

Documents

Twenty Additional Rappite Manuscripts

*Edited and Translated by John C. Andressohn**

After the publication of four of the Rappite letters in the December, 1946, issue of the *Indiana Magazine of History*, twenty other manuscripts were turned over to the translator. This represents all that the Indiana University Library possesses. All twenty-four manuscripts are without doubt from the estate of Frederick Rapp, the leading business organizer of the Rappists. These documents throw light on an important period of Rappite history, a period which has been treated rather meagerly and, probably, none too accurately in the published accounts of the community. It is unfortunate that the material is limited, but efforts will be made to search out additional documents. Thirteen of these documents were composed by John L. Baker (originally Langenbacher; he died 1825), one of Frederick Rapp's most efficient assistants. These letters give a picture of the economic life of the Rappite community while it was still located at Harmony, Pennsylvania. Harmony is located about twenty-five miles north of Pittsburgh, and its business relations were for the most part in the Pittsburgh area. At Beaverpoint, now Bridgewater, at the junction of the Ohio and Beaver rivers, some twelve miles southeast of Harmony, the society maintained a depot. From Pittsburgh supplies were shipped down the Ohio and unloaded at Beaverpoint, then ferried across the river on flatboats and carted to Harmony. Goods from Harmony went in the reverse order.

John L. Baker appears to have begun his term as manager of the depot at Beaverpoint shortly before July 2, 1813, for he states that the *beginning* of his duties was arduous (letter of July 2). This editor is inclined to think that the community chose its managers at Beaverpoint for more or less definite periods. In the letter of November 21, 1813, Baker bemoans the fact that he must be absent from the services at Harmony "since it has been so ordered." Who the previous adminis-

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trator was, this translator has not discovered, but the warehouse and the trade relations existed before Baker entered on his duties at Beaverpoint. His letters from there were all of a business nature, and the last correspondence is dated November 27, 1813. This date probably represents the approximate end of his service at that station, for on May 9, 1814, he was in Vincennes.

This correspondence with Frederick Rapp gives us the lists of goods sent from Beaverpoint to Harmony; if we possessed Frederick Rapp's letters to Baker, we should have an equally detailed list of the items sent from Harmony. Some of the manufactured articles are incidentally mentioned in Baker's accounts: boots and shoes, cloth, hats, wines, iron hoops for barrels, and whisky (according to Duss, *The Harmonists*, page 31, the society produced three thousand gallons of whisky as early as 1806).

Salt was an important item among the purchases. The *Canawby* salt mentioned in the letters of July 5 and 7, was brought from Mason County, West Virginia (the Kanawha salt region), about two hundred and fifty miles down the Ohio from Beaverpoint. An unpublished master's thesis (Francis Eugene Andrew, *The Early Kanawha Salt Industry*, Indiana University, 1936) contains the following information: In 1797, Elisha Brooks erected in the Kanawha region the first salt furnace in the West; as a result of improved methods, salt manufacturing became big business; in the latter part of 1810, eleven furnaces were in operation on the Kanawha, each producing approximately four hundred bushels of salt a day; two years later, the same area contained thirty furnaces.

At Beaverpoint, the community employed a person having a boat. Although Baker says (letter of July 5): "We have a boat," it belonged to McFerran, who took it with him when he left there; the replacement, Isaac Bean, was also a boat-owner. Frederick Rapp at Harmony had several wagons (letter of July 5) to convey goods at times to Beaverpoint, but Baker laments the fact that he did not possess his own wagon, but was dependent on carters, who were frequently unreliable. The charge was twenty-five cents a hundred-weight. Careful, detailed expense accounts were kept, although in a few instances the arithmetic was slightly at fault; e.g., (letter of November 19) 621 lbs. @ .27 a cwt. is set down as \$1.66½ instead of \$1.67½ (actually 1.6767).

Nowhere in these letters from Beaverpoint is there any suggestion of leaving Harmony; in fact quite the contrary seems true. Baker is busy throughout those months taking orders and buying materials. On July 15, he writes that he has engaged carpenters, who "will board here, on which account I should like fifty pounds of ham and shoulders." He also desired an efficient housekeeper from Harmony. On July 5, he was planning to get salt by boat from the Kanawha region, instead of depending on middlemen. As late as October 24, he was carrying out a wish of Father (George) Rapp by sending him seeds of flowering bushes "which grow on a hill between here and Beaver and blossom beautifully in the spring." One cannot imagine Father Rapp bestowing such loving care on Harmony, if he were about to desert the place. In one of the last letters from Beaverpoint (November 21), Baker expressed a nostalgic longing to be back in Harmony and hoped that his absence would not continue much longer. This might conceivably imply that there were plans to give up both Beaverpoint and Harmony, but a more natural supposition would be that his term as manager away from the community was about over.

A few months later Baker was in Vincennes. When the decision to sell out and migrate to the Wabash was made, and the reasons for it, represents a tantalizing problem. The various published accounts pass over the matter cursorily. Aaron Williams, *The Harmony Society at Economy, Penn'a* (1866), is not especially interested in this early phase of the Society's history and has only one sentence to explain the motivation for the migration. He writes: "Among their reasons for desiring a change, was the disadvantage of being twelve miles from navigation, together with the unfitness of the soil and climate for the most successful cultivation of the grape and other fruits, to which they desired to give special attention." George B. Lockwood, *The New Harmony Movement* (1905), has apparently copied the same sentence. Even John S. Duss, the last trustee of the Society, in his volume entitled *The Harmonists* (1943), adds nothing new. It is certainly not an adequate explanation for the apparently sudden decision to move into an unknown region five hundred miles distant.

In Baker's letters from Beaverpoint there is no indication that the removal of the community was contemplated, nor would he have been unaware of the fact if it had been planned

at Harmony, for he made occasional business trips to Harmony to confer with Frederick Rapp. Thus, on the basis of the letters, it must be assumed that the decision was made during the winter of 1813-1814. Could Frederick Rapp and John L. Baker have been unfavorably impressed with the business outlook in addition to the fact that Harmony was not advantageously located for its diversified industries? Not only were transportation costs relatively high, but the correspondence reveals that business conditions were deteriorating in the Pittsburgh area. One boat load of products from Harmony had to be sold in Pittsburgh far below the expected price (letter of July 15). In the letter of March 7, 1815, it was stated that the Louisville price for shoes and boots was considerably above the Pennsylvania price. Even at the very end, the community thought it more profitable to ship their remaining goods all the way to New Harmony instead of endeavoring to close them out in the East, "since prices had dropped very much."

What directed their thoughts to southwestern Indiana? There is a hint in the Memorandum of May 9, 1814; here we learn that they had entered into negotiations with a Mr. Jones of Pittsburgh concerning his land on the Wabash. We can imagine that in connection with their business trips to Pittsburgh bankers, they became acquainted with this Mr. Jones. Did he give them the idea of moving to the Wabash while offering to sell his land in Posey County? The subject deserves more elucidation than Duss's statement that "in the spring of 1814, a party of exploration—George Rapp, John L. Baker and Louis Schreiber—in search of another haven in the American wilderness, boarded a river boat headed for Louisville" (page 35). It seems rather that they were headed for a definite goal.

If one may attempt to reconstruct the developments, one should picture them in this wise. The Rappite leaders were realizing the drawbacks of the Pennsylvania location; they heard of the land on the Wabash, a fertile region on navigable water, and even had a large tract offered to them; other land could be secured through the land office. Alluring as the outlook was, these hard-headed businessmen would not buy a pig in a poke, but set out to look it over. Surely in that short time, they did not plan to undertake a tour of inspection of the western lands. They knew where they were going. They saw the region, it seemed to be what they

were looking for, and they decided in favor of the migration. They went to Vincennes, the seat of the territory, to enter land. They chose Ewing, of Ewing and Badollet, as their agent. Badollet was the Federal Land Agent.

On May 9, 1814, one finds John L. Baker in Vincennes, conferring with Ewing and entering land. Whether George Rapp and Schreiber were with him is not stated; they may have returned at once to Harmony to acquaint the community with the decision. Baker's Memorandum discloses that he paid the land office \$2,109 and also bought land from various individuals. According to Elfrieda Lang's study (December, 1946, number of the *Indiana Magazine of History*, page 361), the records show that on May 9, 1814, the Rappites entered 2,435 acres. The Memorandum also reveals that Baker was now ready to close the deal with Jones of Pittsburgh; Jones seems to have offered his land for approximately fifteen hundred dollars, and Baker now asked for a definite assignment, made before a witness, which was to be acknowledged by Judge Roberts, in order to get a deed issued. After completing this business and leaving further details in the hands of Nathaniel Ewing, Baker returned to Harmony. Soon thereafter, he led a contingent of Rappites to the new site (letter of July 2). There is a widespread belief that Robert Owen first called the settlement on the Wabash "New Harmony," but this is clearly false, for the letters of September 14, 1814 (from Romelius L. Baker to John and Jacob Baker) and that of October 31, 1814 (from Frederick Rapp to George Rapp) employ the designation *New Harmony*. It is, however, true that the Rappites did not consistently add the *New*.

The first transport must have left in June, 1814. No time was lost in endeavoring to secure buyers for the old homestead. One learns that in June many persons came to look at the land and the buildings, and one prospective buyer offered seven hundred dollars for the mill and two hundred acres. Others seemed ready to buy the house and the cottages. But the Rappite leaders were hoping to sell the whole plant as a unit. This plan required time and effort. In the letter of December 17, 1814, it was stated that they engaged the firm of Baldwin and Cromwell of Pittsburgh as their agents, who were authorized to offer the land and the buildings for sale as a unit. An advertisement offering the whole establishment for sale was inserted in the *Pittsburgh Gazette*.

To close out their furs, they had previously entered into an agreement with two Pittsburgh firms, who offered to sell them for the community. Efforts to convert their notes and paper money into gold and silver, proved a failure. They had better success with their livestock, selling twenty head of young cattle, four oxen, and a bull for \$404.

Meanwhile the Rappite community was gradually being transferred to the West. The letter of September 14, 1814, states that a third transport would be ready to start in six or eight weeks. (The letters have no reference to the second transport.) This third contingent actually left on October 31, 1814. Although Father Rapp was expected to depart with this group, he left earlier and was already in New Harmony when the transport set out (letter of October 31, 1814). Frederick Rapp also made the trip to the West, probably in December, 1814, mainly to arrange for further land purchases. A memorandum in his handwriting, but undated and unsigned, contains the information that Ewing and Badollet had been authorized to enter additional land, the sections to be acquired being carefully noted. Miss Lang (page 361) found that 5,370 additional acres were purchased in the last months of 1814 and 4,319 in the next year.

The memorandum further reveals that John L. Baker had returned to Harmony and was conducting another party to the new settlement. In connection with this information, Frederick Rapp informed Ewing and Badollet that Father Rapp was now about to lay out the new town, and added that John L. Baker would soon arrive in Vincennes with the sketch and would ask the advice of Ewing and Badollet, which they had previously promised.

Meanwhile John Reichert, Romelius L. Baker, and Christopher Miller (the physician) were winding up the affairs in Harmony, Pennsylvania. In March, 1815, Frederick Rapp was back again in Pennsylvania to aid in the final liquidation. The letters are silent on the sale of the land and buildings to the Mennonites from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. According to Duss, the price was one hundred thousand dollars, but the buyers failed to meet all their payments. Efforts were made to close out their remaining stock of manufactured goods, but to avoid incurring great loss "because prices have dropped so much," Frederick Rapp closed the entire store, packed up the things, and shipped them to New Harmony. Shoes and

boots had been sent ahead earlier. In the Louisville area, they expected higher prices and a more receptive market.

In the last letter (March 13, 1815) there is a solemn warning, not to go further into debt. "Adopt this rule and insist upon it, that borrowing cease, for we have great difficulty in collecting outstanding notes."

If further documents can be uncovered, the picture will become clearer. At present, one sees through a glass darkly; one knows the facts only in part.

Beaverpoint July 2nd 1813.

Fredk Rapp

Diesen Abend um 9 Uhr empfieng ich dein Schreiben, aber ganz unerwartet, der Joseph musste seinen Wagen zurück lassen, weil es ohnmöglich war die Biber diesen Abend mit der flät zu fahren. Wenn der Ohio nach Verhältnis wäre so gross geworden als die Biber, so wäre vielleicht nicht allein die Board weggeschwemmt, sondern vielleicht auch die Häuser.—Ich hatte für meinen Anfang unsägliche Mühe und Bekümmernis, wie das Wasser anfieng aufzuschwellen, kam gerade das Boat von Pittsburg mit ziemlich güter beladen, die also bald ans Land gethan wurden, und kaum konnte ich sie dem aufsteigenden Wasser entreissen, und zugleich sahe ich 24 Tausend fuss Board dem Wasser ausgesetzt, und zugleich war ich allein, den McFerran hatte ich fort geschickt um Leute zu holen, hat aber keine bekommen, ohnerachtet habe ich die Güter in Sicherheit ins Trockene gebracht, und die Board habe ich mit Beyhilfe von Lawyer Moore, Powers und andern dienstfertigen Leuten von Bibertown vor Gefahr gesichert, unter heftigem Regen, und weil die Board ohne hin schleimig waren, so wurden wir alle so mit Schleim überzogen, dass man bei nahe keinen mehr gekannt hat. Die Board aber sind alle wirklich gut aufgesetzt, und wie ich hoffe aus aller Gefahr—

Ich übersende hiemit nach deinem Verlangen folgende Güter—

1 trunk	150	brot over	971
2 kegs wh. Lead	56	1 bundle wire	10
1 " Sundries	47	2 do Scyths	75
1 " Vitriol	46	2 pig lead	100
1 box Cards	50	1 box Glass	150
2 ps Sheet Iron	27	6 ps rolled Iron	76
1 keg tobacco	155	1 wool bag C	133
4 ps. Cloth to dress	40	1 do do Yr	138
8 bundles nail rods	400	2 kegs nails	228
		1 do do	230
	971		

2111 lb.

July 3rd.

Alle die Güter lasse ich nun auf dein Tray an die Biber fahren, und werde sie in der flätt zum laager bringen so bald die Biber passiert werden kan werde ich die übrigen Güter senden durch zwei Wägen, die ich bestellt habe, wovon einer willens ist nach Washington zu

fahren um selbige Wolle holen, wenn du es verlangst. Ich konnte wenig Geschäfte thun, die Board und der Regen haben mich überall verhindert. Ich hoffe morgen nach der Harmonie zu kommen, um fernern Bericht abzustatten, gegossene Räder von Eisen und Mass sind noch nicht angekommen, erwarte sie aber bis Montag. Meinen herzlichen Gruss an die Väter

John L. Baker

Den Whisky habe ich gegenwärtig noch nicht erhalten, hoffe aber denselben auf der fläht mit mir zurück zu bringen, holte dafür 25 lb. Gerber Salt, 15 lb. niter & 2 lb. flour Sulphur sind in dem Kegs Sundries eingepackt.

Beaverpoint, July 2, 1813.

Frederick Rapp

This evening at 9 o'clock I received your letter, but quite unexpectedly, for Joseph had to leave his wagon behind, because he found it impossible to cross the Beaver this evening on the flat (raft). If the Ohio had risen in the same degree as the Beaver, not only would the boards have been washed away, but probably also the houses.— I had at the beginning of my work [he may just have been starting out on his duties at Beaverpoint] untold difficulty and worry as the water began to rise, for just then the boat from Pittsburgh, fairly well laden, arrived. The goods were immediately unloaded, and I could hardly rescue them from the rising water. At the same time I saw twenty-four thousand feet of boards exposed to the water. There I was alone, for I had sent McFerran to get help, but he could not obtain any; nevertheless I got the things safely into dry places. With the aid of lawyer Moore, Powers, and other obliging persons of Beavertown, I rescued the boards from danger in a heavy downpour. Because the boards were slimy, we were all covered with slime, so that one would scarcely have recognized us. The boards are really well stacked, and I hope out of all danger.

Herewith I am now sending you as you requested the following wares. [See the original for the list.]

July 3rd.

All the goods [from Harmony] I am now having conveyed on your dray to the Beaver and shall have them transferred to the warehouse. As soon as the Beaver can be crossed, I shall send the other goods on two wagons, which I have ordered; one of the drivers is willing to drive to Washington [Pa.?] if you request it. I couldn't carry on much business; the boards and the rain hampered me in every way.

I hope to come to Harmony tomorrow to make a further report. The cast-iron wheels of [the right] size have not arrived as yet, but I expect them by Monday.

My hearty greetings to the Fathers.

John L. Baker

I haven't received the whisky as yet, but hope to bring it back with me on the raft. In place of it I obtained twenty-five pounds of tanner's salt. Fifteen pounds of niter and two pounds of powdered sulphur are packed in the keg marked sundries.

Beaverpoint, July 5th 1813.

Fredk Rapp

Ich hatte diesen Morgen eine Unterredung mit Lawyer Moore, welcher sagte, dass er sein Boat mit Canawy Salz beladen nächstens erwarte, und wünschte es zu 9 Doll das Bärrel verkaufen, ich aber wäre keineswegs willens soviel dafür zu erlauben, ob er flour oder Whisky an Bezahlung nehmen würde. Ich werde mich aber um den dortigen Preis verschiedener Produkte erkundigen, und dir so bald als möglich Bericht abstaten. Ich denke da wir doch auch ein Boat haben und die Produkte an Hand möchte man wohl eine Reise dorthin wagen, um Salz zurück zu bringen so wohl als andre Leuth, freilich sollte man einen guten Korrespondenten haben, der einem für den Verkauf und Einkauf besorgt wäre, man möchte vielleicht unter den Pittsburger Bankleuth einen finden der eine Adresse und Recommendation an einen solchen Mann geben könnte. Wünsche wegen dieser Sache deine Gesinnung in Bälde zu vernehmen. Weil die Erndte vorhanden, so hoffe ich werde ziemlich Whisky verschliessen können, halte es dennoch für schicklich diese beide Wägen meistens mit Whisky zu beladen, auch etlich Bbls Common flour, eine Beisszange, einen grossen und 1 kleinen Nagelbohrer für Haus Gebrauch—1 Buch grosses und 1 Buch kleines fliess Papier für Guken und Säke nebst den zuvor beorderten Articles. Da ich nicht ein einzig gutes Schloss am Hause habe so schike ich zwei derselben, um durch den Schmied reparieren, wünsche aber sie in Bälde zu erhalten, da sie beide an die Waarhäuser gehören. Die gegossenen Räder mit 6 Woll Säke sind am Samstag schon hier angekommen, ich habe mein möglichstes gethan die Bauern als gestern zu senden, sie waren aber nicht fertig gewesen wie sie mir es versprochen hatten.

Magst meine Rechnung belasten mit

1 Bbl Highwine sold and omitted in the Settlement	
33 Gall @ .75 1Bbl 1.00	\$25.75
Error on a Bbl Coffee 3 lb. @ .33	0.99
	<hr/>
	\$26.74

NB. Es ist ein Irrthum in Beans Coffee Bill

Dein Bbl wiegt 197—19—178 lb.

Mein do 182—19—163 "

Hingegen zu gut schreiben für

973¼ lb. freight from Pittsb	25	\$ 2.43
1 twill bag with stones	100 1 Bbl 100	2.00
4592 lb Carriage to Harmonie @ 25		11.48
		<hr/>

3888 " do to Beaver @ 25	\$15.91
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mit herzlichem Gruss

John L.Baker

Reed Beaverpoint July 6th 1813 of John L. Baker

28 ps Iron	1171 lb.	brot over	1547 lb.
1 Bdle br. Cash. [brown cashmere]	72	5 bag wool	164
1 Bbl Coffee	197		146
1 do empty	33		166
1 bag stones	53		194
1 do wool	21		105
	<hr/> 1547		<hr/> 2322 lb.

1 ps Cloth to be dreped
in good order which I promise to deliver in like order to Fredk Rapp
Harmonie without delay

Samuel Johnston

Reed Same date of John L. Baker

45 ps Iron	1083	brot over	1722
2 Jack wheels	43	4 Bags wool	143
5 pig lead	300		163
2 bags wool	152		163
	<hr/> 144		<hr/> 79
	1722		2270 lb.

in good order which I promise to deliver in like order to Fredk Rapp
Harmonie without delay

Jacob Small

Ich werde für die Ladung mit den Leuten abrechnen.

Beaverpoint, July 5, 1813.

Frederick Rapp

This morning I had a conference with lawyer Moore, who told me that he expected within a short time the arrival of his boat laden with Canawy salt and wished to sell it at \$9 a barrel. I am, however, by no means willing to pay that much, even if he were to accept flour or whisky in payment. I shall, however, inquire about the price of various products in that region and shall report to you as soon as possible. I think, since we have a boat and the products [to be sold or exchanged] on hand, we, as well as other people, could venture a trip there to bring back the salt. Of course, we ought to have a good agent who would negotiate the purchase and sale; one might find among the Pittsburgh bank officials some one who could furnish the address and a recommendation to a person of that nature. I desire to know your opinion in this matter soon.

Because the harvest is at hand, I hope to be able to store considerable whisky [probably the whisky can be sold at harvest time?], nevertheless I still think it advisable to load our two wagons mostly with whisky [to be sent from Harmony to Beaverpoint], also with a barrel of ordinary flour, a pair of nippers, a large and a small gimlet for general use, and a book of large and one of small-sized unglazed paper for bags and sacks in addition to the previously ordered articles.

Since I do not have a single good lock on our house, I am sending two of them to be repaired by our smith; I desire, however, to get them back soon, since both of them ought to be on the warehouses. The cast wheels and six sacks of wool arrived already on Saturday. I did my best to send the peasants [probably the carters] yesterday; they were, however, not ready to go despite their promise.

You may charge to my account:

1 bbl. highwine, which was omitted in the settlement.	
33 gal. @ 75 1 bbl. 100	\$25.75
Error on bbl. of coffee 3 lb. @ 33	.99
	<hr/>
	\$26.74

NB. There was an error in the bill for the coffee beans.

Your bbl. weighs 197-19—178 lb.

My do 182-19—163 "

On the other hand add to my credit

973¼ lb freight from Pittsburgh @ 25	\$ 2.43
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1 twill bag with stones 100 1 bbl. 100	2.00
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4592 lbs. carriage to Harmony @ 25	\$11.91
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[Evidently a later insertion in lighter ink.]

3888 carriage to Beaver @ 25.

With hearty greetings

John L. Baker

[There follow two lists of goods sent to Harmony and receipted by the carters of the two wagons.]

[In the margin is the notation:] I shall settle with these two men for the shipment.

Beaverpoint July 7th 1813

Fredk Rapp

Diesen Abend habe ich deinen werthen Brief und zugleich die Ladungen beider Wägen in guter Ordnung erhalten. Ist mir aber sehr leid zu vernehmen, dass nicht alle gegossene Räder angekommen sind. Hoffe das Boat welches ich schon lang von Pittsb. erwarte werde sie ohne Zweifel mit bringen. Wie ich durch den Ueberbringer dieses vernommen, so ist Isaac Bean heute nach Harmonie gegangen, welcher nicht allein wegen obigen Rädern, sondern auch über meinen Vorschlag nach Canawy zu fahren Bescheid ertheilen wird. Werden die Räder ankommen, so will ich augenblicklich einen Wagen mit denselben und dem Schleifstein nach Harmonie senden. Diesen Abend öffnete ich das Hanf Samen fass und habe es ganz verschimmelt und von abscheulichem Geruch gefunden, und ausgeleert. Heute habe ich mein schon zehn Tage gelegenes Kleeheu vollends auf einen Haufen gebracht, und Morgen werde ich den Ueberrest vollends mähen lassen. Nichts macht mir mehr Hinderniss, als dass ich nicht einen eigenen Wagen habe und genöthigt bin so viel Zeit zu versäumen einen um Lohn zu bekommen und dabey von lauter ungewissen Versprechungen abhängen muss.

Es kommt einem in einer liebevollen und dienstfertigen Brüderschaft erzogenen Menschen wunderlich für, sich mit lauter ungeordneten und halzstarrigen Leuten böser Art zu plagen, von welchen man

mit Geld und gut Wort kaum zuwegen bringen kan, einem nur einen noch halbbetrogenen Dienst zu erweisen.

Le [Liebe] Theure Harmonie! Wie glücklich sind die Bürger innerhalb deinen Thoren! Um deiner Liebe und Interesse willen bin ich zwar leiblich von dir abgesondert, werde dich aber ewiglich in meinem Herzen tragen und behalten. Mit meinem herzlichen Gruss deinem Andenken anbefohlen

John L. Baker

Beaverpoint, July 7, 1813.

Frederick Rapp:

This evening I received your worthy letter and at the same time the two wagon loads of goods in good condition. I was sorry to hear that not all the cast-iron wheels arrived. I hope that the boat, which I have long since been expecting from Pittsburgh, will bring them without fail. As I learned from the bearer of your letter, Isaac Bean went to Harmony today, not only on account of the above-mentioned wheels, but also to obtain definite instructions regarding my proposition to make a trip to Canawy. Should the wheels arrive, I shall at once send them by wagon, along with the grindstone, to Harmony. This evening I opened the barrel of hemp-seed and found it completely mouldy and of a horrible odor. I poured it out. Today I stacked my clover-hay, which has been drying for ten days, and tomorrow I shall have what is left mowed.

Nothing is a greater drawback to me than that I do not possess my own wagon and am forced to lose so much time in hiring one and at the same time having to depend on uncertain promises.

It is a strange feeling, after one has been brought up in a loving and obliging brotherhood, to have the torment of doing business with persons who are without order and stubborn and of the worst sort, who can hardly be induced by money and good words to perform a service, at which one is usually half defrauded.

Dear, beloved Harmony. How fortunate are the members within your gates. Because of my love for you and my interest for you, I have indeed been bodily separated from you, but I shall ever hold and cherish you [the Brotherhood] in my heart. With a hearty greeting and the desire to be remembered,

John L. Baker

Beaverpoint July 15th 1813.

Fredk Rapp

Wird durch Ueberbringer empfangen

[Will receive by the bearer]

6 Large ovens & Lids
 6 Mid. do & do
 6 Small do & do
 6 Large Spiders & do
 6 Mid. do & do
 6 Small do & do
 6, 7 Gall pots

6, 5 do do		
6, 4 do do		
6, 3 do do		
6, 2 do do		
6 Griddles		
6 3 g Size Stewpots & Lids		
Weighing 16 cwt, 1 qr, 8 lb @ \$1.00 p ton		\$80.60½
Extra on 108 ps. Handage @ 10c		10.80
also 6 Large Tea Kettles @ \$2.00		12.00
6 Mid. do do @ 175		10.50
4 Small wheels @ 35		1.40
		<hr/>
		\$116.30½
9 Barrels @ 100	\$9	
July 8 *ferrage for Small & Johnston	1.00	10.00
		<hr/>
		\$126.30½

* I agreed with them to pay half the ferrage.

Den Belauf dieser Eisen Waaren habe ich von Barker & Gregg auf meine Rechnung genommen, muss also auch mir zu gut geschrieben werden, den Ueberrest der beordneten Waaren versprochen Barker & Gregg so bald als möglich zu verfertigen and hieher zu senden. Heute habe ich den ersten Tag die Zimmerleute oder Schreiner um Lats Hauss zu reparieren, welche auch zugleich hier in Kost gehen, wozu ich gerne ohngefahr 50 lb Schinken and Schultern haben möchte, wenn der Sailer ¼ Zoll dike Saile hätte so wünschte ich drei oder vier zu bekommen. Da ich nun immer viele Leute verköstigen muss, und es unmöglich ist in McFerrans eigensinnige Familie eine Ordnung zu bringen, so wünsche ich so bald als möglich eine taugliche Haushelterin zu bekommen, welcher man eine Haushaltung anvertrauen könnte. Robt Moore's Salz Boat kam gestern hier an, mit 87 Bbl Salt und halten das Bbl zu 9.50 Doll. Sie konnten gar die Producten nicht verkaufen welche sie mit genommen, als unter geringerem Preis, den man hier dafür bekommt, das Bu. Salz werde dorten für 80 cts. verkauft und nur paar Geld sey der beste Article dorthin zu schiken. Die lezt gesendete Güter habe ich in ziemlich guter Ordnung erhalten, ausgenommen die feine Hüte haben Schaden gelitten durchs Reiben gegen einander. Der Wagen mag Whisky oder Highwine mit zurück bringen.

Mit herzlichem Gruss

John L. Baker

Reed of John L. Baker all the Castings mentioned in the within Bill	
Bill weighing in average together	1900 lb net [?]
9 Barrels & 1 Bundl Cloth	300 "

2200 lb in good

order which promise to deliver in like order to Fredk Rapp Harmonie without delay.

D. Coulter

Beaverpoint, July 15, 1813.

Fredk Rapp

[List of goods as above.]

The amount for the iron-wares from Barker & Gregg I have put on my account, it must therefore be credited to me. The remainder of the ordered wares Barker & Gregg promise to have ready and to send them here as soon as possible. Starting today I have the carpenters here to repair Lat's [?] house. The men will also board here, on which account I should like to have about fifty pounds of ham and shoulders. If our rope-maker has three-quarter inch ropes, I should desire about three or four of them. Since I must constantly supply meals for many people, in part laborers and in part other persons, and since it is impossible to establish any order in McFerran's headstrong family, I should desire as soon as possible an efficient house-keeper, to whom I could entrust the household. Robert Moore's salt-boat arrived yesterday with 87 barrels of salt, which he is offering at \$9.50 the barrel. They could not even sell the products which they took along except at a lower price than one would receive here. A bushel of salt costs 80 cents there and cash is the best article to send there. The last goods which you sent arrived in fairly good condition, except that the fine hats suffered damage by rubbing against one another. The wagon may bring back whisky or highwine.

With hearty greetings

John L. Baker

Recd Beaverpoint Sept 6th 1813 of John L. Baker in good order the following articles

1 Bbl Brandy	289	
1 " Whitining	230	
2 " teasels	56	
1 Box China	116	
2 " Medicin	176	
1 Bag Wool	104	The Bundle of Wool belongs to Jos. McFerran is to be carded and to furnish the fat.
4 ps Crowly Steel	40	
Blistard do	104	
1 Bbl Coffee	207	
3 " Salt 280, 308, 314	902	
1 Bundle Wool, yarn & Cloth	25	
1 hide	30	
1 Bag with Stones	14	
This Bag is to be returned —		
2343lb.		

which I promise to deliver in like order to Fredk Rapp Harmonie without delay.

David Coulter

37 lb. hide @ 5c \$1.85

Fredk Rapp

Wird durch Ueberbringer obige Articles und inliegend eine Copy

von B Irwins Salz Bill erhalten wovon 3 Bbl in obiger Ladung geschickt werden.

Wünsche bey Rückkunft des Fuhrmanns einen Bericht von Parsons Wolle zu erhalten. Meinen herzlichen Gruss

John L. Baker

[Translation of German section.]

Frederick Rapp

will receive through the bearer the above items and will find enclosed a copy of B. Irwin's salt bill. Three barrels of this salt are included in the above shipment. I wish to receive through the driver on his return a report regarding Parson's wool. With hearty greeting

John L. Baker

Reed Beaverpoint Sept 25th 1813 of John L. Baker following Goods in Good order, viz

19 ps Sheet Iron	200
2 Kegs nails	200
1 do vitriol	40
2 " white Lead	56
1 Box Cards	100
1 do tin	380
1 do Cheese	75
3 Bags wool 136, 140, 25	301
1 ps flannel	10
	<hr/>
	1362 lb.

which I promise to deliver in like order to Fredk Rapp Harmonie without delay at the rate of 25 Cts pr 100 lb

Edward Cookson

63 lb Cheese @ 6¼	\$4.06¼
1 Box	.50
	<hr/>
	\$4.56¼

[The arithmetic seems at fault.]

Fredk Rapp

wird durch Uebringer dieses obige Articles erhalten, der Ekensperger wünschte ich sollte ihm etliche Käse schicken, diese sind in einer Kiste eingepackt sie sind etwas beschädigt können aber durch Sorgfalt erhalten werden. Das Boat ist am letzten Dienstag morgen mit sechzig Bbls Salz hier angekommen, ich werde das Statement davon morgen mit nach Harmonie bringen, die von dir beschriebenen Sachenwelche ich nicht geschickt habe, sind noch nicht hier. Meinen herzlichen Gruss in grösster Eile

John L. Baker

[Translation of German section.]

Fredk Rapp

will receive through the bearer of this the above items. Ekens-

perger requested me to send him some cheeses; these are packed in a box, are slightly damaged, but with careful treatment can be saved. The boat arrived here last Tuesday morning with sixty barrels of salt. I shall bring the statement for this item along when I come to Harmony tomorrow. The other goods on your order, which I have not sent, have not yet arrived.

With greetings
In the greatest haste

John L. Baker

Recd Beaverpoint Sept 30th 1813 of John L. Baker following Goods in Good order viz

1 Bbl tar	300 lb.
1 do Salt of Rankons	298
1 do Sugar	300
1 do Coffee	210
1 do Coperous [copperas]	200
2 kegs nails	200
4 ps fustic [fustian?]	238
2 Bags wool	260
	<hr/>
	2106 lb.

which I promise to deliver in like order to Fredk Rapp Harmonie without delay 36 Gall tar @ 2/6 [2/6 of a \$ or .33½] \$12.00
to return the Bbls

William Russell

Fredk Rapp

Ich wünschte du möchtest alle Sachen durch den Ueberbringer hieher schiken die fertig sind, und zugleich einen Pflegel, und Wurf-schaufel, vielleicht kan der Rundel etwas Haber dreschen dann und wann. auch etwas grob Garn zum binden, der Helveti möchte auch seine Kleider vom Schneider erhalten. Der Bean hat mir einen Brief geschickt und drinnen einen Auftrag gemacht für Salz on Comission zu verkaufen er verkauft 50 lb für Bbl und ich habe Lust es anzunehmen.

Meinen herzlichen Gruss

John L. Baker

[On the back of the letter is the following notation:]

1500 lb Rags
1 bl Wine & Branty
2 Bedstead
2 Beds
1 table

Fredk Rapp

I wish that you would send all things which are ready along with this bearer, and at the same time a flail and a winnowing shovel.

Probably Rundel can at odd moments thrash some oats. Also send some coarse yarn for binding. Helveti would also like to receive his clothes (suits) from the tailor. Bean wrote me a letter, in which

he offered to sell salt for us on commission. He sells 50 lbs. for a barrel, and I am inclined to accept his offer.

With hearty greetings,
John L. Baker

Beaverpoint Oct 16th 1813

Fredk Rapp

Wird durch Uebringer dieses folgendes

Michel Feucht 8 Bbls Salt

296, 344, 300, 320, 340, 315, 283, 303 2501 lb

1 Stück Tuch zum walken

Fried. Wolfart 8 Bbls do

{308, 358, 227, 243, 276, 292, 317} 240 2262 "

{ Lake salt of B. Irwin }

M. Weidenbach 7 Bbls do

283, 273, 331, 308, 320, 287, 318 2120

Habe die Sachen alle in guter Ordnung erhalten,—die Bauern haben unmöglich diessmal Bretter für Thomas Reed Bringen können.—

Mit herzlichem Gruss

John L. Baker

Beaverpoint, October 16, 1813.

Fredk Rapp,

The bearer will bring you the following articles:

[For?] Michael Feucht 8 bbls. of salt

296, 334, 300, 320, 340, 315, 283, 303 2501 lb

[For] Frederick Wolfart 8 bbls. do

{308, 358, 227, 243, 276, 292, 317} 240 2262 "

{ Lake salt from B. Irwin }

[For] M. Weidenbach 7 bbls. do

283, 273, 331, 308, 320, 287, 318 2120

I have received all the items [from Harmony] in good condition.

The farmers were unable this time to bring the boards for Thomas Reed.

With a hearty greeting,

John L. Baker

Sharon October 16 1813

Liber Herr Rapp!

Bitte mir für die bey Ihnen bestelten Fässer Eiserne Bände wie Ihre machen zu lassen, und mir gütigst so balt solche wie auch die Fässer gemacht sind mit erster gelegenheit mitzutheilen. Solte es in meiner macht sein Ihnen wieder einen gefallen zu erzeugen, würde als dan nicht Ermangeln Ihnen solchen mit den grössten vergnügen zu erwiedern.

Der ich die Ehre habe mit wahrer Hochachtung zu sein

Ihrn Diener & Freund

Christ Impson

Sharon [about 35 miles northwest of
Harmony], October 16, 1813.....

Dear Mr. Rapp:

Please have iron hoops, similar to yours, made for the barrels which I have ordered from you. Be kind enough to notify me at your earliest opportunity as soon as the hoops and the barrels are ready. Should it be in my power to return the favor, I should be only too glad to reciprocate.

I have the honor to remain with profound respect

Your servant and friend

Christ Impson.

Beaverpoint Oct 24th 1813

Fredk Rapp

Wird durch Georg Knodel den vom Vater verlangten Samen erhalten, der an dem Hügel von hier nach Beavertown an einer Staude wächst, die im Frühling so schön blüht. Ich habe mit Christ Impson geredet wegen den Distill Gefässer, er sagte mir er wolle mit dem nächsten Wagen, den ich sende, mit nach Harmonie gehen, die fässer zerlegen, hieher bringen und selbst in Eisen binden lassen. Wäre mir auch lieb wenn ich bei nächster Gelegenheit folgende Artikels erhalten könnte, viz

red flannel

different plains

do common broad Cloth

Bedfords, merino hats, Boots & Shoes.

Der McFerran ist mit dem Boat am Dienstag Mittag von hier abgefahren, und seine Familie denselbigen Tag nach Beavertown gezogen. Morgen wird Isaac Bean mit einem Boat hieher kommen.

Meinen herzlichen Gruss

John L. Baker

Beaverpoint, October 24, 1813.

Fredk Rapp

Will receive per George Knodel the seed which Father has asked for, which comes from a shrub growing on the hill between here and Beavertown and which blossoms beautifully in the spring. I have spoken to Christ Impson about the barrels for distilling. He said he would go to Harmony with the next wagon which I shall send, will take the barrels apart, transport them here, and himself will have them bound with iron. I should like to receive at the next opportunity the following articles, viz.

red flannel

different plains

do common broad cloth

Bedfords, merino hats, boots and shoes.

McFerran left here with the boat on Tuesday noon, and his family moved on the same day to Beavertown. Tomorrow Isaac Bean will arrive with a boat.

My hearty greeting,

John L. Baker

Beaverpoint Nov. 7th 1813

Fredk Rapp

Gestern Abend um neun Uhr habe ich die Güter in ziemlicher Ordnung erhalten, sehe aber dass ein Stük bleifarbes Tuch für David Nahon welches schon über drei Monath in der Walk ist, noch nicht gekommen, da der Mann schon sechsmal hier gewesen um es abzuholen, so wünsche so es würde bei nächster gelegenheit geschickt werde. Auch fragt I. Barker alle Tage nach dem Stük Drab Tuch, und zugleich möchte er auch wissen, ob er ein Stük Drab Linen bekommen könnte. Möchte auch wissen ob des Impsons Still gefässen auf einem abgebrochenen Wagen könnten geführt werden, so wolte ich diese Woche eine Ladung von Bretter schiken dass der Thos. Reed einmal seine 300 fuss bekämme. Hier angehengt folgt ein Bill von den beiden letzten Wagen geschikte Articles—habe auch wieder neun Weiber und acht Mannes Sattel Bäume bekommen, und die, für Wagen Sattel werden diese Woche gemacht werden, sind auch etliche paar schon längst bestellte Schuh noch nicht gekommen.—Wir sind wirklich mit Welschkorn meistens beschäftigt—sonst geht es alles wie vorher. Meinen herzlichen Gruss

John L. Baker

Cr. [Credit] Beaverpoint Nov. 6th 1813.

83 ½ Bus Peaches (S. flours) @ 6¼	\$ 5.22
2 musrats Skins 40	.80
28½ lbs lambs wool 45	12.82½
3 5/8 " ¾ blood mer. do 75 Box 50	3.12
16 hides 804½ lb 6	48.27
1150 lb freight on rolled Iron fr. Pittsb. 27	3.10
1 ten plate Stove	22.50
2 Cast wheels 394 lb @ 6¼ Extra \$2	26.62½
2224 lb. Car. to Har.	
1882 do do from do	
4106 lb @ 25	10.26½
	<hr/>
	\$132.72½

Beaverpoint, Nov. 7, 1813.

Frederick Rapp,

Yesterday evening about nine o'clock I received the goods in fairly good condition, but notice that a piece of lead-colored cloth for David Nahon, which has been in the fullery for over three months, has not arrived. The man has already called for it six times, so I wish that it be sent at the next opportunity. And I. Barker inquires daily about the piece of drab cloth and asks whether he could also obtain a piece of drab linen. I should also like to know whether Impson's still containers [for distilling whisky] could be transported on a dismantled wagon, in which case I would send back a load of boards this week, so that Thomas Reed would finally get his 300 feet.

Appended to this is a bill for the articles sent on the last wagon. I have also again received saddle-trees, nine for women and eight for men, and the wagon saddles will be made this week. Also a number of pairs of shoes which have been ordered long ago have not arrived.

We are very busy getting in the corn [maize]. Otherwise, things are much the same. Hearty greeting.

John L. Baker

[The list of items to be credited as above.]

Recd Beaverpoint Nov 19th 1813 of John L. Baker following Goods in good order viz.

1 Bbl Fish	270
1 " Rosin	277
4 ps Sheet Iron	49
1 Box for Dr. C. Miller	25
2 Bbls Salt 295-288	583
1 hide & 1 Racoon Skin	30
	<hr/>
	1234 lb

which I promise to deliver in like order to Fredk Rapp Harmoni without delay at 25 cts p 100 lb for Carriage—

Wm Freeman

[Appended is a note in German to Frederick Rapp.]

Fredk Rapp

Wird durch Uebringer obbemeldte Güter ich wünsche in guter Ordnung bald erhalten, und für folgendes Beaverpoint Creditiren—

1 hide 38 lb @ 6¢	1 Racoon 33	\$2.61
3872 lb Carriage from Harm. and back @ 25		9.68
621 lb freight from Pittsb. @ 27		166½

von McFerran habe noch nichts erfahren
meinen herzlichen Gruss

John L. Baker

[Translation of the lines in German.]

Frederick Rapp will receive the above-mentioned goods, I trust in good condition, and will credit Beaverpoint with the following

As yet I haven't had any news of McFerran.

My hearty greeting

John L. Baker

Beaverpoint Nov 21st 1813

Fredk Rapp

Meine Haushälterin Charlotte Haily lässt dich bitten, du möchtest ihr diese neun Sträng wollen Garn zu flannel weben und braun färben lassen, so wie allgemeiner flannel gemacht wird. Es hat sich weiter nichts besonders zugetragen, von McFerran kan ich nichts erfahren.

Ich wünsche ich dürfte heute auch nach Harmoni kommen indem mir die Zeit sehr lang wird 14 Tage zu bleiben ohne meine Väter und Brüder zu sehen, und als ein Elender und armer Mensch auch die Versammlung entbehren, weil es aber nun so verordnet so empfehle ich mich ihrem Andenken, in der Hofnung es werde nicht in die länge währen, mit herzlichem Gruss

John L. Baker

Beaverpoint, Nov. 21, 1813.

Fredk Rapp,

My housekeeper, Charlotte Haily, requests you to weave these nine hanks [or skeins] of woollen yarn into flannel and have it dyed brown, just as the ordinary [domestic?] flannel is made. Nothing worth mentioning has happened; I can't get any information about McFerran.

I wish I were able to go to Harmony today, for time drags on during the fourteen-day absence without being able to see my fathers and brethren. As a forlorn and miserable person I must even miss the meeting [religious services], but since it has been so ordered, I commend myself to their memory, in the hope that it [the absence] will not be long drawn out.

With hearty greeting

John L. Baker

[This manuscript is in English and is transcribed without change.]
Recd Beaverpoint Nov 27th 1813 of John L. Baker following Goods in good order viz

5 Bbl Salt	366	
	284	
	260	
	265	(1 ps Cloth)
	330	(for)
1 " Cyder	300	(Henry Davis)
2 " hides	60	
1 Bundle	30	

1895 lb which I promise to
deliver in like order to Fredk Rapp Harmoni without delay

Nathen Dahem

the Sadle is to be mended, it wants a girth Strap & a Coat patt [pad?]
for John Hanby—when done Send a Bill to

John L. Baker

Cr. Beaverpoint Nov 27th 1813

2½ Bu Peach Stones	\$.60
1 lb wool 33—1 musrat 31	.64
42 lb hide @ 6 1 horse hide 75	3.27
2 Cog wheels 5¼ lb @ 6¼ Extra 25	.57½
1 Bbl Cyder 2.50 1 Bbl 100	3.50
3 doz pair men Stirup Iron @ \$5.00	15.00
2 Racoons @ 40	.80
18 Bbls Salt—viz	
302—26 [weight of barrel]	310—28
366—26	322—32
263—40	330—30
246—26	284—24
320—32	315—26
285—37	275—26

270—26	265—26
318—32	260—26
299—25	267—26
<hr/>	<hr/>
2669—270	2628—244
2628—244	
<hr/>	
5297—514	
514	
<hr/>	
4783 lb 17 Bbls 23 lb @ \$14.50	\$247.65
1 Bbl tar 33 Gall @ 37½ 1 Bbl 75	13.12½
	<hr/>
	\$285.16¼

[This manuscript was written in English and is transcribed as written.]
Memorandum of Notes given at Vincennes May 9th 1814 payable as follows—

Mathias Monnec [?]	200 Dollars	10 months
Thos. Rodgers	500 —	8 —
Ignatious Levit	300 —	11 —
Nath'l Ewings	1000 do	at Sight Pittsb. M. Com[?]
do do	500 do	12 months w. Inter.
Thomas Jones	1500 do	6 do do
Cash Payments May 9th 1814		
Math. Monnec [?]	100 Dollars	
Thos. Rodgers	500 —	
Ignatius Levit	350 —	
Land office	2109 —	
Nath. Ewings	300 —	for John Gray

Nath'l Ewings Vincennes is authorised to purchase 2 qr [quarter] Section of Land from John Gray in North Carolina (in Sect no 1 & 6) not exceeding 6 Dollars per acre, and has recd 300 Dollars in Cash to make the first payment—

and also recd for Ignatious Levit 350 Dollars in Cash and a Note of 300 Dollars payable in 11 Months after above date, and has the agreement of the Bargain and assignment of the Land—

Mr Jones (Pittsburgh) has to Sign the Assignment of his Land witnesseth by a person and acknowledged by Judge Robert and to Send the same to Mr Ewings in order to get a Deed issued, to Agree with Mr Jones for the payment of his part say 1500 Dollars to get the Deed of Thos. Rodgers recorded within 12 months.

Harmonie, Sept. 18, 14.

Vielgeliebter John!

Es vergnügt mich im Geist wann ich an die unerwartete schnelle Ankunft unsers Vaters bey Euch mir vorstelle, was es für ein Vergnügen und Freude verursachen wird, da ihr Ihn in Person vor Euch hergehen sehet, und Euch—wie ich nicht Zweifle ihr werdet oft in Verlegenheit gewesen seyn, wie ihr diess oder das angehn sollt—aus

disem Strauchel u. Verzagtheit, auf einen vesten Fuss sezen wird. Zu dieser baldigen Freude hilft Euch das lange und schwere Regenwetter in diesem Monat, wünsche du möchtest es anmerken, was für wetter ihr hattet vom 9. bis 18. dieses, und 14 Tag vorher hatten wir eine grosse Fluth, welche Basses Brücke wegnahm.

Die weil grosse Sachen grosse Leute wohlanstehen zu thun, so will ich Fragen um kleine die auch besorgt seyn dürfen, und du den besten Bescheid davon geben kanst. nemlich ich möchte gern wissen, ob man sich vorzusehen hat mit allen sorten Bäum, das ist: Aepfel, Birn, Pfirsich Bäume u. Stein, Pflaumen Zahme u. wilde Corrents Büsche und Saamen, Pappler gross u. kleinlaubige, u. Dorn, und Blassen büsch Schumack saamen, oder Stauten, gelbe Weiden, u. dgl. und was für Zweige gebraucht werden könnten? und was als mehr weis ich nicht; so Zeit und Pappier es erlauben will so merke an was man nöthig haben möchte, von dergleichen. Ich halte dafür Ihr werdet Papoos für Pfirsich zu essen haben, doch weiss ich nicht ob sie just auf der Gegend wachsen wo Ihr seyd. Was das weitere anbelangt könnt Ihr mündl. erfahren von gegenwärtig neuangekommenen Geliebten.

Der Riss den Ihr gemacht habt mit Eurem Abschied heilt nicht zu, Ihr! müsset ihn zubinden, und wieder heilen, besonders mir, der sich nicht des Vergnügens erinnert ausgefolgt zu haben, oder einen Schmerzenssüssen kuss auf dem Scheideberg gegeben zu haben; Verzeihet mir—Liebe Brüder. Ich hoffe Euch wieder Gesund zu sehen vielleicht gegen ausgangs Aprill, wo wir vermuthl. alle einander wiedersehen, unterdessen aber wünsche ich Euch alles Wohlergehen, und schliesse mit herzl. Gruss an dich John, Friz, John E. und auch an alle übrige Brüder und Schwestern.

Verbleibe Eure in Liebe Verbdr. [verbundener]
Friederich Eckensperger.

Addressed to John L. Bacher [Baker]

Harmony, September 18, 1814.

Much beloved John.

My spirit rejoices as I contemplate the rapid and unexpected arrival of our father in your midst, what happiness and joy it will arouse as you see him in person accompanying you and giving you firm confidence to dispel timidity and despair, for I doubt not that you were often perplexed how to manage this or that matter. This soon to be expected joy [the arrival of Father George Rapp in their midst] was accelerated by the long and heavy period of rain during this month [with the flooded condition of the land, Father Rapp probably felt that there was little he could do at Harmony, Pa.]. I wish you would make a note of the amount of rain you had in the period from September 9 to 18; fourteen days ago we had a great flood which washed away Basse's bridge.

While it is very fitting for great people to be concerned with important matters, I shall now ask about small things, which however must also be attended to. And *you* especially can give us the best information in this regard. I should like to know if we must provide ourselves with all sorts of trees, that is, apple, pear, peach, both trees and seeds; also plums, cultivated and wild currant bushes and seeds;

poplars, large and small-leaved, and thorns, and yellow senna bushes, sumac seed or bushes, yellow willows, etc., and what kind of cuttings could be used? There are more items that do not come to mind. As time and paper permit, make a note of the things of this nature which one might need. I believe you will be eating papaw instead of peaches; however, I do not know whether they grow in the region in which you are. Concerning other matters you can obtain information orally from those who are now about to join you.

The wound caused by your departure will not heal. Yes, indeed, you [my departed friends] must bind it up and heal it again, especially this wound of mine, for I can not recall to memory the experience of having accompanied you to the hill where you departed from us, nor to have given you the bitter-sweet kiss of farewell. Forgive me, dear brethern. I hope to see you in good health, probably towards the end of April, when we shall probably all see each other again. In the meantime, however, I wish you well-being, and close with hearty greetings to you John, Fritz, John E., and also to all the other brothers and sisters.

I remain bound to you in love,

Frederick Eckensperger

[This letter was written in English and no changes have been made.]

Vincennes—Oct 2d '14.

Dear Sir,

Mr. Henry Gilham of our village has in Charge for you four Barrels of Apples, bot & paid for by Mr. Ewing, & 3oz. of Blistering Ointment.— I indulge the hope of soon seeing you in Vincennes strongly Convalescent; and in the mean time remain

Entirely your friend—

Wm Carr Lane

[The following bill is appended.]

Mr. Baker of Harmonie

To M. Narnat [?] and Law Dr.

1814 To Emplast. Meloii vericat. 3 oz. \$2.25

Oct 2 [This is the blistering ointment.]

Harmonie den 7ten Merz 1815.

Ich halte das überschikte Guth für gute Waar denke derowegen ihr werdet den besten Preiss davor nehmen nemlich Lowisville Preiss welcher gewöhnlich an Stiefeln 2 thaler mehr ist, als in Pittsburg allwo Cossaks 10 bis 11 thl fairtops bakstraps 12 bis 13 thl—hier verkaufen wir Cossaks vor 9 th. bakstraps 11 thl, gute feine Schuh 2.25—grobe 2th. Schnier-Schuh 2.25. Schlippers wie gewöhnlich von 1.37½ bis 1.62½. Wir wollen den Indiannischen Preiss mitbringen—in dem wir uns erkundigen wollen auf unserer Reise. grüsse Euch

Matth. Scholle

Harmony, March 7, 1815.

I consider the wares sent you to be of good quality; therefore [I suggest that] you ask the best price for them, namely the Louisville price, which is usually two dollars higher for boots than in Pittsburgh, where [in Louisville] cossacks [sell for] ten to eleven dollars, fairtops backstrap for twelve to thirteen dollars. Here we sell cossacks for nine dollars, backstraps for eleven dollars, good fine shoes for \$2.25, coarse shoes for \$2.00. Slippers of the ordinary type sell from \$1.37½ to \$1.62½. We shall bring along the Indiana price, concerning which we shall make inquiries on our trip.

Greetings,

Matth. Scholle

[This letter is in English and is reproduced without any change. It bears neither date nor signature, but was probably written by Frederick Rapp in December, 1814. It looks like a copy intended for the writer's files. At the head of the letter is a list of the sections, entered in lead pencil and later inserted into the letter.]

Messrs. Ewings & Badollet

Gentlemen

I will inform you by this, that my father with his two Companions arrived here on the 4 inst all in good health, they informed me of many favors they recd from you, and give a very good Description of the Land and Country they have been in and made purchase. I have seen the draft thereof, and as our people are all willing to move there as soon as possible, I am doubtfull wether we have Land enough therefor I take the Liberty to request of you, to enter following tracts of Land adjoining ours, and which are not taken up by individuals—viz

Section	No.	20	Township	4	South	Range	13	West
"		29	do	4	do	do	13	do
"		32	do	4	do	do	13	do
"		12	do	5	do	do	14	do
"		7	do	5	do	do	13	do

there will be a part of our people Starting on the 20th of this month, and probably be at the cutoff in the course of 3 weeks, among which is John L. Baker, who will directly after their arrival come to Vincennes and bring you the money for the first payments of those Lands you will enter for us. My father also informed me that you offered your service to him, in Laying out a town, I have send a plan by [John] L. Baker for it, and would be very glad if you would do us the favor to assist our people in Selecting the most proper place for the town, and lay out the Lots as near to that plan as the Situation will permit, in hopes that you will excuse my free importunity I am with due respect

Your Most Ob't friend & Ser.

Harmonie March 13th 1815.

Geliebte Brüder John & William

Inliegend befinden sich die Rechnungen sammt Ladschein für diejenigen Sachen welche ihr bey diesem Transport erhaltet. Wir haben unsern ganzen Stohr aufgepackt, und überschicken euch densel-

ben dieweil die Güther sehr viel gefallen sind, so hielte Friedrich für Gut also zu thun,—es ist auf jeden Artickel nur der erste Preiss gesetzt, ihr möget drauf schlagen, wie sich es thun lässt, und dieweil solche Sachen in eurer Gegend noch zimmlich raar sind, so habt ihr bessere Gelegenheit sie schneller zu verkaufen denn wir.—

Machet und führet nur diese Regel ein dass das borgen unterlassen wird, denn wir haben sehr viel Mühe die austehenden Gelder einzutreiben.—

Eure beide Briefe haben wir richtig durch Friedrich erhalten, und war uns ein Vergnügen von euch so genauen Bericht zu hören—Wir haben Hoffnung euch bald zu sehen und mündlich mit euch sprechen auch schicken wir euch ein kleines Fässlein Aepfel mit No. 18 John L. Baker bezeichnet, gebt dem Israel Bentel auch 3 davon, die übrige wünschen wir euch in guter gesundheit zu genießen, wir wissen weiter nicht viel zu schreiben die ankommende Brüder werden euch genauen Bericht geben von dem was sich zugetragen, bis wir euch sehen werden. Grüßen euch beide herzlich und verbleiben eure Brüder John Reichert & Romelius—

NB. solltet ihr besonders etwas brauchen welches nicht zu den all-gemeinen Gütern gehört, so Schreibt mir sogleich dass ich es noch vor meiner abreiss besorgen kan. Grüsse euch

Fred^k Rapp

Harmony, March 13, 1815.

Dear Brothers John and William,

Enclosed you will find the bills as well as the bill of lading for those things which you will receive with this transport. We have closed our entire store and are sending the entire contents to you, since prices have dropped very much. Frederick and I thought this the best course. Every article is marked with the original [lowest] price; you may increase it as much as circumstances permit; especially since such things are rather rare in your region, you will have a better opportunity to dispose of them more rapidly than we.

Adopt this rule and insist upon it, that borrowing cease, for we have great difficulty in collecting the outstanding monies.

Your two letters have been duly delivered to us by Frederick, and it was a pleasure to obtain such an exact account from you. We have hopes of seeing you soon and to talk things over personally with you.

We are also sending you a small barrel of apples, marked "No. 18, John L. Baker"; give Israel Bentel three of them; the others we hope you will enjoy in good health.

We know little more to write; the brethren, soon to arrive, will give you an accurate account of what has taken place until we meet again.

Hearty greetings to both of you and we remain your brothers,
John Reichert & Romelius [Baker].

NB.

Should you have especial need of anything not included in our general goods, write to me at once so that I can arrange for it before my departure. Greetings,

Frederick Rapp