

THE DAILY OCCURRENCE DOCKET OF THE PHILADELPHIA ALMSHOUSE: SELECTED ENTRIES, 1800—1804

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#### NOTES AND DOCUMENTS

Billy G. Smith and Cynthia Shelton

# THE DAILY OCCURRENCE DOCKET OF THE PHILADELPHIA ALMSHOUSE: SELECTED ENTRIES, 1800–1804

THE previous issue of *Pennsylvania History* contained most of the entries for a two-month period in 1800 from the Daily Occurrence Docket of the Philadelphia Almshouse. The following excerpts from those records are more selective, chosen because they reveal important aspects about the lives of people admitted to the institution during the early nineteenth century. In particular, we included a large number of vignettes about poorer women since information about them often is difficult to find in other sources. The almshouse clerk's capitalization, use of the ampersand, and spelling have been retained, but we have expanded abbreviations and silently altered punctuation to render the text more comprehensible.

#### DAILY OCCURRENCE DOCKET

#### August 23, 1800

Admitted Mary Duffey a Girl about eleven years of age, of Legal residence. She was under Indenture to One Elizabeth Cathers of this City who lives in Carters Alley and keeps a boardinghouse, and has beat, and otherwise abused said Child Mary that complaint thereof was made to the Mayor who obliged the Mistress to give up the Indenture, and sent her here.

# August 26, 1800

Admitted Emanuel Spires his Wife Catharine and two Children; Margaret Lynch by a former Husband is four years old, Suprear Spires by this Husband is twenty months; he's a Portugese and came from Port au Port to this City six years ago, and now walks upon Crutches, she's an Irish-woman and came to this City with her first Husband Patrick Lynch about seven years ago; they lived in fourth Street near Lumber Street and the distressed situation that this family was in, both starved and naked, was the cause of their being brought here.

#### August 28, 1800

Admitted Elizabeth Deford alias Aarons is an Old Polishing Room Customer, was here the 1st January last highly Venereal and discharged the 1st April following, and is not only returning now in the former Condition but with the addition of sore legs and an almost deprivation of the Use of her limbs, by being exposed to a Street lodging in the Night, not having wherewith to lay her head.

#### August 31, 1800

Admitted Sarah Hamilton Pregnant, and who was not Legal residence, she was committed to the Work-house<sup>2</sup> for thirty days as a Vagrant, and was brought here by Abel Evans on account of the situation she is in, her Husband John Hamilton who is a Taylor by trade has abandoned her about three months ago, at which time, and for several years previous to it, they had lived in Wilmington Delaware State, and she seems to express an anxious desire or wish to go there, having hopes of being better provided for there, as she says, than here.

#### September 1, 1800

Admitted Mary Allen was born in Old England and came to this Country in the year 1776 with her Parents, and at which time she was but two years of age, says they landed at Wilmington, Delaware State and from thence they proceeded to Pittsburg. Her Father died, and in coming to this City in July 1799 with her husband and Mother, both of whom she had the Misfortune to bury on the Road, she arrived in it last fall just after the sickness—of course she has not gained a legal residence, but very sick and weak indeed, with the companion poverty, and no friends.

# September 2, 1800

Admitted Michael McDermit an Irish-man, born in the County of Donegal, and came to this City in 1793 and stayed but one night in it, then went to Lancaster County, and from that to York County, but it don't appear from his own account that he has gained in either of said places any Legal residence having only worked eight or ten weeks in one, three or four months in the other of them, his last place of residence was the latter of the above mentioned Counties from whence he came to the City on Sunday the 31st ultimate. This Man is but twenty seven years of age, and has been much afflicted with the fever and ague, [and] with a very sore back, all of which rendered him incapable of labouring for a livelihood.

#### September 3, 1800

Amitted Rhodah Coombes of Legal residence, she was born at Cape May, is twenty-four years of age, and is married to William Coombes a Shoemaker by trade, with whom she has lived in this City two years and has now abandoned her and gone to Sea, without giving her the least notice of it. Being thus left destitute and friendless, and being violently afflicted with a pain in her head to such a degree that she has lost the sight of one of her eyes, that she is rendered entirely incapable of contributing towards a living by her work.

# September 9, 1800

Admitted Doreas Williams a Mulatto Woman twenty one years of age, is a

bound servant to William Clark, who it is said, has very cruelly used her, and said Clark is to give security for her support while in this house.<sup>3</sup>

#### September 13, 1800

Admitted James Hunter Born in England at a Place called Shakespears Walk, distant from London four miles, has sailed out of this Port near sixteen years in different Merchants employ, the last of which was in Conyngham and Nesbitts (employ); his Complaint is an inward and constant pain in his Stomach and Bowells, and though it does not affect his appetite, yet he is in a wasteful and declining State of flesh and Bodily Strength.

#### September 15, 1800

Admitted John Perkins a Black who hath no Legal residence, twenty eight years of age, was born in Dorset County, Maryland and was a Slave to One Thomas Vincent of said County, emancipated him about a Year ago (as he says) when he came to this City and resided ever since, and is now sent here in highly Venereal Condition Until he can be removed to his Legal place of Residence.

#### September 16, 1800

Admitted Abigail Penrose a Young Woman of nonresidence, but being under the influence of a dose of Opium, with a view to destroy herself—is sent here. This is the third (and it has proved the most effectual attempt) time that she has endeavored to put end to her life. She lived with Thomas Moore, Sadler, the Northeast Corner of Front and Market Streets. The reason of this unhappy Young woman laying such violence on herself could not be ascertained.

#### September 17, 1800

Died Abigail Penrose expired about two hours after her admission yesterday, word of which was sent to Thomas Moore from whose house she was brought in a Carriage, and they desired word to be sent of her death, which was expected in a short time after she was brought. Word was accordingly sent and Moore did not take the slightest Notice or regard whatsoever of the Notice which was sent him by M. Lang informing of her death and she was this day buried at the expense of the institution.

Admitted Patrick Kilday a Irish man, who has legal residence, says he sailed in Ship Ariel, Captain Coats, to Canton, when on their homeward bound passage, and within a few days sail of this port, they were taken by two french Privateers, and carried into Guadeloupe. Said Vessel was owned by William Bulkley, Thomas Greeves, etc., Merchants of this City, and has been gone fifteen months. Said Patrick is very sick and weak and not able to work for a livelyhood.

#### September 18, 1800

Admitted Sarah Lackey; She had liberty of the Matron to go out on Saturday last, for the purpose of swearing the Child with which she is now pregnant<sup>5</sup> to Isaac Hanson, Brother to Samuel Hanson our Baker, and promising Mrs. Marshall that she would return again in time, and sober, neither of which did she do, except the swearing said Isaac before John Jennings, Esquire, to be the Father of it. And was now brought in by a Constable in a most shamefully drunken & beastly condition, who says the [?] that measures are pursuing to find

said Isaac Hanson, and make him give security for the maintenance of said Bastardy. Note, said Sarah was a pauper in the House, and Isaac came back & foward to assist his Brother Samuel in the Bake house, but if he had heated one Oven only, it would have been better for him.

Admitted Esther Griffiths, Pregnant, has been here before by the name of Blake, says she is now married to William Griffith who is on board The Frigate City of Philadelphia, Captain Decator, but has not received any support towards a living since his departure in said ship, and not being able in her present condition to work for maintenance, is sent here.

#### September 29, 1800

Admitted John McFatridge and his Wife Mary, an aged Couple whom hath legal residence, he has followed Carting many years, and has had the misfortune some time ago of being run Over by one of his Cart Wheels, which has made a Cripple of him, and not having wherewith to support himself and wife & both of them old, they are sent here.

Admitted John Morris an Old German hath Legal residence, he served his time in this City, with old Mr. Gorman, Sugar Baker, many years ago; he was a Soldier in our revolutionary War from the beginning to the ending, he is now poor, sick and palsied, and totally rendered incapable of rallying round the standard of Labour for a Living.

#### October 1, 1800

Admitted William McDowell an Irish-man, landed at New Castle, Delaware State, and went into the Jerseys in a short time after his arrival, and worked at different Iron Works. Walker, Godfreys & Others, Iron Works in said State, working as, he says, seven or eight months at one of them, nine or ten months at another, and so on, that in the Whole, he has been employed between two and three years at those different places, but cannot tell neither the Counties or Townships that either of said Iron works are in. The last of the above places he worked at was Godfreys, and it is six months since he left it, and has been in this City ever since, and followed draying 6—of course he hath no legal residence here but if he has any it must be in Jersey where he has worked so long. However he has come in here in a Venereal condition, and full of pain in his limbs.

# October 2, 1800

Admitted Robert Clare a well known frequent and worthless customer, and notwithstanding his lameness and deformity of shape (which to be sure he cannot help) he is up to the digs of any mischievious lady in the City, and can scale the fence upon a pence as well as most jumpers when he is denied a discharge—Occurences of the July 1798 verifies it.

## October 3, 1800

Admitted Margaret Dillmore a Child between four and five years of age, her mother died in the fever of 1798, the Father Thomas Dillmore is a Seaman and hath deserted his Child ever since the death of his Wife, and the child has been taken care of ever since, till now, by its aunt, who is Wife to Robert Brown, and lives near the Playhouse in South Street. She says that said Dillmore sailed out of New York, but cannot tell in whose employ, and likewise that he has been in this very City lately, never came near his Child, neither could she learn or find

out his hidden place. Margaret is a fine Child, and her aunt would still have taken care of it if her Husband had been in a way that would support it and his own family, and this not being the case She brought the child here.

#### October 4, 1800

Admitted Mary Hyland and her Child Rosannah fifteen Months old, she's also pregnant with another. Her Husband James Hyland is gone to Sea in the Ship George Washington, and left a Power of Attorney with Jacob Edwards, Taylor, in Water Street between Market and Chestnut streets, to receive for her use, of the Owner of said ship, seven dollars monthly, and said power, she says, is put into the hands of A. Musgrave who sent her here by a Watchman accompanied by his Order of Admission.

#### October 5, 1800

Admitted James McGroty. This artful chap gave his Surname to A. Musgrave as McTrosty, no doubt with intent to avoid a punishment which he anticipated, not only on account of his elopement on the 23rd August last but an aggravation of his fault by coming the next day after, tantalising his Ward mates by holding a bottle of Rum and shaking and putting it to his Mouth by way of contempt and defiance to W. Cummings who at the juncture was standing at the Corner of the fence, looking at him; in addition to all this, he had come in again with a twofold addition to his former Complaint for which see Occurences of the 16th last June.

#### October 6, 1800

Admitted Mary Berry a Mulatto young Woman twenty three years of age, of legal residence, is far advanced in her pregnancy & says the Father of the Child that she now bears is Named Matthias Clay, a Member of Congress and to whom she has swore it before Gunning Bedford, Esquire. Said Mary lived with the Widow Sadie in Arch street (and at the same time Clay boarded there) between seventh & eighth streets.

#### October 7, 1800

Admitted Mary Wright hath Legal residence, is twenty years of age, born in this City. Her Husband Dominick Wright twelve months ago went to sea in the Ship Jane Brown to London (the Owner nor Captains Name she cannot tell) and heard only once from him since, and as she says, never received one farthing of his Monthly pay. (The reason is obvious, he neither gave Power of Attorney or Orders for her to receive any part thereof). However, unfortunate it is that she was taken with a Fit & contiguous to the fire place, she fell into the Flames and got burnt in a most distressing manner.

# October 10, 1800

Admitted Sarah Baker Pregnant, she was born in New England is thirty years of age, came to Philadelphia very young, and was bound to one James Hanniker of said City, Gardener, who in about three months after, moved down to the Neck, where she stayed & served her time out, which was nine years of Indenture. After she was free, went to Lancaster and hired herself out as a maid, to different families in said Town for the space of eighteen months, when she got married and moved to Hanover, York County, where she continued seventeen months, when her Husband died. After which she went to Baltimore and hired

herself out in different families at least for the space of four years & seven months, as it was in November 1795 when she went there, and came to this City from there the 1st July last. The Father of the child she now bears is Named Jacob Adams, of Baltimore, Merchant and with whom she hired herself as a Maid, and she says he went to sea last May, and thinks to the East Indies. However, she has never swore the Child.

#### October 17, 1800

Admitted Alexander McKinsey a Child five years old last July, hath legal residence, his father died of the prevailing fever last fall; the Mother is afflicted with sore eyes, and not able to support herself and her child, for which reason she procured an Order of admission and came with it and the Child herself. (Her name is Ann McKinsey and lives in Mead Alley).

#### October 21, 1800

Admitted Anthony Muff an Old Gardener and very worthless former Customer, much in liquor when he came in, and went and laid himself on one of the beds in the [?] Ward, and being desired to get off it he made use of very impertinent language and persisted in lying on it, till Mr. Cummings was informed of it, who ordered him into the black hole.

#### November 1, 1800

Sent to Jail Margaret Saffern admitted the 14th April 1797, is far advanced in her pregnancy. And for obstinately persisting in not giving satisfaction to the Manager by informing where the reputed Father of the Child she now bears is or liveth, they thought this procedure was the best, or would be the only means of getting satisfactory information from her.

Admitted Sarah Campbell and her three children, James Campbell eight years of age, Elizabeth Campbell six years of age, and Sarah Campbell aged fourteen months. The Husband and Father of those Children died of the fever in 1798—and the Mother not being able to support herself and the Children.

Admitted Rebeccah Carter, born in New Castle, Delaware State, was seventeen years of age last May. Says her Parents moved to this City three years ago, and she came with them, that they both died in 1798, and she has continued in it ever since, and is now come in here in a highly Venereal Condition.

#### November 3, 1800

Admitted John Barry, came to this City from Ireland seventeen years ago and says he has taught school in it ever since, and now come in here with a highly Venereal complaint, and running away with bodily Vermin.

Admitted Isabella Johnson, Pregnant, she was born in this City, her Husband Robert Johnson has deserted her; [he] went to New York and entered on board the United States frigate called the New York; being thus left destitute and without friends is sent here.

Admitted Rebeccah Jones who hath no Legal residence, is a Young Woman between eighteen and nineteen years of age, was born at Cross Roads, Delaware State; and has been in this City six weeks, four of which has been in the Workhouse, being put there as a vagrant and was brought from there. Has a bad sore leg.

#### November 6, 1800

Admitted James Breahere a Black man, was born at Marcus Hook. His Master Joseph Marshall Manumitted him in the Year 1783, and says he has worked in this City as a Labourer for these twelve years past. And by hard work, and frequent colds, which has fell into his limbs, he is rendered unable to support himself by any kind of Work, and is sent here.

#### November 9, 1800

Birth Sarah Lackey was last night delivered of a Mulatto Child whom she calls Charlott Marborough (notwithstanding said Sarah swore before John Jennings, Esquire, that Isaac Hanson was Father of the Child she is now brought to bed with; see Occurences of the 18th September last. Thomas Marborough, the real Father of the Child, is the Black Man who eloped the 26th May, last, on account of having Criminal Contact with Rachael Ward, another pauper at that time in the House).

# November 12, 1800

Admitted Jonas Kollman a Seaman, was born in Germany, is twenty-two years of age—was taken by the French and carried into Guadeloupe. He came to this port four and an half years ago, and has sailed out of it ever since in different Merchants employ the last of which was in the Ship [?], Captain George, belonging to Daniel W. Cox of this City, Merchant, on board of which Vessel he had the misfortune of breaking one of his thigh bones on board said ship; as they weighing the Anchor, the Pall of the Windless not catching, the hand spike struck his thigh and broke it. This accident happened thirteen months ago, and it has never been set, there being no Doctor on board the Vessel.

## November 14, 1800

Returned from Jail Margaret Saffern; this Woman, notwithstanding the punishment she has undergone, will not [disclose] to the Managers who the Father of the Child is. She was ordered by the Managers to be enlarged from prison, which was done on Tuesday last and instead of returning here, she went to see one Elizabeth Davis, an acquaintance of hers and wife of Francis Davis who lives at the Corner of New fourth street; in a House belonging to Henry Apple between the Old fourth street road and third street near poplar lane. And said Elizabeth came here the ensuing day to inform that said Margaret had not been in the House two hours when she was delivered of a female infant whom she names Mary Ann Long. Quere: Whether Margaret has or not divulged to her friend Davis some matters by which the Managers may find out Who the real Father of the Child is.

Admitted Daniel Blair an Old Irish-man, upwards of eighty years old, he landed in this City fifty seven or eight years ago, and listed as a Soldier in the Kings service; was in Braddocks Army when they were defeated. He has been now about two years in this City, has a Complication of disorders such as the Gravel, Phthisick and Rheumatism; thus being helpless and poor withall is sent here.

#### November 15, 1800

Admitted James Barry a Noted, worthless, and frequent Autumnal Customer, has come in as usual with sore legs and the addition of a broken head, to be

nursed, doctored and kept warm all Winter & when cured, he will procure a discharge and go out in the spring as usually.

#### November 17, 1800

Admitted Catharine Groves and her Children, Nancy Groves One year and seven months Old, John Groves five weeks Old—her husband, John Groves, is in Jail and she says is sentenced to fourteen years imprisonment for killing a Horse and skinning it. Having these young children and no friends to assist her, she was advised to make application to the Guardians of the Poor, which she did and is come here.

#### November 18, 1800

Admitted Eneos Lyon was born in Ireland, is a young Man, came to this City in 1783 and has worked in it as a labourer almost ever since. His last employment was with Dixy & Dehaven, Pump Makers, and as he was working and assisting in sinking a pump he unfortunately fell into the Well, which has bruised and lamed him so as to render him incapable of labouring for a livelyhood, and is sent here.

Admitted Robert Nesbit Jr. a notorious, worthless chap, is a common nuisance to the institution, has been here repeatedly and has often eloped; not long since he was discharged from the Pennsylvania Hospital where he had been some considerable time a burthensome charge to this House, and has now come in as usual with sore legs.

# November 20, 1800

Admitted Thomas Peters a black-Man, hath legal residence, is afflicted with Rheumatism; came here in a Naked, starved and ragged condition, and running away with Vermin, insomuch that they stript him and shaved his head, and put clean cloathes on him.

#### November 21, 1800

Admitted Josephus Frenshizel a German, supposed to have no legal residence, is much deranged in his mind, and was found last night in the New Market-house almost perished with the Cold; he was brought here.

## November 22, 1800

Admitted Present Toss a Black-woman has been here before, says she's upwards of eighty years Old, is lame, and a very bad sore leg so that she was brought in a Cart; being poor, destitute and incapable of supporting herself by labour, is sent here.

Admitted John Moffet a young man about twenty years of age, was born in England, and has followed the Seas. He last sailed in the Continental Brig Seammel on board of which he was twelve months; is now in a violently deranged condition, supposed to be the effects of a heavy blow on his head given by a Man, with the butt end of a Muskett. He was brought here by two Sailors and his Landlady Martha Archebald (who lives in Mead Alley between front & Water streets).

## November 24, 1800

Admitted Jeremiah Goolin an Illegitimate Mulatto Child about three years of age, his Mother being poor, and not able to support it and herself, having no

other means to live but by hiring herself out at service as a Maid in a family, which she could not do with the child. Harry Goolin the reputed Father has run off and left her two years ago.

Admitted Stephan alias Philip Haines a very worthless, troublesome in and out Customer as will appear by Occurences August 9th, 1797, December 2nd, 1797, April 12th, 1798 & December 4th, 1798—is now come in as usual to be fed and kept warm during the Winter and jump the fence in the Spring, as was the case April 24th, 1799.

#### November 25, 1800

Sent to Jail Robert Laughlin for having prostituted to the crime of Fornication & Adultry Catharine Jones, a Maniac in this House; was by precept of Peter Brown, Esquire, committed to Prison, in order to be tried next Mayors Court.

# November 26, 1800

Admitted Sarah Scadden Pregnant, she was born in this City, is two and twenty years of age, has swore the Child she now bears to Charles Lang (now confined in Jail on suspicion of debt before Ebenezer Ferguson, Esquire, and by whom he was committed to Prison), and [he] gave security that said Sarah & her Child should not become a charge to the Publick before his commitment, since which said Sarah says his security has given him up and she is sent here.

Admitted Sarah Philips alias Haines, Wife of Philip Haines who came in the 24th instant (November). A worthless troublesome couple, she's as good at fence jumping as he is. What reason could this Woman have in telling the Guardian her name was Philips? There could be no other than to deceive, as he was the same who sent her Husband here, and her being of a notorious drunken character, thought that if she told her right name he would not have granted an Order for her admission, & is come in very sick as she says with the fever and Augue.

#### November 28, 1800

Admitted George Crouse he don't appear to have gained any legal residence, is a German and landed in New York and continued in that City three years, constantly in the capacity of an Hostler, 10 and for seven or eight years since has been backwards and forwards from that City to this, likewise to and from Charleston, South Carolina as a Gentleman Waitingman, 11 is now been about three weeks in this City, is sick and much swelled in his Body & legs—twenty seven years of age.

#### November 29, 1800

Admitted Bridget Edward and her four Children (nine weeks ago arrived at this Port from Wales in England, her Husband who also came with them died three weeks after their arrival). Margaret and Martha Edwards (Twins) are four years old—Catharine between three & four years old, and Malia three months Old, all of them fine hearty Children. The Mother being destitute of the means of supporting herself & them, they are sent here.

Admitted John Douglass an Ordinary Chap, has been in and out several times before this. He is not sick but Poor and ragged and is come in at this time

as usual for Winter quarter to be cloathed and kept warm, and in the Spring go out and continue till autumn, when cold Boreas perhaps will blow him here again.

Admitted Elizabeth Smith hath legal residence, was born in Maryland, came to this City ten years ago, has continued in it ever since at service as maid in different families, and is afflicted with a complication of diseases, such as the Arthritis, rheumatick pains and swelling in all her limbs; not being able to walk was brought in a Cart at 9 O'Clock PM. A Mulatto Woman.

#### December 2, 1800

Admitted William Bell a Native of Chester County, is fifty five years of age, has lived and worked as a Labourer in this City these fifteen or sixteen years past and paid taxes during the whole time. He has frosted feet, a bad scalled, and pain in all his limbs, which renders him unable to support himself by his labour and being poor and friendless is sent here.

Admitted Sarah Bordley and her Child Ann Boardly, Black (the Child is five years of age), have no legal residence. She was born in Cecil County, Maryland. One Robert Thompson was her Master who, as she says at his death Manumitted her, and it don't appear from her own account that she has gained any legal residence in any other place since. She has been in this City near two years & has maintained herself & Child in the line or business of a Washerwoman ever since, and she has come here much afflicted with pains through all her limbs that she cannot labour for her support. Sarah and her child were in a perishing condition.

## December 3, 1800

Admitted Mary Hyland and her Child Rosannah Hyland seventeen months Old, she's now pregnant with another. Her Husband James Hyland is now on board the United States Ship Washington, and she not likely to receive any pecuniary aid at present from her Husbands, employ, and her present situation renders her incapable of supporting herself and Child. Note this Woman & Child was here before, see Occurrences of October 4th, 1800.

Admitted Sarah Ferry, one of the out door Nurses, her Son Samuel Ferry two years Old and Richard Hickey the Nurse Child. <sup>12</sup> Said Sarah is very sick, poor and friendless, and not able to contribute towards her and Childs support.

#### December 8, 1800

Admitted James Irwin, a Blacksmith by trade, is an old Customer and so-so sort of a Chap, was discharged the 19th last August; is now come in again, on account as he says that he cannot get any employment out doors.

#### December 9, 1800

Admitted Frederick Robertson a Child about five years old, its Father went to Sea and supposed to have been taken.<sup>13</sup> The Mother has deserted it and taken up with another Man and gone to New York. Being thus left destitute and no one to take care of it, he is sent here.

# December 19, 1800

Admitted Patrick McDonough, came from Ireland six & twenty years ago,

three and twenty of which says he has lived in this City and followed labouring for a livelihood; he is fifty four Years of age, is both afflicted with the Scurvy and Rheumatism.

#### December 22, 1800

Admitted Nicholas Tingle an Old German, was brought here by John Helm one of the City Nightwatch, who picked him up in the street at the hour of three o'Clock in the Morning, in a most distressed situation, almost naked and starved and otherwise afflicted with an uncommon involuntary motion through the Nervous system, but don't appear to be deranged in his intellect. He says that twenty five years ago he landed in this City, that it is fifteen years that this Malady has been his companion, that he was put into the Pennsylvania Hospital seven years since, that he has been at Baltimore for two years, and that he left it six weeks ago and went to a place called Buttertown, not far from Fort Pitt, and is now come here.

## December 26, 1800

Admitted Mariah Rawling and her three Children, of legal residence. Mariah, six years old, Charles four years old, and John six months old. The Mother is sick, and unable to support herself. Their Father George Rawling who is a Farrier or Horse Doctor by Profession, deserted them four or five months [ago] and supposed to have gone to New York, and this unfortunate family being in the utmost distress are sent here.

#### December 30, 1800

Admitted Lydia Landram and her Child Mary Ann Landram, of Legal residence, the Child is four years of age. They were in a state of starvation and Nakedness, and brought in a Cart; the Mother being so extremely numb with cold, that she was entirely helpless, and at the same time seems to be in a Consumption. She has a Husband, William Landram who works at Henry Kinsley's Brick Yard. The dreadful situation of this poor Woman and Child was such that an Order of admission was obtained, signed Selby Hickin and Isaac Tatem Hopper and another friend came with them.

Admitted George Lowerman of Legal residence, and formerly a reputable industrious Taylor but having of late years given himself up to hard drinking; is reduced to that situation which totally renders him unable of taking care, and providing for a livelihood, and is come here, in a naked and perishing condition. The Steward, as soon as he saw him, immediately ordered some cloaths to be given him.

#### December 31, 1800

Admitted Charlotte Britton (Pregnant), was born about two miles from Crosswicks, New Jersey, says she lived and hired herself out as Maid with different families in this City, is twenty years of age, and says she will suffer death sooner than she will expose the Man who is father of the Child she now bears. The last place she hired at was William French in Laurel Court.

# January 1, 1801

Admitted Anthony Dawson of Legal residence, came from Ireland and landed in this City eight and twenty years ago, the greatest part of which time hath lived

and followed the business of a Taylor in it. About ten days ago he had the misfortune of dislocating his left Shoulder which renders him unable to work and being poor and needy is sent here.

# January 2, 1801

Eloped Mary Ann Landram the Child who was admitted with its Mother the 30th December. The Brother of this Child, a Lad fifteen or sixteen years of age came to see his Mother, and must have seized a favorable opportunity in escaping the vigilance of the Gate-keeper, and thus bore away his Sister.<sup>14</sup>

Admitted John Hazless and Christian Frederick Onazorga two Vagrants very ragged and swarming with Bodily Vermin brought from Jail by Jacob Facundus, Constable. Hazless is an Englishman, landed in Boston thirty five years ago, and continued in it upwards of four years, and in Cambridge eighteen months, and has been a wanderer ever since he left the last mentioned place; Onazorga is a German and has been in this Country thirteen years and it don't appear that he has gained legal residence anywhere. These poor Creatures were taken up by the night Watch and put into duress for thirty days. Hazless has very bad sore legs, Onazorga is hearty & Stout.

# January 5, 1801

Admitted Jeremiah Connel who hath legal residence, he came from Ireland and landed in this City seventeen years ago, has followed labouring ever since for a livelihood, and is now afflicted with a bad Cough and violent pains in all his Limbs that totally renders [him] unable to work.

Admitted Precilla a Negro Girl eleven or twelve years of age, was born at a place called Milford about six miles from Dover, Delaware state, and belonged to one Purdon of that place, and says that he sold her to Captain John Earle, in Queen street, Southwark.<sup>15</sup> This girl has been in Prison these four months past.

# January 8, 1801

Admitted John Campbell a Non Resendent, he was born about four Miles from New York, and served his Apprenticeship to the Seas. His Master, General Smith of Baltimore to whom he was bound and served five years, was a Merchant and Owner of the Vessel in which this young Man sailed. He shipped on board a Vessel belonging to Baltimore in the month of October last, and was taken on their Passage by the French and carried into Guadeloupe from which he worked his Passage to Saint Thomas, where he met with Captain Craig of the Schooner Mary, for and belonging to this Port, when he likewise agreed with him to work his passage, and arrived at New Castle Wednesday was a Week, and came to this City last Saturday. At the time they were captured, he received a wound in one of his Ancles which has lamed him and is sent here for Medical Aid.

# January 9, 1801

Admitted John Collins a old Customer and ordinary sort of a Chap, has lost the use of his right hand occasioned by a bad gathering. He was discharged the 25th last March and has been in the Country ever since spunging upon the Farmers, for he is not able to work on account of his lame hand.

# January 15, 1801

Admitted Matthew Morin and his Wife Sarah Morin, Old Customers. They were both Discharged the 11th March 1800. He is a Gardener, and goes out in the Spring to follow Gardening all Summer & autumn, then comes here to Garden and keep himself warm all winter and get Cloathed, then take a trip in the Spring again. They have some household furniture which is pretty good, and is now in the Hall, and to mend the matter she is Pregnant.

## January 16, 1801

Admitted Patrick M. Gehen has legal residence, he was born in Colewain, Ireland, and came to this City in the Ship Happy Return, Captain McCalley, five Years ago, and lived and followed the business of a Plasterer in it ever since. He is Sick and much swelled in his face, has had the Venereal disease, and after having taken of Mercurial pills, he caught cold, which is the cause of his present and sad indisposition, and is now rendered unable to work for a livelihood.

## January 17, 1801

Admitted Rose Kennedy a Child two years and seven months Old, her Father is dead and Catharine Kennedy, the Mother, lives in Locust street between Walnut & Spruce and eleventh & twelfth streets; [she] is poor and unable to Support herself and Children and this being too young to bind out, she obtained an Order of Admission.

#### December 29, 1802

Admitted Ann Campbell Legal Resident 14 Months old. The Father of this Child, Andrew Campbell, No. 16 Cherry Alley, Shoemaker, after beating & abusing his Wife, turned her out of doors, which obliged her to hire at service as housemaid to Lawyer Erwin, and to procure an Order of Admission for her child, and brought it here, she not being able to support herself and Child, the Father having absconded.

# December 21, 1802

Admitted Elizabeth Ross Legal Resident 39 years of age, and her three Children George 7 years old last May, Christianna 5 years old last July, and James 17 months old. She's a Native of Philadelphia and her husband James Ross, the Father of her Children, is a Drummer of Marines in the United States Service, but his pay and rations are not sufficient to support himself and family, who are in a distressed condition, suffering for want of the necessaries of life, and sent here.

# January 1, 1803

Admitted Rebecah Smith Legal Resident 20 years of age, born in New Jersey, came with her parents to Philadelphia when a Child, and continued in it ever since, and these two years past she has lived with Mr. Kitchen (City Tavern and Merchants Coffeehouse) in the Character of a Chambermaid, and about three weeks ago she fell down and hurt one of her knees, so badly that She has not been able to walk since, and is sent here.

# January 6, 1802

Admitted Mary Perkins Legal Resident 26 years of age, and her son Matthew Perkins aged 5 years. She was brought to bed six months ago with a still-born child, but previous to which her base husband, Samuel Powell Perkins gave her

the Venereal disease, and of which she is at present affected; and also in a kind of Melancholy stupor occassioned no doubt by the brutish and cruel conduct of her unnatural Husband and father of her three children, who has now absconded and abandoned his family to the World's care.

# January 11, 1803

Admitted Barbary Deimer Legal Resident 22 years of age, a Native of Philadelphia, and served her time with Benjamin Wetherill in Fourth Street. She has a bad sore leg that disables her from working for a living, and is come

#### January 12, 1803

Admitted Elizabeth Watson Legal Resident 47 years of age, has lived in Philadelphia upwards of 30 years. Her Husband James Watson died 7 years ago, since which she has followed Washing of Cloaths for a livelihood, and being poor and unable to support herself is come in.

Admitted Elizabeth Chandler Legal Resident 3 years and 2 months old, and Grand Child of the above said Elizabeth Watson. Mary Kingsborough, Mother of this Child, is the Daughter of said Watson, and was brought from Jail the 17th last November with the Venereal disease and is now in the Polishing Ward.

January 13, 1803 Admitted Elizabeth Kirvan Legal Resident 25 years of age, and her three Children William 6 years old 17th last November, Mary Ann 5 years old 7th last December, and John 4 weeks old last Tuesday. She was born in Ireland, came from there and landed in Philadelphia eight years ago, six months after which she Married Patrick Kirvan, and has lived in it ever since; he wheels Oisters, 16 but is unable thereby to support his family, and they are sent here.

Admitted Elizabeth Stewart Legal Resident 42 years of age, a Native of Ireland came from there and landed at Marcus-hook twenty five years ago, lived there three years, then came to Philadelphia and has lived in it ever since. Her Husband David Stewart, by whom she had two Children, died twelve months ago, and she went to service as a house maid with different families, the last was with Abraham Kintzing. She is now poor and destitute, and is come in.

# January 22, 1803

Admitted Margaret Harris Legal Resident 24 years of age a Native of Germantown, served her time with Frederick Colly of same place; has lived in Philadelphia these three years past and rented a Room during that time. She married Robert Harris, a Sailor, who has been gone to Sea these seven months past, and has not been heard of since. She is now afflicted with the Venereal disease, which situation renders her incapable of working for Support, and is come in.

# January 31, 1803

Admitted Ann Ragan Legal Resident about 11 years old, her Father Charles Eagen or Ragan, is at Sea, and her Mother lives at the Corner of Walnut & Thirteenth street and this, their Child was found begging in the Street, <sup>17</sup> and is sent here.

# February 5, 1803

Admitted Ann Gibbs Legal Resident 39 years of age, and her three Children Margaret Dunn 6 years, Ann Dunn 4½ years & Thomas Gibbs (by her present Husband Jonathan Gibbs) near 2 years Old. She came from near little York, ten years ago, and has lived in Philadelphia ever since. Her Husband is an Oisterman, but is very poor and unable to support his Wife and Children, and they are come here.

## February 7, 1803

Admitted Mary Smith Legal Resident 54 years of age, came with her Parents from Prussia when a Child. She's the Wife of William Smith, Brewers Alley, Cordwainer, 18 who has deserted her these three years past and took up with another woman, but where he is, she cannot tell; they have been married upwards of six and twenty years, and have had several children, the oldest, a Son, is 25, but worthless, and neglects taking care of himself; and from sickness, poverty, & distress, she has come here.

# February 8, 1803

Admitted Anne Boyle Legal Resident 20 years of age, and her two Children Edward Boyle 3 years old the 9th of last September and Ann Boyle 11 months old the 25th Ultimo; Patrick Boyle, the Husband and Father of her Children, lives in Catharine Street Number 124, Southwark and by profession is a Stevidore or a Stower of Vessels Cargoes. But from excess of drink and abuse of his Wife, and neglect of their Children, obliged her to come here.

## February 12, 1803

Admitted Catharine Stewart Legal Resident 20 years of age a Native of Philadelphia; says she lived as an house-maid with Jon Stonemetz in Arch street three weeks, and that he gave her the Venereal disease. She then went and lived with Peggy Smith (a house of bad fame in Cherry Alley) several weeks, and is now come here to be cured of said disease.

#### February 14, 1803

Admitted Hugh Erwin (Cordwainer) Legal Resident 53 years of age & Son William Erwin aged 5 Years the 18th last July. The Father came from Ireland and landed in this City nineteen years ago, has lived and followed Shoemaking in it ever since—he broke his Arm two months ago, and has not been able to work at his trade since.

# February 15, 1803

Admitted John Baptist (Black-man) Legal Resident about 60 years old a Native of Jamaica, came from there and landed in this City 6 years ago, four of which he lived in one place and paid fifteen pounds rent per annum, and followed Tayloring for his support. He's not sick but says times are dull, and don't get work, which obliged him to come here.

#### February 18, 1803

Admitted Michael Hogan Legal Resident 52 years of age, born in Ireland, landed in this City twenty two years ago, and has resided in it almost ever since following labouring work for his support. He's a former Venereal Customer, but is now come sick with Pleurisy.

## February 21, 1803

Admitted John Quinn 24 years old, born in Ireland, landed at New-Castle, Delaware State three years ago; then went to Lancaster State of Pennsylvania, and lived three months, after that he worked through the Country with different Farmers, but not long enough in one place to have gained a legal residence. Says he has lived in Philadelphia these eleven months past, and followed labouring for a livelihood, and is now come here, afflicted with pains in his limbs, and the Venereal disease.

## March 4, 1803

Admitted Ann Adams, Pregnant, Legal Resident 22 years of age, & her Child Mary Ann Adams aged 2 years the 22nd of this Month. She's a Native of Philadelphia and Wife of Alexander Adams, Shoemaker, who absconded from her two weeks ago, and then lived next door to Robert Erwin, Southwark. Their goods was seized and sold for rent, and she went to the Northern Liberties<sup>19</sup> yesterday with intent to rent a room, but being so near her down lying was obliged to come here.

#### March 8, 1803

Admitted Elizabeth Johnson 39 years of age, born in Virginia, & her son Malen Johnson 8 years old last September, Wife & Child of Charles Johnson, who now works at the Schuylkill permanent Bridge, as a Labourer. They came to Philadelphia about two years ago, has lived and paid house rent in it ever since, but not longer than three and six months in one place—the Child is hearty and well looking, but the Mother is sorely afflicted with a bad ulcer on her leg, and the Husband not being in circumstances to provide and take sufficient care of them, procured an Order for their Admission.

# March 10, 1803

Admitted Thomas Neff (Shoemaker) Legal Resident 65 years of age, born in Germany, came from there with his Mother, and landed in Philadelphia fifty three years ago; served his Apprenticeship in it, twelve years with William Cooper and two years with James Rickey, Cordwainer; he was here the 30th April 1798 and was discharged May 5th following, cured of Rheumatism, and is come in with the same complaint.

#### March 21, 1803

Admitted Ruth Dickinson Legal Resident 18 years of age a Native of Philadelphia, and served her time with Elizabeth Nagle, Front street, Northern Liberties. She says she has been free these four months past, during which time she has managed her cards so well that she is come here in a highly Venereal condition.

# March 26, 1803

Admitted Margery Olliver Legal Resident, born in Ireland, has resided in the City of Philadelphia many years, particularly in the family of Richard Bache, Esquire, with whose family she went to England and returned with them during which time, and for some time since she behaved herself in an Orderly manner; married a person by the name of Rees Olliver with whom she lived comfortably until his death, which was by the yellow fever in the year of 1798. She has one child, Elizabeth Olliver, who is provided for by the bounty of John Harwood,

son in Law to Richard Bache. This poor woman has lived in the family of Peter Browne, Esquire, who did all in their power to restrain her from intemperate drinking, but to no purpose. She has such a propensity for drunkeness that they were obliged to part with her, and with their assistance she got to housekeeping; a short time since and from which to the present time she has been in a state of intoxication, that she is now deprived of her reason, and for fear she would commit some act of violence on herself, Abraham Garrigues and Peter Browne, Esquire, has interfered and sent her into this house.

#### April 6, 1803

Admitted Mary Kelley Legal Resident 26 years of age and her Child William Hall 5 days old; she was born in New Castle County, Delaware State; has lived in Philadelphia nine years at service as maid with different families, the first and last of which was with Robert Rawlston, Merchant, who she left last fall and went to live with Eve Cook, Widow, Moyamensing Township, and at whose house she was brought to bed, and delivered of said Child. And last night came to town with an intention to get rid of it by laying the same at a door, for which offence she was committed to Prison. She says that John Hall, a Young man who sailed in a Duckcreek Shallop, is Father of the Child, and that she has not seen nor heard of him since his first connection with her.

#### April 11, 1803

Admitted Esther Vanse Legal Resident 28 years of age, born in Ireland, and landed in this City twelve years ago, and went to Cranberry County of Middlesex, New Jersey, and lived three years, then returned to Philadelphia and has lived in it ever since. Her Husband Matthew Vanse is now in Jail for beating and abusing her, the effects of which has rendered her incapable of working.

# April 13, 1803

Admitted Peter Condo a black-man, Legal Resident between 60 and 70 years of age & formerly belonged to Samuel Emlen, late of this City, deceased, who gave him his freedom many years ago. He is a Tanner by trade and worked last with William Savory, but now being sick, lame & unable to support himself by his labour, is sent in.

# April 18, 1803

Admitted Catharine Dugan Legal Resident 30 years of age, a Native of Ireland, and landed with her Husband (John Dugan) in Philadelphia eleven years ago, and about 12 months after their arrival he deserted his Wife, and she has had no tidings of him since. She has from that time supported herself in this City by her industry and labour, but now being afflicted with a sore arm she is rendered incapable of working for her support, and is come here.

#### May 13, 1803

Admitted Sarah Johnson, Pregnant, Legal Resident 33 years old, born at New Mills, state of New Jersey; has lived ten years in this City at service as an house-maid with different families, some of them upwards of two years, the last was with Daniel Helt (in Broad Street between Race and Vine Streets), House Carpenter. She has sworn the Child she now bears to James Norris (one of the

Skippers of the New Castle Stage Boat Fly) before John Baker, Esquire, who issued a States Warrant against him, but he has not been taken yet.

## June 9, 1803

Admitted Phebe Dixon Non Resident 37 years of age, a Native of Connecticut; is married and lived sixteen years in New York, and came from there this Morning in pursuit of her Husband, who left her fifteen months ago, expecting to meet with him in Philadelphia. And by walking such a distance has blistered her feet in such a manner that renders her unable to walk, and having no friends she came to this house to be informed how she should get admission for a few days, till her feet got well, and Mr. Huson being here at the time told the Steward he might permit her to stay.

# June 15, 1803

Admitted Ann Mayberry Legal Resident 29 years of age, born near Brandywine, Delaware State, was here several years ago by the name of Ann Gallaspy. She is now in an advanced state of Pregnancy, and says that from the abuse and ill treatment of her husband to her, for a considerable time past, she was obliged to have him sent to prison by Ebenezer Ferguson, Esquire, and her present situation being such, obliged her to apply.

#### June 27, 1803

Admitted Mary McCoy Legal Resident 24 years of age a Native of Ireland, and James McCoy, Child of ditto, 5 years old 7th of last February, and Elizabeth McCoy, aged 18 months, both born in Philadelphia. Said Mary landed in this City nine years ago, eight years and better of which she has been married to William McCoy (Labourer) who has not only beat and abused her, but neglected to take care and support his family, and they are sent here.

# July 23, 1803

Admitted Mary Goff Legal Resident 77 years of age, and Widow of Peter Goff, Shipcarpenter, who died near thirty years ago. She's a Native of Maryland and came to Philadelphia with her Husband 54 years ago and has lived in it ever since. She's a decent Old woman, but from poverty & infirmities of age is obliged to come here.

# July 27, 1803

Admitted Jonathan Barber Legal Resident 32 years of age, born in Pittsgrove Township, Salem County, New Jersey, says he has Sailed out of this Port these twelve years past, and paid Hospital money<sup>20</sup> every voyage. He got his foot mashed last Monday by a barrel of flour falling on it, as he was helping to unlade the Schooner Sea Flower, Captail Man, lying [at] the upperside of Walnut Street Wharf; and being poor & unable to support himself is come in.

# July 28, 1803

Admitted Mary Moyers Legal Resident 12 years of age, born in Philadelphia. Her parents are dead and she was bound to Jacob Plume in Plumb Street between Second and Third street, Southwark, Baker, and on account of his not giving her sufficient cloathing and food, she left him two weeks ago last Saturday and went to Mrs. Matsons in Race Street between Front and Second street and staid two weeks; and since then she has been with Mrs. Maria Course in 5th between Race and Vine street and is now sent here.

#### October 30, 1803

Admitted John Bryan (Taylor) Legal Resident 40 years of age, a Native of Ireland, has lived in Philadelphia twenty one years and followed Tayloring. He has a bad Cough and spitting of blood, and appears to be progressing fast in a Consumption, and was brought here.

# November 2, 1803

Admitted Sarah Adams Legal Resident 42 years of age, and her two Children, Francis Adams 4 years old the tenth day of next Month, William Adams aged 14 months 2 days. The Mother is in a declining state of health and appears to be consumptive. Alexander Adams the Father is a Shoemaker, but being in poor state of health is unable to support himself and family, and they are sent here.

#### December 10, 1803

Admitted Emanuel Reindollar Legal Resident 64 years of age, was born in Germany and landed in this City when a Child, and always lived in it, is a Taylor by trade, but too old and unable to support himself.

## December 23, 1803

Admitted Elizabeth McIntire Legal Resident 40 years of age, born in Ireland, has lived in Philadelphia about thirty years. Her Husband David McIntire having deserted her, and she not capable to provide for herself, is come in.

# January 9, 1804

Admitted Martha Javett Legal Resident 63 years of age, born in Philadelphia, was here 15th last June, lame; was taken out by her daughter 31st August following, who promised to take care and provide for her, and has now brought her back with the same complaint.

#### January 19, 1804

Admitted Margaret Boyd Legal Resident 67 years of age, born in Ireland, has lived these 2 years past in Philadelphia, her eye sight has failed her, and not able to work for her support is sent in.

# January 24, 1804

Admitted Silvia a superannuated Negress, Legal Resident, has lived in the family of Mr. Samuel McClean, breeches maker, 30 years, & has been 7 years out of it working to support herself, unable longer to do so, she is sent here.

# January 31, 1804

Admitted John Norris, Shoemaker, Legal Resident 28 years old, has been here several times before this, could not procure work & came here.

#### February 13, 1804

Admitted Elizabeth Duck Legal Resident 50 years of age, a native of Philadelphia & has always lived in it, sick & unable to support herself, sent in.

# February 24, 1804

Admitted Elizabeth Jennings Legal Resident 23 years old and her child Elizabeth Jennings aged 5 Weeks. Richard Jennings, the husband & father, is a Printer & lives on 10th below Market Street, & at present is out of employment & not able to maintain himself and family; they are sent here.

#### March 9, 1804

Admitted Lewis LaFais Legal Resident 17 years of age, born in Philadelphia. His Father & Mother died 8 years ago, and he followed the Sea and Sailed out of this Port 7 years, and has paid Hospital Money, is now Venereal and is sent in

Admitted Rebecca Williams Legal Resident 18 years of age, born in Dover, Kent County, State of Delaware, lived in Philadelphia 6 years as a Servant maid; was brought here by Richard Haynes who married the Widow Morgan, in Arch Street between 9th & 10th Streets; has lived with them 6 weeks in a Deranged State, & is sent in.

#### March 31, 1804

Admitted Elizabeth Swanson Legal Resident 60 years old, born in Germany. Came to Philadelphia when a Child & has lived in it ever since. Her husband is in the Work house for Shamefully beating her, & She is sent her.

#### April 10, 1804

Admitted Ann Gregg, Pregnant, Legal Resident 27 years old, has Sworn the Child she now bears to Robert Isburn (who is gone to Sea) before Michael Hillegas, Esquire, this morning. Said Ann was here 22nd December 1801 in same Condition by Isa Thomas; was brought to bed 22nd February 1802 & discharged with the Child 6 July following, who she says Died 2 Months After.

#### April 17, 1804

Admitted Daniel Scandling, Taylor, Non Resident, arrived in Philadelphia from Ireland 18 years ago and lived in it 4 Years, then Went to Baltimore & lived about 5 years, & went from there to New York, after that he returned to Philadelphia & lived in it about 7 Years, then went to Downings Town & lived about 9 Months, & came from there last night; is sick of Pleurisy, & is sent in.

#### April 27, 1804

Admitted Allen Grace, black man Non Resident 22 years of Age, born in Baltimore, came to Philadelphia last December & since the Navigation of the Delaware has been open, he has been employed by Captain Thomas Moore of the New Castle Packet. He is now Sick with Small Pox, and is sent in.

#### May 23, 1804

Admitted Louisa Ellias Non Resident 23 years of age, a Native of Germany, arrived in this City 9 Months ago with her husband, Jacob Ellias, who has since their Arrival here gone to the East Indies in the Brig Surprize, Captain McCloud, belonging to Mr. Renshaw; and not making any provision for her support, & She being Subject to fits, is sent in.

# June 8, 1804

Admitted Rebeccah Maglow Legal Resident 24 Years of Age, born in Philadelphia, has got the Venereal disease, and was found lying under a Shed by a friend, who brought her here.

# June 11, 1804

Died Rebeccah Maglow of Pulmonary Consumption. Admitted Friday 8th Instant

Admitted Maria Elizabeth Colners Legal Resident 64 years old, born in Hamburg, has lived 20 years in this City, is afflicted with Rheumatism, and being unable to Work, was found begging in the Street & sent in.

# June 12, 1804

Admitted Mary Dibert (Pregnant) Legal Resident 18 Years of Age last September. Served her time with Samuel Pleasant of this City, has lived these 7 Months past with Jacob Super's Wife to learn the Mantua making business. Says She cannot swear her Pregnancy to any particular person.

#### June 26, 1804

Admitted Mary Crist Legal Resident 20 years old, born in Ireland, came to this country when a Child, has lived 4 Years in this City, and learned the Milinary business<sup>21</sup> with Mrs. Gregory in Arch Street, has the Venereal disease, and is sent in

# July 10, 1804

Admitted John Rochambeau Legal Resident, Merchant, born in Guade-loupe, came to this City immediately after the burning of Cape Francois, and has resided in it since; is much debilitated with a Nervous Complaint, and is come in.

# July 27, 1804

Admitted Mary Morgan Non Resident (Pregnant) 39 years old, born in Maryland, & brought up in Delaware State. Says She came to this City about a Week ago in Search of her husband's brother who She finds is gone to New York. She is Sick and Unable to proceed farther in search of her friend, or Support herself by Labour, and is Sent in.

#### July 28, 1804

Admitted Mary Landrum Legal Resident, 43 Years old, born in Ireland, & Child Mary Lafferty, about 4 years Old. About 3 Months ago the Mother Married William Muldrum, a Brickmaker, who Works with Mr. Perkins, & who has property in Spruce Street, near Schuykill. Said Muldrum has drove his Wife & her Child out of Doors, & they are Sent in here.

# July 30, 1804

Died Maria Hall. It appears on Strict enquiry she was of German descent, about 26 or 27 Years of Age, that she was Married, and her husband had left her and went to Charleston or elsewhere, that she had the Jaundice for 3 weeks past, and was also afflicted with the Venereal disease. That on friday last she was turned out of a house (supposed to be a house of Ill fame) in Cherry Street, between 9th & 10th Streets, that she slept that night in the open Air, and wandered about the lots near Schuykill all Saturday. On Sunday morning she was found lying in a lot speechless, and almost exhausted; from which situation she was removed by the humane assistance of Messrs Peters, Wile, & Geyed who had her brought in here, but nothwithstanding every possible assistance was immediately given, she Expired this Morning.

# July 31, 1804

Admitted Jane Moran Legal Resident 69 Years of Age, born at Duck Creek,

has lived 19 years in this City; kept a Store near the New Market, failed and afterward went to Service.

#### August 1, 1804

Admitted Elizabeth Morrow Non Resident 14 Years of age, born in Bristol, Old England, was brought to this Country 3 Years ago by Captain John Thompson of Bustletown, who has turned her out of doors. She says her father was drowned, and that her Mother went with Captain T. before a Magistrate in Bristol, but is Ignorant whether any writing was given or not, but is certain he has no Indenture or other obligation since her arrival here. The reason She gives for her Masters conduct is that some person had attempted to force open a lock, where some Sweetmeats<sup>22</sup> were kept, of which She declares her innonence, yet his Suspicion followed her. She also says he has the Register of her age, & some letters from her Mother in his possession.

#### September 11, 1804

Admitted Martha Thornton Legal Resident 25 years old, born near the Yellow Springs, Chester County, served the greatest part of her time in this City, and has lived these seven years past in it; is much swelled both in her body and limbs, the effects of the Venereal disease.

#### NOTES

- 1. Women with venereal disease, especially prostitutes, were confined to the "Polishing Room"
- 2. The city's workhouse was the same as its jail, where vagrants usually were sent for thirty days.
- 3. Masters were liable for the room and board costs of their bound servants.
- 4. Guadeloupe was a port city in the French West Indian island of Martinique.
- 5. The Guardians of the Poor brought great pressure on unmarried pregnant women to reveal the father of their child so that he might be held responsible for the cost of the child's support.
- 6. Draymen hauled goods around the city on a horse-drawn cart which usually contained runners instead of wheels.
- 7. The almshouse rules prohibited inmates from drinking alcohol on the grounds.
- 8. British troops commanded by General Edward Braddock, including a number of colonial militiamen under George Washington, were defeated in 1755 by a French and Indian force in western Pennsylvania.
- 9. Phthisicks included any type of debilitating affliction.
- 10. A hostler cared for horses, generally at an inn or stable.
- 11. A waitingman acted as a personal servant.
- 12. The almshouse officials often paid women to care for and suckle infants.
- 13. That is, Robertson's father was thought either to have died during the voyage or to have been captured by the French or English.
- 14. In all probability, Landram's son took his sister away to prevent Guardians of the Poor from indenturing her against her mother's will.
- 15. Southwark was the southern suburb of Philadelphia.

- 16. Kirvan sold raw oysters from a wheelbarrow.
- 17. Because begging was illegal, watchmen confined offenders to the workhouse or almshouse.
- 18. A cordwainer made and mended shoes.
- 19. The Northern Liberties comprised the city's northern suburbs.
- 20. Seamen were required to pay a small amount of "hospital money" out of their wages to cover their potential medical expenses.
- 21. Milliners made and sold women's hats.
- 22. Sweetmeats described any type of candy.