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Staten Island and Its People

A HISTORY

1609-1929

By
William

CHARLES W. LENG, B. Sc., 1859-

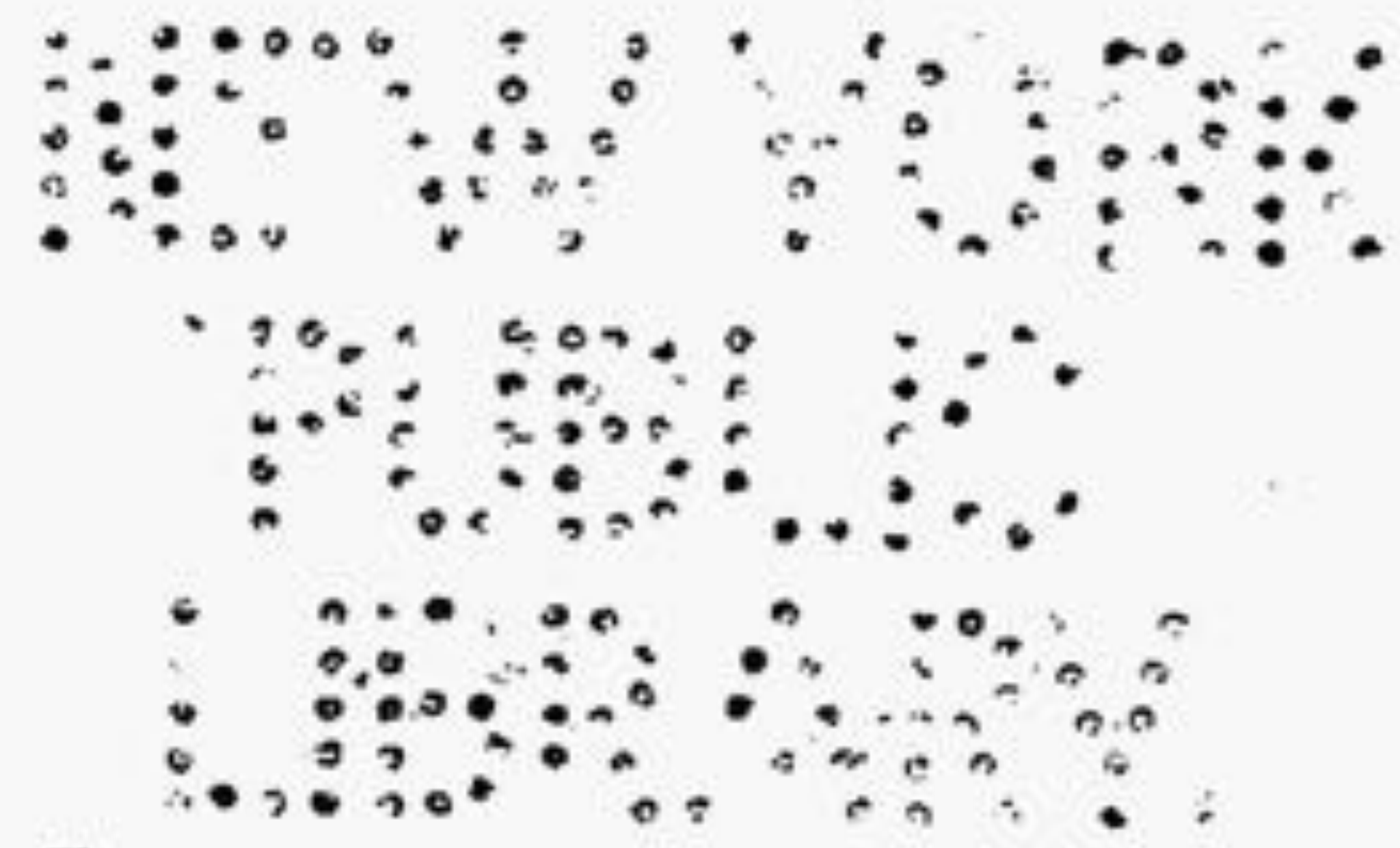
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VOLUME I



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Rev. Carmelo DiSano, in consideration of his patriotic sentiments and welfare work among his fellow countrymen, and especially for his enthusiastic Red Cross activities, has been honored by the title of Chevalier of the Crown of Italy, with letters of appreciation from the King and Queen.

Moravian Churches—It is said that Captain Nicholas Garrison, commanding a ship in which Bishop Spangenberg of the United Brethren, commonly called Moravians, was a passenger, became thereby the means of introducing the denomination on Staten Island. Rev. David Bruce was their first preacher here and Jacob Vanderbilt and wife among the first converts. Between 1742 and 1743, other Moravian clergymen began to come here, and services were held in a school house at or near Egbertville or New Dorp. On December 7, 1763, the old Moravian Church, combined with a parsonage, which is still standing but moved from the original site, was consecrated. Its cornerstone had been laid July 7, 1763, following an application to the church authorities in Bethlehem, Pa., made by Richard Conner, Stephen Martino, Jr., Tunis Egbert, Jacob Vanderbilt, Aaron Cortelyou, Matthias Enyard, John Beatty, Cornelius Cortelyou, Cornelius Vanderbilt, Cornelius Van Deventer, Stephen Martino, Mary Stillwell, Cornelius Martino, and Peter Perine.

From this beginning have sprung the various Moravian churches and the Moravian cemetery which have long been among the interesting features of Staten Island. The parent church was replaced by the present edifice, consecrated May 15, 1845. It had been damaged by fire, but not destroyed, during the Revolution, and had been served by the following pastors:

Rev. Hector Gambold, April 17, 1763-84.

Rev. James Birkby.

Rev. E. Thorp.

Rev. Frederick Moehring, 1787-93.

Rev. James Birkby, 1793-97.

Rev. Frederick Moehring, 1797-1803.

Rev. Nathaniel Brown, 1803-13.

Rev. John C. Bechler, 1813-17.

Rev. George A. Hartman, 1817-37.

Rev. Ambrose Rondthaler, 1837-39.

Rev. H. G. Clauder, 1839-52.

Since the new church was erected the following:

Rev. Bernhard de Schweinitz, 1852-54.

Rev. Amadeus A. Reinke, 1854-60.

Rev. Edwin T. Senseman, 1860-62.

Rev. Eugene Leibert, 1862-67.