am informed that mine did not get to their attention. It is my view that all inscriptions heretofore suggested should be discarded and some new short, crisp inscription be agreed upon which should include the most important points and omit everything else.

I was informed by several members of the Meeting that Dickinson College has not yet abandoned the proposal to remove his remains. It occurs to me that if mention were made of his connection with Dickinson College it would not only be more interesting than some other phases of his life, but might also serve to smooth the ruffled feelings of the people of Dickinson College.

Very truly yours,

*Edward W. Cooch*

EWC:CB