

OUR HERITAGE

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Published by the Historic Manheim Preservation Foundation, Inc., 27 Market Square, Manheim, PA 17545

Sept. 2018

A RUNAWAY WITH A CROSS LOOK

On pages 122 thru 124, in George Heiges' book **Henry Wm. Stiegel and His Associates**, is information concerning a problem with an employee by the name of Felix Farrell, glass blower. An entry in Stiegel's account book states that "Felix Farrell was reprimanded for making glass for strangers without leave according to the article in the rules of the factory." Mr. Heiges states: "The case developed when we see that a reward is offered for runaway Farrell in the Pennsylvania Packet of November 4, 1771."

Below is the notice that Stiegel placed in the Packet.

FIVE PISTOLES REWARD.
RAN AWAY, on Saturday the 26th ult. from the American Flint Glass Works in Manheim, Lancaster county, a certain servant man, named **FELIX FARREL**, by trade a Glass Blower, about twenty four years of age, five feet six or seven inches high, of a cross look, has a fear in his face, and wears his own dark brown hair. Had on when he went away, a brown coat, a yellow silk striped jacket, a pair of boots, and a beaver hat, &c. Whoever takes up said Farrel, and secures him in any of his Majesty's goals, shall have the above reward and reasonable charges paid by
HENRY WILLIAM STIEGAL.

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At the time, five pistoles, a French name given to a Spanish gold coin in use, represented approximately twenty dollars, as the reward. Spanish coins and those of many other countries were used in colonial Pennsylvania and throughout the colonies.

Felix Farrell's Response (Nov. 11, 1771):

WHEREAS Mr. Henry William Stiegel hath published an advertisement in the Pennsylvania Packet, offering a reward of Five Pistoles to any person who shall apprehend me the subscriber, and secure me as a run away servant; and as I am no way desirous of having any person plunge himself into an expensive law-suit, I shall state the case between Mr. Stiegel and me, which is as follows: I and several other men came to America to pursue the business of making glass-ware; Mr. Stiegel persuaded us to enter into articles of agreement with him, to carry on the said business; we being strangers in America, and pleased with the civility of Mr. Stiegel's then behaviour to us, we executed the articles, a copy whereof I now have, and as he has forfeited the covenants on his part, I have a right to leave his employ and to bring an action against him; for, I am not by the laws of nature, to drudge and spend my whole life and strength in performing my part of the articles, and Mr. Stiegel not paying me my wages. I have taken the opinion of an eminent gentleman of the law upon the articles, who declares, no person can be justified in apprehending me, as I am no servant, and that any person so doing will subject himself to an action of false imprisonment. If Mr. Stiegel wants a farther explanation of the matters between us, I am ready and willing to publish it and submit the same to the public, as well as to answer Mr. Stiegel in any action he may think proper to bring against me, and will find security in a thousand pounds for so doing.
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FELIX FARRELL

In the next column is pictured a 1771 ad offering a large variety of Stiegel glass items. Also pictured is a beautiful amethyst example of what the ad offered. The bottle appears in this article by permission of Norman Heckler (Norman Heckler & Company, Woodstock Valley, CT). The super example will be sold at auction on Sept. 12, 2018.

From the Nov. 4, 1771 Pennsylvania Packet:

AMERICAN FLINT GLASS,
Greatly improved, and allowed by complete judges to be equal to most imported from England, is now only to be sold by wholesale and retail, at the American Flint Glass Store, in Second-street, the fifth door above Race-street, by
CAUFFMAN AND FEGAN,
Where they have just now opened a large and general Assortment of that Manufactory, *viz.*
DDOUBLE and single flint glass, four, three, two and one quart decanters with stoppers, pint and half pint ditto, sugar loaf and round ditto, double and single flint tumblers, half pint, gill, half and 1-fourth gill ditto, enamelled and twisted wines, plain ditto, enamelled and twisted mafons, common and common twisted ditto, proof glasses, blue and plain flower pots, lemonaded canss of all sorts, mustards of all sorts, ornamented candlesticks, and plain fervers, common and enamelled ditto, wine, water and cyder ditto, syllabubs with one handle, ditto with two handles, bubbled burton jellies, common acorn ditto, bell bowl jellies, enamelled smelling bottles, common and twisted ditto, jacony salt sellers, enamelled ditto, twisted and plain crewets with stoppers, tale and flint crewets, inks of all sorts, enamelled and plain three footed cream jugs, blue and plain enamelled salts, all sorts of phials for druggists, great and small glassies suitable for lapidaries to cut, and a great variety of other glasses too tedious to insert.
The Public may be assured, that no other glass of any kind will be kept or sold at said store. From the great experience that the proprietor of this manufactory, Mr. Henry William Stiegel has of the patriotic spirit of the Gentlemen in Pennsylvania and the provinces adjacent, he flatters himself, that it will meet with suitable encouragement.—All orders and patterns sent to the store, shall be accurately forwarded, and complied with at the manufactory or at the store, from time to time.—Store-keepers, tavern-keepers and retailers, will be completely supplied, much lower than importation price, for cash or short credit.—3 d. per pound paid for old flint glass, at the store, in glass.



Lot: 137 Pattern Molded Pocket Bottle, 28 ogivals over flutes pattern, Stiegel's American Flint Glass Manufactory, Manheim, Pennsylvania, 1763-1774. Plump pocket bottle form, medium amethyst, sheared mouth - pontil scar, ht. 5 5/8 inches. Similar to MW color plate II, #4 *Wonderful glass clarity and strength of mold impression. Rare and important. Fine condition.*
Estimate: \$4,000 - \$8,000 **Minimum bid:** \$2,000