

Berczy's large painting,
1809 (in Nat'l Gallery, Canada)
family portrait, 8 people*
and a dog - An
inscription on the
back of the canvas
notes: "The 8 portraits
cost 10 pounds each, the
dog Brador was added
without cost"

(large, colored picture
in "American
Heritage" Dec. 1965, (147)

(*grandmother, father, mother,
5 children)

Berczy, William von Moll, painter: b. 1748, in Saxony; d. in New York, February 1813. Educated at the universities of Leipzig and Jena; self-taught as a painter. Travelled widely in Europe. In 1790 he went to London as agent for a land company and under its auspices brought a large group of German settlers to New York State. Two years later, following a dispute with the company, he transferred his colony to Upper Canada and settled north of York (Toronto). Soon after 1800, his colony having failed, he turned to painting for a livelihood and was a successful portraitist in Montreal and Quebec, specializing in family groups. In Switzerland, in the year 1785, he married Charlotte Allemand.

(Encyclopedia Canadiana, 1970,
Groslier, Toronto) Vol. 2 p. 372
L. Main

