

2/27/1936

Y.M.L.I. Marks Half-Century of Active Existence

Falls of Schuylkill Organiza-
tion Was Founded on
February 14, 1886

HAS FINE RECORD

Established Shining Records
in Baseball, Basketball
and Other Sports

Members of the Young Men's
Literary Institute celebrated that
organization's Fiftieth Anniversary
at their headquarters, Midvale ave-
nue and Frederick street, East Falls,
last Friday evening.

The observance consisted of an
entertainment, refreshments and a
dance.

Dating back to February 14th
1886, the first meeting of the In-
stitute was held in the basement
of St. Bridget's Church, on Stanton
street, when the following members
were enrolled: Edward A. Carroll,
James P. Byrne, John R. Reardon,
Andrew D. Byrne, Lawrence Grant,
Dr. Bernard Murray, Alfred Byrne,
William Flynn, Hugh McGeough,
Bernard Dowdall, Thomas Berry,
Edward Whalen, Edward McGahan
and John White, Sr.

Six of those fourteen original
members are still living, two of
whom, John White Sr., and John P.
Reardon, are still members. Thomas
D. Burke, Sr., one of the present
members, lacks but one month of
being a fifty-year member.

For a short while the Institute
held meetings in the basement of
the church, after which it rented a
room on the second floor of a
dwelling on Ridge avenue below
Ferry road. The members were not
long realizing they required larger
quarters, and so they leased a
three-story building at 4137 Ridge
avenue, where they were located for
a number of years.

In August of 1904 they purchased
the ground on which their hall now
stands, at Midvale avenue and
Frederick street. On August 31st
1904 ground was broken and the
erection of the hall was started. The

cost of the ground, building, and
furnishings amounted to \$20,000.

In May of 1907 a fair was held in
the building, by feminine friends of
the Institute, which netted \$3992.79.

The Institute in its half-century
of existence built up a splendid re-
putation in baseball, basketball and
pool. Among the records its teams
hung up were a Catholic League
baseball championship; a Catholic
League Basketball championship;
an American League basketball
championship, when its team won
23 games and lost none; and pool
championships for three consecutive
years.

Twenty-nine of the Institute's
members were active in the military
and naval service of the United
States government.

Founded for the intellectual, so-
cial and physical advancement of
the young men of the community,
it still functions along these lines
today, and any young man who is
desirous of joining the group will be
made welcome.

The present officers of the Y. M.
L. I. include Joseph Foster, presi-
dent; Joseph Furlong, vice-presi-
dent; Nicholas F. Markey, Financial
Secretary; John May, Treasurer;
Harry J. Andrews, Recording Sec-
retary, and Trustees Thomas D.
Burke, Sr., Patrick J. Kelley, John
Welsh, William Boyd, John Minahan,
and John P. Reardon.

Mrs. W. M. Turner Claimed By Death

Wife of Falls of Schuylkill
Undertaker Succumbed to
Long Illness on Thursday
of Last Week.—Funeral
Services Held on Monday.

Friends of William M. Turner,
Falls of Schuylkill undertaker, and
his family, are mourning the death
of his wife, Caroline, who expired
last Thursday, after an illness that
extended over nine years.

Mrs. Turner was born in East
Falls, being the daughter of the late
Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Stahl. She
attended school and spent her en-
tire life in the community in which
she was born.

In January of 1916 she was mar-
ried to Mr. Turner. Three sons
were born to the union. These are
W. Mills Turner, J. Harrison Tur-
ner, and R. Wallace Turner. The
latter preceded his mother in death
by 7 years, dying on September 10,
1929, at the age of 12 years.

Funeral services were held from
the family residence, at 4170 Ridge
avenue, on Monday afternoon, by
Rev. U. E. Bauers, pastor of the
Lutheran Church of the Redeemer,
and the interment was made in
West Laurel Hill Cemetery.

4/16/1936

65

Heart Attack Is Fatal To Former Police Captain

George A. Whitworth Ex-
pired Suddenly at Home
on Sunday

WIFE SURVIVES

Served City From 1904 Until
1928, in Department of
Public Safety

East Falls lost one of its best-
known residents when George A.
Whitworth, a former Philadelphia
police captain, died suddenly from a
heart attack, at his home, 3525 Vaux
street, on Sunday.

He was born in Roxborough, the
son of the late George A. and De-
borah—nee Sharpley—Whitworth.
In 1901 he was married to Miss
Annie Wray, daughter of the late
Henry A. and Barbara Stevenson
Wray, by Rev. Alexander Sloan.

On August 9th, 1904, Mr. Whit-
worth was appointed to the police
force, in the old 22nd District. He
successively served as a patrolman,
sergeant, lieutenant and captain,
before retiring on December 28th,
1928.

Since that time he was employed
as captain of police for the Edward
G. Budd Company, on Hunting Park
avenue.

He was a member of Palestine
Lodge No. 470 F. and A. M., La Lu
Temple, and of the Grace Reformed
Church.

In addition to his wife the de-
ceased is survived by one sister,
Mrs. Ellwood Moyer, of West Phila-
delphia.

Funeral services will be held this
afternoon, by Revs. Howell S. Fos-
ter and C. W. DeChant, at a Lehigh
avenue funeral home, and the in-
terment will be made in West
Laurel Hill Cemetery.

Feb 27, 1936

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LIFE'S JOURNEY ENDS



MARY A. DOBSON

Widow of James Dobson, textile manufacturer, who died at her home in the Falls of Schuylkill last Friday. Mrs. Dobson's 97th birthday anniversary would have occurred on March 22nd.

8-26-1937

Harvey Benham Died Suddenly

Long-Time Resident of East Falls Passed Away Last Thursday.—Is Survived by His Wife, One Brother and a Sister.

Sympathy is being extended to the family of Harvey Benham, a long-time resident of East Falls whose death occurred suddenly last Thursday, from a heart ailment.

Born in England, Mr. Benham came to this country with his parents while still a youth. They settled at the Falls of Schuylkill. Later, he married Miss Margaret O'Brien, a 21st Ward resident. He is an uncle of William J. Benham, chairman of the Board of Revision of Taxes.

By profession a music teacher, he belonged to the Musicians' Protective Association, Local No. 77, and St. Alban's Lodge, F. and A. M.

The deceased is survived by his wife; one brother, George, who is at present sojourning in California; and one sister, Mrs. William Radlough, of East Falls.

Funeral services were held at the Home of William J. Turner, 4170 Ridge avenue, last Saturday, and the interment was made in Westminster Cemetery.

Mary A. Dobson Passes Away in Her 96th Year

Widow of Textile Manufacturer Succumbed at Her Home in the Falls

HIGHLY RESPECTED

People of Community Always Admired Her For Her Charitable Disposition

In the death of Mrs. Mary A. Dobson, widow of James Dobson, internationally-known textile manufacturer, which occurred on Thursday of last week, the Falls of Schuylkill lost its most prominent resident, and one whom the entire community loved and respected.

Surrounded by her four daughters, Mrs. Dobson succumbed after a lengthy illness, at the age of 96 years, at her home, "Bella Vista," Henry avenue and Abbottsford road. Her husband, James Dobson, who with his brother, John, built up the firm of John and James Dobson, Inc., died at the age of 80 years, a decade ago.

Mrs. Dobson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Seville Schofield, was born in Lancashire, England, and came to this country with her parents when she was five. Her father was one of the textile pioneers of the nation.

Mary A. Schofield was married to James Dobson in 1862, after her sister Sarah had been married to John, older brother of her husband. The brothers married daughters of the man for whom they first started to work, at Mill Creek, Pa.

The deceased and her husband started housekeeping in a little dwelling on Mill Creek, and later moved to the building which still stands at the southeast corner of Ridge avenue and the Wissahickon Drive, which in Revolutionary days was known as Van Daren's; and subsequently becoming Iowa's High Bridge Hotel, and is now known as Barnett's Garden.

When Mr. Dobson was thirty-five years of age he built "Bella Vista" on the heights overlooking the Falls of Schuylkill, in which he and his wife spent the remainder of their days. They were the parents of five daughters, Mrs. John C. Norris, Mrs. Bessie Dobson, Altemus Eastman, Mrs. Richard Norris,

Mrs. Thomas J. Jeffries and Arthur Spencer. All but Mrs. Spencer, who was killed several years ago in an automobile accident, Butler Pike and Ridge road, survive.

The family life of the Dobson was always most democratic. Evening, "Boss Jim," as Mr. Dobson was respectfully called by neighbors and those who worked for him, and his wife could have been engaged in their favorite game of whist, and on Sundays the five family made it a habit to be home for dinner.

One experience which the owner and Mrs. Dobson always enjoyed was the visit of the singers from the churches of the community, at Christmas time, custom which the gracious wife, mother continued after the death of her husband. The family associated

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4-16-1936

Death Claims Falls Resident

Mrs. Catherine Jones, of Frederick Street Succumbed to Heart Ailment, Early on Tuesday Morning.—Highly Esteemed.

A wide circle of the many friends of Mrs. Catherine Jones, of 3365 Frederick street, East Falls, are still mourning her sudden death, which occurred early on Tuesday morning, from a heart condition.

Mrs. Jones was the daughter of the late Thomas and Sarah Claborn, and was born in the Falls of Schuylkill where she spent her entire life. In young womanhood she was married to Harry Jones, who still survives.

In addition to her husband, there are two daughters and a son who grieve over the loss of their mother. These are Mrs. Bertha O'Donnell, Mrs. James Montgomery and Edward R. Jones. Four sisters, Mrs. Sallie Halstead, Mrs. Alicia Porter, Mrs. Annie Furman and Mrs. Bertha Shivers and ten grandchildren also survive.

Mrs. Jones was devoted to her family; a kindly and considerate neighbor, and held the esteem of everyone who knew her. She was a life-time member of the Falls Presbyterian Church, and belonged to Camp 146, P. O. of A.

Funeral services will be conducted at her late residence, by Rev. Arlen J. Murskens on Saturday afternoon, and the interment will be made in Mt. Vernon Cemetery.

3/19/1936

Montrose Club Started Falls Boys At Boat Racing

John "Doc" Crawford Was
One of First Members
to Organize Crews

BEGAN WITH YAWL

Won First Race in People's
Regatta on July 4th
of 1895

When John "Doc" Crawford, the greens keeper of the Westmoreland Country Club, of Chicago, Illinois, died on January 4th, last, at the age of 76 years, many of the old residents in this vicinity were reminded that it was he who was one of the pioneers among East Falls residents bringing the community into the limelight through the skill and prowess of its oarsmen.

And with East Falls boasting of three Olympic champions and scores of other well-known scullers, the beginning of rowing as a sport, in this section, is well worth remembering.

With other boys of the neighborhood, including his brother, James, Dan Boardman, A. C. Chadwick, Sr., some of the Adams, Thompsons and others, Crawford had much to do with forming the Montrose Boat Club, which long stood at the west end of the Falls bridge.

The club was organized on November 25th, 1897, as a social club in a house on Ridge avenue. The members bought a huge yawl, in which the young men and their ladies would go for rowing parties on the Schuylkill. The boat held as many as 44 persons at one time. This was once rowed from the upriver clubhouse slip at the Uadine Boat Club, down to the Belmont Water Works, in 25 minutes, with 33 men and women aboard.

Pulling on the oars of the yawl gave the young men of the Falls the idea that they could row, and an effort to form a boat club was soon started.

Negotiations with the Crescent Boat Club were entered into, and a four-oared paper shell was soon obtained. In this craft the members began practice and some good crews were turned out.

On July 4th, 1894, the club entered a junior eight in the People's Regatta, but the crew didn't have much success. The following year, however, the club entered the junior eight again, and won, defeating the Vesper, Fairmount, and the American clubs.

This gave the Montrose group a boom, and entries were made in the Nationals, at Saratoga, when in the

intermediate eight the Falls rowers were beaten by two feet, by the Westchester Club, of Worcester, Massachusetts, in 1924, the fastest time ever made on Saratoga Lake up until that time.

The club, by 1897, had thirty men in training, and made bids for honors in the junior and intermediate eight races in the Passaic and Harlem Regattas, and senior, junior and intermediate eights in the Nationals, on the Schuylkill.

"Doc" Crawford captained the 1897 crew, he being recognized as a strong and reliable stroke man. A pair, formed of Bob Adams and Frank Hickey, done some good work for the Blue and White Montrose crews. Just before the turn of the century, the Club had ten boats, two singles, two doubles, a four-oared gig, a four oared shell, and a lights, a single work boat and a skiff.

The secretary's report for 1897 showed fifty members in good standing; the officers being: President James Crawford; vice president, Joseph Nunneville; secretary, Edward Lynch; treasurer, John Adams; and a Board of Directors composed of Edwin Markle, Frank Hickey and William Furman.

The intermediate eight that year was manned by Ed Markle, stroke; William Furman, 7; John Crawford, 6; George Plyard, 6; Edward Lynch, 4; Edward Auer, 3; Joseph Nunneville, 3 and Lincoln Cliff, bow. George Harrison was coxswain.

The junior eight was made up of John Adams, stroke; Daniel Boardman, 7; Robert Adams, 6; William Berdoff, 6; Daniel Furman, 4; James Luffy, 3; John Welsh, 2; and Frank Hickey, bow. James O'Brien was coxswain.

It was with this club that John B. Kelly received his first lessons in rowing, he afterward going to the Vesper and Penn A. C. Clubs; and with his success, attracting scores of other Falls boys down the river, where with better equipment and scientific coaching they rose to noteworthy places among the rowers of the nation.

2/13/1936

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AFTER THE STORMS

We've slipped and slid around
for weeks,

On snowy, icy, hills,
And watched the motorists, with
cars,

Beet by many ills.
We've worn ten extra pounds on
feet,

Of rubbers and galoshes;
We've seen fat grown-ups sit
down hard,

And heard their pained "My
Goshes!"

We've paused, so often, just to
see

An automobile slipping,
Because the driver failed to have
The wheels equipped for grip-
ping.

We've seen the steam arising
high

From radiators frozen;
Then heard kibitzer's arguments,
As they were interposed.

We've slithered down the East
Falls lanes,

And clambered slippery streets
In Manayunk and Roxborough,
Where ice still clings in sheets

We've prayed for warm and
warmer suns

To end the wintry war;
To wake at dawn on newer days
To learn it snowed some more.

We've burned ten millions tons
of coal.

(Or so it seems to us)
We've paid the taller forty
"bucks"

To rid our clothes of muss,
We've purchased food in whole-
sale lots,

To build up strength we've
needed,

But all of this is no avail
Till winter is succeeded.

Our wish is clear to all who read
This plaint we've lined in
verses:

Our only hope is that we've
learned

That blessings lurk in curses
Next summer when the farmer
plows,

To plant in which his trust
ferms,

We'll have no moisture-lacking
droughts,
And miss destructive dust-
storms.

A. C. C.

1/16/1936

1/23/36

The LETTER BOX

January 19th, 1936.

Editor, Suburban Press,
6100 Ridge Avenue,
Knoxborough, Pa.
Dear Sir:

I could not refrain from writing you to congratulate you on your verses on "East Falls". They are wonderful, and I have derived much pleasure out of them, as well as the older members of my family.

Friends of mine, who were formerly "East Fallers", and are always interested in the activities of our community, have been mailed copies and I am impatiently awaiting their comments.

Now that you have done so well with the "West Germantown-Queen Lane Manor" (in reality East Falls, situation, how about the Indian Queen Lane-Queen Lane suburb?)

Sincerely,
E. G.

Editorial Comment: There's nothing like being obliging, so here goes on the Indian Queen Lane-Queen Lane subject.

INDIAN QUEEN LANE

When Washington was leading men
In fights against a king,
He rode a horse out Bowman's lane,
Which in those days, would bring
Him to a camp, where stands today,
A reservoir of water;
Where patriots rested for the fray,
In which they gave no quarter.

The lane led down to Schuylkill
waves.

That men were wont to ford
To reach the inner State, that then
Was largely unexplored,
And near the bottom of the hill
Dwelt Smith, the teacher great,
Whose name, today, is still revered
Where students congregate.

Still later, off in Germantown,
A publican sat down,
And called his inn, "The Indian
Queen".

Which won for it renown;
And as it stood at Bowman's lane
It soon became the mode
To give the hotel's storied name,
Also, unto the road.

"Old Indian Queen", how many
years

The lane has borne that name!
How many "love its ancient past!"
And all its gloried fame!
But there came men, with thoughts
of gold,

Who took its rights away,
Until, usurping honors old,
We have "Queen Lane" today.

The stranger, coming to East Falls,
Is puzzled much to find
Two streets with names so much
alike.

And wonders who designed
So foolish a condition here
And then he vents his spleen
On men who sly-lie, for wealth,
Have robbed our Indian Queen,

A. C. C.

"EAST FALLS"

The mailman held a letter up,
To read inscriptions on it;
The final line "West German-
town".

Made him exclaim "Doggone it,
There isn't any such a place;
Dadburn their haughty galls,
Why don't they send their mail
to us
Correctly-phrased "East Falls?"

"West Germantown!" It is a
myth;
We smile derisively,
As Memory takes us back to
times

When Gormley's cows roamed
free,
Throughout the land known as
"the Woods",

With no streets then in view,
On which now dwell "the Manor"
folk
With high hats all askew!

The Duck Pond was a swimmin'
hole
Where boys, in nude, would
swim,
And "Gookie's, too: a brewery
dam

Which springs filled to the
brim,
And farther up the avenue,
Delassio had his farm,

Down in a ditch, where many
goats
The boyish mind would charm.

The Reservoir, with sodded
banks,
Would beckon all the year,
And battles with "the West-
eiders"

Were often settled here,
In summer time the shot and
shell

Were stones picked up nearby,
While winter brought the ice
snowball
To make invaders fly.

When autumn came a railroad
cut
And broomsick made a race,
To bring the chestnuts down
from trees
Which filled the hallowed
place.

Or up to Mossy Brown's we'd go;
Along old Cedar lane;
To purloin fruit. Ah! Many men
Wish they were there again!

And now they'd give that loved
terrain

A name that men invented
To bring more shekles to the
purse,

Though many men resent it,
The Falls of Schuylkill still can
boast

Of honors great and lasting;
"West Germantown," well, hum-
ble folk

Know his is just bombasting!

A. C. C.

3/26/1931

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Falls Couple Celebrate 50th Anniversary

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Turner
Observe Golden
Wedding

BOTH BORN HERE

Children and Grandchildren
Join in Marking Fes-
tive Occasion

Aldan Park Manor was the scene of a festive occasion on Monday evening, when Mr. and Mrs. Henry Turner, of 3424 Bowman street, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, with their children and grandchildren.

Married on March 23, 1881, at the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, by the Rev. Mr. Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Turner are known and esteemed by practically everybody in East Falls.

Mr. Turner was born in Rittenhouse town, a once-thriving community near the present junction of Wissahickon avenue and the Lincoln Drive. Mrs. Turner's birthplace was in "Cookssockey," a village that previous to the expansion of Fairmount Park, was situated on the west side of the Schuylkill river, near the Falls.

Previous to their marriage, Mrs. Turner was Miss Sarah Dykes. Her husband has for many years been the custodian of the Falls branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Previous to accepting his present position he worked in the undertaking business with the late Charles L. Dykes.

At the reception on Monday were the couple's four children, Mrs. J. W. Harrison, of 548 Abbotford avenue; William M. Turner, 4170 Ridge avenue, Mrs. W. Roy Wallace, of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and Mrs. Donald MacKenzie, of 3321 Ainslie street, East Falls; their daughter-in-law, Mrs. William Turner, and two sons-in-law, Mr. Harrison and Mr. MacKenzie, and the following grandchildren: Charles D. Harrison, W. Mills and J. Harrison Turner, and Joan and Donald MacKenzie, Jr. Two other grandchildren, "Billy" and Jean Wallace were at home with their father in North Carolina.

3/5/1931

1/15/1931

Last of Once Noted Family Passes Away

Miss Mary Hagner, Buried
on Thursday of Last
Week

UNCLE WAS HISTORIAN

Grandfather Removed Christ
Church Bells During
Revolution

Miss Mary Hagner, last surviving member of an old Philadelphia family, of 626 East Shawmont avenue Roxborough, who was buried from Stetler's Funeral Home, Ridge avenue and Martin streets, last Thursday afternoon, was in her eighty-third year.

Miss Hagner was descended from one of the families which settled Germantown during the first half the Eighteenth Century, and was a granddaughter of Colonel Philip Hagner, sub-lieutenant of Philadelphia during the Revolutionary War. It was Colonel Hagner who removed the bells of Old Christ Church to Bethlehem to prevent their being seized by the British and melted down, and who later established a drug mill at the Falls of Schuylkill, one of the first buildings in that section.

Philip M. Hagner, her father, was one of the Pennsylvania delegates who nominated Thomas Jefferson for President, and her uncle, Charles V. Hagner, was a captain in the American Army during the War of 1812 and wrote the first history of the Fall of Schuylkill and Manayunk, which is preserved in the Philadelphia Historical Society.

Reported to have been reduced almost to poverty by the defalcation of a trust officer who managed her estate, Miss Hagner had lived for fifteen years in a room at the Shawmont avenue address, seldom leaving the house.

From the wreckage of her family fortunes she saved a number of old books and relics which she later divided among the Pennsylvania Historical Society, which preserves the Revolutionary uniform and sword of Colonel Philip Hagner; Memorial Hall, the University of Pennsylvania, and Pennsburg Academy, to which was sent old German books brought by the Hagner family when it immigrated to the colonies.

Her cousin, Thomas Hagner, died in poverty at Third and Calowhill streets fourteen years ago. He also left behind a number of historic relics.

Imagery

East Falls Undertaker Died Sunday

Charles H. McIlvaine, Sr.,
Passes Away After
Long Illness

ADMIRER BY ALL

Funeral Services This Morn-
ing at St. Bridget's
Church

Charles H. McIlvaine, Sr., East Falls funeral director, died on Sunday at his home, Henry and Midvale avenues, after an illness of several months duration.

Mr. McIlvaine was a life long resident of the community in which he lived, having been born and spent his entire life there. Upon reaching manhood, the deceased was married to Miss Catherine C. Durkin, in St. Bridget's Church. Mrs. McIlvaine has also lived in East Falls continuously since her birth. The union was blessed with three children, Charles H. McIlvaine, Jr., who is known internationally as a World's Champion carman, and two daughters, Margaret J. and Mildred E. McIlvaine.

Early in his life Mr. McIlvaine was associated with his brother, the late Edward McIlvaine, in the bakery business, but many years ago became an undertaker and followed this vocation until his final illness.

"Charley" McIlvaine, as he was familiarly called, was of a quiet disposition and possessed the friendship of thousands of his fellow townsmen. He was known to have repeatedly acted in charitable enterprises without any ostentation and will long be remembered by those who, in his own quiet way, he aided over the rough places in life's road.

Solemn Requiem Mass will be celebrated in St. Bridget's Church, this morning and the Interment will be made in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

Tells Of Olden Times At Falls

9/16/1937

Old Resident Recalls What
His Father Told of Old
Shronk Property Along
Ridge Road.—Gas Station
on Part of Tract.

A recently-erected gasoline service station, at the Ridge avenue and Calumet street entrance to the Falls Bridge, brought back to an old resident's mind the description of the locality which was given to him by his father.

On Monday the man, who is now in his eighties, stated that his sire's words were something like this:

"I remember when there were but two houses on the west side of Ridge road from Miffin Run (now Midvale avenue) to within a short distance of the Wissahickon Creek. That was about 1845. William Griffiths' house was being changed by Robert Evans into what he later called Fountain Park Hotel. The other was the Shronk homestead, now used as a storehouse by the laboratory. In that year Daniel Shronk had, by proceedings in equity, secured his father's share of his grandfather, Godfrey Shronk's property, and in 1846 erected a frame house on the upper part of the recovered property.

"The remainder he parceled out to his four brothers and two sisters. One of the latter sold her claim to him before the case was heard, so he had two-sevenths of the land.

"At the lower end was a 20 foot wide thoroughfare called Shronk's fishing lane, which was to be used by the family forever to get to and from the river.

Two years later the Falls of Schuylkill Bridge Corporation bought a tract from Thomas Shronk, of Manayunk, for an approach to the bridge. Thomas, in 1850, built the store and dwelling on the upper side of the bridge road in which Joseph Shantz conducted a general store to which was added what was known as Shantz' Hall. (This building still stands and is used as the Primary Department of the Grace Reformed Church.)

"The part south of the bridge (where the new gasoline station is located) was sold at public sale and was bought by William Stehly, a Manayunk baker, who in 1853 built his house and bakery on the site.

"William and Peter Shronk each built their homes in 1848.

"Prior to the deciding of the case in equity the grounds of the Shronk homestead were noted for the apple, pear and cherry orchards which were on them. Along the river was once the celebrated fishery owned and conducted by Godfrey Shronk, the first of his name to be known around these parts. This fishery was used until the construction of the Fairmount dam, which put an end to the runs of shad and herring up the river."

Forecast 8/21/1913

GETTING BUSY WITH
REGARD TO PAVING FISK
AVE. AND CRESSON ST.

In answer to the request of the residents of Fisk avenue and Calumet street, relative to securing the paving of Cresson street and Fisk avenue, and the sewerage of Fisk avenue, the following may be of interest to the parties residing on these streets:

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Bureau of
Highways and Street Cleaning
Room 232, City Hall, Philadelphia

August 14, 1913.

Mr. J. W. Flanagan,
Falls of Schuylkill B. M. Assoc.,
Falls of Schuylkill, Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:—Referring to yours of the 5th inst., calling attention to the condition of Fisk avenue, between Cresson street and 36th street, I am taking the matter up with the Bureau of Surveys regarding sewers, and I will advise you in a few days what can be done in connection with the paving, not only of Fisk avenue, but of Cresson street, New Queen to Mill street.

Thanking you for calling these matters to my attention, and assuring that I will do everything in my power to remedy these conditions, I am

Very truly yours,
WILLIAM H. CONNELL,
Chief of Bureau.

Regarding the sewerage of Fisk avenue for the further information of parties interested the Forecast would state that the contract for this work has recently been let to the McMahon Estate and as soon as their bond is filed and approved, which will probably be within the next month, work on this most pressing improvement will be started, the fund for same coming from the recent appropriation for branch sewers included in the last city loan.

The paving of Cresson street has been just let to the Mack Construction Co., and they promise to begin work grading at once as soon as the proper lines can be established.

The paving of Fisk avenue cannot be done until sewer work is completed, but the Forecast has assurance of the Bureau of Highways that this work will be taken up and every effort made to complete the same before the winter sets in.

In this connection we would say that these and many other possible improvements have and are lying dormant around the town principally on account of the indifference and apathy of the people most interested, usually those who reside in the localities most affected.

The "Forecast" welcomes, as does the local Business Men's Association, all information and data bearing on just such cases and stands at all times to do everything possible to promote every local improvement that will tend to the well-being of the town.

Don't be too modest or backward or don't back the grader to make your requests known, for if you do, it's a sure bet they will never be attended to in your time at least. Let us know what you want, and, if possible, we will do the rest.

Forecast 5/19/15

Planned Improve-
ments Reported

Business Men
to Have Outing

Councilmen Smithies and Benham at the meeting of the Falls Business Men's Association, held Tuesday night in America Hall, reported their doings in the municipal body in behalf of the Falls. Mr. Smithies read a list of the contemplated improvements in the town. Mr. Benham stated that he had taken up the matter of closing to traffic Calumet street bridge with the proper authorities. For the information of the public a letter which Mr. Benham received in explanation is herewith printed:

Department of Public Works
Bureau of Highways
City Hall, Philadelphia.

May 22, 1915.

Mr. William J. Benham,
5146 Market street,
Philadelphia.

Dear Sir:—Your letter of the 20th inst., addressed to the Director, relative to the bridge on Calumet street over the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, has been referred to this Bureau for attention.

In reply thereto, I would say that it is true that the bridge was closed to traffic at 10 A. M. by the police on the day you wrote your letter, who informed this Bureau that the floor was in a dangerous condition. We made repairs by 12 o'clock noon, but from the report of the assistant engineer, Bridge Division, I am inclined to believe that the action in closing off the bridge to traffic was not altogether necessary. We are taking this matter up with the police district officials in order to have their patrolmen use more discretion in such matters in the future.

Regarding your question as to whether or not it would be advisable to lay a concrete floor on this bridge, I would say that as at present constructed the structure is not sufficiently strong to carry a concrete base for permanent paving. What we intend to do this summer, however, is to lay a sub-floor of cross-sawn yellow pine on which we will place wood block. This is the type of floor construction which is being used throughout the country on short bridge spans like Calumet street, and is proving successful.

I wish to thank you for calling this matter to our attention, and trust that when the final improvement is made it will be satisfactory.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) W. W. CONNELL,
Chief of Bureau.

It was also reported by the Councilmen that Fiske avenue will be paved in the near future. The paving will be vitrified brick, instead of granite block, because the latter, the Councilmen stated, was found to be too expensive by the city officials. The local representatives added that it was the investigation of costs which delayed work on Fiske avenue.

A committee was appointed to complete arrangements for the annual outing of the business men, which will be to Collegeville, Penna. in all probability, it will take place on the third Wednesday in June. The members and their families will make the trip by automobile.

A resolution was passed to have a committee appointed to confer with Director Porter to have the fire apparatus at the local fire station mo-

torized. The Director has never fulfilled his promise to provide a motor tractor for the local company.

It was proposed also that inquiry be made at the Electrical Bureau to have arm extensions for the electric lights on Ridge avenue. At present the light is poorly distributed over the avenue and it is thought with the improvement better light will be obtained.

Following is the location for the new electric lights to be located in this ward and for which we are indebted to the efforts of our Councilman:

Broad and Venango streets; three centre of Broad street at Lehigh avenue; on Ridge avenue, north of Calumet street; Thirty-fifth street, south of Clearfield street; Ainslie and Cresson streets; Queen lane, east of Ridge avenue; Cresson and Stanton streets; Ainslie and Thirty-fourth streets; Twenty-sixth and Somerset streets; Thirty-third street and Abbottsford avenue; Butler and Smedley streets; Clearfield and Fox streets; Broad street and Allegheny avenue; Carlisle street and Allegheny avenue; Stokley street, north of Hunting Park avenue; Hunting Park avenue, west of the Germantown and Chestnut Hill branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad; Thirty-second and New Queen streets; Thirty-third and New Queen streets; Thirty-fourth and New Queen streets.

Forecast 4/13/1916

SURVEY NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Surveyors has fixed upon Monday, May 1, 1916, at 3 o'clock afternoon, in Room 412, City Hall, for a hearing of all parties interested in the confirmation of the following plans:

No. 163—To place upon the city plan Arnold street, of the width of thirty feet, from Midvale avenue, northeastwardly 245 feet, more or less. Also to place upon the city plan Cresswell street, of the width of thirty feet, from Midvale avenue eastwardly 243 feet, more or less.

No. 163—To place upon the city plan Bringhurst street, of the width of sixteen feet, from Cresson street, northeastwardly 155 feet.

The said plans may be examined at the office of the Thirteenth District, 1525 Indiana avenue.

Duplicates of the above plans may be examined at the office of the Bureau of Surveys, Room 512, City Hall, Broad and Market streets.

Plata Record
July 6, 1929

AN ORDINANCE TO PLACE UNDER THE care and management of the Commissioners of Fairmount Park a lot of ground bounded by Midvale avenue, Henry avenue, Coulter street and McMichael street. Section 1. The Council of the City of Philadelphia ordains, That the lot of ground bounded by the City for park purposes bounded by Midvale avenue, Henry avenue, Coulter street and McMichael street is hereby placed under the care and management of the Commissioners of Fairmount Park. Approved the 29th day of June, A. D. 1915. H. A. MACKAY, Mayor of Philadelphia.

Dr. C. K. Mills Relates Some Falls History

Speaks at Dedication Exercises of Swartz Memorial School

FRIEND OF DONOR

Tells of Vicinity in Which New Institution Is Located

When the Christian and Eliza Swartz memorial school building of the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, on Midvale avenue east of Ridge avenue, was dedicated last week, Charles K. Mills, M. D., LL. D. spoke at the Wednesday evening exercises.

Dr. Mills, whose reputation as an historian of the Falls of Schuylkill, is always listened to with the keenest of interest, whenever he talks of the community in which he was born, and for the benefit of those who were unable to be present last week we publish the following remarks which he made at that time:

"Owing to my infirmity of vision I am not able, as I would like, to fully recognize by my physical sight this audience of the Falls of Schuylkill town's people, but supported by my inner vision I appreciate the compliment of your presence at the exercises of this evening.

"I have taken part by request in numerous occasions religious, educational and institutional, but I do not recall one which has given me more pleasure to accept than the invitation of the pastor and officers of this church.

"It is unnecessary for me to remind this audience the fact that I was born and spent my early years in this community. Midvale avenue on which this building fronts is a thoroughfare filled with many memories of the past. In my young days the valley of which Midvale avenue is a part was known by the popular but homely descriptive name of "Dutch Hollow." This name was probably derived from the fact that brewery vaults were built along the slopes of the valley.

"In the days of the Civil War the armory of the village company commanded by Captain John Dobson, which twice went to the front to help in resisting the threatened invasion of the State, stood on

Ridge Road a short distance from Millvale street.

Bernard Dowdell, one of the most ambitious and ardent souls of the neighborhood established a Young Men's Literary Institute in the Falls of Schuylkill. The most recent building housing this institute which did much to stimulate the literary and scientific spirit among the young people especially during the life of Mr. Dowdell, stands at the corner of Midvale avenue and Frederick street and still does good work, although some of its energies have been curtailed because of the many recent diversions.

There are special reasons why this school should be built in honor of those whose name it will bear. The munificent donor of this building has credited his father's name in the list of those who have contributed to the glory of this country by the conquest of peace rather than by war.

Christian Swartz was the builder and master mason in a considerable number of buildings and bridges which adorned the state of Pennsylvania especially in the district around Reading and Pottsville where he was best known. But his chief contribution as regards this neighborhood was the building of a beautiful stone bridge over the Schuylkill at the lower limits of the Falls. He was the superintendent of the masonry of the bridge, holding this position for several years from 1832 until the completion of the bridge in 1834. His son, James S. Swartz, our distinguished guest this evening, was the work-keeper during the construction of the bridge.

"I would like to take here in my address to say a few words about the bridges of which many are bricked of steel are now to be found in this and other countries, but the Reading railroad stone skew bridge at the Falls was the first to be built in this country if not in the world. The term skew is of Dutch derivation, the word meaning 'slant' and was applied to structures bearing 'twisted or distorted' if the piers of the bridge were built at right angles to the stream as in the usual method, a diamanting of the current would result.

"If any member of the audience should pass along the East River Drive of the park and look upwards to the roof of the skew bridge, he would see an unusual sight, that of a series of arches placed side by side, thus forming the entire archway of the bridge. This novel arrangement of arches does away with the complicated masonry which would result if an attempt was made to form the arch completely by ordinary methods.

Christian Swartz and his family lived for a number of years at the Falls of Schuylkill. At first the family residence was in one of five or six houses that stood on the street which extends from the Ridge road to the gate of the laboratory. The second family residence was in the first brick house

known as Stanton street. In very early days, however, its official name was Jones street and its popular designation was "Jimmie" street. The Stanton, James or "Jimmie" street ran up hill all the way from Ridge road to the Northtown branch of the Reading railroad. Almost every nationality and religion were represented by the people on this street.

"The Methodists had their first church at the Falls half way up the street in the rear of the Millin Mansion, and high up on the crest of the hill the Catholic church of St. Bridget's was located.

The Falls of Schuylkill holds an important place in the history of this country. Its residents took part in every great national war—in the French and Indian war in the American Revolution, in the war of 1812, in the Civil War and in the recent World War.

"The story of the Revolution is replete with the names of American heroes and events which stand out in the history of the Falls. Before and after the battle of Brandywine Washington's army occupied the high plateau above the Falls creek. This location is now indicated by the position of the Queen Lane reservoir. Some of Washington's division headquarters were in the village, as was that of General Stephens of Virginia who occupied the old Smith Mansion.

"A few of the Revolutionary names still remain in the village of the Falls as for example the name of Palmer, Marston and Hagler although by marriage and otherwise many names have been changed.

"The fact that the Baptist church was the first completely organized religious body in the Falls is already known to you by the directory published by your church. In the list of names in the directory I had a number which I recognized as the contemporaries of Mr. Swartz and myself showing that the names of the families of those days have been handed down although their original possessors are no longer with us. Among these familiar names are Smith, Wyatt, Dickerson and Ferguson.

"The valley through the center of which Midvale avenue now finds its way, in days gone by, but not too distant for me to recall, was one of great rural beauty and charm. Trees such as oaks, elms, ash, pines, tulip poplars and many more were found in it. The woodland reached to the lowlands here and beyond. The whole region between Indian Queen Lane and School House Lane was one which appeared to the romantic spirit of Swartz as it did to me. From springs carefully located three or four streams originated several of them flowing into one known as Millin's Run which passed to the Schuylkill in front of the spot where the church, school and

Midvale Road was a track of resort for the soldiers of the Revolutionary

ation and also those of the Civil War. The famous 110th Civil War Regiment was recruited at Camp Union just north of Indian Creek 1872.

This regiment holds a special interest for this neighborhood. One of its companies was largely recruited from the Falls and vicinity, and was commanded by a young man named Cowland Saunders. Before the Civil War the father of Cowland Saunders had a school for boys where the Presbyterian Hospital now stands. I remember well the appearance and bearing of this young soldier who was then about twenty-one years of age. He was an outstanding, martial looking youth. He met his death at the first engagement at Shepherdstown almost within a month of the time the regiment went to the front.

The Russian contingent of Howe's army had scattered encampments in the region above the Falls.

"A. C. Chadwick, your able journalist, has carefully studied the list of those of the Falls and vicinity who took part in the World War, a list of which reveals the remarkable showing of five hundred and seventy-seven names.

As I said in the beginning of these remarks an occasion like the present has so strongly appeared to me that I feared I might outrun the time which should be allotted to this address. Age has its trials, its drawbacks and its difficulties but it also has its compensations. One of the most important of these is the ability to recall the people and events of the past. I stand here among the children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren of the boyhood contemporaries of Mr. Swartz and myself, thankful that my mind can go back with yours to the days of "Auld Lang Syne."

3/27/1930

PERMANENT RECORDS

Local residents, now or in the future, who desire to consult the back files of The Suburban Press, will find that every issue since the paper's establishment is preserved in the Newspaper Section of the Philadelphia Public Library, at 26th street and the Parkway.

The Newspaper Section is on the basement level, at the 26th and Wood streets corner.

Files are also maintained at the office of The Press, 474 Conarroe street, and at some of the local libraries.

Jan. 2, 1930

CHAMOUNIX

When Placidus first conceived its lines,

He chided a noble knight,

For it to grace, where up-turned eyes

Might mark his "homestead site;

Where wintry blasts could whistle tunes,

While fireplaces, kind,

Gave friendly warmth, inspiring thoughts

In the creative mind.

The Schuylkill River, down below,

Still flows toward the sea,

As it has done through all the years,

Still gurgling merrily,

And summer breezes sing their songs

Through trees which shade its lawn.

The same today, as when 'twas built

In Eighteen Two; long gone.

At first it was germanely styled "Mount Prospect," and today,

Its far-stretched vistas are the same;

As lofty, bright and gay,

As when the minuet and waltz

Were danced within its halls,

And merriment and laughter reigned

Inside those ancient walls.

There's foreign castles o'er the sea,

adorning rising hills;

Beside the Nile, the Rhine and Thames,

Or smaller, rippling rills;

But 'tis King of Chamounix,

In Fairmount's shell ring arms,

Where I may stand the year around,

And see a thousand charms.

A. C. C.

Chronicle 3/27/1885

—Empires crumble, Kingdoms dissolve, Nations perish, dynasties fall, Republics pass away, great men are forgotten, times become hard and untried, prizes go untried. These are all acknowledged possibilities, and when they occur cause a nine days' talk, a nine days' wonder and pass into oblivion. But when a Star falls from its constellation in meteoric splendor, the world gazes upon it with feelings of profound awe. Sometimes a star disappears and is lost from its fixed position in the galaxy of the planetary system, then the astronomical world is shaken with explanations. To cut this item short, suffice it to say the Falls War will suspend for an indefinite time after tomorrow's issue.

Chronicle 10/1/1885

72

—The new Falls paper, *The Weekly Guide*, for unavoidable reasons did not appear last week. It has no "died before it was born" (like Eve) but will be issued just as soon as the publishers can complete the necessary arrangements. It will probably be a full month later than was at first expected, if so, number one will put in its appearance Saturday, October 18th.

Chronicle 11/15/1895

—On Monday I met an old schoolmate, John McJarvey, now a resident of Nicetown. He told me of a recent visit he made to the Falls and of the great changes he had observed. Many of these changes in way of improvement were suggested and repeatedly urged by the CHRONICLE, and date from 1868, the year in which the CHRONICLE was first issued, and began its work of reform.

Chronicle, March 1885

—In the demise of the *Star* your correspondent keenly appreciates the bereavement inflicted upon its relatives and friends, and hereby tenders his condolence for their loss and his thanks for the many courtesies extended by its genial manager.

—Editor Clifford, of the *Star*, is slowly convalescing from the illness which followed his exhibition and lecture at Toms River, N. J., on Monday evening, Jan. 6th.

—The first number of the *Weekly Guide* will not be issued until Saturday, Sept. 26th, owing to some difficulty in adjusting the dates.

Chronicle, July 1885

—Wm. G. Middleton, formerly connected with the *Falls Advertiser*, was in town on Saturday, looking as well as he's heavy as ever. I noticed a beautiful silver badge appended to his crinkled sweater vest; on closer examination I saw it was the champion two mile roller skating race medal. It is in shape of a Maltese cross interlaced with wreathings of olive leaves; in the centre is a gold ruler skate in relief. The whole is attached to a silver bar on which is inscribed, "Two mile race." The trophy was won on the evening of June 27, in a race against all New York and all Philadelphia at the Coney Island Olympic Club's rink, 281 and Chestnut streets.

The list of six heats which Mr. Middleton won was made in six minutes and twenty-three seconds two full miles. The champion is justly proud of his laurels, and would like to have some one from Manayunk to try and win them from him. He represents the *Western Roller*, and uses the celebrated Waltham skate. His address, in case any one wants to challenge him for a large or small sum, is 125 and 127 N. 4th streets.

H. B. B.

Forecast 6/6/1918

SPEAKS OF LOCAL EYESORE

H. Roberts Shronk, the newspaper reporter, has the following to say of a part of the Falls of Schuylkill:

There is a part of the Falls that has long been an eyesore. If not a nuisance, to the community. I refer to the plot along the Fort Richmond branch of the Reading Railway, from the East Park drive to the rear of the houses and stores on the west side of Ridge avenue, and extending to Ferry road. Upon this plot is the public bath house and a number of dilapidated buildings. No part of the Falls has given more trouble to the police. At a comparatively small cost this plot could be turned into a public playground, thus providing a place to keep the boys and girls off the streets. Prior to the extending of Fairmount Park along the Schuylkill, there was quite a respectable settlement at this point along both sides of Ferry road, where it turned southbound toward the Mendonhall Ferry by which in the long ago people and teams were ferried across at a point near Nicetown lane. The late Patrick McGowan, an enterprising citizen, owned considerable of the property and at one time spent his leisure time in erecting a row of stone dwellings and with the assistance of George Emerick, a carpenter, did all the work."

Germantown Telegraph
Feb. 14, 1930

PAPER HAS A BIRTHDAY

One of the cleanest and best edited weeklies that reaches us every week is the Suburban Press, Roxborough, which is celebrating its first anniversary. A. C. Chadwick, Jr., the editor, is widely known as a writer on many topics and he keeps "The Press" up to the minute in news and typographical neatness, and each issue is a credit to him and his associate, Joseph H. Ewing, business manager and president of the company. "The Press" carries a large volume of advertising and is recognized as a big help toward the advancement of the 21st Ward. We wish both men and their paper many more happy birthdays.

chronicle, 1905

The Falls that will appear Saturday next September 27th, with four correspondents, as its local editor and manager.

Robert Roberts Shronk

Forecast 11/9/1916

John Finkelstein, residing at 221 Calumet street, was the only applicant to qualify before the Civil Service Commission for the position of chief engineer of the Queen Lane Pumping Station, the eligible list of which was made public. The position pays a salary of \$1500 a year.

Forecast 12/14/1916

Concrete steps are being laid in the temporary leading from Ridge avenue to Laboratory Hill, a short distance above Calumet street. This improvement will add considerably to the appearance of the neighborhood and make it somewhat easier for those who must go to Laboratory Hill and back.

Forecast 12/2/1915

FALLS BUSINESS MAN TREASURER OF UNITED BODY

At the United Business Men's Association meeting, held Monday night at the Bingham Hotel, Philadelphia, John W. Flanagan, of the Falls Business Men's Association, was unanimously elected treasurer of the United body for the ensuing year.

Forecast 10/7/1915

FISKE AVENUE PAVING WORK TO BEGIN

The ordinance providing for the paving of Fiske avenue with vitrified brick was lately passed and the contract awarded for the same. Work will be started as soon as all parties concerned have had the curbing set along the proper line and grade.

SP. 2/27/1930

REGRETS

I regret all the hours I've squandered,
On varied ignoble pursuits,
And the different times I have wandered
From rectitude's circumscribed routes.
I rue for the money expended,
Dance nicotine's aid to invoke,
And the dreams which seem to have ended
Like her brain-urging weed,
all in smoke.

I remember with sorrow the winners,
I have never managed to back,
And the games I have played
with "beginners,"
Who'd marked every card in the pack.
But I grieve most whenever I'm pensive,
And think of the slenderness that
Has left me and makes me defensive
When some wag, with a grin,
calls me "Fat."

A. C. C.

Dedicated to Leroy Richards

S.P. 2/20/1930 73

Old Club to Present Show

Entertainment to Be Given by Members of Young Men's Literary Institute in East Falls, Next Wednesday Evening.

Members of the Young Men's Literary Institute, at Frederick street and Midvale avenue, in East Falls have completed their plans for the celebration of the 44th anniversary which will take place next Wednesday evening, at the club.

A luncheon to the members will be followed by an entertainment to which the public are cordially invited. This will take the form of a Minstrel Show, with the following members participating: End Men: Rocco Petrone, Joseph Foster, William Corbrey and Joseph Furlong; Interlocutor, Thomas Bowers, and in the circle, Joseph Brennan, William Cane, James Meehan, and Charles Werner. John Dunkerly will be on hand to display some novel dance numbers.

Many of the new sentimental and comic songs will be sung and those in charge, promise that the jokes will cause the hall to rock from the laughter of the audience.

Favorable comments have been heard concerning the revival of interest in this old social and beneficial organization and it is hoped that a large crowd will attend the show in order to provide funds to keep up the good work that has already been done by the officers.

Forecast 11/25/1915
TONIGHT WILL BE THE INSTITUTE BALL

Tonight will be the Institute ball, the great social event conducted under the auspices of the Young Men's Literary Institute.

The misses and the matrons are busy putting the finishing touches to their handsome gowns with which they will try to out rival each other.

The decorations and electric light effects in the assembly room of America Hall have been about completed.

The names of the "Who's Who" of the Institute affair are herewith printed: Grand conductor, William T. Hardwick; assistant grand conductor, Francis P. Lally; floor manager, John L. Bibbo; assistant floor manager, James M. Lynch.

Assistants, Joseph A. Montgomery, chairman; Leader and March Committee: Raymond McHale, chairman; William Trenwith; P. H. Kelly, Jas. A. McCarty, Charles V. Kelly; Printing and Finance Committee: James V. Kelly, chairman; P. J. Kelly, Thos. Flanagan, Harry Andrews, John White, Sr.; Music Committee: Jas. P. Murphy, Francis Mahoney, Bernard Kelly; Advertising Committee: Joseph Furlong, chairman; John McCarthy, Joseph Foster, Michael Brill, James McCarthy; Decoration Committee: John Lally, chairman, John Grady, Jacob Nell, John A. Walsh, John May.

S.P. 7/25/1929

Lay Corner Stone For New School

James S. Swartz, LL. D., Wields Trowel at Exercises on Sunday

HONORS PARENTS

Portraits and Other Documents Placed in Walls of Building

Wielding a silver trowel, James Simmons Swartz, LL. D., president of the Board of Trustees of Bucknell University, last Sunday laid the corner stone of the Christian and Eliza Swartz Memorial Building, the funds for which he had donated for the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist church school, which is being erected in Midvale avenue, east of Ridge avenue.

Following the indoor services, the congregation assembled around the northeast corner of the new building where a platform had been provided for the exercises in connection with the affair.

After the pastor, Rev. William J. Hayes, had led the assemblage in responsive readings, and made a few remarks apropos of the occasion, Jacob K. Swartz, a brother of the donor of the building, laid a copy of the Scriptures in the cavity in the center of the cornerstone. This action was followed by the presentation of the trowel to Mr. James S. Swartz, by John Wyatt, Senior Deacon of the Church. Mr. Wyatt, in a brief speech, told of some of the generous acts of Mr. Swartz, during the years that he has served as superintendent of the local Sunday School and church, expressed their thanks for this latest munificent gift.

With Master Mason P. Diagnostino assisting, Mr. Swartz then sealed the cover of the stone and it was rolled into its permanent position. The trowel which was used will be suitably engraved and presented to Mr. Swartz.

The corner stone measures 20 inches wide by 24 inches long and 18 inches deep, with the opening being 8 inches wide, 14 inches long and 6 1/2 inches deep.

The stone bears on its front, in Gothic numerals, the date "1929," and on the other exposed side, a Maltese Cross, of which Architect Norman Hulme, furnished the following facts:

It is the cross of Allsee Patee which derives its origin from the Celtic Cross, which is also known as the cross of Iona. It is of very ancient form, having been used by the early Celtic Christians who trace their origin to the earliest century of the Christian era.

Many of these crosses may be seen on the Medieval churches of Great Britain.

At the junction of the vertical and horizontal members, the cross is

hollowed out in four places, and a circle, representing eternity, placed about them.

Ancient traditions inform us that through the Cross and around it, was Eternity, hence this peculiar symbol.

In addition to the Bible deposited by Jacob K. Swartz, the stone contains the following articles:

Photographs of Christian and Eliza Swartz, for whom the building will stand as a memorial, James Simmons Swartz, LL. D., the donor of the building; Jacob Knip Swartz, his brother; Sarah Swartz Jones, a sister; Henry Hippie Swartz, William Rankin Swartz, Esselle Johnson, an adopted daughter of Eliza Swartz; Rev. Henry W. Jones, D. D.; Rev. Isaac Ferdinand Hildam, Pa. D.; Mrs. I. F. Statham; Rev. William J. Hayes, the present pastor; and pictures which were taken at the time of the ground-breaking exercises, on June 9th of this year.

To these were added a copy of the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church Directory for 1929, a copy of the By-Laws and Constitution of the Church, Volumes I, II, and III of the Monthly Reminder, Suburban Press issues of May 2nd, May 30th, June 13th and July 13th, 1929, containing accounts of the Crozer Day Exercises in the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church and of the ground-breaking and corner stone laying announcements.

The copper box containing these articles was sealed with solder by Frank and Thomas West.

Norman Hulme, the architect of the new building and Thomas Trafford, the building contractor, were both in attendance on Sunday, as well as scores of the members and friends of the church and Sunday School.

12/12/1929

THE CHRISTIAN AND ELIZA SWARTZ MEMORIAL CHURCH SCHOOL

They builded better than they knew.

When they were here on earth, For seeds which they implanted Gave to this structure, birth, Through one who ne'er forgot the truths

Instilled by words of grace, Within his heart, and soul, and mind, Which sanctify this place.

As future generations file, To Heaven, through this portal, They'll sing in praise of those who served, To make their souls immortal, To Christian and Eliza Swartz, And to their son, the tool, By which they have prolonged their love, Through this memorial school.

A. C. C.

10-10-1929

74

Former Falls Pastor Dies

Rev. Dr. Alfred Free, Who Once Occupied Pulpit of Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, Dies in Massachusetts.

Rev. Dr. Alfred Free, 80, at one time pastor of Baptist churches at Norwich, Conn. and Philadelphia, but who later became a Unitarian, serving in Boston and Western Massachusetts, died on Tuesday of last week in Winchendon.

For many years before his retirement some years ago, he was secretary of the Connecticut Valley conference of Unitarian-Congregational Churches. He was also a geologist, mineralogist, consulting engineer and author.

Dr. Free was well known to middle-aged people of East Falls, where he at one time served as pastor of the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist church. He was a member of the local branch of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, from the time of his residence here until his death last week.

The funeral was held last Thursday at Springfield, Massachusetts.

S.P. 9/24/1931

Dr. W. B. Rubin, Falls Dentist Dies Suddenly

Expires Following Operation
for Spinal De-
rangement

HAD MANY FRIENDS

Practiced Here for Sixteen
Years, and Took Part
in Civic Affairs

East Falls residents were among those who were stunned by the news of the sudden death of Dr. William B. Rubin, who has been the section's most prominent dentist since 1916, when it was announced that he had failed to regain consciousness after the administration of an anesthetic during an operation, early last Thursday morning.

Dr. Rubin was born in Hungary, in 1887, where his father was a theologian. At the age of seventeen he came to America, having for his destination, Philadelphia, where he resided up until the time of demise last week.

He attended the public schools of the city, as a boy being enrolled at the Claghorn School, 17th and Susquehanna avenue, and later at Central High School.

The deceased afterwards attended the University of Pennsylvania, but finally matriculated at the Medico-Chi Dental School, from which he graduated in the Class of June 1916.

Upon his graduation, Dr. Rubin, started to practice his profession in East Falls, at 4189 Ridge avenue, where he was located for the past fifteen years. When the World War broke out, Dr. Rubin was among the first to enlist, and served with particular distinction with the Medical Corps, of the United States Army for eighteen months.

He was stationed at Camp Meade, Md., until the hostilities ended, after which he returned to East Falls.

In 1920 Dr. Rubin was married to Miss Laura G. Goldblatt, a teacher of German languages, in a New York High School. The couple became the parents of one son.

The deceased who resided at 3215 Diamond street, was a member of Palestine Lodge No. 470, F. and A. M.; the Pannonia Beneficial Association; Alpha Omega Fraternity, several Dental Societies, and of the East Falls Business Men's Association.

Funeral services were held on Friday, from the parlors of Morris Rosenberg and Son, 2009 North Broad street, with the interment being made in Mount Zion Cemetery.

7/16/1931

Death Claims Clergyman

Father Charles Harrigan,
Former Assistant at St.
Bridget's Church, Died
Last Thursday.—Stricken
at Mother's Home.

Rev. Charles Harrigan, chaplain of the Sacred Heart Academy at Overbrook, a former assistant at St. Bridget's Church, died at 2:30 P. M. on Thursday, in Misericordia Hospital, following a cerebral hemorrhage at the home of his mother, Mrs. Nellie Harrigan, 5642 Spruce street. He was 59.

Father Harrigan was stricken at noon. Word was sent to the Rev. Francis A. Fagan, of the Church of the Transfiguration, 56th street and Cedar avenue, who administered the last sacrament. Father Harrigan was then removed to the hospital.

Besides his mother, he is survived by a brother and two sisters. He was a son of Dennis Harrigan. Funeral services were held at 9:30 A. M. Monday at the Church of the Transfiguration.

Father Harrigan was born in Philadelphia, March 31, 1872. He was educated at the Annunciation Parish School here; St. Charles College, Ellicott City, Md., and St. Charles Borromeo Seminary Overbrook.

Ordained at Belmont Abby, Belmont, N. C. December 18, 1910, his first diocesan appointment was in 1913 to the Church of the Presentation, Cheltenham. He remained there until 1918, when he was transferred to the Church of the Maternity, B. V. M., at Bustleton. In 1921 he was sent to St. Bridget's Church, at East Falls.

On October 3, 1928 Father Harrigan was made assistant rector of the Church of St. Ann, Phoenixville. He was appointed chaplain at the academy May 30, 1929.

Funeral services were held on Monday in the Church of the Transfiguration, 56th street and Cedar avenue.

Bishop O'Hara presided with Cardinal Dougherty. Rev. Daniel I. McGettigan was celebrant, with Rev. Joseph W. McMahon deacon and Rev. Hugh McMullan sub-deacon.

Taps was sounded over the bier by cadets of the Junior Holy Name Society. Burial was in Holy Cross Cemetery.

4-9-1931

Railroad Man Dies Suddenly

William J. MacFadyen, of
East Falls, Expired on
Monday.—Was Yardmas-
ter at West Falls, for the
Reading Railroad Co.

Death came suddenly on Monday of this week to claim William J. MacFadyen, of 3413 Osmond street, East Falls.

Mr. MacFadyen, who was the yardmaster at West Falls for the Reading Railroad Company, suffered an illness about thirteen months ago, and it was a recurrence of the same nature which caused his death.

Born fifty-seven years ago, in Philadelphia, the deceased lived the most of his life in East Falls. Thirty-four years ago he was married to Miss Agnes Edmonds, by the Rev. Robert McIlwain, of the Falls M. E. Church. The union was blessed with two children, Esther, who is now Mrs. Philip Drumbeller, of 3457 Ainslie street, and William J. MacFadyen, Jr., of 3414 Tilden street.

For twenty seven years, Mr. MacFadyen was employed by the Reading Railroad Company, the entire time being spent at the West Falls yards. He was a member of Palestine Lodge, No. 470, F. and A. M., Oriental Chapter, No. 183, R. A. M., Hellman Council, No. 277, O. I. A., Court Mifflin, No. 24, F. of A. and the Reading Relief Association.

In addition to his wife and two children, the deceased is survived by two grandchildren, June Drumbeller and Bruce MacFadyen, one brother, James MacFadyen of Detroit, Mich., and several cousins in Roxborough.

The funeral services will be conducted from his late residence at 2 P. M., tomorrow afternoon, and the interment will be made in North Laurel Hill Cemetery.

Jan. 14, 1937

2/11/1937

3/25/1937

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Patriotic Body Honors Mifflin

Sons of American Revolution Motor to Lancaster to Place Wreath on Grave of Pennsylvania's First Governor.

Members of the Philadelphia Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, last Sunday motored to Lancaster to decorate the grave of General Thomas Mifflin, signer of the Constitution, for whom the new public school, at East Falls, has been named.

The ceremony was the first of eight exercises planned by the chapter in memory of the men who represented the Commonwealth when the constitutional convention was held in 1787. Each of the eight Pennsylvania delegates will be honored on the anniversary of his birth as part of Pennsylvania's observance of the sesqui-centennial.

The Philadelphia delegation placed a wreath on Mifflin's grave in Trinity Lutheran churchyard at Lancaster and joined the Lancaster chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, in other ceremonies. An address was read by Mayor James H. Ross, of Lancaster.

Grave Decorated



THOMAS MIFFLIN

Sons of the American Revolution journeyed to Trinity Lutheran Church at Lancaster, Pa., last Sunday to place a wreath on his final resting place. The new public school, at Midvale avenue and Conrad street, has been named in honor of this first Governor of Pennsylvania.

Frank W. Smithies Died Suddenly At His Home In West

Internationally Known Physician and Surgeon Expired on Tuesday

WELL-KNOWN HERE

Spent Boyhood With Family at the Falls of Schuylkill

Falls of Schuylkill residents will be grieved to learn of the death of Dr. Frank W. Smithies, which occurred at his home in Chicago, Illinois, on Tuesday morning as the result of a cerebral hemorrhage.

Dr. Smithies was in his 55th year. He was a son of the late John and Alice Smithies, and spent his boyhood at the Falls, attending the old Forest School from 1887 to 1894. After attending preparatory schools in Chicago, the deceased matriculated and graduated from the University of Michigan, at Ann Arbor. Following this he was appointed to a teaching post at the University as professor of bacteriology, and subsequently he completed special courses in Germany and England. He became a noted specialist in gastric and stomach diseases, and served at least one term as president of the American College of Physicians.

Dr. Smithies is survived by his wife, Mary Louise, two sons, John T. and Thomas, and one daughter, Kathryn Smithies. Also surviving are four brothers, Wilfred, of Alameda, Calif.; James A., of New York; Harold E., of Pontiac, Michigan; and John E. Smithies, of the Falls of Schuylkill; and three sisters, Mrs. Albert Hooper, Mrs. Nellie Comer, and Miss Elsie M. Smithies.

Funeral services will be held at Chicago, today, with the interment being made in the mid-Western metropolis.

Renovations At Old Academy To Improve Building

Flooring, Ventilation System and Remodeling of Attic Increases Use of Structure

ERECTED IN 1819

Changes to Be Completed Prior to the Next Production by Historic Group

In order to better accommodate their ever-increasing audiences, the Old Academy Players are at present remodeling their historic playhouse, at 3344 Indian Queen Lane, East Falls, completion of which is expected before the next production, "The Curtain Rises," which begins on April 7th.

Plans include the raising of the floor in the back of the auditorium, thus assuring better vision for those in the rear; the removal of a large wooden centre post, and a small office in the back of the auditorium, thus enlarging the seating capacity; a ventilating system will be installed; and a new set of ultra-modern scenery, the keynote of which is beauty and compactness, is being built. In addition to this, the attic, previously used only as storage space, has recently been converted into an extra usable floor and is employed as a dressing room; while the second floor, where refreshments are served on the nights of their shows, has been redecorated.

This reconstruction is being kept strictly in accordance with the style of the building, the Players not wishing to destroy any of the beauty of the old structure, which was erected in 1819 by popular subscription and volunteer labor by the people of the Falls of Schuylkill for a place of worship and an educational hub, thus being probably the first community centre in Philadelphia.

For years the Old Academy was the only place of amusement in East Falls, magic lantern shows, Indian exhibits, lectures and concerts being given there.

The Old Academy has contributed much of historical interest to this locality. All the churches of the community had their beginning in this structure, which also originally housed the Free Library.

Of especial interest with the opening of the new Thomas Mifflin School, is the fact that the Forest School was organized in this building, occupying it until 1850, when the Samuel Brock School was first erected.

2/4/1937

9/24/1931

77

Sorrowed Throng At Funeral Rites For P. H. Kelly

Prominent State and City
Leaders Among 150, or
More, Pallbearers

CHURCH CROWDED

Rev. David Kelly, of Newark, N. J., Delivered Glowing Tribute in Sermon

Hundreds of persons, from all stations of life, of all religious and political creeds, and racial strains, paused in their daily round of duties, last Friday morning, when funeral services were held for Patrick H. Kelly, building contractor and co-ordinator of the Works Progress Administration in this city, to pay their final outward tribute to their old, or recently acquired, friend. All were unable to get into the capacious church.

A special detail of policemen, in charge of Inspector Reuben Reynolds, lined the route from the residence of the deceased, at 2893 Queen lane, to St. Bridget's Church, East Falls, where Solemn Requiem Mass preceded the interment in Westminster Cemetery.

The celebrant of the Mass was Rev. David C. Muryon, rector of St. Bridget's Church; Rev. David Leahy was the deacon; Rev. John J. Toner was the sub-deacon; and Rev. H. E. Kortkamp was the master of ceremonies. The sermon, a glowing tribute to the manhood of "P. H.," as he was familiarly called, was preached by Rev. David Kelly, of St. John's Church, Newark, N. J., a former Assistant Rector at St. Bridget's Church. Other clergymen, who were present in the Sanctuary, included: Rt. Rev. Monsignor Eugene Murphy, and the Revs. Francis Markie, Francis Carr, Patrick McGinnis, John Green, Kyra P. Moran, C. M.; Bernard J. Farley, Joseph Toye, J. J. Ullman, John O'Neill, Joseph W. McMahon, Girard A. Murphy, C. M.; John Kehoe, and Michael McMahon. The absolution at the grave, in Westminster, was given by Rev. John J. Toner.

Honorary pall-bearers totalled 150 and included Mayor S. Davis Wilson, State Attorney General Margiotti, Secretary of the Commonwealth, David Lawrence, Matthew H. McCloskey, Jr., Postmaster Joseph P. Gallagher, Collector of the Port, A. Raymond Raff, former Mayor Harry A. Mackey, Judge Harry S. McDewitt, Congressman James P. McGranery, Leon Sachs, Michael Stack, Frank J. O'Driscoll, J. Burwood Dohy, and Dr. Ira W. Drew, Counsellman Charles E.

Blackburn, John Dugan, Director of the Department of Welfare; Howard A. Lukens, his assistant; District Attorney Charles F. Kelley, Sheriff William J. Hamilton, Jr., Thomas J. Gavaghan, William H. Benham, Paul V. Costello, Joseph C. Bergin, Hamilton Dalton, J. Griffith Boardman, John E. Smithies, P. J. Kelley, and other public officials, friends and neighbors.

More than one hundred automobiles followed the hearse from the church to the cemetery on the high hills overlooking the Schuylkill Valley.

5-6-1937

Mrs. Frommyer Died On Tuesday

Member of Falls of Schuylkill Family of Famous Kellys Passed Away After Long Illness. — Funeral Services Tomorrow.

Hundreds of friends are sorrowing over the death of Mrs. Annie G. Frommyer, of 3763 Midvale avenue, East Falls, who died at her home on Tuesday morning after a long illness.

Mrs. Frommyer, the widow of John Frommyer, was a daughter of the late John H. and Mary A. Kelly; and a sister of State Secretary of Revenue John B. Kelly; Walter, George and Charles Kelly; and Mrs. Joseph Cruick. The late P. H. Kelly was also a brother of Mrs. Frommyer.

She is also survived by a son, Augustus Frommyer, and a daughter, Miss Grace Frommyer.

Funeral services will be held tomorrow morning with Solemn Requiem Mass being celebrated in St. Bridget's Church. The interment will be made in Westminster Cemetery.

Chamounix

It is very probable that few people will recall that the early name of Chamounix Mansion, was "Mount Prospect." The huge house in West Fairmount Park, which commands the promontory overlooking East Falls, was erected in 1892, by George Plumstead, a merchant of Philadelphia, who was engaged in the India trade.

The particular portion of the Park, in which Chamounix stands, aside for the silk and calico print works of William Simpson, of the Civil War period, has no legendary or historic associations; but it requires none, for as a natural throne it asserts the authority of its position.

In one field of view, it embraces the distant sections of the city, densely built up into a compact municipality, and in other directions the widely spreading countryside.

The Schuylkill River lies under its mountain-like sides, here a lake and there a winding river. The waters of the far Delaware can be seen from Chamounix on clear days; mile after mile of them traveling on to their junction with the sea. Beyond, the flatlands of New Jersey are easily discerned.

From the mansion extends a grand panorama. For its background, rocky ranges, deep glens, and dark woodlands, and stretching acres of Park land. In the foreground are broad acres of Park property, drives and on the opposite hills the "cities of the sleeping dead," and sky-climbing skyscrapers.

In the early days, Chamounix boasted of three remarkable trees, which challenged the supremacy of all the woody growths in the park. Near the summit of the hill they stood, more impressive than any which can be found in eastern Pennsylvania; one a black walnut, the second a chestnut, and the third a tulip poplar.

These giant old trees stood there for many years, relics and reminders of "the time which tried men's souls," nature's noblemen granting favors and asking none.

They, it is said, suggested the famous meeting of the three allied sovereigns in Hyde Park, after Napoleon's fall. But they better suggested the enduring companionship of three other and nobler men of American history: the black walnut, with its hardy wood, Robert Morris; the chestnut, with its broad, liberal branches, Thomas Jefferson; and the tulip poplar, the noblest of the forest trees of America, George Washington; the purse, the charter and the sword of the Revolution; men who loved these grounds, strong men who stood together, in their day and generation, as the three trees stood, changeless and mighty, in sunshine and in storm.

"The great of earth,
Great not by kingly birth,
Great in their well proved worth—
From hearts and true."

SCOTT

8/6/1931

Jan. 29, 1931

78

Wm. McLean Dies at Queen Lane Manor

Publisher of Evening Bulletin Succumbs After Long Illness

WAS IN 80th YEAR

Regarded It a Trust to Work for Public's Interests

William L. McLean died on Thursday morning at 8:30 o'clock at his home on Queen lane, in Queen Lane Manor.

He was the owner and publisher of the Evening Bulletin.

Mr. McLean was in his eightieth year and had been ill for a year. He had been confined to his home for the last six months.

The end came peacefully in the presence of Mr. McLean's immediate family, his two sons, Robert McLean and William L. McLean, Jr., his daughter, Mrs. John S. Williams and Mrs. Robert McLean.

The funeral was held at 5 p. m., on Friday, in the First Presbyterian Church of Germantown, Chelton avenue west of Germantown avenue, of which Mr. McLean was a trustee. Interment was private, in West Laurel Hill Cemetery. The services were conducted by the Rev. Samuel W. Purvis, D. D.

William Lippard McLean was born on May 4, 1852, at Mount Pleasant, thirty-two miles southeast of Pittsburgh. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Caldwell McLean, who came of families long identified with Westmoreland County and western Pennsylvania. His father, of Scotch descent, was head of a furniture factory and an elder of the Middle Presbyterian Church of Mount Pleasant. His mother was Augustus Dorothea Ernest Frederick Voigt, of the Reformed Church.

Mr. McLean first manifested an interest in newspapers when, outside of school hours, he acted as newspaper carrier for the Pittsburgh Leader. He was twenty years old when he went to Pittsburgh and John W. Pitcock, publisher of The Leader, gave him a place in the Circulation Department. He became a traveling circulation man covering the outlying districts. Another of his early tasks was preparing the first newspaper almanac published in Pittsburgh. Years afterwards he published, on a more comprehensive scale, The Bulletin Almanac and Year Book, which has been widely accepted as an authoritative work of reference.

Mr. McLean injured at one time

or another in every department of The Leader and it was this varied experience that gave him a grasp of editorial and business management that made him one of the leading newspaper publishers of his time.

His first visit to Philadelphia was in 1878 to see the Centennial Exposition and two years later he came here to live. Calvin Wells, a Pittsburgh iron manufacturer, had purchased The Philadelphia Press and sent him here as secretary and treasurer of The Press Company, Limited. Although Mr. McLean was only twenty-six years old at this time, he became business manager and the success of the new management in reviewing the prestige of The Press as a news and advertising medium was credited to his administrative foresight and initiative.

Mr. McLean, however, struck out for himself in 1895 when he left The Press and bought The Evening Bulletin. This was the oldest afternoon paper in Pennsylvania and while it enjoyed an honorable reputation, it had a circulation of only a few thousand a day.

Mr. McLean was a director of The Associated Press since 1896, and a director of the American Newspaper Publishers Association from 1889 to 1905.

He would never accept public office or a directorship in another business because such connections might hamper his newspaper in printing the news or commenting on events of the day. He regarded as a public trust The Bulletin's freedom to criticize anything not in the best interests of the community.

On November 9, 1889, Mr. McLean married Miss Sarah Burd Warden, daughter of the late William G. Warden. Mrs. McLean had the same birthday as her husband, May 4. She was born in Pittsburgh in 1863, and, by a further odd coincidence, died May 4, 1921, and her fifty-eighth birthday.

They had four children, of whom three survive. They are Robert McLean, vice president of The Bulletin Company, who succeeded Mr. McLean as a member of the board of directors of the Associated Press; William L. McLean, Jr., treasurer of The Bulletin Company, and Mrs. John S. Williams of Hewlett, Long Island, the former Miss Sarah Wells McLean. Their eldest son, Warden, was killed at the age of twenty-seven in the military training camp at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, on June 29, 1917. He was a Lieutenant of the Infantry Reserve Corps of the United States Army and was crushed against a tree while marching with a battery of artillery when his horse bolted with a broken bit.

G. S. Webster, Bridge Expert, Passes Away

Took Part in Erecting Walnut Lane and Falls Bridges

DIED FRIDAY

Held Many Responsible Public Offices in Philadelphia

George Smedley Webster, 78, prominent engineer for nearly half a century, died at 4 P. M. last Friday in his home, 4800 Penn street, Frankford.

Mr. Webster was a former Director of the Department of Wharves, Docks and Ferries, was one time Chief of the Bureau of Surveys, was a member of the State Sanitary Water Board and was one of the members of the engineering corps which built the Centennial Exposition buildings in Fairmount Park.

Funeral services took place Monday afternoon in the Friends Meeting House, at Penn and Orthodox streets.

Mr. Webster was associated with Ralph Modjeski in the building of the Delaware River Bridge and took part in the construction of the great concrete bridge over the Wissahickon at Walnut lane and the Falls, Grays Ferry and Passunk bridges over the Schuylkill.

Mr. Webster was born in Philadelphia.

He was a member of the Union League, president of the Friends Hospital, former president of the Engineers Club, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Society of Municipal Engineers and the Engineering Alumni Society of the University of Pennsylvania.

He is survived by his widow, Mrs. Mary H. Webster; three brothers, Clement B., John H. and Howard Webster, and a son, Maurice A. who is also an engineer.

8/27/1931

Memorial Is Suggested For Hagners

Were First to Grind Drugs With Use of Machinery

CHANGED INDUSTRY

Settled at Falls of Schuylkill and Later Went to Manayunk

"Guard", in his daily column, in a morning newspaper, said last Friday:

"I am told that the people of Manayunk may create there a memorial for the Hagner family. It would be well deserved.

"The death early this year of Miss Mary Hagner from more than four-score removed from Philadelphia the last of that distinguished clan.

"Her uncle established the first postoffice in Manayunk and also the first local stage coach line to the city.

"That uncle, who was Charles V. Hagner, performed a revolution when he was yet in his teens.

He was the first in the world to grind drugs by machinery.

For several years the druggists of this country and Europe refused to accept Hagner's innovation, which gave him a monopoly and built for himself a considerable fortune.

"Eighty years ago this summer, Hagner wrote for a medical magazine an account of his revolution in drug preparation.

"Dr. Haral, of Philadelphia, had 6000 pounds of cream of tartar to grind. It was of the fineness of ordinary table salt.

"Hagner, whose father had a mill at Manayunk, induced Dr. Haral to permit him to powder the cream of tartar.

"By the old way in a mortar the work would have required a couple of months.

"Hagner hauled the cream of tartar to his father's mill and did the job in one night.

"Dr. Haral, when informed of that miracle, vowed his drug had been ruined. A body of other druggists was summoned.

"They examined the cream of tartar, pronounced it the finest they had even seen, and then Dr. Haral, as Mr. Hagner wrote, paid me liberally for the job.

"That wide-awake pharmacist, Dr. Joseph W. England, of the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy, now recalls this story of Hagner's revolution in the drug trade.

"It was accomplished in 1812 Hagner's father and grandfather were both soldiers in the Revolutionary War and that boy druggist fought the British in 1812 as a captain.

"Philadelphia saw the first quinine manufactured in this country. It was done in 1823 in that factory which soon afterwards became known to world-wide renown as Powers and Weighman.

"Hagner said the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy—first in America—produced a remarkable and beneficial effect upon the whole drug trade in this country.

"Until that college came, there was more cheating in drugs than there is today in bootleg liquor.

"Mrs. Hagner always insisted it was her grandfather, Colonel Philip Hagner, who took Christ Church bells to Bethlehem in 1777 to prevent their falling into British hands.

"Her father was one of those Pennsylvania delegates who aided in the nomination of Jefferson for President.

"I believe our Pennsylvania Historical Society has in its keeping the sword and uniform of Colonel Hagner.

"That family had also some rare German books brought to the United States from their fatherland in Europe, some of which you may now see in that wonderful library at Pennsburg on the Parkmen.

"So it seems that since we are in the age of memorials, one at Manayunk for the Hagners would be all to the good."

3/18/1937

79

Mourn Death Of Vincent Donohue

Falls of Schuylkill Friends of WPA Superintendent Shocked by His Demise.— Was Active Among Democrats of 38th Ward.

Despite the knowledge of the seriousness of his illness partially prepared them for it, the death of Vincent J. Donohue, of 3654 Calumet street, East Falls, last Thursday, came as a profound shock to hundreds of his friends.

Popular with a large number of his townspeople, "Vinny", as he was best known, succumbed at the Memorial Hospital following a week's illness with pneumonia.

The deceased was a son of the late Frank and Margaret Donohue, and was born and spent his entire life in East Falls. He was 38 years of age.

Graduated from St. Bridget's Parochial School, he was a member of the Engineer's Union; of the Board of Governors of the 38th Ward Democratic Club; and of St. Bridget's Holy Name Society. At the time of taking sick he was a superintendent for the WPA. He is survived by three brothers, William Edward and Joseph Donohue, and his wife, the former Catherine S. Hamilton.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday morning, from the residence of his brother, William, at 4183 Ridge avenue. Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. Bridget's Church and the interment was made in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

6/3/1937

Late 'Bob' Shronk Was This Section's Great Storyteller

Newspaper Reporter Possessed Vast Store of Interesting Reminiscences

PROLIFIC WRITER

Told of Events Which Happened in This Vicinity During Many Years

Robert Roberts Shronk, late reporter for Philadelphia daily newspapers, and correspondent for local weeklies through many years, possessed a large number of stories of the territory served by The Suburban Press, which are always interesting.

Recently a few more made their appearance, in newspaper clipping form, which are worth reprinting. Wrote Mr. Shronk:

"As I rode over Allegheny avenue on a trolley car on Sunday morning I thought of the change that has taken place along that thoroughfare. It does not seem many years when 'Uncle Bennie Johnson' occupied the little springhouse which stood in the hollow at what is now 34th and the avenue.

"The property was then part of the farm owned by Frederick Stoeber, and later was rented by 'Billy' Simons, who conducted a large truck raising business upon it, one of his specialties being strawberries. John Dobson purchased the property including that of the Scott farm, and in 1865 had erected on the summit of the hill his handsome gothic residence, Stoeber's house, still standing near the Reading Railway, was for many years occupied by the late David Speers, who also raised a considerable quantity of vegetables. Today these farms are known only as a memory.

"Uncle Benny Johnson built his little farm house up in the woods where he spent the rest of his active life."

In 1916 he wrote: "Powers Weightman and Rosengarten's laboratory is almost constantly being enlarged to provide for increasing business, which is carried on by a day and night force. It is the oldest establishment in the Falls. In 1847 Powers, Weightman and Harrison purchased property on the east side of Ridge avenue from James Spencer and George Shronk and erected the plant in the hollow, with a number of dwellings on the hill for their workmen. On the hill was also built a school house for the children, the second floor being fitted up and equipped for a reading room and library. In 1849 the lower works were erected on property secured from Mrs. John Miller, who graded the site for the one

which Fort Villa occupied. The firm bought this property and built a wharf on the river front but the water was not deep enough to bring loaded canal boats to the wharf. The lower works were erected for an alcohol distillery and became widely known to farmers for the garbage which they bought to feed their cows and hogs. Property owners along the avenue claimed the gases from the laboratory ruined their gardens and made their pump water unfit for use. One after another they brought suit for damages against the firm of Powers and Weightman (Mr. Harrison having retired at the close of 1853.) Most of the suits were settled out of court by the firm purchasing the properties."

"In the fall of 1853 on a Sunday afternoon I attended two events. The first was a baptism in the Schuykill at Mower's shore, a short distance above the laboratory wharf, that was conducted by the Rev. Mark R. Watkinson, then pastor of the Baptist church. The other was the laying of the cornerstone of the old St. Bridget's Catholic church by Archbishop Wood. It was a long while before the edifice was completed, but services were in it soon after the roof was put on. The Rev. James Cullen was the first rector, and he labored hard to build up the parish, living in the basement of the structure. His nephew, John Cox, who afterwards became a priest and was drowned while a young man, built the first altar, a splendid piece of Gothic workmanship. Father Cullen was transferred to a charge in New Jersey and was succeeded by the Rev. Thomas Fox. At the time the cornerstone was laid the parish joined that of St. John the Baptist's in Mansyunk, St. Stephen's, Nicetown, and extended to the built-up portion of the city southward and took in a large territory west of the Schuykill. I met the Rev. James Cullen, about 25 years ago, when he came to the Falls on a visit. He told me of having met with the greatest calamity that could come to a man, the losing of his memory, and which all his learning disappeared in an instant, and that he was obliged to study again what he had lost and that he was in time able again to officiate in front of the altar. A short time later I read of his having been run down in Chicago by a heavy truck, and was taken to a hospital, probably fatally injured."

The following minute from the Falls of Schuykill Association, refers to the Old Academy on Indian Queen lane.

"First School, June 6th elected Teacher by the Falls of Schuykill Association January 2, 1831. Be it further ordained and enacted by the authority aforesaid that the Teacher of the school of the said Association shall from the first day of October to the first day of April, annually open school in the morning at 9 o'clock and let out at 12 o'clock in the afternoon, every

school at half-past one o'clock and let out at half-past four o'clock. From the first day of April to the first day of October annually open school in the morning at 9 o'clock, let out at 12 o'clock. In the afternoon to open school at 2 o'clock and let out at 5 o'clock."

8-3-1931

Falls Man Is Drowned

Raymond DePaulo, of 3513 Bowman street, Falls From Pier While Fishing at Atlantic City, Last Thursday.

Raymond DePaulo, 32, of 3513 Bowman street, East Falls, was drowned at 1 P. M. last Thursday, at Atlantic City, when he lost his balance while casting a line from a fishing pier near the Jerome Avenue Bridge.

His 8-year-old son, Raymond, Jr., who was sitting beside him, saw his father plunge into twenty-five feet of water and fail to come up. The boy screamed for help, but divers were unable to recover the body for several days.

DePaulo, who was a mechanic employed by the L. C. Smith Type-writer Company in Philadelphia, went to the shore at 5 A. M. for the day with his son to fish from a pier near the Northfield Margate bridge over Great Bay.

Mr. De Paul's body was not recovered until nine o'clock Saturday evening.

Solemn Requiem Mass was celebrated at St. Bridget's Church, on Tuesday morning, and the interment was made in Holy Cross Cemetery.

Beside his wife, Anna, the deceased is survived by three children: Marie, aged 9; Raymond, Jr., aged 8; James, aged 5 years, and four brothers and a sister.

7/15/1937

Swimming Holes Of Past Years Are Remembered

Guckes' Pond Was in Hollow
Now Traversed by Warden Drive

RESORT FOR BOYS

"The Tree," Scott's Dam, Anderson's and Abbott's Dam Were Other Bathing Places

Falls boys, prior to 1900, enjoyed mainly a good swim in Guckes' Pond, which had formerly served as a brewery dam. Every day of the school vacation boys of the neighborhood were wont to visit this popular bathing place, which had been formed by the water of a small stream dammed up close to the fire-damaged beer plant of Philip Guckes, who formerly resided on School House lane.

On one side of the woods which surrounded the pond a grove of trees extended out to Midvale avenue, and on the other a close-clipped stretch of grass extended to School House lane. Today Warden Drive covers the site of this pond, but the memories will live for life with the lads who learned the nautical arts at "Guckies."

The swimmers started up the hill from Midvale avenue, at about the present site of Dr. Howard W. Schaffer's house, at 3475 Midvale avenue, and raced along a path through the woods to see who could be the first in the water. Most of them, in summer at least, simply wore a blouse, pants, and a cap, being sans shoes, stockings and under clothing. Very often, some lad, more daring than the others, would dive in, clothes and all. Swimming to the shore proud of his momentary glory, he would wring out his scanty attire and spread it out on the grass in the sun. By the time the boys were ready to go home the clothes would be dry.

Another favorite swimming hole was in the Schuylkill river, just below the City avenue bridge, familiarly known to the boys as "the Tree." The name was given to the place because a tree that extended out over the water, made an excellent thing on which to tie a rope, that was used by the bathers to swing out into the stream.

There was a fly in the ointment, however, for swimming in this "hole." It was within the confines of Fairmount Park, and in those days bathing in the park was prohibited. The Park police "Rescue" used to patrol the waters

and many was the time that Park Guard Dan Furman and Patrick Carr would confiscate the clothes of some lad who had been careless enough to leave his duds unhidden on the bank. The initiated always took the precaution to stow them away in a safe place, foreseeing just such an emergency.

The loss of one's clothing was always a source of worryment, until the enforcer of the law would relent and, after administering a lecture, would return the garments and let the offender off with the promise that he would never swim in the river again. The promises, it is sorrowfully recorded, were very seldom ever remembered.

Scott's dam, in the Falls Creek, under what is now the Henry avenue bridge over the Port Richmond and Norristown branches of the Reading Railroad; Abbott's Dam, up near the Dobson Mansion; the pond in Anderson's Hollow, in West Fairmount Park, near the Philadelphia Country Club, which boys of today still use, and call "Dead Horse Pond"; and McKinney's Quarry, up along the Wissahickon Valley in back of Alden Park Manor, were other places where the youth of the vicinity, prior to 1900, were in the habit of bathing, before the city provided safer and more healthful facilities, even though they are not as enjoyable.

4-8-37

View Pictures Of Falls of Schuylkill

Slides From Dr. Charles K. Mills Collection, Owned by Free Library of Philadelphia Shown at Business Men's Meeting.

Members of the East Falls Business Mens' Association and their wives and friends were entertained by the showing of historical pictures of the Falls of Schuylkill, at an open meeting of the Association held at Y. M. L. I. Hall, Midvale avenue and Frederick street, on Tuesday evening. William B. McFarland presided.

The pictures, from the Dr. Charles K. Mills Collection, were shown through the courtesy of the Free Library of Philadelphia, and arrangements by Dr. S. S. Kaplan, with explanations by A. C. Chadwick, Jr.

Raymond Heimlich, treasurer of the committee in charge of the recent radio party, turned over net receipts of more than \$200, made at the affair, for the benefit of the Woman's Medical College Hospital.

At the close of the meeting refreshments were served by a committee headed by Thomas M. Har-

3/25/1937

81

Kim of Dobsons Shoots Himself

George W. Pyrah Ends His Life With Pistol Used in World War.—Was Nephew of Late Falls of Schuylkill Textile Manufacturer.

George W. Pyrah, 51 years of age, a former resident of the Falls of Schuylkill, who was decorated with the Distinguished Service Cross for leading a successful attack on a German machine gun nest during the World War, shot and killed himself last Friday night in the back yard of his home on McCallum street near Johnson, Germantown.

Pyrah, who, police said, had been in financial straits, used a German automatic pistol which he brought back with him from Europe after the war. He was a nephew of the late John and James Dobson, textile manufacturers.

Pyrah's nephew, Jack Pyrah, told police he heard a shot at 9 P. M. and going to the yard found his uncle lying under an arbor. He died en route to Germantown Hospital.

Shortly before he shot himself, Pyrah had eaten dinner with his sister-in-law, Mrs. Jane Pyrah, and his nephew. He was a bachelor.

8/12/1937

82

Outdoor Market Established On Historic Ground

Palmer Property, at Falls of
Schuylkill, Used For
Novel Purpose

OLD FAMILY RECALLED

Land Among First Sold in
This Neighborhood by
Pennsylvania's Founder

An enterprising provisioner spread out his baskets of potatoes, corn, peas, onions, and other vegetables and fruit one day last week, on a lot on Ridge avenue just below Indian Queen lane, East Falls; hung an awning duck marges over the display and established an outdoor market.

The lot was first known to have been the property of one George Palmer, whose heir, John Palmer, after inheriting the land, strangely enough passed out of this life on August 13th, 1791, the anniversary of which falls tomorrow.

The name of Palmer has been well-known in the Falls of Schuylkill neighborhood since the early days of the community. Some old maps show that William Palmer owned a tract of land which included the very heart of the original village, and also another piece of ground to the south and east. The present Scott's lane, near Allegheny avenue, was at one time called "Palmer's Lane" and one and perhaps two mills were owned by the Palmers.

The signatures of William Palmer appears on an old arbitration agreement that settled an argument between Benjamin Morgan, in whose house General Lafayette had his quarters at the time the Continental Army was encamped at the Falls, and Marcus Garrett. The agreement was signed in 1765 and fixed the exact boundaries of their properties.

The Palmers of the Falls, were in all probability the descendants of George Palmer, of Nonchurch, County Surrey, England, who was one of the first purchasers of land from William Penn, on April 25th, 1682. William Palmer was the son of George and Elizabeth Palmer and is put down in old documents as "of Wicashicon," this more than likely giving the best location of his land.

He inherited lands in the neighborhood of Indian Queen lane from his father and other lands was also conveyed to him by his mother in 1777. As mentioned in his will, made in 1747, he had the following children: Mary, Elizabeth, William, Hannah, Charles, John and George. His son, William, like the father, is mentioned as a millwright.

The second William Palmer died

in 1770. He mentions in his will and codicil, proved in 1776, four children: William, John, Jonathan and Thomas. John Palmer appears on the Philadelphia County tax list under "Northern Liberties, West Part," in 1774 as an inkkeeper owning 34 acres of land, and this John Palmer is recorded as having died on August 13th, 1791.

The Palmer holdings were later purchased by Joseph Sorber, who came from Germantown. Sorber made his home in the house which had been used as the inn, and soon erected other structures on the ground for his business as a carriage and coach builder. The lot on which the provisioner started his novel business, last week, was formerly occupied by a coach shop, half of which is still standing on an adjoining lot. Deterioration made it necessary to raze part of the building.

During the Civil War, Captain John Dotsen's Company "F" of the Blue Reserves (133rd Pennsylvania Volunteers) used the second story of the coach factory as a drill room, after the company had been organized in the hall owned by Joseph Shantz, at the corner of Ridge avenue and Cakumet street. In the Sorber coach factory drills were held three evenings each week, under the direction of George P. Eldridge, principal of the old Forest School, who afterward went out with the company as its first lieutenant.

7/14-1932

Station Agent At East Falls Is Retired

William S. Green Served
Reading Company for
Fifty-One Years

MADE MANY FRIENDS

Saw Great Changes in Transportation Modes of
Community

William S. Green, of 714 Hays avenue, Norristown, who has been the Reading Railroad Company's station agent at East Falls since September of 1886, went on the retired list on July 1st.

Mr. Green entered the employ of the Reading Company, on August 1st, of 1881. He was first employed at Lafayette, now known as Miquon, and in November of 1885 was transferred to Shawmont, where he served until he was sent

to East Falls.

On August 1st he would have rounded out 51 years with the Reading Company, forty-six of which he was on duty at East Falls.

Mr. Green, who has a vast host of friends in this vicinity, saw many changes here. When he first took charge of the station, it was located in a little building at the foot of Bowman street, where the agent made his home. Later he moved to a residence on Midvale avenue, and since 1920 he has resided in Norristown.

One of the greatest changes to the Falls section, in Mr. Green's time was the development of the Queen Lane Manor neighborhood. Despite all the increase in population, the train service, in its relation to the number of trains run, is still about the same as it was when Mr. Green first came here, and in explanation of this he has said that in 1886 the railroad's only competitor was the horse car line on Ridge avenue. Today the locality is served by three street car lines, on Ridge avenue, Allegheny avenue and Midvale avenue, a bus line from Broad and Erie avenues and thousands of private automobiles. In the old days a special train was run on Saturday afternoon, from Manayunk to the city, to accommodate citizens who went to the city to shop or to the theatres. The terminus of the line was then at Ninth and Green street.

While stationmaster of the old Falls station, Mr. Green served as telegrapher, ticket clerk, baggage master, freight agent, and was in all truth the general factotum, working from 6 a. m. to midnight.

On Sunday evening, November 17th, 1912, at 11 p. m., the old East Falls station went out of service, and the present depot at Midvale avenue was placed in commission.

When the Norristown Division was first opened in 1835, the company erected a caboose-like structure for a temporary station, about 200 yards south of Indian Queen lane, and this served the

people of the vicinity as a station. This was followed by the Bowman St. station, and then the Midvale avenue station.

14/1/1932

New Thoroughfare Provides Access To Notable Section

21st Ward Residents Can Now Get Acquainted With School House Lane Neighborhood.—Many Fine Estates Border on Ancient Highway.—Scenic Locality

With the Wissahickon Creek having been a natural barrier to easy access to School House lane, since the opening of the Henry avenue bridge, there are thousands of 21st Ward folk who are just now getting acquainted with the lower end of the political sub-division in which they live.

The old estates along School House lane, which was a part of the old Indian trail from Tacony to the Schuylkill and beyond, have been unknown to all 21st Warders except a few hardy hikers who clambered up the Wissahickon hills to view the countryside in that section.

Probably the name of Bessell's lane, is the oldest one which has been applied to the thoroughfare we are discussing, but at other times it has been called Ashmead's road, School lane, and King street. However, it is best known as School House lane, the second oldest street in the 21st Ward, and received its present name from Germantown Academy which is located along its sides at Greene street.

To the left of Henry avenue, as it crosses the great Memorial ledge going southward from Roxborough, is "Malvern," the estate of Colonel Louis Kolb. The residence stands far back near the creek, and it is said that it was built by Samuel Welsh, whose daughter married Judge Withbank. The style of architecture is known as "Classic Revival" and the dwelling seems like a gem in a beautiful setting. The gardens surrounding this home are horticultural wonders.

Henry avenue reaches School House lane, directly through the property which for many years was known as "Glenwood," or the "Harrison place." The old homestead stood close to the Lane, and was of square construction with a mansard roof. It was owned at various times by Dr. J. K. Mitchell, father of Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, and Mrs. George L. Harrison. Incidentally the Mitchell street of Roxborough, receives its name from this same Mitchell family who once dwelled on School House Lane.

One writer in mentioning "Glenwood," said, "It is a summer residence and a neat potter's lodge introduces a way to it. The fence is similar to that on the old Merrick place, known as 'Torworth,' John Walter, editor of the London Times, when on a visit to this country, rode out from town to see its much heralded beauty, but like the natural love of England was unmoved until he saw the iron fence

in front of 'Torworth,' which he alighted and measured it as a pattern for use in his own country, and when he drew near the Harrison neighborhood, and saw the glorious view to be had from there, he called his son's attention to the hills and cried out, 'Barkshire!'—the scenery here reminding him of that beautiful English district."

Many years ago "Glenwood" was sold by former Provost C. C. Harrison, of the University of Pennsylvania, and son of George Leib Harrison, to Sydney Hutchinson, who made great changes to the property. The trees, grounds, and mansion were renovated and the house was occupied by his son-in-law and daughter Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Morgan.

A new villa was built nearer the Wissahickon woods, and this was used in summer time by Mr. and Mrs. Hutchinson the latter a daughter of E. T. Stetson. Part of the house still stands, waiting to be torn down by the present owner of the property, Colonel Louis Kolb. Henry avenue runs right through what was the center of the building and the city only removed that portion which stood in its right of way.

When the Henry avenue bridge was planned to cross the Wissahickon valley, Colonel Kolb, to protect his interests in that section, bought "Glenwood," and so owns the ground on both sides of the new thoroughfare, between School House lane and the Park line.

Below the "Glenwood" estate is "Springmead," the home of Mrs. Edward E. Denniston. The house is a high-roofed one, with a deep declining lawn that runs into a charming dell that contains a spring and a rivulet which courses down to the Wissahickon. Miss Margaret D. Denniston, who resided here, served as a war nurse in France during the recent World War. Upon her return she was married to Ernest Kershaw, of Petit Manoir, Maine.

Still nearer to Ridge avenue, adjoining the Denniston home, is the home of the late Samuel Wagner, late chief engineer of the Reading Railroad Company, whose death occurred last year when he fell from a short ladder while at some small task on a window of his home, receiving injuries from which he never recovered. The building is a neat cottage-like structure with a sundial at its rear, on the trunk of a tree. In front of the house is

a full-popper which is a king among its kind, with a girth of over nineteen feet. The rugged bark, evenly divided into ridges, on its great trunk speaks silently of its age, despite the kindly treatment which it has received from Mother Nature.

The Wagner estate, known as "Four Oaks" is one of the oldest along School House lane, and has been owned by one family longer than any of its neighbors.

The present owner is John Wagner, who is of the sixth generation to possess the property. The residence is reached by a private lane at the western border of the grounds. John Wagner, ancestor of the present owner, purchased the property in 1784, at the time of the yellow fever epidemic in Philadelphia. The old barn is said to have been built in 1772, and is probably the oldest building along School House lane, west of Wissahickon avenue.

In addition to the four oak trees from which the estate gets its name, there is a wooded dale in the rear which adds to the picturesque beauty of the place. John Wagner, present owner of "Four Oaks" is a collector of curios and has assembled, with the assistance of his brother, Werrill, one of the finest collections of old prints, ruffs, swords, canes, arrowheads, and Indian relics, china, glassware, and various other articles that exists in this section of the city.

Still traveling down hill toward Ridge avenue, and adjoining "Four Oaks" is "Roslyn Manor," the residence of the Milers. This is a massive stone pile with a square tower designed to resemble a Turkish minaret.

Everything about the place suggests immensity. A huge porch surrounds the great building; big lawns lead into a large vale; great trees grace the thick woodland in the rear; and the outbuildings are big. Thomas W. Smith built the original house on this estate Archibald Campbell, who owned and operated a textile mill in Manayunk bought and enlarged the house. The property once belonged to Benjamin Morgan, a blacksmith, who married one of the Levering women of Roxborough. Morgan is listed as one of the earliest taxpayers of Roxborough Township, in the Poorhouse records, and his estate originally ran down to what is now Midvale avenue. During the American Revolution, it was in a house owned by Benjamin Morgan, near what is now McMichael and Coulter streets, that General Lafayette had his headquarters when the Continental soldiers were encamped on the Queen lane filtration plant site.

Next below "Roslyn Manor" and skirting Gypsey lane is "Ellersleigh" formerly the home of W. Worrall Wagner, but now occupied by Lionel Friedman. The original house was erected by James C. Kempton, another one-time Manayunk mill owner. Kempton sold the place to Ella Yarnall, who enlarged it and sold it to Charles C. Harrison, who was provost of the

University of Pennsylvania at the time. The style of the dwelling is familiar as the type of American farmhouse, and with its bewitching background of woodland, and valley in front, and well-placed evergreens, makes a picture which common folk as well as artists may rave over. There once stood along Gypsy lane a double cottage, of Queen Anne style, which housed the gardener and coachman employed at "Ellersleigh," but this was torn down a decade ago.

All of the estates mentioned are in the 21st Ward, but we doubt if more than a very few 21st Ward residents have ever walked along School House lane and realized what show places they could boast of. The properties on the south side of the lane, as far east as Wissahickon avenue, are in the 38th Ward today, but in the old days were in Roxborough township.

Germantown historians, ever on the alert to take credit for anything which is at all noteworthy have always claimed School House Lane and its territory as their own, and even the daily newspapers regularly err in saying that the Henry avenue Bridge connects Roxborough to Germantown. "Forgive them for they know not what they do!"

Dec. 15, 1932



School House Lane is Topic of Another Tale of Houses

South Side of Old Thoroughfare Is Discussed, Estates Are All in the Thirty-Eighth Political Division

A couple of weeks ago we introduced a good many residents of the 21st Ward to that part of its territory along the north side of School House lane. As the thoroughfare forms the dividing line between the 21st and 38th Wards, we are now going to tell of some of the estates on the south side of the lane, in the latter ward.

Hannah Moore may not have known about School House lane when she wrote the following lines, but they can aptly be applied to the section today:

"To those who know thee not, no words can paint;

And those who know thee, know all words are faint!"

During the American Revolution, at the time of the Battle of Germantown, the section along School House lane, from Wayne avenue to about the present location of Henry avenue, was occupied as a camping ground by the Hessian division of the British forces. John Fanning Watson has said of them: "A large body of Hessians were bottled in Ashmead's fields out the School lane, near the woods; their huts were constructed of the rails from fences set up at an angle of 45 degrees, resting on a cross beam capstan over them were laid straw and some of them were lined with

opened Oak Road through the property from School House lane to Midvale avenue. On the east of Oak road stands what was formerly the home of Miss Johnson, a relative of the Wrights. It is thought that the place is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. George Harr, the latter a daughter of Henry W. Brown, whose home is directly opposite. The style of the building is Gothic, with gables toward the lane. This and the home of R. D. and Theodore Brown fronts on Oak road. The Brown family, through their skill at cricket brought distinction to the School House lane section and to Philadelphia in general. Two or three other dwellings have comparatively recently been erected on this old Brown property.

E. N. Wright, in a conversation, once discussed his old home on School House lane as follows: "I well remember on numerous occasions hearing my father tell of School lane being in olden times called the lane leading from Robeson's Mill to Germantown" then only a dirt lane. After the schoolhouse was built—now the Germantown Academy—it was dignified with the name of School House lane.

The place called by that name was built by my uncle, Louis D. Sensel, who sold it to Stephen Morris, who afterward sold it to Joseph

Brown, Sr., Thomas Wistar Brown and a Dr. Tiedman, of South Carolina, who some say used to drive a four-in-hand; and Bishop Rhineland, of the Episcopal Church, lived here six or seven summers. It is now occupied by Samuel R. Rosenbaum and his family.

Dr. Caspar Wistar called this section the Montpellier of Philadelphia. He built the wings to his house, and being much interested in horticulture is responsible for many of the rare plants which are in the neighborhood.

Adjoining this there used to be a byway, called Cedar Lane, which extended from School House lane to Midvale avenue, but which is now gone. On the west side of Cedar lane—remember that we are only walking along the south side of School House lane—is the old home of Daniel H. Carstairs. It is a modern building, having been built on what is now the southeast corner of School House lane and Henry avenue, in 1914, just one hundred and thirty-three years after its neighbor.

On the southwest corner of Henry avenue was a property once owned by the Wardens. An old building which stood on the ground, in the youth of this chronicler, had massive stone pillars. It is said to have been the mansion of a Dr. William Ashton, where he had a school for backward children. A modern home now occupied this plot, and on it the owner has re-erected as a play house, which was used at the Sesqui-Centennial Exposition by "The Camden Courier.

Adjoining this was a Merrick Property, and land once owned by Philip Guckers, who had a large house in the rear of his, now standing on what is now the center of winding Warden Lane. Still farther west, near the

There for the officers had wicker chairs with a glass light and interwoven with plaited straw, they

...suburban homes, a plan which has since been carried out.

Some years ago the property was conveyed by W. G. Warden, Jr., to the Queen Lane Manor Land Company for \$85,000 the amount at which it was assessed. At the time it was announced that the site would be used for an operation of suburban homes, a plan which has since been carried out.

Adjoining the old Warden homestead, or as it is at present, the Sheltering Home, is "Cerne" the residence of the Misses Mason. The whole place has a "homey" atmosphere. Standing back from the road on a deep and wide lot, almost hidden by trees and shrubbery, with greenhouses, conservatory and garage, in close proximity, it suggests again that it is indeed a homelike homestead with several unique features.

The house is built of gray stone, with slate roof and chapel porch entrance. Its semi-Gothic or mul-tioned windows produce a satisfying effect. The porch is enclosed with heavy glass sash, each side being banked with potted plants.

There are numerous fine trees scattered over the grounds, which extend from School House lane to Coulter street in the rear. These were planted by Moses Brown. Among them are two giant beeches, a huge magnolia, a rare cypripedium and a large willow oak. There is also some rare shrubbery along the front driveway. Several years ago the Misses Mason donated a number of valuable plants to the Fairmount Park Commission, which were placed in Horticultural Hall.

Moses Brown, Sr., erected the house. Benjamin Perkins lived there for a while and then the estate was secured by the Mason family, whose prominence has been attributed to Mason's Shoe Polish.

Next to "Cerne", on the west, is the athletic field of the Coulter Street Friends School. This lot was formerly owned by T. W. Warden.

It is doubtful whether a residence ever stood on this tract, and certainly not so in the past two decades. It may have been a part of the Oakley estate which adjoins on the west.

The Oakley estate had on it a square frame mansion built by Peter Wright, founder of the old shipping firm of Peter Wright & Sons. This was occupied by three generations of Wrights, E. N. Wright having been born there.

Henry W. Brown, one of the Browns who endowed the new Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, built a modern dwelling mansion a large one. He also

...of both. The place was afterward bought by Frederic Strawbridge, a son of Justus.

Next comes "Pinchurst", now the property of the William Penn Charter School, which formerly belonged to the Misses Wain. These ladies were noted for their great kindness to animals, and it is said maintained a cemetery on the place, surrounded by evergreens and other trees, where the remains of many a poor beast rested. What became of the graves when Penn Charter assumed control of the place, is unknown.

West of the school grounds in one enclosure is "The Pines", the home of T. Howey Dougherty, and "Sherley", the former home of Harold M. Sill, brother-in-law of Mr. Dougherty, they being a fine pair of Queen Anne cottages with tastefully arranged surroundings. Several large beech and black cherry trees give character to the lawn. We understood that at one time a John Craig had a racing course on this land, owning and training a stable of fine equines.

Adjoining "Sherley" is "Netherfields" formerly known as the Jeremiah Brown place, but now owned and occupied by the family of Moses Brown, Jr. It is the oldest house, west of Wissahickon avenue, having been built in 1779. Its style is southern, of colored roughcast stone, the body being painted Colonial buff, while the trimmings are white. There is a semi-circular porch in front.

The house reposes in a Edenic acre, surrounded by an unusual collection of rare trees and shrubbery. Rest arbors, mosses and rose bushes, beds of strange plants and old-fashioned flowers are features of the home garden, in proper season.

One time, many years ago, when employees of Mr. Brown were clearing a stream near what is now Midvale avenue, thick clumps of laurel bushes were uncovered and numerous Indian implements used for cooking, hunting and war purposes were found which indicated that it was the site of an ancient

Indian village. This stream will be remembered by many middle-aged and elderly East Falls folk as having run down to the Schuylkill along the north side of Midvale avenue.

The next property, still traveling west, is "Roxborough", also owned by the Browns. The house was erected in 1781, two years after "Netherfield". It is a quaint frame building with low roof and peculiar dormer windows. The house is painted yellow, with white trimmings. It is said to have been built by Richard M. Morris, and has been owned and occupied by Dr. Caspar Wistar, whom Wistar vine named.

...abroad, was "Raven Hill," the home of William Weighman, and his daughter, Mrs. Anne Penfield, now known as "Raven Hill Academy," a private school for girls, controlled by the Sisters of the Assumption. Below the railroad property on School House lane is owned by the city of Philadelphia, which maintains there a coal bunker for the use of the Queen Lane

...and chimney, made of grass. They, no doubt, had purchased so as to pass the winter, but the Battle broke up their plans. One of the Hessians afterwards became Washington's coachman." On the southwest corner of the

...Wissahickon avenue and School House lane stands the Hebrew Sheltering Arms for Infants. This was formerly the home of William G. Warden, and the property included certain which once belonged to the Misses Connor, E. N. Wright, Sr., and the Ashmeads.

The building is a large brick one that was erected in 1835. It is an imposing structure, has large porches, a tiled peaked roof and a many-cornered tower. Shrubby prevents a good view of the building and grounds from the highway. Here Mr. Warden reared his well-known family and here he died in 1893.

While residing in the house Mr.

...Our old Homestead "Oakley" was directly opposite and was built by my grandfather Peter Wright in the year 1845, and upon his death in 1856 was purchased by my father

...in 1890 I sold the property to Henry W. Brown. He tore down the old house and constructed a new one near the site of the old structure.

"The place adjoining, "Blythe-wood", now occupied by Frederick Strawbridge was, three-quarters of a century ago, owned and occupied by a family named Chancellor. I well remember when they lived there. They sold to Samuel V. Merrick, who was the father of William H. Merrick, who for many years lived farther back on the lane. Samuel V. Merrick, in turn sold to Justus Strawbridge, the original head of the Strawbridge and Gohler firm, my father negotiating the purchase and sale to

8/9/1937

86

School House Lane Area Has Had An Interesting History

Petition For Its Opening Was Filed Two Hundred and Five Years Ago

WARD DIVIDING LINE

Prominent Families Have Long Owned Properties in the Neighborhood

School House Lane, as far as can be learned, was the second public road opened in the original Roxborough Township; the first being the Ridge Road. The lane led "from the Market House in Germantown, to Roberts' Ferry and Robeson's Mill, by William Palmer's", which indicates that the ground owned by William Palmer in the upper end of Northern Liberties, (Falls of Schuylkill) extended to Wissahickon.

Roberts' Ferry was located on the Schuylkill river just above the Falls Village. The petition for opening School House lane was filed in March of 1732. In early days it was much used by the people of Germantown, to reach Roxborough, and by means of the ferry across the river, into Merion and other inland districts.

In 1846 the citizens residing on School House lane obtained a charter for a turnpike along the same course. The name suggested for this more modern thoroughfare was "the Manatawnia Turnpike," but it was never used, for the entire project fell through.

The original name of School House Lane was "Bensell's Lane", from Dr. George Bensell, who lived on the highway at its junction with Germantown road. "School House Lane" came later, this appellation coming from the old Germantown Academy, which is still situated on the lane, at Greene street.

Maps of 1875, disclose that the owners of properties along School House lane (North side from Wissahickon avenue west), were: Samuel Vaughn Merrick, Joseph S. Lovering, Philip S. Justice, Charles Treichel, William Allison, Redwood F. Warner, Jeremiah Brown, Samuel Welsh, George L. Harrison, Samuel Wagner, John Wagner, Archibald Campbell, Ellis Yarnall, William Weightman and Philip Gucker. (South side, from Wissahickon avenue west) the Misses Connor, Benjamin Perkins, F. W. Brown, Mrs. Johnson, E. E. Wright, the Misses Wald, Mrs. Smith, Jeremiah Brown, Moses Brown, Dr. Samuel K. Ashton, Philip Gucker, Alexander Henry, W. H. Morris, William Weightman and Francis J.

Weightman.

Prior to 1854 Roxborough Township extended south as far as Queen lane, the present home of the Newhalls, at Stokley street and Midvale avenue, once being known as "Roxborough plantation". When the original 38th Ward was created however, the southern boundary of the 21st Ward (Roxborough, Wissahickon and Manayunk) has been School House Lane. Increasing population called for the creation of another ward (the 38th) and since that time School House lane has served as the dividing line between these two political divisions.

Mall for the residents of School House lane has for many years been served from the Germantown Post office, and for that reason most people believe the area is in the 22nd Ward. But this is not true. Aidan Park Manor is in the 23rd Division of the 21st Ward; and Oak Road residents cast their votes in the 28th Division of the 38th Ward.

This interesting bit of local history was brought out in a recent discussion concerning Richard P. Brown, Republican candidate for the office of City Controller who lives in Oak Road; and Dr. Luther A. Harr, Democratic candidate for City Treasurer, who travels homeward in the evening to a dwelling at Fox and Penn streets. Both cast their ballots in the 28th Division of the 38th Ward.

S.P. 12/15/1932

Chronicle 3/13/1905

Forecast 1/24/1901 86

Wm. T. Gray Is Buried

Funeral Services Held on Saturday Afternoon for Old Time Baseball Player, Was Well Known and Re- spected in This Locality.

William T. Gray, of 3443 Indian Queen lane East Falls, former big league baseball player and chief of the high pressure station No. 2, of the City Water Bureau, died at 10.30 A. M. on Thursday of last week from a self-inflicted bullet wound. He was 61.

Gray became increasingly nervous his wife said, after the death of his father three months ago. Mrs. Gray found him shortly after 8 o'clock in the morning, in bed a bullet wound in his temple and a pistol in his hand.

He was in the city service 29 years and chief of the high pressure station at 7th street and Lehigh avenue since it was opened 29 years ago.

Gray played third base for Connie Mack when the present manager of the A's led the Milwaukee club in 1893. Later Gray played for Cincinnati, Cleveland, the Phillies and for several teams in the International and Tri-State Leagues. In the Nineties, during the heyday of the old Wisahickon and other 21st Ward teams he was catcher on the old Highland semi-pro team of Roxborough.

His widow and four daughters, Isabel and Ethel Gray, Mrs. Ida Parot and Mrs. Marion Spencer, survive.

Mr. Gray was a member of Palestine Lodge No. 407 F. and A. M.

Funeral services were held at his late residence on Saturday afternoon, and the interment was made in Ivy Hill Cemetery.

Forecast 8/7/1913

Bad Condition of Streets Calls For Action

The condition of Fiske avenue, Thirty-sixth street to Cresson, is causing the residents thereof considerable concern.

The street is on full city rates, the ordinance for sewer and paving has been passed, but no work has, as yet, commenced. The street is in a deplorable condition, and should be paved and covered at once to avoid the frequent cases of sickness occurring there.

Cresson street from New Queen street to Mill street is in like condition, owing to a squabble between the city and railroad company as to who should curb the west side of the street. It is to be hoped most earnestly that the powers that be will get busy and attend to these important betterments.

The worst feature of newspaper correspondence is the liability of the correspondent to report items that are heard upon the imaginings of people who are generally reliable. In looking for news it is refreshing to hear of some occurrence that is interesting and the different accounts heard are noted down and after due consideration are spread out in the very best way possible to the writer. Every particular is worked up for all it is worth. It passes the critical eye of the editor, goes to the compositor, and in due season appears in print. The writer scans it over and is justifiably proud of having secured so much information. Imagine his feelings, dear reader, if you can, when, after all his trouble he learns when it is too late, that the article was false from beginning to end, and worse than all to learn that he had been imposed upon. This little bit of what a correspondent once in a great while experiences will have to answer as an apology for what appeared in this column last week in regard to the break down of the large engine in Dobson's carpet mill. For many reasons I am happy to note the fact that no such disastrous break down occurred.

R. R. S.

March 19th, 1888

MR. EDITOR:—Your Correspondent of last week was slightly in error as regards a break-down at Dobson's Mill, on Monday, the 13th inst. It was simply a refusal to "go" on the part of the temporary engine, until the Messrs. Dobson sent for a Mr. Wilkinson, an expert engineer of your town, who soon adjusted it as with a magic wand.

On Tuesday morning the greater portion of the mill was started; on Wednesday morning a few more, and so on, until now the mills are running full handed and up to 9 o'clock at night, for which the people are very thankful. It would seem, therefore, that there is some good in Mansyank besides the Cannery. May success attend you both is the wish of

Yours very truly,

FALLS.

[Since the foregoing was received we have been informed that the Messrs. Dobson have put their entire steam plant under Mr. Wilkinson's supervision. —E.D.]

Forecast 6/3/1915

FISKE AVENUE PAVING MATTER TO BE DETERMINED

Fiske avenue, about which there has been so much quibbling by the city authorities, will finally be paved. Councilman Benham has taken the matter in hand, and at today's session in Council will introduce an ordinance to have the city pay for the paving when done, and the bills for the assessment of the street improvement placed in the hands of the City Solicitor for collection. The Councilman feels the bill will be referred to committee immediately, and will be passed by June 24, so that the contract may be let for the work before the summer is over.

This ordinance will provide that the paving will be granite block, as originally contemplated, instead of vitrified brick, as was mentioned.

OUR POLICE PROTECTION

Sergeant Dinglecker, who has been transferred to the Lehigh avenue station, has been succeeded at the sub-station here by Sergeant Harry Wallace, of Toga, who has been advanced from patrolman. House Sergeants Martin and Kirk who have been transferred to the new Thirty-first district, have been succeeded by former officers Harry Geckler and Conrad Hoff.

With the changes attending the division of this police district glowing anticipations were indulged in, regard an increase in the number of police patrolling the large extent of territory included in the district of the sub-station at the Falls. To say that these hopes have not been realized is putting it mildly. Police protection is now more

meagre than ever. The force in toto includes nine patrolmen. What is termed one beat takes in as much territory as is comprised in the new Thirty-first district, which has some 30 odd officers, yet this district—by pardon, "beat"—is protected during the entire day by one solitary officer, who does a tour of 12 hours' duty. The territory covered by this one man is bounded by School lane, Wisahickon avenue and Nicetown lane and the Norristown Railroad. At night the tour is divided into two shifts, from 6 P. M. to 12, and from 12 to 7 A. M. The officers on this beat are Pool, Sturges and Hess. They are mounted, but just consider a man on horseback for 12 consecutive hours and you will have some idea of the strain which he undergoes. Another district which one man covers is from School lane to Allegheny avenue, and from the Railroad to Schuylkill River. Two officers patrol this beat after nightfall. The lower beat is covered day and night by one solitary officer, and takes in from the river to Twenty-sixth street, and from Lehigh to Allegheny avenue.

Is this the kind of protection our people are paying taxes for and is this the extent of the knowledge of the Director of Public Safety relative to the protection of the lives and property of a district numbering 10,000 souls?

Verily this vicinity is taken care of in a truly surprising manner. With what a feeling of security our people can retire at night. Remember, you people above the railroad, if a fire should take place you might be able to find an officer to send in an alarm away out at School lane and Township line. Persons living in other districts had better look up the signal stations, where the officers report to headquarters. For they certainly have to do stunts to be able to even report without attending to such small things as fires and robberies.

The force is utterly inadequate and our business people and others should demand, and that at once, that we be given the protection which the standing and extent of such a district requires.

Chronicle 3-13-1905

—Mr. Warren Watson, ex-editor of the Star, after suffering great agony from an injury received over a year ago by falling on the ice, has placed himself under the care of the surgeons at the Episcopal Hospital, where it is hoped his ailments will be successfully treated.

Evening Ledger
2/7/1930

HUNTING PARK AVE. 'DEATH CURVE' TO GO

Long-Delayed Roadwork Will Be Ready in Spring, Corn- ing Promises

Money Voted in 1926

The entire cost of the improvement, excluding that of eliminating the intersection with Ridge avenue, or \$250,000, was provided for in the municipal loan bill of April, 1926. Then started a long series of delays, followed by many protests from motorists, business interests and others, as more and more accidents occurred with the increase in traffic.

According to some business men in the neighborhood, their complaints were met with explanations that there was no money for the work because that appropriated for the project had been expended on the Sesqui-Centennial. As a matter of fact, however, the money for the improvement has remained untouched and still is intact.

But fifteen months elapsed from the time the loan bill was approved by the voters until the street was officially opened and placed on the city plan at its increased width, and five more months passed before City Council saw fit to enact legislation appropriating for the project on December 30, 1927.

Cemetery Change Delays Start

Then followed many more months of delay as a result of the necessity of removing 264 bodies from Mount Peace Cemetery to permit the widening of the street. A court decree was required in this matter, and the disinterment of the bodies, following the court action, had to be done by the cemetery company.

The last bodies were removed last fall, but certain sewer work had to be completed before the street improvement could start, and finally a decision ultimately to dip Hunting Park avenue under Ridge avenue necessitated a change in plans. Then came winter with the resultant interruption of all highway work.

Fear More Delay

Meanwhile, motorists and business men in the neighborhood are continuing to express fears that still another year or even more may pass before work on the improvement begins. In their opinion, the condition of the thoroughfare constitutes a peril to traffic and is a serious hindrance to business along the street.

The chief hazard is a sharp dip in the street midway between Clearfield street and Ridge avenue amounting to a veritable "death trap" in rainy or frosting weather, the complaints say. Through traffic seeking to avoid the central section of the city, bound west or south from New York and

New England, or in the opposite direction, is guided over this stretch by an official automobile man.

So great is the peril to motorists that many seek to avoid the bad section and detour along other streets, causing much confusion and increasing traffic congestion in other dangerous places.

Seven Autos Upset at Dip

During a recent rainy, cold spell, seven automobiles overturned at the hazardous dip located at the entrance to the two abutting cemeteries, according to Albert Graff, who operates a service station on Hunting Park avenue near 31st street. He is constantly called upon to assist motorists meeting with accidents at the dip, he said.

One cold night, Mr. Graff stated, it was necessary to warn automobile drivers not to attempt to use that stretch of Hunting Park avenue. The condition of the street, he declared, is driving business away from that section. Only three days ago, he explained, a car overturned at the steep dip in the road.

"Something Must Be Done"

Other business men corroborated Mr. Graff and the consensus was that "something must be done immediately."

The present width of Hunting Park avenue between Clearfield street and Ridge avenue is thirty-three feet. Eventually it will be 100 feet wide, under present plans, with the exception of a certain distance on both sides of Ridge avenue, where the width will be 118 feet. According to Chief Corning, the additional width is to permit the dipping of the center part of the roadway under the intersection.

While the center section will be graded to pass beneath Ridge avenue, the two outer sections will continue at the present level for the accommodation of traffic desiring to turn into or out of Ridge avenue. Until the city is ready to eliminate the grade intersection, the part of the roadway to be depressed will remain open grass plots.

East Falls Herald
11-5-1925

SITE FOR SWIMMING POOL

City Council has passed an ordinance to condemn a plot of ground situated on Ferry road, east of Ridge avenue, for swimming pool purposes and to place the same under the custody and control of the department of welfare.

The ground includes property registered in the name of Kate O'Toole under the Bradbury Bevell committee, which will be added to the land which was conveyed to the city by the late Charles L. Dykes, Stephen and James McGowan, and Elizabeth Connor.

East Falls Herald
June 4, 1925

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QUEEN LANE MANOR TO HAVE A PARK

City Council's committee on city property and service has approved a bill to take preliminary steps to create a park in the Queen Lane Manor region.

The bill would place on the city plan, for park purposes, the tract of land bounded by Midvale avenue, McMichael street, the line of Coulter street and Henry street. The tract is 5,123 1/2 acres, and measures 335 feet on Midvale avenue, 330 feet on McMichael street and 735 feet on Coulter street.

Councilman Morris Apt opposed the bill when it was before the committee.

"I am opposed to this bill because it will result in eating up the city's money, and we ought not incur any debt of this kind at present, because we can't afford it," said Mr. Apt.

"This bill does not require any money; it is merely placing the property on the city plan, and is not for the acquisition of property," insisted Councilman Sigmund Gans.

"Then more the reason we should not pass it, if the property is not going to be taken for five or ten years," insisted Mr. Apt.

City Surveyor Wiegate reported that the property is assessed for \$35,000 and will probably cost the city \$80,000.

S.P. 2-6-1930

TO WIDEN AND PAVE OLD NICETOWN LANE

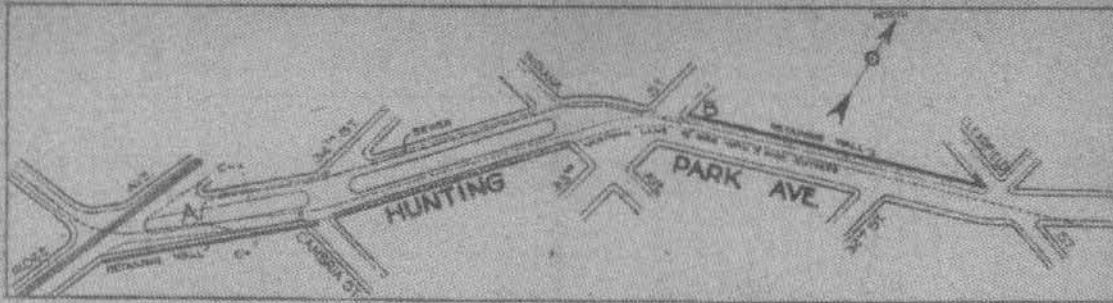
Widening and paving of Hunting Park avenue from Clearfield street to Ridge avenue, including the elimination of "death curve" and the steep dip in the roadway midway between the two intersecting streets, will be the first roadwork to be undertaken by the city in the spring.

The stretch of highway, which is sometimes known as Nicetown Lane, has been permitted for years to remain in a condition described by motorists and business interests as "deplorable and dangerous" despite the fact it is a part of the official automobile bluebook route skirting Philadelphia.

Plans for the project, now virtually completed, provide for the ultimate dipping of the street under Ridge avenue to abolish the present grade intersection, an improvement requiring an additional \$250,000, and they also contemplate elimination of various conditions blamed for many traffic accidents.

Dudley T. Corning, chief of the Bureau of Highways, gave assurance on Tuesday that because of its great importance the work will be given precedence over other highway projects or at least will be started as soon as any of the others.

HOW NICETOWN LANE 'DEATH CURVE' WILL BE ENDED



How Nicetown lane will look after the removal of "death curve" is shown by the map. The sixteen-foot lane as it exists today is shown by the dotted line. It connects Hunting Park avenue with Ridge avenue and the East River drive. It will be widened to 110 feet, as indicated above.

S.P. 3/13/1930

**Bids Asked
For Widening
Old Road**

City Seeks Estimates For
Improving Nicetown
Lane

H A S DEATH CURVE

Thoroughfare Will Eventu-
ally Dip Under Ridge
Avenue

Bids for the widening and paving of Hunting Park avenue also known as Nicetown lane, from Clearfield street to Ridge avenue, including the elimination of "death curve" and the steep dip in the roadway midway between the two cross streets were sought last week by the Bureau of Highways.

Permitted for years to remain in a condition described by motorists and business interests in the neighborhood as "deplorable and dangerous," the stretch of highway is a section of the official automobile bluebook route skirting Philadelphia north of the central business area.

According to Dudley T. Corning, chief of the Bureau of Highways, plans for the project, requiring an expenditure of about \$250,000, have just been completed and provide for transforming the present sixteen-foot street into a 110-foot boulevard and for the elimination of various dangerous conditions blamed for many traffic accidents.

Eventually, Chief Corning explains, Hunting Park avenue will dip under Ridge avenue to eliminate the present grade intersection, an improvement requiring an additional \$250,000. Accordingly, Hunting Park avenue as it approaches Ridge avenue is to be widened to a width of 110 feet, for the same

plots in the center of the roadway where ultimately the underpass will be built.

Proposals for the contract are to be received on Tuesday of next week, and the successful bidder will be ordered to commence work either by the end of the month or early in April. The contract runs for the completion of the improvement in 125 days.

Because of the dangerous condition of the highway stretch and the importance of eliminating its hazardous features as soon as possible, Chief Corning said the improvement is being given precedence over other road work and will be the first or one of the first to be started.

Probably the chief hazard is the sharp dip and curve in the street opposite the entrance to St. James the Less Church, midway between Clearfield street and Ridge avenue, which has been described as a "veritable deathtrap" in rainy or freezing weather.

Forecast 4/17/1913

**Much Interest Shown in Testimonial
To the Late Bernard E. Dowdall**

Everyone is talking about the testimonial that is to be given to the late B. E. Dowdall, at America Hall on Friday evening, May 2, and the auditorium will without doubt be taxed to its utmost capacity on that night. The combined Creston Stock Company will include many of the old favorites who were in the first plays produced under the direction of Mr. Dowdall, also many of the later company which presented high class productions, many of which are still fresh in the minds of the public. They will present that beautiful Pastoral Drama, "Out of the Fold" one of the most sympathetic soul stirring of plays, yet brimful of quaint comedy that is sure to please. A reception and dance will follow the performance and the committee is working hard to make it the social event of the season.

Chronicle 2-23/1917

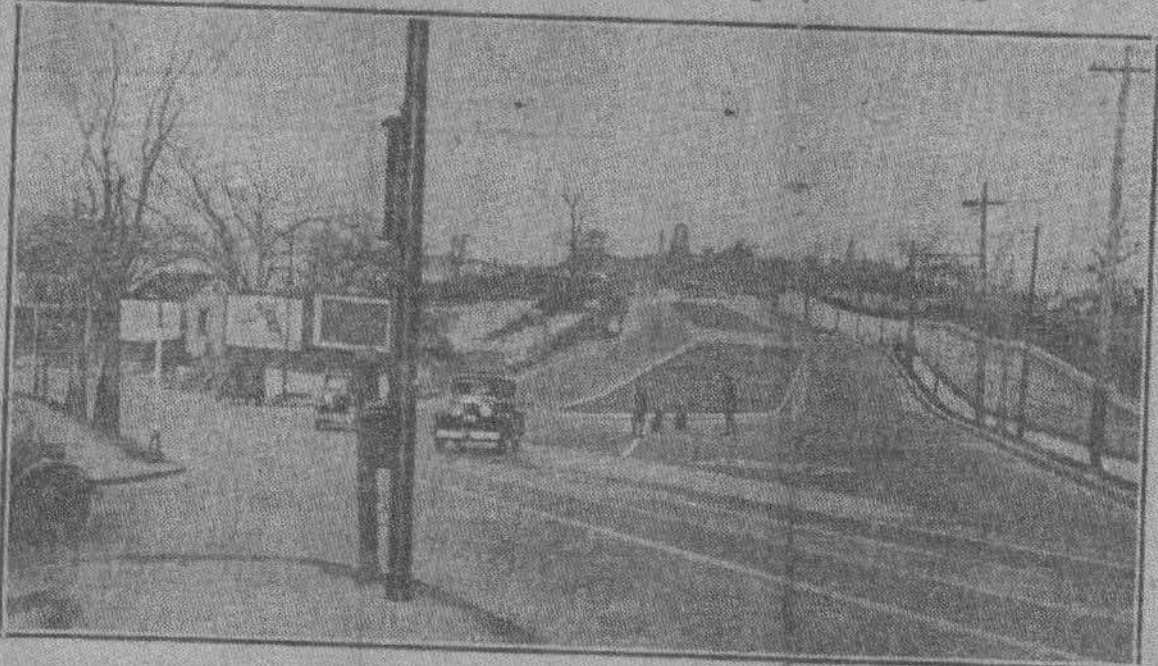
—Since the doing away with the office of alderman the Falls has had no minor court with the exception of a magistrate sitting each morning in the police station. Under the old regime it was little trouble for the persons seeking "Law," to get all they wanted in the neighborhood. In my recollection the following dealt out justice to the people here: Robert Knox Scott, who perhaps was better posted in general law than any of his successors; William M. Sorber, who dealt out law in addition to manufacturing coaches and carriages, as did his youngest son, Chas. K. Sorber, who is among the few of the old-time aldermen now living; Francis Albright, a silk handkerchief printer in Simpson's mill held court in a room back of his tobacco store. Charles Whalley, also a silk handkerchief printer, was the last to administer the law here. Each of the above tried to fix up neighborly quarrels before sending them to the higher court and in many cases succeeded.

R. R. S.

ad from Chronicle
5-25-1872

SCOTT & RUFFNER,
COAL, LIME,
Plastering Hair, &c.
Opposite Falls Depot,
Downen St.
ON NORRISTOWN RAILROAD.

One of Those Big Little Improvements



For years, with immensely increasing automobile traffic loads, Nicetown lane, up from the East River Drive in Fairmount Park, across Ridge avenue and on to Hunting Park avenue, has been a problem because of its narrowness. The photograph shows the new and widened Nicetown lane, with parkways down the center, looking across the Ridge avenue intersection. The work was only recently completed and is expected greatly to reduce the accident hazard at that crossing.

Lester Photo

Forecast 9/25/1913

LICENSE FOR WASHINGTON PARK ASKED German Organizations Plead in Behalf of Amusement Park

Officers of a dozen German social and fraternal organizations appeared in the License Court before Judges Brey and Sulzberger Friday in support of an application by Schwemmer & Niermann to take over the liquor license of George Frederick, former licensee of Washington Park, Twenty-sixth street and Allegheny avenue.

Since Frederick closed up his park on Decoration Day last, a pall has settled over the old amusement grounds, where festivals and picnics were once a daily rule during the summer and early fall. Frederick's application for a renewal of his license, heard in March at the regular session of the court, shortly before his sudden abandonment, was not objected to and was granted by the court.

Friday there were a number of remonstrants in court, among them Rev. Joseph P. Cox, pastor of the Dovereux Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, and half a dozen neighbors. A great many neighbors, men and women, were also in court prepared to tell of the necessity for such a license at the park.

In objecting for the remonstrants, D. Clarence Gabboney, president of the Law and Order Society and Keystone candidate for District Attorney, asserted that Frederick lost \$35,000 in the park in the two years that he held the license. For the purpose of hearing further evidence from remonstrants who were not present in the court room, the case was continued until the next session of the court, to be held at some later date.

Forecast 6/20/1913

TURF VILLA TRANSFER REFUSED

Washington Park License Lapses

Judges Brey and Sulzberger, sitting in License Court last Thursday, refused the petition to transfer Turf Villa, from William Leon, to George L. Porter.

William Leon is owner of Turf Villa, and several weeks ago his wife pleaded with the court that the rental from that place was the only means of support for a family of seven.

The former lessee, Kenderton S. Lynch, was declared a bankrupt some time ago.

The retail license for Washington Park, Twenty-sixth street and Allegheny avenue, was revoked because the licensee, George Frederick, failed to pay the license fees.

Forecast 11/6/1913

Dedication of New Library.

The new Free Library building will be formally dedicated on the evening of November 18 next with appropriate ceremonies. The principal address will be delivered by Hon. Clinton Rogers Woodruff, and the affair will mark an epoch in the progression of the town's improvement.

Cards of invitation for the occasion will be sent out during the coming week.

Forecast 8/7/1913

Application Made for Washington Park License

Application for a license for Washington Park, 25th street and Allegheny avenue, was made Monday. The application was backed by a large number of German Singing Societies.

Judge Sulzberger continued the application.

Hampton L. Carson,

Born in Philadelphia

Mr. Carson was born in this city February 21, 1852, of distinguished ancestry. His father, Dr. Joseph B. Carson, was, for twenty-five years, professor of Materia Medica in the Medical Department of the University of Pennsylvania.

One of his maternal ancestors came over on the *Welcome* with William Penn. His great grandfather on his father's side, Jonathon Hampton, a judge in New Jersey, was so vigorously in favor of declaring American Independence that he narrowly escaped being tarred and feathered at the hands of Tories in the district.

Mr. Carson attended the University of Pennsylvania, being graduated from the Department of Arts in 1871 and from the Law School in 1874. While a law student he entered the office of William M. Tishman. Later he became a member of the Law Academy of Philadelphia, one of the city's oldest legal institutions, and in 1875 was elected its president.

After being admitted to the bar he labored with J. Leving Jones and William A. Redding in forming the law firm of Redding, Jones, and Carson. He also became one of the editors of the *Legal Gazette*.

Forecast 7/3/1913

FOURTH OF JULY PROGRAM FOR FALLS

DOBSON FIELD WILL BE
CENTRE OF DAY'S
FESTIVITIES

Dr. Chas. K. Mills Orator at Flag
Raising

Observance of the Fourth of July, tomorrow, on Dobson Field, is outlined in a comprehensive program such as the Falls never had before. From sunrise until after sunset, July Fourth, there will be some attraction for the local residents. The program consists of a flag raising, field and track sports, baseball game and a band concert in the evening—all to be held on Dobson Field, "The Falls Playground."

The Fourth of July Committee that made up the program is about the same as last year. This year, however, more work has been done and it is hoped, better results will be accomplished.

The names of the Committee follow: J. W. Flanagan, chairman; John Honenadel, Charles L. Dykes, John Smithies, John H. Costello, Lerov C. Shronk, Harry Hayes, Thomas Wilcox, William Robertshaw, P. H. Kelly, Dr. D. J. Boon, W. J. Benham, M. E. Dunlap, John May, E. E. Carwardine, Jesse Riggall, Richard Cole.

The attractive features of the day will be the flag raising on Dobson Field. The exercises will begin promptly at 10.30 o'clock in the morning. Miss Ethel Turner, of Queen lane, at the appointed time, will liberate Old Glory to the breeze. The oration which follows will be delivered by Dr. Charles K. Mills, of Philadelphia, formerly of the Falls. Rev. Benjamin Bunn Royer, pastor of the Falls Presbyterian Church, will deliver an address. Patriotic songs will be rendered by members of the Falls Male Chorus.

There will also be a baseball game in the morning between the Young Men's Association and the East Falls teams.

In the afternoon there will be athletic contests on Dobson Field for the boys and girls. The contests are scheduled to start at 1.30 o'clock. Valuable prizes are offered to the winners. Entries close tonight at 6 o'clock.

The events in the contest are as follows:

- Potato race for boys and girls under 14 years of age.
- One hundred yard dash, for boys.
- One hundred yard dash, for young men.
- Quarter mile race.
- One mile relay race.
- Base running contest.
- Fifty yard dash, for girls.

A baseball game between the Young Men's Association and the East Falls teams will be held in the afternoon, also. The teams will compete for a prize offered by the Fourth of July Committee.

At eight o'clock in the evening a band concert will be held on Dobson field by the Falls Military Band, under the leadership of James Clough. Interspersed in the band program are several popular songs which will be sung by C. R. Escandel, known as "Eskey." When the solos are sung the people are requested to join in the chorus.

The musical program follows:

- 1.—America.
- 2.—March, "Salute to Kan-City."
- 3.—Old settlers on parade.
- 4.—Song by Eskey, "You're a Big Blue-eyed Baby."
- 5.—Enchantment Waltz.
- 6.—"Sextette" from Lucia.
- 7.—"Here Comes My Daddy Now."
- 8.—Song by Eskey, "Sunshine and

- Roses."
- 9.—Parole of the Blue and the Gray.
- 10.—Songs of America:
 - (a) "Listen to the Mocking Bird"
 - (b) "Maryland, My Maryland"
 - (c) "Dixie"
 - (d) "The Vacant Chair"
 - (e) "My Old Kentucky Home."
- 11.—Song by England:
 - (a) "The British Grenadiers"
 - (b) "Rule Britannia"
- 12.—Song by Eskey, "In My Harem."
- 13.—Songs of Scotland:
 - (a) "Robin Adair"
 - (b) "Annie Laurie"
 - (c) "Blue Bells of Scotland."
- 14.—Songs of Ireland:
 - (a) "Larry O'Gaff"
 - (b) "Wearing of the Green"
 - (c) "St. Patrick's Day"
 - (d) "Come Back to Erin."
- 15.—Songs of Germany:
 - (a) "Die Wacht am Rhein"
 - (b) "Deutscher Freiheit"
 - (c) "Schlachtruf."
- 16.—Song by Eskey, "Old Girl of Mine."
- 17.—Selection, "Poet and Peasant."
- 18.—Final, "Star Spangled Banner."

Forecast 4/10/1913

Testimonial to the Late Bernard E. Dowdall

At an enthusiastic meeting held at the Young Men's Literary Institute club-rooms on Tuesday evening a testimonial to the late Bernard E. Dowdall to take place on Friday evening, May 2, at America Hall was planned. It was arranged to have one of Mr. Dowdall's favorite dramatic productions, to be followed by a reception and dance.

Mr. Dowdall, who by his untiring endeavor succeeded in accomplishing many material benefits for the town, endeared himself to the entire community and was idolized by young and old, always to be found in the thickest of the fray and never known to work with any motive of self gain that is so often the object of public workers.

The dramatic production will be under the direction of W. A. Costello and the cast of the play will consist of players who made their debut under the management of Mr. Dowdall and will contain many of the original members of the first production presented by the late Mr. Dowdall, also all of the stars of his later company.

"Out of the Fold" is the title of the play chosen by the committee and is a beautiful pastoral drama with Elizabeth Whalley Molyneux in the leading role, supported by an exceptionally strong cast.

The reception committee which will have charge of the affair will consist of the leading residents of the Falls, and will be under the supervision of P. H. Kelly, of Midvale avenue, and the testimonial will be the event of the season, and will tax America Hall to its utmost capacity, and will be a lasting tribute to the memory of one who was known by his good works.

Chronicle 9/28/1917

—Sunday was one of the saddest days the Falls has known for many years, owing to the more than 80 young men who were drafted, leaving for Camp Meade. They were driven to the district police station at Hunting Park avenue and Schuyler street, in automobiles.

Evening Bulletin? 90

THE VANISHING G. A. R.

Dwindling remnants of the Grand Army of the Republic, survivors of Grant's great military machine who were chiefly resident in communities east of the Mississippi, have been furnishing pathetic incidents like that which resulted in the passing of the JULIUS WHITE Post, in Chicago, on Sunday. The commander found not one venerable veteran to call to order and thereby constitute a quorum—no comrade, no person but the aged wife of a once active "boy in blue" to report that her husband had become incapacitated for further attendance by reason of a fall. Nothing was left for the sorrowing commander to do but declare the post disbanded, and to carry away the charter and records.

Thus Time is rapidly swallowing up the last living memorials of a great historical epoch. Posts are being extinguished at the rate of 250 a year, and the roster of membership is now scarcely more than five per cent. of the 400,774, which was the maximum enrollment in 1890.

Chronicle 11/9/1917

—Another consignment of drafted men left the Falls on Sunday morning, and were conveyed in automobiles to North Philadelphia station on the Pennsylvania Railroad, where they were joined by others from the eastern part of this ward and others from the 37th and 43d wards. Our boys each took a comfy kit and other necessities from the "White House" over which Mrs. Elizabeth Dobson Altemus presides.

The men assembled at Ridge and Midvale avenues, where the Falls Business Men's Association gathered and with the president John W. Flanagan as marshal escorted them to the district police station at Hunting Park avenue and Schuyler street, where they were joined with other soldiers and proceeded to the railroad station. It was a day of general sadness and the farewells were made with tears and cheers. After the trains pulled away the crowd gradually melted away each sharing in the burden of a common sorrow. Mrs. Richard Norris presented a pocket Bible to each of the Protestants from the Falls, and a prayer book to each member of the Catholic faith.

Chronicle 10/20/17

—Most every one down here is interested in the army. Go where one may he is apt to see women plying knitting needles, and most of what he hears is about the Red Cross society and buying Liberty Bonds. Lots of good things have already been sent to the boys in the camps and the active workers associated with Mrs. Elizabeth Dobson Altemus in the work being carried on in the "White House, 4153 Ridge avenue, will see that the boys will not be neglected.

11/30/1917

—America Hall was the scene on Wednesday night of a grand military ball held under the auspices of the Citizens Patriotic Committee, of which Charles L. Dykes is president. The ball was decorated to represent an encampment with flags, bunting and plants galore. The grand march was a magnificent and spectacular, and was led by John Hohenadel and Mrs. Elizabeth Dobson Altemus, followed by Ernest Carwardine and Mrs. Hohenadel. The function was for the benefit of the Soldiers and Sailors Fund.

3/9/18

†—One of the results of the war will be the establishing of the saving habit among the people. There are thousands today who own Liberty Bonds, War and Thrift Stamps, who never had anything to show for the money that had passed through their hands. This, with the enforced cutting down of expenses will teach the people to be economical, consequently there will be less wasting. When the present war conditions have passed and the country gets back to its normal condition that economy will bring back a reduction in the cost of living. While it may be a good thing to practise economy care should be taken to avoid cultivating a mean and stingy disposition.

Chronicle 5/25/1872

Dobson's Mills, at the Falls.—The fourth story is now being put upon the fine new mill which is being built by Messrs. John and James Dobson, at Falls of Schuylkill, for the manufacture of the finer grades of carpets. The great depth of the building can only be realized upon a personal inspection.

Chronicle 11/30/1917

—The Rev. Charles L. Seasholes, D. D., is arranging to hold a Memorial service in connection with the Men's Bible Class in the Baptist church, for John Hill and George E. Merkle, members of the class, who were killed in France. Hill was a member of the Royal Canadian Regiment and enlisted during the summer. Merkle was a member of the United States aero squadron signal corps and was killed in France on November 17. He enlisted April 16, and two days later was married to Miss Alice R. Sorber, daughter of the late William and Emma Sorber. Mrs. Merkle, who resides with her aunt, Mrs. Emily D. Conover, at 4177 Ridge avenue, received a telegram last week from the Adjutant General, Washington, D. D., which read, "Deeply regret to inform you that Sergeant George E. Merkle of the aero signal corps has been officially reported as having been accidentally killed on November 17th." With these two young men both well and favorably known here, the terrible European war is brought painfully close to the Falls.

R. R. S.

11/9/1917

—There was something akin to a stab came to the people on Saturday when it was learned that some of the American soldiers in France were taken prisoners by the Germans. This unfortunate news may lead to the taking of drastic measures to quiet all pro-German citizens. These however have been either wise enough or too great cowards to openly express their sentiments. Some of them however, like the copperheads of the Civil War, have shown a spirit that is antagonistic to the spirit of worldwide liberty. Anyone sympathizing with Kaiserism in this critical period should to say the least be deported to Germany and his property confiscated. It would be unjust however to condemn all German-Americans as some of them are loyal to Uncle Sam.

Chronicle 10/12/1917

—If there is anything more than another for which the Falls ought to be proud it is the great interest that Mrs. Elizabeth Dobson Altemus is taking in its betterment. Her work in the movement for the benefit of soldiers, American and British; the Red Cross work, has been commendable. Through her the employees of Dobson's mills were given the use of the large tract of land below Scotts lane for a community garden. Last week Mrs. Altemus awarded prizes to the three best gardeners. \$20, \$15 and \$10 were awarded respectively to Allan Morehouse, Mark Smith and James Tressnan.

9-24-1917

—Colonel George P. Eldridge, aged 78 years, died suddenly August 17th, at his home in Atlantic City. The funeral was held on Tuesday morning at the parlors of A. J. Bair & Sons, Undertakers, 19th and Arch streets. Mr. Eldridge came to the Falls early in 1859 as Supervising Principal of the Forest school, succeeding Rev. Robert Mackie. When the Confederates invaded Pennsylvania in September, 1862, he as 1st lieutenant, helped to organize Captain John Dobson's Battery I, and served with the company in that campaign and again in 1863. He left the school to engage in the book publishing business in partnership with a man named De Silver. After retiring from business he removed to Atlantic City on account of ill health. He was a member of Meade Post, No. 1, G. A. R., and was an able teacher and one of the most genial men I have ever known.

Schuykill Press 9/25/1930

Chronicle 4/21/1916

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Hold Opening Exercises at Women's Medical College in The Falls of Schuylkill

World's Leading Institution for the Medical Education of Women. Located on Beautiful Site, Overlooking City

After more than fifty years in the old building at 21st street and North College avenue, the entire equipment of the Women's Medical College, has been moved to the new building in East Falls.

Dr. Donald Buthrie, fellow of the Surgical Research and member of the International Medical Association, was the principal speaker at the opening exercises held yesterday. Dr. Martha Tracy, dean of the college, presided and Mrs. James Starr, president of the Board of Corporators of the college, also delivered an address.

Following the formal academic exercises, Healthman Council, No. 140, Sons and Daughters of Liberty, of East Falls, presented a flag to the institution, which was received by Mrs. Starr, the president, and Miss Vida Hunt Francis, secretary of the Corporation. The presentation was made by Miss Ada Dungan, the president. A tea concluded the program.

Discussing the new building of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, Mrs. Starr said:

"The new location of the college makes it possible for our student body to enjoy a campus, impossible in the old location, a roof garden and many other conveniences which will contribute to developing a splendid atmosphere for studying for the profession of medicine. Each class will have its own sitting room. The student also will have a lounge, libraries, lecture halls, study and rest rooms, laboratories and locker rooms. There will also be adequate and modern facilities for the faculty.

"One of the many interesting features is the Anna Howard Shaw Department of Preventive Medicine, established as a memorial to that famous leader of women. This department, with its own suite of offices, will inaugurate a health maintenance and clinic service with moderate fees.

"The new building is especially designed to permit of the fullest use of sunlight, both for the benefit of the students and of the hospital. Sunlight is also availed of in a solarium of the children's ward of the hospital and in many sun parlors. Many rooms will be partitioned with glass so that the sun may penetrate as far as possible. As the building faces north, it will be possible for all private rooms and wards in the hospital to receive sunlight at some time during the day.

The children's ward is a most

unusual feature. It is called 'The Lovers of Children,' named in honor of the national organization of that name, of which Kate Douglas Wiggin is honorary chairman. The officers of the Philadelphia Chapter are Mrs. Theron I. Crane, Mrs. John D. McIlhenny, Mrs. Howard M. Sill and Miss Elsie Bayard. In honor of Miss Sarah Bache Hodge, founder of the Lovers of Children, Miss Anne Irwin Laughlin underwrote the structural cost of the ward.

"The Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania was founded in 1850, more than eighty years ago, and in opening our new home we feel that we are entering upon another great era of progress, not only for the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, but for women in general and in particular for women in medicine."

Chronicle 4/7/1916

John Campbell Harris.

John Campbell Harris, retired lawyer and business man, and veteran of the civil war, died on Saturday at his summer home, Ravenswood, School lane, aged 76 years. He was born at Frier, Chester county, studied law at West Chester and Washington, D. C., and when the war began, accepted a lieutenancy in the Marine Corps under his uncle, Colonel John Harris. He was in action under Admiral Farragut in the lower Mississippi at the taking of New Orleans, as well as with Rear Admiral Dahlgren in the second attack on Fort Sumter. After the war he was with Farragut on his European cruise.

Resigning from the Marine Corps, in 1869, he married Mary Powers, daughter of the late Thomas H. Powers, and formed the firm of Smith & Harris, later retiring from active business. Mr. Harris' town house was at No. 1607 Walnut street, but for many years he has lived both winter and summer at Ravenswood, the Powers family home, where he died. He was a life member of the Union League. A widow and three sons survive.

The announcement of the sudden death on Wednesday of last week of Richard Harding Davis, the worldwide known war correspondent, at his home in New York, was sadly received by those here who remembered his father the late Lemuel Clarke Davis, whose boyhood was spent at the Falls, and who married Rebecca Harding daughter of the once well known Manayunk paper manufacturer. The body was cremated and interred in the burial lot of his grandfather, David Davis, in the Roxborough Baptist Church burying ground. His brother, L. Clark Davis, who died in 1904, was managing editor of the Public Ledger for many years and was a brilliant writer. His grandfather, David Davis, married Mrs. Harriet Froesefield McEwen, whose only daughter, Amanda McEwen, was the wife of the late John Reddinger Johnson, whose daughter, Miss Uretta E. Johnston, is a teacher in the Breck public school.

10-12-1917

To anyone who was acquainted with the surroundings half a century ago, a walk along Abbotsford avenue would cause a spasm known as heart-ache. It was once the most beautiful part of the Falls and is now a pitiful evidence of neglect. Abbotsford, so long occupied by the family of the late Charles F. Abbot, with its stable, granary and outbuildings in the best of condition, the lawns and garden kept in the best order, is now dilapidated with many of the buildings going to decay. Of course the driveway has been blocked for years by the Queen lane reservoir, yet the neglect everywhere is plainly seen. The beginning of the neglect dates back to the time the Brooks High License law went into effect. The good people of the neighborhood took exception to some of the gatherings that met in the Philadelphia Rifle Club's Schutzen Park, and remonstrated against the renewing of the park's license. The Rifle club exerted its influence with Fittler's administration and had the city take the park as part of the site for the reservoir. It was originally intended to have the reservoir located on Chamounix height on the west side of the river, with the pumping station where Simpson's mills once stood.

R. R. S.

Suburban Press
8/25/1932

Bulletin ?

Evening Bulletin 93
January 2, 1936

21 Awarded Damages For Basin Site

Were Paid \$342,130.25
When City Purchased
Land For Reservoir

SOME LARGE CLAIMS

Philadelphia Rifle Club Was Forced to Move From Queen Lane Property

In searching through some old papers a list of the property owners and tenants who were awarded damages by the city of Philadelphia, when the old Schuylken Park at East Falls was purchased for the purpose of building the Queen Lane Reservoir, recently came to light.

There were 21 claimants whose damages amounted to \$342,130.25 in sums varying from \$175 to \$95,893.55.

The awards made were as follows:

William G. Warden	\$92,876.15
Philadelphia Rifle Club	95,893.55
Elizabeth E. Abbott	64,142.20
Mary N. Bradbury	19,506.33
Estate Dr. Horace Evans	19,401.95
Margaret E. Hubbard	13,569.75
Horace K. Richards	11,484.85
James Dobson	1,437.75
Patrick McGory	4,060.00
Joseph Doyle	2,850.00
Margaret M. Byrnes	2,900.00
Margaret Smith	2,900.00
Estate George Reardon	2,850.00
John Nethercott	4,200.00
George A. Nagels	7,200.00
John A. Nagels	1,900.00
Frederick H. Fielden	750.00
Timothy Buckley	4,200.00
J. Addison Campbell (Tenant)	200.00
W. E. Lenden (Tenant)	200.00
Wm. B. Williams (Tenant)	175.00
Total	\$342,130.25

Rep. Times 6/21/1928

FALLS SUPPLY CO. OPENS ITS DOORS

David Farman, Jr. has launched out into business for himself under the name of The East Falls Supply Company, at 4154 Ridge avenue, carrying a full line of mill supplies, hardware, automobile accessories and garden implements. From his central location in East Falls, Mr. Farman hopes to build up a large clientele among the mill owners and citizens of the territory covered by The Haverhill Times.



PAUL BROWNWORTH,
of East Falls, who was drowned in the Schuylkill river yesterday, after diving from the trolley bridge at Strawberry Mansion.

JUMPS TO DEATH ON DARE

Youth Leaps From Park Bridge Into Schuylkill and is Killed

Paul Brownworth, twenty years old, 4149 Ridge ave., was drowned in the Schuylkill river yesterday following a leap from the trolley bridge at Strawberry Mansion. Brownworth, dared by his companions, took the jump but struck a submerged log or rock. Two companions who jumped with him swam safely to the shore.

Brownworth's body was recovered by certain park guards. There was life in the body when it reached shore, but two physicians who were passing, tried in vain to revive him. The body was taken to the boy's home.

Chronicle 2/15/1918

Samuel Judson Abbott, aged 68 years, son of the late Charles F. and Elizabeth E. Abbott, died on Friday night at his home in Haddonfield, N. J. He was born at Abbotsford and after being educated in private schools engaged in the insurance business. When a young man he was married to Miss Margaret Whelen, who with two daughters, Sarah R. and Margaret, and a son, Edward Abbot. Mr. Abbot is also survived by a brother, Dr. Griffith E. Abbot of Massachusetts. His grandfather, Griffith Evans, was one time United States Minister in Spain. The funeral was held on Tuesday afternoon. Interment was made in North Laurel Hill cemetery. While residing at the Falls Mr. Abbott was a member of the Baptist church.

K. R. S.

Dallas and Philadelphia

TEXAS begins with the new year the celebration of its centennial and Dallas, second largest of its cities, deputed two of its fair residents to give Philadelphia a little share in the celebration by coming here to lay a wreath on New Year's Day on the grave in St. Peter's Church yard, of one of the most eminent of Philadelphia citizens in the early half of the 19th century, George Mifflin Dallas, Vice President of the United States from 1845 to 1849.

The present-day Dallas, an important railway financial and commercial center of the Lone Star State, had a humble beginning in 1841 when a log hut built on the bank of the Trinity River became the nucleus of a village called Peter's Colony, Texas, which had declared its independence in 1836, was not admitted into the Union until 1845, and in celebration of the event the inhabitants of the little settlement, which did not rise to importance until many years after, decided to name it after the country's Vice President. It did not become a place of importance for many years afterward.

George Mifflin Dallas, born in 1782, was the son of Dr. Alexander James Dallas, a native of Jamaica, but of Scotch parentage, who settled in this city and in 1813 became Secretary of the Treasury under Madison. His son, George Mifflin, became a prominent Democrat and a rival of James Buchanan for the party leadership in the State. He was Minister to Russia before he became Vice President, and Minister to Great Britain afterward. He died in 1864.

Forecast 8/31/1916

NEW DENTAL OFFICE OPENED IN THE FALLS

On Tuesday, September 5, the dental office of Dr. William H. Rubin will be open for business at the corner of Ridge avenue and Queen lane, over the Bell store. The office hours will be from 9 A. M. to noon and from 2 to 5 and 7 to 9 P. M., and Sundays by appointment.

Dr. Rubin has had the rooms newly renovated and electricity installed and put in all the latest instruments known to the dental art. Dr. Rubin has been connected with the Mt. Sinai Hospital for some time, and comes to the Falls well recommended.

The public is invited to call any time and inspect these offices and get acquainted with the doctor.

Forecast 8/10/1916

NEW SHOE STORE ON THIRTY- FIFTH STREET

A new shoe store with brand new stock will be opened where the old Willoughby store on Thirty-fifth street formerly was. It will be managed by Robert L. Boardman, of Bowe street.

S.P. 8/18/1932

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History of College In New Booklet

83rd Annual Announcement
Made at Woman's Medi-
cal College

CONTAINS MANY FACTS

Institution Was Founded on
March Eleventh of
Eighteen-Fifty

The Catalogus and 83rd Annual Announcement of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania, is now off the press and provides interesting reading concerning all of the activities the great feminine medical centre at East Falls.

In addition to information concerning the Corporate Officers, the Faculty, and the courses of instruction, there is contained in the booklet a brief history of the institution, which details the conception and growth of this remarkable college which selects its students from the near and far corners of the earth.

The Women's Medical College of Pennsylvania, the first college in the world regularly organized for the medical education of women, was incorporated March 11th, 1850, as the Female Medical College of Pennsylvania. The name was changed in 1867 to the one which it now bears.

The college began its first session October 12th, 1850, with forty students and a faculty of six members, all of whom were men. A member of the first graduating class, Dr. Ann Preston, was the first woman to have a place on the faculty, receiving the appointment to the chair of Physiology and Hygiene, and later becoming Dean of the Faculty. Since that time many women physicians have held professorships and the Chair of Obstetrics has always been filled by a woman since the appointment of Dr. Emmeline H. Cleveland in 1882.

For a number of years the College used rented quarters, until a bequest from Isaac Barton enabled it to erect, in 1875, the college building at 21st and North College avenue. A bacteriological laboratory and a general laboratory building were added some years later.

The plan of instruction at the College has advanced along the recognized lines of progress in medical education. Although beginning with the two years course, which was usual at that time, the College, in 1861, made obligatory a three years course, which had been elective as early as 1867. An optional four years course, first out-

lined in 1868, was required of all students in 1893.

The students of the college were for many years shut out from the clinical advantages offered to men students by various hospitals in the city, until in 1869 the Pennsylvania Hospital, by throwing open its clinical lectures to them, set an example which was soon followed by other institutions. While the college has fully appreciated the value of the opportunities afforded to its students by extra-mural clinics, it early recognized the necessity, felt by all progressive medical schools, of having clinical work under its own direct control. In 1888 an out-practice maternity service was established by Dr. Anna E. Bromall, then professor of Obstetrics, to afford practical experience in obstetrics, and in the 29 years of its work over 12939 patients have been delivered.

In 1903 a small maternity hospital was opened on Washington avenue. The college then acquired control of a dispensary which had been established by certain of its alumnae in 1895, and in the fall of 1904 a temporary hospital pavilion adjoining the college was opened under the name of the Hospital of the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania. The cornerstone of a permanent hospital was laid in 1907, and the building was completed in 1913. A clinical amphitheatre was added during the session of 1910-11.

In the fall of 1914 the maternity wards were transferred to new quarters immediately joining the college. The former Maternity Hospital at 323-325 Washington avenue, until June 1927, accommodated the Amy Barton Dispensary, and served as headquarters for the obstetrical out-patient department.

In 1925, commemorating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the college, the corporations initiated a movement to secure an expansion fund for new buildings and endowment.

A site, of approximately ten acres at Henry and Abbottsford avenues, East Falls, was purchased in 1926, and in October 1929, the erection of the first building in the expansion program was begun. In anticipation of the transfer of the college and its hospital to this new site the Amy Barton Dispensary and obstetrical service was in August 1927, transferred to 4253 Ridge avenue, East Falls.

On June 11th, 1930, the auditorium of the new building was opened for the annual commencement exercises and the formal laying of the cornerstone took place on the same date.

The college and hospital activities were transferred to the new building September 15th, 1930, and the Barton Dispensary was transferred from East Falls in 1928.

North 22nd street, in the vicinity of the original college buildings.

The Woman's Medical College has drawn its students from nearly every State in the Union, and from many foreign countries as well, and has sent over sixteen hundred alumnae broadcast over the world, more than one hundred and twenty-five of this number having found their work in the foreign mission field. The first woman medical missionary in the world, Dr. Clara Swain, was a graduate of the Class of 1869. The college is now the only medical school in the United States exclusively for women.

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Forecast 8/10/1916

Terrible Malady Visits The Falls First Case Of Infantile Paralysis Epidemic

The first case of infantile paralysis to be recorded in the Falls since the epidemic of this terrible malady has manifested itself generally is that of James Crompton, two years and four months old, whose father, the mother being dead, resides at 3643 Pike avenue.

The child was taken sick on Saturday and upon first examination by a local physician there did not appear the symptoms which evidence the disease. The little one acted like any other child having summer complaint. But a second examination, made somewhat later, showed that the baby was weakened on the left side, a positive indication that paralysis must have had its effect. The doctor to reassure himself made an extremely careful examination before finally determining that the little one was afflicted with infantile paralysis. The child died 2:30 o'clock on Tuesday morning. No funeral was held.

Hampton L. Carson.

distinguished Philadelphia attorney and historian, who has been re-elected President of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. Mr. Carson was born in Philadelphia February 21, 1832, and was graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1871. He took his master's and bachelor of laws degrees in 1874. He was a professor of law at the University from 1896 to 1901 and served as Attorney General of Pennsylvania from 1903 to 1907. He was secretary of the Constitutional Centennial Commission. He has served as president of the Pennsylvania Bar Association, chancellor of the Law Association of Philadelphia and president of the American Bar Association. He also was a member of the commission to revise the Constitution of Pennsylvania in 1920.

Forecast 4/17/1903

Writer Wants to Know About the Old Academy

To the Editor of the Forecast: May I venture to ask, what is going to become of the Old Academy? This building of so many historic associations and its surroundings present a scene of utter desolation and unless something is done soon the structure will fall into absolute ruin. Will you interest yourself in the matter?

Respectfully, E. S. C.

To our correspondent we would reply that it is true what he says in his letter. It is a disgrace that the old academy, which was the cradle of religion in the early days, when the Falls was a small village, should be so neglected.

We have interviewed some of the trustees of the old academy and they would be willing to put the building in a better condition if funds were placed in their hands.

The trustees are: Samuel Garrett, president, Atankle street; Frank Hess, secretary, New Queen street; O. K. Sorber, treasurer, 4179 Ridge avenue; Adam Mettinger, Midvale avenue; Arthur Binkin, Queen Lane; Frank W. Morrison, Queen Lane; Horace E. Green, Queen Lane; Charles L. Dykes, 4179 Ridge avenue; William E. Marley, Ridge avenue.

~~Forecast~~
Chronicle - 7/8/1920

"There are not many people who would recognize in the name of Samuel Wheeler a person who did valuable service for our country in the war of the Revolution. It was he who made the famous chain that was stretched across the Hudson River to stop the British warships from ascending the stream. At the time General Washington was puzzled about defending the river.

"I wish I could get a chain made, but that is impossible," he said; and Mark exclaimed:

"Not so. We have a man in the General Milfin, overhearing the army, a townsman of mine, one Wheeler, who can make you such a chain."

General Washington had Wheeler brought to him, and said:

"I want a chain to put across the North River to stop the British ships. Can you make it?"

"I can," replied Wheeler, "but I can not do it here."

"Then," said Washington, "I will very cheerfully give you dismissal from the army to do so, for, badly as we want such men as you, I cannot afford to keep you."

Mr. Wheeler made the chain, and its links were strung across the river, where it did good service.

East Falls Herald
January 7, 1926

TRUSTEES AT ACADEMY

Board in Charge of Historic Structure Meets to Elect Members

HISTORY BEGINS IN 1816

The Falls of Schuylkill Association—the body of citizens who control the affairs of the old Academy property, on Queen lane—not in that historic building, on Monday evening, at their regular meeting.

There are few persons in the Falls who have not, at one time or another heard of the old Academy as the birthplace of the various churches of the community. Few buildings anywhere have a more interesting history, it always having been closely associated with the life of the neighborhood.

The building, which stands on Queen lane, a few yards south of the railroad, is two stories in height, about forty feet wide, and seventy feet deep. The roof is peaked and is surmounted by a dome-shaped cupola.

The building was erected in 1819, by popular subscription, and personally worked by citizens of the Falls, as a place of worship and education.

William Moore Smith, a son of the Rev. William Smith, first provost of the University of Pennsylvania, and his wife, Ann, donated the ground, for this purpose, in 1816.

It was particularly stipulated that the land was a gift to the people, and distinctly stated that it should be used for the worship of God and for any educational purpose.

There are eight members of the board of trustees. Filling vacancies caused by expiration of terms, death or removal from the Falls, and the care of the property, are the simple duties which they take care of.

The original board of trustees was composed of the following men: William Alexander, Isaac Selkoid, Joseph Sorber, Frederick Stoeber, Jr., Robert Watkins, Charles V. Hagner, Godfrey Shronk and William Briggs.

The names of Sorber, Green, Morrison and Marley appear many times in the old records of the board of trustees.

At the meeting held last Monday evening, Frank Hess presided and Robert Boardman, Walter Binkin and William E. Marley were elected to succeed themselves. Robert

Whartenby was named to fill the unexpired term of William J. Sorber, who has moved from the locality.

Therefore the present board of trustees consists of the following: Frank Hess, Samuel Garrett, Robert Boardman, Walter Binkin, William E. Marley, Clifford S. Morrison, Frederick Hobson, and Robert Whartenby.

Evening Ledger 1918

At a recent meeting in Germantown the speaker referred to the many places of interest in Germantown and the Falls of Schuylkill and remarked that "while many persons were acquainted with the early history of the Falls and the prominent men who had at one time lived in the village, yet few can tell anything about the man in whose honor the only public school in the village is named, Samuel Breck." The Falls has special reason for attracting the attention of the friends of education. It was here that the first provost of the University of Pennsylvania and the first Governor of Pennsylvania under the Constitution, who was by virtue of office the first president of the board of trustees of the same great institution, lived on large estates. It was here that Joseph Neef introduced the methods of Pestalozzi into this country. So why call the school Samuel Breck instead of William Smith, Thomas Mifflin or Joseph Neef?

Samuel Breck, a Senator of our State, labored for free schools in Pennsylvania and was made chairman of the joint committee on education of the two houses, and was especially appointed "for the purpose of discussing a general system of education." He went to the Legislature for the purpose of using his best efforts to secure the establishment of a system of common schools in the State. The general school bill, introduced by him, passed the House of Representatives and the Senate in 1834.

Samuel Breck's father bought a home in Philadelphia opposite Washington's and brought his family here, from Boston, Mass., so Samuel lived in "great pomp and ceremony after manner of the rich men of his day." Later he occupied an estate in Fairmount Park called Sweet Brier. It was here that he entertained Washington, Lafayette, Robert Morris and other distinguished men of his time. He was born in 1771 and lived almost a century through the most eventful period of American history. He received his education in the monastic schools in southern France. He had been known of Samuel Breck that when the Board of Education, in naming schools after men and women distinguished in educational work, called the old Forrest School the Samuel Breck, people not only from the Falls, but other sections said "Who was Samuel Breck?" It took the present supervising principal, Mr. William H. Sowden, who was appointed last April, to remember what the trustees had done for the Pennsylvania system of public instruction and to see that at least each child in the school should know the work of the man in whose honor their school was named. Each morning Mr. Sowden gave some interesting facts in the life and work of Samuel Breck. Then each child wrote the facts as he or she remembered them. Who was Samuel Breck? Answers came over by the historic village, that the school, read the papers of the Breck youngsters, and you will find the Falls and ceased in everything that pertains

to Samuel Breck

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Reminiscences of By-Gone Days

By A. C. CHADWICK, JR.

One of the old residents of the School House Lane section, who contributed largely to the splendid environment of that neighborhood, was John Campbell Harris, who died at his home, Ravenswood, on April 2, 1916.

Mr. Harris was born at Frazer, Chester County, Pa., in 1846. He studied law at West Chester, and at Washington, D. C. When the Civil War broke out he accepted a lieutenancy in the Marine Corps, under his Uncle, Colonel John Harris. He was in action under Admiral Farragut in the lower Mississippi at the taking of New Orleans, as well as with Rear Admiral Dahlgren in the second attack on Fort Sumter. After the Rebellion had been ended he sailed with Farragut on his European cruises.

Resigning from the Marine Corps, in 1869, he married Mary Powers, daughter of the late Thomas H. Powers, a partner in the famed chemical manufacturing firm of Powers & Weightman, and formed the law firm of Smith & Harris. Late in life he retired from this legal practice.

The Harris town house was located at 1687 Walnut street, but for many of his final years Mr. Harris resided both winter and summer at Ravenswood, the Powers family home, where he died. He was a life member of the Union League, and at the time of his death, was survived by his widow and three sons.

Those old enough to remember can readily recall the one-time glories of Abbottsford, now the site of the Woman's Medical College hospital, which was so long occupied by the family of Charles F. Abbott, a member of the Board of Education.

The place was one of the show-places of the neighborhood until the time the Brooks High License law went into effect. The people of the locality took exception to some of the gatherings that met in the Phil-

adelphia Rifle Club's Schuetzen Park, and remonstrated against the renewing of the Park's license. The Rifle Club exerted its influence with the administration of Mayor Pitler, and had the city take the park as part of the site for the Queen Lane reservoir. It was originally intended to have these great water storage basins on Chamounix hill, west of the Schuylkill, with the pumping station to be located along the river opposite Malvaua avenue.

Samuel Judson Abbot, a son of Charles F. and Elizabeth Abbot, lived until he was 88 years of age, dying at his home in Haddonfield, N. J., in February of 1918. He had been born in Abbottsford, educated in private schools and engaged in the insurance business. When a young man he married Miss Margaret Whelan.

At the time of his death, Samuel J. Abbot was survived by two daughters, Sarah E., and Margaret, one son, Edward Abbott, and a brother, Dr. Griffith E. Abbot.

Samuel Abbot's grandfather, Griffith Evans, who at one time lived in a house formerly occupied by Blair McClenaghan, of Revolutionary War fame, at Fox street and Abbottsford avenue, was one time minister to Spain.

Suburban Press 4/10/1930

Recalls How Handkerchiefs Were Made

Crude Methods Used in Making Silk Scarfs

AT WEST FALLS

Rayon Brings Back Old Industry Which Once Existed

An article in a recent issue of the Suburban Press, entitled "Highways and Landmarks, of Old, Disappeared," drew forth some interesting comment, concerning that section of Fairmount Park, along the west bank of the Schuylkill in the days before its acquisition by the Park Commissioners.

An old man, now a resident of Roxborough, who was born and raised in the Falls of Schuylkill, tell the following tale of the territory, which is worth repeating.

One of the things which went out of style after the Civil War had ended, and never came back until the recent discoveries in fibre silk developed "rayon," was the silk handkerchief. The printing of these at one time was a very profitable industry at the Falls of Schuylkill. An establishment, started by

William Simpson, Sr., stood on the west bank of the Schuylkill, across from the foot of Midvale avenue, and under his management, and that of his son, William, Jr., the business became one of the largest in the country.

The block printers were chiefly Scotchmen and others from the British Isles. The silk was imported from China. The handkerchiefs were printed on heavy tables padded with a thick blanket and muslin cloth. Beside each table was a color tub, in the form of a quartered hood. In the tub on a mass of old colors called "swimmies" was suspended a case in which a stretch of thin felt or flannel was laid. On this a boy, known as a "teccer" would, with a flat brush, spread the color. The printer would dip his block, on the face of which was the pattern, on the flannel, and then with a leader maul pound it upon the silk. The handkerchiefs were generally of two colors, red and black, but in some instances contained as many as nine colors.

As the handkerchiefs would be printed on silk measuring thirty or more yards in length they would be drawn up on the drying rollers above the tables. After passing through various chemical processes and drying, the silk would be cut into seven-handkerchief-lengths and shipped.

"Of the men who were once engaged in block printing at the Falls, I remember, but one. His name was Thomas Woods, Jr.

"The business began to fall off during the Civil War, and soon afterward the handkerchief part of the plant was sold to a man named Crabtree, and removed to Staten Island, N. Y., whither a number of the printers followed.

"The blocks were made of maple and the pattern was engraved in the face, or made by driving shaves of brass or copper into the hard wood. It used to be the ambition of boys in the vicinity to become a block printer, at which they were compelled to spend seven years' apprenticeship. The bandanna handkerchief printed in a solid color—a deep crimson, orange or chocolate—was made chiefly to be sold to Quakers.

"One of the reasons given for the passing of the silk handkerchief was the decline of the snuff-taking habit, and others blamed it on the introduction of cheap linen handkerchiefs. But at any rate rayon has brought them back as pocket ornaments, and scarfs for men and women, and their colors and patterns are far more intricate than those fashioned by the old method of block printing.

Now and Then

As the people of this section lined the banks of the Schuylkill two weeks ago, when the stream overflowed its customary bounds, due to three days of practically incessant rain, many were the comments of the old-timers concerning previous high water marks.

The rise was the greatest since February 23rd and March 1st 1902, but there were some aged persons whose memory carried them back as far as 1894, and even to 1862.

As far as the Schuylkill river is concerned its highest and lowest waters according to available records was in 1860. Observant persons, however, claim that the low mark was made possible in 1860 because at that time the stream was wider, manufacturing companies at Manayunk and the Fairmount Park Commission not having filled in the stream, as it is today. There were no river walls.

The high water mark of 1860 was made in October of that year, when several days of rain caused the river to rise to unprecedented heights. The highwater of 1894 came in May, and was one of the regular spring freshets.

There are still people who remember James Donley who for more than half a century resided in the 21st Ward, and spent many years as the superintendent of

Joseph Ripka's mill in Manayunk.

Mr. Donley was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, on November 15th 1817 coming to America at the age of five years. After a brief stay at Troy, N. Y., Mr. Donley's parents moved to Manayunk, where they ever after resided.

James Donley, as a lad, entered the mills where he learned the textile business by practical experience.

The last 24 years of his life he was employed at the Powers & Weyghtman Laboratory in the Falls of Schuylkill.

Mr. Donley was a member of the old Mount Zion M. E. church and a member of Roxborough Lodge No. 145 F. and A. M. He was married in February of 1843 to Miss Eliza Garrison Newcomb, who died in 1873. The couple were the parents of seven children, six of whom were daughters.

The clergyman having the longest term of service at the Grace Reformed Church, at Ridge avenue and Calumet street, East Falls, was probably Rev. Alexander Sloan who labored for 33 years as the pastor of Grace Reformed.

Born in Ireland, February 1812 1823 Mr. Sloan lost his father when he was but five years of age, the sire having been drowned at sea. In his ninth year, the clergyman came to America on one of his uncle's ships, and for a number of years filled his trade as a seaman. When but 23 years of age he

obtained a diploma at Key West, Florida, for the U. S. Government. Coming to Philadelphia, Mr. Sloan established a home for children at Third and Spruce streets, and later the Young Men's Home at Broad and Cherry streets. He subsequently had charge of the employment bureau of the Young Men's Christian Association, and for six years conducted a large coal business.

Deprived of the advantages of a schooling and realizing the importance of an education, he applied himself to the study of English grammar and became proficient in Greek and Latin. After having been ordained a minister of the Reformed Episcopal church, he was stationed at Frankford, and six years later was called to the Falls of Schuylkill. He was a lecturer of ability and reputation, being called upon on many occasions to talk in various parts of the city, state and surrounding country.

The writer was recently asked to give the boundaries of the Roxborough Poor District and when the questioner was told that the original township of Roxborough extended down as far as Queen lane, he was somewhat amazed. Nevertheless this is true, and wealthy people who are residents of Aldan Park Manor and others of the nearby apartment houses, should they lose their fortunes, would be eligible for board and lodging up there at the farm on Shawmont avenue.

"Carlton" the Smith estate on Queen lane which stands on the site of a house occupied by George Washington, when the American Army was encamped on the nearby field prior to the Battle of Brandywine, was when it was the dwelling of Thomas Lee, known as "Roxborough Plantation." The name "Carlton" is said to have been taken from the English castle which formed the favorite residence of good Queen Bess. The estate was originally seeded by William Penn to John Lowther and Anne Charlotte Lowther jointly, and comprised 5000 acres. In 1751 this was sold by the Lowthers to one Joseph Turner and by him sold to John Ashmead. Subsequently portions were sold from time to time thus reducing the original tract.

Thomas Lee was the brother of Bishop Lee, who was the presiding bishop of the Protestant Episcopal Church. It is said that visitors to "Carlton" can still be shown a pane of glass in a rear window on which appears, evidently scratched with a diamond, the signature: "M. R. Lee, 1227, Roxborough." This was the name of Mr. Lee's daughter, Mary, and it seems, indeed, a strange freak of fate that these words traced most probably in an idle moment, have been preserved on their fragile tablet, which she who traced them has long since passed on to another world.

Passing from the hands of the Lees, the estate became the property of John Cray, who married Mrs. Jane Josephine Biddle. The place was sold to Cornelius S. Smith in May of 1840.

SCCAFF

The news last week of the death of Samuel H. Mayberry, for many years a prominent resident of the Falls, was received with profound sorrow. Mr. Mayberry passed away on September 5 at his residence, the Hotel Mayberry, Ocean City, New Jersey, in his 70th year. He had been a sufferer from hardening of the arteries, which was the cause of his death.

Mr. Mayberry came to the Falls nearly fifty years ago, and with his brother-in-law, the late Andrew Marhison, engaged in the grocery business in Downing's row, Ridge avenue above Calumet street. Later he erected a large store and dwelling at Ridge avenue and Minin street, where he built up a large wholesale and retail trade. When the property was taken for opening Midvale avenue through to the park drive he sold the building to William Leech, who had it moved to the site it now occupies. Mr. Mayberry then became interested in the developing of Ocean City where he erected a large hotel. While here took an active interest in the Presbyterian church and Sunday School and was one of the originators of the Christian Endeavor movements in this city. He married Mary Beatty daughter of James Beatty, who gave his life for the preservation of the Union in the civil war. Few men ever made and retained such a wide circle of friends than did Mr. Mayberry. Of a fine physique and pleasing address, to know him was to love him. He was the exemplification of the doctrine "Diligent in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." His winter home was in West Philadelphia. He is survived by his widow, a son and three daughters. In his departure your correspondent has lost a cherished friend.

R. R. S.

del. to file

Evening Ledger 11/15/1929

CALLED IN FELT INSURANCE SUIT



Miss Lillian Emanuel, in whose apartment Maurice E. Felt was found shot in 1925, has been summoned as a witness in a \$30,000 insurance suit filed by the realty broker's widow. Miss Emanuel left the city after being released in Felt's death.

Found in Her Apartment

Mr. Felt was found fatally wounded in Miss Emanuel's apartment, West Queen street near 34th street, ~~on~~ on September 20, 1925, and died the next day in Germantown Hospital.

Police first learned of the shooting after a telephone call to Germantown Hospital requested an ambulance be sent to the Queen Lane home.

"A man shot himself," the hospital was informed.

Mr. Felt was found unconscious on the second floor with a bullet wound in the right temple. Miss Emanuel, who was in the house in a hysterical condition, was arrested.

The next morning she was arraigned before Magistrate Dorn at the 23d street and Hunting Park avenue station and held in \$3500 bail for a further hearing. But in the afternoon Mr. Felt died and Miss

Emanuel was rearrested.

Dramatic developments followed fast as the District Attorney's office tried to build a wall of circumstantial evidence about Miss Emanuel.

But her attorney, Mr. Gray, succeeded in completely breaking down the wall at an inquest before Coroner Patton, which resulted in Miss Emanuel being exonerated of all blame in the shooting.

Throughout the case Miss Emanuel remained silent.

At the Coroner's inquest the most dramatic bit of testimony was given by Ellen Galbraith, nurse for Miss Emanuel's boy.

She was questioned both by Mr. Gray and Assistant District Attorney Charles F. Kelley, who prosecuted the case.

Told of Finding Felt

"I heard a shot and then I heard something fall," she said. "Then Miss Emanuel ran into my room on the

third floor. "Come down quickly," she said. I followed her downstairs. She put her hand on Mr. Felt's head and cried, "Why did you do this?" She turned to me and said: "We must hurry and get a doctor." I helped her to look up the doctors' numbers in the phone book. We couldn't find any doctors in. Mr. Felt asked for a drink of water.

"When I gave him the water he said, 'Who is this?' I replied, 'Ellen.' Then I asked, 'Why did you do this?' but he didn't answer me."

It was brought out that Miss Emanuel was on the first floor when the shooting took place on the second floor.

The Coroner's jury, after hearing the testimony of all the witnesses, reached the conclusion that the shooting was done at the hands of "persons unknown."

Miss Emanuel was exonerated and as the import of the words of the jury foreman penetrated her dazed mind she fainted.

In the suit to start next week the insurance company will oppose Mrs. Felt's claim for the insurance on the ground that Mr. Felt was a suicide and did not meet an accidental death, and also that at his death the policy was not in force as premiums had not been paid. David S. Maltz is counsel for Mrs. Felt.

Mr. Felt left an estate of nearly \$400,000, including \$25,000 insurance which he left to Miss Emanuel. The bulk of the estate went to his widow and \$20,000 was left in trust to the Federation of Jewish Charities. The will left two-thirds of the estate to Mrs. Felt on condition she did not remarry. A third was left to a son, Cornelius.

Two months before the will was filed for probate the home in Queen Lane where Mr. Felt was found fatally wounded was sold. The purchase price was understood to have been \$25,000, and that also went to Miss Emanuel. It was said then that the money would be used for the education of her son.

LILLIAN EMMANUEL MAY LOSE ROLE AS STAR IN COURTROOM

Settlement of Felt Widow's Insurance Suit Now Ap- pears Likely.

TRIAL SET TOMORROW

With negotiations for a settlement under way, Lillian M. Emmanuel may lose her chance to play the stellar role in a legal drama which was to set forth a second time how Maurice E. Felt met his death.

Miss Emmanuel, in whose Germantown home Felt, wealthy theatrical magnate and realty operator, was found fatally shot four years ago, had been subpoenaed to appear in a suit brought by Felt's widow, Mrs. Mary Felt, to collect \$30,000 accident insurance from the Continental Casualty Company of Chicago. The trial had been scheduled for tomorrow in the United States District Court here.

David S. Malis, attorney for Mrs. Felt, yesterday stated negotiations have almost been concluded between the widow and the insurance company. He expected the settlement would be adjusted by tomorrow, but he intended to have all his witnesses available.

The chance of being cast in the leading part in the trial evidently was not to Miss Emmanuel's liking. After being excused in the death of Felt she left the city, taking her son, Forrest, now 5 years old, with her.

The suit by Felt's widow snatched aside the curtain of obscurity behind which she had been secure and revealed her living as a widow at 2503 Fourteenth street, N. W., Washington, with her sister, Edna, under the name of Mrs. Lillian Emerson Morris.

"I won't go to Philadelphia," she said, "unless I absolutely have to. I told the truth then, and I'll tell it again if I'm forced."

Miss Emmanuel was subpoenaed by the insurance company to substantiate its claim that Felt died by his own hand and not by accident.

When Miss Emmanuel was arrested after Felt's death she insisted Felt shot himself because of business reverses. He had asked her to elope to Europe with him, she claimed, but stated she refused because of his wife and child.

MRS. FELT SETTLES INSURANCE SUIT

Miss Emmanuel Not Called in Case of Theatrical Man Shot in Her Apartment

WIDOW CLAIMED \$30,000

The widow of Maurice R. Felt, wealthy theatrical man and real estate operator who died of a pistol wound four years ago, settled a \$30,000 suit for insurance money today, without going to trial.

David S. Malis, attorney for Mrs. Felt, addressing Judge Oliver B. Dickson in the U. S. District Court, Federal Building, explained that the Continental Casualty Co., of Chicago, issuer of the policy, had settled "for a substantial amount."

Miss Lillian M. Emmanuel, in whose Germantown apartments Felt was found dying September 23, 1925, was not in court when the case was called today. After Felt succumbed to a bullet wound in the head the next day in the Germantown Hospital Miss Emmanuel was arrested. She insisted he had killed himself and of a coroner's inquest she was cleared of responsibility for his death.

Recently Miss Emmanuel was located with her small son, Forrest, at an apartment, 2503 14th st., N. W., Washington, where she had been living since she left Philadelphia several years ago. She had assumed the name of Mrs. Lillian E. Morris and had told neighbors her husband was dead.

It was reported the insurance company had prepared to call Miss Emmanuel to prove Felt had committed suicide, their defense being that Felt's death was not an accident within the meaning of the policy.

Miss Emmanuel at her Washington home had expressed the hope she would not be required to return to Philadelphia. Those interested in the case said she was not here today.

LILLIAN EMANUEL BALKS AT RETURN

Prefers Death to Visit Here,
Says Woman in Felt Case.
Now in Washington

By EVELYN SHULER

Staff Correspondent Evening Ledger

Washington, Nov. 16. — Lillian Emanuel would rather die than go back to Philadelphia.

"I told the truth before," she said in staccato tones today, "and I will tell it again—if I have to—but I would rather die than go back to Philadelphia."

And if her future efforts at dodging the subpoena server are as successful as her past—there is just a chance that the \$30,000 insurance suit filed by the widow of Maurice E. Felt will begin on Monday in Philadelphia without its star witness.

Four years ago Lillian Emanuel was the central figure in the mystery death of Maurice Felt, wealthy theatrical magnate and realty operator. Since that time she has lived in absolute and impenetrable obscurity.

Following the official closing of the trial in which she was exonerated by a Coroner's jury, Miss Emanuel took her boy, Forrest, then a year-old baby, and left the city.

Her first step toward obscurity was the changing of her name. At the modest apartment house where she now lives she is known as Mrs. Lillian Emerson Morris. Mr. Morris, it is understood, is dead.

And Lillian Emanuel is quite sincere in her desire to keep out of the limelight. Publicity is the one thing she tries to escape. In the apartment house where she lives she claims only speaking acquaintance with one family, and that is limited to greetings and comments on the weather.

She is living in an apartment at 553 14th street, Northwest, in a five-story brown-stone house. It used to be one of the residential homes of which Washington was proud thirty-five years ago. A brass rail on the side of the steps is polished to a high gleam.

Lives on Top Floor

Inside the house there is a rather dingy hall, with narrow stairways that creak and a rickety elevator that groans its progress up and down. Lillian Emanuel lives on the top floor. She has barricaded herself behind a shabby door much in need of paint.

Attendants at the house include the janitor and his wife, who take turns intermittently at running the elevator. Both solemnly informed all callers that Mrs. Morris was away—"out of the city." Her name had been removed from the mail-box.

No, they didn't know when she would be back. She had left no instructions. She was away overnight sure.

But a journey up the creaking

stairs, and the proper voice summoning, and the door of No. 16 flew open and two women, Lillian and her sister, Edna, poked out startled faces.

Won't Go to Phila., She Says

"Who's there? Who are you? What do you want?" they alternated the questions.

The interviewer explained about the insurance case and the subpoena. They fastened the chain across the door and continued to peep out.

A subpoena? Surprised, up-raised eyebrows. A pair of heavy, black eyebrows nicely and carefully arched. The sisters look very much alike. No, they hadn't heard of a subpoena. Both were in dressing gowns. Lillian looked slightly older—slightly tired—a trifle more plump. Void of make-up, the pallor of her skin accentuated her dark eyes. Her pale face was framed by brunette hair—now bobbed.

"Go away!" Lillian shouted. "Let me alone. I won't go to Philadelphia unless I absolutely have to. I told the truth then and I'll tell it again if I'm forced."

She turned quickly and scurried down the hall like a frightened rabbit.

Edna, who identified herself as a "cousin," continued the interview, briefly.

Lives Only for Son

Lillian lives only for "Sonny," her 5-year-old son, who now attends kindergarten. Sonny is a regular boy. Dark hair and dark eyes. He breaks his toys, of which he has many. Sonny learned today to cut out paper rabbits and chickens.

Lillian does her own housework in the five-room apartment. It is furnished tastefully. She brought the furniture from her former home in Germantown.

Lillian does her own shopping, marketing and cooking. Edna, who is now Mrs. Rickoff, works. Lillian takes care of the housekeeping. They have lived at the Leamington Apartments for the last year.

Lillian's days are spent quietly. She goes in and out of the house silently. She scarcely knows her neighbors. She never has guests either for dinner or the evening. She seldom if ever goes to the movies or the theatre.

Sonny goes to bed at 8 o'clock each night. The sisters retire about 10 o'clock. Do they ever have parties? Oh, my, no! Sonny has a kiddie car and a bicycle.

Prim white curtains are drawn across Lillian Emanuel's windows. A curtain of obscurity is drawn across her life. For the last four years she has lived in shadows quietly, but today the limelight she shuns is seeking her out again.

Lillian Emanuel would rather die than come back to Philadelphia—back to the memories she left sleeping there.

PRIVATE SETTLEMENT HINTED IN FELT CASE

Negotiations are in progress for a settlement out of court of the \$30,000 accident insurance suit brought by Mrs. Mary Felt, widow of Maurice E. Felt, Philadelphia theatrical magnate

and real estate operator, who was mysteriously shot four years ago.

Reports that a settlement had already been reached lacked confirmation, but counsel for both sides admitted that a move to that end had been started.

"Negotiations are now going on, but there has been no settlement," David Malls, attorney for Mrs. Felt, said.

From the office of W. W. Smathers, counsel for the Continental Casualty Company, of Chicago, the defendant company, came word that the case, scheduled to open in United States District Court on Monday, had been indefinitely put over.

Rumors of an agreement in the case placed the amount of the settlement at from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

Miss Lillian Emanuel, in whose home in West Queen lane near 34th street, Germantown, Felt was found fatally shot on September 20, 1925, and who sought seduction after she had been cleared of responsibility for the theatrical man's death, was expected to appear as a witness in the insurance suit. A subpoena had been issued for her as well as many other witnesses in the Felt death case.

Mrs. Felt instituted suit against the insurance company to collect the \$30,000 insurance, contending that her husband met an accidental death. Miss Emanuel, who said Felt committed suicide, was expected to testify for the insurance company.

The Coroner's verdict was that Felt met death at the hands of "persons unknown."

OBSERVATIONS

"M. K. C." in his "Schuykill" writes as follows:

"Of Shrook, the doughty fisherman, famous with line, and net, and seine."

Godfrey Shrook was a noted fisherman who passed a long life at the Falls of Schuykill. Many of his descendants are still residents of the town and the writer of "Schuykill" goes on to say that "when a boy I have listened by their firesides, with interest and admiration, to their recitals of his wonderful piscatorial achievements."

Hagner, in his historical sketches of the Falls of Schuykill, also speaks of Shrook, the fisherman.

When Dr. Smith—a celebrated Episcopal minister and the first pro-rector of the University of Pennsylvania—lived on Queen lane, it is related he was renowned, among other things, for his liking of good dinners. He once undertook to reprimand Godfrey Shrook for being on Sunday, when Shrook replied: "Doctor, if your dinner was at the bottom of the Schuykill, you, too, would be very apt to fish for it."

And between you and me, I believe he would have

Some weeks ago the observer was fortunate enough to have the privilege of scanning some old files of "The Forecast," that sterling little paper that was once distributed in the Falls, by the Carwardines. Of particular interest to the writer were the forms of amusement that were in vogue here in the Falls some twenty years ago.

We of today, when we seek entertainment, have only to put on our hats and coats and go to the nearest "movie." Twenty years ago this was impossible. The people of the Falls had to wait for one of the local organizations—the Montrose Boat Club, the Y. M. C. I., the Creston Stock Company or some of the various church societies—to stage an entertainment for the amusement of the community.

One of these organizations, the Creston Stock Company, composed of home talent, under the able direction of Bernard Dowdell, annually presented three or four plays. In "The Forecast" of March 29, 1926, is a review of one of these shows, "The Shamrock and the Rose," which had been staged upon the boards of Old Fells Hall, on the preceding St. Patrick's Day evening.

Old folks and middle-aged residents will recall old times by reading the following:

"Every seat, as well as every inch of the standing room in Old Fells Hall was crowded by a delighted audience to witness the production of that sterling romantic Irish com-

edy-drama, "The Shamrock and the Rose," by the Creston Stock Company, on St. Patrick's night.

"Notwithstanding the great crowd the best of order prevailed, and the only complaint was from those unable to secure a reserved seat. They were at a premium, and nearly all were sold before the doors opened.

"The production of the play, as given by the Creston Stock Company, has never been surpassed, the portrayal of the different characters as well as the staging being true to nature and called forth from those who witnessed it the most flattering expressions of delight and satisfaction.

"As John Desmond, the Irish patriot and outlaw, Roland Sedgwick gave a powerful delineation of the gallant and noble-hearted young Irishman, while in the corresponding part of Miss Fitzgerald, the Rose of Wicklow, Miss Reale Longbine at once captured her audience, the beauty and loving nature of the character being brought out with such sweetness as to be but brightened with the power and intensity of her hatred for the English captain.

"The character of 'Squire Fitzgerald,' the father of 'Rose,' was in the capable hands of William Robertshaw, who gave a portrayal which brought forth strongly the feeling of intolerance which animated the breast of the old squire over the sufferings of his down-trodden country. His scene with and death at the hands of Captain Beck being executed with much cleverness.

"William S. Ehly handled in a most masterly manner the character of 'Lieutenant Douglas of the English yeomanry' and in love with Desmond's sister. The playing of this part by Mr. Ehly did full justice to a character full of noble impulses, and while faithful in his allegiance to his king, yet resents injustice, defies his superior officer and, at the risk of his life, frees the innocent Desmond.

"In the part of 'Nanc,' John Desmond's sister, was seen Miss Florence McGarrick, who with a sweetness and sympathy of expression clearly reflected all the beauty of a sister's love for her outlawed brother, while yet remaining true to one whom he regarded as an enemy.

"A clever piece of character work was seen in the rendition of 'Sham Carey,' the spy which was taken care of by Frank Sedgwick, his drunken scene, as well as his meeting with Beck, being particularly well received.

"As the arch villain and conspirator 'Captain Beck,' Harry Hayes was all that could be desired, an evildoer being rendered him by continued hissing. He was also the recipient of a handsome bouquet of roses.

"Miss Elizabeth Lecwright made a winsome Decca—the and her apric-

of 'shamrock' Col. McGarrick, as 'Barney O'Grady' fairly captured the audience, keeping them continually in rars, whenever they made their appearance.

"With Miss Lecwright's ideal Decca, the most praise that can be accorded Mr. McGarrick, as 'Barney' is in saying that he fully equaled his brother, John McGarrick, who as a comedian has no superior, his brogue and ready Irish wit being rich and pure. As 'Barney' McGarrick sang several songs, and Miss Lecwright 'The Harp that One Through Tara's Halls,' William Rausford, as 'Thornton,' also showed a full understanding of the parts assigned and played in a very acceptable manner."

SCCAFE.

Suburban Press
3/17/1922

Changes In M. E. Pulpits

First Church of Roxborough,
Emmanuel, and Falls M. E.
Churches Affected by Con-
ference Announcement.
Made on Monday.

Changes affecting several pastorates in the territory covered by The Suburban Press, were announced on Monday, at the close of the annual Philadelphia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Rev. Samuel McWilliams, of Salisbury, Maryland, will exchange pulpits with Frank Lawrence, of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, of Roxborough, who has served at the Green Lane church since 1926.

Rev. A. L. Copper comes to Roxborough Emmanuel, with the departure of Rev. H. D. Robinson, who goes to the Madison Street Church of Chester, Pa.

Dr. John S. Tomlinson, of the Falls Methodist Church, has been transferred to the Mount Hermon M. E. Church, in South Philadelphia and the Queen Lane congregation will be served by Rev. H. St. C. Carter.

Rev. H. H. Frouse will continue as pastor of the Blue Bell Hill Church, and Rev. William John Bawden, of Wissahickon; Rev. D. W. Siegrist, of Ebenezer M. E. Church, and Rev. H. Boughney, 2nd, of Ashland Heights, will remain at their present charges.

Rev. A. P. Hodgson, who is well known in Manayunk and East Falls through having served in both communities, will remain at the East Allegheny Avenue M. E. Church.

Do You Remember?

When the championship baseball games, of the Philadelphia district were played at Ridge and Allegheny avenues, against the gable wall of the recently erected gasoline station?

Knur and Spell, as played at Nellie Pearson's Dove and Swan Hotel, on the present site of the Autocar Company's buildings, on Nubble's Lot, in the Falls?

The famous championship baseball game between "Lit's" and the "Wozkies", at Eastime Park, on Allegheny avenue, in which Mike Drennan, "Yockie" Carroll, "Cap" Flanagan, and Tommy Connelan were started?

What the weather vane on top of the Falls of Schuylkill Free Library represents? A live model of the same will be given away free to each person who sends the correct answer to The Suburban Press office, providing JWF catches them.

Do you remember the name of the village on the west bank of the Schuylkill River, below the Falls bridge? And the names of families who lived there?

Do you remember the time the old red wooden Falls Bridge went overboard?

The Undine and The Star—two of the old Schuylkill River steamboats—which stopped for passengers at the foot of Midvale avenue.

The big barrel in Hobensadel Park, on which the band played?

The time when you'd give your soul and a string of catfish to the cook for a waffle at Smith's Hotel?

When Schuylkill River freshets forced the householders on Quarry Road, to move their cook stoves and barrels of flour out the second story windows?

When goats wandered along the Laurel Hill wall, on the East River Drive?

When live catfish were kept in a trough at the old Falls Hotel?

Who is supposed to be the original of George Kelly's play, "The Show-off"?

When a coal train jumped the Stone Bridge and came down on the river rocks and the Park Drive, with a couple of tramps aboard, who were not even injured?

The day that the "Hot Potatoes" and Jane Bluffeau signed a treaty of peace?

When the Falls boys went to

swimming in a dam which stretched along Midvale avenue, from the railroad to the Library?

When "Red Nosed Mike" the murderer of Messrs. Mellin and Flanagan, the Lehigh Valley Railroad paymasters, who were slain in the mountains above Wilkes-Barre, lived in the Falls, at 33rd and Coulter streets?

Rox. News. 11/30/1927

DR. OTTO A. RATH STRUCK BY AUTO

Condition Promising but Not Out of Danger, Reports Dr. Carmany

SKULL NOT FRACTURED

After being injured, when he was hit by an automobile, Dr. Otto A. Rath 63 years old, prominent surgeon of No. 3308 Queen lane, East Falls, was operated upon Sunday evening, at Memorial Hospital, Roxborough, where he is chief surgeon. Doctors there have hopes of saving the surgeon's life, but his advanced years make his condition critical.

Dr. Rath, who vainly tried with two operations to save the life of Dr. Clarence K. Dingle, formerly dermatologist at Memorial Hospital, who died from septic poisoning last Saturday, was visiting a patient in upper Roxborough when the accident occurred.

He stepped from a trolley car at the intersection of Ridge and Shawmont avenues, and when he walked around the rear of the car was struck by a machine going in the opposite direction. He was thrown to the street, receiving injuries to his head. At the hospital an immediate operation for a possible fracture of the skull was performed.

The machine that struck the physician was driven by Luther B. Sandt, of Forty-third and Jackson streets, Camden, N. J., who was riding with his four children. He was arrested by the Manayunk police and later released on a copy of the charge.

Dr. Rath served as an intern in the Lenox Hill Hospital with Dr. John B. Deaver. He also took post-graduate work in Germany. During the war his only son, who had enlisted, died in France, while serving with the American troops.

Dr. Harry S. Carmany who, assisted by Dr. Linton Turner, operated on Dr. Rath, after dressing the injured physician's wounds, which consisted of lacerations of the scalp and a concussion of the brain, last night stated that while Dr. Rath's condition is still considered dangerous, he has the greatest hope that the injured surgeon will recover.

Upon Dr. Rath's arrival at the hospital an S. G. E. call was sent to physicians in all parts of the city, who soon arrived in great numbers from all sections of the city. Dr. Carmany and Dr. Turner, who are members of the staff of the Memorial Hospital and

Forecast 7/9/1914

Widow of Rev. Robert Ritchie Claimed By Death.

Mrs. Helen W. Ritchie, Ill Five Months, Expired Sunday Morning.

Mrs. Helen W. Ritchie, widow of the Rev. Robert D. Ritchie, for 35 years rector of the Church of St. James the Less, died Sunday morning at the rectory of the church. She had been ill about five months.

Since the death of her husband, seven years ago, she has lived with her brother-in-law, the Rev. Edward Ritchie, rector of the church.

The funeral services took place yesterday morning in St. James the Less Church at 11 o'clock. The rector of the church officiated, assisted by Rev. Henry B. Gorgas, assistant to the rector, and Rev. Dr. Samuel Upjohn, of Germantown. The interment was made in the adjoining churchground.

Her husband, Robert Ritchie, died January 7, 1904, of heart failure in his sixty-sixth year. He was one of the strong men of the diocese. For years he was one of the leaders of the high church party of the Protestant Episcopal Church. He was of an old Philadelphia family.

Her only daughter, a former secretary of Bryn Mawr College, was injured in a runaway accident in 1905 while driving with Miss Helen Hoyt, daughter of former Governor Hoyt. Lockjaw developed and she died in Bryn Mawr Hospital on February 1 of that year.

S.P. 4-14-1932

NEW PRESIDENT



RUSSELL M. WEFF

Member of the Falls of Schuylkill Presbyterian Church Christian Endeavor Society, who was installed as president of the Northwest Branch Union of C. E. Societies at the Fourth Reformed Church, Manayunk and Mousery avenues, on Tuesday evening.

Exp. News 12/21/1927

DR. OTTO RATH CONVALESCING

Beloved Surgeon Expects to Go Home From Hospital in Near Future

MAN OF UNUSUAL SKILL

Thousands of Philadelphians who are interested in the welfare of Dr. Otto A. Rath, of 2508 Queen Lane, who was injured on Sunday evening, November 27, as he stepped from a street car at Ridge and Shawmont avenues, will be glad to learn that he is convalescing at the Memorial Hospital in Roxborough.

Dr. Rath, who was first reported as having a fractured skull, while very badly hurt, was found to be suffering from a severe concussion and lacerations of the scalp, and hopes to be able to leave the Roxborough institution the latter part of this week, but his fellow-physicians are prevailing upon him to wait a few days longer before going home, so as to make sure that he has thoroughly recovered from his injuries.

The East Fall physician is undoubtedly one of the most skillful men in his profession, as vast numbers of his patients will testify. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania, and served his internship with Dr. John D. Deaver, at the Lankenau—then the German—Hospital in this city. Sometime later he completed a post-graduate course in surgery at the University of Bonn, in Germany, and is the sole remaining member of the old St. Timothy's staff.

He stood out in bold relief among the best physicians of the Memorial Hospital, by his untiring efforts to save the life of Dr. Clarence K. Dangler, a fellow-staff member.

Merit tokens and inquiries concerning the condition of the highly respected surgeon have poured in from all over the East since he has been confined there, signifying the affection which is felt for the physician.

One of the caribereant surgeons' most intimate friends, and co-workers, in speaking of Dr. Rath said: "A great many ill people postpone going to the hospital until all other means of being cured have been exhausted, and are then rushed to the hospital in a last effort to save their lives. When one considers the great number of these cases and the almost fatal accidents which happen in this district, with its great industrial plants, the ratio of cures obtained by the skill of Dr. Rath is little short of marvelous."

"I remember of one particular case which he had, years ago, when a youth was shot squarely in the middle of the forehead, and the bullet was imbedded right into the wounded man's brain. Dr. Rath operated on that boy and removed the leaden pellet, and he still lives when the slightest error would have cost the lad's life. Other surgeons, in other parts of the world, would have been honored for less, but our own home-town physician took the case as part of his daily work and this has ever been said of it."

When Dr. Russell H. Conway used to

say in his famous lecture, "Ages of Diagnosis," so often look afar for the eyes of the world, when if we used our better judgment we could point to shining jewels in our own immediate neighborhood."

"Dr. Rath is in reality a gem of unusual radiance in the surgical field, but no one appears to realize it, except those he has cured and the doctors, nurses and hospital employes, with whom he works."

"It would have been a terrible blow to the staff of the Memorial Hospital if Dr. Rath's injuries had proved fatal, and all of us who know the man, his skill and personality, are delighted at his speedy recovery."

—St. James the Less Church held a social gathering on Monday evening in the Old Academy Building in conclusion of the celebration of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the church. The anniversary occurred on April 30, when Bishop Rhinelander officiated. Other clergymen with the Rector, Rev. Edward Ritchie and his assistant Rev. Henry Gorgas took part.

It was on April 30, 1846, when a number of men, principally members of the church of St. James, 72d and Walnut streets, met at Mount Peace, the home of Robert Ralston and founded the parish. The mansion stood in what is now Mount Peace cemetery company.

Mr. Ralston donated the triangular shaped lot at Clearfield street and Hunting Park avenue on which the pretty little church edifice, patterned after St. Michael's in England, was erected. At the meeting in Mr. Ralston's home these vestrymen were chosen: Cornelius S. Smith, Tobias Wagner, Charles Treichel, M. D., Philip M. Hagner, John B. Wilmer, Wm. E. Griffith, Jos. S. Burnett, George Helmsuth, Ormand Reed and James Kempton; Robert Ralston and George Blight wardens, and Rev. Henry J. Morton as temporary rector. These clergymen have served as rectors: Revs. Henry J. Morton, D. H. McCurdy, Christopher D. Wyatt, Andrew Mackie, Anthony Teubroock, C. M. Parkman, Edward Shippen Watson, Robert Ritchie, who died in 1907 and was succeeded by his brother Edward Ritchie the present rector. The present vestrymen are Charles E. Haines, R. Emmett Hare, Samuel T. Wagner, C. S. W. Packard, Clement B. Newbold, James Logan Fisher, John W. Pepper, Joan Wagner, Wilson Cafferswood; wardens, Robert S. Smith and Francis A. Lewis.

R. R. S.

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CARDINAL DOUGHERTY 66

Will Observe Birthday Quietly—Messages of Congratulation Arrive

Cardinal Dougherty tomorrow will observe his sixty-sixth birthday quietly at his residence, 34th st. and City Line.

Telegrams and other messages of congratulation arrived today at the Cardinal's offices, 15th st. and the Parkway, from all parts of the country and from other lands although offices are closed because of the celebration of the Feast of the Assumption.

Born in Girardville, Schuylkill county, in 1865, Cardinal Dougherty entered the Seminary of St. Charles Borromeo, Overbrook, at seventeen, went to the American College at Rome, and returned to the seminary as a teacher after his ordination. Following a long service in the Philippines as Bishop, he headed the Diocese of Buffalo, for several years, before coming to Philadelphia as Archbishop in 1913. He was elevated to the Cardinalate March 1, 1921.

Chronicle 5/20/1916

—I was asked a short time ago "why the Presbyterians built their meeting house at the extreme upper end of the Falls?" At the time the building was erected there was much talk of a large number of cottages being built in Robeson's meadow on streets that had been laid out or contemplated. This plan fell through when a large part of the properties was purchased by William Weightman and latter added to Fairmount Park. The church building and parsonage occupy the site of the famous old barn in which Jesse Evans for many years housed his horses and cows and which was a chief attraction to the boy friends of Jesse, Jr., who delighted to play in the barn. The location although unfavorable has not prevented the growth of the church and congregation.

Girard's Talk of the Day

WERE that master in contrasts, Victor Hugo, battling for me today he could draw a sharp picture of Thomas L. Montgomery and Thomas E. Mitten.

These two widely unlike Toms died at nearly the same minute in the gray dawn of the same day. They were virtually the same age.

Each in his way had done a most notable work—one a scholar, the other a financier.

One was born to the high social intonations of one of Philadelphia's ancient families.

The other, an immigrant English lad, came up from a Western farm.

One managed books, the other achieved national fame managing men.

If there is such an animal as clubman—a term we often used—Tom Montgomery filled the bill.

The other Tom was scarcely ever seen inside a club.

THE bookish Tom was companionable, convivial, a renowned storyteller and conversationalist.

The financial Tom had no wide circle of intimates and he seemed to prefer his beautiful horses.

Hardly any other man in Pennsylvania was more widely acquainted throughout this State than Montgomery. Few knew more about the State than this veteran librarian and true book-lover.

Mr. Mitten was essentially local and he specialized on one thing in one city. But nobody ever drove his business harder than he.

Just naturally the bookman made virtually nothing out of books that you can measure in dollars.

The manager of men, on the contrary, drew the largest salary ever paid to any man in America.

NOT even Poor Richard himself ever lived so thoroughly as Mitten up to Poor Richard's advice.

"Early to bed and early to rise."

It is an old story how he usually arose at five o'clock or sooner, took rigorous exercise and then as vigorously kept three secretaries on the jump until 7 o'clock, when he had breakfast.

And those breakfasts! Often a dozen P. R. T. officials were there on the exact second to break bread with their steam-engine relief.

It was no social affair, that breakfast, but a driving, hammering hour.

No wonder Thomas E. Mitten was usually ready at 9 A. M. to close his desk and call it a day and then off to his beloved horses or outdoors.

I CARRY a well-painted picture in mind of an hour's talk I had with him—all arranged by appointment.

Mr. Mitten did the talking and he rarely sat down while doing it. He walked about his great office with a step as buoyant and springy as a pin-lighter in the very pink of perfection.

He was talking about a South Broad street subway and he illustrated with wall maps and figures. It was difficult not to be persuaded by his sharp, direct, incisive reasoning.

But when I asked that other Tom whom I knew so well in the great Pennsylvania Historical Society he lived as his own life, he sat lazily and talked laughingly, but he knew his subject as thoroughly as the financier knew his.

NO INSTANT LION has had a harder blow than the Pennsylvania Historical Society in the recent

loss of its learned president, Hampton L. Carson, and now its highly efficient librarian, Thomas Leach Montgomery. Governor S. W. Pennypacker was the first to see the vast value in that institution. He said, when president, that its contents were worth \$8,000,000.

Both Mr. Carson and Dr. Montgomery told me recently a present value of over \$18,000,000 would be nearer the mark.

Rare books and manuscripts bring to that Society students and historians from all parts of the world.

Montgomery was constantly reaching out for more rich material. He said the 80,000 Shoen Grants letters now added to the collection were as yet unappreciated by students of history.

"Always room at the top," is an ancient proverb, but Philadelphia will need two real geniuses to fill those two top niches in books and finance vacated in the same hour by Tom Montgomery and Tom Mitten.

SOME weeks ago I made extensive extracts from the original diary of Josiah White, creator of Lehigh Navigation.

Now Edwin W. Abbot, of Wilkes-Barre, writes me that his grandfather succeeded White as superintendent of that company in the Mauch Chunk sector.

One day Grandfather Abbot rescued a tow-boat boy from drowning in the Lehigh Canal, for which act the company gave him a solid silver pitcher and the Humane Society of Philadelphia presented to him a memorial—both now in the possession of Edwin W. Abbot.

Before typewriters came in company officials did a lot of penmanship work. Once when Abbot ordered a load of wheelbarrows they were not delivered and he complained to Mr. White, who was his boss.

"Was it wheelbarrows thee wanted?" inquired White. "We could not read thy writing."

"Why didn't your father send you to school?" was young Abbot's retort.

NO ONE else in Philadelphia knew U. S. Grant, Jr., so well as old S. Edgar Trout, who was Secretary of the Finance Committee of the Centennial.

That committee, headed by John Welsh, ran the big show. Young Grant came to visit the Centennial with his father, who was then President.

He and Trout formed a friendship which continued until Grant's recent death. Last year Grant came here to look over Independence Hall once more and Mr. Trout was again his guide as well as companion.

"John Welsh," so Mr. Trout says, "always described General Grant as a 'barker'."

Welsh's ancestors having been ship-builders and ship masters had a high regard for the fellow who corked or "caked" the boats.

GIRARD

Men's Club Is Organized By Presbyterians

Social Group Created to Foster a Better Spiritual Feeling

OFFICERS ELECTED

Subway Work Explained by Chas. H. Stevens, City's Transit Engineer

With more than sixty men as a nucleus, a men's club is being organized at the Falls of Schuylkill Presbyterian Church, Ridge avenue below School House lane.

On Thursday evening of last week, at a meeting held in the Sunday School Room of the Church, which was presided over by Temporary Chairman John Chidester, with George McClenahan acting as secretary, the purposes of the organization were explained and permanent officers elected. These were: President, Frederick Devitt; Vice President, Frederick Budenz; Corresponding Secretary, George McClenahan; Financial Secretary, Raymond Haggerty; and Treasurer, Wilmer Ziegler.

The name of the group has not been decided upon, but the aim of those sponsoring the movement is to promote sociability, education, and spirituality among the men of the community.

After the pastor, Rev. Arlen J. Mayskens, had opened the meeting with prayer, Mr. Chidester detailed the formation of the club, stating that a room had been provided with shuffleboards, table tennis and other forms of recreation as a social feature, but that the big objective was to create better fellowship between the men of the neighborhood.

A quartette, composed of Walter MacIndoe, Wilmer Ziegler, John Chidester and George McClenahan, offered a vocal selection and Charles H. Stevens, chief engineer of the Department of City Transit, gave an illustrated address on the Philadelphia subway system, displaying lantern slides of the high speed transit project now going on in the Schuylkill River-Market Street area, of West Philadelphia.

The address which was well delivered, was of a non-technical nature—as far as it was possible to be so—and was most interesting throughout and exceedingly informative to the men who made up the audience.

Refreshments were served following Mr. Stevens' talk, and the remainder of the evening was devoted to various sorts of games.

Any man, of any over 18 years of age, who would like to join the group is cordially invited to become a member.

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Rev. Dr. Royer Sends Communication

He Expresses His Gratitude For the Publication of The Notices in This Newspaper

Rev. Dr. Benjamin Bunn Royer, former pastor of the Falls Presbyterian Church, who has gone to St. Paul, Minnesota, to accept the new charge at Merriam Park Presbyterian Church, mailed the following letter to this office before his final leaving:

My dear Mr. Editor:

Permit me to express to you individually my great and sincere appreciation for the cheerfulness with which you have permitted me to use the columns of "The Weekly Forecast" to extend my pulpit utterances to a larger number of people. Much as I appreciate the power of the spoken word in the pulpit, I am not blind to the fact that by use of the press that power is multiplied many times. If anything is worth being told and heard, then it is worth being printed and read. In these days, when hearers are none too plentiful, readers are very acceptable. You have given readers—and some of the readers have become hearers.

I appreciate this generous contribution to the community's righteousness all the more when I consider that some things that I have said and written have not been pleasing to some of your constituents, and must have endangered the "good-will" of your business. Moreover, you have given this valuable space without one cent of remuneration, notwithstanding the opinion of some to the contrary. If any good has been accomplished by my ministry of more than four years in the Falls I beg you accept a full share of the joy and honor.

It has been a source of inspiration and pleasure to learn of the interest and profit with which many read what I had to say. It was usually written under the greatest difficulties, and it often seemed a bit harsh and painfully pointed. But it came from a heart full of love for the people of the community and with a desire to help all who had hopes and aims far higher and better things. To all who had the patience to read, and to you and your paper for making it possible for them to do so, I extend my affectionate gratitude and best wishes.

Most sincerely,

B. B. ROYER

Presbyterian Manor, March 31, 1914.

JAMES FERGUSON HOPE

Ex-President of the Union League

Whose boyhood days were spent at the Falls of Schuylkill, and who like many others who once attended the Forest School became prominent in commercial, financial and other circles, died suddenly on Sunday morning, at his home, 3905 Chestnut street, of heart disease. When he arose in the morning he was apparently in the best of health. He had shaved himself and was dressing when stricken with the fatal attack and fell lifeless on the floor. Mrs. Hope, who was in another room, heard the fall and hurrying to the room found her husband lying on the floor. She telephoned to Dr. William E. Hughes, of Fortieth and Chestnut streets, who pronounced his death to have been instantaneous, of heart disease.

Mr. Hope was born in Alexandria, Scotland, September 20, 1843, and was the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. John Hope, who brought him to this country in 1847 and soon after came to the Falls. The father was a print block cutter, and for a number of years was employed in Simpson's silk handkerchief print works. He was a most exemplary citizen and helped to found Falls of Schuylkill Presbyterian Church, of which he was one of the first elders. The family resided on James, now Stanton, street. The three sons, James P., John and Alexander, with their sister, Jeanette, attended the Forest School while the late Robert Mackie was the principal. James was a manly youth and won the admiration of all with whom he came in contact. At the time of the semi-centennial of the occupancy of the Forest School site, held in 1901, he was present and greatly enjoyed the exercises.

In 1861 he entered the oil cloth factory of Thomas Potter and he has continued his connection with that concern ever since, rising from one position to another, until he became secretary and treasurer of Thomas Potter Sons & Co.

In 1864, when the Union League was organizing provisional regiments to fight the battles of the Union in the last few days of the Civil War, Mr. Hope enlisted as corporal of Company F, One Hundred and Ninety-sixth Pennsylvania Volunteers. He served in the army only three months, returning to his business.

He was elected to membership in the Union League in 1890 and five years later became a member of the committee on membership. In the next year he was made a director and in 1902 he was elected vice president, being re-elected in 1903 and 1904. In 1908 he was elected president and served for three terms. It was during his incumbency that the league's handsome new building fronting on Fifteenth street was begun and the centenary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln so elaborately celebrated by the league.

During his long business career, Mr. Hope branched out into many other industries besides the Potter business. He became a director of the Philadel-

phia National Bank, a trustee of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, a director of the American Audit and Appraisal Company and other corporations. He was at one time president of the St. Andrew's Society, a manager of the Home Missionary Society and a member of Meade Post, No. 1, G. A. R. In 1911 he was elected by Councils to be city representative on the board of directors of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Company, the only public post he ever held. He is survived by a wife, but leaves no children.

The funeral was held on Wednesday afternoon, the services being conducted at his late residence. The interment was private. The honorary pall-bearers were the president and all the living ex-presidents of the Union League, as well as the presidents of all the business corporations with which Mr. Hope was connected and other personal friends. The surviving league presidents are C. Stuart Patterson, E. T. Stotsbury, ex-Governor Edwin S. Stuart, ex-Judge Dimmer Beeber and Mr. Tilden. The other pall-bearers were E. C. Irvin, president of the Fire Association; Levi L. Rue, president of the Philadelphia National Bank; George K. Johnson, president of the Penn Mutual Fire Insurance Company; J. S. W. Holton, president of the Maritime Exchange; Captain Geo. P. Morgan, Dr. Daniel N. McQuillan and J. George Klemm.

Forecast 9/14/1916

SAMUEL H. MAYBERRY

Samuel H. Mayberry, widely known proprietor of the Mayberry Hotel, of Ocean City, N. J., died Wednesday afternoon September 6, at the age of 70 years, after an illness of two weeks. He was stricken with a nervous collapse, the result of hardening of the arteries.

Mr. Mayberry, born in Ireland, started his business career 45 years ago at the Falls of Schuylkill, in the wholesale and retail grocery business, in which he was engaged about 23 years. He retired twenty years ago to engage in the hotel business. Mr. Mayberry was very well known in church circles, having for years been an elder of the Presbyterian Church and one of the organizers of the Christian Endeavor movement in Philadelphia.

He is survived by a widow, son and three daughters and six grandchildren. A sister, Mrs. Eliza Harbison, resides on Queen lane.

His home was at 5305 Larchwood avenue, Philadelphia. He was buried from the residence of his son, S. Garfield Mayberry, 5221 Pine street, West Philadelphia.

S.P. 7/18/1935

Recollections

As a rule we can "spot" an anonymous letter even before we open it—usually from the manner in which the envelope is addressed—and immediately make up our minds to consign it to the wastebasket, where such missives generally wind up.

We received one yesterday, which we saved, but must admit it gave us no inkling of its contents until we had started to read it—and then involuntarily looked at the bottom of the epistle for the signature. And all we saw was "Old Timer" Trite, to be sure, but very certainly a long-time resident of this vicinity.

It came in a great formidable envelope, bearing the official trade-mark of a local manufacturing concern, but elaborate pains had been taken to obliterate the departmental inscription.

It was also evident that something that had been printed recently in the columns of The Suburban Press had unlocked the door of Recollections' vaults. Memories, presumably most of them of a pleasurable nature, crowded upon our unknown correspondent, listing them up, in short, fragmentary style, he penned his thoughts as follows:

"These"—Turf Villa—Schouten Park—Bill Lova, at High Bridge Mansion—Sam Mayberry's Store—McClanahan's Store—The Roxborough Lyceum—Kerbaugh's Riverside Mansion—St. Timothy's Working Men's Club—The Montrose Minstrels—Father Rehony—The Wissahickon Base Ball Club—The steamer Thudine, on the Schuylkill—"busyboddy" mirrors at second story windows—Paddy Kane—Steve McGowan—Naches worn by the women—the Good Intent Fire Company—the Gallati brothers as young men—the Emerald Dramatic Society—Dr. Sibbald—the National Theatre—Boon's Grocery Store—high chaps for everybody—long-kirtle—light trousers—fedoras—brown derbies—Rev. Robert Ritchie—ice skating on the Schuylkill—truly parties—Dr. Canine—The Evening Telegraph—The Philadelphia Press—The Chronicle—Rev. O. B. Kramer—Dr. Wilmerth—Lois Inn—Kidd's Run—barefoot days in summer—Fubken's Hollow—Matt Heff's—skating along the Wissahickon—the same old Fourth of July picnic—Rev. Adolph Hellweg—Dr. Egan—J. W. Radomski—Joe Ripka—Father Walsh—silver dollars—Mittin Munnah—hill houses—Boorle shot-goes—General Louis Wagner—D. Chandler Gibboney—Tape Bob—building the Pennsylvania through Manayunk—stock companies—Grover Cleveland—Gardner—Governor Hastings—State Representative Milton Kerchlag—Coneilman for Adams

I went young thing dressed in white—Jupiter Lake—Stuffer's "traces" foundry—Nunnie's Lute—bicycle clubs—automobiles soaring the horses along the East River Drive—dark rooms in saloons—the 8th and Green streets terminal—swimming in "The Wide"—Terry McMahon's doxies—The Manayunk "hoosgow" on Station street—Bob Shirk's and Bob Laycock—the big mill fire—John Dobson—Old Man Banti—Danby's Spinning Room—Professor Derzon—William Wrightman—Thomas Shaw, the inventor—strolls up the Wissahickon to the Old Log Cabin with the girl friends—Cooksocky—the Westmoreland football team—Kid Webster—boxing bouts in Masonic Hall—canoe boats—bathing at "the Tree"—the Manayunk Boat Club—and so on, ad infinitum. Those were the days!

A. C. C.

S.P. 7-25-1935

Recollections

Just before the Civil War Joseph Johnson had a blacksmith shop on the east side of Ridge avenue, at the Falls of Schuylkill, near a little yellow dwelling that once stood at the bottom of Smith's Hill, past which a little path wound up the hill to the original Forest (now Breck) School.

At one end of the shop John E. Johnson and a man, named Thompson, conducted a feed store. Joseph Johnson afterward erected a shop on the west side of Ridge road. This was subsequently owned by a man named Duncan, whose son, Uriah Duncan, was one of the lads who attended the old school on Laboratory Hill.

William Shronk, who had a blacksmith shop in front of his home, on what is now Merck Chemical Company property, bought out Duncan and Shronk moved his business down to Duncan's place, near Indian Queen lane.

After selling his shop to Duncan, Johnson went to work in Baldwin's Locomotive Works. Later he had a blacksmith shop at the rear of his home on Ridge avenue.

Robert and Cornelius Smith were sons of Cornelius Smith Sr., who lived in the mansion house at what is now Midvale avenue and Stokley street. It is known as "Carlton". Thomas Smith, a brother of Cornelius Smith Sr., lived on School House lane. Thomas had a son named Clifford and a daughter. The latter married James Kempton George Blight, who resided on an estate adjoining "Old Oaks" (now the site of Atwater Kent's radio factory) married another of Thomas Smith's daughters.

The Kemptons resided on School House lane and had a factory at Manayunk in which George Blight and Cornelius Smith Sr. had financial interests. Archibald Campbell was the manager of the Kenton mill, and afterward became the

owner. The Kempton home became the property of Ellis Yarnall, who sold it to C. C. Harrison, who was one of the provosts of the University of Pennsylvania. Harrison was at one time a School Controller of the 21st Ward.

The site that was recently ac-

cepted by the Board of Education for the erection of a new public school in East Falls, is probably the best one that could have been procured in that immediate vicinity.

Years ago there were many streams which coursed through the valley which is now traversed by Midvale avenue.

There are still many residents of the section who remember McMackin's Dam, along the north side of Midvale avenue at the Norristown branch of the Reading railroad. There was a large iron pipe which the overflow poured and there was a tunnel under the railroad tracks. Old timers also recall the trough at the rear of Fred Rexhart's flower garden.

There were two dams, the upper and smaller one, was there long before 1834. When the railroad was built in 1834 the lower and larger dam, was formed. The first is said to have been built by Governor Thomas Mifflin. Some distance back of these dams and on the upper side, about where Warden Drive ends at Midvale avenue, was a pool of water known once as Duhlep's dam. Still later this was familiar as "the Duck Pond." William Merrick bought and occupied the Dunlap house, which fronted on School House lane.

S.C.A.F.F.

Forecast 11/9/1916

LOCAL BOY WRITES TO "FORECAST"

William K. Shipley, a local boy from the Falls, who is now on the Mexican border, writes to the "Forecast." He says: "The Falls boys are all doing well on the border. The grief they felt ever since the other Pennsylvania's regiments went home has left their minds and the majority of them are breaking horses in for the artillery. The instructors are kept busy teaching the men on the big guns."

"The department has issued the boys' stoves, and this makes it warmer in the evening, and also another blanket. It gets very cool in the evenings, and far worse in the mornings when we have to leave our warm beds. We haven't had any rain for almost three weeks now."

"John Dignam, Chadwick, Cassidy and Harouch are doing well in the artillery, and they are all eager to get home. The only thing I miss is my mother and loved ones at home. I have worried myself gray-headed thinking of them, and think if Hughes gets elected we'll be in Mexico fighting for the red, white and blue, so Wilson for me, boys. We are going to vote up here."

Wissahickon Area Existed Far Back In the Azoic Age

Geologist Exhibits Specimens
of Rock to Prove His
Argument

HAS OTHER EVIDENCE

Storm-Gouged Gully Dis-
closed Ruins of Springhouse
Far South of Creek

Not many years ago, a geologist, searching for interesting specimens of rocks, made his way out to the valley of the Wissahickon. With his hammer and magnifying glass he tramped along the little stream in its gorge-like setting, for many hours.

After weeks of study over the little chips of stone which he carried home he made the declaration that the Wissahickon Creek was older than the Schuylkill river; that the latter stream came down from up-State long after the smaller stream had been flowing for years.

He exhibited the specimens of rock which he had taken from the banks of the Wissahickon and said they belonged to the azoic age. These, he stated, showed by the way lines in them, that they had been belched up while in a molten state by the force of the earth's great internal heat. Upon the surface were reddish colored crystals, the American garnet, few of which are capable of standing the lapidary's process of polishing.

There is an old tradition to the effect that the Wissahickon Creek originally flowed across Ridge avenue, a short distance below its present bed and emptied into the Schuylkill at a point just below the forebay of the Queen Lane Pumping Station. This tradition was somewhat verified before Gustine Lake was made, when excavations for an intercepting sewer was made through the former Robeson meadow, evidence of the bottom of the creek or river bed being found by the ditch diggers.

When the great flood of water swept down the valley on the night of October 14th 1877—the

day the centennial of the Battle of Germantown was observed—and tore a deep gully across Ridge avenue, a short distance below the lower side of the creek, there was revealed the foundation and part of the wall of a springhouse, which once stood along the old shoreline of the stream.

In 1844 "Pop" Benson built a resort on the upper side of the Wissahickon, near the foot of Hermit lane, which he called "The Hermitage."

A large dancing floor was erected at the west end of the property and it became a popular place for picnics.

Five years later in 1849, Henry Lippen erected, Wissahickon Hall, which is still standing at the foot of Gypsy lane. Lippen successfully conducted the resort for a number of years and it was later taken over by his son, Charles Lippen, who also conducted an ice business there. The ice was cut from the Creek and stowed away in storehouses until summer, when Lippen's wagons delivered it around the neighborhood.

Later Joseph Smith conducted the Maple Springs Hotel, which was along the south side of the Creek, between Gypsy lane and the present Henry avenue bridge.

In November of 1922 the Philadelphia Record carried the following news item: "The Creek in the estimation of many, becomes more attractive as the years go by, and is visited by thousands, who stroll along the bridle path on the upper side or spin along the drive in automobiles. One of the latter day attractions is the high and beautiful re-inforced concrete bridge, which carries Walnut lane across the creek and valley, linking Roxborough with Germantown. The Twenty-First Ward Board of Trade, the Mahanunk and Falls of Schuylkill Business Men's Associations have for some time been trying to have Henry avenue extended from Midvale avenue across the Wissahickon by a similar bridge, so as to form a connection between Roxborough and the central part of the city with a driveway. Plans for this improvement have been made and hopes are entertained by the promoters that in a few years this highway will be opened."

The use that is made of Henry avenue and the Wissahickon Memorial Bridge since 1922 is proof that those who planned the bridge ten or more years previously were people who had good foresight.

SCCAFF.

—I was asked last week to explain why some of the streets here have two names. The streets in question are those running north and south and are known in most parts of the city as "numbered streets." When the city was consolidated in 1854 there was what were known as the city and the Germantown plans or surveys. They did not agree as to the location of certain streets so it was arranged that the numbered streets should extend northward to Hunting Park avenue then Nicetown lane, and that from that point northward the streets would be called after deceased Mayors of the city. Twentieth street intersects Hunting Park avenue west of the Norristown branch of the Reading Railroad while the same street on the Germantown plan would cross a short distance west of Wissahickon avenue. That 29th street is or will be known as King street, 30th as Stokley avenue, 31st which runs along the east end of Queen lane reservoir is Fox street, 32d McMichael street, 33d which runs along the west end of the reservoir is Henry avenue of which it is proposed to make the boulevard that will pass through Roxborough to the county line, 34th street is Vaux street and 35th Conrad. According with what a surveyor told me some 40 years ago when he was engaged in trying to make the Germantown survey correspond with the city plan, Allegheny avenue was the last thoroughfare that would cross Hunting Park avenue and yet there is here at the Falls what people call Westmoreland street otherwise known as Dobson's row.

S.P. 2/27/1936

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Mary A. Dobson Passes Away in Her 96th Year

Widow of Textile Manufacturer Succumbed at Her Home in the Falls

HIGHLY RESPECTED People of Community Always Admired Her For Her Charitable Disposition

In the death of Mrs. Mary A. Dobson, widow of James Dobson, internationally-known textile manufacturer, which occurred on Thursday of last week, the Falls of Schuylkill lost its most prominent resident and one whom the entire community loved and respected.

Surrounded by her four daughters, Mrs. Dobson succumbed after a lengthy illness, at the age of 96 years, at her home, "Bella Vista," Henry avenue and Abbotsford road. Her husband, James Dobson, who with his brother, John, built up the firm of John and James Dobson, Inc., died at the age of 39 years, a decade ago.

Mrs. Dobson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Seville Schofield, was born in Lancashire, England and came to this country with her parents when she was five. Her father was one of the textile pioneers of the nation.

Mary A. Schofield was married to James Dobson in 1862, after her sister Sarah had been married to John, older brother of her husband. The brothers married daughters of the man for whom they first started to work, at Mill Creek, Pa.

The deceased and her husband started house-keeping in a little dwelling on Mill Creek and later moved to the building which still stands at the southeast corner of Ridge avenue and the Wissahickon Drive, which in Revolutionary days was known as Van Daren's; and subsequently becoming Low's High Bridge Hotel, and is now known as Barnett's Garden.

When Mr. Dobson was thirty-five years of age he built "Bella Vista," on the heights overlooking the Falls of Schuylkill, in which he and his wife spent the remainder of their days. They were the parents of five daughters, Mrs. John C. Norris, Mrs. Bessie Dobson Allen, Mrs. Eastman, Mrs. Richard Norris,

Mrs. Thomas J. Jeffrey and Mrs. Arthur Soebber. All but Mrs. Soebber, who was killed several years ago in an automobile accident at Butler Pike and Ridge road, survive.

The family life of the Dobsons was always most democratic. Each evening, "Boss Jim," as Mr. Dobson was respectfully called by his neighbors and those who worked for him, and his wife could have been seen engaged in their favorite game of whist, and on Sundays the entire family made it a habit to be at home for dinner.

One experience which the mill owner and Mrs. Dobson always enjoyed was the visit of the carol angels from the churches of the community at Christmas time, a custom which the gracious wife and mother continued after the death of her husband. The family assembled on the great stairway and listened in quiet enjoyment to the various choirs who called.

The part that Mrs. Dobson played in the development of the Falls of Schuylkill is no less shining than that of her husband.

Of a most retiring disposition this lady was back of all public movements of a charitable and churchly nature for many long years. In the greatest of womanly vocations—Motherhood—Mrs. James Dobson stood among the leaders. There were times when the kindly old lady could look back through a long span of years and recall with pride the meritorious achievements of her husband, of her children and of her grandchildren, with recollections, too, of the hours of anxiety that age passed through when the illness or misfortune of any member of her household, or ordinary care that come to every mother, when encountered.

Funeral services were held at "Bella Vista" on Monday morning, with the interment being made in St. James the Less Churchyard.

S.P. 2-27-1936

Produced Plays For London Stage

Falls of Schuylkill Writer Acquired Wide Reputation in Literary Circles at Start of Last Century. — Penned Tragedies.

Few residents of the Falls of Schuylkill have attained honors in the field of true literature, but the one who did accomplish most in that line of endeavor was indeed, outstanding.

Reference is made to Richard Penn Smith, who was born on March 13th 1823, at the southeast corner of Fifth and Chestnut streets, the site which is now covered by the Decatur Building.

Richard Penn Smith, and grandson of Dr. William Smith, the first president of the University of Pennsylvania, whose home still stands along Indian Queen lane.

The author was educated at Mount Airy and at Joseph Neef's school, on part of his father's estate. He subsequently entered the law office of William Rawle, and when 21 years of age was admitted to the Philadelphia Bar. He, however, took more interest in literary work than he did in law. After contributing for several years a series of moral and literary papers to "The Union," under the nom de plume of "Fragaria," he in 1822, purchased "The Aurora," a newspaper then well-known throughout the country, and published it for five years, when he abandoned the unprofitable calling and resumed his profession.

Mr. Smith's favorite study was the drama, with which he became thoroughly familiar and wrote a number of successful plays, several of which were produced in London, winning for the Falls of Schuylkill writer the distinction of being the first American author whose work was presented on the London boards.

"Causa Marina" was written especially for the great tragedian, Edwin Forrest, and was brought out by him at the Arch Street Theatre. Smith also wrote "The Venetian," for Mr. Forrest.

In 1832 Mr. Smith published two volumes, entitled the "Actress of Padua and other Tales." He also wrote liberally for the periodical publications of his day, on political and literary subjects, and he was also widely known for his poetical compositions. As a politician Mr. Smith held for four years, the position of Clerk of the Incorporated Society of Northern Liberties.

During his residence at the Falls of Schuylkill he entertained such men as Morton McManis, Robert T. Conrad, Andrew McManis and the elder Freese, of Germantown.

He was twice married. His first marriage was in 1825 to a Miss Blodgett, who died in 1833, leaving an only son, Horace W. Smith. In 1834 Mr. Smith married a Miss Kniesell, who had five children, two of whom were sons, Colonel Richard Penn Smith, and William Moore Smith. The daughters, it is believed, went to live on Staten Island. Mr. Smith died on August 15th, 1854, and his interment was made in Laurel Hill Cemetery, in the same tomb as his grandfather.

S.P. 2/22/1936

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Y.M.L.I. Marks Half-Century of Active Existence

Falls of Schuylkill Organiza-
tion Was Founded on
February 14, 1886

HAS FINE RECORD

Established Shining Records
in Baseball, Basketball
and Other Sports

Members of the Young Mens
Literary Institute celebrated that
organization's fiftieth Anniversary
at their headquarters, Midvale ave-
nue and Frederick street, East Falls,
last Friday evening.

The observance consisted of an
entertainment, refreshments and a
dance.

Dating back to February 14th
1886, the first meeting of the In-
stitute was held in the basement
of St. Bridget's Church, on Stanton
street, when the following members
were enrolled: Edward A. Carroll,
James P. Byrne, John R. Reardon,
Andrew D. Byrne, Lawrence Grant,
Dr. Bernard Murray, Alfred Byrne,
William Flynn, Hugh McGeough,
Bernard Dowdell, Thomas Berry,
Edward Whalen, Edward McGahan
and John White, Sr.

Six of those fourteen original
members are still living, two of
whom, John White Sr. and John R.
Reardon, are still members. Thomas
D. Burke, Sr., one of the present
members, lacks but one month of
being a fifty-year member.

For a short while the Institute
held meetings in the basement of
the church, after which it rented a
room on the second floor of a
dwelling on Ridge avenue below
Ferry road. The members were not
long realizing they required larger
quarters, and so they leased a
three-story building at 4137 Ridge
avenue, where they were located for
a number of years.

In August of 1904 they purchased
the ground on which their hall now
stands, at Midvale avenue and
Frederick street. On August 31st
1905 ground was broken and the
erection of the hall was started. The

cost of the ground building and
furnishings amounted to \$36,000.

In May of 1907 a fair was held in
the building, by feminine friends of
the Institute, which netted \$3992.79.

The Institute in its half-century
of existence built up a splendid re-
putation in baseball, basketball and
pool. Among the records its teams
hung up were a Catholic League
baseball championship; a Catholic
League Basketball championship;
an American League basketball
championship, when its team won
23 games and lost none; and pool
championships for three consecutive
years.

Twenty-nine of the Institute's
members were active in the military
and naval service of the United
States government.

Founded for the intellectual, so-
cial and physical advancement of
the young men of the community,
it still functions along these lines
today and any young man who is
desirous of joining the group will be
made welcome.

The present officers of the Y. M.
L. I. include Joseph Foster, presi-
dent; Joseph Furlong, vice-presi-
dent; Nicholas F. Mackey, Financial
Secretary; John May, Treasurer;
Harry J. Andrews, Recording Sec-
retary; and Trustees, Thomas D.
Burke, Sr., Patrick J. Kelley, John
Welsh, William Boyd, John Mina-
han, and John F. Reardon.

S.P. 8/1/1935

Recollections

Away back in the old days be-
fore and after the Civil War period,
Abraham Martin, for whom one of
Roanborough's streets is named, was
accustomed to giving magic lantern
shows for the education of the chil-
dren in this part of Philadelphia.
Mr. Martin was one of the early
Sunday School teachers in the Old
Academy on Indian Queen lane,
at the Falls of Schuylkill, and most
of the pictures shown on the screen
were of religious subjects.

He resided on what is now the
21st Ward side of School House
lane. An old resident of the section
tells a tale of a youthful hunting
trip on Mr. Martin's estate, as fol-
lows: "On Mr. Martin's lawn the
trees were well covered with rob-
ins. I climbed the fence and was
just about to shoot when Mr. Mar-
tin raised a window and sticking
his head out, said 'Young man,
come here. I have something im-
portant to tell you.' I walked up
to the open window and then he
read me an article out of the Pub-
lic Ledger about shooting insect-
eating birds, and the fine that
would be imposed. I listened nat-
urally until he had concluded the
reading, and the long lecture which
followed. He concluded by asking
me if I knew who he was, and
seemed pleased when I told him he

was Father Martin, the great Sun-
day School advocate. We shot no
more birds that day."

A diary furnished the text of
the following item: "Last Friday
(in May of 1914) I attended a por-
trait presentation in a Roanborough
public school. The building was
erected in 1878, and from the beau-
tiful view from its location it was
called the Fairview School, a
name that was retained until last
year, when the Board of Education
changed it to the Joel Cook School.

Cook's family, through his
brother-in-law, Henry R. Edmunds,
president of the Board, presented a
large photograph to the school. In
1804, Cook and Michael Arnold, who
later became president judge of
the Common Pleas Court, and resi-
dent at the Falls of Schuylkill, went
around electrifying for McClel-
len, against the re-election of Ab-
raham Lincoln. They early spoke
so bitterly against Lincoln at a
meeting in the Falls, that Samuel
Wimpenny, himself a Democrat,
offered to buy a woman a new
apron if she would throw eggs at
Cook and Arnold. Cook afterward
became a Republican and was elec-
ted to Congress. For many years he
was financial editor of the Public
Ledger and is said to have been a
millionaire when he died."

Civil War days in this locality
were stirring times, as well as in
more publicized places. A veteran
of the War of the Rebellion once
told this writer of an incident that
happened here, that is well worth
recording. The Union soldier said:
"In my recollections of the night
after John Brown was hung, I re-
call having attended an exhibition
in the Old Academy, on Indian
Queen lane, in the Falls. A Profes-
sor Yarnall was in charge, Michael
Arnold - - afterward Judge Arnold
- - Timm Haywood, and William
Berry, as boys, were pressed into
service as actors and impersonated
John Brown and his two compan-
ions, and were accordingly hung by
the necks. I have since seen Judge
Arnold look stern while presiding
on his bench, but his farsee
look on the peculiar look that it
had on the night that he was hung
as John Brown."

SCCAFF

S.P. 1/23/1936

S.P. 2-6-1936

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"Bobby" Evans an Innkeeper Here in Early Days

Was "Mine Host" at Old Falls Tavern For Sev- eral Years

A STERN FATHER

Afterward Conducted "Foun- tain Park," on Site of Riviera Cafe

When the old Fairmount Park Inn—or Cafe de la Riviera—was torn down a few years ago, after being taken over by the commissioners of Fairmount Park, the second oldest of the Falls of Schuylkill roadhouses went out of existence. Today, the Falls Tavern, as it is now known, holds undisputed claim to being one of the two oldest structures in the community. In the earliest pictures of the Falls, can be seen this old hostelry and also the Smith buildings on Indian Queen lane.

There are still a few people living in the vicinity who can recall the days of Bobby Evans as the host of the Riviera, or Fountain Park Inn, as it was known in his time.

Evans, who was born in the latter part of the 18th century, in Philadelphia, had his first working experience as a carpenter, a trade which he followed for several years, after which he removed to the Falls and became "mine host" of "Watkin's Hotel," now the Falls Tavern, on Ridge avenue below Indian Queen lane. At the time the property was owned by the late John Dobson. It was here that Evans introduced the famous oatmeal waffle and coffee suppers which became very popular. In 1847 he removed to the Fountain Park Hotel, at the foot of Stanton street, which he had fitted up after renting the place from James Spencer, who had bought the property from William Griffith.

Mr. Evans was married early in his manhood, to Rachel Fromson, who proved to be a valuable helpmate as a look of unusual ability for the hotel business. The man became widely known as a well-kept roadhouse, and was patronized by hundreds of Philadelphians who drove out from the city to Broad and Diamond streets, and from there over old Sumner road—now gone—which ended at what is now Ridge avenue and Clearfield street.

Bobby Evans maintained a model house, never selling liquor to minors, or intoxicated persons, and never under any circumstances permitting his bar-room to be open later than 11 P. M.

In 1859 he retired from business

and was succeeded by Louis Tabor, Evans retiring to a cottage he had erected on James street—now Stanton—where he expired in the early sixties.

While conducting the lower hotel Mr. Evans was extremely particular about having his own sons home early in the evening, and when they managed to get out of the house he would go searching for them with a carriage whip. George Drey, a former resident of Manayunk, once described the weight of this whip; a thing he was capable of doing, for he had one time felt the heft of it, as it was administered to him in the shed of Duncan's blacksmith shop, where he was mistaken for one of Evans' sons.

Of Mr. Evans' family, which consisted of Mary Ann, who married Joseph Shantz, Ellen, who became the wife of Professor Nicholas Maguire, principal of the Central High School; Harriet, who had three husbands, a Mr. Riley, Hugh Gilmore and a Mr. Lawrence; Amanda who was the wife of Alexander Service; Oliver, Joseph and Robert; all have passed away.

While keeping the Fountain Park Hotel, Mr. Evans was often imposed upon. On one occasion a basket of champagne was taken from his wine cellar and hidden in a nearby cow-barn for a certain occasion when one of Evans' sons was to entertain some of his friends. Andrew Gilmore, a grandson of Evans', who was reared by his grandparents, accidentally found the wine and removed it to another place. He disposed of the liquid among his own particular coterie of boyhood friends, who used them for targets at which to throw stones.

David Peters, a fat and jolly colored waiter at the Inn, was never happier than when a large dinner party was to be served. On one such occasion a number of boys stood on the pavement outside the dining room admiring Dave arrange the tables. He carried a large and nicely-browned turkey into the room and set it down on the broad window sill, in order to fix a place for it in the centre of the table.

He had scarcely turned his back before one of the lads raised the window, while another grabbed the turkey from its garlanding of celery tops, and fled across the hotel yard, followed by the entire troop of youthful scallywags.

No one remained behind to see Dave's surprise when he discovered the theft of the bird, but imagination can well supply that detail.

HOGART

Old Residents Are Remembered

Andrew Loos, of Roxbor- ough, Falls Into Reminis- cent Mood, and Tells of His Forbears, Who Were Early Residents Here.

Away back in 1833, when Christian Swartz erected the Stone Bridge over the Schuylkill river, at the Ferry road entrance to Fairmount Park, for the Reading Rail road Company, Frederick Snell conducted a tavern and boarding house on the site of a present-day automobile service station on the southwest corner of Ridge avenue Ferry road, which was long occupied by a saloon owned by James Hanlon.

When the bridge was being built many of the workmen made their temporary homes at Mr. Snell's tavern.

These facts were learned on Monday, in an interview with Andrew Loos, of 4141 Pecolin street, Roxborough, who is a grandson of Frederick Snell. He states that his mother told him she was only eight or nine years of age when her father ran the tavern, and that she often stood on a chair to assist in making pies. One of her girlhood companions, at the Falls, was Kate Hess, afterward Mrs. Thomas Lister, who died recently.

Mr. Loos stated that his uncle, J. Andrew Loos, married Emma Spell, his mother's sister, and that they reside with their son, Ivan Loos, at 2113 West Erie avenue. Ivan Loos is well known to hundreds of long-time residents of this vicinity as the great "Pete Loos" of baseball fame.

Andrew Loos, the resident of Pecolin street, was born in a home erected in 1844 by his grandfather, J. Andrew Loos, which still stands at the southwest corner of Ridge avenue and Seville street.

He, and a brother, who is prominent in local fraternal affairs, have two aunts, Kate and Louise, and two uncles, Samuel and Henry, who live on the property on Ridge avenue opposite the William Levering Public School, which was procured by his grandfather after the latter had moved away from the dwelling at Ridge avenue and Seville street.

His uncle Henry, of this group, recently observed his 91st birthday. For many years people passing along Ridge avenue in the summer months have paused to watch the old man swing an old-fashioned scythe, with a grace and precision that was remarkable in cutting the grass down as close as is possible with a modern law-mower.

The Old Days

Of all the holidays of the year, the Glorious Fourth has always been the one looked forward to with the greatest of anticipation. Out here on the hilly land running up from the Schuylkill river, even prior to the awakening of people in other sections of the country, following the heavy toll of death and injuries from dangerous fireworks, the Fourth has always been the "day of days." But let us look at the old "Fourth," in the Pre-Casoline Age; before the time of the Model T; when there was no airplanes buzzing through the air, and radio was a far-off dream.

The day came with a stirring at dawn, a smell of Chinese gunpowder, a roaring of brass cannon and a mutter of revolvers. Ridge avenue and other main streets were arrayed in a blaze and bloom of Red, White and Blue. As the sun waxed high and hot and the horse-drawn picnic buses and carriages came up the "Ridge" and the East River Drive, there were sundry squeakings and thumpings of flies and drums of the Silver Cornet and other local musical groups.

In the fullness of time there would be our same old Sunday School picnics—for we folk out

here have had em for more than a century—with each having its own parade, until about 25 years ago, when the union parades came into being. Out we would go to the Park, along the Creek, or up in the woods atop of the hill. For drinking water the Park Commission and city authorities would loan us an old fashioned sprinkling cart, which held almost a day's supply of water for the big crowd. A little later, after a peanut scramble and a round of Dutch cake and lemonade, someone would stand up on an improvised platform and read the immortal—

When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume, among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitled them—

And so so through the moving

phrases with the words caught here and there—"truths to be self-evident"—"all men are created equal"—"certain unalienable rights"—"life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness"—"the consent of the governed." Fine words, swelling words, that somehow never seemed to lose their resonance and power.

Then, for a little while, the slush

of King George III, the shimmer of red coats and shining bayonets; the brave buff and blue of "The Continentals" and George Washington on his white horse; Marion in his swamy the suns at Yorktown, and Valley Forge would come back. They did not seem so far away as they do now.

If one did not go to the church and Sunday School picnics, he might hear His Honor the Governor, the Mayor, or the Councilmen give a patriotic address. They seemed different men in that day. Officials wore the halo of that State which had moved toward its place in the sun on the First Fourth of July. The Dead Past did not seem so far distant. It pulsed in the music, breathed by the banners and reached down to the Present.

To all outward seeming, everywhere but here where we still follow the custom of an hundred years and more, the day has changed. There is hardly any more romantic formality about the Fourth of July. Many of us celebrate it by speeding seventy miles an hour, racing along concrete roads, amid the smell of oil and gasoline, to the seashore and mountain.

There are flags, but they are mostly little things stuck in fluttering radiator caps. There are parades in other places than our home neighborhood, but they are hurried things, gone at a quick-step. The parade in Roxborough, thank goodness, still stretches out to something like two hours.

There are readings of the Declaration of Independence, but somehow the Great Words, if listened to and thought over at all, are interpreted to meet the personal opinions of each individual. One half only considers Property Rights and the remainder thinks of Human Rights. Both should have the just contemplation that is meant in the Declaration. Recollection of the wrongs suffered by those early Americans, the outrages endured, their mighty appeal to "the Supreme Judge of the World," and their soaring and yet solemn pledge of "our lives, our fortunes and our sacred honor" fall upon the crowds as empty echoes fall.

And it is a strange thing that this is so. For these principles still glow and burn with a living fire. The words that Thomas Jefferson penned in the comfortable little house near Independence Hall, may eventually die, but their spirit will still be carrying on even if the great Nation that was summoned from the depths of the Future vanishes into the dust and the shadows of the Past.

Picture of Bridge Causes Interest Over Its Site

Sketch of Wooden Structure, in Church Paper Printed in
West, Arouses Concern Among East Falls Folk

In the April 5th, 1936 issue of "Forward," a weekly paper for young people, published by the Presbyterian Church in the United States, at Crawfordville, Indiana, there appeared a picture, with the following subscript: "A sketch of the old wooden bridge across the Schuylkill, below the Falls, which was burned down in 1834. This bridge stood about 100 feet below the present stone railroad bridge in Philadelphia."

The illustration distinctly shows the hilly topography of the Stone Bridge neighborhood, with the hills of Chamounix and Laurel Hill in what must have been their early condition, and rocks extending far across the stream, in the foreground

And thereby hangs a tale.

For according to all available statistics there never existed (above Market street) any bridges below the site of the Stone Bridge, except the present trolley structure at Strawberry Mansion; the Columbia Railroad bridge below Peter's Island (of which the present series of concrete arches in the second span at that place) the Girard avenue bridge, and several which at different times stood in the neighborhood of Spring Garden street. Therefore the subscript in the "Forward" picture must be in error, as far as its proper location is stated. The date "1834" also throws a veil of mystery around the picture.

A close inspection of the print, and imagination fostered by historical data, can very well place the structure on the site of the present iron "Falls Bridge," which was erected in the early 90's, to replace an earlier wooden covered bridge which had blown down in a storm.

There has been much attention paid by local historians and engineers to the bridges over the Schuylkill River.

Fred Perry Powers, on October 12th, 1910, delivered an address before the City History Society of Philadelphia, in which he provided most of the information which existed up until that time concerning the historic bridges of Philadelphia.

The Pennsylvania Historical Society, at 15th and Locust streets, has a picture of a chain suspension bridge which, once stood at the Falls of Schuylkill. In the "Portalis," a Philadelphia magazine of June 1810, it was stated, "there are eight of these bridges now erected, the largest of which is that at the Falls of Schuylkill, 305 feet span, aided by an intermediate pier, the passage eighteen feet wide, supported by two chains of iron and half square bar.

This bridge was erected by

Messrs. Kennedy and Carpenter. An Act of Legislature, in 1811 recites these men had transferred all their interests and authorized the creation of a stock company. Another Act, two years later, permitted the Schuylkill Falls Bridge Company to increase its tolls one fourth, until the profits should reach 6 per cent. Evidently the bridge was a paying venture.

The "United States Gazette," a newspaper of January 19th, 1816, contained an article which read: "The Chain Bridge at the Falls of Schuylkill fell down about five o'clock on Wednesday morning. This unfortunate occurrence is said to have been occasioned by the great weight of snow which remained on it and a decayed piece of timber. There was no person on the bridge when it fell."

This chain suspension bridge at the Falls was erected in 1806 or 1809. The location is described in a poem as

"Where Schuylkill o'er his
rocky bed

Rears like a bull in battle."

Which fact gives the site of the present Reading Railroad Company's Stone Bridge as the scene of the old chain bridge.

The patents for this the first suspension bridge in the United States, were held by a man named Finley.

Samuel Brock for whom the public school at East Falls is named, in one of his notebooks describing a trip to Washington, says under date of September 27th 1809: "We crossed the Brandywine on a bridge just building, on iron chains, upon the principle of the one lately constructed over the Falls of Schuylkill."

Josiah White and Erskine Hazard, wire manufacturers, after the destruction of the Finley Bridge, built a suspension foot bridge over the Schuylkill at the Falls, which is described in a magazine article of June 1816, as follows:

"It is supported by six wires, each three-eighths of an inch in diameter, three on each side of the bridge. These wires extend, forming a curve, from the garret window of the wire factory to a tree on the opposite shore, which is braced by wires in three directions. The floor timbers are two feet long, one inch by three, suspended in a horizontal line by straps of Number Six wire at the ends of the bridge, and Number Nine wire in the centre, from the curved wires. The floor is eighteen inches wide, of hick boards secured to the floor timbers by nails, except where the ends of the two boards meet, here, in addition to the nail, the boards are kept from separating by wires. The distance between the two

points of suspension is 400 feet."

The Manayunk Chronicle and Advertiser, of October 26th 1917, contained the following article, which is a reprint from the August number of the "Proceedings of the Engineers Club of Philadelphia."

In the article was mention of the Old Red Bridge—the Falls Bridge—as follows: "In 1878 a wooden bridge known as the Old Red Bridge, was washed away by a freshet. In 1863 part of another wooden bridge was blown into the river by a wind and rain storm."

Robert Roberts Shrock, newspaperman and local historian, in commenting on this statement said: "The facts are that the Red Bridge, which was erected by the city in 1821 to replace the corporation bridge, the middle span of which collapsed from the weight of ice when a heavy rain froze was a covered bridge painted in Spanish brown, and became known as the Red Bridge. On October 23th 1878, the middle and western spans were blown into the river by a gale. The older white, painted white, which was the first on that site, was erected in 1844-49, and the western span was washed away in the record freshet of the river in September, 1850, when it was knocked from the pier and abutment by being struck by what remained of the Manayunk bridge as it came floating down the stream.

No facts can be gleaned concerning the bridges at the Falls between 1816 and 1848, and so it is just possible that the bridge pictured in the "Forward" of April, may have been a viaduct erected to replace the White & Hazard wire suspension bridge. It is this writer's opinion, however, that the bridge that was illustrated in the church paper actually stood on the site now occupied by the iron "Falls Bridge," which was originally intended to be a double-decked structure.

SCOFF

S.P. 1/16/1936

AS IT WAS--

President Roosevelt's Jackson Day dinner, in Washington, on Wednesday night of last week, brought to mind that these great Democratic banquets have been going on for many years.

It seems strange that so many people have an idea that the day—January 6th—is the date of former President Andrew Jackson's birth.

It marks the anniversary of his defeating the British in New Orleans in the War of 1812-1815.

General Jackson has long been regarded as the apostle of democracy, and there are said to be men living in the interior of Pennsylvania who think they are still voting for him at every election.

Radio receptions "beat the newspapers to it", last week, but it wasn't always this way. There was a time in Cockeococky, the one-time village along the west bank of the Schuylkill, opposite East Falls, that the Jackson Club would meet at Oruce's Hall, "over the river," for its annual dance on the night of Jackson Day.

Of the many who once belonged to that club there is little record. Edward F. Daymon was one of the most enthusiastic members until he moved over to this side of the stream and became a Republican. He secured the influence of the late George A. Smith, Select Councilman for the old 28th Ward, who had Mayor Stokley appoint him to the police force. A few weeks later he was promoted to a sergeantcy, and within a few more months was made Lieutenant of the old 22nd District. He served for several years at this post before he died.

Back in September of 1916, the Survivors' Association of the 85th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers held its annual reunion on the lawn of the home of William P. Dixon, secretary of the group, at 885 Ridge avenue.

"Judge" John Kelley, of Laboratory Lane, East Falls, who was the first man to enlist in the Civil War from the Falls of Schuylkill, who has since expired, told in an address he made in the reunion dinner that was held in the Mosa-tawpa Baptist Church, how he came to "join up" with the military forces.

He was employed by Samuel Frasier, who rented the one-time Robinson Farm, which included the meadow now Lake Gastner—on which Camp Stokley was located. One day he asked Frasier for a raise in pay, and gave him until the next day to consider the matter. The request was denied, so Kelley told him "Sooner than work for you for \$12 a month, I'll go over to the meadow and enlist for \$12 a month."

He stated that he climbed over the rail fence and walked down to the camp, and was sworn in as a

soldier of the regiment, and said he had never regretted the act.

Up on East Jamestown avenue, live William Dawson, well up in his eighties, who is still consulted by officials of the Water Bureau concerning the location and conditions surrounding the great water mains of Philadelphia.

It was he who was in charge of laying the great pipes and sewers that are under Midvale avenue, in East Falls.

At the time when Samuel Mayberry had his store approximately where the bank building now stands at Midvale avenue—then known as Miffin street—there were no sewers to carry off the surface waters, and at every rainfall great volumes of water rushed down the hills above the railroad and collected at the top of "Dutch Hollow" to later form a veritable river out of Miffin street.

It was no unusual thing for the crews of the old horse-cars to have to get out and shovel an accumulation of debris off the tracks. While thousands of dollars of damage resulted to Mayberry he never received a dollar of damages from the city towards covering the loss.

The floods, were in law, considered as "acts of God," despite the fact that their flowing down the valley was due to a great extent to the negligence of man, or city officials.

SOCAFF

S.P. 2-20-1936

Memoirs

There are not many men or women living today, who attended the old Forest School at East Falls—now known as the Samuel Brock School—who remember the old Falls Run, which wandered along the east side of Ridge avenue, from where the Reading Railroad crosses "the Ridge" just above Scott's lane, to pass under a culvert a short distance below Indian Queen lane.

Between the Run and the road was a row of willow trees. There was a path that led from an old dambreast and up the wooded hillside, topped by the school. This dambreast was of stone and once helped to form a chapter in the history of the Falls.

Sometime prior to 1773 Joseph Feitz, who owned the land in that vicinity, joined with Isaac Parrish and Benedict Dorsey, in the erection of the dambreast and a paper mill. The latter was on the west side of Ridge avenue and was sold on January 1st of 1773 to Morris Truham and Joseph Crucksank, who, on April 30th, 1754, deeded the property to Joseph Pew.

The water, backed up by the dambreast, flowed through a culvert under the road and formed a forebay in front of the mill. The south gate of the old mill race still exists. It was originally the paper mill, but afterward became part of

the Hammer Drug Mill. A mill race crossed the forebay and led to the entrance of the building.

A Dr. Rose at one time kept a drug store in the upper part of the structure. Years afterward Will-bald Nagle came to the Falls, and after working a few years at the Powers & Weightman laboratory, married Elizabeth Naher, daughter of Louis Naher, who had a few years previously opened the first lager beer saloon in the Falls.

Nagle became the owner of the old mill and turned the basements into a slaughter house, the establishment there a large and profitable business.

Later Nagle erected stores in front of the old mill building, and these are still standing.

The recent death of Rev. Edward Ritchie, pastor emeritus of St. James the Less P. E. Church in the Falls of Schuylkill, brought to mind the death of his sister-in-law, Mrs. Ellen W. Ritchie, which occurred in August of 1914.

Mrs. Ritchie was a woman of noble character, the widow of Rev. Dr. Robert Ritchie, who served as rector of St. James the Less, prior to his brother, Edward. Through her husband's long ministry she proved a fitting helpmate in the work of the parish. From the time her husband entered his work at the Falls, she, by her amiable disposition became endeared to the residents of the neighborhood. She spent many hours of her life ministering to the poor and needy, and was an unflinching source of comfort to those who were in trouble, grief or distress.

In the married life of Mrs. Ritchie and her husband, they were blessed in the birth of a daughter, Mary, who developed into an unusually intelligent and attractive young woman. She won all sorts of honors in school, and became a favorite at Bryn Mawr College, where in the height of her success, she was fatally injured in a runaway horse accident. Her death was a severe and lasting blow to her parents, and is considered by many people to have hastened her father's passing.

After Dr. Ritchie's earthly work had closed, Mrs. Ritchie removed to New England, but she returned, within a few years, to the factory at the Falls, to take charge for her brother-in-law, Rev. Edward Ritchie. Mrs. Ritchie was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Bridge, of Maine. Her death, in August of 1914, came after a lengthy illness.

On the east side of Ridge road, a short distance above the Merch Chemical Company's laboratories in East Falls, are two old dwellings. They are among the oldest houses in the community, and were erected in the latter part of the 18th century by Jacob Kahler, and for many years were occupied by Mrs. Kahler's daughter, Elizabeth Clouse, whose husband carried on a shoemaking business in a little shop separated from the dwelling. The other house, of upper one, was occupied by Mrs. Kahler's step-son, James Smith, whose widow, Catherine, married Jacob Hoffman after the death of her son, Jefferson Smith.

SOCAFF

East Falls Herald

3/4/1926

JAMES DOBSON 89 YEARS OLD

Successful Manufacturer Will
Observe His Birthday Anni-
versary on Saturday

HIS NOTABLE CAREER

James Dobson, East Falls' leading citizen, will celebrate his 89th birthday on Saturday.

The family will assemble as has been for years their custom, in honor of the occasion. The employees of various mills under Dobson management will also send flowers, as usual, to commemorate the anniversary of their employer's birth.

"Boss Jim," as he is lovingly called by his employees, and for that matter, most of the people in the Falls, was born in England, in 1837, and came to this country when about 17 years of age. America to him, in those days, was the land of promise, and all through his years of activity, as a boy and man he has always retained that thought. Mr. Dobson declares the youths of today have larger opportunities than ever before, through the increase in the wants and needs of the people and industries of the country.

Shortly after arriving in the United States, Dobson, as a lad, obtained employment at Mill Creek, Pa., from a man who subsequently became his father-in-law. After accumulating \$125, the boy felt that he had sufficient capital to start a business of his own. With his elder brother, John, young James Dobson moved to Manayunk where they started in the long-desired business venture of their own. Shortly after this the brothers settled at Falls of Schuylkill.

John Dobson married Sarah Schofield and in 1863 his brother James was wed to Mary Ann Schofield, a sister of John Dobson's wife. The two brothers married daughters of the man for whom they had first worked.

Mr. and Mrs. James Dobson are the parents of five daughters, all of whom are still living in or very near Philadelphia. These daughters are Mrs. Beadie Dobson Altamus Eastman, Mrs. Thomas J. Jeffries, Mrs. Richard Norris, Mrs. John C. Norris and Mrs. Arthur Spencer.

Two of Mr. and Mrs. James Dobson's daughters married two brothers, John C. and Richard Norris, and two of the elderly couple's granddaughters were wed to two brothers of the Rosengarten family.

Mr. and Mrs. James Dobson started

business in a little house on Mill Creek and later moved to the building which still stands at the southeast corner of Wissahickon drive and Ridge avenue. When Mr. Dobson was 35 years old, the house in which the family now resides—known as Bella Vista—was built, at Thirty-third street and Abbottsford avenue. It was situated on a hill, overlooking the town, and surrounded by woods and fields. The woods and fields are fast disappearing with the grading of new streets in and around the old mansion.

The family life of the Dobsons is most democratic. Each evening "Boss Jim" and his wife may be seen engaged in their regular game of whist, and on Sunday the entire family have always made it their habit to be at "home" for dinner.

One experience which the mill-owner and Mrs. Dobson most enjoy is the visit of the carol singers from the Falls churches, at Christmas time. The family assemble on the stairs and listen in quiet enjoyment to the various choirs who annually make their calls.

Mr. Dobson is particularly fond of flowers and spends many happy hours in his greenhouses, which are a short walk from the house.

The word "retire" has no place in the vocabulary of "Jim" Dobson, who goes regularly to his duties at his mill. With all of his accumulation of this world's goods "Boss Jim" still retains his fondness for the people of the Falls, for the town's little homely characteristics and the place which he has seen grow from a tiny village to a thickly populated section of Philadelphia.

All of Mr. Dobson's friends and employees, and in most cases one or the other, are sincere in their wishes for many more happy returns of his birth anniversary.

Forecast 1902

JOHN DOBSON BUYS GLEN RID- DLE MILLS.

On last Saturday Manufacturer John Dobson bought at Sheriff's sale for \$20,000, 30 houses and the mills owned by the sons of the late Samuel Riddle, at "Glen Riddle," Media, Pa. Until a year ago these mills manufactured cotton goods, but it is said to be the intention of the new owner to manufacture carpets there as soon as the necessary machinery can be introduced.

The firm of Dobson's also took out a permit last week for the erection of a large addition to the Bradford Mills at Germantown to cost \$20,000.

Subscription Price 3/17/1931

Mrs. Dobson's Grandchild Is Married

Ceremony Performed by Rev.
William J. Hayes, of Falls-
Baptist Church

WILL LIVE IN FRANCE

Husband Served In French
Army During The
World War

Mrs. Florence Jeffries Pearce, former wife of D. Pearson Pearce, was married on Saturday afternoon to Frederick Armbruster, of Paris. The bride is a daughter of Mrs. Thomas Jackson Jeffries, 1899 Delancy street.

Mrs. Pearce was divorced from her first husband two years ago. Mr. Armbruster was a widower.

The wedding, which took place at 4:30 at the home of Mrs. Jeffries, was a quiet one, with only members of the family and intimate friends present. Mrs. Pearce wore a traveling dress, as she and her husband left immediately after the ceremony for a short trip before sailing for France, where they will live.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. William J. Hayes, of the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church. He is a friend of Mrs. Pearce's grandmother, Mrs. James Dobson of "Bella Vista," Falls of Schuylkill.

"We will live in Paris," said Mrs. Armbruster. "Mr. Armbruster has been in this country about a month on business and it was very recently that we decided to be married."

The couple will sail for France on February 26. Mr. Armbruster has been living at 5 Rue Clement Marot, in Paris, but the bride said they would probably change their residence shortly. Mr. Armbruster has a fourteen-year-old daughter, who did not accompany him to this country.

Mr. Armbruster is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Emilie Armbruster, of Paris, and, like his father, is a director in the Plaza Company, a hotel company in Europe and America. During the war Mr. Armbruster served in the 106th Infantry and then the 403d Infantry of France. He was wounded in the Battle of the Marne and was awarded the Croix De Guerre for distinguished service.

The bride is a niece of Mrs. Dobson Eastman, Mrs. Richard Norris and Mrs. John Cushing Norris. She is a sister of Mrs. James Leon Alexander, of Bryn Mawr, and of Mrs. Harold Rosengarten, 358 South 2nd street.

Suburban Press 3/17/1932

Philadelphia 1/21/1936

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Mrs. Mary A. Dobson Will Observe 92nd Natal Day on Tuesday, March 22d

Widow of Textile Manufacturer Reaches Four-Score-and-Twelve" Milepost.—Has Been One of the Falls of Schuylkill Grandest Mothers.—Shared in Husband's Troubles and Glories

On Tuesday, March 22, Mrs. Mary A. Dobson of "Bella Vista," Falls of Schuylkill, will celebrate her 92nd birthday.

The role that Mrs. Dobson has played in the development of "the Falls" is no less shining than that of her deceased husband, James Dobson.

While of the most retiring nature, this lady has been back of practically all public improvements of a charitable and churchly character in the neighborhood in which she has so long resided.

In the greatest of life's vocations—motherhood—Mrs. James Dobson stands among the leaders. There are times when the kindly old lady can look back through the long span of years and remember with pride the meritorious achievements of her husband, of her children and her grandchildren, with recollections, too, of the hours of anxiety that she passed through the illness or misfortune of any member of her household or any of the other thousand and one cares that come to every mother, no matter what their station in the earthly scheme of things.

Mrs. Dobson, as Mary Ann Scho-

field, married James Dobson in 1862 and is the mother of five daughters four of whom are still living in or near their old home. All of them are well known as social leaders in Philadelphia, as Mrs. Beattie Dobson Altemus, Mrs. Thomas J. Jeffries, Mrs. Richard Norris, and Mrs. John C. Norris, Mrs. Arthur Spencer, the other daughter died from the effects of an automobile accident, two years ago.

Mr. and Mrs. James Dobson started housekeeping in a little house on Mill Creek and later moved to the building which stands at the southeast corner of Wassahocken drive and Ridge avenue. When Mrs. Dobson was in her sixty-second year the house in which she now lives—known as Bella Vista—was built at Henry and Abbotsford avenues. At that time it was situated on a hill, overlooking the town and surrounded by woods and fields are fast disappearing with the grading of new streets around the old mansion.

The many friends and admirers of Mrs. Dobson wish her the continuance of health and happiness on this anniversary of her birth.

3 receipt 4/13/1916

church June, 1885

DOBSONS SUED FOR COMMISSIONS

Assertion that he paid a "commission" of \$2500 to General Carlo Pagani, chairman of the Royal Italian Commission, sent here last fall to buy blankets for the Italian army, is made by Frank E. Webb, in a suit filed against John & James Dobson, Inc.

Webb's suit, filed in New York, is to recover \$12,500 which he alleges is due to him for procuring a contract for the Dobson mills.

Webb alleges that the commission paid to the Italian general was upon a lot of 100,000 blankets bought by the officer. He declares the Dobson firm engaged him to sell 150,000 army blankets at \$4 each, and agreed to give a commission of 15 cents on each blanket sold.

He asserts that in selling the 100,000 blankets to the Italian government through General Pagani, it was necessary to give Pagani \$2500 as his commission, amounting to 2½ cents on each blanket.

After he had made the sale, according to Webb, the Dobson firm refused to give the commission. Representatives of the Dobsons declined to comment upon the suit.

—The Messrs. Dobson are having two 450-horse power engines put up in their carpet mill. Mr. H. C. Deane, who represents the Fitchburg, Mass., firm, C. H. Brown & Co., is superintending the work. This firm have occasion to be proud of the fact that they received a gold medal for their engine at the New Orleans Exhibition. From a paper from that city I clip the following:

"From March 5th their engine was run night and day, during the day driving machinery, and at night running the dynamo for electric lights. For 18 days this engine did extra work and gave great satisfaction to the managers of the Exposition, while the electric light people were never better pleased with the way their machinery had been run than with the Brown engine. It was a 450-horse power, fly-wheel 24 by 42, and is said by many to surpass anything in the exhibition."

The extract above may induce the belief that when these engines get ready for working, there will be no more break-down in the carpet mill. Mr. Deane, superintending the work will not interfere in any way with Mr. Wilkinson from your town.

MRS. MARY DOBSON DIES AT AGE OF 96

Was Widow of One of Founders of Big Textile Plant at Falls.

Mrs. Mary A. Dobson, the "grand old lady" of Falls of Schuylkill, died yesterday in her home "Bella Vista," 33d st. and Abbotsford ave.

Surrounded by her four daughters, Mrs. Dobson succumbed after a long illness. She was almost 96.

Mrs. Dobson was the widow of James Dobson, one of the two Dobson brothers who founded the Dobson Textile Mills in Falls of Schuylkill in 1855. Mr. Dobson died 10 years ago at the age of 89.

Was Born in England.

Mrs. Dobson was born in Lancaster, England, and came to this country with her family when she was 5. Her father was Seville Schofield, one of the pioneer textile manufacturers in the United States.

The oldest resident in Falls of Schuylkill, Mrs. Dobson came with her husband to live at "Bella Vista" in 1875. The imposing stone mansion has since become a landmark. It is called "The Manor" by local residents.

It overlooks the old Dobson mills along Ridge ave. and is furnished with many prize pieces of furniture from the Centennial Exposition.

Survived By Four Daughters.

Mrs. Dobson is survived by four daughters including Mrs. Beattie Dobson Altemus Eastman, chairman of the Republican Women of Philadelphia County, whose daughter, the former Mary Elizabeth Altemus, is Mrs. John Hay Whitney, of New York.

The other three daughters are Mrs. Thomas J. Jeffries, 1808 Lancaster pl.; Mrs. Richard Norris, Falls of Schuylkill, and Mrs. John C. Norris, of Chestnut Hill.

Mrs. Dobson also leaves eight grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Services will be held Monday at 11 A. M. from the home. Burial will be in the churchyard of St. James the Less.

Killed in Auto Crash



MRS. ARTHUR R. SPENCER

**Mrs. Spencer
Is Killed in
Auto Crash**

Daughter of Late James Dobson Fatally Injured Near Conshohocken

OCCURRED THURSDAY
**Two Other Society Leaders
Were Hurt at Same
Time**

Florence Dobson Spencer, of Villanova, wife of Arthur Ringgold Spencer, assistant to the Dean of the College of the University of Pennsylvania, died less than five hours after being admitted to the hospital, without regaining consciousness last Thursday. Death was due to a fractured skull which occurred when a sedan in which she was riding was crushed by a motor truck at Ridge and Butler pikes, in Harmanville near Conshohocken.

Two other victims of the accident, both important members of Main Line and Philadelphia society, were Mrs. Mildred Bibble Cadwalader, wife of Dr. William B. Cadwalader, of Villanova, and Mrs. Grace D. Tuck Devereux, of Villanova, widow of Alfred Plumstead Devereux. They were both unconscious for several hours after the accident, but are on the road to recovery.

The three women, bound for Ambler to fulfil a social engagement, were riding in a car owned by Mrs. Devereux and driven by William Hennessy, chauffeur for Mrs. Devereux. The car was proceeding across Ridge pike, on Butler pike, and was struck in the right rear by a heavy truck, owned by the Pottsville Produce Company, and travelling north on Ridge pike. The driver of the truck was Fern

Dalton 28, of Pottsville. Witnesses to the accident said the Devereux car was half way across the intersection when the truck struck it.

The sedan careened and was thrown against a pole and large boulder on the west side of Ridge pike. The three women occupants were thrown heavily against the rear of the car, which was almost torn out by the force of the collision. The heavy boulder was moved several feet.

All three women were picked up unconscious, and were removed to Montgomery Hospital, in the No. 2 Fire Company community ambulance, called to the scene by a resident of Harmanville.

Hennessy was slightly injured, but was able to assist in removing the women from the car. He was treated later at the office of Dr. John Perkins, local physician. He suffered lacerations of the right arm, head and face.

A bystander, Miss Catherine Edebaugh, who was waiting for a bus at the intersection, was thrown to the ground, when the sedan grazed her as it careened wildly about. She was removed to her

home for treatment. Dalton was rearrested last night on a charge of involuntary manslaughter, following the death of Mrs. Spencer, and was held under \$2500 bail by Magistrate Kohoe. A warrant was issued for William Hennessy charged with involuntary manslaughter.

Mrs. Spencer is the daughter of Mrs. James Dobson, of 23rd street and Abbotstord avenue, and of the late James Dobson, carpet manufacturer. In addition to her mother and her husband, she is survived by four sisters, Mrs. Bessie Dobson Altemus, Mrs. Thomas J. Jeffries, Mrs. Richard Norris and Mrs. John Norris, all of Philadelphia. She was married in 1905 following the graduation of her husband from the University of Pennsylvania law school and his admission to the Philadelphia bar. Several years ago he was made assistant to the Dean of the College at the University.

Funeral services were held at four o'clock on Saturday afternoon, at St. James the Less Church. The interment was private.

**Miss Mary Altemus is Married to
John Hay Whitney at East Falls**

Granddaughter of the Late James Dobson is Bride of New York Millionaire.—Social Elite Participate

John Hay Whitney, who inherited the \$200,000,000 Whitney fortune, and Miss Mary Altemus, granddaughter of the late James Dobson, were married last Thursday afternoon before a brilliant assemblage at the Church of St. James the Less, Falls of Schuylkill.

After the wedding the couple left North Philadelphia Station in a special train for Washington, attended by a butler and a maid. They had an entire Pullman car to themselves and a baggage car was attached to carry the sumptuous trousseau Mrs. Whitney had assembled.

From Washington they went to Upperville, Va., to spend two weeks in the newly constructed mansion which is Whitney's regal gift to his bride.

The wealth and distinction of the pair drew thousands of uninvited and enthusiastic guests who began gathering around the church

on Nicetown lane, before noon, although the wedding was not scheduled until 4 P.M.

Before that time the crowd was struggling for position, trampling lawns, scaling steps and balconies. Twenty policemen on duty could not keep them in order. Finally they were roped in, but even then the police had their hands full. The crowd had come to see the nearest American equivalent to a royal wedding and it did not intend to be balked.

The ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Endicott Peabody, of Christ Church, where the groom was once a student. He was assisted by Rev. Charles Jarvis Harrison, rector of St. James the Less church.

As the couple emerged from the church they found themselves facing lines made up of 150 flower girls, recruited from churches and scattered roses began gathering around the church in the path from the church.

Chronicle 5/24/1895

—John W. Dempsey, formerly boss dyer at Dobson's carpet mills has entered suit against the firm for \$50,000 damages, claiming that they have appropriated or destroyed formulas for certain dyes which were his personal property.

On Wednesday James Dobson was called to the stand and explained the process through which a design passed before it reached the loom. He said the formulas were kept merely as a matter of convenience, so that when the firm desired to reproduce a certain copy they could refer to their books and get the exact ingredients of each shade. When the formula book was filled and the firm had no more use for the designs in carpets which corresponded to it the book was destroyed. Dempsey had seen a number of such books destroyed without ever protesting or claiming ownership in them. The same fact applied to the book of samples. It was a volume belonging to the firm and was generally destroyed when the manufacturer was done with it. Since Dempsey first entered their employ, the ingredients had been changed from wood to aniline colors, and Dempsey had never made any claims of ownership to any of the formulas, and the firm only knew of such claims when he left them and attempted to carry the recipes away with him.

Dobson

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Forecast Files

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11/23/04
12/15/04
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4/24/02 Match Factory
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12/17/03 Industrial Dev.
6/14/1900 Allegheny Ave Wall
3/31/04
2/4/04 Smoke Nuisance
12/31/01 Frank Mulligan
10/17/01 Match Factory
12/24/01
8/31/05 Creswell St Estate
9/14/05 Bradford Mills
3/31/04 Relief Association
9/27/1900 Bessie D. Altmanos.

FALLS BAPTIST CHURCH

Queen Lane
above Ridge Avenue

Rev. C. L. SEASHOLES, Pastor

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES FOR AUGUST 1916

11.00 o'clock

- August 6th, Rev. J. E. Madden,
of Parkers Ford, Pa.
August 13th, Rev. Howard Pierce,
of Jonesburg, Pa.
August 20th, Rev. A. C. Drummond
of Chicago, Ill.
August 27th, Mr. George Chiera,
of Philadelphia

Bible School 9.45 A. M.
No Evening Service.

Chronicle 1916

—Mrs. Elizabeth Walker Rodgers, widow of William Rodgers, was buried on Monday afternoon from the home of her daughter, Mrs. M. E. Dodge, 3547 Queen lane. The services were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Seasholes. Mrs. Rodgers, who died in Pittsburg May 2, was a daughter of the late Charles and Mary Morison Walker and was born at the Falls in September 1836. She was the only sister of the late Rev. Jacob G. and Joseph B. Walker. In her early womanhood she was baptized into the fellowship of the Baptist church here and for many years was active in the church and Sunday School work. She is survived by a son and two daughters.

Forecast 11/5/1914

JOSEPH M. MORISON

Joseph M. Morison, younger brother of F. W. Morison, of 3565 Queen lane, died October 28, after a short illness caused by an affection in the a. m. His funeral was held Friday from the Queen lane address. Rev. Dr. Charles Seasholes, of Falls Baptist Church, officiated. The interment was made at Leverington Cemetery, Roxborough.

Deceased was a native of the Falls. He was 66 years old. At one time he was a blacksmith, having learned the trade at Dobsons' mills. Later he was employed at the Simpson Print Works, West Falls.

Chronicle 7/23/1915

—There was a general sorrow here on Saturday morning when the community learned of the death of the Rev. Jacob Garrett Walker, pastor for 42 years of Mantua Baptist Church, West Philadelphia.

Dr. Walker died at 10 o'clock on Friday night of general debility. He was taken ill soon after he had preached on the Fourth of July. He was born at the Falls about 75 years ago and was a son of Charles and Mary Morison Walker. After attending the Forest

School when it was held in the Old Academy Building and on its present site, he went to the Central High School graduating in the class of 1858. He was baptized into the Baptist church here on March 21, 1858, and studied for the ministry in Lewisburg, Pa., College, now Bucknell University, from which he graduated in 1863. In 1866 he was ordained at the church here as a Baptist minister, he having previously been principal of the public school at Phoenixville, Pa.

His first pastorate was at Pughtown, Chester county, and later at Ballingomingo Baptist Church, West Conshohocken. When the Mantua Church was constituted in 1872 he was called to the pastorate, a position he held most successfully until several months ago when he resigned and was made pastor emeritus.

Dr. Walker was for 38 years clerk of the Philadelphia Baptist Association having succeeded the late Horatio Gates Jones. He was also editor of the American Baptist Year Book.

In his early manhood Dr. Walker was married to Miss Rebecca Longstreth Rhoades of Phoenixville, who with three children, Rev. Charles Abbot Walker, Mrs. G. Percy Fox and George B. Walker, a member of the Philadelphia Bar, survive. He is also survived by a sister, Mrs. Elizabeth Rodgers, of McKeesport, Pa.

Dr. Walker was present at the church here on March 21st of this year when special services were held in commemoration of the 57th anniversary of the baptism of himself and James S. Swartz, the latter's 75th birthday and the 63d anniversary of the church occupying the present building.

R. R. S.

Chronicle 3/26/1915 (118)

—There were many former members present at the Old Home Day service on Sunday morning at the Baptist church. The occasion marked the 63d anniversary of the opening of the lecture room; the 57th anniversary of the baptism of James S. Swartz and the Rev. J. G. Walker, D. D., pastor for more than 40 years of Mantua church, West Philadelphia, both of whom were present and delivered interesting addresses. It was also Mr. Swartz's 75th birthday anniversary. Other addresses were made by Rev. Charles L. Seasholes, D. D., the pastor; Rev. A. Rowland, Secretary of the American Baptist Publication Society, who has been a warm friend of Mr. Swartz since his early childhood, and your correspondent who told of the first service on March 21, 1852, when he a boy 8 years old, was present. At the close of Mr. Swartz's address he was presented with a bouquet of red and white carnations from the church and Sunday School. Appropriate exercises were held by the Sunday School in the afternoon and were conducted by Harry B. Binkin Superintendent. In the evening there was a patriotic service when Heilman Council, No. 140, Daughters of Liberty, presented the church with a handsome flag. It was presented by Matthew Kinney State Secretary and received by pastor Seasholes.

*Rev. Dr. John Gordon
is the Baptist Minister
referred to in this article
R. R. S.*

The Evening Bulletin

Saturday, July 25, 1914.

A young pastor, who believes in using plenty of "bait" in the form of music, advertising and other devices to attract large congregations, was invited by an association of Baptist pastors to enlighten them as to his methods. After advocating the use of violins and other instruments at the evening service in order to draw the crowds, an aged Baptist clergyman stepped up to him, when the address was ended, and said: "God bless you, my brother; but in my time I always had large congregations—and I never used fiddles, either." Fiddling for an audience! Has the Church really come to this? It would almost seem so; for it is all the same whether you fiddle with a violin, a cornet, a choir, a bulletin board, a catchy theme, or some other instrument to get the ear of the groundlings. That venerable Baptist minister may seem out of date; but we venture to say that he would hold more people by his simple, straightforward Gospel preaching than any sensation-monger were he forced to rely on the drawing power of the Word of God alone.—The Lutheran.

The Peltz Family

Thoga has the distinction of having among its residents a woman who made a cake which was partly eaten by a President of the United States, but under somewhat peculiar circumstances. When this woman was a girl she took delight in helping to keep the home larder well supplied with goodies. Her father was a retired physician, and with his wife and nine children lived on a farm not far from the Falls of Schuylkill. One of the sons, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania, was appointed an assistant surgeon in the United States navy. After serving a short time at the Washington Navy Yard he was assigned to the old man-of-war Wabash. Desiring to get a new outfit, he secured a brief furlough to come to this city. With a little time to spare he visited his father's home. As he entered the home he was delighted with the odor of his favorite cake. The sister took the large "black cake" from the oven and placed it where it could gradually cool. The brother's eye fell upon the cooling place, and slipping the cake into his valise, hurriedly bid farewell and left for Washington. The next day the Wabash weighed anchor, and sailed for Norfolk, Va., with President Franklin Pierce and members of his Cabinet aboard. As they were at dinner in the officers' cabin, the assistant surgeon produced the stolen cake, and all ate of it. The President was particularly pleased and helped himself to extra pieces. A fortnight later the sister and cake baker received a letter from her seafaring brother, who informed her that he had purloined the cake and told her of its having been enjoyed by the President and his Cabinet. The President never knew the cake had been stolen.

Phila Record (2) 1/6/1921

-In the death of Mrs. Mary E. P. Weiland, on December 27, the last of an important family has passed away. Mrs. Weiland, who was the daughter of Dr. Philip and Elizabeth Lentz Peltz, was born in South Philadelphia April 13, 1837. The family came here in 1849, settling on the Stoever farm. Dr. Peltz had retired from practice. He had six sons; William, a farmer, was killed by a horse; Philip G. became a marine engineer and was in the U. S. Government service for many years and died in California; Samuel H. was a physician and in the civil war was a surgeon in the U. S. Navy, and was on the Potopska when it was blown up in front of Fort Sumpter; David was also a farmer and died suddenly in 1904; Josiah and G. M. Dallas were physicians and died some years ago; Rebecca passed away some years ago, while Miss Elizabeth died in December, 1919. In her early womanhood Mrs. Weiland taught in the Forrest School here until her marriage to Henry A. Weiland, a member of the Philadelphia bar. He died in April, 1890. For many years Mrs. Weiland was a manager and acting president of the Baptist Home, Seventeenth and Norris streets. She was the oldest member of the Baptist Church here and was baptized in 1853 by Rev. Mark R. Watkinson. She was buried privately yesterday at Hilltown, Buck's County.

1/6/21

R. R. S.

WANTS FLAG ON PULPIT

Preacher Says Too Many Sneer at Emblem of Liberty.

As a prelude to his sermon yesterday morning in Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, Rev. Charles L. Seascholes, the pastor, said:

"I would like the decorative committee to drape the American flag on the pulpit for this evening's service, and to have it remain until the trouble with Mexico is settled. We cannot make too much of the flag, and at this time it ought to be seen floating in all its beauty from every American home. There are too many who sneer at the flag. I attended a convention some time ago to hear Eugene Debs, and while the red flag was seen in all parts of the convention hall, the Stars and Stripes was conspicuously absent. On the street corners can be heard members of a certain organization deriding the flag. When a man gets above the flag it is time for him to get out of the United States. Our flag is the prettiest the sun has ever shone upon, and it stands for all that is honorable and just and is the greatest emblem of freedom any nation has ever known. In the trouble with Mexico let us hope that it may be settled with a homeopathic dose."

Chronicle (?)

...the three prominent residents of the Falls were Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Johnson, who came here in the early forties of the last century. Mr. Johnson was a tailor and built a house on Queen lane in which he carried on tailoring until he removed to the west. He was a deacon in the Baptist Church, having succeeded Hugh Gilmore one of the constituent members of the church and who had removed to Arkansas. The Johnson's had three children, Joseph, Harmon and Mary. The latter was married to a Mr. Evans and with her brother Joseph removed to the west. Harmon, who had learned silk handkerchief printing in Simpson's Print Works, married Matilda Winpenny and in partnership with Christian Hess went into the grocery business at old Mifflin street and Ridge avenue and later devoted himself to the coal and feed business, retiring some years after his father-in-law Samuel Winpenny's death. He was a charter member of Falls of Schuylkill Lodge, No. 467, I. O. O. F., and a pastmaster of Roxborough Lodge, No. 135, F. and A. M., and a director of Manayunk National Bank. He passed away 12 or more years ago.

RECALLS WAR-TIME BANQUET

Just 58 Years Since Falls Republicans Celebrated Lincoln's Election.

Fifty years ago the Republicans of this city and other parts of the country not involved in secession were rejoicing over the re-election of Abraham Lincoln. It was the first time a Presidential election occurred while the country was engaged in war. The Falls of Schuylkill, which at that time constituted the Second division of the Twenty-first ward, had a large Lincoln and Johnson Club, with headquarters in Shantz's Hall, at Ridge avenue and Calumet street. Jacob Dietrich was its president. After the election a special meeting was held to arrange for a suitable jollification. At the meeting the president and vice president were absent, owing to important engagements, so Rev. John Knoch Chesshire, pastor of Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, was called to the chair. He had been a chaplain in the war, but had to resign on account of ill health due to exposure.

Half of the large number present wanted to have a torchlight procession, while the other half wanted to hold a mass-meeting. The chair, having the deciding vote, suggested that it would be better to have a jollification dinner instead of the parade or mass-meeting, as either of the two would involve considerable expense and engender a feeling of bitterness on the part of the Democratic townsmen. The dinner plan was adopted by an unanimous vote. A committee of 20 was appointed, and on the following week the dinner was served in the club room to about 200 men. Through courtesy some of the leading Democrats were invited, but they did not attend.

The committee hired dishes, purchased the eatables and employed women to do the cooking. So liberally did the committee provide that more than enough of the food was left to feed another 300. The surplus was distributed the next day to families, whose fathers and husbands were in the army, regardless to their political affiliations. This action did more to allay the bitterness felt by the defeated citizens than anything ever known in that community.

Mr. Chesshire presided at the dinner. He had spoken in different parts of the State in favor of the election of Lincoln, but after the victory had been won he was urgent in his appeals for peace in the neighborhood as well as throughout the country, preaching the doctrine of "Love your enemies."

Chronicle 2-19-1921

-I was reminded last week of Andrew McGaw, who sixty years ago was widely known here. He was employed in Simpson's silk handkerchief factory, and took a prominent part in the early work of the Methodist Church here. In the early fifties he bought a farm in Allighan Co., Michigan, whither he some time later removed. He had three sons, William, Andrew and James. William fell down a hatchway in the laboratory here, and so badly fractured one of his limbs that it had to be amputated near the hip joint. Andrew, Jr., went to work in Neuman's Mill on Scott's lane. One day he had his right hand cut off by machinery at the wrist. William and he with James accompanied their parents to Michigan. About a year later word was received here that James had been killed by a threshing machine. Rather a strange misfortune to happen to one family of three boys. I do not suppose there are half a dozen residing here who will remember Andrew McGaw.

Duby 17.21

R. R. S.

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FALLS OF SCHUYLKILL

M E T O P C U M
(INDIAN TOWN)

By James F. Magee, Jr. 1933.

The Pennsylvania Historical Commission, in 1924-1926 marked with rough stones and bronze tablets, twenty-seven historical sites in Pennsylvania.

These located Indian towns, Indian trails, Indian walks, Colonial dwellings, the pastoria's cave, Penn's dwellings, forts, etc.

It was suggested that one of these Indian town markers should be placed on Ridge avenue, at the Falls of Schuylkill, to locate the site of the Indian town "Metopcum", and early fishing settlement of the red men.

The stone was selected; possibly one of those brown sandstone slabs similar to the old milestones on the Ridge road; the inscription was composed for the bronze tablet; but for financial and other reasons the marker was not set up.

One of the most interesting of the 27 markers was placed on a continuation of Ridge road, at Monocacy, above Pottstown, near the 45th milestone, from Front and Market streets, Philadelphia.

It is decorated with the seal of the state of Pennsylvania and reads: "William Penn, on his first visit to America, 1682-184 came farthest north on Schuylkill River, fifty miles from the falls of the Schuylkill, to or near the mouth of Monocacy Creek, (meaning a stream with several bends); three fourths of a mile southwest of this marker. Marked by the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, and the Historical Society of Berks County, 1926" A huge weathered stone has been erected there. To this is attached an inscribed bronze tablet designed by the eminent architect, Paul P. Cret.

The marker is located on the south side of the Franklin Highway, formerly known as the William Penn Highway, six miles from Pottstown and ten miles below Reading; on an elevation at the foot of the picturesque Monocacy Hill. At the unveiling an address was made by the Indian chief, Strong Wolf.

William Penn is supposed to have reached this place, traveling horseback, with his surveyors and others, passing through the forests and along the Indian track that in 1718 was called the "Andrew Robeson road", which was a continuation of Manatawny road which later became known as Ridge road.

The plantation at Monocacy, in Amity Township, was on the 1000 acre tract that Andrew Robeson 2nd purchased from Swan Boone in 1714.

In 1676 William Penn, Proprietor of West Jersey, conveyed to Andrew Robeson Sr., the uncle of Andrew Robeson 2nd, one tenth of the rights of West Jersey. In 1686 Andrew Robeson Sr surveyed the line that divided East and West Jersey. It started near Beach Haven and the Atlantic Ocean, passed northwest through the State between Princeton and Trenton to a point above the Delaware Water Gap.

In 1715 a petition was presented to the Court, requesting that a road be laid out from Perkiomen creek, "passing through the wilderness of vacant land to the house of Andrew Robeson 2nd, called Mulberry, at Monocacy."

Andrew Robeson Sr was the same person who purchased in 1690-91 the grist and saw mill near the Mouth of the Wissahickon Creek and Ridge road. Andrew Robeson 2nd died in 1719, and was

buried in the churchyard of St. Gabriel's Swedish Church, at Douglassville, Pa., on the Ridge road three miles south of the William Pennmarker that was referred to in earlier paragraphs.

Now let us return to the story of Metopcum, the Indian town at the Falls of Schuylkill.

John Campanicus, chaplain to the Swedish Governor Printz, of the early Swedish settlement along the Delaware river, visited the Indians, learned their language, customs, and habits, translated the Lutheran catechism into the Indian tongue and remained on the Delaware from 1641 until 1646.

What is particularly interesting to us is the information recorded of the country about the Falls of Schuylkill, when the minister had been to visit the Indians there. He tells of the abundance of walnut, chestnut, peach and mulberry trees; of wild plums, wild grapes, hemp and hops everywhere. And of that wonderful gourd, the calabash, which when dried hard was fashioned into dishes and cups, tipped with silver, the same being so large they hold a gallon." (From "The Welsh Settlement" by C. H. Brown.)

Campanicus also relates, "With arrows pointed with sharp stones, the Indians killed deer and other creatures. They made axes of stone, which fastened to sticks were used to fell trees where they intended to plant. Both men and women smoked tobacco which is found in great abundance. They wear gaud-dresses of feathers and snake skins, and feed upon bear meat, venison, birds, fish and maize."

The present Chamounix Mansion (formerly Mount Prospect) and the Philadelphia Country Club grounds and the Polo Grounds on the hills west of the present community of the Falls, are about the centre of the old 400 acre settlement called Metopcum before 1677. A trail started opposite the mouth of the Wissahickon Creek and ran south along the Schuylkill river to a short distance above Peter's Island.

Peter's Island was a part of Judge Peter's estate at Belmont, and when it was sold in 1853 the deed stated that seven and 4/10ths bushels of wheat was to be paid each year to the University of Pennsylvania. (This estate of Judge Peter's, of course, was many years after the Indian village and settlement of the Swedes.)

The Indian settlement extended across the Schuylkill from west to east, to the present Falls of Schuylkill, and for nearly 200 years was known to the aborigines and white settlers as a great fishing resort, at the (then) head of tidewater in the Schuylkill river.

In August of 1683 William Penn wrote to the Free Society of Traders: "Their houses are mats of bark of trees, set on poles, in the fashion of the English barn; but out of the power of the winds; for they are hardly higher than a man; They lie on reeds of grass. In traveling they lodge in the woods about a great fire, with the mantle of duffils they wear by day wrapt around them, and a few boughs stuck around them".

Until a few years ago there were still standing three of the grand trees of the forest; a black walnut, chestnut and a tulip poplar, the largest in Fairmount Park near Chamounix Mansion, from their age gauged to have been there when Campanicus visited the Indians in 1640's.

In a Fairmount park publication of 1869, the view from Mount Prospect (Chamounix) is described "The Schuylkill lies under its mountain-like side, here a lake and there a winding river. The Park, in its whole extent to Fairmount spreads out map-like beneath it. The waters of the far Delaware show from it, mile after mile, on their long journey to the sea. Beyond pine forests stretch away in the dim distance and hang a dark fringe

on the horizon. From the mansion extends a grand panorama; for its background rocky ranges, deep glens, and dark woodlands, villages and farmlands, etc".

The Indian chief Wingebone on the 25th of 4th month, 1683 deeded his land to William Penn. "Of all his lands lying on the west side of the Schuylkill river from the falls of the same name up the said river and backward so far as the rights goeth." This sale included the 400 acre tract of Metopcum we are describing.

The historian, Miss Margaret B. Harvey, records William Penn's traveling along an Indian trail and crossing the Schuylkill river at what was later known as the Robin Hood Ford (at the foot of Nicetown lane, or as it is now known Hunting Park avenue) ascending the hills on the west side of the Ford road, which was as it is today, through Metopcum village and over the present City Line into Lower Merion.

"At the conclusion of the memorial treaty made by William Penn with the Indians under the elm tree in Kensington, the Indians volunteered to conduct Penn and his friends a day's journey toward the Susquehanna river. The company started from the Treaty Tree, crossed the intervening country to the Schuylkill, reaching it at the present Laurel Hill steamboat landing. A portion of this trail from the Delaware to the Schuylkill is still intact in the road between North and South Laurel Hill (Nice town lane) There was then a ford. The march of improvement had not then backed the waters of the Schuylkill over the falls and the river was a low rapid stream. From the ford the road continued as it still does through the now West Fairmount Park and to the present City Line, crossing it but a few yards distant from the new Bala station, and this was the point where what is now Lower Merion was first entered by the white men."

Peter Lindestrom, a Swedish engannerr in 1644-45 visited New Sweden, sailed up the Delaware river and a short distance up the Menejackse (Schuylkill) river and made a survey and map of the "sweed's river in the West Indies". On the east side of the Schuylkill below the falls of the Schuylkill he located an Indian Settlement "Nittabakonck". This word means "warrior", or "place of the warrior", so called from the fact that a great Indian chief lived there. Lindestrom wrote that "the river (Schuylkill) is a very large and deep "kill" and extends far up into the country. I have not found it so favorable for building mills as some of the other localities".

In 1687 James Fox, in behalf of himself and others living in Plymouth, requested a cart road, which was granted under the proviso that there must be no disturbance of Indians. This road ~~xxx~~ divided near Barren Hill, one branch passing down to German-town, and the other connecting with what is now Ridge avenue to Philadelphia.

~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ The centre of the Swedish settlement along the Delaware was at Upland, now a suburb of Chester, Pa., In records of the Upland Court in 1678, the Falls of Schuylkill was called "Captain Hans Moen's falls".

Lindestrom's map of 1654 and 55 locates an Indian town called "Aronimink". It was on the hills between the Schuylkill and Delaware rivers and Crum Creek.

On September 11th 1677 the Upland Court granted 300 acres of land at a place called "Wiessahitkonck" on the west side of the Schuylkill river, to John Mattson, Swen Lum and Tace Dalboo, and on March 12th 1677~~58~~ the same court granted 300 acres called "Metopcum" (in another deed "Metopcum") to John and Andrew Weeler.

Charles V. Hagner, in his "Falls of Schuylkill, Manayunk, Schuylkill river, Etc" tells us that the village was for one hundred years called "Fort St. David's". Mr. Hagner remembered the

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falls of the Schuylkill as they were before they were covered with water in 1821, when the dam at Fairmount was built. He described the falls, or rapids as they must have been as Nature made them, before the coming of the white settlers.

A part of this historian's description of the falls is well worth repeating: "his long rock (on the east side of the river) I well remember and have often when a boy, fished from it. It extended from the foot of the hill to about 2/3rds the distance across the river, forming a complete natural dam, a part of it overhanging on the lower edge. In high freshets the water flowed over it and made a beautiful cascade; at other times it forced the river into a narrow channel on the western side, through which it ran with great rapidity and much noise, falling some five or six feet in a distance of about 150 yards, and could be heard at a distance of from one to five miles, according to the state of the river and the winds.

"There is a very singular and curious impression, or indentation on a part of the rock that attracted many persons there to view it. It was apparently an impression of an immense human foot, over 2 feet long, and sunk some six inches in the rock. It showed the heel, hollow of instep, Ball of foot and toes. It was called by the people of the neighborhood 'the Devil's Foot' and there were some superstitions in reference to it. There were many other holes, or pots as they were called, in the rocks, caused by ages of attrition from stones and gravel which the water, when flowing over them, kept in agitation. Some of the pots are still to be seen on a part of the long rock remaining, and covered by water. There was a tradition that they were used by the Indians for pounding corn in, certainly they were well adapted for such purposes."

In the last six years the Pennsylvania Historical Commission has extended considerable of its energy and appropriations "to examine, or cause to be examined or excavated, the sites of areas of former aboriginal or American Indian occupations within the Commonwealth". Drawings and plaster casts have been made of Indian markings upon boulders mostly in the Susquehanna river near Harrisburg.

Indian mounds have been excavated and archaeological collections purchased for the State Museum.

It is believed that the Indians did not catch the fish with hook and line, or in nets. When the fish came up the river with the tide and the water was about to recede they made dams below where the fish were, and then speared or shot the fish with bows and arrows.

Campanius, the missionary, described a fish caught here that must have been an eel, as follows; "There is here an abundance of a certain kind of fish. It has no head and is like a small rope, one quarter of a yard in length and four fingers thick".

The Falls of the Schuylkill must have been a great fishing ground for the Indians, and the white men who came after them. Hagner, in his history, tells us of some of the great catches of fish in his boyhood days. "The fishing company of Fort St. David's (organized in 1732) was originally established by a number of prominent and wealthy gentlemen of Philadelphia, among whom were many Welshmen, who gave the Society its name, St. David being their patron saint. For beautiful scenery, romantic beauty, and fine fishing there was no place in the vicinity of Philadelphia which could compare with Fort St. David's."

John Fannin Watson, in his "Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania" mentions Godfrey Shronk, a well known fisherman at the Falls, thus: "He has told me he could often catch, with his dip net, 3000 catfish in one night; the perch and rock-fish were numerous and large." Shronk used to catch fish for the fishing

Company of Fort St. David's, which cooked forty dozen catfish at a time. 124

Hagner also states: "They anchored or fastened to the rocks in the rapids, the small boats from which they fished. The catfish were not the kind that are now found in the river; they were a migrating fish and came from the sea annually in immense numbers; so numerous in some instances---I have seen myself---as to blacken the narrow passages of the river. They were perfectly black on the back and white on the belly, and were remarkably fine eating. One one occasion I saw them, with one sweep of the seine, catch 430 fine shad, and saw, besides, many escape from the seine."

The History of the Schuylkill Fishing Company of the State in Schuylkill", in referring to Fort St. David's Society, relates: When the tide was out the roaring of the turbulent waters, precipitated over the continuous and rugged chain of rocks extending from shore to shore, was heard on still evenings many miles over the surrounding country, and was often borne on the wings of the wind with distinctness to the city, a measured distance of five miles."

Here is another quotation from Hagner's history: "Tradition says, and I have no doubt of the fact, that the Falls of Schuylkill was the last place deserted by the Indians who inhabited this part of the country; it being the head of tidewater and consequently such fine fishing ground, of course, peculiar attraction for them. That it must have been a great resort of theirs is proven by the fact of the innumerable Indian relics that have been found in the vicinity. I have seen and found myself many stone axes, arrow-heads, and other instruments, made of stone; the use of which could not be conjectured; many of which were deposited in the old Philadelphia Museum.

Albert Cook Myers, of the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, informs me that many years ago a member of the Hagner family gave him quite a collection of Indian relics collected at the Falls.

Charles R. Barker, the genealogist, writes me: "One Indian tale told me by my friend, Mr. Platt, of Roxborough, now deceased was interesting. It was that Indian arrow-heads could be found at low water on Peter's Island. Ad you recall, this was an Indian method of fishing---to shoot them with a bow." And again: "An old resident of Ardmore told me ~~that~~ that he recalled seeing Indians coming up the inclined plane (at Belmont) in Fairmount Park. As this was about 1850 this must have been one of the bands that used to come East on a visit. My informant, however, was a noted teller of tales!"

Judge Thomas K. Finletter who is an enthusiastic fisherman, informs me that just south of the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, at Broad and Walnut streets, there is a small plot of ground about 80 x 80 feet that many years ago was deeded to the city, forever, as a free camping ground for Indians passing through the city.

This plot may be reached by going through a small alley south of the hotel. The employees of the Ritz-Carlton always refer to the camping ground as "No Man's Land".

Let us end our story of the Indian village of Metopcum with the past verse of a poem written by Francis Hopkinson, dedicated to Dr. William Smith, the first provost of the University of Pennsylvania, who resided at the Falls of Schuylkill:

"Rude, rough and rugged rocks surrounding,
And clash of broken waves resounding,
Where waters fall with loud'ning roar,
Rebellowing down the hilly shore."

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25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VALLEY GREEN
CANOE CLUB,
(Livezey House, October 6th 1934,
Dinner and Dance.)

Address by James F. Magee, Jr.

Before the Revolution, 1769, there were in Philadelphia, Chester and what is now Montgomery County and Delaware County on the streams emptying into the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers more than 320 mills and forges.

There were in the valley of the Wissahickon over 54 such industries. These were grist, flour, paper, oil, fulling, powder, saw and iron forge mills, all propelled by water power.

The Germans owned the greater number of these mills, but the English and Welsh Quakers also owned many of the important industries.

The Hollanders, Rittenhouse and Dewees, built the first two paper mills on the American continent in the valley of the Wissahickon.

The Scotch Robeson's owned the great mills at and near the mouth of the Wissahickon, along the Ridge road, and also several of the early iron forge and furnaces in what is now Montgomery and Berks Counties.

It was such pioneers as Thomas Livezey and the owners of the other 319 mills who started the industries that made Philadelphia one of the greatest industrial centres in America.

On October 10th 1747 Thomas Livezey purchased from Thomas Shoemaker the tract of 23 acres containing a water grist mill, two story under one roof, and the Colonial dwelling named "Glen Fern", that is now the name of your Valley Green Canoe Club.

From deeds recorded at City Hall let us trace the ownership of this 23 acres, which was part of the original tract of 500 acres.

In 1684 William Penn conveyed to James Claypoole, one of Penn's commissioners, 500 acres of land in Springettsbury Manor, now known as Roxborough. Sir John Claypoole, brother of James, married Elizabeth, the blue-eyed, golden-haired daughter of Oliver Cromwell.

The 500 acres started at the Germantown line (Wissahickon avenue) and ran westward to the Schuylkill river, and included the land along the Wissahickon Creek, where later were built the two Gorgas mill, at Gorgas lane, and the Livezey mill and dwellings.

In 1695 Claypoole sold the tract to Hugh Roberts, of Merion, who lived where Belmont Driving Park was later developed. The tract passed through the hands of different purchasers, being divided into smaller sections, until 1733, when Henry Sellen, an oil miller, secured 44½ acres for the sum of 15 pounds sterling; less than \$75. There were certainly very few, if any improvements upon the 44½ acres at this valuation. Six years later Sellen sold the lot to John Harmer, and a building is mentioned in the deed.

From these foregoing deeds we should say that a building was erected on the site of the Livezey dwelling during the years between 1733 and 1739.

Last month Charles Harper Smith compiled and published his "History of the Livezey Family". He also gives the date "1739" as the year in which the Livezey House was erected.

On February 5th 1745/6 John Harmer sold 23 acres of the 44½ acre tract to Thomas Shoemaker, and a building is mentioned in the deed, but no mill.

Early in 1746 Thomas Shoemaker erected the grist mill and petitioned the Court requesting that a road be laid out from Ridge road over the ford below the dam, to his mill, the road then meandered over the hills to Germantown via Allen's lane.

This old Livezey lane laid out in 1746, nearly 200 years ago, is

the same lane that we all passed over this evening in driving from Allen's lane to this club-house. 126

On October 10th 1747 Shoemaker sold the 23 acres, the mill and dwelling, to Thomas Livezey for 406 pounds. Just across the road from here there is a stone built into the ruins of the old mill, that many claim is marked "1717". The figures are very weather worn and uncertain. If this early datestone of the old mill is what it should be, it should read "1747" instead of "1717".

Thomas Livezey's mill book of 1748 records that a large part of the putput of the mill was delivered to ship captains of vessels in port at Philadelphia for the export trade. Later entries note the grinding of pepper, ginger and other spices. Livezey, at a much later date was also a direct importer of foreign goods in exchange for flour and one passage of the sloop "Pacific" brought silk and tea from Canton, China, valued at 4000 pounds Spanish dollars.

The Philadelphia attorney, Mr. Barry Hepburn, who is with us tonight, informs us that his great uncle, Commodore John Barry, the father of the American Navy, also his great grandfather, Captain Hays, was also engaged in the early export trade from Philadelphia to China.

The most interesting feature of the interior of the Livezey House is the large fireplace on the lower room of the middle section, so long and wide that a low seat was placed in one end and a small window in the wall beside it, to provide a cosy nook for reading or sewing.

Let us in imagination, go back to 1748 just one year after Livezey purchased the dwelling, and mill, and accompany on horseback, the Swedish traveler, Peter Kalm, who in his book of travels describes the character of the country near the Livezey dwelling.

The host of the Swedish traveler was Peter Kock, who owned a paper mill on the Wissahickon that was built by William Dewees in 1731. This mill was at Wise's Mill lane, just above the Valley Green Inn.

The Swedish visitor records our journey as follows: "September 21st 1748: In the afternoon I rode with Peter Kock to his country seat about 9 miles from town, to the northwest. The country on both sides of the road was covered with a great forest. The trees were all with annual leaves, and I did not see a single fir or pine. Most of the trees were different sorts of oak. But we likewise saw Chestnut, Walnut, Locust, Apple and Hickory trees; also blackberry bushes and the like. As we went into the woods we continually saw at moderate distances little fields, which had been cleared of wood, each of these was a farm. These farms are very pretty, and a walk of trees frequently led from them to the highroad.

"September 22, 1748: Mr. Kock had a paper mill on a little brook (Wissahickon) and all the coarser sorts of paper are manufactured in it. It is now annually rented for 50 pounds pennsykvania currency. Allmost all the houses hereabouts were built either of stone or bricks, but those of stone were more numerous."

Thomas Livezey was a member of the Pennsykvania Assembly from 1765 until 1771.

In ~~about~~ 1765 he sent an original poem to Joseph Galloway, who was also a member of the Assembly, a few stanzas of which read as follows:

"Near Wissahckon's mossy banks, where purling fountains glide,
Beneath the spruce's shady boughs, and laurel's blooming pride,
Where little fishes sport and play, diverting to the sight,
Whilst all the warbling winged race afford my ears delight,
Here's evergreens by Nature set, on which those songsters sing,
And flowery aromatic groves form and eternal spring.

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"Thus situated here I dwell, where these sweet zephyrs move,
And little rivulets from rocks add beauty to my groove,
I drink the wine my hills provide, on wholesome food I dine,
My little offspring round me are like clusters on the vine.
I, hand in hand with second self, aft walk amidst the Bowers,
Whilst all our little prattling ones are gathering opening flowers."

On the hills around the Livezey House today the wild grape vines still grow in great profusion.

On November 18th 1767 Livezey wrote to Benjamin Franklin who was then in London "I am sending you 12 bottles of wine made from wild grapes on this place. I heartily wish it may arrive safe and warm the hearts of everyone who tastes it, with a love for America."

In February 1768 Franklin replied: "I received your welcome present of a dozen bottles of wine. It has been found excellent by many good judges, my wine merchant in particular was desirous of knowing what quantity of it might be had and at what price."

There is a tradition that Livezey sank several casks of wine in the Wissahickon, behind his mill dam during the Revolution, to prevent its confiscation and retrieved it after the ganger had passed.

We have here this evening a model of the Livezey House, also a large bas-relief of the Wissahickon dam, road and Livezey mill and dwelling. These were made by Harven C. Hammes, of Roxborough, and loaned to us for this occasion. The house comes all apart and show the furniture in each room (15 in all) four fireplaces, two ~~windows~~ winding stairways, book cases and a bake oven outside at the rear of the house.

Livezey received his grain from the farms above in Montgomery County. It was brought down the Ridge road to Livezey lane (Shawmont avenue of 1934) to the mill. It is said that as many as fifty carts were at times lined up at the Wissahickon mill waiting to unload.

An early survey of the plantation shows the road over a ford below the dam, passing between the dwelling and the mill. The millrace started at the dam, ran under the road through the mill, then out again into the Wissahickon. The race was about 400 feet long. The mill was a three-story building. Other structures were a corn mill, barn, ice house, smoke house and coach house, just east of the mill was a sunken garden.

In the loft of the Livezey House is the original datestone of the Red covered bridge dated "1839" The bridge was demolished after 1900 but the piers are still in place. Further down the creek the great Pipe Bridge passed high in the air. This pipe line connected the homes of Mt. Siry and Chestnut Hill with the Roxborough pumping station. The pipes are now laid down the and up the hillsides and pass under the bed of the creek.

There are several Revolutionary traditions relating to Thomas Livezey; one of which states that he sat on a fence at the top of the hill near his dwelling and watched the Battle of Germantown on October 4th 1777. Another that he cared for wounded soldiers in his home after the engagement. The facts, however, were that two days before the Battle a squad of Americans in command of an officer made prisoners of his two oldest sons and drove Livezey from the house and they were not permitted to return until after the British had evacuated Phila.

During the war hundreds of Quakers, Mennonites and other pacifists were interned in Western Pennsylvania and Virginia.

Thomas Livezey died in 1790, and in 1793 the mill was destroyed by fire. The sons rebuilt and added greatly to the property. Later the descendants owned over 300 acres on the Wissahickon. In 1792 John Livezey purchased the John Gorgas grist mill at Kitchen's lane and in 1864 another John Livezey purchased from Matthew W. Baldwin, of the Baldwin Locomotive Works, the John Gorgas Mill, at Gorgas lane on the Wissahickon.

F. B. Brandt in "The Wissahickon Valley" writes this of the Livezey house:

"What it is that conspires to make the ravishing charm of this old Colonial stone structure, hidden in the heart of the glen, adopted companion of friendly trees and held in the embrace of clinging vines and shrubbery, would be difficult to say. But the Livezey House surely for stately risticity is matched only by the rough-hewn wilderness home of John Bartram." (128)

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Mrs. W. Freeland Kendrick lights the
Giant Liberty Bell. Wife of the Mayor
turning the switch that illuminated the
26,000 bulbs for the first time.

12

THE CITY HALL OF THE SESQUI-CENTENNIAL.

I saw City Hall, tonight. It was beautiful! A picture of varicolored lights.

The impressive lighting display was arranged as part of the municipal decorations for the Sesqui-Centennial.

The statue of William Penn stood majestically, flooded with light from four 1000-watt searchlights, with 1,500,000 candlepower. Altogether there were used in the display, which could be seen for twenty miles, 8000 incandescent globes, 800 flood lights and twelve searchlights. They tell me that this display will be augmented, later, by 5000 additional globes.

Below Penn's statue eight beacon lights of red shone through the portholes of the tower. Each of these lights was of 1000 candlepower.

The effect of the searchlights playing upon the statue and the red lights shining from behind the windows created a rich ruby tint that at the top of the column, which tapered off to a light pink at the base.

Hundreds of lights of various colors were played upon the building, bringing out in bold relief the architectural lines of the structure.

The general color scheme of the lighting is "Sesqui pink", which harmonizes with the color of the exposition buildings.

The cornices below the fourth and sixth floors are outlined in colored blue lights. Other lights of red arch the entrances.

People who witnessed the sight will never forget it, and the writer sets it down here, so as to recall the event and possibly to give the information, in later years, to those who were not fortunate enough to have seen the wonderful illumination.

May 27th 1926.

MAYOR CALLS UPON CITIZENS TO HAIL SESQUI
AND TO HONOR HEROIC DEAD.

Mayor Kendrick, today, issued his proclamation preparatory to the opening of the Sequi-Centennial on Monday, calling on the residents of the city to "display from their homes, their places of business and all places of vantage the national and city colors", on opening day of the Exposition.

"Keeping in mind the fact that May 31st will also be celebrated as Memorial Day," he said, "I call for outward demonstrations in the form of the ringing of church bells, the blowing of factory and steam-boat whistles and other manifestations that the Sesqui Centennial is about to open; this demonstration to begin at 12,30 P.M. on Monday, May 31st, 1926 and to continue for a period of three minutes, and that at 12.46 o'clock every resident of the City of Philadelphia and every visitor in our city will pause in his daily occupation and stand silent for one minute in honor of the heroic soldier dead whose memories will never be forgotten by an appreciative Nation."

May 28th 1926

GOVERNOR GIFFORD PINCHOT'S SPEECH,
AT THE OPENING OF THE STATE BUILDING
OF PENNSYLVANIA, MAY 29th 1926.

Governor Pinchot, pleading for religious tolerance, civic freedom and universal education, pointed out that "great gifts mean great obligations" and that people must never forget their duty to the future.

"Let it never be said of the citizens of Pennsylvania that in the glamour of material prosperity they forget their duties to the Bestower of these gifts and their obligations to the men who labored with high purpose to found this Commonwelath more than 200 years ago"

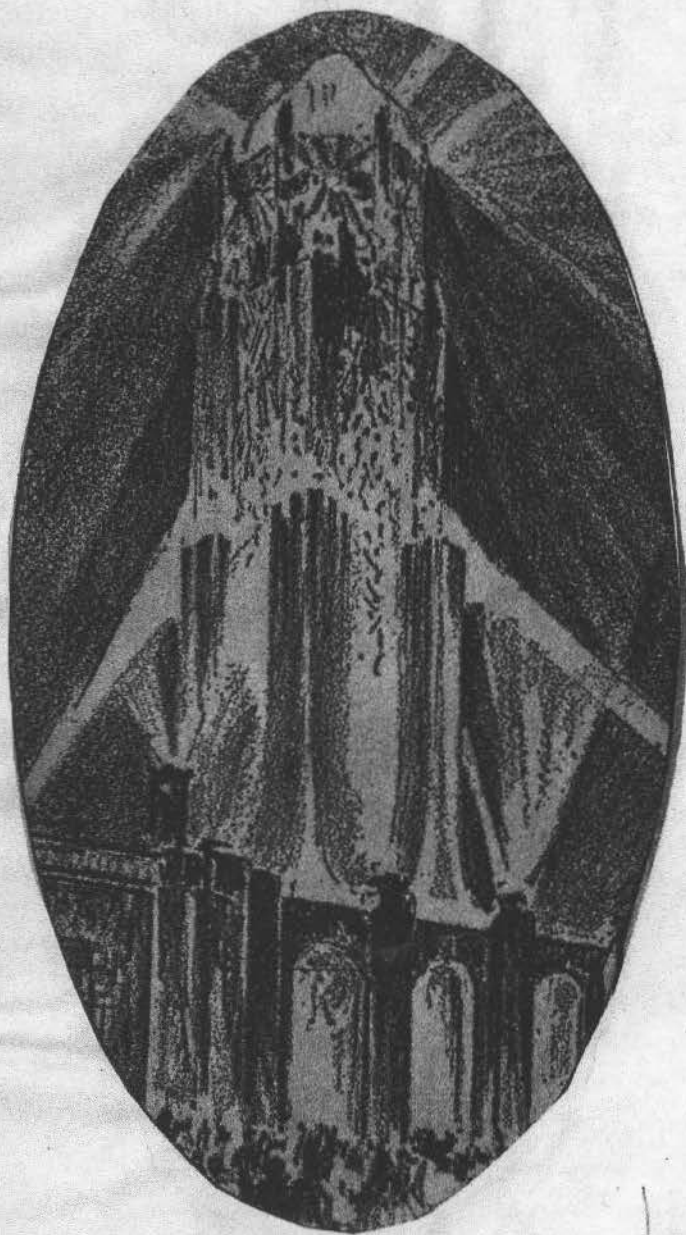
"We are met to mark history" the Governor said, "This building has been erected because 150 years ago our country became a free nation. Fittingly it is called the Keystone State of this mighty Republic; for on her proud soil was born the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States.

"Baptized in religious and civil liberty by her founder, consecrated in sacrifice to freedom at Valley Forge, dedicated in mourning to unity and equality at Gettysburg, she is pledged by the memory of her illustrious dead to the task of perpetuating American ideals.

"Out of Penn's 'Holy Experiment' came proof to the world that religious freedom and civic harmony are compatible. Out of these early ideals of religious tolerance, of universal education, of co-operation for human betterment came a growing conception of the meaning od democracy.

"Let our citizens be humble before this munificent gift of material goods, and let them find in their noble past a clear vision of their obligation to the future. Let us consider earnestly how

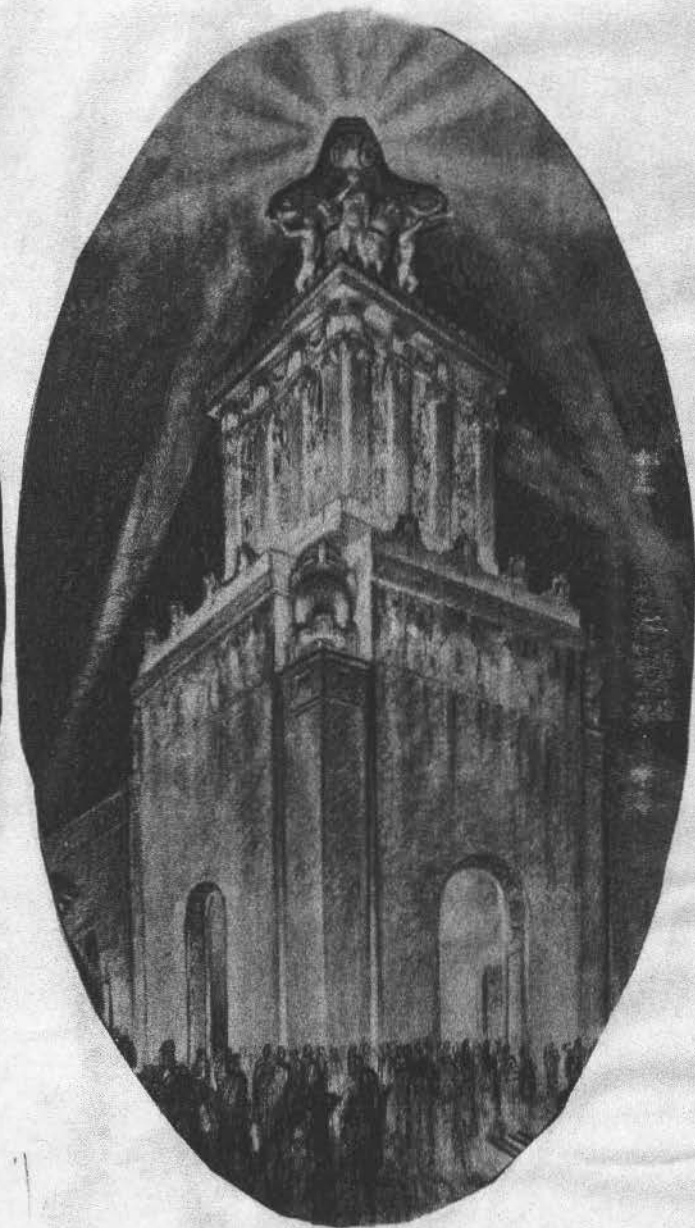
we may play a worthy part in the working out of the destiny of this Nation and the world. In the doing of it let no man have the right to say, that Pennsylvania, where our Nation was born hasnot done her part."



THE TOWER OF LIGHT.
The attraction of the night
(never completed)



THE CITY HALL TOWER - SESQUI YEAR.



ILLUMINATED CORNER OF
OF THE PALACE OF AGRICULTURE.

16

"Just Fifty years ago", related the Old Fellow, "the gates of the, until then, greatest international exhibition the world ever seen, the Centennial Exposition, opened to the public with impressive ceremonies.

"It was a wonderful day for Philadelphia, that 10th of May, 1876.

"During the night preceeding the opening day of the exposition", went on the Old Boy, "a heavy frost struck Philadelphia, and the dawn of the 10th was like a winter morning.

"A light rain fell early, which made it very uncomfortable to those compelled to walk out to the Park over the soft pavements with loose bricks.

"At sunrise , the day began with an alarm from the bell on Independence Hall, which was taken up by the church bells throughout the city.

"The procession to the grounds, which embraced 2800 regulars of army and navy, militia from various States and cadets of military schools, marched out to the Childs residence, where the great dignitaries were in waiting.

"In the first carriage were President Grant, Secretary Fish, of his Cabinet; Governor Hartranft and Mr. Childs," said the Old Timer.

"The carriage following were filled by Dom Pedro and members of his staff and other great personages.

"The slow pace along the streets, for the benefit of the sidewalk spectators, was torture for many of the guests in the open carriages.

"They were without wraps and wore specially fine summer clothing suitable for this climate and the occasion.

"When near the entrance to the exposition, President Grant.

theory of energy, the Einstein theory of relativity, were unknown.

"In the field of chemistry, Crookes, in 1876, had just discovered radiant matter. Lord Rayleigh's discovery of argon, first of inert elements, was yet to come. Monsieur and Madam Curie had not yet found radium. Bohn had not yet explained the constitution of the atom. The role of vitamins in diet was unknown. On astronomy, Schiaparelli, discoverer of the so-called "canali" on Mars, was unheard of, Betetgeuse was yet to be measured.

"In biology, Darwin's "Origin of Species" had been published but many of the great discoveries which followed were yet to come. Not until fifteen years later were the Pithecanthropus erectus bones found in Java to open a new channel for the students of man's prehistoric past. At the time of the Centennial, Weissmann had not yet published his theory of germ plasm, and the successful transplanting of organs and tissues from one animal to another was regarded, if at all, as the wildest of theories.

"Probably in no other half century has medicine advanced as it did in the period between the Centennial and the Sequi-Centennial Expositions in Philadelphia. It was a year after the first "Fair" that Pasteur and Koch proved the relation of bacteria to disease. It was not until the eighties that Eberth isolated typhoid bacillus, that Laveran discovered the parasite of malarial fever, that Koch found tubercle bacillus; Kleps, diptheria bacillus; Nicolaier, tetanus bacillus and Behring anti-toxins. The isolation of adrenalin, the discovery of novococaine, the Carrel-Dakin antiseptic treatment of infected wounds, Noguchi's isolation of the organism that causes yellow fever, Banting and Best's announcement of insulin as a specific

for diabetes were still to come.

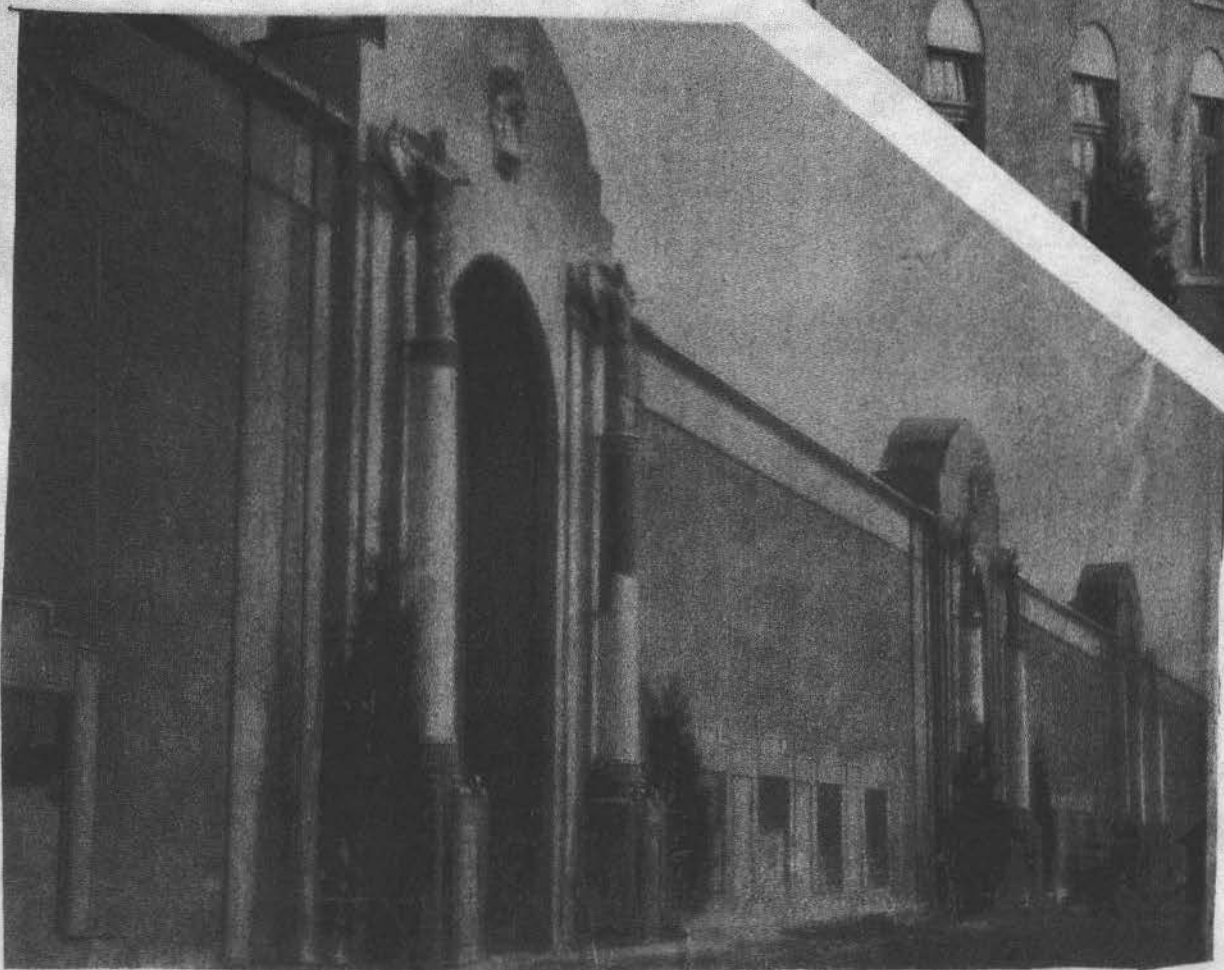
"Truly the world has moved in the lifetime of the men who saw or will see both Expositions.

"One, at least, of the boys who visited the Centennial Exposition fifty years ago is a member of the Sequi-Centennial directorate. He is Dr. Wilmer Krusen, Director of Public Health in Philadelphia, director of medicine and applied sciences at the Sesqui, clearly he remembers certain exhibits of 1876, considered then as little more than the playthings of science, accepted today as fundamental equipment of business and civilization.

'One boyhood memory of the Centennial', said Dr. Krusen, 'was an interesting toy, at least it was then so regarded. It was none other than the seed germ of our present far-flung, world-embracing telephone system, which must appear to our youngest generation as never having had a beginning, but always existing. Yet that weighty enterprise, the Centennial Exposition, apparently was begun, continued and ended without the use of this first aid to the busy. It had still to prove its practical qualities. It did, even to the extent of connecting continents the width of the world apart, and dispensing with wires, at that.

'Every visitor looks forward to a leisurely inspection of the comprehensive telephone, telegraph, wireless and radio exhibits displayed in the Palace of Liberal Arts and Manufactures and elsewhere at the Sesqui. He is prepared to be fascinated by the radio transmissions of photographs, the synchronization of the voice with action in motion pictures, and the other miracles in the making, and to wonder for the thousandth time what a similar visitor at the Centennial would have said had he been told that all this wizardry was to be of everyday occurrence within half a century hence. One word probably would have been expressed in his opinion, 'Impossible'.

PART OF THE FACADE OF THE PALACE
OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PRODUCTS.
Its huge proportions may be judges
from the fact that it contained
367,592 square feet of floor space.



THE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING.

Which housed the offices of the
Exposition. A permanent structure,
along Greek lines, which was at the
northern edge of the Grounds.



ONE OF THE BEAUTIFUL DOORWAYS OF THE MAIN EXPOSITION BUILDINGS. The two principal palaces, that of Liberal Arts and that of Agriculture were similar in design and this doorway was typical of each. The interior of the arch was finished in a deep blue and all the buildings were richly colored.

\$25,000 WATCH SHOWN AT SESQUI

Included Among Countless
Remarkable Features—Rug
Comes From Teheran Palace

AMBER IN STRANGE FORMS

The German exhibit, valued at more than \$50,000, stands out as one of the most varied and interesting in the foreign section at the Sesqui-Centennial.

It includes not only the products of German factories, but jewelry made centuries ago. It is in the west-central section of the Palace of Foreign and Civic Participation and Agricultural Display.

Charles Nunnenman, who has represented the German exhibitors in every national and international exposition since 1905, arranged and brought the display to this country. One of the big features of the German section is a quantity of amber in many forms. There is an inkwell made from a solid piece of amber in the form of a skull imprisoned by an octopus.

Hand-made beaded bags, leather goods, glassware and cutlery are other features.

A rug, worth \$1 a square inch, is on display at the Sesqui. It is the property of Khalil Aronani, who has made an elaborate showing of Persian and Egyptian works of art and jewelry in the foreign section of Palace No. 2. The rug was used in the palace at Teheran. Designs have been worked into the fabric with 18-carat gold wire. The rug, which is nine feet and four inches by five feet and seven inches, is valued at \$7500.

Watches ranging in value from \$25 to \$25,000 form the exhibit of a leading Swiss manufacturer. Timepieces which captured grand prizes at previous expositions are included. The most valuable is one in which the face is set with diamonds, and with rubies used to form the numerals and hands.

Attendants at one of the booths are helping visitors to learn to eat proper foods and in this way helping them to better health. Charts show which foods produce heat and energy, which kinds increase bodily strength and which are best for regulating digestion. Nearly every day the majority of the inquiries are made by "ultra-stouts" of both sexes, who desire to get rid of surplus weight. The answer invariably is "get more exercises."

Prohibition jokes, now eight years old, are still funny to some persons. One foreign exhibitor has a sterling silver cocktail mixer on display. Two middle-aged women saw the once-a-household article. One of them nudged the other and they went closer to get a better look. They spoke in whispers, the exhibitor overheard them.

"It isn't right to display such things," one of them said. "It's against the law to have liquor."

But a moment later she drew still closer to the exhibitor and whispered: "How much is that worth," and her finger pointed to the cocktail mixer.

'The telgraph made the modern newspaper possible. The typographical art has made giant strides in that half century. Two thrilling exhibits at the Centennial fascinated my boyish mind. One was a newspaper exhibit, showing a special edition being folded by machine at the breakneck speed of 3000 an hour. The speed attained in modern plants, today, is nearly 8000 a minute. At the other exhibit they were casting type by a machine that turned out ninety letters a minute. In the newspaper plant of today, a linotype machine does thw work at the rate of seven or eight lines of the same-sized type per minute.

'The most impressive exhibit in Machinery Hall in 1876 was the majestic Corliss engine, of 1400 horsepower, which kept all the other machinery in motion---that athlete of steel and iron with not a superfluous ounce of metal on it---as a noted writer of the day described it. There it stood, forty-three feet high, with its thirty-foot flywheel making thirty-six revolutions a minute. Steam was the force employed.

' Steam gives place to electric power in most of the machinery exhibits of the Sesqui-Centennial. They are housed in Palace #5, devoted to exhibits prepared by many departments of the United States Government as well as to those generally relating to machinery, mines, metallurgy and transportation.

While the kodaker was not abroad in the land when the Centennial was in progress, ther will be a photographic departure in daily evidence at the Sequi, that did not make its appearance at the Fair of 1876,---the moving picture camera. Of all the twentieth century marvels that surround us, perhaps that mechanism brings home most graphically a realization of the great distance we have traveled along the road of invention.

'The motion-picture will be employed at the Sequi-Centennial not alone fro dramatic art, but also to the end that accurate information relating to a number of subjects may be conveyed