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Commentary

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Often when Frederick couldn't remember something he called to his wife Lucy, who was in the next room working on a scrapbook for a grandchild. Their exchanges through the wall were warm and affectionate--the exchanges of two people used to and satisfied with each other. Although Frederick's recall was not as sharp as it had been two years before, he was so sympathetic to the project I had come to him with, and he was so helpful, that I got first hand a feeling for what it must have been like when

young authors, badly in need of encouragement and inspiration, came to him through the *Midland*.

I left the farm eager to finish my project, and I did, even ahead of schedule. I realized then that Frederick had done for me what he had been doing constantly for 60 years, and I knew why he had been able to exert such influence on so many 20th-century writers and students. Despite his age, despite his low-keyed unpretentiousness, it seemed clear to me that, very simply, he was a great man. □

COMMENTARY

In the last issue of *The Palimpsest* (January/February 1978), we incorrectly identified the Swedish Methodist church in Jefferson Township as the Swedish Baptist church. The error, for which I offer my sincerest apologies to the Reverend Charles Sloca and his congregation, occurred in the caption on page 13 of Ardith K. Melloh's article, "New Sweden."

We ask our readers to forgive this oversight.

Those many people who have expressed interest in the article will be pleased to know that the Swedish Lutheran church, built in 1860, and appearing both on the cover and on page 10, has recently been added to the National Register of Historic Places.

I wish you good reading.

Charles Phillips

CONTRIBUTORS

A native of Superior, Wisconsin, ANTHONY BUKOSKI earned his B.A. there from Wisconsin State University. He received an M.A. from Brown University, and an MFA from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, and is now completing his Ph.D. in English at the University of Iowa. His short stories have appeared in several literary quarterlies, and he has published critical articles on Jack London, and on Southern literature.

STEVE WILBERS was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. He took his B.A. at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee and spent a year at Vanderbilt-in-France. He received his M.A. in English from the University of Iowa, and he is now completing his Ph.D. at Iowa. Wilbers' article on the Iowa City writers' clubs is part of a longer study on the Iowa Writers' Workshop. His interest in the study was a result of his commitment to the Iowa City community, as evidenced in his service on the Iowa City-Johnson County Arts Council, his originating of the Iowa Creative Reading Series,

and his work as founding editor of *prairie grass*, a monthly newsletter funded by grants from the Iowa Arts Council and NEA. Wilbers has published articles on the Workshop in the *North American Review* and several other publications.

Born in Washington D.C., MILTON M. REIGELMAN received an A.B. in philosophy from the College of William and Mary and worked for *The Washington Post* before taking his Masters of Communication from the University of Pennsylvania. While teaching at the University of Iowa, he earned an M.A. and a Ph.D. in English. In 1976 he was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant for summer study at Yale University. Presently, Reigelman teaches English and American literature at Centre College of Kentucky in Danville. Reigelman's interest in John T. Frederick is evident in his seminal study of Frederick's magazine in *The Midland: A Venture in Literary Regionalism* (published by the University of Iowa Press, Iowa City, 1975).