

Use of Von Phul material:

Who?
(Describe home in Covington). To the dignity and charm of this old home there was added something of the gaiety, brilliance, and sophistication of the Von Phul and Powell circle. Von Phul (previously described in connexion with Baker's setting up in Cincinnati) married ----- Powell, the daughter of William T. Powell, the painter. (try DAB). Although of obscure origin, William Powell early made a striking reputation; and at this time was establishing himself permanently in the artistic history of America with his portraits, among them Washington Irving and General McClellan, and his buoyant historical canvases, among them Perry's Victory etc etc which may be seen today in the national capitol at Washington.

Henry Von Phul, the sandy-haired, blue-eyed witty companion of Baker's boyhood days, was as jovial as ever in his new home and present prosperity; and the two men were now as ever inseparable companion. Many times the Baker home must have witnessed (sheltered, sustained....

the visits of this slim, nimble
and his wife, Von Phul swinging the formal silver-headed cane given him by his father in (or brother in) law, or the black thorn stick which he seems to have preferred. The talk might range from travel and the trips the two men took to the paintings which they collected (in their good-natured rivalry) or the trials of the river crossing, or the virtues of the bottle they were sampling. (can we allow a bottle in here ?). (Did Baker drink ?)