

## The role of British Queen Anne in supporting German immigration to the American colonies

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### Abstract:

Queen Anne (1665-1714) was Queen of Great Britain and Ireland from 1702 to 1714. During her reign, Britain witnessed a large influx of Germans to the British colonies in North America. She played a major role in supporting German immigration by encouraging immigration. Queen Anne encouraged German immigration to the British colonies in North America, granted lands in North America to German settlers, and provided economic support to German settlers.

There were several reasons behind the support for German immigration, including colonial expansion, as Britain sought to expand its colonies in North America; military buildup, as Britain needed to strengthen its military forces in the colonies; and economic development, particularly as Britain sought to develop its economy through immigration and settlement.

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### First: The path of migration and its difficulties:

The first traces of German immigration extend to the settlement of Manhattan Island. Manhattan by Dutchman Peter Minuit<sup>(1)</sup>, who was appointed by the Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce as General Manager of Newtherland. New Netherland Company, and purchased Manhattan Island from the Indian chiefs for sixty guilders <sup>(2)</sup> and came from WesselWhistle in Germany, a German was among the colonists who arrived during the first half of the 17th century. There were many Germans, mainly from the Lower Rhineland, from Geldern, Westphalia, Friesland, and Ditmarschken, as Germany and the Netherlands were not at that time as seriously separated politically and economically as they are now. The Dutch language was closely linked to the dialects spoken in the neighboring provinces of Germany, and its differences from them became more pronounced later. German immigration was not limited to these provinces, however; many came from Holstein. WhispersHis ThuringiaThuringia SwabiaSwabia and the Hanseatic cities, and these colonists could not have any influence on the development of the new country, as they were not numerous enough, and they consisted mainly of peasants and workers, and had little education, and they quickly lost their identity and changed their names to make them sound Dutch, and they completely disappeared among the Dutch, and thus all trace of them was

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<sup>(1)</sup>Peter Minuit: Dutch politician, child in Wessel In Germany in 1594 AD appointed governor to New Holland by the Dutch West India Company, He was a big merchant, as He purchased Manhattan Island from Andiarvus in 1626.M, and A The colony came under his command, and he died in office in 1641. For more see: Skal, Op. Cit., p. 8.

<sup>(2)</sup> Guilder: It is the currency of the Netherlands Antilles, and is divided into (100) cents. It was issued in the eighteenth century, and its use ceased in 1986. For more see: Chester L. Krause and Clifford Mishler, Standard Catalog of World Coins, First Edition, Krause Publications, USA, 1972, P.342.

lost, as the ship owners in Amsterdam did not keep lists of passengers they sent to the American colonies before 1683 <sup>(1)</sup>.

German immigrants headed with their families to Holland, and from there they set off to the American colonies because there were no ships that could transport them directly from Germany to the New World. Small boats transported them across the Rhine River to the city of Rotterdam in the Netherlands, and from there the trips to the American colonies began. One of the most famous of these trips was the Mayflower voyage. The Mayflower, which carried large numbers of German Protestants, and the American historian (of Dutch origin) Geovan Skal traced their journey from German lands to their arrival, stating that thirteen families of Krayfelders in Germany migrated across the Rhine River to the city of Rotterdam, and boarded the Mayflower ship belonging to the Dutch West India Company. They left London on July 24, 1683, and arrived in Philadelphia on October 6, 1683.<sup>2</sup>

The first problem after the arrival of the Concorde was the selection of a site for the German colonists. They purchased 43,000 acres from the English and requested a site on a navigable river. They asked for a contract with William Penn, who proved unwilling to comply with this request. They found a tract available six miles from Philadelphia, which is now located in the twenty-second ward of the city and still bears the original name of Germantown. Germantown, and Francis Daniel Pastorius began building a new town with an area of about (2300) hectares north of Philadelphia, which he called Germantown, and each family was given (1.2) hectares to build a house on in 1683 <sup>(3)</sup>.

The arrival of the Krefelders in 1683 marked the beginning of German immigration to the colonies. As the years passed, more and more Germans decided to immigrate to the colonies. Many Germans who had achieved success in America wrote letters to friends and relatives. In their letters, they praised this new land and all its opportunities. They were free to practice their own religion, to pursue their own trades and businesses, to have enough land for all who could afford it, and to have fertile soil. Many German immigrants loved their new home and invited others to join them.<sup>4)</sup>

The life that awaited the new immigrants in America seemed much better than what they had left behind, but the journey from German lands to the colonies was long and difficult. Most Germans took the route taken by the Krefelders down the Rhine to Rotterdam, and across the Atlantic to the New World. Every step of the journey was full of difficulties, as the Rhine had (26) customs stations (similar to modern-day toll booths), which made stopping and waiting at each station a very long journey. A German named Gottlieb Mittelberger described: Gottlieb Mittelberger included this part in his book "A Trip to Pennsylvania" <sup>(5)</sup> "The migration journey usually began in May and lasted until the end of October, which is about six months from the departure via the Rhine to Rotterdam. This journey takes six weeks, and from Rotterdam the ships depart via the English Channel, and there they wait for a period of two weeks, to begin their journey across the Atlantic Ocean to the colonies. The ships carried about (600) immigrants, meaning they crammed the passengers like a can of sardines. Therefore, the immigrants arrived sick with all kinds of illnesses, from fever, headache, scurvy, and rotting mouth... etc., due to the scarcity and filth

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<sup>(1)</sup> Skal, Op. Cit., p. 13.

<sup>(2)</sup>Count itThat day marked the real beginning of German immigration to the American colonies, andHe wasThis day is celebrated bycountingIt's a "German day"And alsoThis path is named intheBeginning with the Great Road, it was then known as Germa Town Road and eventually Main Street.TName it Germantown StreetFor more see:

Skal, Op. Cit., p. 13.

<sup>(3)</sup>Asher, Op. Cit., p. 21.

<sup>(4)</sup>Lewis K. Parker, Why German Immigrants came to America, Powerkids Press, New York, 2003, P.71.

<sup>(5)</sup>Skal, Op. Cit., p. 15.

of drinking water. When the ships arrived in Philadelphia, only those who were able to pay the shipping fees were allowed to land in them. As for those unable to pay the costs of the journey, they were forced to remain on the ships until they were purchased by the landowners as indentured servants."<sup>1</sup>.

The sick are at the worst of it all, because the healthy are favored and paid more quickly, while the miserable sick must often remain at sea and within sight of the city for another three weeks - which in many cases means death. This was the way the human trade was carried out on ships.<sup>2</sup>

After the safe and able immigrants have landed, they are all brought in a procession to the city hall and forced to take an oath of allegiance.<sup>3</sup>To the King of Great Britain, after which they are returned to the ship. Those who have paid their passage are released, and the others are advertised in the newspapers for sale. Buyers select them and bargain with the emigrants for a certain number of years and days, depending on the price demanded by the ship's captain or the merchant who paid the transportation expenses, etc. The colonial government recognizes the written contract, which becomes binding on the bailiff. Unmarried young men of both sexes are sold very quickly at a good fortune and according to the character of the buyer. Old married men, widows, and young people wait in the market, but if they have healthy children, their transportation fees are added to those of the sons, and the sons must serve longer.<sup>4</sup>

Not only peasants and artisans became serfs, but students and school teachers were often sold in the market.<sup>5</sup>

Not all German immigrants reached their destination, but more than half of them died on those harsh journeys. When following the ship reports, we find, for example, ships with (200) immigrants on board, of whom only (40) immigrants arrived, and that was on a ship journey in the year 1743 AD.<sup>6</sup>The newspapers wrote about this matter, as it was stated in those newspapers that in the year 1749 AD more than two thousand immigrants died during transportation, and we find in the report of the voyage of one of the ships in the year 1752 AD that it was carrying (340) immigrants on board, of whom only (21) people remained alive when they arrived in Philadelphia.<sup>7</sup>

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(1) Gottlieb Mittelberger, *Reise Nach Pennsylvanien Journey to Pennsylvania*: Edited and Translated by Oscar Handlin and John Cliv Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1960, PP.14 – 15.

(2) Asher, op. Cit., pp.27 – 28 ; Parker, op. Cit., p.72.

(3)The settlers feared thatAThe Germans will not be loyal toENyourLitres Starting in 1727 AD, immigrants had toAWhy?AThey take an oath of loyalty to their new country, which meansAThey had toAThey swear byAThey will be loyal to their new country and will not turn against it.AIt started., in part of the section:We are the backward inhabitants ofthebut ratherATinat on the Rhine...We givePromise.officially....AWe will be loyal To King George II and his successors [kingsAAnd queensAOthers came after George II]",The department also asked the immigrants toAWhy?AThey promise toAThey will abide by the laws ofyourLitra and this county [Pennsylvania], because the immigrantsASince they were not British subjects, all males over the age of sixteen were forced to years. Efor meAOath of allegiance to the Crown of Great BritainIt is worth noting thatThe circumstances that theAWhy did they stand up against slavery in 1688?Elssuing a protest against the slavery systemFor more see:Asher, Op. Cit., p. 31

(4) Faust, op. Cit., pp. 66 – 67; Eunich K. Swift, *Theses the Influence of Immigration Upon University School of Educaion*, for the degree master of Educetion, Boston, 1931, P.17.

(5)Faust, Op. Cit., P. 67.

(6)Faust, Op. Cit., pp. 69 – 70 ; Mittelberger, Op. Cit., p.16.

(7) Max Eickhoff, *In der Neuen Heimath*, New York, 1884, p.202.

Children between the ages of one and seven rarely survived these journeys. Often innocent people had to watch their children die of hunger, thirst or disease and then throw them into the water. Few women escaped with their lives from confinement, and many mothers were thrown into the water with their children. The main cause of the massive deaths was the crowding of German immigrants together.<sup>1</sup>

Germans in Philadelphia attempted to legislate against the greed of shipowners and merchants beginning in 1750, but were unsuccessful because of the presence of influential people in high positions who were deeply interested in the profits of transporting immigrants. However, the Germans in Philadelphia succeeded in improving the existing conditions to a large extent. In January 1764, German immigrants formed the Pennsylvania Society, the first German charitable organization in the port cities of the American colonies, which was established to extend a helping hand to immigrants of their nationality. A law was drafted and placed in the Pennsylvania Legislature by influential Germans in that society, which greatly weakened the tyranny and extortion previously practiced by the judiciary of sea captains and immigration agents.<sup>2</sup>

### **Second: The role of Queen Anne (Anne)<sup>(3)</sup>In support of German immigration:**

England at that time was interested in Protestant colonists in the Americas, and earlier England had granted asylum to French Protestants (Hugonots) fleeing from France, so it began to support and encourage the migration of Protestants from Europe to its colonies in North America. Queen Anne was a woman of generous and kind character, closely associated with the Elector Palatine, Karl Ludwig (Carl Ludwig)<sup>4</sup>

Queen Anne ascended the English throne in 1702. She was moved by the suffering of the German people and recognized their potential to colonize her North American colonies. She encouraged German immigration to Pennsylvania, New York, the Carolinas, and Virginia, and the German cantons pledged to colonize their surplus populations in the Carolinas.<sup>5</sup>

A book about the American continent was circulated in the German states called the Golden Book, in which it was mentioned that Queen Anne supported the afflicted Palatinate and invited them to come to England. The book published a picture of Queen Anne performing this support <sup>(6)</sup>In June 1709, groups of German immigrants began making their way down the Rhine River towards the Netherlands, Belgium, Rotterdam, and England. At first, they were received kindly by the people of Rotterdam, but as the migration continued and increased, reaching fifteen thousand people a year, the people of Rotterdam and its rulers became annoyed by the immigrants who stayed in Rotterdam for periods ranging from two weeks to a month before being transported to England. These immigrants were poor and spent little money while in the city, but rather begged, which led the lords to say that they

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(1) Peter Kalm, *Traoels Oder die Grosse Tour*, Vol.1.1, London, 2d edition, 1772, P.304.

(2) Faust, Op. Cit., P. 71.

(3) Queen Anne: Queen of Great Britain (1702 - 1714), was born on March 6, 1665 in London, and she is the last monarch of the Stuart, the second daughter of King James II, succeeded to the throne after the death of King William III in 1702. Her reign was marked by the Treaty of Union with Scotland in 1707, and the ongoing discussions between the Whigs and the Tories. Because she did not bear a successor and the guardianship was transferred to the government and to the descendants of James I of Hanover, died in the 18th century for whom? In 1714 AD in London. For more see:

Herbert Paul, *Queen Anne*, Hodder and Stoughton, New York, 1912, PP.50 – 82.

(4) Bittinger, Op. Cit., p. 62.

(5) Kapp, *Geschichte der deutschen Einwanderung in America*, New York, 1868, p. 79.

(6) Bittinger, Op. Cit., p. 64.

had "used up every penny in the city." The lords of Rotterdam sent letters to the Palatinate and its rulers demanding that the immigrants not be sent to their city.<sup>1)</sup>

There was much confusion about where and how this group of completely destitute people were to be kept in the camps that were finally established in several places in London, especially Blackheath (Blackheat) where tents were erected from English military stores to house German immigrants. Queen Anne showed her concern for the afflicted, as she provided many financial donations to them, and provided them with their daily sustenance. The total of these charitable donations amounted to two thousand pounds sterling. The English Parliament also provided services for living, transportation, etc., which amounted to a total of more than half a million pounds. Queen Anne also provided them with clothes and shoes. When the immigrants first arrived in England, she gave them Bibles, gifts, and loaves of bread. Every two weeks, they were given straw to lie on.<sup>2)</sup> The Queen allowed each Platini a shilling a day to support him.<sup>3)</sup> London, which was not then a modern city, was unable to accommodate hundreds of thousands of strangers, and was greatly embarrassed by this influx of foreigners, most of whom were reduced to poverty and hunger. The needy Palatinate, whom the Queen had provided with food for months, and, having no homes, were housed in barns, empty dwellings and warehouses, became envious of the good treatment given to the foreigners, and made complaints against this exceptional treatment.<sup>4)</sup> Then, on a dark night, the English attacked the camp with two thousand armed men armed with sickles, hammers and axes. The immigrants were severely beaten, as one of the reasons for this hostility was also the ignorance of the English. They suspected that the immigrants were Catholics, and that most of the hostile feelings were against this religion.<sup>5)</sup>

A thousand immigrants were returned to German lands as a result of pressure, which prompted the Queen to push her ministers to take action in this field. About five thousand German immigrants were helped in 1709, and they were transported from Rotterdam to London, then three thousand more were transported, and England continued to pledge to transport them until fifteen thousand immigrants were transported from Rotterdam to London.<sup>6)</sup>

As a result of this feeling of hatred, the immigrants issued a pathetic letter which read: "We humbly beg... and every immigrant among us is grateful for the good treatment shown to us by Queen Anne, and we ask the English people to desist from the ill treatment to which we are subjected, and not to call us with bad words and phrases, for that is contrary to the spirit of Christianity. In return, we assure you that our behavior will be with great humility and gratitude, and we offer our prayers and supplications for you... your afflicted Platonic brothers."<sup>7)</sup>

Queen Anne heard proposals from various people and companies about wanting to secure some of these immigrants, usually only for the profit that was to be made from their work. The king offered five pounds a head to anyone who would take refugees from the Palatinate and settle them anywhere in England. However, this measure had little success, due to the large numbers of Germans arriving in London, so the queen decided to send them to her colonies in North America.<sup>8)</sup> A corridor was used to facilitate the access of immigrants to those colonies. Queen Anne provided, in addition to the free land on which they would

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<sup>(1)</sup>Gottlieb Mittelberger, *Gottlieb Mittelberger's Journey to Pennsylvania in the Year 1750 and Return to Germany in the Year 1754*, Phia, 1898, P.56.

<sup>(2)</sup>Mittelberger, *Op. Cit.*, p. 56.

<sup>(3)</sup>Faust, *Op. Cit.*, p. 74.

<sup>(4)</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 77 – 78.

<sup>(5)</sup> Bittinger, *Op. Cit.*, p. 69.

<sup>(6)</sup> Peg Ashbrock, *The German Americans*, Mason Crest, USA, 2008, p.119.

<sup>(7)</sup>Mittelberger, *Op. Cit.*, p. 57.

<sup>(8)</sup> Ashbrock, *Op. Cit.*, p. 125.

live, means of transportation to them, which led to the expansion of the English Channel to a huge degree.<sup>1</sup>

Roy Conrad Weiser  
Conrad Weiser <sup>(2)</sup>An interesting story before the Germans immigrated to the colonies is that many Indian chieftains were visiting London at the time when the Palatine exiles appeared in large numbers. The sight of the homeless and starving immigrants aroused the sympathy of the Native Americans, so one of them, without solicitation, made a free offer to the Queen of a tract of land in Schoharie County. Schoharie in New York for the use and benefit of the German exiles<sup>(3)</sup>.

Queen Anne took steps to send them to some of the British colonies in North America, and New York City was finally chosen, after they were naturalized without fees. The German Protestants were then given free transportation to New York, and promised support for the first year so that they could maintain themselves. The Rev. Josua von Kuchertal donated Josua Von Kochertal with a sum of one hundred pounds sterling, and a grant of two hundred hectares for the construction of a church<sup>(4)</sup>, with the Queen pledging to the German Protestant settlers twenty hectares for each person, whether man, woman or child, and seventeen hectares for roads.<sup>(5)</sup> Kochertal applied to the Queen for transportation to the American colonies.<sup>(6)</sup>

The governor of the New York Colony was Colonel Robert Hunter. Robert Hunter <sup>(7)</sup>He wanted to use German immigrants in the tar industry and naval stores, so they were used on the Hudson River. The Hudson River and Mohawk territories, and the Governor of New York decided that they should be made to pay back the expenses paid to them by the Queen, and in order to achieve this he sent them to the pine forests of the Hudson Valley to build trading ships in that region until the debts were cleared. After the failure of the project, the poor Germans were without tools and did not even have the necessary means of subsistence, as the Governor did not provide them with the promised rations, and took their rifles because he was constantly afraid of their departure, and thus made it impossible for them to hunt game. Their children were taken away from them and trained in New York. After two years, the settlers revolted against their oppressors, but were soon subdued by British forces.<sup>(8)</sup> The second group of immigrants was shipped to North Carolina, and their

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<sup>(1)</sup>James D. Boyd, *An Investigation into the Structural Causes of German – American Mass Migration in the Nineteenth Century*, Submitted for the award of PhD, Cardiff University, Wales, 2013, P.32.

<sup>(2)</sup> Conrad Weiser: German translator and writer, born in 1696, the son of a German immigrant. To the United States of America, Worked for fifteen years as an official interpreter in Pennsylvania and organized conferences there. He died in the year 1760. For more, see: Lawrence Venuti, "Translation Culture in the United States of America," translated by Walid Bleish Al-Omari, *Al-Faisal Magazine*, Issue (316), Al-Faisal Cultural House, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, December 2002, p. 34.

<sup>(3)</sup>Faust, Op. Cit., P.78.

<sup>(4)</sup>Bittinger, Op. Cit., p. 58.

<sup>(5)</sup>Kalm, Op. Cit., p. 309.

<sup>(6)</sup> Faust, Op. Cit., p. 74.

<sup>(7)</sup>Robert Hunter: political and military American, born in general 1664 in Scotland, He completed the Military College and became an officer in the Scottish Army in 1689. Elected Governor of New York in the period (1710 – 1720), then became Governor of Jamaica in 1727, until his death on March 31st 1734 in Jamaica. For more see:

Mary Lou Lustig, *Robert Hunter (1666 – 1734): New York's Augustan Statesman*, Syracuse University Press, New York, 1983.

<sup>(8)</sup>Skal, Op. Cit., p. 10.

number was more than (600), and they founded the city of Newbern. Newbern near the mouth of the Neuse River, some of whom died on the journey, and the Tuscarora Indians killed sixty others, nearly destroying their settlement and scattering them throughout southeastern Carolina.<sup>1)</sup>

About (500) young German immigrants were recruited into the British Army, and about (3800) people were sent to Ireland, and settled in the province of Munster. Munster, and provided land and built houses, and became a strong, useful and influential reserve army in the country, and retained their customs for more than a century, but they eventually melted into society.<sup>2)</sup>

Discrimination was primarily against the German Catholics, who numbered about (2,200) Catholics, as they were all sent back to their homes, except for a few hundred who chose the alternative of becoming Protestants, and the rest wanted to obtain a settlement in North America.<sup>3)</sup>

After a demographic survey of the first half of the arrivals, the London authorities found that (65%) of the males were farmers, while (34%) were craftsmen or merchants, while the remaining (1%) were educated, and that this demographic composition of the group accurately reflects a segment of the society from which they came.<sup>4)</sup>

### **CONCLUSION:**

Queen Anne's support for German immigration to the British colonies in North America (what later became the United States) had significant effects on American history, including:

First: Demographic effects:

1. Increase in the German population: German immigration led to a significant increase in the German population in the British colonies, especially in Pennsylvania.
2. Impact on demographics: German immigration contributed to changing the demographics of the British colonies, affecting culture, language, and economy.

Second: Economic impacts:

1. Developing agriculture: The Germans contributed to the development of agriculture in the British colonies, especially in Pennsylvania, where they settled and exploited the fertile lands.
2. Development of crafts and industry: The Germans brought new craft and industrial skills, which contributed to the development of the local economy.

Third: Cultural influences:

1. Contribution to American Culture: Germans have contributed to shaping American culture, through their contributions to art, music, literature, and language.
2. Preserving German identity: Germans have preserved their cultural and linguistic identity, which has influenced cultural diversity in the United States.

Fourth: Political influences:

1. Contribution to the American Revolution: The Germans contributed to the American Revolution, participating in the fight against the British.
2. Contribution to building the American state: The Germans contributed to building the American state, through their participation in politics, economics, and culture.

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<sup>(1)</sup>Boyd, Op. Cit., p. 33.

<sup>(2)</sup> Faust, Op. Cit., p. 79.

<sup>(3)</sup> Natonal Archives (NA) state papers (SP) 10/34/12, Extract of the Several Lists of the poor Palatines that are come over Here from the 1st of May t the 15th of June.

<sup>(4)</sup> Boyel, op. Cit., p.33 ; E. Willard, History of the United States, New York and Chicago, 1871, PP. 134 – 135.

Overall, Queen Anne's support for German immigration had profound effects on American history, shaping the demographics, economy, culture, and politics of the United States.

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