

he purchased an estate in 1754, which he adorned and beautified with gardens and handsome buildings. There were olive trees, vineyards, fruit trees, and a wealth of blooming plants.

He remained but two years in his Italian home. His brother, Michael, persuaded him to return to Switzerland, where he himself lived. From Switzerland, he followed his brother Michael to England, where he lingered until the glowing accounts of the then British Province of Florida so captivated his imagination, that he associated himself with several others, obtained large tracts of land in Florida, and agreed to undertake the active management of the Association's affairs, in the land across the seas.

He accordingly once more broke up his home, and became a pioneer in a new country, which had been pictured to him as an earthly paradise.

In 1771, he chartered a vessel, and sailed with his family to St. Augustine, Florida, carrying with him a ship load of handsome furniture, china, glass, silver, paintings, mirrors, books, household linens, and all other things that could promote comfort, and form a home of refinement and elegance.

There was sufficient to furnish both his town and country house.

He bought a large stone house on the Bay in St. Augustine, where he established his family, when, with his eldest son, he proceeded to the St. Johns River, and settled three plantations, built houses for himself and his numerous operatives and employees, and commenced the cultivation of indigo, the extraction of turpentine, the planting of orange groves and the raising of sheep. He kept a vessel constantly plying between the New World and the Old, carrying the products of the one and bringing back the comforts and luxuries from the other.

The Revolutionary War coming on, he suspended attempts to carry on these operations, and offered his services to the English Military Commander, and was sent to Charleston, S. C. to fill a Staff appointment. His eldest son remained in Florida in charge of the property.

At the close of the Revolution, his brothers and friends in Europe urged him to return to Switzerland, but the time for wandering, with him, was over. He had taken root in Florida, and his determination to remain here was unshaken. He was a man of vision and business acumen, and he was convinced that Florida had a future, if its natural resources were properly developed and conserved.

Francis Philip Fatio, named his various properties in Florida for the homes of his youth, Nice, Neufchatel (now New Castle) and New Switzerland.

New Switzerland, a plantation of 10,000 acres, was the country residence of the family, where they resided when not in St. Augustine. Material was brought from England for the construction of the large country house, which was called by the Spaniards, later on, "El Palacio" or "La Castilla" (because it had turrets).

It was burned in 1812 by a marauding band of Indians, after the death of the builder, who died in 1811.

Other plantations were at Fernandina, 10,000 acres in what is now Nassau County, and at Spring Garden, on the St. Johns River, called Berresford, for Lord Berresford of England.

Francis Philip Fatio died August 11th, 1811, in full possession of his faculties. "He was a venerable, benignant looking old gentleman, and leaned on his gold-headed cane or staff, nearly as long as he was high, to steady his feeble steps, as he walked the piazza for exercise." He was a Protestant and was buried at New Switzerland. The name of this plantation, a few miles South of Jacksonville, on the St. Johns River, endures though now known as Switzerland, and it has long since passed into other than family possession.

"Mr. Fatio was over six feet in height, well proportioned, finely cut features, a bright countenance and mild blue eyes."

He was cultivated—a scholar, and master of several languages. French was probably the language most used in his family, but he and his wife generally conversed in Italian.

He was equally familiar with Spanish, German and English and wrote in each of these languages.

His wife, Marie Madeleine Crispel, who had followed him in all his wanderings, died in 1810, and was buried at New Switzerland, where many others of the family connection sleep.

PROGRAM

Presentation of Coquina Garden Seat with Bronze Plaque

in memory of

FRANCIS PHILIP FATIO (1724-1881)

Father of Conservation in Florida

and his equally distinguished great-great-granddaughter,

LINA L'ENGLE BARNETT (1859-1934)

to

Rollins College



by

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY, COLONIAL DAMES OF
AMERICA IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA

14 December 1935

WINTER PARK, FLORIDA

2:30 P. M. CHAPEL GARDENS

- Chairman PROF. A. J. HANNA
1. "God Save the King" ROLLINS COLLEGE CHOIR
 2. Salute to the Flag, conducted by MRS. W. A. BISBEE
 3. Address "The Swiss Background of
the Fatio Family" MR. MAURICE FATIO
 4. Address "Francis Philip Fatio" MR. W. L. BARNETT
 5. Address "Lina L'Engle Barnett" MRS. FRANK E. JENNINGS
 6. Presentation of the Memorial MRS. WM. S. MANNING,
President Florida Society, Colonial Dames
 7. Unveiling of the Memorial } MADELEINE CAMP
NADIA BARNETT
DONNA BARNETT
Assisted by other descendants of Francis Philip Fatio
 8. Introduction of the artist, Leno Lazarri
 9. Acceptance of the Memorial PRESIDENT HAMILTON HOLT
 10. Prayer DEAN CHARLES A. CAMPBELL
 11. "The Star Spangled Banner" ROLLINS COLLEGE CHOIR

3:30 p. m. Reception in the Chapel Gardens

4:00 p. m. Knowles Memorial Chapel. Vespers

NOTE: *An undergraduate dramatic production, "The Goose Hangs High," will be presented at the Annie Russell Theatre at 8:15 p. m.*

LINA L'ENGLE BARNETT

By MRS. FRANK E. JENNINGS

Mrs. Lina L'Engle Barnett was born at an army post in Texas, her father, William Johnson L'Engle, being a surgeon in the United States Army, stationed, at the time (1859) at this frontier post.

Though born in Texas, Mrs. Barnett's ancestry was entirely Floridian, and her life from infancy was spent in Jacksonville.

She was educated in Virginia, and in 1885, was married to Bion Hall Barnett, at the St. Johns Episcopal Church of Jacksonville.

Four children were born of this union, Madeliene (Mrs. Charles W. Camp), Bion Hall Barnett Jr., and William L'Engle Barnett, twin sons, and Donald M. Barnett, all of whom are living.

A reader, a thinker, a lover of mankind, Mrs. Barnett had many interests cultural, civic and philanthropic.

Her interest in the welfare of young women found expression in her service to the Y. W. C. A., the Traveler's Aid, the Woman's Life Saving Corps and the Woman's Club of Jacksonville.

Her patriotic efforts were loaned to the D. A. R.s and Colonial Dames, being a useful and active member of both these great organizations, and her interest in the conservation of the forests of Florida infused every organization of which she was a member. Her latter years were devoted almost exclusively to accumulating information on this important subject, and to passing it on, whenever possible, to organizations and individuals. She was interested in the trees of Florida not only because of their beauty, and their value to the landscape, but because of their great economic value to the State, as a protection to the soil, and as the source of lumber and naval stores—distinct financial assets. Her study of this subject was thorough and scientific, and her retentive and accurate memory could furnish at short notice a wealth of information upon this important subject, always with a warning as to forest fires and as to the cutting of trees for lumber without replanting. The spirit of her great-great grand father, Francis Philip Fatio, who is being honored as the Father of Conservation in Florida, lived again in her, in her love of trees and her consciousness of their value.

Mrs. Barnett was beautiful in person, and always dignified and gracious in manner. An English nobleman visiting Jacksonville on one occasion said she "Looked as a Duchess ought to look".

She was large in thought, in word, in deed, and her death in September 1934, left a void throughout the State which it is impossible to fill.

The Colonial Dames of Florida, with the gracious cooperation of Rollins College, as a tribute to the fine work in History which this superb Institution of Higher Culture is offering, and in recognition of its semicentennial, are erecting this memorial to Francis Philip Fatio and his equally distinguished great-great grand daughter, because of his pioneer work for conservation, and her unremitting endeavor to further the cause.

FRANCIS PHILIP FATIO

By MRS. FRANK E. JENNINGS

Francis Philip Fatio was born in the family mansion (the home of his father, John David Fatio, a gentleman of fortune and culture), in Switzerland, near Vevey, in the Pays de Vaud, on Lake Geneva, August 6th, 1724.

His mother's name was Pauline Muller, styled the Lady Pauline in the passport of her son's papers when he left Switzerland.

He received his education at the University of Geneva, and took a course in law, but conceived a distaste for its practice, and adopted the profession of arms, which he liked.

He entered the army as a Lieutenant in the Swiss Guards, then in the service of France, and continued in military life for many years.

While serving in Italy in 1748, he met Marie Madeleine Crispel, of Nice, Sandinia, then a part of Italy, and they were married on the 25th of March, 1748, in Nice.

After his retirement from military service, Francis Philip Fatio made his home in his wife's native land, the little Kingdom of Sandinia. There