It is planned to arrange all divisions of the gage laboratory in a group, as far as this is feasible. The Department of Mechanical Engineering will direct the work of all divisions except the X-ray, which will be under the Department of Electrical Engineering. Professor C. H. Shumaker has been appointed to collaborate with officers of the Army Ordnance Department in collecting and installing equipment. Acquisition of the gage laboratory and provision for its use by industry and students will serve to carry on the policy of close cooperation between industry and the School of Engineering.

Dr. Ernst Kapp, Early Geographer in Texas¹

S. W. Geiser

Because of its geographic position midway between Mexico and the old Louisiana Purchase, Texas has a fauna and flora that show in many respects transitional forms. The further fact that Texas was for ten years an independent republic, open to free immigration, brought into the new country citizens from diverse European lands, with their old cultures, who mixed with the preponderating immigrants from the United States. As a consequence, Texas came to be known to scientific men the world over as a new and interesting country to be explored.²

Such men as the French-Swiss Jean Louis Berlandier; the Scot Thomas Drummond; the Germans Ferdinand Lindheimer, Ferdinand Roemer, Julius Fröbel, Ottomar von Behr, Ottfried Hans von Meusebach, and Ernst Kapp; the German-Swiss Jakob Boll; the Frenchman Julien Reverchon, and numerous other men, foreign to the American continent, came to Texas. The occupation of Texas by American troops after the Mexican War, and the establishment of Army posts and forts, each with a well-trained surgeon; and the surveys across Texas for a Pacific Railroad in the 'fifties, bringing surveying parties with expert naturalists, made Texan natural history known to the world.

¹Preprint of Invitation Paper, presented at the St. Louis Meeting of the A.A.A.S., Section L, March 29, 1946.
Early Texas physicians, who largely relied for their medicines and "simples" upon the indigenous plants of Texas, also did much toward making these plants generally known. As a consequence, at the present time we have information of well over a thousand Texas men of science between 1820 and 1880—a few of whom were experts, but most of them amateurs. Among this great number, Texas can claim nearly fifty geologists, topographers, cartographers, and geographers. Among the geographers, the most notable were William Bollaert, Thomas Falconer, and Admiral Sir Edward Belcher, (all Britishers, and Fellows of the Royal Geographical Society); and the German geographers, Drs. Ernst
Kapp and Julius Froebel. Bollaert resided and traveled in Texas from 1840 to 1844, and left extensive materials, now in the Ayer Collection of the Newberry Library. Thomas Falconer was an invited guest-member of the (1841) Texan Santa Fé Expedition, and published (among other works) a book on the Expedition. Admiral Sir Edward Belcher was active in Texas during the years 1849 to 1850, when he was director of the English Universal Immigration and Colonization Company. Dr. Julius Froebel, noted German refugee scholar, politician, traveler, later consul to the Reich, and many-sided publicist, came to Texas about 1853, and for a couple of years traveled back and forth across the State, engaged in trade between Indianola and San Antonio, and between San Antonio and Chihuahua. Dr. Ernst Kapp, best student of, and successor to, Carl Ritter [one of the founders, with Alexander von Humboldt, of modern geography] was born in Bavaria, and took his Ph.D. degree at Bonn at the age of twenty. Later, in 1849, a refugee, Kapp came to Texas, and early in January of 1850, came to Sisterdale, Kendall County, Texas. In that wonderful "Latin Community" (which has never been properly appreciated by Texans) he lived for sixteen years. In 1865, Dr. Kapp returned to Germany for a short visit (as he thought), but complications prevented his return, and he remained in Germany, residing at Duesseldorf. Here he died in 1896. In the course of his life he published a number of geographical works, some of great importance. His last work (printed in 1877) was based on his experiences in the frontier country of Texas. So important was Kapp's life and work that his biography appears in the Allgemeine Deutsche Biographie. Although Dr. Kapp did not return to Texas, a number of his children did, and several descendants reside at the present time in Texas.3

II

ERNST KAPP, the youngest of twelve children, was born in Ludwigstadt, in Bavarian Oberfranken, on October 15, 1808, and died at Duesseldorf, Rhenish Prussia, on January 30, 18964 His father was a Justizamtmann (attaché of a

3Cf. S. W. Geiser, "Geographers of Early Texas; a bibliographic note" (Texas Geographic Magazine, vol. 7, 1943, pp. 37-38.)
court of justice) of an old official family. When the boy Ernst was only six years old (1814), both parents and several of the younger children died of typhus. Ernst was taken care of by the Protestant pastor at Ludwigstadt, but received bad treatment and was very unhappy. After two years, he escaped by night to the home of his sister, the wife of one Pfarrer Holler, who was in charge of a Protestant church in a village near Ludwigstadt. Unwanted, the boy stayed here but a short time: his elder brother, Dr. Friedrich Kapp, then made it possible for Ernst to enter a home of wealth as a companion in studies to one Fritz Helfreich. Here he had a private tutor.

In 1818, when he was ten years old, Ernst entered a Pestalozzian school at Würzburg, of which his brother Friedrich was director. This had been founded by the liberal official and later Minister to Vienna, Maximilian Lerchenfeld (1778-1843). This period was one of great unrest in Germany. About 1820, due to the insistence of reactionary ecclesiastics, the Würzburg school was closed, and Ernst’s brother, Dr. Friedrich Kapp, became director of the Gymnasium at Hamm, in Westphalia.

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1For general biographical notices of Dr. Ernst Kapp (1808-96), see Allgemeine Deutsche Biographie, 51. Bd., 1896, pp. 31-33; Deutsche Rundschau fuer Geographie und Statistik, Bd. 20, 1898, pp. 40-43.
2Wolfgang Kapp to Elsbeth Wipprecht, 15 and 30 June, 1920. (Geiser Papers.)
3For biography of Lerchenfeld, see Enciclopedia Universal Illustrada, vol. 30, p. 121.
Here (1820) Ernst entered the Gymnasium, and four years later (1824) passed his Abiturienten-examen. He then became a student of classical philology at Bonn, where he took his doctorate in 1828, with the Thesis, “De re navali Atheniensium,” (published before 1831). He then taught at Hamm under his brother Friedrich from 1828 to 1830, when (having passed his Probejahr, and the State examination for the grade of Oberlehrer) he went to the much better post of Ordinarius in the Quinta, of the Gymnasium at Minden in Westphalia. Here he lived and taught from 1830 to 1849, served in his last years as Erster Oberlehrer and Prorektor, and gained the title of “Professor.”

During his career of teaching at Hamm and Minden, Ernst Kapp became deeply interested in philosophy, history, and geography. He found a source of great inspiration in the works of Carl Ritter, who (with Alexander von Humboldt) is reckoned as one of the founders of modern geography. In 1817-18, Ritter had published his Die Erdkunde im Verhaeltniss zur Natur und Geschichte des Menschen; and from 1826 to 1860, notable lectures on general comparative geography. In their extended work, The Making of Geography, R. E. Dickinson and O. J. R. Howarth have given an excellent account of the life and work of Ritter, which obviates any further discussion here. Suffice it to say, however, that Ernst Kapp found his deepest inspirations in the published works of Ritter; and Kapp has come to be considered by competent historians of geography, as the only great, authentic student and disciple of Carl Ritter.

At the age of twenty-one, Kapp had passed the examination for the grade of Oberlehrer, and had accepted the professorate in the Gymnasium at Minden. The year 1830 was one of European turmoil: the July Revolution in Paris, when Charles X was succeeded by Louis Philippe; the revolt and separation of Belgium from the kingdom of the Netherlands; and the beginnings of the Polish Revolution. In the
next year (1831) revolutionary movements took place in Saxony and Hesse-Cassell—movements which, spreading through Germany, led to the abortive Frankfort Uprising of 1833. During these years, amidst all this turmoil of Europe's demanding the abolition of absolutism in government, and the establishment of constitutional monarchies, Kapp kept at his work as a scholar, and (besides his Dissertation and several papers in the journals) had published four books, all of them historical-geographical investigations. It was well that he could do so, and thereby avoid the punishments that were meted out to republican-minded citizens by the reactionary powers of Europe. After the Frankfurter Putsch (1833), all Germany experienced reaction; in Hanover, the King abrogated the Constitution, and seven professors at Goettingen were dismissed. In 1836, Kapp published a Latin work on the teaching in schools of history and geography. This work contains an index to previous literature on methods, which Johann Gottfried Luedden, in his Geschichte der Methodologie der Erdkunde (1849) has praised discriminately.

In the Deutsche Rundschau fuer Geographie und Statistik, Bd. XX, 1898, pp. 40-43, W. Wolkenhauer has given from the specialist's point of view a careful assessment of Ernst Kapp's work and place in the Carl Ritter school, as it appears in his magnum opus, his Philosophische oder vergleichende allgemeine Erdkunde, als wissenschaftliche Darstellung der Erdverhaeltnisse und des Menschenlebens nach ihrem inneren Zusammenhang (2 vols., 1845-46). This great work appeared under an abbreviated title in a new edition in 1868. To Wolkenhauer's thoroughgoing analysis the interested reader is referred, as it is too extended to be here quoted, in the detail that it deserves.

III

During the years 1844 to the end of 1846, the "Mainzer Adelsverein" for the protection of German immigrants into

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10Ernst Kapp's books of this period are: (a) Beitrag zur Begrundung eines sicheren Ganges des geschichtlich-geographischen Unterrichts, mit besonderer Ruecksicht auf die untere Gymnasialbildungsstufe (Minden, 1831); (b) Die Einheit des geschicht-geographischen Unterrichts (Minden, 1833); (c) Leitfaden beim ersten Schulunterricht in der Geschichte und Geographie (Minden, 1833); (d) Hellas, historische Bilder fuer Jugendunterricht (Minden, 1833.)

11Ernst Kapp, De incrementis quae ratio docendae in scholis historiae et geographiae cepit (Minden, 1836.)
Texas was engaged in the task of bringing into Texas several thousand new settlers, in the last years of the Republic, and the first of Statehood.\textsuperscript{12} Led at first by Prince Carl of Solms-Braunfels, the leadership soon passed to Baron Ottfried Hans von Meusebach, former student of the Bergakademie at Clausthal, and the Universities of Bonn and Halle, himself an amateur naturalist of no mean accomplishment.\textsuperscript{13} The peak of German immigration into Texas began with July, 1844, and passed in November, 1846. With several thousand German immigrants in the State, the subject of Texas as a place whither to migrate to secure religious, economic, or political freedom was ever in the German mind. Consequently, after the abortive uprising of 1848 in Germany, Texas was enriched by an immigration of some thousands of those who later became her best citizens. Ernst Kapp’s nephew, Friedrich Kapp the younger, was a fugitive from Germany, as were also in a sense, Gustav Thiessen, Eduard Degener, Karl D. A. Douai, and Ernst Kapp himself.

In 1849, Ernst Kapp published at Hamburg a small volume, \textit{Der konstituierte Despotismus und die constitutionelle Freiheit}. He was prosecuted for sedition, and made seriously ill by his imprisonment. Taking his cue from his many German fellow-liberals, Kapp resigned his professorate at Minden, declined calls to other German cities, and came with his wife and five children to Texas. He arrived in Galveston in December, 1849, and came to New Braunfels by way of Indianola. After a few weeks’ residence in New Braunfels and near-by Comaltown, he purchased from G. F. Holekamp a small farm of fifty acres near Sisterdale on the Guadalupe. Thither he moved his family about the middle of January, 1850. The settlement had been founded two years before by a Bavarian engineer, Nicholas Zink, who during the Greek Revolution (1821-29) had built roads in Greece. He also was a refugee from Germany, and for many years was a freighter of merchandise from Houston to the settlements in the central part of the Republic and State.\textsuperscript{14} Following Zink

\textsuperscript{12} For an excellent account of the work in Texas of the Mainzer Adelsverein, see R. L. Biesele, \textit{The History of the German Settlements in Texas, 1831-1861}, 1930, passim; see also Ferdinand Roemer, \textit{Texas...}, 1849, pp. 20-34.


\textsuperscript{14} Cf. S. W. Geiser, “Some Frontier Naturalists.” (\textit{Bios}, vol. 5, 1934, pp. 141-52.) [Information respecting Meusebach is at pp. 144-45.] See also Biesele, op. cit., 1930, 123ff.
into this settlement on the upper Guadalupe were such men as Baron Ottomar von Behr of Coethen, Gustav Thiessen, Eduard Degener, Emil, Rudolf, and Julius Dresel, Dr. W. I. Runge, August Siemering, Baron von Westphal, Louis von Breitenbach, and a number of other former German university and gymnasium men. Ernst Kapp fitted well into such a company; and with the later organization of the "Freier Verein" at Sisterdale, became its president (1853), with August Siemering as secretary. (Siemering later became editor of the San Antonio Zeitung, as successor to Dr. Karl D. A. Douai.)

Although a bred-in-the-bone scholar, Kapp turned himself without repining to the task of farming. It is inspiring to think of this middle-aged scholar and lover-of-liberty's breaking the prairie sod on his land with three yoke of oxen, or driving with pride his mule or ox wagon to Fredericksburg, twenty miles away, or distant San Antonio. The children were trained to farm work, but their education was by no means neglected. "Books and cultural means we have in plenty," said Kapp in a letter to his brother-in-law in Germany (1850). "If I at this time appear to think only of cattle, corn, fence-rails, and similar interests, I do not forget at the same time the spiritual, that lies in these material things, as cultural matériel. Briefly, I give myself body and soul to my new calling, and since one here needs to work at the most only three months in the year, there will be enough leisure left me to continue the spiritual development of my children." Kapp in this frontier country grubbed a piece of forest, raised cattle, learned some blacksmithing, built and repaired wagons, and became a skilful cabinet-maker. He kept himself in touch with German affairs, both political and cultural, by means of newspapers, magazines, and letters. He helped many German political refugees to find asylum in America. Later, when he had returned to Germany, he

15 For a vivid personal description of Nicholas Zink, see Ferdinand Roemer, Texas ..., 1849, pp. 99-100.
16 Schem's Deutsch-amerikanisches Conversations-Lexicon, Bd. 3, 1870, pp. 745-46, gives an excellent account of this distinguished German-American educator, who from 1853 to 1856 was editor of the San Antonio Zeitung. The Dictionary of American Biography lacks a biography of this great pedagogue, who introduced the kindergarten into America. Printed at pp. 36 to 38 of the Jahrbuch der Neu-Braunfelser Zeitung, 1836 (Jahrg. 31). [Mrs. Kapp's highly informative letters on their early experiences in Texas are printed at pp. 15-35.]
looked back on his farmer years in Texas with especial pleasure, and ascribed his long life and good health to his life there. 17

On the basis of his experiences as a Texas pioneer farmer, Kapp thought through and wrote his last book, *Grundlinien einer Philosophie der Technik* (1877), in which he attempted to show that man's tools are constructed in adaptation to the human limb that uses them, and that to the invention of tools, man owes the origin and perfecting of his consciousness. 18

IV

The period during which Kapp lived on the frontier in Texas extended from 1849 to 1865. The whole period (to say nothing of the War years) was one of great unrest in the state. The nation experienced this unrest after the Compromise of 1850. In the early 'fifties, the German settlers—opposed to slavery, advocating free labor, and devoted to the Union—became objects of distrust to the slave-owning citizens who had come from the Old South. The Know-Nothing Party was not dominant in Texas (1854-56), but attained some degree of prominence. 19 The forthright opposition to slavery of Dr. Douai, editor of the *San Antonio Zeitung*, 20 was shared by the great majority of citizens of "German" Texas, who had fled one tyranny to come under another even more odious. Most of these German settlers silently shared the antislavery feelings of Kapp, who said on his departure for America: "Inspired toward all that spells human culture, but an enemy to every servile form of its practice, and enemy-to-the-death of every Procrustean forcing of the spirit, I depart voluntarily from my teaching position. A man of integrity preserves his consciousness of the truth against every inducement and price. Undeterred by worthy

17 Deutsche Rundschau fuer Geographie und Statistik, Bd. 20, 1898, 40-43.
18See, esp., op. cit., pp. 241-45, figs. 40-41; also pp. 252-53, where he illustrates his point by a comparison of the structure of the much-more efficient American axe, with the German axe. Significant views are expressed at pp. 28, 39, 67, 76, 138, 184, 164, 208, 277, 306, and 351.
19Former Whigs in the South generally adhered to the American (or "Know-Nothing") Party, from about 1852 to 1856. Sam Houston coquetted with the movement, which nominated A. J. Donelson of Tennessee for Vice-President (with Millard Fillmore) in 1856. Dr. Ashbel Smith was burnt in effigy at the time for his outspoken opposition to the nativist movement.
20See R. L. Biesele, op. cit., 1930, pp. 196-203, for an account of the German San Antonio meeting (April 9, 1854) on the subject of Slavery, and its sequelae.
proposals which offered me a competence and peace elsewhere, I leave Germany without delay, exchanging comfort for toil, the familiar pen for the unfamiliar spade, in order to set my foot as a free man upon a free earth.”

V

The Latin settlement of Sisterdale in present Kendall County, Texas, of which Kapp was a part, was one of several formed in Texas. In this remarkable settlement, comparable with the notable one founded in the eighteen-thirties at Belleville, Illinois, were congregated men of great ability, emigrés from the homeland, simply because there every movement for a constitutional government was thwarted by a reactionary officialdom headed by arbitrary and incompetent autocrats. Brunken in his monograph, “German Political Refugees,” has pointed out how such settlements as Belleville and Sisterdale were “centers of light, from which higher ideals of life than were customary among the ordinary settlers spread among wide portions of the country. Especially in educational matters, these men set the stand-

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21Printed in Deutsche Rundschau fuer Geographie und Statistik, Bd. 20, 1898, 40-43.
22Ernest Bruncken, “German Political Refugees in the United States during the Period from 1815-1860,” in Deutsch-Amerikanische Geschichtsblatter, 1904.
ard, not only for their German countrymen, but for their American neighbors."^22

We have many contemporary accounts of the settlement at Sisterdale, which show remarkable contrasts between the cultural status of the settlers, and their American neighbors on the frontier. John R. Bartlett, in his *Personal Narrative*... tells of his visit to Sisterdale in October, 1850:

...On reaching the Guadalupe River, we stopped at the log houses of a small German colony. Among these, I was not a little surprised to find one occupied by [Baron Ottomar von Behr] a gentleman of learning and taste, with a choice library of scientific books around him. In chemistry and mineralogy, his collection was particularly rich; and even in other departments of natural science, as well as in history, voyages, and travels, it would have been a very respectable one in our large cities, where books are easily procured. Some good pictures, including copies from Murillo, evinced his taste in the fine arts. There was no floor or glass windows to this humble dwelling, and as much daylight seemed to come through the openings in the logs as through the windows. A plank table, chairs covered with deer skin, and a rude platform, on which was spread a bed filled with corn husks, but destitute of bed clothes, constituted the furniture. The walls were covered with books, except one spot, where were arranged twelve rifles and fowling pieces of various kinds, with other paraphernalia of a genuine sportsman; while here and there, jutting out from a projecting corner or log, were sundry antlers, evidence of the skill of the occupant. For want of closets and drawers, these antlers served to hang his clothes on. On entering this dwelling, we found its owner, Mr. [Behr], busily engaged upon his meteorological table. He received us with kindness and suavity of manner; and we found him, as well as several others of his countrymen who had entered, communicative and intelligent. They had been here two years, and formed part of a large colony of Germans, who had settled in the vicinity. By invitation, we called at an adjoining house [Eduard Degener's], equally primitive with that before described. On the rude walls hung some beautiful pictures, while other articles of taste and a cabinet of minerals, had their appropriate places. Here, too, was a fine harpsichord, from which we were treated to selections from the most popular composers, played with an expression of feeling which indicated a master's hand.... It is pleasant to meet such emigrants as these Germans... they bring cheerfulness and contentment with them, and impart to the pioneer population by which it is so often deficient.... [We] stopped at the house of Dr. Ernst Kapp, Professor, as indicated by his card. There was here the appearance of comfort and taste, though the house was of logs. I was introduced to his wife and daughter [Antonie], who both appeared to be intelligent, and several bright-looking children....^23

Frederick Law Olmsted, later a noted landscape architect, with his brother visited Sisterdale a little over a year later (in February, 1852), and has left the following account of his visit. Here again figure Dr. Ernst Kapp and his neighbors, Ottomar von Behr, Gustav Thiessen, and Eduard Degener.

...Sisterdale is a settlement of eight or ten farms, about forty miles from San Antonio, upon the Guadalupe.... The farmers are all men of education, and have chosen their residences, the first by chance, the latter

by choice, within social distance of one another. . . . The gentlemen we met were two of these singular settlers: one of them [August Siemerling], the schoolmaster, a Berlin student; the other a Baron, over whose Texan domain we were actually passing. He took us to his castle, which was near by. It was a new log house. The family occupied a lean-to in the rear, as the roof was not quite finished. Here we were presented to the lady, who received us with cordial politeness. . . . During a luncheon of bread and broth, we were interrupted by a clatter of hoofs. On looking out, we found a dozen men on horseback . . . on their way to the Dale to attend a Justice's Court. Draining our cups, we joined the cavalcade.

A few minutes brought us to the judge's house, a double log cabin, upon a romantic rocky bluff of the Guadalupe. He came out to receive us, and after converting his dining-room into a temporary court-room, for the reception of the legal arrival, resumed his long pipe, and gave us a special reception in his own apartment. We had interrupted him at work at notes upon a meteorological table, and availed ourselves of his judicial absence to look over his observations, and to make notes of such notes as interested us.

Court over, our host [Ottomar von Behr] rejoined us. The case had been one of great simplicity, requiring a few words only, to fix the value of a dog which had been shot and to reconcile all parties. This function of a peacemaker, we found, was one that was a habitual blessing to the neighborhood, with the judge—a certain largeness in his nature sufficient to quell all expressions of ill-feeling and put an end to silly discords. He was partly bald, but seemed to have an imperturbable and happy good-nature that gave him eternal youth. A genial cultivation beamed from his face. He had been a man of marked attainments at home (an intimate associate with Humboldt and a friend of Goethe's Bettina) and kept up here a warm love for nature. His house was the very picture of good-nature, science, and back-woods. Romances and philosophies were piled in heaps in a corner of the logs. A dozen guns and rifles, and a Madonna, in oil, after Murillo, filled a blank on the wall. Deer-skins covered the bed, clothes hung about on antlers, snakeskins were stretched to dry on the bedstead, barometer, whisky, powder-horns, and specimens of Saxony wool, occupied the table.

The dinner was Texan, of corn-bread and frijoles, with coffee, served in tin cups, but the salt was Attic, and the talk was worthy of golden goblets. We passed, as may be imagined, a rarely pleasant day. . . .

In the afternoon, several neighbors had dropped in, and there was some pleasant dispute as to what roof should offer us shelter. We were, finally, carried off by Mr. [Gustav] T[hiessen], whose farm lies uppermost on the Guadalupe. . . . The house, of logs, is large, warm, and substantial.

The evening's talk ran upon the principles of government, and kept us late. Mr. T. had been a member of the Frankfort parliament. He had arrived in this country with little else available than a hopeful energy, but with this capital had become, in a few years, what, in Texas, was considered a wealthy man, owning large tracts of land, and able to live freely upon his rents. . . .

[Next day] we called upon several of the settlers. The first house was a surprise—a neat, stuccoed, Swiss cottage, almost the only thing of the kind we had seen in Texas. Its proprietor came from the plough to welcome us—literally, a free laborer. We found within a thousand evidences of taste such as the exterior led us to expect. Another short ride took us to a large stuccoed log house, near the bank of one of the Sister creeks. Here lives a professor [Dr. Ernst Kapp] who divides his time between his farm and his library. The delicious brook water has been turned to account by him for the cure of disease, and his house is thrown open to patients. . . .
Evening found us in the largest house of the settlement, and a furious norther suddenly rising, combined with the attractive reception we met to compel us to stay two days without moving. Mr. [Eduard] Degener, our host, was a man of unusually large education, and, having passed some years in a school in England, spoke English to perfection. Before the Revolution [of 1848, in Germany] he had controlled an estate on which the taxes were $10,000. He had become a popular leader, and was placed at the head of the temporary government of his Duchy [of Anhalt-Dessau]. When the reaction came, all was swept away, and exiling himself, he came to settle here. Now working with his own hands in the Texan backwoods, he finds life not less pleasant than before. . . . [His two sons, Hilgar and Hugo, fifteen and fourteen years] were as fine pictures of youthful yeomen as can be imagined—tall, erect, well-knit, with intelligent countenances, spirited, ingenuous, gentle and manly. In speaking of his present circumstances, [Mr. Degener] simply regretted that he could not give them all the advantages of education that he had himself had. But he added that he would much rather educate them to be independent and self-reliant, able and willing to live by their own labor, than to have them ever feel themselves dependent on the favor of others. . . .

Julie Kapp Wipprecht (1840-1919) [1860]

One of "several bright-looking children" mentioned by Bartlett. Julie Kapp married Rudolph Wipprecht (first professor of modern languages at Texas A. & M. College) in 1855, at Fredericksburg. [Pencil sketch, by either Hermann Lungkwitz, or his brother-in-law, Richard Petri.]

After supper, there were numerous accessions of neighbors, and we passed a merry and most interesting evening. There was waltzing, to the tones of a fine piano, and music of the highest sort, classic and patriotic. The principal concerted pieces of Don Giovanni were given, and all parts well sustained. After the ladies had retired, the men had over the

whole stock of student-songs, until all were young again... In exile, but free, these men make the most of life... 

When Prince Paul of Württemberg visited Sisterdale in 1855, on his third journey to America, he greatly enjoyed the cultivated company at Sisterdale. August Siemering tells how he repeatedly expressed amazement on finding here at the very borders of civilization the urbanity and civility that one associated with only the most cultivated society in Europe. Siemering says:

At Sisterdale, the Prince had an especially good time. At that time were present Baron von Meusebach, former Commissioner-General of the German Colony in Texas, and his wife Agnes, Countess of Coreth; Herr von Roggenbach, former Adjutant to the Grand-Duke of Baden, with his wife; and a Herr von Stockmans from Schleswig. So every night there was in the cabin of Eduard Degener a company as choice as one could find in the best circles of the civilized world. On these occasions, such forms of address as “Your Royal Highness,” “Your Serene Highness,” and “Your Ladyship” were thrown about so promiscuously that some of us dyed-in-the-wool republicans began to grow gray over it.

It was in such a community that Ernst Kapp spent the sixteen years of his life in Texas.

VI

After Kapp’s return to Germany in 1865, he seems never to have had an educational connection, but rather worked privately in his scientific studies. Several editions of his Leitfaden beim ersten Schulunterricht in der Geschichte und Geographie had appeared, since the book first was published in 1833, at Minden. A second edition had come out in 1835, and over the years others had appeared; with a final (seventh) edition coming in 1870, from the press of G. Westermann, at Braunschweig. Kapp’s first years after his return to Germany were occupied in a thoroughgoing revision of the two-volume (1845-46) magnum opus. This appeared under the altered (and improved) title, Vergleichende allgemeine Erdkunde in wissenschaftlicher Darstellung (Braunschweig, 1869). In 1877 (supra) appeared his last work, his Grundlinien einer Philosophie der Technik.

The life of Ernst Kapp in Texas represents only one of many German intellectuals, who, driven from the homeland, helped to lay the foundations and enrich the culture of modern Texas.