

2/19/31

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

William Savery Torr, of "Rock Shade," was born in Philadelphia, October 13th, 1805. He was the son of the late John Torr, who died in 1832. The family was of English ancestry, and were originally Quakers. The American branch descended from the grandfather, on the paternal side of the above—who was also, like his father, named John Torr—and who emigrated from England to the United States in the year 1700. The well-known member of Parliament in England, Tor Liverpool, Mr. John Torr was a representative at that time of the collateral English branch.

William Savery Torr received his education at the Quaker Schools, in Philadelphia, and afterwards at an academy conducted by that denomination, which was on Fourth street below Chestnut street. It was non-sectarian, receiving pupils from all classes and was one of the popular seminaries of those days.

On emerging into the practical affairs of life, Mr. Torr learned the details of the dry goods trade, in which line he established himself as a merchant on South Front street, in Philadelphia, continuing in the same for many years, and developing an extended and remunerative business. In the early part of the fifties, he retired from business of this class, and devoted himself to the management and care of his real estate interests, and his private affairs. Among his other properties, he became the owner of the estate now a part of Fairmount Park—which was known as the Sweet Briar Farm, a place well-known to Philadelphians, and which is historic ground. This estate was created and developed by Samuel Breck, a prominent member of Congress, from the Quaker City, for whom the Breck School, in East Falls, is named, from whom it came into the possession of Colonel Torr.

The estate was purchased from Colonel Torr by the City of Philadelphia, in 1868, when he bought a property, "Rock Shade", on Parker avenue, in Roxborough, where he came to reside.

Mr. Torr was a Democrat in Politics, strongly attached to the principles of that party as professed and practiced by General Jackson, among whose friends he was glad to place himself. He always declined any nomination for public office, though on one or two occasions, at the urging of friends, allowed his name to be placed before the voters of the city; as was the case in 1872, when he was placed on the ticket for State Senator, but was not elected.

Colonel Torr was married in 1830 to Miss Anna Clarkson Bringhurst, whose family was long prominent among the Quakers of this city, and

whose great grandfather, the Hon. Matthew Clarkson, was one of Philadelphia's mayors.

Colonel Torr, in the course of his long life, was intimately acquainted with many great men whose names marked famous epochs in the history of the United States, in the nineteenth century. He was gifted with a finely stored and phenomenally retentive memory, and, being an effective and excellent raconteur, was able to delight his friends with vivid accounts of the sayings and doings of those whose names are household words. He was repeatedly thrown into the company of General Jackson, and was a close friend of Nicholas Biddle, of whom his recollections were especially full and interesting. Many of the older and more prominent members of the Bay of Philadelphia were among his warm friends, particularly Judge Boutier, whom he considered one of the wisest and most eminent men of his time. William M. Meredith, Ferdinand Hubbell, Josiah Randall, Horace Binney, John Sergeant, Admiral Stewart and Charles J. Biddle; James Gowen, Sen., Dr. Mease, Pierce Butler, Algernon S. Roberts, John B. Myers, Professor Charles D. Meigs, David S. Brown, George Fales, Frederick Graff, Caleb Hope, Hon. John Welsh, Professor Gibson, Jasper Harding, Hon. Charles Thomson Jones, J. Edgar Thompson, Charles Stewart Parnell, and Robert Ralston were some of the distinguished citizens who have passed away, whose friendship was his valued possession.

Colonel Torr's family were Episcopalians denominationally, being members of the Protestant Episcopal Church of St. Timothy's in Roxborough.

Mr. Torr was a long member of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Academy of the Fine Arts, and the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture.

He had two sons in the Civil war, who distinguished themselves, one of whom lost his life at the siege of Knoxville, Tenn.

Rev. Mark Richards Watkinson was the first regularly settled pastor of the Falls Baptist Church, after it erected its present building, in 1852. He was born on a farm in Burlington County, N. J., October 4th, 1824. His parents were Abel and Deborah Watkinson. When 14 years of age he was converted, under the ministry of the Rev. Samuel Cornelius, at Mount Holly, N. J.

He was soon afterward apprenticed to the printing business in connection with the Mount Holly "Herald", where he remained until he was 21 years of age, when he removed to Philadelphia and connected himself with the Broad Street Baptist Church, then under the pastoral care of Rev. J. Lansing Burrows.

It wasn't very long before he was licensed by the church, and was sent to Lewisburg University where he remained for 18 months, and was then sent to Columbian College, at Washington, D. C., where he finished his studies. He first served as a supply for the Bristol Baptist

Church, where he received a call to the pastorate of the Ridley Park Baptist Church, in Delaware County, where he was ordained. Having accepted a call to the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, his eloquence, and powers of oratory soon drew a large congregation. He afterward served in other churches, in Portsmouth, Va., Camden, N. J., and Baltimore, Md. He died in September 1877, and was buried in the old home burial grounds of the Pemberton Baptist Church in New Jersey.

11-7-1929

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

George Tappen, one of Manayunk's early merchants, was born in Dutchess County, New York, on May 5th, 1809, and was the son of Matthew Tappen, one of the old knickerbockers of New York, a cousin of whose, named Johanna Tappen, married Governor Clinton, of New York.

The family, like so many of New York, was of Dutch ancestry, and descended from one of four brothers of that name, who left the kingdom of the Netherlands sometime about the middle of the 17th century, and emigrated, one to England, and three to the United States; one of these, the grandfather of the above, settled in Poughkeepsie, N. Y. His father, the great-grandfather of George Tappen, was surveyor to the King of Holland, who gave him a grant of land in New York State, which embraced the city then called Athens. Tappen Bay, formerly Tappen Zee, on the Hudson, and the town of Tappen, received their names from this family. A number of families settled on parts of this property as time progressed, and, in order to prevent their right being questioned by his descendants, an ancestor of Mr. Tappen's caused the deeds to be destroyed on his death-bed.

George Tappen began his business life as an apprentice to a hatter (named Knower) and, at the expiration of his "prentice days" started business on his own, in Philadelphia, about the year 1840, on 2nd street, between Race and Vine streets, he and another, named Ross, being the first two hat manufacturers in the city. This trade had been that of Tappen's father and grandfather while living in New York.

In 1846 Mr. Tappen removed his business to Manayunk, and opened a small store here. He continued the business successfully for many years, extending his facilities, as the business increased, and gradually becoming the leading merchant in his line of trade.

He died on the 14th of Decem-

ber, 1889, and his son afterward conducted the store.

George Tappen was married in 1843, to Miss Mary Buckley, of Philadelphia, and their family consisted of six children, three sons and three daughters.

Mr. Tappen, while a most active man of business was a prominent factor in political affairs of Manayunk and took great interest in the local issues of the time. He was a staunch Democrat in politics, until 1861, when he joined with the newly-established Republican party, and continued to act strongly with that party thence onward. He never held or sought any political preferment, being content to leave the care of office to others, and being only desirous of executing the duty of a citizen in securing the election of the best man.

John Bigonet Moyer, of Roxborough, was born on Saturday, December 10th, 1808, being the son of George Moyer, a prominent builder, merchant and farmer of Roxborough, and Elizabeth (Bigonet) Moyer, who was descended from a family of French Huguenots. The elder Mr. Moyer was born in 1782.

John Bigonet Moyer received his early education in private schools of Roxborough, and on leaving school, learned the trade of carpenter and builder, of which, in those days, undertaking was a part; and, about the year of 1830, commenced business in that line on his own account. At that time the iron trade was being largely developed, and he became engaged in building a number of iron furnaces in Schuylkill County, and subsequently, as the textile industry began to assume larger proportions in Manayunk, he was also occupied in building many of the older mills and factories in that community.

In 1830, he purchased a mill on the Wissahickon, which he adopted to the purpose both as a grist and cotton mill, and in this building, he combined the business of a miller and flour dealer, together with that of the manufacture of cotton laps and wadding, conducting both very successfully until about 1847, when he sold this property and engaged in the lumber trade. This he carried on for twenty years, develop-

ing very extended and remunerative connections, until 1867, when he finally retired altogether from active business.

The latter period of his life was devoted principally to the care of his real estate interests in Roxborough and Manayunk, and other places, and also to the management of various decedents' estates, of which he was the executor. He was also officially connected with a number of building associations, in the 21st Ward, and, being a thorough and experienced accountant, and also versed in commercial law, was extremely efficient in that capacity.

Mr. Moyer took an active interest in the local affairs of the Ward, and for many years discharged the duties of School Director, Overseer, of the Poor, and the like, being always willing to assist in any public-spirited movement tending to the benefit of the section in which he lived.

He died on April 1st, 1891, at the

advanced age of 83 years. He was related by marriage to the well-known Levering family of Roxborough and Manayunk.

Mr. Moyer was married in 1823 to Miss Margaret Streeper, daughter to George Streeper, a prominent farmer of Montgomery County. She was born December 10th, 1810 being exactly two years younger than her husband. Mrs. Moyer died on May 28th, 1889, aged 79. Their family consisted of two children; a daughter, Lavinia, Elizabeth, born September 29th 1844, who married Joshua Clayton, of Mount Pleasant, Delaware, and a son.

Benjamin Robert Marley was born in Vine street, near the Schuylkill river, on August 4th, 1814. His father, John Marley, was a native of Kent County, in Maryland, a coach maker by occupation, and his mother was Ann (Sorber) Marley.

After receiving a limited education he was apprenticed to John Derfey, with whom he learned the carpentering business in all its branches. In 1840, having settled with his parents, on the west side of the Schuylkill river, near Belmont, he started a carpentering business at the Falls of Schuylkill, where he became extensively known as a reliable and conscientious master builder.

Shortly after coming to the Falls he became interested in religious matters and was baptized into the fellowship of the then struggling Falls of Schuylkill Baptist church, and at once took an active part in church and Sunday school work, and soon after was elected to the office of deacon. By the removal of

Hugh Gilmore to Arkansas, and the death of William Simpson, the proprietor of the Washington Print Works, in West Falls, the two original deacons of the church, he became senior deacon, an office which he filled with fidelity throughout his useful life, never missing a meeting unless compelled to do so through illness.

Mr. Marley was never married. After the death of his parents he made his home with his brother, Marcina, with whom he lived until the death of his brother's wife, when he went to live with his cousin, Miss Margaret Morrison, on Bowman street, where he breathed his last.

By his maternal ancestors, the Sorbers, he was connected with the early settlers of Germantown. His funeral, which occurred some time in the "Eighties," was largely attended, the services being held in the Baptist church, and conducted by the pastor, Rev. T. A. T. Hanna, and the Rev. J. G. Walker, D. D., of Mantua Baptist church. Both clergymen made addresses eulogistic of the departed. At the conclusion of the services the remains were interred in the Hood Cemetery in Germantown. The pall bearers were: Charles F. Abbot, Jacob Goffman, John Binkin, Sr., Charles K. Sorber, R. C. Revell, and Edwin Singer. Among those who were present were Judge Michael Arnold, Peter Bechtel, Henry Wiend, Esq., Dr. J. S. Rutler, Samuel Harper, Edward Foster, Daniel B. Ruffner, Daniel Hickey, John Roy, Rodney Morrison, Samuel Stewart, William Stehle, Henry J. Becker, Franklin Snyder, Henry Pretty, Samuel J. Abbot, and Joseph Johnson.

1-15-1931

Footprint Makers

By Secaff

William Camac, physician and philanthropist, was born in Philadelphia, November 26th, 1829. His great grandfather on the paternal side was Thomas Masters, an old resident of Philadelphia, whose daughter, Sarah, married Turner Camac, of Green Mount Lodge, County Louth, Ireland. William Masters Camac, father of William, married Elizabeth Baynton Markoe, daughter of John Markoe, of Philadelphia, who was the son of Abraham Markoe, the first captain and organizer of the First City Troop of Philadelphia, in the Revolutionary War.

Dr. Camac was educated at College Point, Flushing, Long Island, under the charge of William A. Muhlenberg, D. D., and at Columbia College, N. Y., where he became a thorough classical scholar assisting in the instruction of the junior students in the Greek and Latin languages. Afterwards he studied medicine and received the degree of M. D. at the Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, in March 1852, but never applied himself, in other than a desultory way, to the practice of his profession. For some time he was associated with Professor James C. Booth in partnership, in whose laboratory he had studied chemistry, and during this period he became lecturer on chemistry at Jefferson Medical College.

On the breaking out of the Civil War, having been a member of the Philadelphia City Troop from 1850, and its second lieutenant for a year, he became engaged in the three months' service and acted on the staff of General Patterson, with the rank of major. In 1862, he was appointed by Governor Curtin, an agent in New York City to attend the interest of the Pennsylvania soldiers, and later was commissioned by Surgeon General Hammond to travel through the county and provide for the proper care of the Union soldiers generally, with full authority, under which order he spent some time at Fortress Monroe.

In August of that year he was appointed Acting Assistant Surgeon of the U. S. A. and put in charge of the officers' Hospital, which had been established in his own family residence at Camac's Woods, Philadelphia, offered by him freely to the Government for this purpose, and used as such until the close of the war.

Dr. Camac was an active worker in scientific, artistic and philanthropic enterprises. He possessed no little talent for music, and always used this faculty willingly in aid of charitable objects. He was skillful in the use of mechanical tools—many of the books in his library being bound by himself, and he was practically competent at the printers' case. He was a good amateur photographer, a

creditable artist in pencil and crayon and paints well in water colors.

He was at various times a member of the Union League, the Franklin Institute, Academy of Fine Arts, Horticultural Society, a Director of the Academy of Music, President of the Amphion Musical Association, Governor of the Schuylkill Fishing Company, Founder and President of the Zoological Society—the successful establishment of which may be almost ascribed entirely to him—a member of the Ancient York Masons for many years, a manager of the Asylum for the Blind, and was on the committee of Consolidation of Philadelphia in 1855, and the Committee of the Sanitary Fair, in 1864.

Dr. Camac was married on November 25th 1851, to Ellen Maria McIlvaine, daughter of Bloomfield McIlvaine, brother of the late Bishop McIlvaine of Ohio, and son of the Hon. Joseph McIlvaine, of Burlington, N. J., for several years United State Senator.

The family residence here, was in what was familiarly known as "The Pencoyd Club," on Manayunk avenue.

Joseph Ripka, the noted manufacturer of Manayunk, was born on April 24th 1788, in Wigstadt, Austrian Silesia, being the second son of Johann, or John Ripka, who lived on a large farm there, which his family had carried on for three generations. The Ripka family was a very old one, and belonged originally to Ratgan, in Bohemia, from whence they removed to Wigstadt in the 16th century.

He was apprenticed when 12 years old to the trade of weaving and after serving the full term of five years, worked at it for two years as a journeyman. Becoming then liable to the conscription laws of Austria, which were very severe, he left his native town and went to Vienna, where he worked on damask shawls and the like for two years. The task of evading the army service—the term of which was then fourteen years—was a difficult one, passports being required even from one city to another, and the officials being on the alert for deserting conscripts. After his escape, his elder brother, Franz, was taken in his stead, and forced into the army. Hearing of this he went back to Wigstadt, with the intention of delivering himself up and securing his brother's re-

lease. Arriving home at midnight, his family persuaded him to go away again, his brother having an opportunity to purchase his release from the army. He left in the night again, within an hour or two after his arrival, and went back to Vienna, working there again for a while. Fearing the vigilance of the military authorities, however, he left for Switzerland, and from thence, after one year he went to Lyons, France, and worked as a silk weaver there for three years. In Lyons he became acquainted with the famous inventor, Jacquard, whom he assisted in working out his celebrated loom. In 1812, the Great Napoleon returned from Russia, and to recuperate his

almost destroyed armies, tried to force every available man, foreign, as well as native, into his service. To avoid this, Joseph Ripka fled, with no little difficulty to Spain, where he remained, working as a weaver, until 1816, when he finally sought the free shores of the United States.

Arriving in Philadelphia, he built a hand loom, and began to weave such goods as were in demand, and, being successful, gradually increased his looms to ten, buying the necessary yarns; dyeing, warping, and beaming them himself, and wheeling his goods in a barrow to the Market street merchants. The business expanding, he rented a large, old warehouse on Poplar street, when he remodeled and renovated at his own expense, and here he carried on hand loom weaving for ten years. This building then becoming too small for his still increasing trade, he concluded to come to Manayunk, his first visit here being in June 1830. He finally leased an old saw mill and in 1831 brought out his hand looms and concentrated his business here. In 1836 he built the mill adjoining, which was intended to hold 600 thirty inch wide power looms.

The innovation so incensed the Kensington hand loom weavers,

that a large mob came out from Philadelphia to destroy Mr. Ripka's mill, and machinery, but were stopped at the Falls of Schuylkill by the military companies of Manayunk, and induced to go back.

In response to the constantly developing trade, Mr. Ripka built other mills and dyehouses, and, in addition, both rented and bought mills outside of Manayunk, one at Chandlersville, and one at Holmesburg. At this time he had one thousand power looms in his Manayunk mills and he was, from 1840 to 1850, the largest cotton manufacturer in the United States. His goods were sent all over the country, and especially through Mexico, Texas, and the Southern States, and enjoyed a high reputation. He employed about 1500 hands, ran 150,000 cotton spindles, did his own finishing, and dyeing, and sold all his own goods. He may be justly considered the founder of Manayunk's textile industry. From 1832 to 1842 he lived in a house which occupied the site of the Reading's old Manayunk depot, and, in the latter year, removed his residence to the splendid mansion built by his son, Joseph, who died about that time, in Mount Vernon. Here he resided until his death.

The war, having caused the ruin of most of his Southern customers, and entailed a loss upon him of a quarter of a million dollars, he was forced into bankruptcy, and the mill closed. He was preparing to start them again in January 1864, but died on January 18th, of malignant fever.

He was a scholarly man, and spoke fluently the German, French and Spanish languages, and possessed a large library, in which he spent much of his leisure time.

He was an Episcopalian, and gave the ground on which St.

David's Church stands. He was a vestryman of the parish for many years.

He was married about the year 1830 to Miss Kate Geiger, of Germantown. Their family consisted of nine children—five sons and four daughters. In 1857, he brought to America, his nephew, Franz—the son of his elder brother, Franz—with his wife and family.

Jacob Hoffman, who served for many years as a deacon of the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, was a Pennsylvanian of German

descent. His grandfather, Adam Hoffman, came from Germany and was a farmer. Jacob was born November 19th, 1812, on a farm situated on the Skippack road, a place about four miles from Norristown, and about twenty miles from Philadelphia.

He was a man of great religious inclinations and stated that he "remembered his mother as a pious and prayerful woman, who taught me the power of prayer."

In the year 1829 he was "confirmed" and became a communicant of St. John's Lutheran Church on the Skippack road. It is said that the meeting house of that church which still stands on the same spot was the third or fourth one built on the same site, the original one having been a log house.

On December 25th—Christmas Day—he married to Catherine DeWitt Smith.

The Lutheran minister to whom

Mr. Hoffman listened in his youth gave him the generous counsel that when he found himself in other places where no Lutheran church existed, he should worship God in whatever church he could find. This counsel he had occasion to follow, when in young manhood, he lived in various places in Delaware and Maryland.

When, after being married and taking up his residence in the Falls of Schuylkill, he began to attend worship in the Baptist church, it was some time before he was baptized into that faith by Rev. J. S. Chesshire on January 22nd 1865.

Later Mr. Hoffman became a deacon of that church. One of his most prized possessions was an old copy of Luther's translation of the Bible. It was published in Nuremberg, in the year 1733, and contained, beside many pious comments, the ancient creeds of the universal church, and the Augsburg Confession of Faith.

2/5/1931

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

George Clay Bowker, the 5th son of John and Elizabeth (Faraday) Bowker, and one of the prominent young men of this vicinity, was born in Manayunk, and with the exception of nine months' residence in the city proper, lived there continuously.

Educated in public schools. Finished grammar school at age of 12 and launched out into business career, learning his father's business, having charge of the industrial department. During this period he attended evening school at the National School of Elocution and Oratory, and soon became an acknowledged authority on English literature. After private preparation he entered, in September 1884, the Department of Arts of the University of Pennsylvania. In his junior year he also became a student in the Wharton School of Finance and Political Economy, and there laid the foundation for the accurate and logical knowledge of political-scientific questions which made his opinions on such subjects always interesting and valuable.

He graduated from Penn in 1888 with the degree of Ph. B. In the same year he entered the law office of C. Stuart Patterson, who was dean of the law faculty at Penn. and professor of law on real estate and conveyance. In October 1889 he entered the law department of the University of Pennsylvania, from which he graduated in June 1892.

Mr. Bowker was a Republican in politics, and took due interest in National affairs, as well as local and State. He contributed to newspapers, and magazines and was a ripe Shakespearean scholar and quite at home in English criticism.

He was solicitor for the Manayunk Real Estate Company, and a vestryman of the Protestant Episcopal Church of St. Davids.

In 1889 Mr. Bowker commenced business as a conveyancer and real estate broker, opening an office at 4369 Maff street, adjoining the Manayunk National Bank, on his father's property, and within a few doors of where he was born.

11/14/1929

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

James Shaw was born in New York City, December 12th, 1807, and was the son of Thomas Shaw, who was a native of Wakefield, England, and who served as captain of Artillery in the war of 1812, and died in 1836.

James Shaw, left the metropolis when quite young, and removed to Philadelphia, where he learned the business of woolen manufacturing. In 1832 he commenced this business for himself, in Germantown, where he remained until 1835, when he came to Manayunk, and started manufacturing in the Darrach Mill, on the Canal opposite what was then Center street, in partnership with Peter Erben. This partnership was dissolved after about twelve years, Mr. Shaw continuing the mill, but turning its production into broadcloth.

After a few years he again removed, occupying a mill at the Falls of Schuylkill, on Scott's lane, which he conducted in conjunction with John Dobson, until his final retirement from the manufacturing business in 1856.

He was very active in the local affairs of the Borough of Manayunk, of which he was the Burgess for many years. He was a School Director of the section for a long period, and took a most prominent part in everything connected with public education.

He was married in 1823, to Miss Catherine Foster, who was also of English birth, and came to this country about 1819. Their family consisted of four sons and four daughters.

Mr. Shaw died in Manayunk, on February 24th, 1885, aged 78 years. His wife died in 1887.

John Richter Jones was born on Sunday, October 2nd, 1803, in Salem, N. J., where his father, the Rev. Horatio Gates Jones was pastor of the Salem Baptist church. About 1805 his father settled in Roxborough, taking up his residence in a house which had been built by one of his paternal ancestors, who were of German descent.

John Richter Jones obtained his early education at the Levering Public School, and also at Germantown Academy, on School lane, Germantown, being accustomed to walk from Roxborough to the latter school. He afterward entered the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated in 1821.

In 1827 Mr. Jones was admitted to the Bar of Philadelphia, and in 1836 he became one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas in Philadelphia County. He built the first Elizabethan cottage in Roxborough, on part of his ancestral ground, which cottage was afterwards sold to D. Rodney King, who subsequently sold the same to Dr. William Camac.

This place is familiar to present

day residents as "The American Bridge Club," on Manayunk avenue.

His term of Judge expired in 1847, and, his family being greatly affected by a robbery which took place at his house, in which he almost lost his life, he concluded to move to Lycoming, and afterwards to Sullivan County, Pennsylvania, where he owned an estate of five thousand acres of land.

On the outbreak of the Civil War, while still residing in Sullivan County, he raised, in 1861, the 58th Pennsylvania Volunteers, of which he was commissioned the Colonel. The regiment had its headquarters at first on East Leverington avenue, on the property where now stands the Gorgas Home for Women. It is said that one of the before-mentioned robbers became a member of that regiment, stating to an officer that he wished to be in a group commanded by a man without fear of death.

While observing some of the Confederate forces, on May 23rd, 1863, a Southern sharpshooter, recognizing him as a colonel, and commander of the attacking forces, shot him through the heart, from behind a chimney. He was the only one of his command who was killed. His death was universally lamented, and his body was embalmed and sent to Philadelphia, where it lay in state in Independence Hall. He was buried in Leverington Cemetery, with the largest military funeral ever seen in Roxborough.

Out at the University of Pennsylvania, on the soldier's roll of honor, placed by the Alumni Association in the University Chapel, his is the first name inscribed.

He left a widow, Mrs. Anna (Clay) (Laussat) Jones, daughter of Hon. Joseph Clay, M. C., of Philadelphia, and widow of Anthony Laussat, Jr.

Their children were a son, Horatio Morgan Jones, and three daughters, Estella, wife of C. Geyelin; Anna H., married to Daniel Rodgers, of San Francisco, and Virginia Clay, married to Henry C. Walton, who had one child.

Judge Jones devoted a great deal of time to the study of the Welsh language, as being descended, on his father's side, from Welsh parentage. An ancestor of his was a celebrated Welsh preacher named Morgan Ap Ryddarch Ap Dafydd Ap Gruffydd.

Charles F. Abbot was born in Boston, on April 5th, 1821, the son of Samuel and Abigail (Spear) Abbot. When he was seven years old the family moved to Leominster, Massachusetts, and made a home there.

His first steps in education were taken in Boston, where he was sent to a private school at the age of six; he afterward had the training given in the public schools of Leominster and of Boston, and was also under private tutors.

Leominster continued to be his home until he was seventeen years of age when, in the year 1838, he went to Richmond, Va., to live with a brother, who was in business in that city.

Mr. Abbot's sojourn in Richmond lasted until August 1840, when he

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went back to Leominster. In January 1845 he removed to Philadelphia, and united with the Roxborough Baptist church, which he served as one of the trustees of church property for two years.

In 1847, Benjamin R. Marley, whose name was mentioned in this column last week, persuaded Mr. Abbot to move to the Falls of Schuylkill, where he resided until his death.

In April, 1848, he was married to Elizabeth Evans, of Philadelphia, who was of Baptist lineage and profession.

He was a deacon of the Falls Baptist church, and a faithful and exceedingly useful citizen. In the Civil War, when Pennsylvania was invaded, he volunteered and was a soldier in one of the regiments hastily gathered to meet the terrible emergency which culminated at Gettysburg. He was a member of the Philadelphia Board of Public Education.

Footprint Makers

Charles Conrad Schneider, who once lived over the river, in Pencoyd, was born in Apolda, in the Duchy of Saxony, Germany, on Monday, April 24th, 1843. He was the son of Julius Schneider, and Emilie (Bengel) Schneider. His father and grandfather were textile manufacturers in Apolda, the earlier generations of the family, however, having all been members of the learned professions.

He received his preliminary education in his native city, and, at the close of his school days, was placed as an apprentice in a machine shop, where he acquired the practical knowledge of the details of ironworking. Having learned this branch thoroughly, he began the study of civil and mechanical engineering, in which he took a full preparatory course, receiving a diploma as a graduate of the Royal School of Technology, at Chemnitz, in 1864. Afterwards he engaged for some years, in active professional practice in Germany, as an engineer.

In 1868 he came to the United States and for three years was employed as draughtsman in the Rogers Locomotive Works, at Paterson, N. J. He then accepted the position of assistant engineer of the Michigan Bridge and Construction Company, at Detroit, remaining there until July 1873, when he became engineer in charge of the general offices of the Erie Railroad Company, in New York City.

For some months, about the close of 1876, and the early part of 1877, he was engaged in connection with the Board of Engineers of the New York and Long Island Bridge Company, in preparing designs for the proposed bridge across the East River to connect Blackwell's Island with the city, which was not, however, carried into effect. For a

year after this he was the engineer of the Delaware Bridge Company, of New York, and then established himself independently as a civil engineer in the metropolis, making a specialty of bridge building and designing. During this period he became the constructor of some important and famous bridges, such as, among others, the Fraser River Bridge, on the Canadian Pacific Railroad, which he designed under instructions from the Canadian Government; the Niagara Cantilever bridge; the Marent Guich Viaduct, on the Northern Pacific Railroad; and the Stony Creek Viaduct, which latter was at that time the highest viaduct built in this country. He was also the designer, in 1825, of the Manhattan Bridge across the Harlem River, in New York, for which he was awarded the first prize by the Bridge Commissioners.

In May 1886, Mr. Schneider became the chief engineer of the Pencoyd Bridge and Construction Company, at the large iron works on the west side of the Schuylkill river, opposite the mouth of the Wissahickon.

He was a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers and of the German Society of Engineers of Berlin. In 1896 he was accorded the "Rowland Prize," by the former corporation, for his description of the Niagara Bridge.

Mr. Schneider was married on January 8th, 1880, to Miss Katherine Clyde Winters, daughter of John J. Winters, one of the oldest residents of Paterson, N. J., and a well known merchant in New York City.

Fergus Peel, of the Falls of Schuylkill, who died on December 1st, 1916, at the age of seventy-five years, was born in Huddersfield, England, on October 3rd, 1841, and when 18 months old was brought to this country by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Peel.

The father was a calico block printer and came to this section to work in Simpson's silk handkerchief works. The family resided for many years on the west side of the Schuylkill River, in a little stone building a short distance above the Falls Bridge.

Fergus and his brother, Washington, fitted up an athletic park on the site now occupied by the Montrose Boat Club, and there taught their boy friends boxing and other stunts, at which the Peels' were experts.

Fergus at one time was offered tempting inducements to train pugilists for the prize ring, but declined the offer. He and his brother were also skilled in rowing.

In his youth Fergus learned the profession of butchering, which he carried on until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he enlisted in the Union Army, and served four years, most of which was in the Third Pennsylvania Cavalry. His father, Robert, and his brother, Washington, enlisted in the Mozart New York Regiment of Infantry, in which Washington was, for heroic conduct, promoted to a lieutenantcy, after which he died from wounds received in battle.

After the war, Fergus, resumed the butcher business, and in 1872, was appointed to the police force,

by Mayor Stokley, and was assigned to the 22nd District, where he served until the 39th District was established, when he was transferred to the local station. He remained on the police force for a long time, until but a few years before his death.

In his early manhood, Fergus Peel married Miss Elizabeth Harper, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Harper, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Harper, of West Falls. Mrs. Peel died in June, 1913, at her residence in Tioga.

Mr. Peel was a member of the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, and of Palestine Lodge, No. 470, F. and A. M. His remains were laid to rest in Leverington Cemetery.

2-13-30

Footprint Makers

By Scoff

Matthew Pester was born in West Penard, Somersetshire, England, on May 9th, 1816. About 1930 the family emigrated to the United States and settled in Manayunk. He began to work as a spinner in Kempton's Mill, and continued there until 1836, when he became assistant to his brother, James Pester, who carried on the business of a butcher in Upper Roxborough, near the Shawmont Filtration Plant.

Having learned this trade he started an independent establishment of his own, which he conducted with success for the long period of 28 years. In 1866 he retired from that business and began operations in real estate, acting also as an auctioneer and enjoying in both businesses the same good fortune which had always attended him. About 1880 he finally retired from regular activity.

Mr. Pester was married on April 19th, 1839, to Miss Eliza Book. A family of fourteen children was the issue of this marriage, of whom

eight lived to maturity. Mr. and Mrs. Pester celebrated the 50th anniversary of their wedding on April 18th, 1889. The golden wedding was graced by the presence of thirty-two grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Mr. Pester died on August 14th, 1891, at the age of 75 years.

In 1866 Mr. Pester was elected an alderman of the 21st Ward, and served for one year, but declined re-election.

He was an active member of the Odd Fellows, K. of P. and the Red Men, but withdraw from them in his last years, on account of the pressure of business. He was an earnest Christian, a charter member of the Central M. E. Church, of Roxborough, which he assisted greatly to organize in 1871, and to which he had previously transferred his membership from Mt. Zion church in Manayunk. His funeral took place at the Central M. E. church, on Tuesday, August 18th,

1891, when a large assembly paid final tribute to his memory. His body was interred in Leverington Cemetery.

James Christie, of Pencoyd, was born in Ottawa, Canada, on August 23th, 1849, being the second son of Thomas A. Christie, and Elizabeth Holmes Christie, both of whom were Scotch, his father being of a well-known family of Aberdeenshire.

His preliminary education was received in Ottawa, and, in his 16th year, he went to the western part of the United States, and became employed with a railroad construction corps, under the guardianship of his uncle, Alexander Christie, one of the pioneers of railroad construction in this country. In 1859, he was apprenticed to L. P. Morris & Company, of Philadelphia, and, in their large works, learned the trade of machinist.

In 1865 he removed to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, as a mechanical engineer, and engaged in the design and construction of iron works. Returning eastward in 1869, he located for a time, at Phillipsburg, N. J., and occupied himself in the production of iron bridges, then one of the infant industries; becoming greatly interested in the development of this important branch of manufacture. In 1876 he accepted an appointment with the firm of A. and P. Roberts, and, after that time was identified with those well-known works.

During the Civil War he served with the Pennsylvania Militia in the Antietam Campaign of 1862, and in the following year, entered the service of the United States in the Emergency Corps, being engaged in all the operations against Lee's Army, from the attack in the Susquehanna Valley to the final retreat across the Potomac at Falling Waters.

Mr. Christie was always actively interested in the politics of the 21st Ward, without becoming partisan in any objectionable sense. He

was a frequent contributor to the secular and technical literature of the day, and was the author of several notable essays in the scientific journals.

He was a member of the American Association for the advancement of science; of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and of the American Society of Civil Engineers, having been awarded by the latter, in 1884, the "Norman Medal," its highest prize for an engineering essay. He was also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In local scientific circles he was a member of the Franklin Institute, and the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, serving as president of the latter from 1892.

Mr. Christie was married in June, 1866, to Miss Mary Jane Maxwell, daughter of William R. Maxwell, of Philadelphia. Their family consisted of three children.

Michael Barry, who was born near Queenstown, Ireland, in 1825, came to America in 1844, and soon afterward settled at the Falls of Schuylkill.

During his lifetime perhaps no resident of the Falls was more widely known, or highly respected than

Michael Barry. For many years he was gardener and farmer for the Ralston family, which resided in what is now Mount Peace Cemetery. He afterward filled similar positions at Villanova College, and at "Eden Hall," the convent established by the Drexel family.

He was a cousin of the late Rev. Thomas J. Barry, the lamented pastor of St. Ann's Church, in Richmond. He was twice married but survived both wives.

He was the first cash contributor to the infant parish of St. Bridget's in the erection of the old church on Stanton street.

Mr. Barry died on June 16th, 1904, and he was buried from the home of his friend, Jeremiah Hanlon, at 3113 North 35th street, with whom he had resided for years. The celebrant of the funeral mass was Rev. M. C. Donovan, rector of St. Paul's Church, and an intimate friend of the deceased. Rev. Fathers Fitzgerald and Shehan acted as Deacon and sub-Deacon, with Rev. Thomas J. McMenamin as pastor in charge of the ceremonies. Rev. William Walsh, rector of St. Bridget's Church also sat within the sanctuary rail.

The interment was made in Old Cathedral Cemetery, with Michael Murphy, David Kane, Thomas Welsh, John Cornelius and Jeremiah Hanlon being the pall bearers.

11-13-1930

Footprint Makers

By Scoff

Alexander Wallace Given was born June 29th, 1833, on Passyunk avenue, Philadelphia, being the fourth son of Robert Wallace Given and Agnes (Irvin) Given. Both his father and grandfather were natives of County Antrim, Ireland, while his mother was born at Newton, Ireland.

He was educated at the Locust street Grammar School in Philadelphia and afterwards learned the paper hanging trade. In 1859 he removed to Roxborough, and commenced business on his own account at the corner of Lyceum and Ridge avenues.

In July, 1862, he enlisted in Company "F" of the 114th Penna. Vol., under Captain Frank A. Elliot. He remained with the Army until the close of the war, and participated in the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Mine Run, Wilderness, Petersburg and others. He was promoted through all the subaltern grades up to first lieutenant; finally for meritorious services, being breveted captain. In April, 1864, while home on a furlough, his friends in Manayunk and Roxborough presented him with a handsome sword.

In June 1865, the regiment was mustered out, and he returned home, resuming the business of paper hanging on Ridge avenue, Roxborough, and Manayunk and also in Philadelphia. In 1874, he disposed of these establishments

and purchased the house and store at 4342 Main street, Manayunk, where he continued the business until 1881, in which year he adopted the business of insurance. In this he remained for years, being special agent for the Pennsylvania Fire Insurance Company.

Mr. Given took a life-long interest in the Temperance cause, having taken the total abstinence pledge, and connected himself with the Silver Spring Cadets of Temperance of Philadelphia, in 1850, when but 12 years of age, and became the worthy patron of Leverington Section No. 33, which he organized in Roxborough in 1859. He became the head of this order in Pennsylvania, in 1874, and its head in North America, in 1888, at Baltimore, Md. He was a member of the Sons of Temperance, having in 1857 formed Friendship Division No. 19, from which he retired in order to re-organize the Leverington Division in Roxborough. This division was broken up through the greater part of its members joining the army.

Mr. Given entered Manayunk Division No. 54, of the Sons of Temperance in 1863, and on the close of the war, in 1865, re-entered the Grand Division. In 1875, he was elected to the important position of Grand Worthy Patriarch of Pennsylvania, and in 1878, at Concord, N. H., to that of Most Worthy Sentinel of the National Division of North America, having thus risen from a little Temperance Cadet to take a seat among the sages of the Temperance Cause in that great national body.

He became a member of the Second Presbyterian Church in 1895, and in 1859, on removing to Roxborough, he connected himself with the Fourth Reformed Church; in March 1861, being elected the superintendent of the Sunday School. He was also an elder in the church, and represented it in the Classis, Particular Synod, and General Synod, the highest ecclesiastical bodies of that denomination.

He was a member of the Loyal Legion, and of the Hetty A. Jones Post No. 12, G. A. R., and served as the latter's Post Commander. He was instrumental in keeping the comrades of his old regiment together in an association, of which he was for two years the president, his successor being Col. R. Dale Benson. He also organized the Sons of Veterans into an association, as the 114th Regiment Junior Association.

Mr. Given was married on December 15th, 1859, to Miss Annie Patton, second daughter of Richard Patton, an honored citizen of the 21st Ward.

Mrs. Given died on June 5th, 1870. Four children were born of this marriage: Robert Wallace, Fannie, and Anne Patton, the latter becoming the wife of J. Dobson Schofield of Manayunk.

Mr. Given was a past master of Roxborough Lodge, No. 135 A. Y. M., and a member of Right Worshipful Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania; also of Harmony Chapter, No. 52, H. A. R. M.; of Saint Alban's Commandery No. 47, Knights Templars. He was a director of the Penny Savings Bank, of Manayunk, and a member of the Silver Spring

with the rank of Colonel. He died on October 4th, 1917.

Robert Evans Dennison, clergyman, was born in Londonderry, Ireland, Sunday, July 30th, 1843, and was the eldest son of Hugh Dennison, and Anne (Keilty) Dennison. An uncle of his, Dr. Robert Evans, a member of the well known Evans family, from whom he was named, was a leading surgeon of Londonderry. The family emigrated from Ireland to the United States in May 1844, going at first to Albany, N. Y., and again removing five years later to Utica, and finally settling in 1853, in Geneva, in the western part of New York State. Here the former rector of St. Timothy's Church began his higher education, first at the classical school of Walter T. Taylor, a noted linguist of that day, and afterwards, in 1859, matriculating at Hobart College, in Geneva, where he took his B. A. Degree in 1863, the M. A. following in due course in 1865.

Shortly after his academical year in 1863, he became the master of Christ Church Parochial School, at Redwing, Minnesota, of which parish the Rev. Mr. Wells, better known as Bishop Wells, was priest in charge. He remained at Redwing about a year, and in September 1865, entered the General Theological Seminary of New York City, and became a postulant for Holy Orders. In June, 1867, on Trinity Sunday, he was ordained, to the Diaconate, by the Right Rev. Bishop Coxé, of western New York, in Oswego, and in December 1868, he was admitted to Priest's Orders by the Bishop of New York, in Trinity Chapel, New York City. While a Deacon he was assistant to Bishop Southgate, at Zion Church, in the metropolis, and also in the first of his priesthood. In May 1869, he was transferred to St. Mark's Church, Locust street, Philadelphia, of which Dr. E. A. Hoffman, of the Theological Seminary of New York was rector, as one of the Junior Clergy, retaining connection with that famous parish for almost two years; eventually in May 1871, accepting the important post of rector of Grace Church in the city of Newark, N. J., as the successor of the Rev. J. S. B. Hodges, since of St. Paul's, Baltimore. He retained the rectorship of this church for two years and a half, resigning at the end of August, 1873. It was while in Newark that the Rev. Mr. Dennison did some of his most arduous parochial work. In addition to the spiritual cares attending upon a large parish, he originated and carried through to a successful issue a great number of improvements in the church buildings, which almost amounted to a renewal of them. He secured for these purposes, in the short time of about 18 months, contributions of \$40,000 and a large piece of land adjoining the church, on which the Parish Buildings were erected, the church itself being beautified by an enlarged chancel, a new altar of Caen stone, with handsome polished marble steps, and a carved reredos thirty-five feet in height.

In 1875, Mr. Dennison became assistant priest at St. Timothy's Church, Roxborough, and in April,

1877, on the retirement of the Rev. W. A. White, the rector of the church. During his incumbency the parish enjoyed a career of uninterrupted prosperity and progress.

He was married in New York City on August 18th, 1868, in the Church of St. John the Evangelist, to Miss Anna Laura Burdett, of New York, who was a descendant of a French family of the same name, who came to this country from France in 1703, and settled at Fort Lee, N. J., on the Hudson, opposite New York.

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

Joseph Miller Adams was born in Tamany, Donegal County, Ireland, on Sunday October 5th 1850, being the 8th child of John Adams and Ann (Miller) Adams. In 1853 the family came to the United States, and settled in Philadelphia, where the elder Mrs. Adams died in 1870.

He obtained his early education at the public schools in West Philadelphia, and afterwards at the Newton Boys' Grammar School. After leaving school he learned the trade of carding, at which he was employed from 1870 to 1874. In 1875, he began business on his own account as a grocer in West Philadelphia, and, in 1873, entered into partnership with Robert Ray, at Hestonville, for the manufacture of carpet yarn. This partnership only continued for about a year, being dissolved in 1879, in which year Mr. Adams came to Manayunk. His first venture was in the Enterprise Mill, on Main street, where he started spinning in 1880, and continued it successfully until the building was destroyed by fire. Though a serious loss was brought about by this disaster, he at once established himself at Kenworthy's Mill, on Shur's lane, remaining in this location until the opportunity occurred—in 1886—to secure the premises occupied by him on the Canal bank, opposite Centre street, then the property of James Winpenny. The mill he purchased and greatly improved, doubling its capacity, and here conducted an extensive and prosperous carpet yarn factory, known as the Arcola Mills.

In 1874—on December 15th—Mr. Adams was married to Miss Mary E. Rawlins, of Lower Merion township, in Montgomery county. The marriage was celebrated at the Baptist parsonage on Locust street below 36th street, West Philadelphia, by the Rev. Dr. George Dana Boardman. Two children were born to the couple.

He was an active member of the Wissahickon Baptist Church, and for two years the superintendent of the Sunday School. He was also president of the Board of Church Trustees, and was the chairman of

the erection of the new chapel.

Politically Mr. Adams was an ardent Republican and a steady advocate of the principals of that party. In 1882 he was elected to the School Board, and before taking his seat was appointed to fill the unexpired term of John G. Brooks, resigned. In 1886 he was again elected to this board, resigning on his election to the Common Council in 1889. During his term as member of the School Board he was largely responsible in securing the new school building at Wissahickon. In Council he was an advocate of the Terminal bill, the Belt Line, the Free Manayunk

Bridge, the Roxborough Police station, and the appropriation of \$25,000 for school purposes in the ward.

He was a member of Roxborough Lodge, No. 135, A. Y. M., Harmony Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, Mary Commander, K. T., and the Manufacturers Club of Philadelphia.

William Nixon, the elder brother of the Martin Nixon, the paper maker, and father of William H. Nixon, was born in 1810, and was apprenticed to the trade of paper-making with Richard Ames, on Mill Creek, near Conshohocken, being the only one of the brothers who began life in this line. He was for a long time superintendent for Samuel Eckstein, who carried on the first paper mill in Manayunk. Prior to his admission into the Flat Rock firm he also carried on a paper mill at Cresheim Creek, and another at Mill Creek.

He was married about 1835 to Miss Mary Ann Stephens, of Rockland, Delaware. They had five children, Theodore A., William Henry, Cornelia M., Sarah M., and Catherine S. Nixon.

William Nixon died on December 2nd, 1846, at the early age of 36 years.

William Henry Nixon, son of the preceding, and afterward head of the paper making firm, was born on Sunday, January 26th, 1840, in Manayunk, in a house on the banks of the Schuylkill, which formed a part of the Campbell Mill property. It was once a part of the "Eckstein" paper mill buildings.

Mr. Nixon received his education at the old Roxborough School, near Crease's lane, and from thence went to a private academy in Wilmington, and subsequently at Nazareth Hall, in Nazareth, Pa. In 1855 he left the last named seminary and became a clerk in the

Philadelphia Office of a paper mill, continuing so for two years. In 1857, he returned to Manayunk and was engaged in the office of the mill at Flat Rock, where he remained for five years.

In 1863, he again removed to the Philadelphia office, and assumed clerical work there. In 1879 he was admitted a member of the firm.

Mr. Nixon was a member of Roxborough Lodge, No. 135, of the Masonic Order, of the Union League of Philadelphia, and of the Manufacturers Club.

He was married in March 1861, to Miss Clara R. Pearson, daughter of

John and Martha Pearson, of Green lane, Manayunk. Of the three children who were born to them, one only, Edward Pearson Nixon, survived.

10-6-1930

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

Rev. Thomas A. T. Hanna, pastor of the Falls Baptist Church, many years ago, entered upon his work at the church in March 1887.

He was born the 6th of August, 1842, in the North of Ireland, on a farm not far from the town of Coleraine, and about six miles from the Giant's causeway. His paternal grandfather was Thomas Hanna, a surgeon on the Royal Navy, who had the good fortune and the honor to do his duty at the famous victory of Trafalgar. On the other hand, the maternal grandfather was Alexander Carson, LL. D. the champion of the Baptist faith, who was the protagonist against the whole world of the learned, in maintaining that Greek word "Baptizo" meant to "dip or immerse," and meant nothing else.

The family of which Rev. T. A. T. Hanna was the third child, moved to Glasgow, in Scotland, when he was three years of age, and resided there until he was seven years old. In August 1849, they took a steamer at Liverpool and came to America, landing at New York and living there a number of years. He attended the public schools in New York City. From eleven years of age until 16, he worked in down town New York in various merchantile establishments, mostly in the book trade.

With his brother, William T. C. Hanna, who was also a minister, he was baptized in January 1858, at 16 Wall street, N. Y.

He went to the grammar school of Madison University at Hamilton, and then to a theological seminary for eight years. He was proficient in eight languages, and supplied various churches in Central New York State.

Mr. Hanna received a call from Central Church of Brooklyn, N. Y., in 1866 and became pastor of the flock in August and was ordained in September. He was married in June 1870 to Emily Frances Judson, daughter of Adoniram Judson, the missionary, and Emily C. Judson, his wife.

William Ring, manufacturer, was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, on the 4th of April, 1830, and was the son of David Ring, and Jane (Bolton) Ring. The family were American, though originally, on the paternal side, of French intermixture. The Quaker school of Sudsbury, gave Mr. Ring his early preliminary instruction, and afterwards, on their complete establish-

ment, he attended the public schools. On leaving school he went to Lower Merion in Montgomery County, to learn the manufacturing business in the mill of his brother, Enos B. Ring, who was a manufacturer of woolen yarns there, but who within a year or two removed the factory to Mill Creek in the same county. While here Enos B. Ring died, whereupon a partnership was formed between himself and two brothers—David and Jonathan Ring—for the continuance of the business. This was in 1853. The three brothers carried on the mill here until 1857, in which year they removed it to Flat Rock and continued it successfully in the new location until 1865, when the buildings were destroyed by fire. This disaster caused a re-arrangement of the brothers, David and William formed a new firm under the style of D. & W. Ring, and removed the factory to Philadelphia, securing premises at Ninth and Wallace streets, where in 1869 they again suffered the destruction of their factory by fire. The next removal, which proved to be the last, was to the mill on the northwest corner of Randolph and Jefferson street.

The buildings of this mill were of the dimensions of 225 feet by 50 feet, and two stories in height, the number of operatives being about sixty. The branch of manufacturing was that of woolen yarns, which was the staple product of this house from the first. The machinery employed consisted of five sets of large improved woolen carding machines, and three-thousand and five hundred spindles, besides doubling twisting, reeling and other machinery. The market was found mainly in the southwestern section, though a general trade was done in all parts of the United States.

Mr. Ring was a resident of Roxborough for many years, and actively concerned with most of the interests of the ward. He was an overseer of the Poor; a member of the Board of School Directors of the 21st Ward for 21 years; and for 20 years a director of the Roxborough Lyceum. He was one of the incorporators of the Manayunk and Roxborough Inclined Plane Railway, and was a director from the commencement in 1874. He was a member of the Roxborough Lodge, No. 66, I. O. O. F., having originally joined the lodge in May 1854 and for 27 years was its treasurer. He was also a representative to the Grand Lodge of the same order for 22 years.

He was a Baptist as to church affiliation, attending the services of the Roxborough Baptist Church, and was a manager of St. Timothy's Hospital.

Mr. Ring was married in 1854, in Lower Merion, to Miss Mary Ann Chadwick, daughter of William Chadwick, manufacturer, of Rose Glen, Montgomery County. Six children were born to them, of whom two only are now living.

9-11-1930

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

ALOYSIUS J. SCHISSLER

Aloysius Joseph Schissler, proprietor and principal of the Schissler Business College, of Manayunk and Norristown, was the fifth son of John Michael Schissler, and Mary (Schall) Schissler, and was born in Manayunk on November 23rd, 1864.

The family was of German descent on both sides. On the paternal side, his grandparents were Frederick Schissler, and Christianna (Bidelstein) Schissler. His grandfather was a gentleman farmer in Waldangeloch, in the Grand Duchy of Baden, Germany. He was a native of Elstersheim, came to the United States in 1852, after several of his family had settled here, and

died at the Falls of Schuylkill, in 1876, at the advanced age of 33. His wife died in Waldangeloch, in 1843. His third son—John Michael Schissler—father of the above, came to this country in 1844, and died in 1887, in Manayunk, aged 71 years. His mother, Mary (Schall) Schissler, was the third daughter and seventh child of Anthony Schall and Marguerite (Nieumeyer) Schall, who were the third German family to settle in Manayunk; Anthony Schall coming here with his two eldest children in 1831, and his wife following in 1832, with the other seven children. Anthony Schall was a native of Reichenbach, in the Duchy of Baden, Germany, near the celebrated watering place, Baden-Baden. He owned a large quarry in Reichenbach, and supplied the stone work for many of the buildings in Baden-Baden. He died in Manayunk, January 1st 1852, at the great age of 82 years. Their daughter, Mrs. Mary (Schall) Schissler, died in February 1869. She was married to J. M. Schissler in 1846.

A. J. Schissler attended the public schools for a few years while quite young, and, at nine years of age, commenced work in the Manayunk mills, chiefly at the Campbell, Crompton and Arkwright mills, continuing the same uninterruptedly—without the loss of a single day's time—until he attained his majority. When about 15 years old he started out, on a systematic plan, to obtain a higher education, and from this "turning point," he steadily progressed. At first he began a system of private study, buying cheap second-hand books at Leary's book store in Philadelphia, as he could spare a little money, and, when a book had been read and digested, taking it back to the bookstore, as part of the price of another. He continued this mode of arduous self-instruction for about three years, never being able to afford the luxury of a new book, nor to retain the second hand ones after having used them. When 18 years of age he attended the public night schools, receiving, after a steady attendance of three winter-

seasons, the only diploma in a class of 240 scholars, for diligence and punctuality. After this he took a special six-months' course in mathematics under the preceptorship of Professor R. T. Murphy. During all this period he worked without any intermission in the mills, and was the main support of his family. The small sums of money required in his educational projects were obtained by severe economy and by continual relinquishment of all personal indulgence, especially of tobacco, and stimulants, to the total abstinence from both of which his success is mainly to be attributed.

In 1825, when 21, he finally ceased mill-work, and took a course at a business college in Philadelphia, graduating in 1826. He then obtained a clerkship at Messrs. McLain & Vouter's, grain merchants, at Third and Tasker streets, Philadelphia, resigning this shortly afterwards in order to become book-keeper and salesman for a manufacturing company in Manayunk, where he remained until the house went out of business three years later.

On the 18th of September, 1820, Mr. Schissler married Miss Louisa Cecilia Wunsch, daughter of Anselin Wunsch and Margaret (Warker) Wunsch, of Manayunk.

In September, 1827, while employed in the day-time as a bookkeeper, he commenced the Schissler College of Business, in Manayunk, in a small and tentative way, and in opposition to the idea that such an institution could not be maintained in the town. During the first year the sessions were held at his own residence, and on two evenings of the week—Mondays and Thursdays. The success of this year's experiment encouraged him to further development of the system, and the second year, 1828, found the College established in specially prepared quarters at 4410 Baker street, and with sessions every evening except Saturday. The opening of the third year, September 1829, was signalized by the creation of day sessions, the institution thus reaching its full expansion, and taking a position in line with the older academies of the same class. The increase of patronage secured by the college was phenomenal, being more than 300 per cent.

On the opening of the Fall School Season of 1831, Mr. Schissler organized a college at Norristown, which town was then without any such school, in the Albertson Trust Building, at Main and Swede streets, opposite the Court House. It was fitted with every new appliance, and held its first session on the 14th of September, being pronounced a success at once.

The growth of the schools was exceptional, especially that of Manayunk, which was probably unprecedented. It sprang into public favor as soon as organized, securing immediate and most liberal patronage, and constantly increasing popularity and prosperity. Skillful and conscientious service was given to every student, the most expert and capable instructors employed, its teaching comprehensive and practical, and its dealings with its patrons strictly just and honorable.

Hugh Gilmore, son of Andrew Gilmore, was born in Ireland and

when a young man came to this country with his parents, and with them settled on a farm on the old Ridge road, a mile below the Falls of Schuylkill. Young Gilmore was well educated, having studied with a view of becoming a physician. Shortly after coming to this country, he attended with an acquaintance the Blockley Baptist Church, and was there converted and baptized into the fellowship of that church.

Having been brought up by his parents, who were Methodists, in their behalf, he carefully studied the New Testament in reference to the mode of Christian baptism. Subsequently he withdrew from the Blockley Church, in order to help form the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church. He afterward removed to Little Rock, Arkansas, from which place, some years after he was taken to his reward.

Rev. J. G. Walker, D. D., was born at the Falls of Schuylkill, December 28th, 1840 and baptized March 21st 1858, by Rev. N. Judson Clark; graduated from Philadelphia High School in 1858, and from the University at Lewisburg, Pa., in 1862. In January 1863, he became a pastor there until May 1868, having been ordained December 5th 1865. In October 1868, he took charge of the church at Balligomingo, Pennsylvania, where he remained until November, 1872, when he became pastor of the Mantua Church in Philadelphia.

Dr. Walker was honored by Central High School, the college at Lewisburg; by the Baptist Pastors' Conference of Philadelphia; by the Philadelphia Baptist Association; and by the Baptist Publication Society.

Thomas Jenks, of Wissahickon, was born at Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, England, on Thursday, October 28th, 1847, being the eldest son of Thomas Jenks and Mary (Austin) Jerks. His family for several generations had been connected with an iron manufacturing company in England, principally in the southern part of the County of Staffordshire.

He received his education at a private academy in Penn., a suburb of Wolverhampton, named from the celebrated Pennsylvanian and at the conclusion of his school days, was tuition of his father, and learned, thoroughly and practically all the placed in the iron works, under the details of the various branches of iron manufacturing.

Having become efficient he was employed at first in the large iron works of George B. Thorneycroft and Company, of Wolverhampton, who were known as the founders of the iron industry in that part of England, remaining with them until 1879, when he came to the United States.

Arrived in this country, he located in Troy, N. Y., and obtained employment with the well-known firm of Henry Burden and Son. He continued with the firm for 12 years, embracing the period of probably the greatest activity of the iron business in this country, leaving Troy, in 1892, for a more lucrative

post in the Falcon Iron Works, at Niles Ohio, belonging to Arms, Wicke and Co. Here he continued for but a little time, during which time considerable labor troubles arose in the West. Greatly in consequence of this towards the end of the year 1884, he accepted a position with Messrs. A. and P. Roberts and Company, at their large iron works at Pencoyd, taking charge of the small department of their rolling mill.

Mr. Jenks was married in May 1880, to Miss Josephine Rogers, daughter of Charles Rogers, a resident for over a half century of Troy, and whose family were originally from Glen Cove, on Long Island, of which place his grandfather was one of the earliest settlers and pioneers.

Mr. Jenks was an active member of the Executive Committee of St. Timothy's Working Men's Institute, and also of Roxborough Lodge, of Odd Fellows.

His family consisted on one son and one daughter, one son having died. Politically he was a Republican.

8-21-1930

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

Josiah Linton was born at St. John, N. B., on Wednesday the 24th day of June, 1840, and was the son of William Linton and Elizabeth (Selfridge) Linton, both of whom were natives of County Tyrone, Ireland, and emigrated first to Canada, and again in October 1851, to Philadelphia, locating in the southern part of the city, where the eldest Mr. Linton died, six weeks after his arrival.

He obtained his education principally by attending night schools in the city, being occupied in the day time with work in the woolen mill of his cousin, Robert Selfridge, at 13th and Carpenter street, where he remained until the breaking out of the Civil War in 1861. He was among the first volunteers who responded to the call for troops, and enlisted in the 18th Pennsylvania Regiment, under Col. W. T. Lewis, the enrollment being for a service of three months. Three of his brothers also enlisted about the same time: James S. Linton in the regular army, and William and John Linton in the 23rd Pennsylvania Volunteers, known as "Barney's Zouaves." William Linton was killed, and John Linton wounded, at Fair Oaks on May 31st, 1862.

On the expiration of his term of service, he returned to Philadelphia and was in the employ of the government for three years at the Schuylkill Arsenal. Subsequently he engaged in one or two other branches of business, and finally, on the 1st of September in the Centennial year, 1876, entered upon his eventual line of trade—that of shoddy, wool and woollen rags—which he successfully carried on for many years; the warehouse and

offices being at 112 North Front street.

In 1899 he was elected School Director of the 21st Section, being re-elected in 1897. Later he was elected to the State Legislature.

Mr. Linton was a member of the Presbyterian Church, to the communion of which he was attached from his early days, his first religious connection having been with the Fourth Presbyterian Church, of Philadelphia, at 12th and Lombard streets. He was afterwards, for seven years, superintendent of the Sunday School of this church. On his removal to Wissahickon, in 1877, he transferred his membership to the Falls Presbyterian Church, of which Dr. Joseph Beggs was the widely known pastor. In 1880 he became superintendent of the Sunday School of this church also, on the death of Dr. Wilson and continued for about 25 years in this position.

He was married on November 29th, 1877, to Miss Kate S. Heft, second daughter of Jacob D. Heft, manufacturer, of Manayunk. His residence, a handsome modern villa, erected in 1888, still stands on the northwest corner of Rochelle and Freeland avenues in Wissahickon.

Jacob Dietrich was born in Germany, in September 1926. He was seven years old when he arrived with his parents in the United States. The family settled first at Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. About the year 1847 he removed to

the Falls of the Schuylkill, and was connected with the Powers & Weightman Chemical laboratory.

In 1848 he married Rebecca Holloway, Mr. and Mrs. Dietrich were later baptized into the membership of the Falls Baptist Church, being immersed in the Schuylkill river by Rev. Joseph Richards.

Mr. Dietrich was a deacon of the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church and bore that office faithfully and conscientiously.

Rev. John Humpstone, D. D., was the son of Rev. William Humpstone, of England, who in the course of Providence, brought his wife and young children to reside at the Falls of Schuylkill. Here he found a home and a friendly welcome in the membership of the Baptist Church. Here his faithful and beloved wife died, and his children, motherless were treated with a kindness which left an ineffaceable impression on their hearts. John Humpstone was recognized here as one whom the Lord had destined for the work of the gospel; he was encouraged to prepare himself for this work by a course of study. His first pastorate was in the First Baptist Church, of Manayunk, and his work is affectionately remembered. His subsequent ministry at Albany and Brooklyn made him favorably known to all churches throughout the country. He died about a year ago, in New York State.

8-7-1930

Footprint Makers

By Scall

Edward Haugh, a member of the Philadelphia Bar, was born in the village of Carrigaholt, in County Clare, Ireland, on Monday, December 2nd 1839, his parents being Edward Haugh and Ellen (Hoar) Haugh, of the same place, where their ancestors had resided for centuries. Edward Haugh, Sr., represented this county for several years, and was an active participant in the revolutionary movement of that period, under the leadership of William S. O'Brien, and others, which was mainly the cause of his emigrating to this country. The whole family, consisting of parents, eight brothers and two sisters, emigrated to the United States in March, 1843, coming directly to Philadelphia and settling in Manayunk, where Edward Haugh went to school. He was considered bright and quick at learning, but his fondness for reading dime novels and wild Indian stories, and an inclination to travel, gave considerable uneasiness to his parents. To curb his rambling passion he was put to work in the factories of Manayunk at 75 cents per week, where he seemed content. At the age of 14 years he organized a cadet company of 70 boys, between the ages of 12 and 15 years, which was known as the "Ringgold Cadet Company of Manayunk," and was drilled in accordance with Scott Military tactics. They invariably paraded on the Fourth of July, and their efficiency in drill and military evolutions was such that none of the militia companies of that period cared to meet them. This cadet company was the first ever raised in Philadelphia and from it sprang all the Pioneer Corps' and Cadet Companies, which became so common in the city.

On the breaking out of the Civil War, Mr. Haugh enlisted as a private in the 21st Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers for three months, being assigned to General Patterson's column, moving on Winchester, Va., and received his baptism of fire at Falling Waters. At the expiration of his three months' term, the 21st Regiment was re-organized as the 98th Pennsylvania Volunteers in which he re-enlisted and was commissioned as second lieutenant. This regiment was assigned to the Army of the Potomac. Lieutenant Haugh and his regiment participated in all the Peninsula engagements, from Yorktown to the James River, where he was promoted to a captaincy. After seven days' fighting he was ordered to detail a recruiting party of seven men and a lieutenant, and take up his quarters in Philadelphia, and there recruit his regiment which had suffered great losses during that memorable campaign. After recruiting the requisite number of men, he again joined his regiment, and took part in the various engagements of the Army of the Potomac. At the Battle of Gettysburg, where

he was commended for his bravery, his company was reduced to a mere skeleton. After serving his term of three years, he returned to Manayunk, establishing himself in the business of flour and feed. In 1866 his stock and horses were destroyed by fire, leaving him almost penniless, and he commenced the grocery business in a small way, meanwhile studying law under the preceptorship of John A. McKinlay. In 1875 he was admitted to the Bar, and, relinquishing commercial life, immediately began the practice of his profession in Philadelphia. He drew around him an extended circle of clients, both in the city and Manayunk, and was recognized as a lawyer of ability and repute.

In politics Mr. Haugh was nominally a Democrat, but, acknowledging no party bonds, he gave his support wherever he thought the public interest would be best served.

He was married very young in life, to Miss Mary Randall, daughter of Thomas Randall, a prominent woolen manufacturer of Germantown.

Charles Valerius Hagner, manufacturer, was born in Philadelphia, January 13th, 1796, being the son of Philip Hagner and a grandson of Frederick Hagner, who emigrated to the United States from Germany in 1745. Both his father and grandfather were prominent citizens of Philadelphia and served as commissioned officers in the Revolutionary War.

Charles V. Hagner received his education at the University of Pennsylvania and commenced life as a clerk in a merchant's office. After about a year spent at this position, he entered his father's mill at the Falls of Schuylkill, and remained there in a subordinate position until 1817, in which year his father retired, and he assumed the absolute control of the business. In 1829 he bought a water-power right at Manayunk, off the Schuylkill Navigation Company, removed there and erected a mill adapted to the manufacture of oils, and the grinding of powerful drugs. Before this time all this work had been done by hand exclusively, with pestle and mortar, and to him belongs the distinction of being the founder of the system of powdering drugs by machinery. He successfully introduced the improvement, and, notwithstanding much adverse criticism, brought it to a recognized and accepted standing, and for many years held an entire monopoly of this whole trade.

In 1823 he added to his works a fulling mill, and caused to be made a number of power looms for weaving satinets, which were the first power looms ever used in Pennsylvania for weaving woolen goods. Thus he was also the pioneer in the introduction of looms, and his establishment became the birth place of the vast woolen manufacturing industry, which for years sent forth its busy hum, not only along the banks of the Schuylkill, but throughout the entire Keystone State. In 1838 his factories were burned down; he then left Manayunk, and in the following year removed to Philadelphia, where he took, for the purpose of his business the old Lancasterian School Building, which he fitted with every pos-

sible appliance for the grinding of heavy drugs. In addition to his prominence as an enterprising merchant, he became noteworthy for public spirit, and for his exertions for the welfare of the community. He it was who established the first post office in Manayunk, and kept it running for several years by his own individual efforts. He was commissioned by Governor Wolfe as a Magistrate of Manayunk, and it was through him that the first stage was run between Manayunk and Philadelphia. In 1832, during the cholera epidemic, he exerted himself manfully and did much to increase their efficiency. He made his mark in his generation, and in common with many successful men, attributed no small share of his success to the powerful influence exerted upon him in his youthful days by his mother. He died in 1877, in Mount Vernon street Philadelphia.

He was author of "The Early History of the Falls of Schuylkill, Manayunk, Schuylkill and Lehigh Navigation Companies, Fairmount Waterworks," etc., an interesting record of men and customs of bygone days.

James Willard Willmarth, ninth pastor of the Roxborough Baptist Church, was born December 23rd 1835, in Paris, France, where his father, the Rev. Isaac Mason Willmarth, was then laboring as the first American Baptist missionary to France.

Dr. Willmarth's early life was spent in various places of Northern New England, where his father was either preaching or teaching. He was baptized at Grafton, Vermont, on October 29th 1848. He engaged himself for some time in secular occupations, on account of a defect in his eye-sight, which the oculists who were consulted pronounced to be incipient amaurosis, but afterwards began religious work as a colporteur-missionary of the American Baptist Publication Society, at Chicago, in 1853. On April 1st, 1859, he was licensed by the Edina Place Baptist Church, Chicago, and he then studied theology with his father, who was a graduate of Newtown Theological Institution; having everything read to him. It was afterward discovered that there was no disease in his eyes, and, with suitable glasses, his eyes served him perfectly.

In 1860 Mr. Willmarth supplied the Union Baptist Church, Aurora, Ill., and was there ordained, July 26th, 1860.

His first pastorate was at Metamora, Ill., from June 1861 to July 1863. His next pastorate was at Amenia, Dutchess County, N. Y., from June 1865, to June 1866. Soon after he settled at Wakefield, Massachusetts, and remained there from March 9th 1867, to October 1st, 1869. He then became pastor at Pemberton, N. J. His pastorate there was eight and one half years in duration. On April 1st 1878, he became pastor of the Roxborough Baptist Church.

In 1828-83, he was the editor of "The Advanced Quarterly" (Sunday School Lessons) of the Publication Society. He was a trustee of the Crozer Theological Seminary. He was a trustee of the Philadelphia Baptist Association; preached the

Doctrinal Sermon on "Election" in 1830, which was published by request of the body; and in 1888 was chosen moderator.

In June 1889, Dr. Willmarth received the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity from Carson College, Tennessee, and also the degree of Doctor of Laws from the Southwestern Baptist University, of Tennessee.

Dr. Willmarth wrote extensively for the press and also for Reviews, and published several pamphlets. Of the latter may be named "The True Idea of the Church," "Baptism and Remission," "All in the Name of Jesus," "The Temptation of the Church," "Woman's Work in the Church," and "Election; Gracious, Sovereign, Glorious"—the Doctrinal Sermon above referred to.

William Johnson Donohugh, was born on Friday, June 24th 1831, in the city of Philadelphia. His father, Hugh Donohugh, came from the north of Ireland in 1812, and was one of the first to engage in the manufacture of cotton fabrics in the city of Philadelphia. His mother, Margaret Cox, was born in Camden County, N. J., in 1795. His grandfather, Martin Cox, resided in Philadelphia during the Revolutionary War, and manufactured muskets and sabres for the Continental Army.

Mr. Donohugh was educated in the public schools of Philadelphia and afterwards engaged in the real estate business. During the War of the Rebellion, President Lincoln appointed him Commissioner of the Board of Enrollment for the Third District of Pennsylvania, which position he held until the close of the war. In 1866 he was elected a member of the State Legislature from the 11th District, and took an active part in the legislation; framed and introduced several useful laws, one of which was the "Act" prohibiting political night parades in Philadelphia, ten days preceding elections, which accom-

plished much good by preventing political riots, which had up to that time been frequent. Mr. Donohugh held responsible positions in the City Tax Office, under four receivers of taxes. In 1837 he was made chief deputy for another term. During the administration of the office, he instituted many reforms, greatly increasing the collections, and securing tax claims by lien. When Mr. Donohugh entered upon his duties, he found upon the books over four millions of back taxes were therefore not liened and were therefore lost to the city. In order to provide against future loss and to correct defects in the collection laws, he prepared a bill, entitled an "Act to provide for the more efficient collection of delinquent taxes, and for the preservation of the lien of same." This was passed by the Legislature and approved by the Governor in April 1879. Within one year, two millions, two hundred thousands of delinquent taxes were collected, and the payment of current taxes were increased one million of dollars. In 1881 a bill was presented in the Legislature to consolidate the offices of Receiver of Taxes and Collector of Delinquent Taxes, and change the collection laws. Mr. Donohugh, was

by resolution of the Legislature, requested to appear before that body, and explain the tax laws and the workings of the department. On the 14 of April 1881, he delivered an address, presenting facts and figures from the reports of the City Controller, covering a period of 25 years, comparing the collections under the several systems, which clearly demonstrated the superiority of the law of 1879, and that the proposed law would re-enact the system under which the city had already lost a large amount of taxes. His facts and arguments were so convincing that the bill did not pass. The following year an act was passed that included the greater part of the act of 1879, but repealed some important parts, greatly to the advantage of the city.

Mr. Donohugh resided on East Shawmont avenue, Roxborough, for 21 years. In his last years, he retired from active business, but attended, however, to his own real estate, and acted as executor for other estates.

He was a member of the Ridge Avenue M. E. Church; director of the Roxborough Passenger Railway Company; was long identified with the Masonic fraternity, being a Master of Harmony Lodge No. 52; a member of the Masonic Veterans Knights Templar, Masonic Home, Odd Fellows, United American Mechanics, Union League, Park Art Association, Horticultural Society of Pennsylvania, Franklin Institute and other organizations.

Mr. Donohugh was married on the last day of May, 1862 to Eliza J. Wetter, daughter of John Wetter, of Philadelphia.

William Lincoln Donohugh, eldest son of William Johnson Donohugh, was born on Thursday, October 29th, 1868, in the city of Philadelphia. His mother, whose maiden name was Eliza J. Wetter, was born in Philadelphia, her father having come, when a small boy, from Prussia, where he was born, in 1817. Her mother, who was of French descent, was born in 1812, in Allentown, Penna., where here ancestors had lived for several generations. After a preparatory course at Friends' Central High School, in Philadelphia, he entered Swarthmore College, where he studied civil and mechanical engineering. In his freshman year he was elected president of the class, and was chosen by the editors of the Swarthmore Phoenix to represent his class on the staff of that paper. He was elected manager of The Phoenix and retained that responsible position until the close of his collegiate course. Mr. Donohugh took an active part in athletics and also in the numerous societies of which he was a member.

In June, 1890, he purchased from Josephus Yeakle, a half interest in the Manayunk Sentinel Publishing House, where he was occupied in the position of financial manager. After his connection with the firm, the circulation of the Sentinel, which was once the leading local paper of the 21st Ward, largely increased.

Mr. Donohugh was a member of the Ridge Avenue M. E. Church and assistant superintendent of the Sunday School. He resided with his parents on East Shawmont avenue.

William Chalfant Hamilton, of the Riverside Mill, was a native of Chester County, Pennsylvania, and was born near West Grove, September 1st 1819, being the second son of George Hamilton and Sarah (Brogan) Hamilton, whose family consisted of four sons and three daughters. The father of George Hamilton—grandfather of the above—lived on the eastern shore of Maryland, and one of his sons served in the United States Navy during the war of 1812.

His only means of education were such as he found in the common schools, which he attained until he reached the age of eleven years, and a subsequent term of three months. When he left school, at the age mentioned, he commenced working in a small carding and fulling mill, and remained there until sixteen years of age when he entered as an apprentice in a one-vat hand paper mill, about three miles from West Grove, on a branch of the White Clay Creek. It was owned by Robert Lisle, and operated by McCall and Wardell. He remained there two years and then entered the Wagontown hand mill of Steadman and Markle, where he also remained two years, including the commencement of the great panic in 1837, when the mill was temporarily shut down. In the Spring of 1838, he went to work in a small machine mill called the Beaver Dam Mill, on Buck Run in Chester County. There he remained less than one year. In the winter of 1838-39 he worked for Jessup and Brothers in their two-vat mill, located in Westfield, Massachusetts, which was then working on fine writing papers. In 1839, Mr. Hamilton left Massachusetts, and went to Newark, Delaware, where he worked for a short time in a small machine mill. Thence he went to the two-vat mill of John Eckstein, on Darby Creek, where he was employed on a very fine work bank note and heavy ledger paper under the widely-known manager, Joseph Robinson. He remained there during 1839-40. In the spring of 1841 he commenced to work in the Glen Mills of James M. Wilcox and Company, on Chester Creek, Delaware County. This mill, then running on fine book papers, was somewhat famed because using a Fourdrinier machine, one of the first in the State. Mr. Hamilton worked in the mill of Wilcox and Company until the fall of 1844, when he went to start a machine in the new Wissahickon Paper Mill of Charles Megargee and Company, where, at the end of a few months, he was promoted to the position of manager. He remained in that capacity at the Wissahickon mill for twelve years, until 1856, when he took an interest in the new Riverside Mill, at what is now Miquon, and remained six years. After leaving the Riverside Mill he was again engaged at Charles Megargee's Wissahickon Mill, where he remained in exceedingly remunerative employment until the fall of 1865.

On the 1st of October of that year, he purchased the entire Riverside Mill property and stock, and also afterwards the farm attached. At the time of his purchase the mill was equipped with one sixty-two inch Fourdrinier machine one washer and two beater-engines, one set of super-calenders, and the

other machinery necessary for manufacturing book and envelope papers. The capacity was then one and one-fourth tons in twelve hours. Its motive power was furnished by a Corliss engine of one hundred and fifty horse power, and another engine of twenty horsepower for driving the paper machine. The mill building was of stone, two stories high, with basement. It was built in 1855-57 and first put in operation in the latter year by E. R. Cope, previously of the firm of Megargee and Cope, paper manufacturers. At this time Mr. Hamilton had a small interest in it with Mr. Cope, and was also employed in the mill as manager, a position in which he continued for about six years, when the connection was severed.

In 1872 and in 1882, and again, at subsequent times, most extensive improvements and additions have been made to the mill property, by which its capacity has been immensely increased, and brought up to the full modern requirements. It is now one of the most extensive and completely equipped manufactories in this line in the country. It is situated at Miquon station on the Norristown branch of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad, and also near the Schuylkill Valley division of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Mr. Hamilton was married on May 16th 1845 to Elizabeth W. Gregg, daughter of Herman Gregg, of Delaware County. Their children were Rebecca J. (afterward Mrs. Frank W. Lockwood) of Philadelphia, Charles L., Wilbur F., and Edwin E. Hamilton.

In January 1887, he retired from active business in favor of his three sons, by whom the firm is now managed, the style of the house—W. C. Hamilton & Sons—remaining unchanged.

7-31-1930

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

Anthony Deaves Levering, was born at Roxborough, on Wednesday, August 17th, 1814, being the eldest and second child of the Charles Levering Hester and Hester Levering—who was the elder sister of the Perry Wharton Levering. He was educated at the Roxborough School House, which was founded by his ancestor, William Levering in 1748, and in 1834 went with his father and family to Ohio but returned to Roxborough after several years. Previously to his leaving Pennsylvania for the West, he had in 1833, become a member of the Roxborough Baptist Church, of which he was afterwards on the 15th of June 1851, ordained a deacon. It is worthy of remark here, as a singular act, that the deaconship of this church was successfully held by his great grandfather, grandfather and himself.

In 1852, he became the senior deacon of the church, and of him may be truly said that he was a

model deacon—one who, as St. Paul says, "used the office of a deacon well." He was always deeply interested in every movement tending to increase the usefulness of his church, and was, for nearly 30 years, the teacher of the Young Ladies' Bible Class. He was also for many years the treasurer of the church.

During the war of the Rebellion, he organized a company known as the Roxborough Rifle Corps, and went with it as captain, to the front, first in 1861, and again in 1863. His military record was an honorable one, earning for him a name as a firm patriot and a brave soldier.

In 1872 and 1873, he represented Roxborough and Manayunk in the State Legislature, serving his constituents with fidelity and diligence. The character for the Roxborough Horse Railway Company was secured by him.

He was a member of the Roxborough Lyceum, and for many years its treasurer.

He died at Cresco, Monroe County, Pennsylvania, whither he had gone on account of ill health, on Thursday afternoon, July 18th, 1889, universally revered, not only by the members of his church, but by the community at large.

He was married on June third, 1855, to Sarah Levering Jones, the daughter of Rev. Horatio Gates Jones, D. D. One son of this marriage, Perry Wharton Levering, resided in Harrison City, Tenn.

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Rudolph Schiller Walton, merchant was born in the old district of the Northern Liberties in the city of Philadelphia, on Thursday, December 28th, 1826, and was the fourth son of Jeremiah, and Catherine (Hitner) Walton. On his father's side the family was originally Friends and many now bearing the name still adhere to that ancient faith. His mother belonged to the Hitner family, once large property owners in the vicinity of Marble Hill, and Barren Hill in Montgomery County, and were in the religious affinity Lutherans.

Gradually, in consequence of the proximity of two Presbyterian churches to the family residence, most of the family became members or adherents of the Presbyterian church.

When in his 24th year, he married Miss Mary Elizabeth Wiggins, and both, during their long union, enjoyed a full share of ordinary good health. His wife's family, upon the father's side were Methodists, and upon the mother's, originally Friends.

In his early youth he enjoyed the usual advantage offered by the many small private schools which preceded, and were of the same grade as the present grammar schools, and upon completing the usual course, at a comparatively early age—about 13 years—he commenced business life; first as an errand boy. In the year 1843, he was apprenticed to a wholesale merchant and manufacturer to learn the hat finishing trade, and at the close of his apprenticeship, on February 19th 1847, he received from his employer (who was also a firm friend) as a token of his confidence and esteem, a solid silver medal, suitably inscribed, with a gold chain, attached, which he

carefully treasured, and in the possession of which he always displayed great pride.

In his early manhood days, the idea which his faithful mother had instilled into the mind of all of her boys, viz: that they should engage in business upon their own account, rather than continue as employees of another, was ever present; and therefore, after working at his trade for about two years, and having saved from the product of his own labor about four hundred dollars, and, for sufficient reasons, declining the offer of his employer of an interest in his business, he embarked in the retail hat trade in his own name at what was then known as 360 (old style) Market street, which when the present style was adopted and made it 1024, a building situated at the entrance to their ing owned by the Struthers estate, and situated at the entrance of their celebrated Marble Yard. Here he remained, enjoying varying prosperity until his purchase of a large property at 1006 Market street, in the same square, to which he removed in 1871.

In January of the Centennial Year, John Wanamaker, having some time earlier bought the old Pennsylvania Railroad freight station at 13th and Market streets, (in which the Moody and Sankey meetings were held) made a proposition to Mr. Walton to transfer his business to that place, and assist in the inauguration of that enterprise. To this proposal, after careful consideration, he consented, and the transfer was effected in April 1876; his being not only the first, but, for one month the only business transacted at that place, through the delay in completing the alterations which prevented the accommodations of the other departments for that space of time. Many changes have occurred since those days, but the arrangement having proved satisfactory to the interested parties, and working harmoniously, it continued, and Mr. Walton always counted it an honor to have assisted towards the unparalleled success which attended this great undertaking.

In March 1848, he became a member of the First Presbyterian Church, at Broad and Sansom streets, the pastor of which was Rev. Dr. John Chambers, and which was subsequently known as The Chambers Presbyterian Church. He took an active part here as a Sunday School teacher, superintendent, trustee and elder, and continued this church connection for a period of 15 years, when in consequence of remoteness of residence, he transferred his church relationship, to the Oxford church. This latter grew from a Mission Sunday

School, at the corner of Eleventh and Columbia avenue, which after a necessary change of location was finally established at Broad and Oxford streets, and organized as a church in May 1866, under the now well known name of the Oxford Presbyterian Church.

Of this he was an original member, being Sunday School superintendent, trustee and elder, and here he remained until his removal to Bryn Mawr, where he became connected with the Presbyterian Church of that place. He was one of the originators of this church

from its early and feeble beginnings, and assisted to support it through all its progressive stages. He filled at various times, the position of Sunday School teacher and superintendent, trustee and elder, and although his residence was afterward in Roxborough, the attachments were so strong that he retained his membership and eldership in that body, although he was a teacher of the Adult Bible Class in the Leverington Avenue Church, at Roxborough for eight years.

Mr. Walton was for several years interested in hospital work, and was, for a long time, one of the Board of Managers of the Lying-in-Charity and Nurses School, at Eleventh and Cherry streets. On the establishment of St. Timothy's Hospital and House of Mercy, in Roxborough, he at once gave it his hearty support, and was selected as a charter member and manager.

In January 1871, he was elected a member of the Board of Education of the Presbyterian Church of the United States of America, which Board had charge of the educational work among the young men preparing for the ministry of that body, and served as such for about nine years, when through business engagements he was compelled to relinquish it for a time. In May 1891, he was again chosen a member of the Board of the General Assembly of that church, at its annual meeting, in Detroit.

Alfred Henry Mellersh, physician, was born on September 7th, 1847, in town of Maidstone, Kent, England, being the son of Alfred Mellersh, and Priscilla (Gifford) Mellersh.

He received his preliminary education at the Madras House Grammar School, and, when about fifteen years of age, was sent for a course of further training to Northern Germany, the city of Hanover being selected, where he spent several years in study.

In 1863 he came to the United States, and, arrived here, he began the special study of medicine; first at the St. Louis Medical College, where he graduated with the degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1875, and, afterwards, the Bellevue College in New York, where he received the same degree, for the second time, in 1877.

After his second graduation he became, in 1877, the resident physician at the German Hospital in Philadelphia, where he remained about one year, leaving that position in 1878 to commence an independent practice at Lower Merion, in Montgomery County, Pa., where he carried on for a period of somewhat more than three years.

In 1883, having determined upon a removal to a more extensive and desirable field, he settled in Roxborough, and began practice there, where he remained, developing a large and appreciative clientele and becoming widely known as a physician of ability and repute.

He was one of the staff of visiting surgeons of St. Timothy's Hospital, Roxborough.

The only fraternal order with which he was affiliated was that of the I. O. O. F., being a member of Roxborough Lodge.

Dr. Mellersh was married on July 31st, 1879, to Miss Clara Humphreys second daughter of Seth Humphreys, a well-known resident of Low-

er Merion. Their family consisted of four children, three girls and one boy.

In religion he was a Baptist, being a member of Roxborough Baptist Church on Ridge avenue.

Albert Clark Allison, lieutenant of police of the 13th District of Philadelphia, was born in this city, on Monday, June 24th, 1844, and was the son of John Allison, who was from Halifax, Yorkshire, England and emigrated to the United States when quite young, and Elizabeth (Clark) Allison, who was a native of Carlisle, Cumberlandshire, England.

He received his education in the public schools of Manayunk until ten years of age, when the elder Mr. Allison purchased a farm in Cecil County, Maryland, where the family remained for about nine years. In 1861 they left Maryland and returned to Manayunk, where his father became superintendent of the loom room in the large mill of Joseph Ripka, he working under him for about four years. Afterwards he himself became the loom room manager, and continued in that position until July 1st, 1876, when he left the mill and obtained employment on the police force of the district as a reserve officer, commencing his duties as such on July 14th 1876. After some months passed in this position, he became a full patrolman, and eighteen months later a sergeant of police, assigned to the Manayunk district.

He sustained this rank for about two years, and finally, in 1881, was promoted by ex-Mayor Stokley, to the lieutenantancy of the district.

He was married on August 18th 1868, to Miss Willie Ann McClennen, daughter of Samuel B. and Sydney Brien McClennen, of Manayunk. His family consisted of two children—a daughter, Willie May Allison, born May 23rd 1869, and a son, Walter Albert Allison, born June 5th 1878.

During his lieutenantancy, the 13th Police District—subject to all the dangers naturally incident to a great manufacturing center—was managed with noteworthy ability, and was singularly free from any disturbing episode.

7-29-1900

Footprint
Makers
By Seccaff

John Bowker, merchant, and one of the pioneers of Manayunk, was the son of Thomas and Sussannah Bowker, and was born on Sunday, February 10th, 1822, at Birch, near Manchester, England. When he was a child of only six years, the family came to America, arriving at Philadelphia in November 1828. The first settlement made by the family was at Rockdale, in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, where they remained until the latter part of the year 1837, when they finally located in Manayunk. Here the elder Mr. Bowker became employed in the well-known Ripka Mills, his son also working with him for about 18 months, at the end of which time,

he went into the machine shop of the same mill. In March 1843, he went to Virginia, and, for three years, worked as a machinist in a cotton factory. He then, in July, 1846, returned to Manayunk, and began business on his own account in the line of retail store-keeping which he successfully conducted for nearly half a century.

His long and prosperous business life was marked by enterprise, energy, integrity and reliability, which secured for him an unassailable position as a representative citizen.

In addition to his character as a merchant, Mr. Bowker, sustained a prominent part as a factor in political affairs, in which he first became actively engaged in 1845. In the Presidential election of 1848 when General Zachary Taylor became President, he was one of the local leaders, and in 1853 was elected an overseer of the Poor of the Borough. This office he retained for three years, and, during his tenure, the Consolidation Act was passed, which took from all Borough Overseers the power to raise taxes for poor relief. Notwithstanding this, Mr. Bowker issued relief orders in Manayunk for more than \$4000 which orders were honored by the business men of the borough, the amount being afterward paid by the City. In 1857, he was nominated for Common Council, but was defeated, being however, again nominated in 1858, when he was successful. In 1859, he was re-elected to Council by a majority almost twice as great as at first. For a period of nearly five years in all, Mr. Bowker held the responsible position of Superintendent of the Gas Works at Manayunk, being first elected thereto by the trustees in February 1861, and, with a short interval during a Democratic majority on the Board, retaining the same until his resignation in December 1866. About 1866 he served for a year as School Director, and was re-elected at the expiration of the term, but did not sit on account of a temporary residence in Philadelphia.

During the war, in 1863, he enlisted as an emergency man, and served three months, being discharged after the expulsion of the Confederates from the State.

About 1891, he retired from active business life, though he continued to take a lively interest in all the commercial and social affairs of the ward. In every phase of life he made his mark as a sturdy upright, straight-forward man, loyal and honorable, and an earnest advocate of the right at all times.

Mr. Bowker was married November 1st 1845, in St. David's Church, to Miss Elizabeth Faraday, of Manayunk.

Sebastian Anthony Rudolph, manufacturer, and one of the earliest residents of Manayunk, was the youngest son of Christian Rudolph and Mary Anne (Kerns) Rudolph. He was born on Tuesday, January 15th, 1829, in the town of Echenheim, Grand Ducky of Baden, Germany. In 1836 he came, with his father, to America, landing in New York City, in October of that year, and, after a short visit to some relatives in Nicetown, making a permanent settlement in Manayunk. Here he commenced work, on the

day following his arrival, in the mule room of Wagner & Duval's mill, this department of the mill being under the supervision of Thomas Harding. Ninety years ago—in the early days of manufacturing—labor was not as expensive as it is now, as may be seen from the fact that the wages received by Mr. Rudolph, at first, were only fifty cents a week. He continued to be employed in the mill for nine years, and when 16 years of age began to work in the grocery business in the store of George Plunkett, at Main and Levering streets, with whom he remained for three years. His next employer was Hugh Curry, a grocer, at Levering and Cresson streets, whose business he purchased on attaining his majority, in 1850, and conducted successfully for several years, removing the store, in 1851, to the building at the corner of Gay and Baker streets, of which property he afterwards became the owner.

In the following year, 1852, on January 27th, he married Catherine Josephine Curry, daughter of Hugh and Jane Curry, of Philadelphia. The issue of this marriage was four sons, and four daughters; August S., who died December 22nd 1879; Regina Kate, married to John Conway, of Philadelphia; Alphonse L., who died November 22nd, 1873; Cornelius A., who was superintendent of the Rudolph Paper Mill; Josephine C., married to Charles J. Conway, of Philadelphia; Gertrude C.; Agatha and Fabian, who died in infancy.

In 1863, Mr. Rudolph abandoned retail trade and commenced manufacturing, associating himself in partnership with Jacob D. Heft, in the Ashland Dyewood and Chemical Mills, in West Manayunk, where in the Fall of 1864, they began paper-making, taking John Dixon, into the firm as practical paper-maker; putting in new machinery for the purpose, and manufacturing straw board, and, the next year, white paper for newspapers. On April 21st 1867, the mill building was partly destroyed by fire, and shortly afterwards, the personnel of the firm was changed; Mr. Dixon retiring, and Mr. Rudolph becoming, in January 1868, by purchase of Mr. Heft's interest, the sole proprietor of the newly-rebuilt factory, where he successfully continued the business of manufacturing paper for a number of years.

On October 31st 1880, Mrs. Rudolph died, and early in 1891, Mr. Rudolph retired from active business in favor of his two sons, Augustus and Cornelius Rudolph. After a visit to California, in the early part of 1891, he removed his residence from West Manayunk, to 1521 North 15th street, Philadelphia, where he resided for four years; in the meantime—on October 3rd 1882—being married to Miss Anne Elizabeth Thomas, of Philadelphia.

Mr. Rudolph returned to West Manayunk, in 1885, and reorganized the paper company, liquidating all the firm's liabilities, and again assumed control of the factory.

The Ashland Paper Mills was the

second in the United States to manufacture paper from poplar wood, by the Dixon process.

Mr. Rudolph in religion was a member of the Roman Catholic Church, and attended the Church of St. Mary on Oak (Conarroe) street.

In politics he was a Democrat, though never displayed any specially active part in political affairs.

In addition to his manufacturing business, Mr. Rudolph was largely interested in mining affairs, being connected with several properties of that kind in Colorado, and other mining localities.

Joseph Miles, merchant of West Manayunk, was the son of Benjamin Miles, and Esther (Starne) Miles, and was born in the town of Manayunk, on Thursday, October 21st, 1836. His maternal grandfather, Joseph Starne, was a member of the State Legislature, captain of the Roxborough Volunteers, and an inspector of bark of Philadelphia. On the father's side the family is of Welsh ancestry, being descended from one of three brothers who emigrated from Wales, in Great Britain, about the middle of the 18th century, to the United States, and settled in the town of North Wales, in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, where some of the family still reside. His grandfather, also named Joseph Miles, was a prominent resident of North Wales, and for many years a school teacher there. His father, Benjamin Miles, carried on the business of a blacksmith in Manayunk during a long period, and was a well known resident of the 21st Ward. He was a deacon of the Roxborough Baptist Church, and a charter member and deacon of the First Baptist church of Manayunk, on Green lane, below Silverwood street.

Mr. Miles was educated in the public schools, and, after leaving school, until the outbreak of the Civil War, was engaged in various occupations. In 1861, he enlisted, for three months' service, in Company "I" of the 19th Pennsylvania Infantry Volunteers, under Col. Lyle; and afterward in the fall of 1862, for three years joining the 90th Pennsylvania Regiment. He served all through the war, taking part in all the chief battles of the Army of Potomac. For a large portion of the time of his service, he was detailed as "forage master," for the 1st and 5th Artillery Corps, receiving and distributing all the supplies of that kind for the Artillery Brigade.

On receiving his discharge, at the close of the war, in July, 1865, he returned to Manayunk and became assistant foreman at the "pulp works," in Manayunk, which was then conducted by Messrs. Jessup, Moore and Nixon. He remained with this firm, through its various changes, for over ten years, and in 1876, when the business was reorganized under the control of Messrs. M. and W. H. Nixon, he took the position of general superintendent of their wood department. In 1882 he left the employment of Messrs. M. and W. H. Nixon, and, a year, afterwards, in 1883, began business as a coal merchant in West Manayunk. In 1889 he purchased the lumber and mill work establishment of Messrs. Weeden & Allen,

and concentrated the two branches, continuing the same successfully, and combining with the lumber and coal departments, the allied lines of bricks, cement, plaster, etc.

In politics, Mr. Miles was a Republican, and, though never holding any office, he was repeatedly a delegate to various conventions.

He was a member of the G. A. R. and of Roxborough Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. He was the prime mover in causing the freeing of the Pay Bridge to West Manayunk, in 1890, and was President of the Free Bridge Association, which had the matter in charge.

Denominationally he was a Baptist, following the precedents of his family, and was a member of the Green Lane Baptist Church.

Mr. Miles was married on the 28th of November, 1871, to Miss Martha Jones, a popular and successful school teacher, attached to the Green Lane Grammar School, and daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Jones of Manayunk. The family consisted of four children, three sons and one daughter.

7-17-1930

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

Mrs. Catherine Sober, widow of Joseph Sorber, who died at her home, 103 Queen lane, East Falls, on May 26th, 1904, came from an old Revolutionary family, her maiden name being Catherine Elizabeth Stace.

She was born on the historic battlefield of Germantown, in a house which stood near the junction of Fox street and Midvale avenue, which had been rebuilt after being demolished by the British troops during the Battle of Germantown. Her father's name was Jacob Stace, who with his father, served in the American forces. Her husband, who fell a victim to the smallpox epidemic of 1872, was also a descendant of the first settlers, his people coming to Philadelphia in 1732, and settling in Germantown.

The father of her husband, Joseph E. Sorber, moved to the Falls in 1803 and established the first grocery store in the community, as well as the first carriage factory, both below Queen lane, on Ridge avenue.

Mrs. Sorber was the mother of three children and one son, William H. Sorber, the latter dying in 1900, of lead poisoning, contracted in his business of carriage painting. Of her daughters, one became Mrs. Harry Conover, one Mrs. Zachary Potter, and the other, Miss Kate Sorber, was for many years a school teacher at what is now the Samuel Cook School.

all, quiet looking man—who easily pass for an orthodox "dandy," by the simplicity of attire, they have been seen to board the train every morning at a suburban station for the city. To the folks around his country seat he probably passed for a well-to-do farmer, and even on the train going

to business in the morning, few people saw in the broad back and massive head of their fellow traveler, anything more than a fine specimen of modest manhood, and yet, this quiet looking individual, as far back as 1858, was among the earliest inventors of the gas stove, and in the same year patented the gas meter, after which some 114 patents were granted him by the United States Government, and numerous patents in foreign countries. When only twelve years old he invented the rotary shears, also a mowing machine, with a peculiar vibrating knife, also a recording reel, for winding yarns. None of the devices, however, were patented by him, he at that time not having sufficient means to pay the patent fees. The gas stove patent, referred to, was the first invention that brought him money. But let us tell you his name. He was Thomas Shaw, of upper Roxborough, the man for whom Shawmont is named.

Some of his patents included a gas heating device, sewing machines, glass moulds, floating cranes, modes of burning ignitable fluids, boiler feeders, self-cocking pistols, blow-off valves, armor plating, quartz crushers, mode of burning

coal oil for steam ships, steam gauges, mode of throwing crank, method of preventing boilers from foaming, hydraulic gauges, force pumps, low water detectors, engine counters, dial gauges nibbing spring plates, faucet grinders, low water signals, car springs, connecting rod joints, power hammers, steam whistles, hydraulic valves, mode of shooting metals, forming tires, improved chains, spring pawl washers, lathe tools, mode of surfacing iron, beam hammers, mode of generating carbon oxide, pumping engines, gun powder hammers, mode of making shot without a tower, silent method of condensing steam for heating water, riveting machines, steam boilers, condensers, pipe presses, cartridge feeders, propeller pumps, artillery forges, air cushions for pile drivers, paddle wheel ice cutters, planer bars, mode of detaching boats at seas, compound blowers, relief blocks, mode of working cars on inclined planes, water cartridges, air chamber feeders, gun powder hammer cartridges, cushion seated valves, submarine observatories, pile sawing machines, exhaust nozzles, steam gauges, relief valves, improvements on safety valves, spark arrestors, oil tanks, cancelling inks, steam trumpets, nozzles, high pressure accumulator, time locks, gauge cocks, electrical pressure indicators, folding and registering fabrics, gun-powder punch, centrifugal machines, hydraulic cushion buffers, time and pressure regulators, winter soles, fire alarms, purifying mine water, ordinance cartridges, gas governors for vulcanizers, cooling process for canned fruits, electric pole for changing keys, friction buffers, disinfecting candles, car brakes, stone drags, apparatus for testing mine gases, furnace Twyer indicators, gas engines, time sounding indicators, steam and gas governors, signal apparatus for mines, miners' safety lamps, signalling tubes for mines, and mode of purifying water for ice machines.

In the interval of time between these numerous patents, this same gentleman made a number of useful appliances of a special character, the sale of which would be too limit-

ed to warrant the procurement of a patent.

Mr. Shaw in addition to producing a number of inventions had also a great deal to do in metallurgical work. After the William Butcher Steel Works was built, (now called Midvale Steel Works) he was placed in charge of it to place it in running order, and while serving in that capacity, it fell his lot to roll the first steel tires ever rolled in America, and prior to that period, while superintendent of the Cyclops Works, he constructed the pattern for the Bolster and Semi Elliptic spring, now in universal use under passenger cars throughout the United States. The change was greatly resisted by railroad men, believing that the great change from the heavy English pattern, in use previously, to the light pattern designed by Mr. Shaw, would prove weak and break down, but Mr. Shaw found that by substituting cast steel in place of the common spring steel then used, and by providing material in the springs in proportion to the load, that the elasticity was distributed throughout the length of the leaf, and not in the center of the spring as in the heavy English pattern. This change was made about 1863 and has since been so universally copied that much of the comfort of our easy riding coaches can be attributed to this form of spring.

The water works at Shawmont is a conspicuous landmark in front of Mr. Shaw's old-time residence. Two railroad stations, one on the reading and on the Pennsylvania at this point are named Shawmont, after him. The avenues running from the Schuylkill to the Wissahickon was given the same name by Select and Common Councils.

Mr. Shaw was a native of Philadelphia, and was born on April 5th 1838. He was of American descent, his father being James Shaw of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and his mother Catherine Shaw, daughter of Andrew Snyder, of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, a clockmaker and cabinet maker. Shaw's father was a carpenter and builder.

His wife, Mrs. Shaw, was originally a Miss Garber, born of American parents who came from Montgomery County. She discharged her duties as the hospitable hostess at Shawmont, many years before her demise.

Their family originally consisted of three daughters. The eldest was a skillful artist, but died about 1883. The youngest daughter, who was noted for her musical powers, died in 1891. His surviving daughter was the wife of Joseph R. Wilson, and was also quite an artist, both in music and painting. She had one infant son, Joseph Shaw Wilson.

Joseph R. Wilson, Shaw's son-in-law, was the eldest son of the late Joseph Wilson, of the firm of L. & F. Wilson, shipowners, of Liverpool, England.

William Irvin Givin, merchant of Manayunk, was born in County Antrim, Ireland, whither his parents had gone on a visit, on December 21st, 1836. His father, who emigrated from Ireland to the United States in the year 1800, a citizen of this country, was Robert Wallace Givin, his mother being Agnes (Irvin) Givin, also a native of Ireland, who was a daughter of

William Irvin.

He was educated at the Locust street public school, in Philadelphia, and on leaving school, was apprenticed to the paper hanging business. In 1859 he removed to Manayunk.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, in May 1861, he enlisted in the Navy as a marine, and joined the Flagship "Minnesota," then stationed at Hampton Roads, Va., and commanded by Captain Van Brunt, the commodore of the fleet, being Admiral Stringham, and afterwards Admiral Lee, who, when the flagship was transferred to the U. S. S. "Malvern," took Mr. Givin with him as his orderly. He also served under Admirals Porter and Goldsborough.

During his service in the navy, Mr. Givin participated in several notable naval battles, especially that in 1862, in the capture of Forts Hatteras and Clark, and that between the "Merrimac" and the "Monitor." He was also present at the taking of Richmond and Petersburg, and was in command of a guard which escorted President Lincoln up the James River into Richmond. After the war he came

back to Manayunk and commenced work in the mill of Archibald Campbell & Company, after a short time resuming the paper hanging trade in his brother's store in Philadelphia. In 1881, when the latter became connected with the insurance business, he purchased his interest, and had continued it on his own account.

Mr. Givin became a member of the Fourth Reformed Church in 1865, and was a deacon of many years' standing, and the teacher of a large class of young men in the Sunday School.

He was a member of the Veteran Naval Legion, of Philadelphia, of Post No. 12, G. A. R.; of Industrial Lodge No. 130 I. O. O. F., and of Harmony Chapter No. 52 A. Y. M. and of the Veteran Legion, and also of the Silver Spring Rifles.

In 1865, Mr. Givin was married to Miss Elizabeth Fleming, of Holmsburg, Penna. He was a trustee of the Penny Savings Bank, of Manayunk.

7-3-1930

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

Isaac Wilde, of Manayunk, was born December 28th, 1841, in Covington, Kenton County, Kentucky, on the east bank of the Ohio River, and was the fourth child of Robert Wilde and Mary Anne (Former) Wilde, both of whom were natives of Oldham, Lancashire, England. The elder Mr. Wilde emigrated from England to America in 1839, and settled in Covington, where he followed the occupation of a cotton spinner, but in 1845, he again returned to England and remained there until 1854. In the latter year

he again crossed the ocean, and came to Manayunk, where about 1870, he commenced business as a manufacturer of carpet yarns, on Leverington avenue.

Isaac Wilde started to work at an early age in the Joseph Ripka Mills and at the same time attended the night sessions of the Grammar school on Green lane. In 1863, he left the Ripka Mills, and secured employment in Seville, Schofield's Mill, where he remained ten years. In 1873, he started working with his father on Leverington avenue, being eventually admitted to partnership. On the death of Robert Wilde, a new firm was established, under the style of Robert Wildes Sons.

Mr. Wilde was married on December 17th, 1872, to Miss Emma G. Wood, of Manayunk. He was a member of Industry Lodge No. 130, Odd Fellows.

In 1883, Mr. Wilde became a Democratic nominee for Common Councils, in the 21st Ward, and was elected in conjunction with W. R. Trites for Select Council, and David Wallace for Common Council. Again in 1885, and in 1887, Mr.

Wilde was elected, and on the highest vote ever cast in the ward, and served until 1891, thus including a continuous service for eight years. He was always a most zealous worker for the interests of his constituents, and procured a large number of important improvements for the ward.

Cyrus P. Carmany, manufacturer, and member of Councils of the City of Philadelphia, was of Pennsylvania German descent, and was born in Annville, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, on February 23rd, 1836. The family has been settled in Pennsylvania for several generations. His father, Henry Carmany, was a native of Annville, and carried on the business of a blacksmith in that district. He married in 1833 Miss Sarah Phillip, of Annville, the union resulting in nine children, of whom Cyrus P. was the second.

Mr. Carmany obtained his early education at the public schools whence he was transferred to the Schafferton Academy of Lebanon, graduating there in 1856. He also, in the same year, passed an examination very successfully before the Superintendent of County Schools. He then commenced to work on a farm which his father had just bought; at the same time, during the winter seasons, teaching school in Heidelberg Township, in the same county. For five seasons—from 1848 to 1853—he was occupied in boating, and in 1854 he bought and sold grain for merchants in that district. He removed to Roxborough on April 2nd, 1860, and became clerk to Jacob Heft, whose factory was then on the Wissahickon Creek, remaining in this position for twelve years continuously. He then became the superintendent of Littlewood & Lancaster's Dye Works, at Manayunk, where he stayed for nine years. At length, in 1881, he commenced business on his own account as a dyer, on Gorgas lane, near the Wissahickon Creek, developing a large and in-

creasing trade. In 1887, when the Fairmount Park Commissioners obtained possession of the property for Park purposes, he removed to Camden, N. J., and secured specially suitable premises on a lot of ground bound by Spruce, Eighth and Cherry streets.

In politics, Mr. Carmany was a Republican, but had never solicited any office from the people, until 1885, when he became the successful Republican candidate for Councils in the 21st Ward. In 1887 he failed to obtain the re-nomination, which fell to George C. Thompson and in 1889, when again placed on the party ticket for Councils with Joseph M. Adams and William F. Dixon, he was defeated; the Democratic nominee, Isaac Wilde, securing the highest vote cast. In the 1891 election he again occupied a place on the ticket with his former colleagues, Messrs. Adams and Dixon, and the three Republicans were elected. In his place in Councils, Mr. Carmany worked zealously for the interests of the Ward, and was instrumental in securing the bridge across the Reading railroad at Dawson street, and the placing of gas and gasoline lamps throughout the ward.

He was a member of Roxborough Lodge, No. 66, I. O. O. F., and a director of several building and loan associations.

Mr. Carmany was married in 1858 to Miss Adeline Stober, youngest daughter of John Stober, a well known farmer, of Shafferstown. He resided on Green lane, above Manayunk avenue in Roxborough.

George Streeper Moyer, born on Monday, July 11th, 1836, was connected as secretary and in other capacities, with the gas and water works bureau of the city and was one of the leading residents of Roxborough. He was one of the Association of Alumni of Philadelphia High School, at which institution he graduated in 1855.

He was married on January 25th, 1861, to Miss Emma Augusta Tibben, daughter of the late John Tibben, a well known builder of Roxborough.

5-22-30

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

John Joseph Costello, who died on Saturday, November 16th, 1901, was one of the Falls of Schuylkill's leading citizens. He was born at Newport, County Mayo, Ireland, and when one year old his father died, and his mother with the rest of her children moved to Halifax England, in 1853.

With his brother, Bartholomew, John J. Costello sailed for America, landing in New York on August 31st, 1863. They continued their journey to Rutland, Vermont, where employment as woodcutters was obtained. This was before the days of coal-burning locomotives and the Costellos' obtained positions with the

Rutland and Burlington Railroad. In 1864, Mr. Costello went back to England, but returned to the United States in the following year, and again took up his work with the railroad company. At one time, while employed at this work, Mr. Costello was given charge of the private car of the then Governor Fage, of Vermont.

Later on he was made baggage master of the road, but subsequently retired and launched into business on his own account. His was the first general store in Rutland. On May 4th, 1868, Mr. Costello was married to Ellen Lowry, a childhood playmate. The Costellos prospered with their store, until the Jay Cooke failure in 1873, which stagnated business in general. The storekeeper mortgaged his property in order to be able to buy supplies to feed the unemployed workers of the marble quarries of that section of Vermont.

With nothing but a gold watch, John Costello left Rutland, for New York, on November 20th, 1873, but journeyed on to Scranton, Pa., where he secured a position with a railroad company, having charge of coal cars going to the mines. He also worked in similar positions at Pittston and at Kingston, and at the same time represented Moran's Philadelphia book publishing house, which printed and distributed Catholic church literature.

In 1874 Mr. Costello left the coal regions and in April of 1875 came to the Falls of Schuylkill.

He soon obtained work with the Reading Railroad Company, and opened a book and notions store at his home, which at that time was in a house that now adjoins St. Bridget's Parochial School.

In March, 1876, this Footprint Maker of Falls history started to work for John and James Dobson, in the quill room, and before long became its manager. He served in this capacity for 22 years before he retired from active work. He then gave his entire time, to his store, which was then near Ridge avenue and Crawford street, and his hotel, "The Progress House" in Atlantic City, which he had opened in 1836.

He was a charter member of the Chamonix Boat Club, treasurer of Division 26, A. O. of H., and a devout communicant of St. Bridget's Church, being affiliated with every society attached to the church. He was also treasurer of the Rev. Thomas Fox branch of the I. C. B. U.; T. A. B. Society, treasurer of the St. Vincent De Paul Society; of the J. & J. Dobson Death Relief Association, and an honorary member of General G. K. Warren Post No. 5, G. A. R., of Manayunk.

Mr. Costello was the father of a large family, many of whom, with their sons and daughters, still reside in the section in which their forebear had been so active.

Abel Ellwood Jones, who was a member of the Select Commissions of Philadelphia, and a real estate operator was the son of Periah Jones and Harriet (Jones) Jones, and was born in Green lane, Manayunk, on Monday, February 23rd 1846. The family was of Welsh extraction on both sides. On the paternal side, he was descended from Thomas Jones, who emigrated to the United

States from North Wales, in 1705, together with a number of Welsh families, and settled with them in Hilltown, New Britan, Bucks County. Thomas Jones secured a grant of 250 acres, by deed, from William Penn, and erected a stone house which was occupied by several generations of the family. A. E. Jones' mother was a descendent from a family by the name of Kelly, who were also among the emigrants to New Britan in 1705.

Mr. Jones received his education at the Roxborough Public schools, going from this to the Night School in Philadelphia, in 1860, where he graduated in 1864. On leaving school he entered the conveyancing offices of Potts & Coxe, in Philadelphia, after which he studied under Eli K. Price, returning to the former firm in about a year, and remaining with them until 1867, when he opened a conveyancing office at 7th & Sansom streets, in conjunction with J. Gordon Brinckle. In the spring of the following year—1868—he associated himself with Francis S. Cantrell, at 529 Walnut street, continuing there until 1880. In the meantime—in 1872—he had opened an office in Manayunk in the building of the Manayunk National Bank which he made his chief office, still retaining, however, the down town suite.

In 1880 he abandoned the business of conveyancing, and removed to Bradford, McKean County, Pennsylvania, where he engaged in the oil producing business, in connection with Davis & Murphy. This he continued for two years, retiring therefrom in May 1882, upon the sale of Davis & Murphy's business in that place, and returned to Manayunk. He then re-entered the real estate business.

In 1876 he was elected to the School Board of the 21st Section, retaining that post until 1879. In 1886 Mr. Jones was elected to Select Councils, to succeed Dr. W. B. Trites. He was re-elected in 1889.

Mr. Jones was married on December 10th 1868, to Miss Rosa C. Vansciver, a daughter of Ellwood Vansciver, of Roxborough.

Manayunk. At the outbreak of the Civil War in May, 1861, he enlisted in the Navy, as a marine, and joined the Flagship "Minnesota," then stationed at Hampton Roads, Va., and commanded by Captain Van Brunt, the Commodore of the Fleet being Admiral Stringham, and afterwards Admiral Lee, who, when the flag was transferred to the U. S. S. "Malvern," took Mr. Givin with him as his orderly. He also served under Admirals Porter and Goldsborough.

During his service in the Navy, Mr. Givin took part in several notable battles, especially that of 1862, in the capture of the Forts Hatteras and Clark, and that between the Rebel ram "Merrimac" and the wooden vessels in Hampton Roads the "Cumberland," "Congress" and "Minnesota" and also the memorable encounter between the "Merrimac" and the "Monitor." He was also present at the taking of Richmond and Petersburg, and was in command of a guard which escorted President Lincoln up the James River, into Richmond. After the war he came back to Manayunk and started working in the mill of Archibald Campbell & Company, but soon afterward resumed the paper hanging trade in his brother's store in Philadelphia. In 1881, when the latter became connected with the insurance business, in which he bought an interest, he continued it on his own account until some time after 1891.

Mr. Givin was a member of the Fourth Reformed Church, in 1835 and was a deacon of many years standing. He also taught in the

Sunday School of that church. He was a member of the Veteran Naval Legion, of Philadelphia, of Post No. 12, G. A. R.; of Industrial Lodge No. 130, I. O. O. F. and of Harmony Chapter No. 52, A. Y. M. and of the Veteran Legion, and the Silver Springs Rifles.

In 1865 Mr. Givin was married to Miss Elizabeth Fleming, of Holmesburg, Pennsylvania.

2-20-1930

**Footprint
Makers**
By Sccaff

William Irvin Givin, who lived in Roxborough, and conducted a store in Manayunk, was born in County Antrim, Ireland, whither his parents had come on a visit, on December 21st 1836. His father, who emigrated from Ireland to the United States in the years 1800, and who was a citizen of this country, was Robert Wallace Givin, and his mother was Agnes (Irvin) Givin, also a native of Ireland. She was the daughter of William Irvin.

He was educated at the Locust street Public School, in Philadelphia, and upon leaving school, was apprenticed to the paper hanging business. In 1859, he removed to

7-10-1930

**Footprint
Makers**
By Sccaff

Oliver Sabold Keely, was younger son of Samuel Streep Keely, and Jane (McFadden) Keely, and was born in Manayunk on Thursday, February 20th, 1862.

His early education was obtained in the public schools of the section, and subsequently he received private instructions from Professor Swilms, at his West Philadelphia Academy, preparatory to entering Lafayette College, at Easton, Pa., which institution he entered in the fall of 1879, taking a full four years' course in the general scientific department, and graduating herefrom in the year 1883, with the degree of B. S.

Shortly after graduation, on account of his father's poor health, Mr. Keely engaged in the lumber

nd planing mill business, with his
others for about one year, during
which time he acquired much valu-
able information and experience,
which served him to good pur-
pose in his numerous building op-
tions incident to his business,

besides giving him a knowledge of
values of building materials so es-
sential to a real estate expert.

In the fall of 1834, he entered the
conveyancing department of the
Real Estate, Title Insurance and
Trust Company, of Philadelphia,
and there laid the foundation for
his vocation. He remained with
the Title Company for about two
and a half years, during which time
he was thoroughly drilled in the
examination of the most intricate
city titles, and soon became quite
an adept in the drafting of difficult
deeds and instruments, so much so,
that during the latter period of his
services with the Company, he took
charge of their conveyancing de-
partment.

In April 1837, he opened an office
at 4415 Main street, Manayunk, and
started in the real estate business.
Having thoroughly equipped him-
self, and having a large circle of
acquaintances, his business steadily
increased from year to year, until
it probably assumed greater propor-
tions than that of any of his com-
petitors.

Mr. Keely made a specialty of
the negotiation of loans secured by
mortgages, and represented some of
the wealthiest local, as well as
Philadelphia business men. This
placed him in touch with the money
market at all times, and enabled
him to negotiate loans both quick-
ly and satisfactorily.

In politics he was a Republican,
although he never failed to support
any good candidate, without re-
gard to party. He had no political
aspirations, and confined his at-
tention strictly to his business and
justly merited the confidence and
esteem of the community in which
he resided.

He was an active member of Rox-
borough Lodge, No. 65, I. O. O. F.

On September 23rd, 1836, Mr.
Keely was married to Miss Rae
Chambers Fulmer, daughter of
David Fulmer, a past assistant en-
gineer in the United States Navy,
and Susan Fulmer.

DAVID WALLACE, manufacturer
and president of the Manayunk Na-
tional Bank, was born in Monaghan
County, Ireland, May 1th, 1822, his
parents, both of whom died while
he was quite young, being David
and Jane (McFadden) Wallace. In
1841, he came to the United States,
and for about 13 years was engaged
in canal boating, subsequently com-
ing to Philadelphia and starting
manufacturing in Manayunk, about
1854, in the line of cotton and wool-
en goods, which he successfully
conducted; the product of years
having been confined to Kentucky
jeans and cottonades.

On the establishment of the
Manayunk National Bank, in 1871,
Mr. Wallace became one of its di-
rectors, and afterwards, in 1882, was
elected its president, which impor-
tant position he held for many years.

Mr. Wallace was married in 1844
to Miss Mary Ann Devoc, a daugh-
ter of Peter and Rebecca Devoc, of
Manayunk, who died on 1850. Two
sons were the result of this mar-

riage.

In 1853, he was again married;
his second wife being Miss Mary
Preston, daughter of Edward Pres-
ton, a well known manufacturer of
Manayunk. Of this marriage there
were issue three sons and five
daughters.

**WILLIAM GUTHRIE ENTRE-
KIN**, Photographer, of Manayunk
and Philadelphia, was born in
Brandywine Township, Chester
County, Penna., on Wednesday,
February 13th, 1833, being the
youngest son of Captain William
Entrekin, a noted contractor and
builder of Chester County, and
Mary (Claire) Entrekin. On the
paternal side the family was of
Irish descent, being from County
Antrim, while on the maternal side
the family was of French origin.

About the end of the 18th cen-
tury, Samuel and James Entrekin
left Ireland on account of political
troubles, and settled in the United
States; while Mr. Entrekin's moth-
er's father was Pierre Claire, who
was in the army of the great Na-
poleon, and came to America in
Count DeGrasse's fleet, being pre-
sent at the taking of Yorktown, and
Cornwallis' surrender. His term of
military service having expired
while in this country, he remained
here.

William G. Entrekin received his
education at a private Friends'
School, at Downingtown, and, his
father having died in 1843, the fam-
ily removed to Manayunk in 1845,
where he began to work in the
woolen mill of John and James
Donley, in West Manayunk.

From thence he went to Isaac
and Robert Wetherill's mill, where
he was for some time employed in
spinning and weaving, continuing
there until he was seventeen years
of age. After this he worked in the
car-building shops of the late Wil-
liam C. Allison, who was a relative
of his mother's family, and in his
18th year, became the apprentice of
Henry H. Bellfield, brass-founder,
with whom he served an appren-
ticeship of four years, and thor-
oughly learned the business of brass
founding, and finishing. On the
completion of his apprenticeship in
1854, he removed to Philadelphia,
and became employed at gas fitting
and chandelier establishment of
Cornelius & Sons, where he remain-
ed until April 1856. In this year
his natural inclination for artistic
work developed itself, and he then
began to practice photography as a
regular business, establishing a
studio in Manayunk, and producing
at first daguerrotypes, which were
then the fashionable portrait.
About the same time he opened a
gallery at 532 North 2nd street,
Philadelphia, carrying on both
places until 1859, when he began to
travel through the South, with a
photographic car, turning out first
class pictures known as "Amber-
types." About the end of the year
1860, he returned North and trav-
eled in the same manner through
Pennsylvania until 1862, when he
went for a time with the Army of
the Potomac as photographer. After
leaving the army he came back to
Manayunk, and extended the facil-
ities of the gallery there, at Main
and Levering streets, improving the
buildings, and equipping them with
all the then modern appliances of
the art.

In 1884, Mr. Entrekin secured

18
suitable premises at 1204 Chestnut
street, and established a handsome
photographic gallery there, which
he shortly afterwards sold. In 1886,
he opened a studio at 1313 and 1315
Columbia avenue, at the corner of
Park avenue. In 1890, Mr. Entre-
kin determined to create a photo-
graphic studio and art gallery
which should be without exception
"the largest, best appointed, and
most handsomely furnished in the
United States," if not in the world,
and selected the building at 1700
North Broad street, the corner of
Broad and Columbia avenues, for
the purpose. He leased the upper
floors, prepared them at a lavish
expense, and in the most perfectly
artistic manner, and opened them
to the public on Monday, Septem-
ber 8th, 1890.

Mr. Entrekin fitted out and oper-
ated nine galleries, four of which he
conducted at one time, and in the
course of his extensive business,
made more than a quarter of a
million negatives, and about 5,000-
000 pictures. He devised a number
of inventions and appliances for

photographic use and held about
20 patents. One of these, "The En-
trekin burnisher," was so phenom-
enally successful, and obtained such
world wide use as an indispensable
adjunct of every high class gallery
as to require special mention. Mr.
Entrekin secured eleven patents on
this machine. It was invented while
in Manayunk, and from that com-
paratively obscure point, was ship-
ped to England, France, Germany,
Austria, and all Europe, Australia,
South America, India, China, Malta,
Mexico and numberless other
places. For this device its talented
inventor received the gold medal of
the Franklin Institute, of Philadel-
phia, and the Scovill Gold Medal—
the highest award in the gift of the
National Photographic Association
of America, together with the medal
of the French Academy of Mechan-
ics, and an honorary membership
in that body. Very nearly one
hundred thousand burnishers were
sold, thus constituting by itself, a
business of ample proportions, and
of great profit. The whole valuable
patent was sold by Mr. Entrekin in
June, 1891, to Messrs. E. and H. T.
Anthony & Company, of 591 Broad-
way, New York City. At the time
of the first invention of the burn-
isher, it became necessary to main-
tain the patent right which was
strongly assailed, in several legal
contests. This its inventor was
successful in doing, in every case in
which it was attacked.

Mr. Entrekin was a member of
the F. and A. M., the Odd Fellows,
the American Mechanics, the I. O.
R. M. and the Knights of Pythias.

He was married in 1853, when 21
years old, to Miss Sarah Nice,
daughter of Abraham Nice, of
Bucks County.

In 1891, Mr. Entrekin was elected
president of the Photographers' As-
sociation of America at Buffalo,
N. Y. He died in 1903.

1/16/1930

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

John Lang, paper manufacturer, was born at Laufen, in Wurtemberg, Germany, on Tuesday, May 8th, 1832, being the son of John Lang, and Maria (Werner) Lang. The members of the family were paper makers for four generations, his great grandfather having been engaged in that line of business. He learned the paper trade under the tuition of his father, and on his emigration to the United States, in 1850, became at first employed in the paper warehouse of Irwin Megaree, in Philadelphia, and afterwards at the paper mill of William Brett, in Chester County.

He subsequently worked at other paper mills, in various parts of the country, and, finally, in 1866, assumed the management of the late W. W. Harding's paper factory in Manayunk, where he continued until 1873, when he went into business on his own account at 24th and Vine streets.

Mr. Lang was a member of the Manufacturer's Club of Philadelphia and of the Odd Fellows Lodge.

He was married in December, 1858, to Miss Francis Wood Fritz, daughter of Henry Fritz, a paper maker, of Philadelphia. His family consisted of two daughters, the eldest—Viola Theresa, married E. H. Morris, carpet yarn manufacturer, of Manayunk—and the second—Lilla Florence, being the wife of Horace E. Jones, builder of Textile machinery, also of Manayunk.

Patrick F. Dever, who died on Sunday, February 5th 1905, was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Patrick Dever, and was born in Ireland in 1850.

When a child his parents brought him to Manayunk. He exhibited rare qualities as a speaker when but a schoolboy, and on the advice of friends chose law as his profession.

He studied in the office of General William McCandless, and was admitted to the bar in 1874. Mr. Dever soon became prominent as a criminal lawyer and built up a large practice.

He was for many years a leading figure in Democratic political circles. He was orator of the old American and Randall Clubs, and as a speaker was heard in various parts of the State. He was a leader in politics in the 21st Ward and prominent in Catholic religious work, being connected from his childhood with the Church of St. John the Baptist.

Several years before his death he removed to 3025 Columbia avenue and became a member of St. Elizabeth's Church. His wife was Elizabeth Hofer, of Manayunk, and three sons, Dr. Francis K. Dever, John Dever, and Joseph Dever, and two daughters, Marie and Elizabeth, were born to the marriage.

The funeral of Patrick Dever was held on Thursday morning, February 9th, 1905, at St. Elizabeth's Church. The celebrant was Rev. Bernard

Dornhage, and he was assisted by Rev. Thomas McCarthy, formerly of St. Elizabeth's and by Rev. Hugh Murphy, of St. John the Baptist Church.

Edward Howard Preston, for forty-four years connected with the Manayunk National Bank—now the Commercial National Bank and Trust Co.—the last seventeen of which he was president, died on Monday, December 9th, 1918, at his residence, 106 Rochelle avenue, Wissahickon.

Mr. Preston was born in Manayunk. He attended a private school conducted by Miss Esther Hoffman, in Manayunk, and later attended Central High School, after which he entered the Manayunk bank as clerk. In 1897 he was made cashier, and in 1901 its president. He was chairman of the finance committee of St. Timothy's (Memorial) Hospital, and at one time president of the Manayunk Business Men's Association.

As a banker he gained wide recognition, which may be evidenced by the unprecedented growth and substantial standing obtained by the bank of which he was head during his administration. The United States Government authorities, on various occasions during his incumbency, commended the Manayunk banking institution upon its excellent management and adequate resources.

Mr. Preston was married, early in his life to Miss Ella Rile, of Norris town, Montgomery County. Their daughters were Mrs. Paul Lum, and Mrs. H. Tudor Morsell. The sons were Lieutenant W. Preston, U. S. N. and Edward H. Preston, Jr.

At the time of his funeral, which occurred on December 13th, 1918, the services were conducted by Rev. Daniel Martin, pastor of the Cynwyw Presbyterian Church. The interment was made in Westminster Cemetery.

The honorary pall-bearers were Gwynne Sheppard, T. Rawlins Adams, Joseph Kenworthy, John Flanagan, George Flint, Wilbur Hamilton, and Frank P. Hill.

The active pall-bearers were Charlie Cole, Oliver S. Keely, George C. Bowker, Edward D. Hemingway, John J. Foulkrod, Jr., Thompson Littlewood, R. Bruce Wallace and Edward H. Morris.

William MacIndoe, a longtime resident of the Falls of Schuylkill, was born in Stirlingshire, Scotland on December 8th, 1833.

Mr. MacIndoe came to America in 1835 and settled in the Falls and at the outbreak of the Civil War enlisted in the 7th Regiment Pennsylvania Infantry Volunteers.

He served three years in the army and fought in the battle of Pittsburg Landing, better known as the Battle of Shiloh, his regiment being the only Pennsylvania regiment in the field. He also served through the arduous campaign in Kentucky, and the terrible battle of Stone River, where he was mentioned for bravery and was elected a member of General Rosecrank's body guard—a body of men selected for special bravery on the field.

He was severely wounded at the Battle of Liberty Gap, in Tennessee

and was finally mustered out at the end of his term of enlistment.

After the war he returned to the Falls, where he lived the remainder of his life. He died on March 30th, 1904, leaving a wife, whose girlhood name had been Miss Fannie Wood. Three sons, four daughters, and six grandchildren also survived him.

1/1/1931

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

Joseph Winpenny, one of Manayunk's one-time citizens, who died on December 25th, 1901, at his residence 159 Green lane, was born on May 5th, 1822, at the Falls of Schuylkill.

In his early life he was in partnership with his father, in the manufacture of woolen goods in the old Wabash Mills, in Manayunk.

He was an ardent Democrat for sixty years, but never held an office except that of an inspector in the Appraiser's Office, during the Cleveland Administration.

Mr. Winpenny was survived by his wife, three sons, two daughters and ten grandchildren.

Philip Senner, who died from a stroke of paralysis, at his home, 162 Indian Queen lane, on Sunday morning, December 14, 1902, at the age of 87 years, was born in Bruchsol, Baden, Germany, in the year 1816, and came to America in 1854 and settled in Roxborough, where he was married on August 6th, 1855, to Miss Christiana Hurst, who was also from the same German town.

In 1857, he and his family moved to the Falls of Schuylkill. Mr. Senner was an employee of the Powers and Weightman Laboratory for more than 23 years. At the time of his death he was survived by his daughter, Mrs. Jonathan Benn.

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

Perry Wharton Levering was the 6th child of Anthony and Mary (Starne) Levering, and was born May 20th, 1802, in the old Levering homestead on Green lane, Manayunk, which was built in 1736, by his great grandfather, Jacob Levering, and which afterwards descended to himself. This house remained until 1890, when it was replaced by a handsome stone residence.

Mr. Levering received his education in the old Roxborough School House, on the site of which the

present public school stands, and on leaving school, learned the trade of carpenter, which in those days included all kinds of cabinet work, and also undertaking, as it still does in some rural districts. After serving his apprenticeship in this line of trade, he commenced business in it, and carried it on very successfully for many years, eventually adding thereto house building and contracting, all the operations connected with many of the improvements of properties in Manayunk

and Roxborough, and the neighboring places, and having been the builder of many houses of the district, both for himself and for others. He was the president of the Bridge Company of Manayunk, being the third who had occupied that position—the preceding presidents having been Lloyd Jones and Paul Jones.

He was also a prominent leader in the affairs of the town of Manayunk, and of neighboring places. He was, during the greater part of his life, a town councillor and poor director, and school director and comptroller. In all matters relating to education—he was especially interested.

In religious matters Mr. Levering was a Baptist, in common with so many of his ancestors. He was a deacon of the Roxborough Baptist Church, as was also his father and many others of his family, and a constituent of the First Baptist Church of Manayunk, of which he was also subsequently a deacon. To the latter church he gave the lot of ground on which the present church is built, and was a constant attendant at the services therein, assisting regularly at the Lord's Supper, almost up to the time of his death.

He was married June 21st, 1825, at Rising Sun, to Elizabeth Streep-er, of Montgomery County, the officiating clergymen of that day

and the father of the Hon. Horatio Gates Jones, ex-Senator of Pennsylvania. Of the issue of that marriage were Milton Levering, Eliza Levering, Albert Streep Levering, who died in 1832; Edwin Cone Levering, died in 1838; and Anna Levering, married to Albert Mething, who died in 1883.

Mr. Levering died, December 17th, 1868, at the advanced age of 86 years. He retained all of his faculties in full vigor, notwithstanding so great an age, and was able to attend to business until the very end. "His eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated." Mrs. Levering died August 17, 1868.

William Masters Camac, architect, the eldest son of Dr. William Camac, was born in Philadelphia, August 15th, 1852, and was educated at the Episcopal Academy, and University of Pennsylvania.

After his return from Europe in 1872, he selected the profession of an architect, and numbered among several notable clients, the Hon. James G. Blaine, for whom he executed work in Washington and Bar Harbor, Maine.

He was for many years a member of the First City Troop, and has held positions of honor in various organizations. In 1891, he was ap-

pointed by the Judges of the Courts, Controller of the Board of public Education for the 21st School Section of Philadelphia.

Ross Richardson Bunting, physician, was born in Philadelphia, and was the only child of Dr. Thomas Chaikley Bunting and Almira (Richardson) Bunting. His father was a practicing physician in the city, and was also an army surgeon during the Mexican War, being attached to the same regiment of

which the late Governor Geary was then Major, and was also Register of Wills of Philadelphia in the early part of the fifties.

Dr. Bunting was educated at the Philadelphia High School, and graduated there with the degrees of A. B. and A. M. He then became a student of medicine at the Jefferson Medical College. During his medical course in America, he had the advantage of the preceptorship of Dr. J. M. Da Costa, who was professor of the practice of medicine, and of Dr. J. H. Brinton, who held the chair of surgery in that college. After receiving his degree of M. D., he went to Paris, France, and matriculated at the Faculty of Paris in that city, where he remained for the full course of study required there, five years, again graduating in January 1862, after which he returned to the United States. He then settled in Upper Roxborough, and commenced practice as a physician there, continuing the same for many years. During this long time he became thoroughly identified with the interests of this locality, and was recognized both as a leading physician and citizen. In addition to his private practice he was on the staff of physician at St. Timothy's Hospital and physician of the Roxborough Home for Women. He was a member of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia, and of all the minor medical societies in the city.

Dr. Bunting was married June 2nd, 1866, to Isabel Hart, daughter of James Hart, of Philadelphia.

The senior Dr. Bunting was a prominent Philadelphian of the last generation and was an intimate friend of many of the public men of the day, such as Attorney General Cushing, John W. Forney, President Buchanan, General Woll, of the U. S. A., Stephen A. Douglas and many others, who were frequent guests at his house, and of whom the subject of this tale entertained many interesting and agreeable reminiscences.

John Jacob Strader, youngest son of John Strader and Mary Isabella (Stuart) Strader, was born in Warren County, New Jersey, on Friday, March 2nd, 1838. He was of German parentage on his father's side, his ancestors being among the emigrants in the early part of the 17th century, and settled in New York. His mother is a direct descendant of the Royal House of Stuarts of Scotland, her grandfather, Robert Stuart, being the founder of Stuartsville, N. J. In 1845, young Strader, then in his seventh year was bereft of his parents by death, and the following year took up his abode with his uncle and guardian, Captain Jacob Strader, at Cincinnati, Ohio. He received his educa-

tion at Herron's Cincinnati College, Parker's Academy, Clermont County, and Milnor Hall, Gambier, Ohio, and at the age of fifteen, left school and entered the employ of the Little Miami Railroad. The breaking out of the Civil War found him at Nicholasville, Kentucky, the terminus of the Kentucky Central Railroad, engaged by his brother as superintendent of a line of transportation wagons, hauling goods from the terminus of the railroad to towns of Kentucky and east Tennessee. This position he resigned to enter the Union Army, enlisting with the 31st Ohio Regiment, at Camp Chase, Ohio, August 10th, 1861. This regiment was the second to cross the Ohio River, and the first at Camp Dick Robinson, Kentucky, when the First Division of the Army of the Cumberland was organized under the command of Major General George H. Thomas, in which he served until mustered out at Louisville, Kentucky, July 20th, 1865. During his Army career, he participated in the battles of Mill Spring, Gallatin Ford, Stony River, Beech Grove, Tullahoma, Chickamauga, Brown's Ferry, Missionary Ridge, Resaca, Kennesaw Mountain, Chattanooga, Siege of Atlanta, Jonesboro, Sherman's March to the Sea through the Carolinas, and at Bentonville, N. C.

In August 1865, he entered the employ of the St. Louis, Alton and Terre Haute Railroad, as conductor, which after three years he resigned and became extensively engaged in farming in Jersey County, Illinois, subsequently engaging in merchantile trade in Pekin, Illinois.

Mr. Strader was married on February 14th, 1867, to Miss Edna Amelia Nelson, eldest daughter of Franklin Nelson and Elizabeth Jane (Asher) Nelson. Three sons were born to them, Franklin Nelson

Strader, who studied for the Episcopal ministry at the Theological Seminary, New York; Robert Stuart Strader, a student at the University of Pennsylvania, and George Asher Strader, at Brown's School in Philadelphia.

In May 1877, Mr. Strader removed his family to Philadelphia, where he accepted a position in the War Department at Schuylkill Arsenal, which position he retained for many years. He later became a reporter for the Manayunk district on the Philadelphia "Press".

Mr. Strader, with his family, were members of St. Timothy's Protestant Episcopal Church, at Roxborough, of which he was for some years a vestryman.

He was one of the founders and a vestryman of St. Paul's Church, Pekin, Illinois, and has long been one of the active members of St. Timothy's Workingmen's Club and Institute, being one of the Executive Committee, and for many years its treasurer; he was also a member Lodge No. 24, A. F. M., and Jerseyville Lodge No. 384, I. O. O. F.

William Charles Todd was born in County Antrim, Ireland, on February 8th, 1924, and received his early education in his native country. His father was James Todd, and his mother's maiden name was Mary Ann Gray, both were descendants of the Scotch Protestants

who were compelled to seek refuge in County Antrim, Ireland, during the religious persecutions in Scotland, in the reign of King Charles the Second, in the latter part of the 17th century.

He came to America in 1844, his father and family following soon afterwards. After visiting several of the Western States, and other portions of the country, he began to study medicine in the office of Dr. E. Neal, 297 (old number) Chestnut street, Philadelphia. Afterwards he matriculated at Jefferson Medical College and graduated in 1855. On graduation he at once commenced the practice of his profession, in conjunction with the business of a druggist, locating himself in the southern part of the city.

On the breaking out of the Civil war in 1861, after passing an examination before a Medical Board in Washington, D. C., he was commissioned as Surgeon of the 68th Pennsylvania Volunteers Infantry, shortly afterwards being transferred to the Fifth Pennsylvania Cavalry.

He served up to August, 1864, taking part in all the actions and engagements of the regiment, when on the expiration of his term of service he was honorably discharged. During his period of service, he was for a long time attached to General Kautz's Brigade, and took part in all the hard work done by them in Maryland, Virginia and North Carolina, and at many other points. He was the senior surgeon of the Brigade, and at various times acting Surgeon of the Division. He had many hairbreadth escapes and was once captured by the enemy, but in a few

hours after retaken by a charge of Northern cavalry.

In 1865 he removed to Manayunk, and commenced practice as physician and surgeon, taking up his residence in Roxborough. He was very successful, in securing a very extensive clientele and held an enviable position as one of the prominent doctors of the ward. He was surgeon of the Roxborough district, and surgeon to St. Timothy's hospital, Roxborough.

Dr. Todd was married on January 24th, 1856, to Sophia Flaherty, and had issue two sons, William Crozier Todd, and James Charles Todd, the former who died in 1888. The latter was the proprietor of the drug store once located at 4403 Main street, Manayunk.

Mrs. Todd died in September 1885.

The doctor was a member and elder of the Leverington Presbyterian Church, of Roxborough, Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States, Grand Army of the Republic, and Surgeon to Post No. 12, G. A. R. He was also an excellent contributor to the medical journals.

11/28/1929

Footprint Makers

By Seccalf

Martin Nixon, the paper manufacturer, one of the proprietors of the Flat Rock Paper Mills, was born in March 1818, being the fourth son of Daniel Adams Nixon and Susannah (Rittenhouse) Nixon, who were married in 1806. The family came originally from Virginia, Daniel A. Nixon being a descendant of John Adams of that State. His mother's ancestor was Wilhelm Rittenhausen (Rittenhouse) who established the first paper mill in America along the Wissahickon Creek, in the fall of 1690. The paper made in the Wissahickon Creek mill of the Rittenhouses was marked with a water-mark consisting of a clover leaf and the initials "WR." William Rittenhouse was the first Lennonite bishop in America and lived at the corner of what was once Main and Eberman streets in Germantown.

The family of Daniel A. and Susannah Nixon, consisted of six sons, Charles, William, Thomas, Martin, Henry M. and Nicholas. The sons were all apprenticed to trades, one only—William—being indentured to the paper making business, although all of the brothers eventually became connected with that line of work.

The eldest son, Charles Nixon, learned the trade of baker; the second, William, became a paper maker; the third, Thomas, was a blacksmith; the fourth, Martin, was a cotton-spinner; the fifth, Henry Morris, a machinist; the sixth, Nicholas, being like his elder brother, a baker. Henry Morris Nixon, who was born in 1820, died in August, 1857. He became a paper manufacturer, in 1846, on the

death of his brother William, when he assumed his interest in the mill. He married Mary Ann Borie, of Frankford, and had five children. He was a burgher of Manayunk, before the consolidation of the city, and was prominent in the local affairs of the day.

The widely known paper mills at Flat Rock, were originally started by G. F. Feinour and William Nixon, under the firm name of Feinour & Nixon. William Nixon died in 1846 and his interest in the firm was continued by his brother Henry M. Nixon. In 1847, Mr. Feinour died, and in 1857, H. M. Nixon also died, after which the business was carried on by Martin Nixon; the old firm name being carried on until 1861, when Martin Nixon's name was substituted. In 1879 on the admission into the firm of William Henry Nixon, the name of the house became M. and W. H. Nixon, which, in 1888, when the firm was made a stock company, became "The M. and W. H. Nixon Paper Company."

Martin Nixon was at first apprenticed to the trade of cotton spinning, which he learned at Duval's Mill, which stood at the lower end

of Manayunk. In 1843 he commenced the paper business in Cincinnati, Ohio, in conjunction with his brother Thomas; carrying on a mill in Mill Grove and a paper warehouse in Cincinnati, in Ohio. In 1860 he sold his interest in the Ohio firm, and devoted his interest to the business in Manayunk, so continuing until his death.

Martin Nixon died on June 18th, 1888, at the age of seventy years, and lies buried, together with his second wife, in old Laurel Hill cemetery. He was a man of domestic tastes, and all through life eschewed any kind of public or political preferment.

Nixon was the first paper maker in the United States to successfully introduce the manufacture of white paper from straw. He started this process at first in 1854, in the following years developing it

into a completely successful industry. Though not trained to the paper business in his youth, he yet became a thoroughly practical and experienced paper manufacturer, and in a great many ways improved the trade, infusing vitality into the details and largely increasing and extending its capacities; and to his wise and energetic management may be greatly ascribed its ultimate expanded growth.

He was twice married, his first wife being Miss Matilda Brown, of Cincinnati, who died during the cholera epidemic in 1849. In 1852 he was married to Miss Alice Feinour, sister of George T. Feinour, of the original paper firm. Mrs. Nixon died on January 17th, 1879. He had four children; one, a daughter Martha B. Nixon, by his first wife; and a son, George F., and two daughters, Alice F. and M. Martine Nixon, by his second wife.

Thomas Wood, Sr., who died at the Falls of Schuylkill in December 1903, was born in Dublin, Ireland, on June 14th, 1819. He came to this country in 1844, and after a brief stay in Rhode Island, came to the Falls and worked on the erection of the old stone bridge, after which he worked at his trade of block-printer at William Simpson's Washington Print Works, in Cookskey, for many years.

Mr. Wood was among the first to locate on the western side of the Schuylkill, below the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad bridge, which incidentally was not then in existence. The place was known as "Wood's Landing," it being a landing place for the steamboats which plied the river.

After the print works was discontinued, Mr. Wood went into the business of house painting, from which he retired in 1880. He was one of the original members of St. Bridget's church, and helped to dig the cellar of the old church on Stanton street. At one time he was proprietor of the Continental Hotel, at West Falls. His wife died in 1884, after which, until his death he resided with one of his daughters, Mrs. James Reardon, on Clearfield street. He was survived by eight of his twelve children, thirty grand children and eight great-grandchildren. He was buried in North Laurel Hill.

Footprint Makers

By Scaff

Rev. Francis J. Martersteck, who served as rector of the church of St. Mary of the Assumption, in Manayunk, for thirty-one years, was born on April 29th, 1844, in Weichtendonk, Germany, of which his father and brother were Mayors. After receiving an elementary education in his native town he entered the high school at Lennip and also took a course in the pro-gymnasium. He then went to the University of Cologne from which he graduated in 1863. After graduation he entered the theological seminary at Muenster, Westphalia, an institution which has furnished the Philadelphia diocese with a number of excellent priests. On June 6th, 1868, he was ordained to the priesthood in the chapel of St. Mauritz, Borro Maum.

The newly ordained priest came to Philadelphia and was assigned as assistant at St. Boniface church. Later he was transferred to St. John the Baptist Church at Haycock, Bucks County, where he labored successfully until the summer of 1873, when he was assigned to the rectorship of St. Mary's of the Assumption, succeeding the late Rev. Rudolph Kuentzer.

The silver jubilee of his ordination and twentieth anniversary of his pastorate in Manayunk was celebrated on June 5th, 1893. The school children inaugurated the exercises, with an entertainment, that afterward was followed by an address by the late Archbishop Ryan.

Father Martersteck went to his well-earned reward on July 2nd, 1901, and was interred in the Rector's Vault, in the little cemetery beside the church in which he labored so faithfully. Two nephews still survive him: Frank Martersteck, dwelling on Wilde street, near Dupont, in Manayunk, and Hugo

Martersteck, making his home at Sharon, Pennsylvania.

T. Mason Mitchell, the man for whom Mitchell street was named, was for more than fifty years a resident and property owner of Roxborough. He was born in Philadelphia on Friday, December 3rd, 1813. When he was about sixteen years of age, his father died, and he was thrown upon his own resources. In addition to this his mother, not being left in altogether independent circumstances, the duty of aiding her also devolved upon him. He became employed in a conveyancer's office, and eventually established himself in that line, carrying on the same for many years very successfully. He was also largely interested in real estate operations, especially in Roxborough and Manayunk, and at the same time speculated extensively and profitably, in mining property in the Pennsylvania coal districts, and in other places. He finally retired from active business life about 1864.

In religion, Mr. Mitchell was a Presbyterian, and at one time conducted missionary work at the Falls of Schuylkill, preaching and carrying on Sunday School work. His work here was very acceptable and proved him to be a talented man, and able orator.

Mr. Mitchell was married twice, his first wife being Miss Anna Eliza Safford, who died about 1850. One son of this marriage, T. Mason Mitchell, Jr., made his home in Buffalo, N. Y. On July 14th, 1859, he was married to Miss Virginia Morrison Egbert, the only surviving daughter of Dr. William M. Egbert, a very prominent physician and a highly esteemed resident of Manayunk, who died of tuberculosis in 1841, at the early age of thirty-four. The marriage took place at 4417 Main street, Manayunk, with the Rev. Levi Janvier, an East Indian Presbyterian missionary, performing the ceremony. Eight children were the result of this union.

Mrs. Mitchell died after a protracted illness of tuberculosis, in the Adirondacks, whither she had gone for her health, on the 9th day of September, 1884, and is buried in the churchyard at St. Timothy's. She was a lady of great beauty and refinement and an earnest member of the Episcopal Church.

Mr. Mitchell continued to live in Roxborough until sometime in the 90's when he too, was claimed by death.

Rev. Dr. Joseph Beggs, who guided the congregation of the Falls Presbyterian Church, from April 26th, 1853, to April 17th, 1894, was

born near Duncannon, County Tyrone, Ireland, on September 14th, 1830. He graduated from Lafayette College in 1851 and from Princeton Seminary in 1855. He served as pastor of the Roxborough Presbyterian Church from March 24th, 1855, to April 22nd, 1868. From April 12th, 1859, until April 22nd, 1868, Dr. Beggs served both the Roxborough and Falls Churches, but after the latter date gave all of his time to the last named place of worship.

In 1882 he received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Lafayette College, and an LL. D. from Washington College, Tennessee, in 1893. He also served as stated clerk of the Presbytery from 1869 until 1891.

Dr. Beggs, after retiring from active ministry, removed to Germantown, where on April 14th, 1899, he expired.

THANKSGIVING

For love that made us as the sons of God;
For all the sorrow by that great love wrought;
For burning pathways that our feet have trod;
For all our futile hopes which came to naught;
For conflicts which have made our courage strong;
For bitter words that stirred our self control;
For waiting days that patience might be long;
for sacrifices giving breadth of soul;
For suffering and for pain's release;
For all temptations, consciously abhorred;
For life, for death, and Death's Eternal Peace;
We thank thee, Lord!
A. C. C.

12/5/1929

Footprint Makes

By Scaff

John Jacob Foulkrod, the first cashier of the Manayunk National Bank, now known as the Commercial National Bank and Trust Company, was born in Frankford, on Thursday the 26th of July, 1849, being the son of Levi Foulkrod, who was the representative of Philadelphia County, in the Pennsylvania State Senate, and Jane Adams (Barnhurst) Foulkrod, who was of English descent. Levi Foulkrod died in 1854.

The family, on the paternal side, came originally from Germany, and settled in Frankford, locating on the Foulkrod farm homestead, on the Oxford Pike, between Fox Chase and Frankford, where several generations of the family passed their lives. In Cedar Hill Cemetery are the graves of six or seven generations of the family, whose name is also perpetuated by a street in the Frankford section being called after it.

The earliest American ancestor was the great-great-grandfather of the bank cashier, George Foulkrod,

whose son was Jacob Foulkrod, who was in the Colonial army, in the Revolutionary War. The third descendant, the grandfather of John J. Foulkrod, was John Foulkrod, who was also a representative of this county in the State Senate, and served in the War of 1812.

John Jacob Foulkrod received his education at the Philadelphia (Central) High School, graduating in 1867. On leaving school he became a clerk in the National Bank of the Republic. In 1869 he transferred his services to the Second National Bank, remaining there until 1871, in which year, on August 14th, he removed to Manayunk, to assume the office of cashier of the Manayunk National Bank.

Mr. Foulkrod was married June 15th, 1871 to Miss Anna Krewson, daughter of Leonard Krewson, a prominent builder of Frankford.

He was a member of the Leverington Presbyterian Church of Roxborough, president of the Board of Trustees of the church and a teacher in its Sunday School.

He was also the treasurer of the Roxborough Lyceum, trustee of the Penny Savings Bank of Manayunk and a member of the board of trustees of St. Timothy's (Memorial) Hospital.

Seville Schofield, the Manayunk manufacturer, was born in Lees, near Oldham, England on August 13th, 1832. His father, Joseph Schofield, brought his family to the United States in 1845, and settled in Manayunk, where they engaged in manufacturing.

After some time spent at school in Norristown, he assumed charge of his father's mill, and later purchased the mill of William McFad-

den, and transferred his business there. Joseph Schofield died in 1857 and his son carried on the business without change until 1859, in which year, having married, he and his brother Charles, formed a partnership as S. and C. Schofield. The business of the firm increased continually, and in 1862, they started to make blankets for the U. S. Government. In the following year Charles Schofield retired with a competency. The trade continued to increase greatly, and other mills were added, which, after a complete equipment, were ready for work, when, in March 1867, the whole plant was destroyed by fire, the loss aggregating nearly a quarter of a million dollars. In 1868, he again started, and continued his former successes, becoming gradually one of the largest individual textile manufacturers in Pennsylvania.

The mill buildings of Seville Schofield comprised several structures, and were among the largest in Manayunk. The products of the plant included blankets, broad-cloths, cassimeres, worsteds, and woolen carpet yarns. The full number of employees was about 1800.

Walter P. Benham, the father of William J. Benham, secretary of the Board of Revision of Texas, was born at Gyssford, Kent County, England, on March 5th, 1857. He was the son of George and Eliza Benham.

Coming to this country in 1872, he secured a position at the Washington Print Works, owned by William Simpson, at West Falls, after which he became connected with the firm of John and James Dobson as superintendent of one of the principal departments, continuing in that position until 1904. Following this he managed a mill in Manayunk.

Subsequently he became superintendent and general manager of the Philadelphia Carpet Company, at 5th and Columbia avenues, and held this position until the time of his death, which occurred on November

26th, 1916.

His widow, who previous to her marriage was Miss Eliza Crooks, survived him. The couple were the parents of the following children: George, William J., Aubrey, Robert, Mrs. Russell Hill, Mrs. D. I. Fulton, and Mrs. S. C. Fish.

Walter Benham was a member of Palestine Lodge No. 470 F. and A. M., Keystone Chapter, No. 175, R. A. M., Mary Commandery K. T., president of the William J. Benham Building and Loan Association and a director of the Square Deal Building and Loan Association and connected with many other organizations.

His funeral took place from his last residence, in Logan, on December 1st, 1909, and he was interred in Laurel Hill Cemetery.

12/26/1929

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Footprint Makers

By Scaff

William Bell Stephens, manufacturer, of Manayunk, was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on Tuesday, May 21st, 1816, and was the son of Alexander Stephens, who was originally from Elgin, in the north of Scotland. His mother was Christina (Bell) Stephens, whose family belonged to the city of Stirling.

The elder Mr. Stephens, with his wife and three young children—Janet, James and William Bell—left Scotland in June 1818, and sailed in a brig, from Greenock, for New York, where they arrived in September, having been on the ocean for thirteen weeks. They settled in Philadelphia, where their daughter, Janet, died in 1821. The boys—James and William Bell—attended a private school for a time, and, in 1827, entered a classical academy on 4th street, near Arch, where they remained three years. On leaving school, both boys were placed in their father's factory, which was then occupied with the production of gingham, handkerchiefs, and ingrain carpets. The work was at that time all done by hand-looms, of which there were two hundred in the factory. In 1837, the sons, being of age, they were admitted into partnership with their father, under the firm name A. Stephens and Sons.

Early in the following year—1838—the firm purchased the "Henry Clay Cotton Factory," on the Brandywine River, in Delaware, the management of which was given to the elder son, James Stephens, the younger, William Bell Stephens, continuing with his father in Philadelphia.

In the fall of the same year, Alexander Stephens, and his wife, removed to Delaware, leaving their younger son in charge of the Philadelphia factory, where he continued until 1843, when the business in this city was closed.

In May of 1843, William Bell Stephens married Miss Caroline Achsah Gebhard, daughter of Dr. Lewis P. Gebhard, a prominent

physician of this city, who had been in continuous practice for more than fifty years. The doctor resided at 216 Race street. Shortly after his marriage, Mr. Stephens removed to Delaware, remaining there until 1846, when he retired from his father's firm, for the purpose of joining James Whitaker in partnership, and starting a cotton factory in Manayunk. This was done the same year, and the firm of Stephens & Whitaker was established in the Arkwright Mill, along the Schuylkill near the Nixon Paper Mill, where he continued manufacturing for several years with great success. The products being gingham, bags, cottonades, and etc. During the War of the Rebellion, great quantities of shirts and flannels for the United States Government were

made. The firm was dissolved about 1866.

William B. Stephens was a member of the firm of A. Campbell & Co., and was the executor of Mr. Campbell's estate, after the death of that gentleman in 1874.

In religious affairs Mr. Stephens was an Episcopalian, being a member of St. David's Church and for many years, both Accounting Warden and Secretary of the Vestry. His memory is perpetuated by the William B. Stephens Memorial Library on Kraus avenue, a reference library, which is highly

esteemed by those who avail themselves of the educational advantages it offers.

Mr. Stephens died very suddenly, on July 1st, 1886, of heart failure and lies buried in West Laurel Hill Cemetery, up above the community which he so faithfully served.

John M. Delaney, an old resident of the Falls of Schuylkill, who served in both branches of Uncle Sam's service, died April 3rd, 1916. His funeral took place in the same week with High Requiem Mass being celebrated at St. Bridget's Church with the interment being made in St. Mary's Cemetery, in Roxborough.

Mr. Delaney was born on board the vessel which was carrying his parents, who were of Irish birth, to America. His father found employment in the coal fields of Pennsylvania, near Minersville, where the family lived for many years.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, young John Delaney, who was still in his boyhood, enlisted in Company "G," 68th Pennsylvania Volunteers, and remained in the army until the close of the conflict.

He was in the front line of some of the more important battles of the War of the Rebellion. He had the second finger of his right hand shot off in one of the engagements, and at Petersburg, he was one of four volunteers to re-light the fuse of a mine in the face of the foe's attacks. At Vicksburg, he was captured, but after a short imprisonment, made good his escape. He is reported to have been in thirty-two battles.

After the cessation of hostilities, he enlisted in the United States Navy, and was with Farragut on his famed European cruise. In 1869, when his first naval service expired, he re-enlisted for an additional four years. He was the possessor of honorable discharges from both branches of the Nation's armed service.

After completing his military career, he returned to Minersville, where he was married to Miss Elizabeth Walsh. In 1891 he and his family moved to the Falls of Schuylkill where he continued to live until he was claimed by death.

Now and Then

With the removal of the old trolley tracks, and the widening of Ridge road, from the Montgomery County line up to Barren Hill, the memorial marker commemorating General Lafayette's little brush with the British troops during the revolution has been brought into the view of thousands of motorists who probably never saw the stone before.

The marker, which is a marble representation of a tent, was erected by the Montgomery County Historical Society, back in 1896, near the centre of the ground occupied by the youthful Frenchman's troops at Barren Hill. The committee which had charge of placing the monument was greatly assisted by Levi Streeper, an aged resident of Norristown, who had frequently heard the story of Lafayette's experience from his grandfather.

Across the Ridge road, from where the memorial stands, was during the Revolution, a dense woods, which furnished shelter for a band of Onieda Indians, who were allies of the Americans. These natives figured prominently in Lafayette's clever retreat down Cherry lone to Conshohocken. Tradition says that the redskins remained under shelter until the British came within range of their guns, and then, firing a volley at the advancing line of Redcoats and giving a terrific war whoop, turned and fled down to and across the Schuylkill.

Old maps of the 21st Ward show that a great portion of what is now known as Upper Roxborough, was once the property of Henry Keely, who acquired title to the ground from Daniel Pastorius, of Germantown, at a cost of \$75 per acre. About 1890, when the city authorities took title to a part of the land for the Roxborough reservoir, they paid more than a \$1000 per acre. A brief of the title was read at that time, showing who had owned the ground, which was released on September 26th, 1881, by William Penn—this in England prior to Penn's landing here—to Charles Jones, Sr., and Jr. Among the owners who afterward possessed the property was Edward Shippen, one of Philadelphia's earliest mayors.

One of the old and respected residents of the Falls of Schuylkill, whose name is often mentioned

when old-time residents refer to the past history of the section, was John Maxwell, Sr., who resided on Indian Queen lane.

John Maxwell was born in County Down, Ireland, in 1834, coming to Philadelphia in 1852, where he learned mill and wheelwrighting at Wissahickon. He afterward carried on that business in Manayunk, and still later became master carpenter at the chemical laboratory of Powers & Weightman.

In 1862-63 he enlisted in Captain John Dobson's Company "I" of the Blue Reserves which served in the emergencies when the Southern army threatened Pennsylvania.

In 1857, Mr. Maxwell married Miss Jane Starrett, who lived until about eight months before her husband's death in December of 1904. Surviving Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell were one son, two daughters, nine grand-children and a great-grand-son.

In 1855, Mr. Maxwell, with a small band of Presbyterians, organized the Falls Presbyterian Church, in the Old Academy on Indian Queen lane, and of that faithful group of charter members he was the last to survive. He, with John Porter, as an associate, were accustomed to call for the Rev. Dr. Joseph Beggs, at the manse of the Roxborough Presbyterian Church, and escort him to the little mission at the Falls. For more than 34 years he served on the Board of Elders of the Falls Presbyterian Church.

Few indeed, are the couples who round out a half century of conjugal felicity, and when there are any who do, all modesty about ages are forgotten in the happiness that prevails.

One oft-remembered Falls of Schuylkill couple, whose descendants are many in this vicinity, who celebrated their golden wedding, was Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Flanagan, both of whom were born in Ireland. Mr. Flanagan first saw the light of day in County Donegal, in 1852, and when but eleven years of age emigrated to Scotland. In the land of the Kilties he remained until 1850 when he made his way back to Ireland, only to return to Scotland again in 1853 to become a benedict.

Mrs. Flanagan, who was born Miss Anna Toner, had County Armagh as her place of nativity, and it was while on a visit to her sister in Scotland that she made the acquaintance and later married Mr. Flanagan.

In 1862 the couple went to France and for a time resided in Paris, but in 1864 until 1879 they made their home in England. In 1879 Mr. and Mrs. Flanagan came to America and settled at "the Falls."

They were the parents of fourteen children, two of their daughters being nuns, one in London, England, and the other in Ohio. The Flanagans also had a nephew, William Bolan, who became a priest and was stationed in the Diocese of Indiana. Besides their fourteen children, there were thirty-one grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, who shared in the happiness of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Flanagan.

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Now and Then

The electrification of the Norristown branch of the Reading Railroad, brings to mind that one of the great adventures of past years is now practically a thing of that past. We refer to railroad building. Sixty years ago, men in engineering and surveying professions could almost pick their own jobs in the middle and far west, on the great trans-continental lines of rails which were being laid across the country. Today there are sufficient lines, and the one time colorful and exciting job is done.

One man from this section who had a great deal of experience in building western railroads was Major Amos Stiles, a resident of Roxborough, who at one time was the surveyor and regulator of the Fourth Survey District, which then supervised the engineering work in the 21st Ward.

Major Stiles was one of the men who helped to lay out the Texas Pacific Railroad, in 1872. He, with other members of a party, left Philadelphia on the 1st of June 1872, and reached the Galt House, in Louisville, Kentucky, on the 10th of the same month, enroute to Texas, said the Louisville Courier of that date, on "the morning train for the purpose of surveying the route for the Texas Pacific Railroad, of which Col. Thomas Scott is president."

The Galveston, Texas, Daily Times, of June 15th, 1872, said, "There also arrived yesterday the avant couriers of the Texas Pacific Railroad, in the persons of Major E. D. Muhlenberg, Engineer-in-chief Jonah Barrett, Zane Cetti, Major Stiles, F. Grove and J. J. Young, geologist. These gentlemen will all leave here on Monday next for the scene of their operations, and will commence them at the southeast corner of Jones County, running a line probably about half a degree north of the 32nd parallel, to a point say one hundred miles west of El Paso. We think it probable, when they return, they will survey another line half a degree south of the 32nd parallel, and return to the place of starting."

Mr. Stiles was at San Antonio on June 26th; near Austin, on July 7th; on the banks of San Seba, July 21st; near Fort Concho, on July 28th; and wrote a letter home to Roxborough, from the same place on August 1st.

At San Antonio, the Roxborough man, visited the "oldest church on the continent." He purchased there a pair of Mexican leggings and a sombrero, not without reason it would seem, as he said later, "If you ever saw a Mexican, you can form some idea of my color."

The party, at Austin, consisted of fifteen men, including seven engineers. On July 21st they were within 70 miles of Fort Concho which they thought they would

reach within a week. They were then "constantly reaching a higher level above the sea," and found it more pleasant. They arrived at Fort Concho in good condition, where they were joined by a military escort, rendered necessary by the presence of hostile Indians, and consisting of one company of the 11th Infantry and one of the 4th Cavalry. The party was then 226 miles from Austin and had 125 miles to go before getting to work, beside being a good deal delayed by the escort, which, on the whole proved somewhat cumbersome with its train of 18 wagons added to the freight wagons and two ambulances of the surveying corps, and but for which a decided forward movement would have been made on August 1st.

"Lo", the poor Indian was a great source of annoyance, and the pioneers clearing the way for "the footfall of Destiny" had to take him into consideration. They roamed over the country in small bands, stealing ponies, etc. Mr. Stiles, in one of his communications home, wrote: "Passed one man yesterday, near the roadside, that had recently been killed and scalped. Our party is too large for them to attack. Only this week a few miles beyond Concho they attacked the stage, killed driver, and stole the horses and baggage. They also drove off a herd of two thousand cattle on their way to Colorado. Owing to this state of things every man is a traveling arsenal, with Remington six-shooter, Sharpe's breech-loading carbine, and ammunition to match, making a respectable load to carry. Deer are plentiful but we have little chance to hunt them, as it is not safe to go out alone, or in small parties. But as the redskins only attack inferior numbers, the party is safe enough when it is united. At one place we stopped the camp was surrounded by 20,000 cattle awaiting a guard with which to cross to California, as the Indians are worse on that frontier than they have been for years. But these letters, which I intrust to some of their race, have, I understand, always been faithfully

delivered"

With regard to the plan of operations, Major Stiles said: "We commence at Fort Phantom Hill, the latitude and longitude of which we will establish by sextant, and chronometer, to form the southeast corner of Jones County; thence along the southern border of said county, to the southwest corner of the same; thence by a straight line to junction of the Delaware and Pecos rivers, continuing through the Guadalupe Mountains, so as to strike the Rio Grande somewhere between Donna Anna and El Paso. The party is divided into a Right, Left and Centre, with a chief in charge of each. Side parties will triangulate the country for 30 miles in each direction, so as to ascertain its topography, and general characteristics. After reaching the Rio Grande we will run south 60 miles and trace a contemplated line back to our initial point, side parties again de-

veloping 21 miles, by which we open up 120 miles in breadth—a cross section of the country and in the interval of the survey will have been measured 1100 miles of road. After our return we will probably be immediately sent back to locate the line decided upon, and after location, there is little doubt but construction will commence. The road, when completed will be the main one for travel from the East to California."

Local newspapers of the time when Major Stiles was in the Pan Handle country, thought that it was "somewhat odd that Roxborough, which languishes a railroad, should send her citizens out to confer the boon on semi-civilized Texas, and that it was really the sort of charity which properly begins at home."

SCCAFF.

9/1/32

Now and Then

John Levering, a grandson of Gerhard Levering, who was born in Roxborough, in December of 1723 was probably the first American to go as an ordained missionary to the heathens of foreign lands. He belonged to the pioneer family of Roxborough, and entered home mission work in Pennsylvania. In June 1756 he was, with his wife, stationed in the Moravian School, at Nazareth, Pa. In February of 1759 he sailed for Jamaica, West Indies, where he died, after a short service in the mission.

Sarah Bechtel, wife of John Levering, was the daughter of John Bechtel, of Germantown, who had united with the Moravians under the ministry of Count Zinendorf. After John Levering's death she remained in Jamaica, and in 1761 married John Merk, a missionary and native of Switzerland. They returned at a later time to Bethlehem, Pa., where John Merk died in 1796.

We don't suppose there are many people who are still living who remember John Reddinger Johnson, who resided at the Falls of Schuylkill.

John R. Johnson was a veterinary surgeon and also an accomplished druggist. Few men were ever more widely or more favorably known throughout this section than was he. In his early manhood he married Miss Amanda McEwen, a very estimable young woman, who with her husband was a member of the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church. Mrs. Johnson expired in early life. The only child of this couple, Miss Uretta E. Johnson was for many years a school teacher at the old Forrest School, which is now familiar as the Samuel Breck School.

Mr. Johnson in addition to his profession of treating ill horses and other animals, kept a grocery store at the lower end of Scott's Row, on Ridge avenue, at, or near where the Midvale Lumber Company is now located. Later he moved to

Ridge and Midvale avenues (the latter then being Millin street), where he was succeeded in business by Harmon Johnson and Christian Hess. In 1857, in partnership with James Morison he began to manufacture mineral waters. Morison withdrew and Francis Albright joined in the business, which was afterward carried on by Mr. Johnson alone, up until his death in 1883. In later life he married Susan Kennedy, who died a few years after their marriage.

Mr. Johnson was an entertaining conversationalist, being well informed on general topics and was highly esteemed in this neighborhood where most of his life was spent.

Said a local newspaper of June 1895: "Last Saturday a semi-professional ball team was organized here to be called the 'Wissahickon,' of which John Maxwell is the manager. The team is composed of well known players, formerly members of the Highland, Germantown, Cresson and St. Timothy's Clubs. The nine will be made up as follows: Drennan, catcher; Lancaster and Mason, pitchers; Mackay, first base; Cobbins and Merriman, second base; Brill, third base; Holmes, shortstop; Hawthorne, Conway and Gallagher, fielders."

Residents of this locality have often marveled at the lavish display which is made every time a Chinaman is buried in the little cemetery up on the hills beyond West Manayunk.

And these strange and wierd funerals have been going on since August of 1897, when a group of Celestials, through an attorney, A. Van Wick Budd, purchased the 110 acres of land at \$2250 per acre.

At the time of the land purchase it was the first, and only Chinese Cemetery in the eastern part of the United States, and bodies were brought here from all sections of the country. Here Wun Low and his brothers may indulge in all their native rites, a privilege which before the establishment of the

nearby cemetery was denied them by other cemetery authorities. It is said that the wealthier Chinamen are only temporarily buried in this country, and that as soon as permanent arrangements can be made the remains are shipped to their native land, where their souls may rest in everlasting peace.

What a difference the Schuylkill Navigation Company, which constructed the canal up along the Schuylkill river, made to this section when the canal was placed in operation about 1819, or 20.

Then there were no postage stamps, houses and other buildings were heated by wood fires and lighted with candles, or smelly oil lamps. Gas or electricity were undreamed of. Matches were far in the future and fires were ignited by flint and steel. There was no police protection, and when a building took fire the yeomen of the locality fought the flames with buckets of water. The only local place of worship was the Roxborough Baptist Church. No newspapers were distributed and few persons cared to be away from home at night. When they were obliged to go out after dark they carried lanterns to light them on their way. And yet people were happy!

9/15/32

Now and Then

Registration Day in the 21st Ward, with its 31 divisions nowadays, is a great deal different from what it was away back in 1872 when John Hartranft was running for the governor's seat.

The Personal Registration procedures which are now prevalent, were not in force, of course, but it was necessary to personally visit the assessor and to see that your name was on the list; otherwise you couldn't vote.

The canvassers of 1872, as they were called, sat on the 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 28th and 30th days of September at the following places:

- 1st Division: Fountain Hotel.
- 2nd Division: Old Police Station on Mechanic street.
- 3rd Division: Ledger's Hotel, Grape and Cresson streets.
- 4th Division: Metzler's Hotel, 4202 Cresson street.
- 5th Division: Quinton Hotel, Main street.
- 6th Division: Firth's Hotel, Washington street.
- 7th Division: Markley's Store, 10th Milestone.
- 8th Division: Riceman's Hotel, Ridge avenue.
- 9th Division: Lyceum Hall, Ridge avenue.
- 10th Division: Tolan's Hotel, Wissahickon.

Even before the first thought of Henry avenue, horse cars, trolley cars, or high speed transit, it appears that Roxborough was a difficult place to get to. Back in 1872 the old Manayunk Chronicle and Advertiser printed the following:

"We published on June 15th, a proposition to overcome the difficulty of reaching Roxborough from this place (Manayunk) by some modification of the elevated railway system, using an inclined plane, with a stationary engine at the top; and several gentlemen of Roxborough have met and discussed the project informally. A meeting was held on Wednesday evening, at the house of Rev. P. Stryker Talmage, Lyceum avenue, at which Mr. Thomas Shaw, of Eden Hill, was present by invitation; and it was thought that the cost of some such mode as was suggested would not exceed \$100,000. Several favorable circumstances connected with the proposed enterprise were mentioned, and we do not doubt that something practical and beneficial will result from the Conference, although no definite action was taken. Let the subject be fully discussed."

Few there are who can remember the old time Methodist "anniversaries" which were held in the little old Falls M. E. Church, on Jimmy street, which is now more familiar as Stanton street. The building stood, and still does for that matter, although it was converted into dwellings many years ago, on the corner of Stanton and Frederick streets.

According to old-timers, the "Anniversaries" were the great events

of the year. The boys and girls of the Sunday school were drilled for weeks before the entertainment and how quiet they kept not to let anyone know the pieces that they were to recite or sing. There is still one aged lady residing here, who, when a small child, won the admiration of all who heard her recite her little recitation, "I am a little curly head, my father is no preacher, but I love to go to Sunday School, and listen to my teacher." A drawing attraction was the announcement on the posters that "The Misses Simpson, of Manayunk, will sing." We wonder how such an entertainment would go in this advanced age?

We have no idea what gives old residents of the Falls of Schuylkill the impression that we are in possession of knowledge concerning the old town, which is apparently beyond the recollection of any living person. But apparently they do. We were asked a few weeks ago, if we had ever heard of Aaron Smith, who once collected toll on the old wooden bridge which crossed the Schuylkill river where the present iron bridge now stands. At the time of the questioning we knew nothing, but from sources which are at our command we culled the following:

Aaron Smith came to the Falls in 1832, succeeding William Davis as toll collector on the Falls Bridge and continued in that position until 1861, when the corporation bridge was sold to the city after the middle span had fallen by the weight of ice that had accumulated on it during a freezing rain. Mr. Mr. Smith purchased the toll keeper's frame house, and moved it to his lot on Ridge avenue, near Stanton street, where it still stands to this day. He afterward built a larger dwelling on the corner of Stanton street.

Smith was one of the best boot makers the Falls ever knew, and carried on his trade while tending the bridge. After residing in his new home for some years, he gave up shoemaking and was employed for a short time in Powers & Weighman's laboratory. Later he returned to Norristown, where he passed away about 1895. His widow, who was Matilda Valentine, survived him some years. Their three sons, Elwood, Howard and Alexander, and their sister, Mrs. Ida Smith Johnson, in the interim, have all followed their parents to the grave.

Another former resident of the Falls, of whom the writer is occasionally interrogated was Sebastian Gilbert. He was known as "Boss John" and came to this vicinity as a journeyman baker for the late William Stehle. When the latter transferred his business to Philadelphia, Gilbert became the proprietor and one of the first things he did was to introduce the baking of pretzels. Gilbert successfully conducted the bakery for many years, until Stehle, dissatisfied with his venture in town, returned to the Falls, and bought back the business. Gilbert purchased a property on Lancaster avenue, a short distance from Monument avenue, where he continued the trade of baking. What happened to him afterward, we have been unable to learn.

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Now and Then

With scores of newcomers in the Falls of Schuylkill, especially in what is now known as the "Queen Lane Manor section," the writer is often asked why some of the streets there have two names.

Motormen of the Midvale avenue trolley cars are wont to inquire, "Why is this street called 35th street, and also Conrad street?"

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 as far as Hunting Park avenue, and from that point on, the thoroughfares would be called after deceased Mayors of the city.

For instance, 29th street intersects Hunting Park avenue west of the Norristown branch of the Reading Railroad, while the same street line, on the old Germantown surveys, would cross a short distance west of Wissahickon avenue, near the Budd plant. Therefore that part of 29th street, above Hunting Park avenue, was re-named King street, 30th street became Stokley; 31st is Fox; 32nd, McMichael; 33rd is Henry; 34th is Vaux and 35th is Conrad street.

And at Midvale avenue, to make matters worse for a stranger, 35th street is Conrad on one side of the avenue, and Warden Drive on the other.

According to what was once said by an old surveyor, more than a half century ago, when he was attempting to make the Germantown surveys correspond with those of the city, Allegheny avenue was the last thoroughfare that would cross Hunting Park avenue, and yet there is in the Falls of Schuylkill, what is recognized and admitted to be Westmoreland street.

Every once in a while some moaner in the Falls arises to remark that "things would soon be better if the Dobson mills would get to running again." But that happening is not very likely to take place. For the mainsprings of that once-giant industrial plant have passed on.

John Dobson the founder of the great textile business was ten years older than his brother James.

The latter, after he had passed the eighty year mark, was once heard to state that his brother had started the business with a capital of less than \$200. He had come here from England, where he had learned his trade in the woolen mills, and learned it right.

Hard work, thrift, and a belief in the future of the United States, made the Dobson plant the greatest of its kind in the world. The names of this pair of brothers were international.

In certain important lines the Dobsons were textile pioneers. Red-hot Republicans they were, too, as is evidenced in some old-time speeches made by the younger brother at a time he was running for City Councils. It was the theory of both John and James that the

way to make America great was to foster its industries and make it self-reliant.

The present generation cannot apparently understand how things were when the best always meant something that was imported from a foreign country.

In all the histories of the Falls of Schuylkill, there is none, or at least very little, mention made of the quaint old English style structure which once nestled at the foot of the hill in Roberts' or Rubicam's Hollow, which later became known as Anderson's Hollow, along Neill Drive. It was located not far from the locomotive watering station of the Reading Railroad, on the west side of the Schuylkill, below City avenue.

In this building the late Ellis Leech kept a tavern some 80 years ago, and at least three men lost their lives by being run over on the railroad in the deep cut just below the tavern, while on their way home.

One of these was Jimmie McCloskey, who fell on the tracks and was decapitated. His home was on Ferry road, in East Falls.

The other victims, John Cameron, Sr., a Scotchman, of Manayunk, and John Wilkins a huge colored man, were killed at night and their bodies found the next morning.

In front of the house, on the upper side of Rubicam's run, was a pretty garden. The house was used long before the coming of the railroad, in connection with the shad fishery of Titus Roberts. When the building was erected, and when it was torn down is now past the ingenuity of the historians to find out, although there may be some record of the latter question among the archives of Fairmount Park, of which the site is now a part.

SCCAFF

8-18-32

Now and Then

Ferry road in East Falls is often the subject of conjecture regarding the reason of its name. At the river end of this road, which is located at 4100 block on Ridge avenue, the highway once turned southward along the Schuylkill river to about the foot of Hunting Park avenue, or Nicetown lane, as it is still called by old residents. Here the road went down to Mendenhall's Ferry, by which persons, light vehicles and horses were carried across the Schuylkill.

Another road led to this ferry, down what is now familiar as Robin Hood Dell, the lane being called Robin Hood lane, from which the Philadelphia Orchestra's summer shell receives its name.

On the west side of the river was the Mendenhall Tavern, and the road passed up the hill in a winding course, to Mount Prospect, which we, of 1932, know as Chamounix, and across the ravine there, then known as Bennett's Hollow, and up to Rockhill, now the Phila-

delphia Country Club.

The road extended to Five Points, where it connected with Monument Road, which continued on to Hestonville, once a thriving section of West Philadelphia.

At the Ridge avenue end of Ferry road stood the Jefferson Hotel, said to have been erected when Thomas Jefferson was president of the United States, and for years a popular resort of farmers who stayed for the night when coming to or returning from the city.

While this short stretch of Ferry road still exists, its old-time environments have gone, and its only use now is as an entrance to Fairmount Park.

Mothers are wonderful persons. They bring us into the world, and succeed or fail we are always sure that they will continue to love us to the end of their or our days. To the old saying about death and taxes should be added, "mother's love".

One of the finest mothers who ever lived in the Falls of Schuylkill was Mrs. Patrick (Rebecca) McCarty, who passed on to her Just Reward on September 28th, 1895.

Mrs. McCarty had resided in the Falls for more than a half century, being 67 years of age when she was called to her Creator.

Of her eleven children, only her son John, and her daughters, Mary McCarty and Mrs. Margaret Furlong survived her.

During the War of the Rebellion, two sons, Patrick and James, en-

listed in the 13th Pennsylvania Cavalry. Patrick was wounded during Phil Sheridan's triumphant ride to Richmond, and the grand old mother, desiring to care for her son, journeyed to Washington, and at General Grant's headquarters received a pass written in the hand of that famous warrior, which permitted her to go to her son's bedside.

She arrived at City Point, when everything was in confusion, owing to an explosion of a mine on front of Richmond, but she brought her lad back to his home and tenderly nursed him back to health, only to later hold his hand as he passed away from the ravages of tuberculosis.

No kinder woman was ever known to reside in any community, and many of her descendants are still here to revere her memory, for when she died she left twelve grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren, in addition to her three children, to mourn her loss.

When St. Bridget's Church was founded, Mrs. McCarthy and her husband were among the little band which helped to form the church.

Men may boast of their accomplishments in life, but when it comes to the welfare and continuance of humanity, the palm must be handed to the good women who become mothers.

If someone were to suddenly ask

you where the height, once known as Colflesh's Hill was located, it is more than likely you would say, "There isn't any such place!" But there was, once upon a time.

Colflesh Hill was that section of Neill Drive, which winds up from Anderson's, or Robert's Hollow, on the west side of the Schuylkill river opposite the Queen lane pumping station. From there one may obtain a beautiful view of Wissahickon, Manayunk, Roxborough and the Falls, and in winter

the tall spires of Tioga and Nicetown.

When Neill Drive was graded the many curves were made to permit the road to follow the least course of resistance (to natural grades) and no thought was given to speeding automobiles. In fact, there weren't any automobiles in those days. Part of the roadway extends over the bed of the old Falls road, which it meets a few hundred feet west of the Reading Railroad arch. The latter was constructed in 1850, when the road was first opened, and originally had a passage way of but 25 feet wide, entirely too narrow for present day uses.

SOCIAFF.

7/28/32

Now and Then

The heavy rainstorm of last Friday night, with the complaints of citizens in the Logan section, which is flooded every time such a torrent occurs, caused an old Falls of Schuylkill resident to recall the days when Samuel Mayberry had his store on what was Millin street, about 1890. The site of the store is now occupied by the East Falls office of the Commercial National Bank.

Every time there was a heavy rainfall, Mayberry was annoyed by the water flooding his stable. In those days there were no sewers to carry off the surface water, and great volumes of it rushed down Queen lane, above the railroad, Bowman street, Sunnyside avenue and Fairview avenue, now better known as Ainslie street. The flood would gather at the top of Dutch Hollow and form a little river out of old Millin street. It was no unusual thing for the crews of the old horse cars to shovel the accumulation of sand, stones and other debris off the tracks. While thousands of dollars worth of damage resulted to Mayberry, he never received a dollar from the city towards covering the loss. The floods were considered an act of God, despite the fact that their flowing down the valley was due to a large extent to the negligence of man, or rather, city officials.

The same old man also wondered what ever became of the hose carriage which was housed in Dobson's Mill before the Falls had a city-paid fire company. Who can answer that question?

Away back in the "fifties", of the past century, there was a little hand fire engine owned by Powers & Weightman which used to be taken to fires in the neighborhood, and on a number of occasions did

splendid service. And where is this old piece of fire apparatus?

Where was H. Donnell's Leverington Horse-Shoeing Shop located? An old testimonial of the work done in Mr. Donnell's Shop is contained in a letter, which heads as follows:

Indian Rock Hotel,
Wissahickon Drive,
June 4th, 1894.

This is to certify that I had my running horse, Garrison, shod at Mr. H. Donnell, Jr's Leverington Shoeing Shops on May 29th. I find the same to be excellent workmanship which can hardly be excelled, the shoes being made to fit the feet, and feet not cut down to fit the shoes. I take pleasure in recommending the same to all good horsemen.

Very truly yours,
CHARLES WEINGARTNER.

Believe it or not there used to be some monster political meetings in the 21st Ward, in the days before the radio made campaigning an easy matter for candidates and their advocates.

On September 11th, of 1896, more than 2000 people were on hand at Kalos street and Ridge avenue, in Wissahickon, to witness the raising of a McKinley and Hobart banner by the 21st Ward Citizens' Republican Club.

The ceremony was accompanied by a great open-air Anti-Combine mass meeting, held on the same corner. An hour before the principal speakers arrived, the streets were so jammed as to make them impassable.

The meeting was called to order by L. H. R. Nyce, who introduced Frank H. Garrett as chairman. Richard Patton, secretary of the Club, read the names of the following vice-presidents, all of whom were prominent residents of the Ward: James and William Stafford, L. M. Jones, A. W. Givin, Dr. James McGee, Ammon Platt, J. G. Littlewood, Curtis Knowlton, John Kenworthy, Charles O. Struse, Benjamin Kenworthy, William Somerset, Edward H. Morris, John H. Jones, John W. Dodgson, Frank Roach, A. M. Patton, Seville Schofield, Sr., David Wallace, John G. Morris, Archibald Hays, John Robinson, William M. Morrison, Joseph Jobbins, William Rice and George McKeown.

Among the speakers were Messrs. Crow, running for sheriff; James Rankin Young, Congressional candidate; Senator Bois Penrose, and Charles E. Boger, all of whom had made speeches at an earlier meeting at the Falls. The Washington Band furnished the music while the crowd awaited the arrival of the orators.

Among the young-bloods of the Young Men's Association on Indian Queen lane, East Falls, are George Allen, Bob Ransford, the Whitaker twins, Bob Adams, Alex Chadwick, Sr., Billy Campbell and a few others of like age, who spend their leisure in reminiscing.

Recently there arose an argument over the site of old Mund's Park, which was located up near the Queen lane reservoir some time after Noah built his ark of gopher

wood. All those present differed as to the definite location of the pleasure ground, until one said, "Well, I'll see Sammy Garrett, and he'll be sure to know where it was situated, for it was part of the old Garrett estate which was afterward used as the Schuetzen Park". And sure enough he did, and received the information that the park was located between Henry avenue and Vaux street, and ran from Queen lane to a point recognized as the lot of ground owned by the Presbyterian Church, along Midvale avenue.

SOCIAFF.

7/21/32

Now and Then

A copy of the Pennsylvania Gazette was recently shown to the writer. It was for many years the official organ of the University of Pennsylvania, and on the title page had this information: "Published 1729 to 1748 by Benjamin Franklin, Founder of the University, and revived February 1st 1918, as the official magazine of the University of Pennsylvania."

When Franklin founded the Gazette it had a limited circulation, and was brought out each issue with great labor and pains by the publisher.

James Milligan, who gave existence to the Manayunk Chronicle and Advertiser, in January of 1869, had almost the same experience as Poor Richard. Never did anyone enter upon the task of making a success of an enterprise than did Mr. Milligan with his paper. Old folk of the 21st Ward can recall his tramping over the streets of Manayunk, Roxborough, Wissahickon and East Falls, each week, with bundles of Chronicles strapped to his side. And tramping in those days was different to what it is today, as few of the highways were paved, so that in stormy weather the tramping was through mud puddles.

But Milligan did the tramping, told what he thought of the roads, and kept on telling his thoughts, until councilmen got busy and had them paved.

Few men were better known in this section a half century ago, than Perry Leveshy Anderson, a life-long resident of Lower Merion Township, in Montgomery County. In addition to his being for many years a justice of the peace, he was a licensed Baptist preacher, holding membership with the Manatawna Baptist Church, Roxborough, which he helped to constitute.

Perry was a regular visitor to the east side of the Schuylkill, and was well versed in two subjects, the Bible and the history of Montgomery County. He was a son of Anthony and Susan Anderson, and was born in the homestead which stood in what is now West Laurel Hill Cemetery. His mother had inherited the property from her father, George Latch, who manufactured shoes for the U. S. Government during the War of 1812.

In his early manhood, Perry An-

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erson was married to Lydia Ring, a sister of William Ring, of Roxborough.

When Richard Vaux, who like his predecessor as Mayor, Robert T. Conrad, had his home part of the time in the 21st Ward, selected his police force he appointed Peter McGregor as sergeant in place of Robert T. Roberts.

McGregor was formerly a soldier in the British Army, and had a decidedly fine military bearing. He had been a silk handkerchief printer in Simpson's Mill, at West Falls. At that time the policemen wore no uniforms and were distinguished from ordinary citizens by wearing a star.

McGregor was a member of Roxborough Lodge No 135, F. and A. M. of which he became a past master. With his wife Harriet, he lived in one of two houses he had erected on Stanton street, in East Falls. The sergeant, although a strong Democrat, had among his warmest and best friends, men of the opposite political faith.

SCCAFF

8-4/32

Now and Then

In an old book which named some of the old streets in Roxborough the possessor had written the new names beside the old appellations, and in the case of Creases' lane, had noted that this was now Fountain street, which was a decided error. Fountain street was formerly called Hipple's lane, and Livezey lane once bore the title "Crease's Lane." And the penman was soon "checked up" on his mistake. And how!

When the names of the 21st ward street were revised by the Board of Surveyors, under ordinance of Councils, on December 27th 1895, the following changes took place:

Former	Present
Roberts street	Aurania street
Chestnut street	Baker street
Ezekiel street	Boone street
Jackson street	Canton street
Cemetery avenue	East Connaroe street
Old Markle street	Dexter street
Centre street	Dupont street
Ann street	Eva street
Linden street	Fowler street
Penn street	Gates street
Adams street	Harvey street
	(now Salsaignae)
Jefferson street	Hermitage street
Cedar street	Jamestown avenue
Warner street	Kingsley street
Church street	Krams avenue
Selig street	Lawnton street
Crease's lane	Livezey lane
Walnut street	Mallory street
Latch avenue	Mansion avenue
Charles street	Markle street
Main street	Nixon street
(Upper end)	
Penn street	Pennsdale street
Robeson street	Rector street
Summitt avenue	Rex avenue
	(and back again)
Bolton avenue	Ripka avenue
Wood street	Silverwood street
Wabash avenue	Smick street
Poplar street	St. David's street

Washington street	Umbria street
Shur's lane	Walnut lane
Allison avenue	Wendover street
Fleeson street	Delmar street
Jeanette street	Rochelle avenue
Magnet street	Fleming street

These, with several others, of minor importance, were the changes which were made in 1895, since when several of the old names have been restored to parts of the various streets, and in other cases old 21st Ward street names were given to new thoroughfares in entirely different sections of the ward from the lanes, or roads which originally bore them, often making it a difficult task for searchers into the past of things, here, to properly

locate old landmarks.

With members of the Roxborough Business Mens' Association stressing the fact that its excursion, planned for August 17th, next will proceed by Pennsylvania Railroad trains, direct from Manayunk to Wildwood, via the Delaware River bridge, and the Pencoyd Iron Works plant of the American Bridge Company, being apparently obsolete for modern bridge and skyscraper structures, a tale of the erection of the railroad bridge over the Delaware river is brought to mind.

On Tuesday March 19th 1895, the contract for the Pennsy's bridge from Philadelphia into New Jersey, was awarded to the firm of A. and P. Roberts, the Pencoyd Bridge Company. The amount of money involved was about \$500,000 and the contract called for the making and putting into place upwards of 7000 tons of iron and steel work.

The contract included three fixed spans and one draw, and did not take in the elevated approaches on either side. The bridge is two tracks wide, and the spans 533 feet long; the draw being 323 feet in length.

The Pencoyd Company had its own corps of bridge erectors—the foremen at least—and as it had the contract for the putting together of the bridge, the railroad forces were not called into service.

The lack of approaches prevented any cars being run on the bridge, so that all the material was floated out piece-meal on barges and hoisted to the top of the construction trestle.

At the time the contract was placed, it was expected to have the structure ready for the laying of tracks on January 1st 1896.

"Have you ever heard of Kelly's Hill?" asked an old man, who was evidently attempting to test the ability of the writer, on his knowledge of local lore. And then we had to tell him of some of the descriptions of the Falls of Schuylkill, which Robert Roberts Shronk, the old-time newspaperman used to write for "The Reporter's Nosegay" in The Philadelphia Record.

"Kelly's Hill," once wrote Mr. Shronk, "had a double significance when I was a small boy. The grade on Ridge avenue, from the Reading Railway's bridge to the entrance of North Laurel Hill Cemetery, was one of them, the other was the hill that extends from the railroad to the original northern boundary of the cemetery, between Ridge avenue and the Schuylkill river. The latter was for years a popular resort

for Fourth of July gatherings, and many a participant suffered from lacerations of the head as a result of the fights which took place on the hill. The name of both these hills was given in honor of a jovial Irishman, Richard Kelly, who kept a grocery store at the upper end of Steven's, now Ridge avenue above Scott's lane. Everybody called Kelly, Dick. In addition to selling provisions, he also disposed of gun powder and whiskey, as was the custom of most stores in his time. The grade on Ridge avenue is occasionally referred to as Kelly's Hill, but the real hill lost its old time name after it had been included in the cemetery, and became part of that quiet resting place for the dead. The roadway in the upper end of the cemetery, which led to Laurel Hill Station, was once the approach to the bridge crossing the river before the railroad bridge was constructed."

SCCAFF

7-7-32

Now and Then

Last week we were handed four or five picture postals cards of views taken at the Women's Medical College, at Henry and Abbottsford avenues.

To anyone who was acquainted with the place a half century ago the change must seem miraculous. But the estate, whenever it was cared for, was always beautiful.

Abbottsford, so long occupied by the family of the late Charles Abbot, a member of the Board of Education and a great Baptist churchman, with its barn, granary, and outbuildings were in the old days kept in the best of condition; the lawns and garden orderly and the driveways were of the finest.

And then, for a couple of decades before the College authorities came along to purchase the ground and buildings, the place fell into dilapidation.

Abbottsford was in its heyday up until the time of the coming of the Brooks High License Liquor Law. At the time the site now occupied by the Queen Lane Reservoir and Filtration Plant, was occupied by the Philadelphia Rifle Club's Scheutzen Park, and many people in the neighborhood objected to the park owners getting a renewal of their liquor license.

Then the Rifle Club exerted its influence with the administration of Mayor Fidler, and had the city purchase the park and part of the site of the city's water plant. Originally it was intended to place the big basin at Chamonix, on the west side of the river, with the pumping station being located where Simpson's mills once stood.

In the August number of the "Proceedings of the Engineers Club of Philadelphia," in 1917, there was an article which referred to the Old Red Bridge across the Schuyl-

kill at East Falls, as follows:

"In 1878 a wooden bridge, known as the old Red Bridge, was washed away by a freshet. In 1863 a part of another wooden bridge was blown into the river by a wind and rain storm."

The facts of the case are that the red bridge which was erected by the city in 1861 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 23rd 1878, the middle and western spans were blown into the river by a gale. The older bridge, painted white, which was the first on that site, was erected in 1848-49, and the western span was washed away in the record freshet of the river in September of 1850, when it was knocked from the pier and abutment by the bridge which came down from Flat Rock.

The only span of the bridge which withstood the gale was the eastern span which had been framed by Colonel James Steel, the veteran bridge builder of Manayunk. It was framed on the bridge approach, the other two spans being framed in Tissot's meadow and were swept away by a freshet with other valuable timbers, financially ruining Colonel Steel. The contract was later awarded to Stone, Quigley and Burton.

Among the men of note who have resided in the Falls of Schuylkill none did more good for the intellectual and moral good of young men than Nicholas Maguire, whose name has been mentioned in this column before.

Mr. Maguire came to the Falls when a young man and for a number of years taught a class of boys in the octagonal-shaped building which once stood on the brow of Smith's hill, overlooking Ridge avenue, at Indian Queen lane, which the Dr. William Smith, the first provost of the University of Pennsylvania had erected as an observatory.

Mr. Maguire became acquainted with the family of the late Robert Evans, proprietor of the Falls Hotel, and married Emmaline, who proved to be a happy helpmate all of his life.

The Maguires had several daughters and one son, Walter, who died after reaching manhood.

Later Mr. Maguire moved down town, where he had charge of the Mt. Vernon Grammar School and afterward became principal of

Central High School for Boys.

As a professor at the high school, he had as pupils from the Falls of Schuylkill, Michael Arnold, James Simmons Swartz, Jacob G. Walker and Charles K. Mills, every one of whom made an enviable mark in his profession. Arnold became a noted jurist; James S. Swartz, a leading transportationist and educational leader; Jacob G. Walker, a prominent Baptist clergyman, and Charles K. Mills as a neurologist of world renown.

Maguire left the high school and

taught in other schools throughout the city probably his last position being as principal of the Horace T. Binney School.

It was while in charge of that school that his pupils contributed their spending money to help a poor woman in Wissahickon, whose husband had been fatally injured in Schofield's mill. The money was sent to the Public Ledger office, and then delivered to the widow.

Tall and commanding of figure, Maguire had a noble face, beaming with intelligence and kindness, and in his later years a trick growth of white hair.

The first physician to dwell in what is now East Falls, that there is any reliable record of, was Dr. Jonathan Knight Uhler, who settled in that section in 1855, fresh from the University of Pennsylvania.

He opened his office in the home of Peter Shronk, on Ridge avenue opposite the foot of Calumet street.

At the time there were no local physicians. Dr. L. M. Service resided at "The Lilacs," in West Falls; Dr. John Conry, who served many patients at the Falls, lived in Manayunk; and Dr. Thomas Betton, of Germantown used to come over when people were ill. Dr. William Geyer, a retired physician, who resided on Hart lane, now Lehigh avenue, occasionally came up on emergency cases.

Dr. Uhler's coming to the town was opportune, for a short time after he opened his office there was an epidemic of scarlet fever. It was not long before he built up an extensive practice, and he soon moved his office to 128 Queen lane, where his sisters, Eliza and Rebecca kept house for him.

A master in his profession, well educated, and a man of winning personality, Uhler became very popular. He married Miss Cauffman, of Wissahickon, and purchased the Dr. Smith mansion and large tract of property from John Dobson, and took up his residence there.

His practice covered a large range of territory, from Roxborough to North Penn village, and from Germantown to the county line beyond the Schuylkill.

In the height of success and popularity he was stricken with heart disease and died suddenly. Dr. Uhler was one of four brothers, all prominent physicians: Dr. William N. Uhler, who was head chemist and manager of the Laboratory here; Dr. Harry N. Uhler, of Manayunk, and Dr. Algernon Uhler, of Bryn Mawr, or Ardmore, being his brothers.

Dr. J. K. Uhler was survived by his widow, who died in California, within recent years, and one son, Jonathan K. Uhler, Jr.

Few men who ever came to the Falls did more to relieve suffering humanity, or won more friends, than did Dr. Jonathan Knight Uhler.

SCCAFF

Now and Then

When Philip Guckes purchased the Abraham Martin property on School House lane, about fifty-five years ago, and started a beer brewery he purposed turning the place into a pleasure park. Finding that the Martin locality was not easy of access re-rented a property at School House lane, and the Reading railroad, from James Dobson, on which he erected a hotel, ten pin alley, pavilions, dance floor and other structures and laid the grounds out for what a short time was called Guckes's Park. The park extended down School House lane, to Ridge avenue, and along the railroad and avenue to a short distance below the Wissahickon creek. There was an older hotel building, on the corner of School House lane and Ridge avenue, with a shaded and winding path leading to the upper hotel and park.

The enterprise did not prove much of a success, and the park became what was termed a "white elephant," and was soon closed. The Brooks high license law put an end to the saloons and the buildings soon became dilapidated.

The property, which was acquired in 1864 by James Dobson from the estate of Jonathan Robeson, had been in the Robeson family since the latter part of the 17th century, when it was purchased from the Penns. Mr. Dobson had intended to build a mansion on the property, but changed his mind and erected the big house at Henry and Abbottsford avenues.

About 1910, or possibly a year or two later, Mr. Dobson erected a series of red brick buildings on the railroad front of the School lane property, and with his nephew, Charles Schofield, of Roxborough, started an independent match factory. After a brief existence there was several fires in the factory, and finally most of the property was destroyed. The plant was rebuilt, and business was resumed, only to be soon afterward relinquished.

The "Old Park" as the property was long known was subsequently purchased by Frank B. Jones. In clearing away for new buildings workmen removed the old fifth milestone on Ridge avenue, which for 95 years had stood in its position to mark the distance from Ninth and Vine streets, on the Ridge turnpike. A photograph of this old milestone, with a brief sketch of the Ridge pike appeared many years ago in one of the Philadelphia daily papers.

While telling of this fifth milestone, it might be well to mention that the Fourth milestone when last seen was serving as an abutment block at an alley in the rear of property at Scott's lane and Ridge avenue. The Sixth milestone was recently located in the vicinity of Markle street and Ridge avenue, in Roxborough.

Adjoining the Old Park property, at School lane, on the north still stands (in Barnett's Garden) the old Stritzel cooper shop, and dwelling. In the cooper shop, for more than a century, the Stritzel's made

flour barrels for the Robeson grist mill that stood at the Wissahickon road and Ridge turnpike.

High Bridge Hotel, now Barnett's Garden, was originally the old Robeson homestead, until it was purchased in 1864 by James Dobson, who modernized the old dwelling and occupied it as his residence until the Bella Vista, on the top of the Falls of Schuylkill hills was completed.

Some comparison of the difficulties which are being met by the people of this vicinity, during the present "depression" with those who experienced the "panic" of 1857, may be gained from an old newspaper clipping which was taken from a local newspaper of that period.

Men who had been accustomed to receiving \$12 and \$15 per week in Simpson's silk handkerchief works, at West Falls, which was considered "big money" in those days, were willing to work for a dollar a day rather than be idle. So comparatively speaking, 1857 wasn't so terrible after all.

Some of the men walked long distances to work on farms for 75 cents per day and their meals. Today there is no work anywhere within walking distance. The men of 1857 took most of their pay out in potatoes, cabbage and turnips. Today the various welfare societies have to provide these.

In an old account book, of a supervisor of roads in North Penn Township, it is stated that the men received a dollar a day three years previous to the panic of 1857. Some

of the men, whose names are well known in this vicinity, managed to own building and loan shares and built their own homes. Try that today on a dollar per diem. A gold dollar went as far then towards filling a market basket as a \$5 bill would today. The people lived the simple life - - - no electric lighting, no telephones, no gas bills, no reason to use transportation only to get into town occasionally, for they worked near their homes - - - knew few of the comforts, conveniences and luxuries which working people of today must buy whether they will or no. Seldom was anyone found on the streets after 10 P. M. Most of the people worked harder - - - although there are plenty who are willing to work just as hard today - - - they kept out of debt, helped those in trouble - - - now not many are able to help even one other - - - and as a general thing new more happiness than the present generation.

There is much discussion going on in the East Falls section these days of re-opening, as a community centre, the old Y. W. C. A. Buildings at the corner of Ridge avenue and Ferry road. On this site was an old structure which held the distinction of being the first place in which lager beer was sold at the Falls. The YWCA buildings adjoin Hagner's old drug mill, part of which can still be seen at the rear of a three story dwelling. The old mill was converted into dwellings and stores by Winibald Nagle, who used part of the basement for his slaughter house when he carried on an extensive butcher business. In these days the structure

abuted on Dobson's Run - - - formerly Falls Creek - - - and all the refuse was carried down the run into the Schuylkill. Originally the drug mill stood back from Ridge avenue, with the run flowing in front, a bridge affording entrance to the mill.

There are still many residents of the 21st Ward and vicinity who remember Robert Maurice Laycock, one of this section's most efficient news reporters, who died at 3221 North Carlisle street, on March 20th, 1919, after a long illness.

Laycock was born in Manayunk on August 8th 1847, being the oldest child of William and Caroline Holt Laycock. After receiving a public school education, he went with his parents to Burlington, New Jersey. Subsequently the family moved to Gynnedd, Montgomery County, where young Bob helped to conduct the Niagra Farms. In 1878 he returned to Manayunk, where he kept a stationery store and conducted a newspaper route. In 1885 he was appointed a deputy collector of internal revenue, and served through President Cleveland's first term. On July 30th 1889, he began his career as a reporter on the Philadelphia Record, continuing until the August previous to his death, when he was forced to retire.

Laycock made a specialty of reporting horse races and became a nation-wide authority on light harness racing. He served terms as a school director of the 21st Section, and for more than half a century was a member of Manayunk Lodge of Odd Fellows. On November 18th 1869 he married Domicilla B. Gillespie, of Manayunk, who died on January 14th of 1917. The couple were childless. Peculiarly enough, each of Laycock's parents was an only child, so that he had neither, an aunt, an uncle or a cousin.

SCCAFF

6/30/1932

Now and Then

"I see the people are again planning to have a safe and sane Fourth of July," said an old man on Route "R" bus going up Ridge avenue.

"That problem, as far as this section is concerned, was settled way back some 100 years ago. Among the early advocates of the Independence Day picnics was Abraham Martin, who was known all over the city as a Sunday School pioneer. He lived on School House lane, and for years was the president of the Falls of Schuylkill Sunday School Association, which culminated in the Union Sunday School, then into the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, the first house of worship in that community.

"Thomas Mason Mitchell, for whom Mitchell street in Roxborough is named, was the superintendent of the school. I do not know the exact date, but it was about 1830 when the officers of the

school concluded to hold a Sunday School picnic on the Fourth of July. It proved such a success that it was continued as long as the Union Sunday School existed. Churches of different denominations have been organized and each church has its own Sunday School, and each school, year in and year out, has its annual Fourth of July picnic.

"I have been observing these picnics for more than half a century and have never heard of a serious accident happening to any boy or girl. They go to a nearby woods, where the day is spent most pleasantly by young and old, with plenty of games and amusements for all. Old residents return to greet old friends on Independence Day, and these renewals of acquaintanceships are always glad ones.

"I remember on two occasions when the Union Sunday School was taken down the Schuylkill on a canal boat, decorated for the purpose, with extra horses attached to the tow line to insure speed. There was much fun on the boat for the youngsters, as there was afterwards in the woods.

"Roxborough folk claim the credit for instituting this fine old custom, and I won't argue with them over the priority, but if I remember correctly, old Abe Martin's Union Sunday School picnic, was the forerunner of the great affairs now held by the 21st Ward church schools.

It will be thirty-nine years next Monday, July 4th, since Gorgas Park, in Roxborough was formally dedicated, after the ground had been presented to the public by Miss Susan Gorgas, of West Chester.

On the speakers stand at the observance were such prominent residents as: Rev. J. W. Willmarth, D. D., Rev. J. W. Kirk, Rev. Mr. Moore, Dr. W. C. Todd, John J. Foulkrod, C. J. Walton, James L. Rahn, Joseph M. Adams, William F. Dixon, Josiah Linton and George West Blake.

The Sunday Schools of the 21st Ward were present in all the glory of their numbers. Rev. Francis Asbury Gilbert, pastor of the Ridge Avenue M. E. Church offered the invocation, and the assembly singing was led by Principal Robert "Dad" Murphy, of the Manayunk School. The Declaration of Independence was read by George B. Carr, a professor in Schissler's Business College, and a resolution of thanks to Miss Gorgas was read by William H. Lewis.

In the evening there was a grand display of fireworks, when from 5000 to 7000 people lined the hillsides.

The bill, placing the Park on the city plan was introduced into City Councils by the late Josiah Linton, and was referred to the committee on Municipal Government.

On the front page of The Suburban Press, for the past couple of weeks has appeared a boxed article informing the public of the annual distribution of free ice by the Glen Willow Ice Manufacturing Company, on the Fourth of July. Which brings to mind the fact

that it was about the year 1892, the Glen Willow Company started in business.

"Of all the human achievements," says an old news article, "the manufacture of ice by artificial means seems the most wonderful. Since the time when the electric flash suggested the arc light when properly harnessed to meet man's necessities, and the wide spread continuity of the current invited similar enterprise in the line of cheap, portable and inexpensive power nothing seems to compare with the latest discovery.

"To take water, so familiarly known, and amid the torrid heat of summer, to change it into ice by chemical or other means seem to border closely on the miraculous. And yet, not only has this been made possible, but the business now rests on a sound commercial and financial basis, the product being in its season as much of a necessity as flour, and it can be sold for less than the natural product.

"No intelligent person need be told that the Glen Willow Ice Company has 'come to stay.' The amount of capital invested is \$108,000; and the cost of the plant, including engine and storage houses, the necessary machinery, horses, wagons, tools, etc., is also \$108,000. The new stable, wagon sheds, etc., to be erected on the Ogle lot, Main street, below Center, are expected to cost \$10,000. The greatest daily output last year was 80 tons, and the works will be tested the present year to their full capacity, as there are already on file in the company's office to date contracts for wholesale delivery of 5000 tons of ice for the city trade. The number of delivery wagons run last year was 17; this year there will be 21. In winter the wages amounted to \$1000 per month; in summer the amount will be \$2500 per month. The prices will be the same as last year, and ice will be served on Saturday afternoons, for Sundays, and distilled and filtered ice all the season through."

As this item is being typed on Thursday afternoon June 23rd, the fire engines from all sections of northwest Philadelphia, are rushing to a fire at the paper mills in Manayunk.

On September 4th, of 1896, a force of mechanics were at work putting the buildings formerly owned by the American Wood Pulp and Paper Company, on the canal bank, above Fountain street, in working order. The plant, together with seven acres of ground has just been purchased for \$38,000 by Alexander Balfour, who purchased the plant to manufacture straw boards from wood pulp.

Every effort was being made to have the repairs completed and the machinery in position to make possible the beginning of the work on November 1st, 1896. It was expected that the plant would have a capacity of 25,000 tons of strawboards weekly, but was to start out with a rating of 10,000 tons. The work was to employ from 60 to 70 men.

SCCAFF

Now and Then

The Wissahickon Valley, with its graceful curvings, sloping hills, and lofty hemlocks and other trees, has been the theme for poets who derived their inspiration from its majestic beauty, and of other writers who in classic prose have attempted to portray some of its attractions. It is still, and probably always will be, the admiration of all who travel through the vale. A geologist, who with his hammer and magnifying glass, tramped along the rocky embankment a short time ago, declared the valley is older than that of the Schuylkill, and that long before the latter was formed, the Wissahickon was there. He exhibited specimens of rock which he said belonged to the azoic age. These disclosed by their wave-like lines that they had been belched forth while in a molten state by the force of a great internal heat. Upon the surface were seen reddish colored crystals, the American garnet, some 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 below where the intake of the Queen Lane Pumping Station is located. This tradition was somewhat verified some years ago, when the excavation for Gustine Lake was made in Robeson's old meadow, when evidence of the bottom of a creek or river bed was found by the workmen. When the great flood of water swept down the valley on the night of October 14th, 1877, it tore a deep gully across Ridge avenue a short distance below the lower side of the creek, and there was revealed the foundation and part of the wall of a stone spring house, which presumably once stood at the shore of the creek.

The valley, in the estimation of many, becomes more attractive as the years go by, and it is visited by thousands who stroll along the bridge paths; roll along some of the drives in automobiles; or ride along other, less frequented roads on horseback.

It is interesting to look over some of the old financial reports of the Roxborough Poor Board and note the difference between the cost of maintaining the farm in the old days, and today.

In the report of 1884, for instance, the receipts for the sale of farm products was \$688.40, which was exactly the amount of the expenditures for the farm. The total receipts were \$3,247.47. Among the work done by the Board of Overseers of that year, which was composed of John Culp, Nicholas Rittenhouse and D. W. Bussinger, with Thomas G. Wyatt, N. L. Jones, and John A. Markley, as auditors; was relief for the poor of the district, not residing at the poor farm, amounting to \$785.11.

Printing and advertising amounted to \$18.00 and a coffin and hearse

hire totaled \$10. The auditors received \$6.00 salary, the steward was paid \$547.93 for two years work, the secretary received the munificent pay of \$62.50 for 15 months' work, and the treasurer was paid \$60.00 for three years' watchfulness over the elusive nickels. The population of the Poor Farm in January, 1885, was 7 persons.

And a loan of \$600 was repaid to the Germantown National Bank.

In the 1895 report which is signed by Overseers, William C. Hamilton, William Ring and D. W. Bussinger and auditors, Joseph H. Poering, Samuel D. Evans and W. P. Brooks, the farm receipts amounted to \$869.93, with the farm expenses only being \$581.71.

The total receipts were \$3,934.82. Out-door relief that year summed up to \$539.82. Among the house expense items was one of \$19.75 for tobacco and another of \$25 for the matron's salary for one year. Advertising and printing amounted to \$67.55; the auditors received \$12.00 for their hire, the secretary \$100, and the treasurer \$20. The population of the Poor Farm in February of 1896 was 14; 10 being males and 4 females.

In the earliest sketches of the falls of Schuylkill which was then called Port St. David's, the Falls hotel, more familiarly known today as "Whalen's" is easily identified, but there are no traces of Watkin's ferry which was in the old days before the bridges, the only way of access across the Schuylkill in back

of the old hotel.

Once there stood along the river at this point a frame ferry house, at the foot of a roadway that led from the Ridge road on the upper side of the hotel, between it and the present-day automobile accessory store. Beside the house was an immense tree, which it is believed was willow, to which one end of the ferry rope was fastened. The other end, on the west side of the river, was fastened to a large iron ring which was attached to a rock above the River road, near Simpson's old barn. In its last days this ferry was attended by George Glanding, whose family occupied the dwelling. George Glanding's father, Archibald Glanding, and Peter Shronk, were predecessors as the ferry tenders.

On the west side of the river the ferry road led up to the hill back of Simpson's barn, crossed the Reading railroad tracks, after the latter had been laid in 1840, and ran along the base of Chamounix hill, and out towards "Five Points", coming up on the opposite embankment at the turn of the Falls road. Until the Falls road was built, in 1850, to connect with the Falls bridge, built two years previously, Ferry road was the only one leading from the Schuylkill to what is now Bala, Merion, and other points in Montgomery County.

In the years which have fled, boys of the neighborhood would unfasten the old scow, pole it up the river toward Wissahickon, and set the boat adrift as they discarded their clothing and went into swim. And many a time, it is said, that old scow held a good load of apples which had been purloined from

Jesse Evans' orchard, near the mouth of the creek.

One of the many interesting characters who lived in the Falls of Schuylkill, at one time or another, was John H. Richards, an Alsatian Frenchman, who came to this country as a young man and worked at brush-making. In Virginia he had become acquainted with a naturalist, named Dr. Holbrook, who was a friend of the great Agazziz. The latter, one day, told Richards to draw him a gold fish that was swimming in a bowl. To please the scientist he did so, but when the youthful artist handed the professor the drawing it was torn up with the remark, "Go draw the fish!"

This was repeated several times, until an acceptable drawing was made. Then the scientist showed Richard how to color it to nature.

From that day Richards gave up brush-making and took to drawing and coloring and became one of the country's best artists in that line, and for years was employed by the Smithsonian Institute of Washington, D. C.

He lived with a woman whom everybody thought was his wife, until the Civil War, when it became known that they had never been married. He had signed over his property to her as he entered the army, and when she learned that he had told their secret, she willed the property to a nephew and a friend.

Richards brought suit against her, but lost the case. However, it was compromised and the couple resumed their former relationship and lived happily together until about 1869 when death claimed the woman and separated them.

SCCAFF.

5/17/1932

Now and Then

We ran across a little scrap of history connected with the Manayunk Presbyterian Church and Sunday School, recently, which may be of interest to those who are preparing a review of the activities of that congregation, for its centennial celebration which will take place at the end of this year.

A newspaper article refers to an incident which occurred in January of 1882, and may have slipped the memory of all of the older folk excepting those whose names are mentioned and are still here with us.

The item reads as follows: "On Monday evening last—January 16th 1882—Miss Louisa Sobernheimer, residing at the corner of Washington and Fountain streets, Mt. Vernon, was waited upon by the class of girls she teaches in the Manayunk Presbyterian Sunday School, and presented by them with a satin-lined sewing-basket, with a silver thimble, etc., as a birthday gift. There were thirteen of her scholars present, namely, Misses Maggie Giles, Agnes Innes, Isadora Baer, Mary Weir, Mary Righter, Emily Sobernheimer, Martha Dewhurst, Agnes Hamilton, Emily Card-

well, Lillian Fye, Jennie McLaughlin, Sarah Wendling, and Keziah Wood. After a repast of cream and cake, and having spent a most enjoyable evening, the happy party left at a rather late hour for such young ladies, who must have felt happy over the part they had taken in rewarding modest merit."

During the Presidential campaign of 1864, for the re-election of Abraham Lincoln, Andrew G. Curtin, Governor of Pennsylvania, came to the 21st Ward to make speeches in behalf of the Great Rail-splitter.

The Governor marched with the old Lincoln and Johnson Club, of the then Second Division of the 21st Ward, to the United States Hotel, where he made one of his characteristic war speeches. On the rear of the hotel balcony were seated, that evening, a number of young ladies representing the various States of the Union, each garbed in white and wearing a red, white and blue sash.

After the Governor had concluded his address, and had bowed in response to the hearty outburst of applause, he turned to re-enter the hotel room, when he noticed the young women, for the first time, and pausing said, "My! What a vision of loveliness!" He then walked to the end of the row of girls, and shook hands with each one, and also brought forth the blushes of each by kissing them, one and all.

A few minutes later the Second Division Club relit its torch-lights and transparencies, and to the tune of Andrew Ford's fife and a drum, marched homeward. At that time the song, "We'll All Drink Stone Blind," was in vogue. When the club reached Shur's lane, the men were somewhat astonished to hear a number of Manayunk boys singing:

"Oh, Andy Curtin he got drunk,

Hurrah! Hurrah!

Oh, Andy Curtin he got drunk,

Hurrah! Hurrah!

Oh, Andy Curtin he got drunk,

And kissed the girls in Manayunk;

We'll all drink stone blind

When Andy goes marching home."

The ready adaptation of the kissing incident to the song, showed that there was a genius in Manayunk, that up until that time had not been recognized.

There are still many residents of the Falls of Schuylkill who recall in fond memory, one of its old time policemen, Fergus Peel, who died at the home of his son-in-law, George Hazzard, at 4012 North 12th street, in December of 1916.

Fergus Peel was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Peel, and born in Huddersfield, England on October 3rd 1841. When he was 18 months old he came with his parents to this country, where the family settled at the Falls.

When he was a young man,

Fergus Peel learned the butcher business, which he carried on until the breaking out of the Civil War, when he enlisted in the Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, and served with it for four years. After the conflict had ended he resumed the meat business, for a time, until he was appointed to the police force by Mayor Stokely, in 1872, a position he occupied until he resigned

about three years before his death. When a boy, with his brother, Washington, Fergus had a small athletic park on the west side of the Schuylkill river, just above the Falls Bridge, where they used to train other boys in various stunts, especially boxing, at which the brothers were adepts. Fergus was once offered good pay to train candidates for the prize ring, but he refused the offer. Washington Peel, and the boys' father, Robert, enlisted in the Mozart Regiment, of New York, where the former was promoted to a lieutenancy for bravery, but was later killed in action. Fergus Peel, was a member of Palestine Lodge, No. 477, F. and A. M., and of the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, and when his death occurred he was survived by two daughters, and two grandsons.

This, from the Manayunk Chronicle of May 20th 1881: "If anybody has any doubt as to the absolute and complete success of Edison and his electric light, we are not nor ever have been among the number. He will have work so far progressed as to be ready to light the cities by the first of July. The metres are being turned out at 500 per day, and the lamps 2000 per day. He wants to have everything in perfect readiness before he starts, in order that there shall be no public disappointment."

One of Roxborough's fine old citizens was John T. Thomas, of Green lane, who died July 16th, 1894, at the age of 68 years.

Mr. Thomas was a mechanical engineer, employed in the City's Bureau of Gas, and for many years had been the superintendent of the Twenty-Fifth Ward Gas Works.

He was born in the Falls of Schuylkill, on August 21st 1826, the son of Francis and Martha Thomas, and after receiving his elementary education in the public schools, learned the trade of carpentering, which he followed for a number of years.

When Lee's Confederate Army invaded Pennsylvania in 1863, Mr. Thomas enlisted in one of the emergency regiments and served as a lieutenant of the Roxborough company, captained by Anthony D. Levering.

Mr. Thomas was married in young manhood to Mary Rose, of Roxborough, who preceded her husband in death by several years. At the time of the father's death the two daughters and a son of the couple survived; these being Mrs. Emma V. Thomas Tyndall; Mrs. George C. Thompson and William J. Thomas.

Mr. Thomas was an active member of the Roxborough Lyceum, served several times as school director, and was a regular attendant of the Roxborough Baptist Church.

SCCAFF

5/24/32

Now and Then

A few days ago we were fortunate enough to run across an old scrap book which contained some facts concerning the Pencoyd Iron Works, which for so many years furnished employment to a great number of men in this neighborhood.

The first mill was about 75 feet by 75 feet and contained one heating furnace and a trip hammer. The fuel consumed daily was about two tons, and the product each day was 8 car axles. The number of hands employed was 12.

The fame of the works extended, making addition after addition necessary, until all the available space for building was occupied, making it necessary to purchase more space, and in 1865, six acres were obtained from the A. L. Anderson estate, being a part of the original tract like the first purchase made by the iron workers.

Upon this new tract was erected in 1872, a stone structure, 225 by 130 feet, containing two trains of rolls, and 2 steam hammers, which enabled the firm to turn out altogether about 20,000 tons of finished iron per year.

The demand for more iron became so great, that in order to extend the works and control a pure water supply, more purchases of land were made from time to time. In 1885 the firm owned about fifty acres, and since the control of the works has been under the officers of the American Bridge Company, this has been increased.

The capacity of the works, in 1885, was about 35,000 tons of various kinds of manufacture, such as axles, beams, channel and angle iron, etc., consuming about 130 tons a day. An addition added in 1883, 200 by 100 feet in size, contained two gas-heated furnaces, 1 train of rolls, and was capable of turning out 15,000 tons per year.

Fifty years ago the plant had two miles of railroad track in order to handle the material to advantage. Today, this is considerably increased. In that year the plant employed 700 hands, with paydays being regularly spaced out at two weeks apart, the payroll amounting to about \$30,000 per month.

This plant, during the Cleveland administration was working and compared favorably with other plants throughout the State, and was the second largest east of the Alleghenies. The plant, then was worth two millions of dollars, and although classed as obsolete by some people is no doubt inventoried at considerably more than that today.

The firm in 1882 owned fifty-five dwellings, all of which were kept in excellent living condition. The residence of the junior partner, stood, and still stands, on the hillside at the south side of the works, surrounded by the beauties of nature. From the front veranda could be seen "the Lowell of Pennsylvania," Manayunk; the Falls of Schuylkill, North Laurel Hill, the

Reading railroad tracks on both sides of the river, Ridge avenue and the Roxborough Passenger railway, the Schuylkill river steamboats, and the East River Drive, with its teeming populace of handsome horse-drawn "turn-outs."

In the old clipping, it is also interesting to note, that "in order to utilize the roadway on the river front from the works to the city line, the firm has at its own expense, opened a public road, from a point on Righter's Ferry road, continuous to the mill, to County line, on the hillside, west of the Reading railroad, which is to be one of the most picturesque drives to be found anywhere, and when coated with cinders in accordance with intentions, it will rival the Lancaster turnpike, which is now the finest thoroughfare in this section of the country."

Apropos of Bill Roper's speech in Councils last week, it might be interesting to learn that among the bids for lighting which were placed before Councils' Finance Committee on January 21st 1896, the Wissahickon Electric Company proposed to light the East River Drive and Wissahickon Drive lamps from sunset to sunrise for \$12.60 per month, and from sunset to 1 A. M. for \$10.75.

The highest point in Philadelphia county is along Summit avenue, in Chestnut Hill, which is 433 feet above the city datum, that being 2.25 feet above high water in the Delaware river. The line traversed by Ridge avenue, which took its name from the "ridge" running through the upper portion of the city, is somewhat higher than the land on either side. The highest point on Ridge avenue, is near the Manatawna Baptist Church, and is 416 feet above city datum. From this point on the Ridge road, the highway gradually continues down grade until Reading is reached when once more it rises and exceeds the high point in Roxborough. At Ridge avenue and the County line, the height is placed at 397 feet.

Old time bicycle riders will recall the refreshment booth that William Gillespie, whose eyes had failed him in his last years, conducted at the steamboat wharf in the Falls of Schuylkill, just above Midvale avenue. Later on, Mr. Gillespie received permission from the Fairmount Park Commissioners to have a new stand erected in the rear of the Falls Presbyterian Church, and the new place also became popular with riders and pedestrians along the East River Drive.

Who is there that still remembers the Novem Social, which once existed at the Falls? Some of the members, whose names are recalled are Jean Maxwell, Rae Craven, Mattie Beary, Eva Conover, Emma Morrison, Jennie Morrison, Edith Giers, Florence Becker, Della Jamison, Margaret Peel, Nellie Crooks, Mary Schofield, William Wilson, George Pyrah, Ferg Reed, George Knoll, Gene Riley, Alfred Nelson, John

Birkmire, David Boone and Charles Sanger.

SCCAFF

Now and Then

One of the old time residents of Manayunk, and the Falls of Schuylkill whose name we often run across in the past happenings of this section, was Harry Stites Maree. Mr. Maree was born at the Falls, on July 31st 1819, his parents being among the earliest settlers of this portion of the city.

He was educated in the Old Academy on Indian Queen lane, which was built the year he was born. Of his associates at the school, probably the only two who survived him were the late Joseph Johnson, and Peter Shronk.

Mr. Maree, after leaving the Academy, learned the jewelry business, and subsequently carried on the trade of manufacturing jeweler his factory being on Third street near Walnut, and afterwards at Sixth and Poplar streets. He gave up the business in the 'Sixties to accept a position in the passenger Department of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which he held up until the time of his death, on August 14th 1895.

He was a man who was extremely fond of his home, and he allowed no engagements to interfere with his pleasure. For a number of years he was a member of Crystal Fount Lodge, of Odd Fellows, and filled the various offices, but resigned from the order because the work kept him away from his home too often.

Mr. Maree was married in his early manhood to Rebecca Smith, of Manayunk, who was of Quaker descent. Mrs. Maree preceded her husband in death by two years. A daughter, Mrs. Virginia Hendry, a granddaughter, and a great granddaughter survived the couple, as well as James G. and Louis Maree, of Manayunk, who were brothers of Harry Stites Maree, and two sisters, Mrs. Joseph Wimpenny, and Mrs. Margaret Jones.

Another old-timer among the prominent folk of this vicinity was James Donley, who for more than half a century resided in the 21st Ward.

Mr. Donley was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, on November 18th 1817, and when five years of age was brought to this country by his parents, who first settled at Troy, New York, and then came to Manayunk, where they and their family afterward resided continuously.

James entered the mills at Manayunk, where he learned the manufacturing arts, and for many years filled the position of superintendent of the extensive plant owned and operated by the late Joseph Ripka, and the last 24 years of his life was spent with Powers & Weightman, in their laboratory at the Falls of Schuylkill.

From early life James Donley was a member of Mount Zion M. E. Church, and for a number of years took an active part in the church and Sunday School work there. He was a member of Roxborough Lodge, No. 135, F. and A. M.

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Now and Then

The scene was the Manayunk police station; the time, June 25th 1897. Lieutenant Lush was in charge.

Hurrying into the station house entrance on that fine June day, the Lieutenant was surprised to find a note had been pushed under the door, with an anonymous signature under a message which purported to be from a person knowing the perpetrator of one of the most fiendish murders which was ever committed in this section of the city.

The murder was a triple tragedy which took place in Roxborough, in 1851, with an Valentine Bartle, his wife, and one of their four children were slain at their home in a lonely woods, near the Schuylkill river above Shawmont avenue.

The handwriting in the note, was of irregular, scrambling style, evidently, or pretendingly, the work of an illiterate person, and the message was recorded on a piece of crumpled paper, in lead pencil, reading as follows:

"Polise Lutent, Roxborow: Rob-
erta Parcalla, he die two months
now. He a old man near 70 year,
come this country in 1849, go to
Roxborow with man Baltine Bartle
somewhere near river. He and boss
had fight for mon, and he kill boss
and wife. He go then to Californy,
make plenty mon, but lose it gamb-
ling and went to Mexico, where
he die very poor; never marry, al-
ways in trouble. At night he talk
much about Bartle in his sleep. I
come New York, week ago, and tell

were the words, "Borough of Mana-
yunk," while surrounding the loom,
in an inner circle, were the words,
"Incorporated June 11th 1840." The
opposite side of the seal was on
lead, securely fastened upon a plate
of brass.

April 15th, may, or may not,
mean anything to the people of this
age, but to those of the Civil War
era, April 15th of 1865, was the
saddest in the history of the Nation.
For it was on that date that
date that America's greatest presi-
dent, Abraham Lincoln was as-
sinated.

Robert Roberts Shronk, one of
this section's most talented writers,
who was a news-sleuth par excel-
lence in the old days, once told a
tale of local happenings on that
day which may prove of interest.

"On that day, Saturday, April
15th 1865," said Mr. Shronk, "I was
on my way to work, painting John
Dobson's residence, then being
erected at the lower end of the
Falls of Schuylkill. I met James
Buchanan, who then lived at the
Falls, and sold fruit and sandwiches
on the Washington and New York
trains. He was returning home
carrying an empty basket and cry-
ing. I asked him what was the
matter, and he replied, 'My God,
they have killed the President!'

"A few moments later I read the
news in the Inquirer, under the
headline, 'A Crime without a
Name.' I returned home, giving up
the idea of working, and after
helping flags at half mast over
Simpson's Mill, and the Lincoln and
Johnson Club, in company with
Joseph B. Walker, I went to the
city.

"On Chestnut street, from
Seventh to nearly Fourth, one of

Reigneth.'

"I shall never forget the effect
that notice of a prayer meeting had
upon a sorrow, stricken, yet ven-
geance-seeking assemblage.

"The Sunday on which Lincoln's
body was laid in state in Independ-
ence Hall was probably one of the
most memorable connected with the
history of the Rebellion.

"In company with several others,
I walked to the city on Saturday
expecting that the martyred Presi-
dent would have been arranged for
view that evening. The funeral
train, however, arrived late at the
old Broad and Prince streets depot,
and all we saw was the procession,
as it passed along the crowded
streets, between uncovered and
weeping spectators.

"We walked back to our homes,
intending to return at daybreak to
the city. The others did, but when
I awoke it was after 8 o'clock. I
started on my walk to the city, and
at Columbia avenue, was joined by
William G. Morison. Upon reach-
ing Chestnut street, we found the
lower side footwalk crowded as far
east and west as could be seen,
while outside the United States
Marines paced to and fro keeping
the people in line.

"By dodging the guards we were
soon down to Sixth street, where,
across Chestnut street, a high board
fence had been erected. The pres-
sure was awful. I crowded against
a woman who cried out with pain,
and then I resorted to a trick.
When she cried out again I called
to a kind-hearted sergeant of Mar-
ines, and appealed to him to permit
me to get her out of the crowd,
which he did. A passage was
opened and I led the woman down
Sixth street, and around the crowd,
leaving her on the south side of

somewhere near river. He and boss had fight for mon, and he kill boss and wife. He go then to Californy, make plenty mon, but lose it gambling and went to Mexico, where he die very poor; never marry, always in trouble. At night he talk much about Bartle in his sleep. I come New York, week ago, and tell you he die in Mexico as he ast me to. He very sorry for Bartle wife and baby."

As near as could be ascertained the signature which was much blurred from rubbing, was that of "Mike Narjola."

Lieutenant Lush did not put much faith in the genuineness of the note, which he believed was a hoax, as in 1866, or 1867, the late Roxborough historian, Horatio Gates Jones, stated that a man died in Connecticut who was credited with confessing on his death bed that he was the murderer of the Bartle family.

It's a cold trail now, but if they were given a break, we believe that Detectives Costello and O'Brien of the present staff at the Manayunk station, could unravel some more of this old mystery.

I often wonder what became of the lead seal of the borough of Manayunk. Possibly there is a reader somewhere in the 21st Ward who can enlighten us concerning its whereabouts.

We are aware that it was in existence in this section in 1893, when in September of that year it was shed from a heap of old iron in the vicinity of Main and Leveretts streets. The seal, at that time, was presented by the finder, to the late James Milligan, editor of the Manayunk Chronicle and Advertiser.

It had evidently lain in the junk pile for a number of years and was supposed to have reached that place when a junk-man purchased the metal at a public sale.

The seal, which was engraved upon a circular piece of brass, was mounted upon a piece of wrought iron five inches long and two inches square. Upon its face it bore a representation of a loom, beside which stood a female weaver. Around the outer edge of the circle,

Name. I returned home, giving up the idea of working, and after helping flags at half mast over Simpson's Mill, and the Lincoln and Johnson Club, in company with Joseph B. Walker, I went to the city.

"On Chestnut street, from Seventh to nearly Fourth, one of the most sorrowful, and at the same time most excited gatherings I have ever seen, was assembled. Every man's nerves seemed to be stretched to the utmost tension, and all that was needed was a leader to direct the crowd in wreaking vengeance upon any supposed enemy of the murdered President.

Mutterings of wrath were heard on all sides; the crowd packing the street surged back and forth and seemed at every surge to become more bent upon doing something in retaliation of the great crime. The muttering, accompanied by threats and curses, became more and more audible every moment; and just as they were developing into a cry and action, a gray-haired man pressed through part of the crowd carrying a paper.

"He advanced to the main entrance of Independence Hall, took a hammer and tacks from his pocket, and tacked the paper to the door frame, and then retired. The crowd watched the procedure and pressed to the place; one after another reading the notice and then calmly departing.

"The man was George H. Stuart, president of the Young Men's Christian Association. The notice read, 'A prayer meeting will be held at noon, in the Church of the Epiphany. Come!'

"That simple notice quieted the crowd. As one after another read it, their attention was lifted from their despondency and grief to God. Some, on reading the notice, articulated: 'The Lord God Omnipotent

When she cried out again I called to a kind-hearted sergeant of Marines, and appealed to him to permit me to get her out of the crowd, which he did. A passage was opened and I led the woman down Sixth street, and around the crowd, leaving her on the south side of the Hall. I then walked around to Fifth street; and here with a ruse, in conjunction with an Irishman, I made some more progress, by hollering 'Watch your pockets!' when the Celt and myself pushed forward close to the ropes where we were halted by two cavalry officers.

"I told the Irishman to step over the rope, which he attempted to do, but only succeeded in getting one leg over, the other being held fast by the crowd. The soldiers were soon there attempting to chase him away, so I yelled, 'Don't strike him, his leg will be broken. I'll help him out!' The soldiers had to watch others of the crowd, and permitted me to free the Irishman. As soon as I saw that he was in no danger of being hurt, and while the uniformed men were still occupied, I walked up to one of the windows of the building through which people were passing in single file. Clambering through the window, I passed slowly by the casket, and looked for my first and last time upon the face of one of the greatest men the world has ever known, a face wrinkled from the cares of a nation, with an expression that was both calm and superb. It appeared like the face of one, who, after accomplishing a great task, was enjoying a refreshing and well-earned sleep."

SCOFF

Now and Then

Since the palmy days of the great Dobson Mills, at the Falls of Schuylkill have passed, and most of those who have to work for a living, who are fortunate enough to have jobs in these trying days of depression, the community has lost its reputation as a manufacturing centre.

Before the epidemic of chills and fever which struck the Falls, in 1821, the section was one of Philadelphia's most aristocratic suburbs. The wealthiest citizens had country-seats there or in the immediate vicinity.

In what is now North Laurel Hill Cemetery, Joseph Sims had a fine

residence and immediately below it was that of the Willing family, which was afterward occupied by the Peppers.

In South Laurel Hill was a beautiful place belonging to William Rawle, and a short half mile from Ridge avenue, was the McMeekin mansion, and below Nicetown lane—now Hunting Park avenue—was the McCall property. On the western side of the river was Mount Prospect, the home of the Plumsteads, now known as the Cham-onix Mansion. A half mile below the Falls was the fine property of Alexander Dallas, and the Smith and Mifflin Mansions were in their glory in the centre of the community. Abbottsford, which had been built by a man named Nicklin stood on the site of the Woman's Medical College.

The announcement that the Falls Male Chorus will offer its annual Spring Concert at Palestine Hall, next Saturday evening, brings to mind one of the old vocal organizations of Roxborough—the Roxborough Choral Society, which gave a concert in Odd Fellows Hall, Ridge and Lyceum avenues, on May 28th, 1895. On that occasion the Roxborough singers were assisted by the Male Glee Club of the Church of the Covenant, of which the Rev. J. J. Joyce Moore, a one-time rector of St. Alban's P. E. Church, was pastor.

With the exception of the opening chorus, "How Lovely Are the Messengers," the first part of that recital consisted of six selections from Handel's "Creation," including the chorus, "The Heavens Are Telling."

The soloists were Miss M. Evangeline Todd, and Samuel H. Birkmire.

The second part of the program was composed of miscellaneous numbers, two of which were by the Covenant Glee Club.

At a meeting of the members of the Roxborough Choral Society, held on October 1895, the following officers were elected: President, W. H. Lewis; Vice President, Rev.

J. W. Kirk; Secretary, Theodore H. Bechtel; Treasurer, Frank Lackey; and Librarian, Walter Snyder.

One of the lost arts among the residents of the Falls is the old-time hog-killing, which afforded as much pleasure as the old-fashioned husling bees. Preparations for the killing were made a week in advance, and when the morning arrived everybody connected with the event would be up before daylight.

The scaffold, scalding tub, and platform, with the huge boilers for heating the water would all be in place, and by the time breakfast was ready the fires would be lighted under the kettles.

Breakfast, on hog-killing days, was a breakfast well worth remembering. Everybody seemed anxious to lend a helping hand in its preparation and serving. After the meal the slaughtering would proceed and by dinner time the well fed porkers would be strung up on the gambrels ready to be cut up into hams, shoulders, spare-ribs, and fitch, and the rest made into scrapple, lard and souse.

Prominent in this line of winter employment were Francis D. Mower, Daniel Shronk, Samuel Shaffer, John Bechtel, Abraham Barker, George Clouse and Louis Mettinger, everyone of whom has traveled along to a better land.

In clearing out one of the old rooms in Independence Hall, some 35 years ago, workmen came upon a relic of the early days of the Civil War, which was of particular interest to the people of this vicinity.

It was a soiled and yellow strip of heavy linen paper, bearing the roster of Company "A," Roxborough Home Guards. The list included the names of 135 of the most prominent citizens of Manayunk and Roxborough, who were enrolled on April 25th, 1861. Of this number most are deceased, either in battles in the Civil War, or by the ravages of disease and time since then.

Among the names on the list were: George Northrop, Horatio Gates Jones, David Mattis, Jacob Wright, Robert M. Carlisle, William Arrott, Charles Thomson Jones, Nicholas Rittenhouse, and Joseph Beaumont.

The relic which came into the hands of House Sergeant Louis J. Dunlap, of the Manayunk police station, was turned over to Magistrate Hampton S. Thomas, who in turn presented it to Hetty A. Jones Post No. 12, Grand Army of the Republic, where many of the

men who are enrolled in Company "A" afterward became members.

SCCAFF

Now and Then

Mrs. Mary E. Tappen, one of the oldest residents of Manayunk, died at her home, 4349 Main street, on September 17th, 1916, after a brief illness.

Mrs. Tappen was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Buckley, and was born in New York, on November 1st of 1824, and was therefore ninety-two years of age when she expired.

In her early womanhood she had been married to George Tappen, a hat manufacturer, and a descendant of the Tappens who came from Holland and settled in New York, in the 17th century, and for whom the town and bay of Tappen are named.

Mr. and Mrs. Tappen came to Philadelphia, in the 1830's, and the husband formed a partnership with George Ross, the men carrying on a hat manufacturing business at Second and Race streets, until 1846, when they moved to Manayunk, then a part of Roxborough township. Here Mr. Tappen continued his business until the time of his death in 1888, and was succeeded by his son, George H. Tappen.

Mrs. Tappen was a member of Mt. Zion M. E. Church, and notwithstanding her advanced age retained all of her faculties until within a short time of her demise. She was survived by her son, George, one daughter, Mrs. Kate W. Ross, two grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

Many of the older residents of this section will recall the name and fame of Rev. Charles B. Albany, the Park Guard preacher, who lived in Roxborough.

Mr. Albany was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Albany, and was born in Manayunk, on November 24th, 1842. In his early youth he became a member of Ebenezer M. E. Church, and continued his work there for more than 60 years. He was ordained to the ministry at Bethlehem, Pa., when the Philadelphia Conference met there in 1898. For more than a score of years he was pastor of the Blue Bell Hill M. E. Church, and preached there every Sunday, as well as being the leader of the Sunday School.

In his early manhood, Mr. Albany was a house painter, but on May 1st of 1876, was appointed a guard in Fairmount Park, being stationed for many years at the Wissahickon Drive and Ridge avenue. Later he served at night, in the Sedgely guard house. During the Civil War, Mr. Albany enlisted in an emergency regiment.

Just below Indian Queen lane, on Ridge avenue, in East Falls, is a vacant lot, which until a couple of years ago was occupied by half of

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Just below Indian Queen lane, on Ridge avenue, in East Falls, is a vacant lot, which until a couple of years ago was occupied by half of

what was once known as Sorber's carriage shop. Part of the building still stands, but that portion where the vacant lot is now located, was condemned as dangerous to the public and was torn down.

The entire building stood for more than a century. In 1803, William Sorber, a resident of Germantown, moved to the Falls, and after securing possession of the Palmer tavern property, erected the factory and took up his residence in the hotel building, which was one of the first hostleries of its time, along the thoroughfare which until 1812 was known as the Plymouth Road.

In the factory some of the finest carriages and sleighs ever drawn by horses were made. The business was continued by Mr. Sorber until his death early in the sixties, when he was succeeded by his sons, Joseph E., and Charles K. Sorber, both excellent mechanics.

The sons increased the business until 1872, when Joseph fell the victim of a smallpox epidemic, and died. Charles K. Sorber assumed control of the business and it progressed. After continuing for some years, Charles K. Sorber took up the real estate business of his deceased son, and his nephew, William Sorber, only son of Joseph E., took charge of the coach works. With the latter's death in his young manhood, the business was discontinued.

Sorrow accompanied the death of Ross D. Williams, one of the oldest and best known residents of Roxborough, in August of 1916, at the home of his son-in-law, Daniel K. Marple, 7924 Ridge avenue.

Mr. Williams was born April 15, 1845, at 7568 Ridge avenue, and until within a few months of his death, had always lived in the house of his birth, and carried on a grocery business there until he retired in 1913.

As a boy he worked in the store for his father, and was later made a partner in the business. He also had charge of Upper Roxborough sub-post office, until it was abolished.

Mr. Williams was a charter member of Manalung Tribe, No. 118, Improved Order of Red Men; a trustee of the old Yellow Schoolhouse on Shawmont avenue; a member of the Ridge Avenue M. E. Church, and of the Post Office Protective Association.

Mr. Williams, at the time of his demise, was survived by two daughters, Mrs. S. G. Tipping, and Mrs. Daniel K. Marple; and three sons, Howard S., J. Clyde, and Harry C. Williams.

Many people wonder why the Reading Company has two bridges across the Schuylkill river, at East Falls, so close to each other. The upper stone bridge, crosses the river diagonally and was built by Christian Swartz, then master mason for the Reading Railroad. The other known as "the B. & O" bridge, built of stone and steel, was erected in 1892, for the accommodation of the Royal Blue line trains. Prior to the erection of this latter bridge, the trains, com-

ing from Washington and bound for New York, had to run up from 24th and Chestnut streets to West Falls, and wait until the locomotive was run on a turntable and turned, in order to utilize the Stone Bridge. This took considerable time and passengers complained of the delay. And so the other bridge was built as a time saver.

SOCAFF

2-11-1932

Now and Then

William M. Morrison, grandfather of James R. Morrison, Roxborough pharmacist, evidently held a love of his community beyond that of the ordinary citizen, for he attempted to compile a history of the section in which he lived, so that people of later generations might catch a glimpse of things as they were in his day.

His grandson, while going through some old papers, at the drug store, found the following "Random Notes of Roxborough", as set down by William Morrison, probably about the time of the Civil War. The explanations in parenthesis are dated in 1932.

Before the Consolidation (of the City of Philadelphia) in 1854, Roxborough was apparently a country village, on the east and west of Ridge road farms and open ground. A few lanes ran east leading to Germantown, and west to Manayunk. Shawmont avenue was then known as Green Tree lane; Roxborough avenue, east, was Conrad's lane; and East Walnut lane, was Rittenhouse street. The residents were mostly farmers, truckers and butchers. Hotels and stores were located at convenient places. They were the meeting places for social talk, political or otherwise. The stores all closed at nine o'clock p. m. but later on Saturdays, at 10 p. m.

John Omensetter was one of the earliest (business men) then Silas Leverington on the opposite corner. (This is thought to be at Ridge avenue and Green lane.) He was succeeded by Harry Yorgey, who died shortly afterwards. In 1857, Wyatt & Lackey opened the place and did a successful business for years. There was a large room adjoining the store which was a meeting place for the older residents and others. Many a spirited debate took place there.

The mills on the Wissahickon gave employment to a number of residents. Charles Greases' Chemical Works, on Creases' Lane (Livesey Lane) was well known.

There were two elections precincts: the 7th (of the old 21st Ward, which extended down to Montgomery avenue, probably) from County line to Creases' Lane; and the 8th, from Creases' Lane to School House lane. There were lively times before and on election day. Pole raisings, meetings, brass bands, etc.

There were a number of South-

ern sympathizers, one election night, and some of them made disparaging remarks at Highley's (Leverington Hotel, now replaced by the Roxy Theatre) which precipitated a fight. The sympathizers were pretty well mauled, and one of them ran down the street, bareheaded, and hid in one of the stores.

The mail stage from Norristown to Philadelphia, drawn by four horses, would come through about 8 o'clock in the morning, the driver blowing his horn at intervals. Then marble and lime teams, on which there were about twenty-five, or so, blocks of marble weighing five or six tons, with eight to ten horses; and a considerable amount of hay, also passed through. That was before hay was baled.

The farmers from Chester and Montgomery counties supplied the stores with butter and eggs and farm products. Thursday was their day. The ground where the Campbell Mansion stands, and at Hermitage street, was the Shalkop farm; West Leverington avenue, was the Shinkel farm. J. P. Winpenny erected a mansion some distance off the road and opened a street called Bolton avenue (now Ripka avenue). From the cemetery (Leverington) to Highley's Hotel, was vacant ground. William Nice built the first house; then Dupont street was opened. "Nice" Keely bought the William Levering farm (Ridge avenue and Green lane) and opened Fair street, now East Green lane. There were not many houses on Green lane. No Mitchell, Pechin street, or Manayunk avenue. Nearly all commons with cherry and apple trees. No (street) lights; no pavements.

On Monday the butchers would all go to the droveyard and buy their cattle and bring them home in one drove. John Crawford and John Towers ran stage lines to Wissahickon station. Crawford continued until the horse cars started. Made three or four trips a day.

There was a (?) wagon for five, located back of N. L. Jones' residence. I think it was called the Lady Washington. The building was made into a tenant house and is still standing. The Good Intent Fire Company was located below Parker avenue, until the house on Fountain street was built. There were few fires, but F. Gorgas' Cotton Wadding Mill was burned every year: sometimes twice.

A man named Summer (?), or Gunmere (?) built the Brown House; at that time a few buildings near: Bishop and Ambler and Mr. Hutton built the first house on the east side of Lyceum avenue, near the Ridge. There were no police offi-

cers for a time, then, we had one in summer and two in winter.

Mail was received two times a week, in 1863. Andorra and Leverington postoffices were consolidated with Philadelphia office. One carrier appointed as a horse delivery, making two deliveries, and two collections were made from Hermit lane to County Line. Sometime afterward one more was appointed; Fountain street was the dividing line. Now, I believe, there are 12

what was once known as Sorber's carriage shop. Part of the building still stands, but that portion where the vacant lot is now located, was condemned as dangerous to the public and was torn down.

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Mr. Williams was born April 15, 1845, at 7568 Ridge avenue, and until within a few months of his death, had always lived in the house of his birth, and carried on a grocery business there until he retired in 1913.

As a boy he worked in the store for his father, and was later made a partner in the business. He also had charge of Upper Roxborough sub-post office, until it was abolished.

Mr. Williams was a charter member of Manalung Tribe, No. 118, Improved Order of Red Men; a trustee of the old Yellow Schoolhouse on Shawmont avenue; a member of the Ridge Avenue M. E. Church, and of the Post Office Protective Association.

Mr. Williams, at the time of his demise, was survived by two daughters, Mrs. S. G. Tipping, and Mrs. Daniel K. Marple; and three sons, Howard S., J. Clyde, and Harry C. Williams.

Many people wonder why the Reading Company has two bridges across the Schuylkill river, at East Falls, so close to each other. The upper stone bridge, crosses the river diagonally and was built by Christian Swartz, then master mason for the Reading Railroad. The other known as "the B. & O" bridge, built of stone and steel, was erected in 1892, for the accommodation of the Royal Blue line trains. Prior to the erection of this latter bridge, the trains, com-

ing from Washington and bound for New York, had to run up from 24th and Chestnut streets to West Falls, and wait until the locomotive was run on a turntable and turned, in order to utilize the Stone Bridge. This took considerable time and passengers complained of the delay. And so the other bridge was built as a time saver.

SOCAFF

2-11-1932

Now and Then

William M. Morrison, grandfather of James R. Morrison, Roxborough pharmacist, evidently held a love of his community beyond that of the ordinary citizen, for he attempted to compile a history of the section in which he lived, so that people of later generations might catch a glimpse of things as they were in his day.

His grandson, while going through some old papers, at the drug store, found the following "Random Notes of Roxborough", as set down by William Morrison, probably about the time of the Civil War. The explanations in parenthesis are dated in 1932.

Before the Consolidation (of the City of Philadelphia) in 1854, Roxborough was apparently a country village, on the east and west of Ridge road farms and open ground. A few lanes ran east leading to Germantown, and west to Manayunk. Shawmont avenue was then known as Green Tree lane; Roxborough avenue, east, was Conrad's lane; and East Walnut lane, was Rittenhouse street. The residents were mostly farmers, truckers and butchers. Hotels and stores were located at convenient places. They were the meeting places for social talk, political or otherwise. The stores all closed at nine o'clock p. m. but later on Saturdays, at 10 p. m.

John Omensetter was one of the earliest (business men) then Silas Leverington on the opposite corner. (This is thought to be at Ridge avenue and Green lane.) He was succeeded by Harry Yorgey, who died shortly afterwards. In 1857, Wyatt & Lackey opened the place and did a successful business for years. There was a large room adjoining the store which was a meeting place for the older residents and others. Many a spirited debate took place there.

The mills on the Wissahickon gave employment to a number of residents. Charles Greases' Chemical Works, on Creases' Lane (Livesey Lane) was well known.

There were two elections precincts: the 7th (of the old 21st Ward, which extended down to Montgomery avenue, probably) from County line to Creases' Lane; and the 8th, from Creases' Lane to School House lane. There were lively times before and on election day. Pole raisings, meetings, brass bands, etc.

There were a number of South-

ern sympathizers, one election night, and some of them made disparaging remarks at Highley's (Leverington Hotel, now replaced by the Roxy Theatre) which precipitated a fight. The sympathizers were pretty well mauled, and one of them ran down the street, bareheaded, and hid in one of the stores.

The mail stage from Norristown to Philadelphia, drawn by four horses, would come through about 8 o'clock in the morning, the driver blowing his horn at intervals. Then marble and lime teams, on which there were about twenty-five, or so, blocks of marble weighing five or six tons, with eight to ten horses; and a considerable amount of hay, also passed through. That was before hay was baled.

The farmers from Chester and Montgomery counties supplied the stores with butter and eggs and farm products. Thursday was their day. The ground where the Campbell Mansion stands, and at Hermitage street, was the Shalkop farm; West Leverington avenue, was the Shinkel farm. J. P. Winpenny erected a mansion some distance off the road and opened a street called Bolton avenue (now Ripka avenue). From the cemetery (Leverington) to Highley's Hotel, was vacant ground. William Nice built the first house; then Dupont street was opened. "Nice" Keely bought the William Levering farm (Ridge avenue and Green lane) and opened Fair street, now East Green lane. There were not many houses on Green lane. No Mitchell, Pechin street, or Manayunk avenue. Nearly all commons with cherry and apple trees. No (street) lights; no pavements.

On Monday the butchers would all go to the droveyard and buy their cattle and bring them home in one drove. John Crawford and John Towers ran stage lines to Wissahickon station. Crawford continued until the horse cars started. Made three or four trips a day.

There was a (?) wagon for five, located back of N. L. Jones' residence. I think it was called the Lady Washington. The building was made into a tenant house and is still standing. The Good Intent Fire Company was located below Parker avenue, until the house on Fountain street was built. There were few fires, but F. Gorgas' Cotton Wadding Mill was burned every year: sometimes twice.

A man named Summer (?), or Gunmere (?) built the Brown House; at that time a few buildings near: Bishop and Ambler and Mr. Hutton built the first house on the east side of Lyceum avenue, near the Ridge. There were no police offi-

cers for a time, then, we had one in summer and two in winter.

Mail was received two times a week, in 1863. Andorra and Leverington postoffices were consolidated with Philadelphia office. One carrier appointed as a horse delivery, making two deliveries, and two collections were made from Hermit lane to County Line. Sometime afterward one more was appointed; Fountain street was the dividing line. Now, I believe, there are 12

or more carriers. (This note must have been written in the early '90's.) And we are unable to get a carrier station, although we are pretty well served; happily the business section is better served.

C. T. (Charles Thomson) Jones built the houses on the west side of Conarroe street (west of) near Ridge road. The Hotel (Britches) and stores that joined were erected on what was called "the Forty Acres". I have seen corn growing on this. Reuben Cooper's blacksmith shop was below the building occupied by Mr. Foering, whose house was built by Mr. Stevens, a tinsmith who carried on business for a time. It was afterwards occupied by Dr. J. E. Harned. The ground from the church line (Roxborough Baptist) down to the adjoining property, was farm-land, extending to the Wissahickon. It was farmed by Maris Wright. The entrance to the barnyard is now Monastery avenue. There were two tenant houses, on the lower part of C. T. Jones ground (now William Levering School), occupied by Robert Kitchen and Charles Ershman. There was a pump near, overhung by a butternut tree. The Carlisle property back of the Jones Man-

sion was vacant ground. The first house was built by Mr. Raynor: sixteen of them. There were three or four houses in a hollow, called Frog Hollow. Samuel Levering's farm (Kendrick Center) adjoined the Carlisle property. Levering sold part of ground to St. Timothy's Church. There were dwelling houses on that part, occupied by J. Street, D. Everman, Jacob Harris and Mr. Homiller.

Cadwalader Hallowell succeeded Henry Lippen, at the Hotel on the corner (Walnut lane and Ridge avenue), afterward kept by J. Snell.

Charles Jones conducted a flourishing blacksmith shop nearby. Samuel Miller's cooper shop, next, employed a number of hands: work all done by hand.

Mrs. Rittenhouse had a private school in the Kidd Mansion. George Miller, a bachelor brother of Samuel, was quite a violinist, and he always played when Mrs. Rittenhouse's scholars would pass his home.

And so, due to the foresight of William Morrison, we are enabled to vision what Roxborough looked like, and how its people lived, some seventy years ago.

SCCAFF.

3/9/32

Now and Then

Who is there, that is still alive, who can remember Robert Haly, who conducted a woolen mill on Gorgas' lane, between Ridge avenue and the Wissahickon Drive?

Mr. Haly came to this country from Derbyshire, England, in 1818, and commenced working in James Kershaw's mill, at Blockley. Subsequently he formed a partnership with Augustus Newman, and went into the blue-dyeing business at Rock Hill, in Lower Merion. This firm did not remain in business

very long, and Mr. Haly then built the mill along the Wissahickon, on Gorgas' Lane, and operated it until about 1872. He was a shrewd and active business man, and traveled about a great deal, and also took a lively interest in public affairs in and about Roxborough. He was at one time a member of the Roxborough Baptist Church, but later transferred his allegiance to the Baptist Church in Chestnut Hill.

Robert Haly lived to the ripe age of ninety-two and died on the 19th of February 1882. His remains were interred in Leverington Cemetery.

In speaking of people who lived to be ninety, or over, who were once residents of the "high and healthy hills of Roxborough," we cannot forget Mrs. Susannah Layre, widow of Joseph Layre, who lived to pass her four score and twelfth birthday.

Mr. and Mrs. Layre were united with the Roxborough Presbyterian Church, on the 4th of April 1838, and both retained their connection there until the time of their deaths, Mr. Layre holding several of the church offices.

Mrs. Layre, who died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Amanda Rex, on July 22nd, 1885, was an own

cousin to John Levering, who with his wife, united with the Roxborough Presbyterian Church, from the Market Square Presbyterian Church, Germantown, on April 5th 1837, and who was one of the congregation's staunchest supporters until his death in 1876.

Mrs. Layre survived her husband by 23 years. She, herself, was survived by two sons, two daughters, a widowed daughter-in-law, twenty-two grandchildren, and fifteen great grandchildren. The interment of this grand old lady was made in the Roxborough Presbyterian Churchyard, on July 25th, 1885.

"There smiles the mother we have wept; there bloom Again the buds that sleep within the tomb; There o'er bright gates inscribed, No more to part, Soul springs to soul, and heart unites to heart."

Among the lantern slides made under the direction of the late Dr. Charles K. Mills, there is one which shows the lodge cottage of the Mifflin estate, which stood at the intersection of what is now Ridge avenue and Stanton streets, in East Falls.

Along the Ridge avenue wall, in the picture, there stands a man with a bundle under his arm. This man, according to old-time residents who remember him, is Henry J. Becker. We do not believe the bundle contained greenbacks.

Mr. Becker, in the late eighties and early nineties, was a contractor and builder at the Falls of Schuylkill.

He settled here about 1852, coming from Germany, where he had been born in 1823. With but a single exception, in the person of John Dobson, Mr. Becker erected more houses in the Falls, than any other man. Financial reverses, though plenty in his experience, never seemed to daunt this old Teuton. When he built the Falls

of Schuylkill brewery, in 1856, people were amazed. They were more so, when upon the completion of the building, he in company with a Mr. Steppacher began brewing under the name of Steppacher & Becker. The firm collapsed in a little while, and Mr. Becker embarked in the restaurant business, which he left in 1861 to become an army sutler. After the war he resumed the restaurant business, but soon failed, then he came back to the Falls and started quarrying until the days of the Centennial Exhibition, when as proprietor he opened a restaurant in which he cleared \$40,000 in six months. With this money he paid off all his old debts, and re-entered the building and contracting business. He afterwards became a city contractor, and among his contracts was the construction of the conduit carrying the waters of Scott's Dam to the Schuylkill, near the Stone Bridge, and also the sewer which ended the days of Mifflin's Run, now under Midvale avenue. However, he did not finish these contracts in the specified time and his name was placed on the Delinquent Contractor's List, where it remain-

ed, barring him from further municipal work, until 1895.

Mr. Becker was twice married, but neither union was blessed with children. His death occurred from a complication of diseases on May 27th 1895, with his widow surviving him.

SCCAFF

8/25/32

Now and Then

Advertising in the newspapers, to most people, is just as interesting as the news items. And to the person who is thrifty the spaces which are paid for are of more benefit than the articles which are printed in the news columns and act as a "right-into-the-family-circle" carrier.

Advertising announcements in old newspapers give an insight to the past of a community, as well as the paragraphs which are devoted to the doings of the people.

Let's travel back, by way of some old ads of the pre-Spanish-American War period and see what was going on in this particular section of Philadelphia.

J. Charles Todd had a drug store at 4403 Main street, Manayunk; H. F. Wilhere & Sons sold the best Lehigh and Schuylkill coal, and also kindling wood "by the load" from their yard on Shur's lane; the Thomas Brothers had a Laundry at Righter and Hemlock streets, Wissahickon; Nathan L. Jones conducted a real estate and insurance office at 4402 Cresson street, Manayunk; G. M. Priest, the pure food grocer, at 4329 Main street, had fifty barrels of Washburn, Crosby's Company's Gold Medal Flour for sale at \$5.10 a barrel, and Michener's celebrated sugar cured hams were sold for 12

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cents a pound.

William G. Herrmann was the local agent for The Stratford and the New Franklin kitchen stoves and he sold his "large stock of furniture at Hard Time prices" at his store which was located at 4324-26 Main street.

C. O. Struse was at the same stand today, on Shur's lane, making "builders' supplies a specialty". Welsh & Ambrose, the plumbers, at Washington and High streets, were the 21st Ward representatives of the Active Furnace manufacturers. H. F. Morris, Jr., had a coal yard at Cedar and Cresson streets, and the Glen Willow Ice Manufacturing Company, on January 19th, 1897, held a meeting of the Board of Directors at which it declared an annual dividend of four per cent on all stock, the meeting not being started by John A. Fick-

applied solely to calls made in Philadelphia. S. M. Plush was the General Manager at that time.

On Friday evening, September 11th, 1896, there was an "Anti-Combine Grand Open Air Mass Meeting, under the auspices of the Citizens' Republican Association of the 21st Ward, at the Corner of Ridge avenue and Kalos street, Wissahickon, where the speakers included Hon. Boies Penrose, James Rankin Young, Alexander Crow, Jr., Linn Hartranft and "other prominent speakers."

Landes and Waterhouse had their "light carriage works" on the east side of Ridge avenue above Paoli avenue, in Roxborough, where they made considerable profit selling all makes of bicycles, and new and second hand carriages.

John J. Foran, the real estate man, of 4416 Cresson street, was busily engaged in selling the "choicest building sites in the 21st Ward. Estate of John Markle, deceased. Lots on Manayunk avenue, Roxborough avenue, Levering, Cotton and Pechin streets, comprising the best locations in Roxborough for either the home purchaser or builders." The list ranged from \$300 up.

Leander M. Jones sold coal from a yard at the foot of Washington street, and William P. Stroud, in addition to coal and wood, purveyed flour, feed and grain, from No. 3702 Ridge avenue, Wissahickon.

The Manayunk Wagon Works was located on Main street, opposite Masonic Hall, where, stated Jonas Landis, the manager, "repair work was a specialty."

Burial lots in Westminster Cemetery could be purchased from George C. Bowker, at his office on "Main street next door to the bank," or from Theo. Elsasser, "on the grounds".

Milligan & McCook, who printed the Manayunk Chronicle and Advertiser, also done book and job printing at the northwest corner of Main and Levering streets.

At the Wissahickon Presbyterian Church, the Ladies' Aid Society held a fruit festival in Terrace Hall, on Thursday and Friday evenings, May 26th and 29th, 1896, with the ten-cent tickets being good for either evening.

Goshaw & McBride conducted a marble and granite yard at the

corner of Ridge and Cemetery avenues, where they "furnished monuments, headstones, all kinds of sliding work on short notice." Edward Levering had just moved to Mt. Vernon Pharmacy to 4654 Washington street, and the annual election of directors for the Manayunk National Bank, was held "at a banking house, on Tuesday evening 12th, 1897, between

hours of 11 a. m. and 1 p. m." at a meeting called by John J. Foulkrod, cashier.

Frank S. Whiteman, the Roxborough undertaker, whose place of business was on Ridge avenue above Green lane, made it convenient for his patrons to telephone him, by advertising his phone number as "25 D Manayunk."

John Harry Gallati had an especially fine assortment of brushes, brooms and baskets on hand, which he was selling at reasonable prices.

Theodore G. Farrell, at 4378 Main street, made plain and fancy carriage, wagon and cart harness, and had "constantly on hand covers, whips, brushes, curry-combs, halters, wagon grease, and oils for harness."

Of course there were other stores, and other business men, but these were among the early users of advertising space, and if one will observe and remember the calibre of the men listed, they can readily discern who were the successful merchants, artisans and professional men of the past.

SCCAFF.

3/3/02

Now and Then

Over across the Schuylkill river, at West Falls, there stands the ruins of a little building, at the base of the upper of the two Chamonix Lakes, which often excites the curiosity of people on their way to the trolley station. In the winter months, the ruins are in plain sight, but when spring and summer garb the trees and other vegetation in robes of green, it is hidden from everyone except the small boy who goes a'fishing.

The structure at one-time housed the primitive pumps of the William Simpson calico print works, when the lakes, then three in number, were mill dams. The dams were one above the other, like a series of three steps, the lower one having been demolished when Fairmount Park Commissioners acquired the surrounding territory.

One of the men who was once employed in running the mill pumps was William Leach, who for more than half a century resided at the Falls of Schuylkill, and who eventually died of pneumonia, at the residence of his son-in-law, the late Arthur Binkin, on Indian Queen lane, in 1896.

Mr. Leach was an active man in his day, and saved a number of persons from drowning in the Schuylkill. The most memorable incident to old time residents, was on the night of June 14th 1870,

when during a slight, but sudden rise in the river, a rowboat, occupied by Albert E. Boker, Margaret Cade, Sarah Brearly, and a man named DeArmond, capsized against a rock near the Stone Bridge. All of the party drowned except DeArmond, who clung to one of the bridge piers. His cries of help were heard by Mr. Leach, who hurried in his boat, and at the risk of his own life, saved the almost exhausted man.

How many years Mr. Leach tended the Simpson pumps we do not know. He was married in Trenton, N. J., on May 23rd, of 1840 to Catherine Booth, who expired two years before her husband. The couple had eight children, seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren when their deaths occurred.

The late "Dr." James Simmons Swartz, of New York, who died in December of last year, once assigned the writer to obtain a copy of Zander's "Outlines of Composition," an old-time school room book, from which he had studied English composition while a student at the Boys (now Central) High School. When the book had been purchased, and presented to Dr. Swartz, he related a tale of his school days as spent under the tutelage of Nicholas H. Maguire, who was one of the faculty at the High School.

Mr. Maguire had at one time taught school in the old octagon building on the Provost Smith estate on Indian Queen lane, which structure was known as "Smith's Folly." It stood on ground which is now occupied by two dwelling houses, on the southeast side of the street, just above Ridge avenue. Subsequently Professor Maguire went to the Boys' High School, and later was the principal of the Horace Binney School.

While he lived at the Falls and taught in "Smith's Folly," the professor married Miss Emmeline Evans, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Evans. The father of Mrs. Maguire was the proprietor of the well-remembered "Fountain Park Hotel," the original walls of which are incorporated in what we now know as the Cafe Riviera.

*** ** *

Few Roxborough residents know it, but there is a slight connection between that section and the Samuel Breck Public School, at the Falls of Schuylkill.

The last thirty-eight years of the life of Samuel Breck, the main-spring of the movement in Pennsylvania for public education, was spent with "Sweet Briar" Mansion, near Belmont, in West Fairmount Park, as his residence.

Subsequently the Sweet Briar property was owned and occupied by William Savery Torr, who later—for a quarter of a century—was a resident of Roxborough, on an estate known as "Rockshade" on Parker avenue.

William Savery Torr, or Colonel Torr, as he was also known, was born in Philadelphia October 13th 1805, being the son of John Torr, Jr., whose father emigrated from England in 1700, and settled in this city. He received his education at the Friends' School and Academy, and afterward learned the dry goods business, which he carried on for many years at a South Front

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street address, retiring in the early 1850's and devoting himself to real estate, of which he was a large owner.

In 1868 Colonel Torr took up his residence in Roxborough, where he resided until about 1892, when he removed to West Philadelphia.

Mr. Torr married, in 1830, Anna Clarkson Bringham, a great grand daughter of Matthew Clarkson, an early Mayor of Philadelphia. The couple were the parents of two sons, both of whom entered the Union army during the Civil War. One of these gave his life at the siege of Knoxville, Tennessee.

Colonel Torr was a member of the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Academy of Fine Arts, and of

the Philadelphia Society for the Promotion of Agriculture. He had the refined and gracious manners of a gentleman of the old school, and was remarkably prompt and liberal in financial matters. He never, it is said, seemed happier than when St. David's Sunday School scholars were spending the Fourth of July, in Torr's Woods.

Every once in a while we hear reminiscences of the steamer "Mozart" which used to belong to a Manayunk man, and ply the waters of the Schuylkill, in order to furnish enjoyment for a group of local merrymakers. Which leads up to one cruise of the famous old vessel which was made in July of 1895, which was taken to the farthest navigable point along the river. The trip lasted for four days, and according to reports "the police, of towns along the route, had to double their forces for that period."

Those aboard were M. W. Kerkelager, H. Reeves Luken, Emanuel Friedman, Max Himmelreich, Howard M. Levering, John B. Preston, Josephus Yeakel, C. A. Rudolph, C. J. McGlinchey, C. T. J. Preston, George Metzler, John Warner, Hiram Parker, James G. Maree, and John W. Dodgson. The latter two were the pilots. But, as the Irishman said, when he tore a page off the calendar, "Them days have gone!"

SCCAFF

10-6-1932

Now and Then

Although we don't believe there ever was a depression that was the equal of the present situation, one of the heaviest financial blows ever inflicted upon the Falls of Schuylkill was the removal of Simpson's Washington Print Works, from the west side of the river to Eddystone, near Chester, Pa.

The writer has a photograph of the Simpson works here, which was taken just before the removal. These works grew from a small shop which was originally erected by Robert Morris, following the Revolution as a glass factory, and that was later used as a carriage shop by Watson & Ogle.

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Several of the physicians in the 21st Ward claim Hahnemann Medical College as their alma mater, but those of the present day are not the only ones who settled in Manayunk and Roxborough to build up a lucrative business.

Dr. Jethro J. Griffith, was one of these. He was born in Canandaigua, N. Y., on January 13th 1826 and grew to manhood with but meagre educational advantages. During his youth he applied himself diligently to the study of such books as came into his possession. He came to this city and entered the Philadelphia Dental College, from which he graduated in 1855. Two years later he graduated from the Pennsylvania Homeopathic, now the Hahnemann Medical College, and at once began the practice of medicine.

Dr. Griffith was a man of sanguine temperament, positive convictions and unostentatious benevolence. After practicing medicine at Manayunk, for a brief period, he returned to Philadelphia, where he remained until after the close of the Civil War. He took an active interest in the abolition of slavery and was a warm friend of Charles Sumner and Horace Greeley, for whom he named his two sons. He was one of the first to respond to the call for troops and enlisted for three months in Company B. 18th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Returning to Manayunk he devoted himself to his profession and built up an extensive practice, also taking an active part in the temperance movement as a member of Manayunk Division No. 54, Sons of Temperance, of which he was a trustee at the time of his death on July 25th 1893. Dr. Griffith was a Mason, an Odd Fellow, and a member of Hetty A. Jones Post of the G. A. R.

In early manhood Dr. Griffith married Miss Phoebe A. Perry, a Chester County girl, and at the time of the doctor's death, Mrs. Griffith and two of their children, Dr. Horace Greeley Griffith and Mrs. A. C. Heft survived. The funeral was held from the family residence at 173 Green lane.

Members of Camp Fifty, Patriotic Order of the Sons of America, and the remaining members of Hetty A. Jones Post No. 12, G. A. R. are today the best of friends, but it

wasn't always so.

Back in March of 1882 when Camp Fifty met in Lyceum Hall, there occurred a rumpus with the Grand Army men which reached the columns of the newspapers of that time.

Police Sergeant Levi Reger stated "that there were not four policemen present in front of Lyceum Hall, on Monday evening a week, when the lock-out of Post 12, by the authorities of Camp Fifty occurred. There were but two policemen and himself, and they knew nothing of what was likely to occur until some of the members of the Post came up and tried to open the door. Afterwards, when the excitement increased, he thought it prudent to have men enough on hand to prevent a breach of the peace. His men, before that, merely occupied their usual post, and he happened to be there at the time on a different errand. No blood was shed on either side."

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SCCAFF

9-29-32

Now and Then

One of the great Baptists of this trinity was Reuben Wunder, who passed on to a Just Reward on Sunday October 11th 1903.

Mr. Wunder was employed in the United States Custom House in Philadelphia for more than forty years, and was a resident of Wissahickon. He was born in Germantown, February 24th 1821, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Wunder, his father having been a soldier in the War of 1812.

The Wissahickon man learned the trade of printer and subsequently edited a newspaper in Schuylkill Haven, after which he returned to

street address, retiring in the early 1850's and devoting himself to real estate, of which he was a large owner.

In 1868 Colonel Torr took up his residence in Roxborough, where he resided until about 1892, when he removed to West Philadelphia.

Mr. Torr married, in 1830, Anna Clarkson Bringham, a great grand daughter of Matthew Clarkson, an early Mayor of Philadelphia. The couple were the parents of two sons, both of whom entered the Union army during the Civil War. One of these gave his life at the siege of Knoxville, Tennessee.

Colonel Torr was a member of the Academy of Natural Sciences, the Academy of Fine Arts, and of

the Philadelphia Society for the Promotion of Agriculture. He had the refined and gracious manners of a gentleman of the old school, and was remarkably prompt and liberal in financial matters. He never, it is said, seemed happier than when St. David's Sunday School scholars were spending the Fourth of July, in Torr's Woods.

Every once in a while we hear reminiscences of the steamer "Mozart" which used to belong to a Manayunk man, and ply the waters of the Schuylkill, in order to furnish enjoyment for a group of local merrymakers. Which leads up to one cruise of the famous old vessel which was made in July of 1895, which was taken to the farthest navigable point along the river. The trip lasted for four days, and according to reports "the police, of towns along the route, had to double their forces for that period."

Those aboard were M. W. Kerkelager, H. Reeves Luken, Emanuel Friedman, Max Himmelreich, Howard M. Levering, John B. Preston, Josephus Yeakel, C. A. Rudolph, C. J. McGlinchey, C. T. J. Preston, George Metzler, John Warner, Hiram Parker, James G. Maree, and John W. Dodgson. The latter two were the pilots. But, as the Irishman said, when he tore a page off the calendar, "Them days have gone!"

SCCAFF

10-6-1932

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The Wissahickon man learned the trade of printer and subsequently edited a newspaper in Schuylkill Haven, after which he returned to

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While engaged in this business he was converted and emptied his stock of intoxicants into the gutter. On March 24th 1861, he was appointed to a position in the Custom House, where he remained until his death.

Mr. Wunder, as a Baptist, became widely known throughout the city, and helped to organize the First Church, of Germantown; Grace Church, at Mervine and Berks streets, which became Grace Temple at Broad and Berks streets, which Dr. Conwell made famous; the Memorial Baptist Church, at Broad and Master streets, and the Wissahickon Baptist Church, here. Of the latter he was the senior deacon.

The death of Mrs. Annie G. Hunter, of Roxborough, recently, brought to mind her husband, David Hunter, who was well known in the Falls of Schuylkill as a landscape gardener.

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Mr. Hunter subsequently obtained employment as the private gardener of Mayor Henry, who then resided on School lane. This position lasted for twelve years. He then spent three years at Andalusia, Pa. For the nineteen years following, up until his death in September 1904, he was in charge of the landscaping for John Dobson, the late textile manufacturer.

Those who have been observant about the weather have noticed how little rain we have had lately. On Thursday of last week the drought was clearly noticeable at Flat Rock dam on the Schuylkill. However, the "sharps" state that this is almost an

annual occurrence at this time of the year.

The newspapers of September 7th 1894 contained the following article concerning the shortage of water at that time:

"According to the oldest rivermen, the water in the Schuylkill at Manayunk reached the lowest level yesterday morning that has been known for almost forty years.

"The cause of the scarcity is the long duration of the present drought, which has for weeks existed in this part of the country, and now the condition of affairs has become so critical that alarm is being experienced by the residents of Manayunk, Mt. Airy, Falls of Schuylkill and other places which receive their supply from the Upper Roxborough reservoirs. It is in that portion of the city that the greatest apprehension is felt because of the serious loss in pumpage for the recent break of the main pump at the Shawmont station. It has, however, been repaired and operations were resumed over one week ago.

"If the entire pumping capacity of

that station, which would amount to 24,000,000 gallons in 24 hours, could be used, there would be no cause of immediate fear. But as the pipes leading up to the reservoirs are unable to carry the full supply there is some difficulty in keeping up the demands made on them.

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"So low is it in some places that small boys can wade across. Also the cofferdam along the outer side of the canal boat channel extends above the water from the Manayunk towpath bridge to Wissahickon, a thing which very few have ever seen before. The Wissahickon, which is one of the largest, inflowing streams on the lower part of the river, has dwindled down to not much more than a brook so far as the amount of water is concerned. But with all this scarcity in the streams the water department is keeping up the daily usage, but this is partly owing to the care exercised by the consumers in this section.

"Many rivermen, who have spent their lives along the Schuylkill, agree that not since 1869, has such low water been known in that stream, and some even say it was not so low then as now.

SCCAFF

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Office of

Ashland Paper Mills

Manayunk, May 4th, 1893

To The Board of Managers of The Memorial Hospital and House of Mercy of St. Timothy's Church, Roxborough. Gentlemen:

Knowing and appreciating as I do the advantages and benefits derived from your institution without regard to race, color, or religion, and as I have the honor of being the executor of the last will and testament of the late Eugene Nugent, who was in my employ as confidential clerk for about 17 years, and as by his will left a sum of money for me to apply to such charities as I think proper to select, and as your committee who called

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upon me on April 30th so eloquently pressed your claim for a donation from the said money, to erect a suitable building for an operating room, and that the said building could be completed at a cost not exceeding \$5000; therefore, in order that the said building may be erected as soon as possible, I have concluded, and do suggest to your committee that you erect the said building at once, and when it is completed I will pay over to you the sum of \$5000 as a memorial to my dear friend, Eugene Nugent.

Knowing that God will reward him for the same, I remain,

Yours truly,

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Houghton, Roxborough,

May 23rd '93

To The Editor of the Manayunk Chronicle:

Dear Sir:

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An old Twenty-first Ward family is recalled by the activities relative to the William Penn anniversary which is now being planned by Keystone state historical societies. This was the Towers family, probably the last of whom lived here being Mrs. Mary Pennypacker Towers, who died at the residence of her son-in-law, the late William P. Stroud, on East Roxborough avenue, on February 20th 1893.

Mrs. Towers' maiden name was Pennypacker. She was born in Montgomery County, about two miles below Phoenixville, in a settlement which afterward became known as Port Providence. Mrs. Towers was a descendant of an old Pennsylvania family which settled in the state shortly after it had been acquired by William Penn from the Indians. She was married to Mr. Towers in 1827 and subsequently moved to Manayunk, where the couple lived for a short period near the lower canal locks, afterward moving to Rittenhouse street (East Walnut lane) and

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Ridge road. Mr. Towers carried on an extensive feed, flour and coal business which is still in existence, as the William P. Stroud Estate, at Wissahickon station. The pioneer of the business died on October 30th 1869, from the result of injuries sustained when he was thrown from a carriage, and the firm's patrons were served for several years thereafter by his widow.

Mrs. Towers was a Baptist and during her residence in this locality, attended services at the Roxborough Baptist Church. Though well advanced in years, this grand old lady retained all of her faculties to a remarkable degree up until the time of her final brief illness. Funeral services were held on February 23rd 1893 and the interment was made in Leverington Cemetery.

One of the old and respected men of the Falls of Schuylkill section, whose descendants are still prominent in the community was Edward McIlvaine, who went to his Eternal Reward on Sunday, August 23rd, 1897.

Mr. McIlvaine had been taken ill while at work in the laboratory of Powers & Weighman, and Dr. J. V. Kelly, of Manayunk, Dr. M. Howard Fussel, Dr. Aloysius Kelly and Professor Steinbach of the University of Pennsylvania were called in to diagnose and treat his ailment, but despite all their efforts he grew worse and died at one o'clock on the Sunday morning stated. It was thought by the physicians that the fatal attack was one of nervous prostration superinduced by the excessive heat of the week previous.

Mr. McIlvaine was born in Donegal, Ireland, in 1841, and when still a child brought to this country by his parents. He was first employed as an office boy for Powers & Weightman, where he afterward learned the trade of cooper, at which he continued until his death.

In 1887 his wife died, but he always kept his family together.

He was an active member of St. Bridget's Church, and for 24 years was the marshal of St. John the Baptist's T. A. B. Society. He was buried on Wednesday morning, August 26th 1887, in St. John's Cemetery, Manayunk, after solemn high mass at St. Bridget's Church, in East Falls.

SCCAFF

10-20-1932

Now and Then

One of the most prominent of the great Levering family, which first settled Roxborough and Manayunk, was Silas Jones Levering, who died on the 14th of April 1893, in his residence at 466 Green lane.

Silas Jones Levering was born in Manayunk, at the family's old home, which stood on what is now the corner of Green lane and Silverwood street. The building was the first large home erected in Manayunk and was built by Silas Gilbert Levering, father of the subject of this sketch, whose brother

er was the first male child born in the mill town along the Schuylkill. Silas Jones Levering, while still a boy, moved with his parents to Roxborough, where he continued to reside until 1850, when the family went to Southeastern Virginia, living there a number of years, then removing to Baltimore, Maryland, where he completed his education, having taken a collegiate course at Newton University.

Mr. Levering devoted much of his time to historical matters and took particular delight in a biographical work on the Levering family, assisting largely in researches and aiding the author, John Levering, of Indiana, in his difficult task. Copies of this book are to be found in the homes of some of the present-day members of the family.

Mr. Levering was married on August 20th 1865 to Emma D. Rose, of Roxborough, and the couple became the parents of two sons.

Funeral services were held over his remains on April 17th 1893 and the interment was made in Leverington Cemetery.

One of Manayunk's early manufacturers was John Maxson, who was born in Halifax, Yorkshire, England, on March 20th 1826. He came to this country when a child, with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Maxson, Sr. After brief sojourns in Baltimore, Md., and Linwood, Pa., the family came to Manayunk, where the father and son subsequently owned and operated the Phoenix Mills, on Main street, below Shur's lane, now familiar as G. J. Littlewood's Dye Works, under the firm name of John Maxson and Son. John, Jr., succeeded to the business in 1857. In October 1869, the mill was destroyed by fire, and during the following year, Mr. Maxson removed to Chester, where he continued to manufacture jeans and cottonades, and for a brief period had associated with him, Daniel Wolfenden, who was from Manayunk.

In 1832 Mr. Maxson retired and removed, with his family, to Millville, N. J. and afterward moved back to Philadelphia.

Mr. Maxson was married, in 1840, to Catherine Hinkle, in what is now the Rudolph house in West Manayunk, by the Rev. J. B. McCullough, pastor of the Ebenezer M. E. Church. The couple were the parents of ten children; grandparents of sixteen girls and boys; and also had one great grandchild, when Mr. Maxson expired on May 16th 1896.

At the time of his death Mr. Maxson was a member of the West York Street M. E. Church, and of Roxborough Lodge No. 135 F. and A. M. For many years he had been active in the affairs of Manayunk Division No. 54, Sons of Temperance, and also of the Knights of Pythias. Following services in the West York Street M. E. Church his interment was made in Leverington Cemetery.

Somewhere, in existence, is a little book entitled "Nuts for Historians To Crack," which was published away back in the fifties by Horace W. Smith, grandson of Dr. William Smith the first provost of the University of Pennsylvania, which this writer would like to obtain.

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A former resident of the Falls of Schuylkill, while riding over Midvale avenue, in an automobile, admired the Library building which stands at Warden Drive.

"When I was a boy," he said, "there was a Falls of Schuylkill Library Association that did a great deal of good for the moral and intellectual benefit of its members. Every man of any account was glad to be admitted as a member and have the privilege of reading and studying the valuable books. I was not old enough to join the organization, but I knew most of those that did. As I think of them my heart feels sad, for practically all of them have passed away. The organization was kept up until the Civil War. The four that I remember, who belonged to the Association, was I. Scott, Charles K. Sorber, Frank W. Morison, and Adam Mettill, all of whom have gone to the Great Beyond."

The mention of Charles K. Sorber, also brings to mind, a tall the Falls of Schuylkill's early musical organizations, one of which was the "Falls Choral Society," which met in the Old Academy. The members of this group of singers were Charles K. Sorber, president; Sam Walker, vice president; John Tees, treasurer, and William Williams, musical director.

In an article in the old "Falls Advertiser and Riverside Gazette," which was printed by William Middleton, dated November 1, 1881, it said: "All persons interested in music are cordially invited to join this society. The expenses to be met by the male members. It is earnestly desired that there will be a large attendance of ladies. We are glad the above society has come to the surface and earnestly hope that it may float successfully."

SCCAFF

3-14-1933

Now and Then

Wednesday of next week will be a red-letter day in the life of the Falls of Schuylkill's most prominent resident, Mrs. Mary A. Dobson, widow of the late textile manufacturer, James Dobson.

March 22nd is Mrs. Dobson's natal day, and that of next week will be the 93rd.

The role that Mrs. Dobson played in the development of the Falls of Schuylkill has been no less shining than that of her husband, who with his brother, John, built up one of the greatest manufacturing centres in any part of the world.

In the days when she was still active, Mrs. Dobson was in back of practically all public movements of a charitable and churchly character in the neighborhood in which she

Ridge road. Mr. Towers carried on an extensive feed, flour and coal business which is still in existence, as the William P. Stroud Estate, at Wissahickon station. The pioneer of the business died on October 30th 1869, from the result of injuries sustained when he was thrown from a carriage, and the firm's patrons were served for several years thereafter by his widow.

Mrs. Towers was a Baptist and during her residence in this locality, attended services at the Roxborough Baptist Church. Though well advanced in years, this grand old lady retained all of her faculties to a remarkable degree up until the time of her final brief illness. Funeral services were held on February 23rd 1893 and the interment was made in Leverington Cemetery.

One of the old and respected men of the Falls of Schuylkill section, whose descendants are still prominent in the community was Edward McIlvaine, who went to his Eternal Reward on Sunday, August 23rd, 1897.

Mr. McIlvaine had been taken ill while at work in the laboratory of Powers & Weighman, and Dr. J. V. Kelly, of Manayunk, Dr. M. Howard Fussel, Dr. Aloysius Kelly and Professor Steinbach of the University of Pennsylvania were called in to diagnose and treat his ailment, but despite all their efforts he grew worse and died at one o'clock on the Sunday morning stated. It was thought by the physicians that the fatal attack was one of nervous prostration superinduced by the excessive heat of the week previous.

Mr. McIlvaine was born in Donegal, Ireland, in 1841, and when still a child brought to this country by his parents. He was first employed as an office boy for Powers & Weightman, where he afterward learned the trade of cooper, at which he continued until his death.

In 1887 his wife died, but he always kept his family together.

He was an active member of St. Bridget's Church, and for 24 years was the marshal of St. John the Baptist's T. A. B. Society. He was buried on Wednesday morning, August 26th 1887, in St. John's Cemetery, Manayunk, after solemn high mass at St. Bridget's Church, in East Falls.

SCCAFF

10-20-1932

Now and Then

One of the most prominent of the great Levering family, which first settled Roxborough and Manayunk, was Silas Jones Levering, who died on the 14th of April 1893, in his residence at 466 Green lane.

Silas Jones Levering was born in Manayunk, at the family's old home, which stood on what is now the corner of Green lane and Silverwood street. The building was the first large home erected in Manayunk and was built by Silas Gilbert Levering, father of the subject of this sketch, whose brother

er was the first male child born in the mill town along the Schuylkill. Silas Jones Levering, while still a boy, moved with his parents to Roxborough, where he continued to reside until 1850, when the family went to Southeastern Virginia, living there a number of years, then removing to Baltimore, Maryland, where he completed his education, having taken a collegiate course at Newton University.

Mr. Levering devoted much of his time to historical matters and took particular delight in a biographical work on the Levering family, assisting largely in researches and aiding the author, John Levering, of Indiana, in his difficult task. Copies of this book are to be found in the homes of some of the present-day members of the family.

Mr. Levering was married on August 20th 1865 to Emma D. Rose, of Roxborough, and the couple became the parents of two sons.

Funeral services were held over his remains on April 17th 1893 and the interment was made in Leverington Cemetery.

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SCCAFF

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This lady, as Mary Ann Schofield married James Dobson in 1862. The couple were the parents of five daughters, four of whom still survive. All of them are recognized social leaders in Philadelphia as Mrs. Bessie Dobson Altemus, Mrs. Richard C. Norris, Mrs. John C. Norris, and Mrs. Thomas Jeffries. The other daughter, Mrs. Arthur Spencer, succumbed from injuries received in an automobile accident a year or so ago.

The mother of these women, with her husband, started housekeeping in a tiny house on Mill Creek, and later moved to the building, which still stands at the southeast corner of Ridge avenue and the Wissahickon Drive. When Mrs. Dobson was in her 32nd year, the house in which she now resides, at Henry and Abbottsford avenues, was built. At that time it was entirely surrounded by woods and fields, not far from the old Abbott mansion, that stood on the site of the Woman's Medical College Hospital.

Two of Mrs. Dobson's daughters married two brothers, John C. and Richard Norris, and two of her grand-daughters wed brothers of the Rosengarten family. Inasmuch as she and her sister, Sarah, had married the Dobson brothers, there has been three occasions in the immediate family in which sisters married brothers.

The family life of the Dobsons has been most democratic. When "Boss Jim" was alive, he and his wife could be seen each evening engaged in their regular game of whist, and on Sunday they attended church and had "the girls" home for dinner. One of their most enjoyable experiences, and one which Mrs. Dobson has continued, is the visit of the Christmas carol singers from the Falls churches, when the family assemble on the stairs to listen in quiet enjoyment to the various choirs which annually make their calls.

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Interesting to note is an old newspaper clipping which appeared in print, way back in 1918; as follows: "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 has passed through their hands. This with the enforced cutting down of eatables 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 practice economy, care should be taken to avoid cultivating a mean and stingy disposition."

Before the Civil War, the late James Mills owned what was known as "the Ledger route," on which he served newspapers. It took in the territory between School House lane and Islington lane, and from the Schuylkill river to Township line

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Baseball followers never fail to applaud the pinch-hitter who comes up in the ninth inning and slams out a home run to bring in the winning runs. But this feat is a physical one, mostly, although good eyesight and co-ordination of muscles are necessary requisites.

But let's tell you of a pinch-hitting feat in political matters which happened a good many years ago, but is still remembered by some of "real old" people.

It concerns Dr. Christopher Frame, a Roxborough physician. The time was October of 1884 when Blaine and Logan were running for election. The local Republican Club held a mass meeting at the corner of Ridge avenue and Queen lane, which incidentally was then in the 21st Ward. There was a large crowd gathered but none of the speakers had shown up. Dr. Frame happened to pass along the street, and he was asked to step up on the platform, where the late James S. Swartz, was the presiding officer. After a few words to Dr. Frame, Mr. Swartz introduced the orator, who started off in a speech absolutely "cold turkey" but held the crowd spell-bound for more than twenty minutes with his logical arguments, until the men scheduled to make the address had arrived.

It is said that the speech, which was entirely extemporaneous was delivered with a force that carried its message home to every listener and that not a word was spoken that could not very properly be printed in the columns of the home-town newspaper.

SCCAFF.

11-3-32

Now and Then

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After acquiring a common school education he came to Philadelphia and subsequently to the Falls, where he first tended bar at a hotel kept by Robert Evans. Sometime later Mr. Shantz married Mary Ann Evans, the daughter of his employer.

Not long following the introduction of coal as a household fuel, Mr. Shantz embarked in that business

and established a wharf for canal boats and a yard on the east shore of the Schuylkill river, at the foot of old Ferry Road, near the Reading Railroad Company's Stone Bridge.

In 1851 he started a small grocery store in what is now the Primary Department building of the Grace Reformed Sunday School, on Ridge avenue at the entrance to the Falls Bridge. The structure was then owned by Thomas Shronk, of Manayunk, and Shantz, upon taking possession, enlarged the building and included dry goods, notions, hardware, cigars, tobacco, and liquors, and surpassed and like establishment in town.

Shantz, in addition to keeping store, took to politics, and soon became recognized as the leader of the community. In 1859 he was elected by City Councils to the position of Chief Commissioner of Highways, and the year following sold out his store to Patrick Maguire, of Manayunk.

After completing his term as Highway chief, Shantz became a contractor, and in partnership with John Dwyer, proprietor of the old Rising Sun Tavern, and a man named Murphy, contracted to build the South Street Bridge. The enterprise proved a failure, financially ruined Dwyer, and had to be completed by the city.

Mr. Shantz bought the Thomas Shronk property, and afterwards sold it to the late Thomas Powers, who purchased it to end a litigation which Shantz had instituted against the firm of Powers & Weightman, to secure damages for his well water, which, he claimed, had been spoiled by the laboratory. He and his family continued to live in the dwelling until his death in 1883.

Joseph Shantz at one time wielded a strong influence in the Falls of Schuylkill, and was looked upon as one of the wealthiest men in the neighborhood. His only daughter, Josephine, who had been most carefully reared, was married to Philip Woodhouse, a Southerner, who came to this section in the sixties as a clerk in Dr. Joseph F. Wilson's drug store. The girl's mother, survived her husband by a few years.

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Mr. Shantz bought his cigars wholesale from Lancaster County. They came in quarter thousand boxes, and were sold three for a cent. The cigar box was kept near the front end of one of the counters. The boys would peep into the store and if Mr. Shantz was surrounded by a number of his friends, one of the boys would go in the store, rap "Attention" by striking the side of a large-sized cent on

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SCCAFF.

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the zinc-covered counter. The invariable result would be a call from Mr. Shantz, "What do you want, Bubbie?" On being told by the boy that he wanted a cent's worth

of cigars, the proprietor would answer, "The box is on the counter; take three and leave the penny on the counter."

After an "all right, sir!" the boy would take the three cigars and as many more as he could grab in one hand, and leave the cent on the counter and depart.

Once outside the store other boys would ask him for a cigar, when he would answer, "Go and get some for yourself; the penny is on the counter." Every boy in the crowd would go in, in turn, rap the same penny on the counter, get the same reply from the storekeeper, and the last boy would not only come out with a handful of cigars, but also bring the penny with him, to be used on another occasion.

Shantz would be so occupied with the political and other talks that he forgot all about the boys, the cigars and the much-used penny.

Stanley Lee, the last partner of J & S Lee, manufacturers of cottonades, was once one of the prominent people who carried on business in section west of the Schuylkill river, at Manayunk.

Mr. Lee was born in Royton, near Manchester, England, and came to this country when about 7 years of age.

Previously to removing to Conshohocken, about 1860, he was engaged in the manufacturing business on Mill Creek, and prior to that period, resided for a time in Philadelphia. He and his brother made cotton goods on an extensive scale and conducted one of the largest plants of the kind in this portion of Pennsylvania. His brother expired about 1873, and from that time on the mill was run by Stanley.

At the time of his death Mr. Lee was in his 77th year. He was survived by his wife and daughter, Mrs. John F. Bowker, whose husband, formerly of Manayunk, was put in control of the business of his father-in-law.

SCCAFF

11/24/32
Now and Then

With the election of November 8th still in mind, an old resident of the Falls of Schuylkill recited a memorable battle which took place here in Centennial year, 1876.

At that time the Falls was a part of the 28th Ward, which was then six years old. With the 21st Ward, it formed the legislative district of which Josephus Yeakle, of Manayunk, was then representative. Yeakle was the candidate for re-nomination. In the 21st Ward, then, there were twenty-one divisions, eighteen of which were carried by Yeakle, Peter Bechtel, of Roxborough, led in the other divisions.

There were twenty divisions in the 28th Ward, four of which were in the Falls. Robert Roberts' Shronk

was the Republican candidate for the Falls. John M. Vanderslice and Robert Dugan were from other parts of the Ward. On the morning of the convention - yes, they held convention for the smaller offices in those days - at the old Punch Bowl, at Broad and Diamond street, forty-one delegates answered the roll call. On the first ballot Yeakle had eighteen, lacking but three to win. During the recess, after those receiving low votes were dropped, he negotiated with one of Shronk's delegates, who won over two others of his fellows; thus giving Yeakle twenty one votes on the next ballot, and therefore the nomination.

Later on, in 1878, Shronk was a delegate to the legislative convention from the 21st Ward, and it was held at the Wine House, Broad and Somerset streets. The 21st Ward, however, had no candidate for nomination, and the delegates of Manayunk, Roxborough and Wissahickon voted for Samuel Town, who was nominated.

An interesting occurrence took place in Manayunk, earlier in the last century, this event taking place in 1861. At the time the Civil War was going on, and excitement reigned throughout the cities and towns of the North, and South, too, I suppose.

In Manayunk, Unionists marched about demanding that hotelkeepers and other business men hang out their national flags. Those who did not comply at once were threatened with all kinds of punishment if the banner was not shown by a given time. Flags in those days were not as plentiful as they are today, and could not be brought ready made without going to some store dealing in military equipment. People had to make their own flags.

The feeling ran high in Manayunk, where every non-Republican was looked upon as a traitor to the Union, if he did not display a flag. One of the town's most prominent residents, Dr. John Conry, kept a drug store on Main street just below Green lane. The Unionists gathered together and marched to his store, yelling, "Put out your flag!" The doctor was absent attending to a patient. In the room the over the store were a number of young women, busy at work, making a flag, under the direction of John D. Shoemaker.

One of the women hastily placed the partly finished flag on a pole and thrust it out the window. Then came a savage cry, "Take in that rag! it's a Rebel flag of Texas, with only one star!"

Shoemaker grabbed up the other stars that were sewn on and holding them out of the window, said, "If you fools will wait long enough for the women to sew these stars on the flag, it will be all right!" This satisfied the crowd.

At the Forest School, in the Falls of Schuylkill, a flag was being made by the teachers and girls of the school. One of the teachers who had bought the material, reached across the stripes and was accused of tramping on the flag. The report spread like wildfire and a crowd, headed by a divinity student, attempted to throw eggs at her. They

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were prevented by the late Daniel Hickey and a number of workmen who were in the neighborhood.

Every once in a while someone asks for a history of the old stone barn which stands along Ridge avenue, near the entrance to the Falls Bridge, on the property of the Merck Chemical Company.

In 1847 when the firm of Powers, Weightman and Harrison bought part of the property on which the laboratory now stands, from James Spencer, who then owned the Fountain Park Inn, more familiar as the original part of the building now known as Cafe Riviere, the barn was used by John Roberts in connection with his farm.

The farmhouse stood farther back on the lower side of the little valley through which a brook trickled down to the river. Roberts had a fine orchard on top of the hill. The farmhouse was turned into two dwellings, but just where they were located is not known to the writer.

Like other things in every community the story of the barn, which is somewhere about 117 years old, will probably never be known. In the condition it is today, it is so well preserved that it looks good for another century.

This reminiscence was recently asked what he knew about Gypsy lane. The lane was opened through properties belonging to the Kempton estate on the east and Jonathan Robeson on the west, and extended from the north side of School House lane to the Wissahickon Drive, and was brought about chiefly by Henry Lippen, the proprietor of Wissahickon Hall, which still stands along the storied creek.

Owing to the steep grade the lane never became very popular as a thoroughfare. It formed, however, a short cut for pedestrians to get to the Wissahickon, particularly in winter time, when there would be skating on the frozen surface of the stream.

The name, it has been stated, was derived from the frequent encamping of a band of gypsies on the Robeson lot. Opposite the lane was "the snake" or serpentine walk along the west end of Thomas H. Powers property. This path, about four feet wide, was a delightful way of reaching School House Lane, as Mr. Powers never objected to the public using it. The lane and path were opened about seventy-seven years ago, near the close of the Civil War.

SCCAFF.

12-1-1932
Now and Then

Many are the anecdotes which may be heard of experiences gained in the World War by the men of this locality who served overseas, but year by year the happenings of Civil War days are heard less.

There is a tale, however, which lately came to light, concerning one John Rhoades, a Falls of Schuylkill man who was serving in Captain John Debon's Company "I" of the

Blue Reserves, when that "outfit" was sent to help in the defense of Pennsylvania at the time the Confederates threatened to over-run the state in 1862. The Company at the time were stationed along the Mason and Dixon line separating Pennsylvania from Maryland.

As Captain Dobson approached Rhoades, one day, the latter said, "Captain, I'm in three states. My right foot is in Pennsylvania, my left in Maryland and my body is in the state of starvation!"

Seville street, in the lower end of Roxborough gets its name from Seville Schofield, who was once one of the 21st Ward's most influential residents.

Mr. Schofield was born on August 13th 1832, in Lees, near Oldham, England. His father, Joseph Schofield, brought his family to the United States in 1845, and settled in Manayunk, where they engaged in manufacturing.

After some time spent at school in Norristown, Seville Schofield assumed charge of his father's mill, and later, purchased the mill of William McFadden, and transferred the business there. His father expired in 1857, and the son carried on the business without change until 1859, in which year, having married, he and his brother, Charles, formed a partnership, as S. and C. Schofield. The firm prospered annually, and in 1862 it was awarded a contract to make blankets for the U. S. Government. In the following year Charles Schofield retired. The trade continued to increase greatly and other mills were added, which after a complete equipment were ready to work, when in March 1867, the whole was destroyed by fire, the loss aggregating nearly a quarter million dollars. In 1868, Seville Schofield again started in business, and continued his former successes, becoming gradually one of the largest individual textile manufacturers in Pennsylvania.

The mill buildings of Mr. Schofield's firm comprised several structures, and were among the largest in Manayunk. The production included blankets, broadcloths, cassimeres, and worsted, woolen and carpet yarns. The full number of hands usually employed was about 1600 and the machinery was on a scale commensurate with the character of the works.

From some old correspondence, dated in 1914, we glean the following items concerning happenings in this section: "I was very sorry on Wednesday in receiving your letter to learn of the trouble coming back in your chest. I had hoped that it had left you for good, and wish that it may quickly be controlled by your physician. I do not like the "dope" remedy, because of its danger, so please be very careful how you use it, and be careful of lighted cigars. You might have a serious burn. Have you ever tried deep breathing? My old friend, James Milli-

gan, of the Chronicle, used to think it was one of the best and most effective exercises a person could take, and to it attributed his cure for stammering. I have found it very beneficial.

"I never knew so much about the Mr. James who formerly lived in the house J. Vaughan Merrick gave as a memorial hospital and house of mercy for St. Timothy's Church. I knew an Israel James, who lived in Roxborough, that conducted a flour mill in Manayunk. He was a Methodist and I think was one of the trustees of the Falls Methodist Church. He and my father were warm friends. I used to like to watch him taking pinches of snuff when I was a small boy.

"I was with Nathan L. Jones, Jr., today, at the annual meeting of the overseers of the Poor of Roxborough Township. He was the retiring secretary, having been succeeded by another man at the last election. The Poor House is located a full mile back from Ridge avenue, on Shawmont avenue, and I started to walk there, but was picked up by a man who was delivering ice cream for the annual dinner. I ate very sparingly of the food. On leaving the Home I was driven in an automobile down to the Wissahickon entrance of Fairmount Park. On the back part of Shawmont avenue, the snow is several feet deep, along the road.

"I suppose you saw in the newspapers where the Dobsons are going to erect a \$250,000 mill at the falls. Mr. Dobson said yesterday that the plans were merely in contemplation and would likely be carried out. It will be done for concentrating their numerous plants into one, as an act of economy and convenience. It will, I think, bring an increase of other business to the Falls of Schuylkill. The firm now has mills in Manayunk, Germantown, and Kensington, besides those at the Falls."

The origin of the name of the State of Pennsylvania, can be found in a letter of William Penn, its founder, dated January 5th 1681, from which the following is an extract:

"This day after many watchings, waitings, solicitings, and disputes in council, my country has been confirmed to me under the seal of England, with large powers and privileges, by the name of Pennsylvania—a name the king gave it in honor of my father. I chose New Wales, being a hilly country; when the secretary, a Welshman, refused to call it New Wales. I proposed Sylvania, and they added Penn to it, though I was much opposed to it, and went to the king to have it struck out. He said it was past, and he would not take upon him; for I feared it might be looked upon as a vanity in me, and not as a respect in the king to my father, as it really was."

The most romantic of all numbers is the figure nine, because it cannot be multiplied away, or disposed of anyhow. Whatever you do, it is as sure to turn up again as is the proverbial bad penny which is spoken of so often.

One remarkable property of this figure is, that all through the multiplication table the product of

nine comes to nine. Multiply by what you like and it gives the same result. Begin with twice nine, 18; add the digits together, and 1 and 8 make 9. Three times 9 are 27; and 2 and 7 make 9. So it goes on, up to eleven times nine which is 99. Very good, add the digits; 9 and 9 are 18; and 8 and 1 are 9. Going on in any extent it is impossible to get rid of the figure nine.

Take a couple of instances at random. Three hundred and thirty-nine times nine are 3,051; add up

the figures and they give nine. Five thousand and seventy-one times nine are 45,639; the sum of these digits is 27; and 2 and 7 are nine.

Another queer thing about this number; namely, if you take any row of figures, and reversing their order, make a subtraction sum of it, the total is sure to be nine. Take 5,071. Reverse the figures 1,705. Deduct the latter from the former and the result is 3,366. Add the digits together and they equal 18; or 1 and 8 is nine.

Yah! Yah Nein! Nein!
SOCAFF

12-22-1932

Now and Then

There are still some elderly people residing in the Falls of Schuylkill who can recall the ghost stories which were one time attached to the old Millin mansion which stood on a site now covered by the houses of Eveane street, just above Ridge avenue.

Whether the ghost stories had any foundation in fact I will leave to the same minded readers of this item, but there is a true story of the old house, concerning an incident that if it were to happen today there would probably be much rejoicing by some one.

While cutting for kindling wood, some old timbers from the Millin Mansion, which was torn down in 1895, John Shannon, who resided at Stanton and Cresson streets, came across what must have been a valuable find. In splitting a joist, Shannon tore off a board that had been nailed on one side of the heavier timber and out of a cavity rolled a parcel wrapped in heavy manna paper. Removing the covering, under which was a wadding of tin foil, he was surprised to see a roll of bank notes. He counted out fifteen \$100 bills, such as were in use before the United States used greenbacks, and a number of other bills of the denominations of \$20, \$5 and \$2, besides a quantity of old fashioned shin plasters, fractional currency, script and several Confederate notes. The bills bore dates ranging from 1802 to 1865, and had been issued by Towanda, Lancaster, Pittsburgh, and other banks throughout the state, one in Philadelphia, one in Fayetteville, South Carolina, and the Bank of the Commonwealth of Richmond, the whole representing more than \$15,000.

It is thought that the bills had been placed in the joist by the late John Stein, who owned and occupied the Millin Mansion and carried on a beer brewery and saloon on the premises during the Civil

War and from whose estate the property was purchased by William H. Albrecht, who erected the houses on Eveline and Frederick streets.

Last week we had the pleasure of seeing a photograph of a happy party who made one of the famous cruises up the Schuylkill, on the old steamer "Mozart."

Very few of the faces in that old picture were familiar to us, but men farther along in years were able to pick out a good many of their friends, some of whom are still hiking up the hills hereabouts, and still others who have made a greater ascent.

In July of 1895, the Mozart left for a four day trip up the river with the following persons aboard: M. W. Kerkesiager, H. Reeves Lukens, Emanuel Friedman, Max Himmereich, Howard M. Levering, John B. Preston, George Metzler, C. A. Rudolph, C. J. McClinchey, C. T. J. Preston, Josephus Yeaker, John Warner and Hiram Parker. ~~James A. Marce~~ and John W. Dodgson met the party at Reading and piloted the boat from there down. Those were the days!

As a matter of comparison it is interesting to note the various classes of property in the 21st Ward, subject to city taxes for 1893, which were as follows: Real estate (city rate) \$7,376,905; suburban rate, \$2,979,745; for a total of

\$10,398,925. Horses and cattle, \$79,545. Returns to the Secretary of Internal Affairs: Carriages to hire, \$1,250; money at interest, \$2,117,935.02; Place these figures alongside of similar ones for 1932.

Jacob Levering, the tenth of Wigard Levering's twelve children and the first born in Roxborough was the first resident of Manayunk. His father gave him 85 acres on the hillsides bordering the Schuylkill, along Green lane. Besides tilling the farm, Jacob Levering had a distillery which gave the name of Still House Run to a nearby stream.

Another Levering, William, founded the first school and the first tavern in Roxborough. He gave 20 perches of land on Ridge avenue between the sixth and seventh milestones in 1748, for a school. The deed reciting that the gift was made by William Levering and his wife, "for and in consideration of the love and regard they have and bear for the public good in having a school kept in their neighborhood." The William Levering School, at Ridge avenue and Gerhard street, is today standing on that same site.

Levering's inn, the Leverington Hotel of former years, was built in 1731, and it was first called the Fun Tavern. William's son, Nathaniel, succeeded as owner of the tavern and enlarged it in 1784. It was owned by subsequent generations of the family until 1858. The building, situated at Ridge and Leverington avenues, was used for hotel purposes until prohibition came into effect. In 1926, the old structure was removed and a theatre built on the site.

Eighty-five years ago Powers Weightman and Harrison came ou

from Ninth and Parrish streets, purchased ground from George Shronk and James Spence, upon which they built what is now the laboratory of the Merck Chemical Company.

One of the first things that was done was the erection of the rows of dwellings on the hill for the families of the men employed in the works. The entrance up the little valley passed a row of ancient dwellings which were torn down in 1857, and the present row erected. Back on the slope of the valley was the old farm house of John Roberts. On the top of the hill the present square building was erected at the instigation of Mr. Harrison, as a school house for the boys and girls of the workers, and a library and reading room for the men. These continued until the end of 1883, when Mr. Harrison withdrew from the firm. Shortly afterward the building was converted into dwellings. A Mrs. Twiggs was the first teacher of the school, and she was succeeded by James K. Finley who taught until the school was closed.

SCCAFF.

1/28/32

Now and Then

Appreciation is one of those things, which the younger generation says, "can only be found in the dictionary." And often this appears to be true. One instance is the matter-of-fact way in which most motorists utilize the East River Drive, a drive, the like of which exists in but few sections of the world.

One of those who was responsible for the creation of this beautiful stretch of roadway, along the winding Schuylkill, was Samuel Wynne, who long resided in the 21st Ward.

Samuel Wynne, who was a contractor, was a descendant of one of the oldest families of Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, which formerly extended down to, or near Belmont, on the west side of the Schuylkill. His ancestors came, with a colony of Friends, from Merionethshire, in Wales, in the year 1682. Mr. Wynne was born in 1818, on a farm which then occupied the site of the Christ Church Hospital, and for many years followed the farming business, at one time tilling the soil on a farm where Memorial Hall now stands.

He subsequently became a contractor, and early in the 70's constructed a large section of the East River Drive along the river. Failing health caused him to retire and he was afterwards a watchman on the Falls Bridge.

In the summer of 1893 he was stricken with paralysis, while on duty and never fully recovered, his death occurring on April 24th, 1895, at the residence of his daughter, on Freeland avenue, in Roxborough.

Descendants of the Wynne family are still residents of Roxborough.

Speaking of Lower Merion, brings up the name of another of that

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section's one-time prominent residents, Henry Jacobs, formerly the master mason for the Reading Railroad Company, who lived on Ashland avenue, in West Manayunk.

Mr. Jacobs was born in Pikeland township, Chester County, on January 28th, 1817, and after attending the country schools he learned the trade of stone mason, entering the employ of the railroad company, when he reached his majority.

In 1856, upon the death of Christian Swartz, a resident of the Falls of Schuylkill, whose son, the late James Simmons Swartz a few years ago erected a church school building to the memory of his father and mother, Mr. Jacobs was given charge of the mason work along the entire Reading line.

He built the Peacock Bridge, above Reading, and the Schuylkill Haven Bridge, and helped to construct the Flat Rock tunnel. He invented the brace derrick, or crane, which became extensively used. He also built the stonework of the Flat Rock and Conshohocken Dams, for the Schuylkill Navigation Company, and the large brownstone mansion, known as "Old Oaks," on the present site of the Atwater Kent offices, for a residence for the railroad president, Tucker.

In August of 1838, Mr. Jacobs was married to Mrs. Hester Boyer Rile, of Wissahickon, and the couple, for many years, resided at Manayunk.

Mrs. Jacobs was in her 97th year, when she survived her husband, who died on December 9th of 1896, having four children, ten grandchildren and five great grandchildren to join her in mourning her husband's demise.

At the foot of Robeson's Hill, which is a miserable place to have to wait for a street car on stormy days, there still stands a little cottage, on property which now belongs to the American Bridge Company. It is in the yard, close to the modern machine shop of that once busy manufacturing plant.

The dwelling was known to old residents of this vicinity, as Hope Cottage.

William Craven, who lived in it with his family, was born in Yorkshire, England, on September 23th, 1817. In 1856 he came to this country and settled in Massachusetts, where he became the manager of the Abbott Worsted Company's Mills, at Graniteville, near Lowell.

In 1866, Mr. Craven came to Wissahickon, and was employed as manager of the John and James Dobson Mills, on the Wissahickon Drive, at Ridge avenue.

When that old mill was demolished in 1872, by the Commissioners of Fairmount Park, Mr. Craven was given the management of the firm's extensive textile mills at the Falls of Schuylkill, a position he retained until 1880.

In October of that year Mr. Craven's only son, Horatio Craven, who owned a mill on Bodine street, near Columbia avenue, died, and the father assumed charge of the mill, continuing the manufacture of fine yarns.

Subsequently he took as a part-

ner, John Dearnley, of Wissahickon, and they traded under the name of Craven & Dearnley, until October of 1894, when the former retired.

Mr. Craven had been married on March 14th of 1841 to Mary Murgatroid, and when he died on May 20th of 1896, he was survived by his wife, three daughters, and seven grandchildren.

After reading of the call for a meeting of the Roxborough Express Horse Company, in last week's issue of THE SUBURBAN PRESS, we received a thrill, of some kind or another, when we ran across an item, in an old newspaper, dated February 26th, 1897.

The president of the Horse Thieves, thirty-five years ago was none other than Frank S. Whiteman; the secretary, Samuel S. Levering; and the treasurer, Maris Wright.

On February 24th, 1897, the group met at the Lafayette Hotel, for its 78th re-union. Of the fifty-one members of the Company, at that time, the following were present at the dinner in 1897: George R. Jones, Christian Reeh, Charles Righter, James Stafford, Henry Root, John Harner, Charles O. Struse, Nicholas Reimshart, Hiram R. Lippen, James Ashworth, Howard Yocum, Henry Loos, Ellwood Hagy, Robert Ruth, John W. Fritzinger, Garrett McMaster, John Struse, William Wein, H. Reeves Lukens, Craig Conover, Charles Todd, W. B. Bray, and John C. Heid.

Last Thursday night we were among the crowd which attended a meeting of the Breck Home and School Association, at the Samuel Breck School, which in the old days was known as the Forest School.

We were shown into a room, where as a lad we received elementary instruction under the tutelage of Miss Marion Nuneviller, a lady who taught children until a few years ago, when she retired and made her home in Germantown.

The name recalls James Nuneviller, who was widely known in the Falls of Schuylkill, from before the Civil War until just previous to the Spanish-American conflict. Mr. Nuneviller was a noted gunner, and for many years held a pigeon-shooting championship, a sport, in which, however, he never indulged in after its cruelty was made manifest.

In politics he was an avowed Democrat, having inherited the belief as did many other residents of old Penn Township, of which the Falls formed a part. During President Cleveland's first administration, Mr. Nuneviller held a position in the Custom House. He was one of the original members of the Monroe Democratic Club.

In early life he had married Catharine Lake, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Lake, proprietors, for many years, of the old Robin Hood Hotel, which stood a short distance below the south entrance of Laurel Hill Cemetery, on Ridge avenue.

SOCAFF

Now and Then

There are still plenty of residents of Roxborough who remember Lotus Inn, at the foot of Shur's lane hill, along the Wissahickon Creek, but we doubt if there are many who are alive that can recall who was responsible for that famous old hostelry being erected.

Perhaps the name of Frederick Miley has been forgotten. And then again, maybe it hasn't. However, it was he who built Lotus Inn, and it was under his management that the hotel attained its greatest praise as a stopping place for man and beast.

Miley was born in Philadelphia, October 20th 1837. In his youth he learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed for a short time after completing his apprenticeship. In 1859 he made an extended tour of Western United States, returning to his native city shortly before the outbreak of the Civil War. He very soon enlisted, going to Washington, D.C., where he was placed in charge of a force of bridge builders for the Army of the Potomac, in which "outfit" he served until the end of the conflict. He subsequently engaged in the carpenter business in the oil regions of Venango County for several years, and after returning to this city, obtained a position as a conductor on the Fourth and Eighth Street Passenger Railway. Later he opened a saloon and restaurant at Fifth and Chestnut streets, this business being continued at several other locations.

For years he took an active part in Republican politics, and was appointed a deputy sheriff, under Sheriff Enoch Taylor. After the end of Taylor's regime, he retired from politics, and in 1884 purchased a little cabin upon the site at Shur's lane and the Wissahickon Drive, where he later built Lotus Inn.

Mr. Miley was married when he was but 20 years of age, and after the death of his wife and five children, he again married, his second wife, three brothers, and two sisters, one of whom was the wife of ex-Mayor William S. Stokely surviving him when he died on Wednesday, July 29th 1896.

Paper-making, it seems, has always been one of the steadiest industries in the 21st Ward, probably because it was in this section that the first mill of its kind was erected on the Western Hemisphere.

Many have been the men sponsoring the paper mills and those employed in the factories. Probably no manufacturer was more prominent, in his time, than the late Jacob D. Heft.

Mr. Heft was born in Middletown, Dauphin County, Pa., in 1826. He learned the trade of stone mason and removed to Shaffers-town, in Lebanon County, where he was married to Elizabeth Stober. Mr. Heft subsequently engaged

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In cattle selling. In 1855 he removed to Roxborough, and purchased the Wissahickon Dye Works, at the foot of Leverington avenue, on the Wissahickon Creek.

During a cloud burst, in 1866, the dye works was swept away at a loss of \$80,000 on the buildings, stock and machinery.

In the meantime, Mr. Heft was associated with Sebastian A. Rudolph and John Dixon, in the manufacture of paper, at the Ashland Paper Mills, at the west end of the Green lane bridge, in West Manayunk, where he remained until 1870, when the partnership was dissolved.

After his loss on the Wissahickon, Mr. Heft purchased the Dexter Mills, and engaged in the

manufacture of woolen and cotton goods, and dyeing under the firm name of Heft & Ogle, and still later as Jacob D. Heft and Sons. In 1889 Mr. Heft retired from business and in 1891 removed to Honeybrook.

Mr. Heft was the father of seven children of whom two sons, Alfred S. and John G., and three daughters, Mrs. Josiah Linton, Mrs. Annie I. Nelson, and Mrs. A. May Ogle, survived their sire when he expired on Tuesday March 30 1897.

Every once in a while we hear of men and women who live in this vicinity, who have passed the four score milestone in the march of life, and wonder if, we too, possess the physical characteristics that will carry us along that far on this great adventure which is ours.

One of the long-living residents of the 21st Ward, which some of the older folk may remember, was John Funk, who lingered here for eighty-eight years before he was claimed by his Creator, in February of 1895.

John Funk was born at Port Richmond, on August 6th, of 1817, a few weeks after the death of his father. His mother, Susan Geiger Funk was a sister of the late Mrs. Joseph Ripka, whose husband carried on an extensive manufacturing business in Manayunk.

In 1836 Mr. Funk moved to Manayunk, where he established himself as a wheelwright and wagon builder. In 1850 he moved his place of business to Wissahickon, where he continued it until November of 1894, having given a half century to this work in the 21st Ward. He was succeeded by his two sons, Martin and Charles Funk.

Mr. Funk was married on April 29th 1839 to Christianna Hipple, of Roxborough. The couple celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1899, the wife dying about five weeks later. Of their thirteen children, seven daughters, and four sons survived their parents. There were also thirty grandchildren, who mourned the loss of Mr. and Mrs. John Funk.

Those whose thatches are now white, residing anywhere near the Schuylkill river in the days when canal and passenger boats plied the waters of that stream may recollect the name of Captain John Wolfington, the owner of the canal barge "Virden."

Captain Wolfington was born in Manayunk, on December 14th 1823, and learned boating with his father, John Wolfington, one of the

early settlers of this section. For a great many years he was one of the corps of men who piloted loaded craft from Manayunk to the Falls of Schuylkill. For in those days there were, as we suppose there still is--- many hidden rocks in the Schuylkill, and it required someone with a knowledge of their locations, to safely guide the boats up and down stream.

Toward the end of his time, Wolfington was principally engaged in hauling lime for the Delaware farmers. He was married in 1852 to Ann Eliza Murphy, who with sixth of their eight offspring; three sons and three daughters; with eight grandchildren, survived the old boatman.

Captain Wolfington left his home on Cedar street, Manayunk, in the middle of May, 1897, to take a boatload of lime from near Norris-town to Smyrna, Delaware, and was taken ill aboard his boat at the latter place. On May 27th he was brought to Philadelphia, on the steamer "Vansciver" and being too ill to be taken to his home in Manayunk, was removed to the Pennsylvania Hospital, where he expired on June 4th, 1897, sadly mourned by a legion of friends.

SCCAFF

44/32

Now and Then

To William Jones, of Haywood street, East Falls we are indebted for the following items, culled from the manuscript of an old-time manufacturing journal, published in the year, 1875, but of which, the name is unknown.

The first excerpt is a copy of the Preface of the old book: "Owing to circumstances entirely beyond the control of the Publisher, there has been a delay in the issue of this work. The crisis of September 1873, and the resulting depression of manufacturing interests made manufacturers indisposed to furnish information of which a few months, or even week, might radically change. The process of combination became therefore exceedingly slow, and it has only been by great exertion and by taking every advantage of the more settled and improved condition of business, that the work has been brought to completion at this time. Every effort has been put forth to protect the interests of the establishments sketched at an earlier day by the revision and correction of the sketches. This has entailed considerable expense, but the publisher trusts he will receive his reward in the recognition by the public of his earnest endeavor to present something like a reliable and worthy record of the principal manufactories and most prominent manufacturers of the greatest manufacturing State in the Union."

The second excerpt relates to the old Hohenadel Brewery, at the Falls of Schuylkill, part of which is in ruins, east of Midvale avenue, at Arnold street, and the remainder

of the site is covered by East Falls station of the Reading railroad.

"Falls Park Brewery, located at the Falls of Schuylkill, Twenty-Eighth Ward, Philadelphia, occupies a site formerly owned by Richard Penn Smith, from whom it was purchased in 1857. The buildings having been completed by Joseph Steppacher, in 1859, he operated it until September 1870, when Jacob Hohenadel, the present proprietor, purchased it from Peter Schemm. The property includes about six acres, with a beautifully shaded park for accommodations for picnics and private parties. On one side of the grove stands the brewery, a building about 100 by 55 feet; and being built in the side of a bank, with four vaults hewn from the solid rock, each 30 by 142 feet. It varies from three to five stories in height. Within the brewery there are fine springs of water, furnishing an abundant supply, while upon the premises are other large springs. It now employs about thirteen men, producing 8000 barrels of lager beer per annum; but there is capacity for the production of more than double the quantity. It is supplied with all the best appliances for brewing a superior article of beer.

"Jacob Hohenadel was born in Hesse, Darmstadt, Germany, August

19th, 1838. He came to the United States with his father, about 1852, and worked on a farm in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, until 1858, when he entered the brewery of Bergdoll and Psotta, at Fairmount. In 1864, he commenced business on his own account, at Broad and Cumberland streets, where he operated a brewery until his purchase of his present property. With few early advantages, he has made his own way in life, and has achieved success by indomitable energy and untiring industry."

Before me there is a newspaper clipping, of July 19, 1909, concerning a story, told by Thomas Burton, a former resident of the 21st Ward, who was born in Manayunk, on July 3rd 1829.

"I'll never forget the day," said Mr. Burton, "I was first employed by Harry White to drive a team of mules between here and Fairmount on the towpath. I was then 15 years old. The next year I became one of the crew of John Adams' "Dolly Madison," a lime schooner. Later Hiram Green and I bought the coal barge "General Taylor." We continued together through the fifties. At the commencement of the Civil War, I joined the Manayunk Blues, and served for three months. I then re-enlisted in the 88th Pennsylvania Regiment, in Captain Belsterling's Company, while the camp was in the meadow along the Schuylkill, below Wissahickon Creek.

"We had a pretty hot experience all through the balance of the war." Baring his left forearm and pointing to a scar he continued. "This is the only memento I have of the war. A Johnny Reb plugged me in the arm one night while I was on picket duty along the Rappahannock Valley. Coming back from the war I only stayed here a year, when I removed to West Virginia. I had a ride yesterday in an automobile down along the old Schuylkill. It is now a more artistic look-

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ing stream than it was when I boated on it, but it no longer looks as it then did. Man's work of art has spoiled Nature's work. The old rugged shore coves have been straightened out, and the fine willows, birch and other trees that used to bend down to kiss the river have been replaced with cold walls.

"What a pleasure it used to be, in passing up and down the river between here and Fairmount, to watch the crowds of happy passengers on the old steamboats, 'Frederic Graff'; 'Reindeer'; and 'Wissahickon'; What a number of bridges now span the river! When I boated there were only these bridges: The wire suspension bridge at Fairmount, below the dam; the Columbia covered bridge, over which the cars were run to the inclined plane at the west end of the bridge; the Reading Railroad and the toll bridges at the Falls of Schuylkill; the towpath and the toll bridges at Manayunk. Girard Avenue Bridge, a frame structure, had just been built before the war.

"Just below here, on the west side of the river was a pretty little

village that has been swallowed up by the Pencoed Iron Works. These works were started in the early fifties by Algernon and Percival Roberts, as an iron foundry and a rolling mill for railroad car axles. Down at the Falls were Simpson's silk handkerchief and calico print works. Down by Columbia Bridge was Belmont Cottage, a picnic resort, while on the east side of the river was Bridgeton, with its once famous hotel kept by Richard Van Loo. For a number of years after I first started boating Peters Island contained a good sized hotel of which Jennie Edwards was the proprietress. All these old-time attractions have disappeared and the river is not what it once was.

"I went to town last Friday; rode down on the Reading Railway from Wissahickon, and came back on Ridge avenue trolley. I was lost, as I rode along what was old Ridge road turnpike, I looked in vain for the old time taverns which in the long ago were well known to most who drove along that winding highway. I used to ride down town and back on John Crawford's coach. It was a long ride for 25 cents each way. The coach horses were accustomed to stopping at most of the taverns to be watered, which gave the passengers plenty of chances to wet their whistles."

When asked if he had been along the Wissahickon, Mr. Burton replied, "Yes, and I greatly enjoyed the ride. It is a most beautiful valley and you Philadelphians ought to be proud that it is owned by the city. I recollect how we used to walk along the creek in picnic times and of skating on its smooth surface in winter. There is a great change since I was a youngster, though. We boys used to go down to the creek for log wood to dye Easter eggs. On the lower side of the Ridge was a logwood grinding mill close beside the old saw mill.

On the other side of the Pike was Robeson's grist mill.

"I see the old house still stands on the lower side of the drive. Take away the porches and replace the old rose garden and the huge buttonball trees with the little cottages on the other side of the pike, and it would be as I remembered it once was. At the turn of the Wissa-

hickon Drive used to be a tollgate. Harry Lippen's, Wissahickon Hall, the only one of the one-time resorts remaining looks as it once did, but I missed the big ice houses that stood just west of the hall. Tommy Llewellyn's Log Cabin ought to have been preserved. I recollect when the Rittenhouses, Jones', Leverings, and other Whigs hauled the little log cabin during the political campaign of General William H. Harrison, in 1840, although I was only a little boy. Bill Benson's Hermitage was another famous picnic resort that has been wiped out of existence."

When asked about the men he knew in this vicinity, before going to West Virginia, Mr. Burton remembered, Billy McFadden, who kept the boatmen's store at the canal locks; John Wimpenny, John Bowker, James Clegg, David Wallace, Jesse Shoemaker, William Holt, William Laycock, Thomas Shronk, George Shronk, John Thomas, John Thompson, Perry Levering, James Shaw, a burgess; Joseph Ripka, another burgess; George Glanding George Armitage, Thomas Armitage, Peter Singer, Frazer Balliff, and Andrew Dunlap

Mr. Burton, at the time of this conversation with the newspaper-

man, was celebrating his 80th birthday, by visiting his grandson, Howard Thomas, who lived on Port Royal avenue, in Roxborough.

SCCAFF

7/19/34

Now and Then

In an old directory of Manayunk, Roxborough and the Falls of Schuylkill, of a half-century ago, is an interesting record of the fraternal orders which existed at that time, with the names of the officers then in charge.

The local Odd Fellows assembled at various places in this vicinity. Manayunk Lodge No. 31, which was organized on August 24th 1830, met in Odd Fellows Hall, on Baker street above Green lane, every Saturday evening. The officers were N. G. Joseph Garth; V. G., H. B. Wimpenny; A. S., Thomas N. Allison; Secretary, James Berry; treasurer, James Duncan, and trustees, John McCook, Benjamin Jaggers and Francis Levering.

Industry Lodge No. 130 I. O. O. F., organized on November 15th 1845, met in the same hall as Manayunk Lodge, on Tuesday evenings. The officers were: N. G., John R. Bradshaw; V. G., John F. Horrocks; Secretary, Rudolph Gallati; Assistant Secretary, Solomon B. Steinrook; treasurer, William Smith, and representative to the Grand Lodge, James Plant. The trustees were Lewis Bean, Isaac Wilde and Richard B. Ott.

Roxborough Lodge, No. 66, instituted May 28th 1841, met in Odd Fellows Hall, Ridge and Lyceum avenues, on Saturday nights. The leaders were: N. G., H. C. Whiteman; V. G., James O. Holgate; Secretary, F. S. Whiteman; Assistant secretary, C. C. Crosdale; treasurer, William H. Harner, and

representative to the Grand Lodge, William Ring.

Andrew Jackson Encampment No. 9, I. O. O. F., organized on June 16th 1842, met in the Manayunk Odd Fellows Hall, on 1st and 3rd Thursdays. Henry Wilde was Chief Patriarch; Henry Woolman was H. P., the S. W. was Charles Hunsberger; J. W., Henry R. Lukens; Scribe, Rudolph Gallati; treasurer, William Leech; and trustees, John Bowers, Louis Freedman and Richard B. Ott.

The Roxborough Encampment, instituted November 29th 1847, had a membership of seventy. The officers were: C. P., James O. Holgate; S. W., August Peterman, J. W., H. C. Whiteman; Scribe, George B. Levering; treasurer, J. B. Righter and H. P., Richard Cope. This group met on 1st and 3rd Wednesdays in Odd Fellows Hall, Roxborough.

Falls of Schuylkill Lodge No. 467, had a roll of 226. It met on Monday evenings in Odd Fellows Hall, at Ridge and Midvale avenues. The officers were: N. G., C. M. Green; V. G., E. G. Smith; secretary, James A. Mills; assistant secretary, John Gidley; treasurer, William R. Swartz; representative to the Grand Lodge, John Burke. The Falls of Schuylkill Encampment, instituted May 7th 1867, had 72 members. The officers were: C. P., E. C. Leidy; S. W., C. M. Green; J. W., John Speck; H. P., H. E. Green; Scribe, C. Whalley and treasurer, J. J. Righter.

The Masonic lodges were, as at present, Roxborough Lodge No. 135 and Palestine Lodge No. 470.

The former met at Masonic Hall, at Main and Cotton street. It was organized April 3rd 1813. In 1883-84 the officers were: W. M., John M. Hodson; J. W. A., A. W. Givin; treasurer, William Walter Shaw; S. W., James G. Brooks, and secretary, Thomas McCully.

Palestine Lodge met in Odd Fellows Hall, Ridge and Midvale avenues, on the 4th Tuesday of each month. It had been constituted on May 17th 1870. The 1883-84 officers were: W. M., J. J. Righter; S. W., Frank Boutcher; J. W., W. R. Swartz; secretary, James A. Mills, and treasurer, Charles K. Sorber.

Camp Fifty, of the P. O. S. of A., which had been organized May 28, 1858, in Manayunk, was re-chartered in Roxborough, on March 18, 1869. Fifty years ago it had a membership of one hundred, and met every Thursday night, in Lyceum Hall, at Ridge and Lyceum avenues, Roxborough. The officers were: President, Harry Donnell; V. P., Charles Dewees; Recording secretary, William H. Taylor.

Camp No. 111, of the P. O. S. of A., organized October 19th, 1874, met every Tuesday at Masonic Hall, Manayunk. The officers were: President, J. H. Reynolds; Vice president, John H. Fisher, M. of I and C., John A. Ehly, and recording secretary, John F. Miller.

The Red Men boasted of three wigwams: Manaiung Tribe No. 118, of Manayunk; Wawatam Tribe, No. 63 of Roxborough; and Wyalusing Tribe No. 56, at the Falls of Schuylkill.

Manaiung Tribe was organized March 2nd 1870 and at 1883 had a membership of 98. It met every Friday evening at Temperance Hall, (Dixie Rose Theatre) Manayunk. The Sachem was Samuel Grow; Senior Sagamore, Samuel H. Grove; Junior Sagamore, John S. Fryer and Chief of the Records, W. R. Davis.

Wawatam Tribe, instituted February 26th 1868, met at Lyceum Hall, on Thursday evenings. The officers were: Sachem, Anthony A. Wetherill; Senior Sagamore, Joseph Lilly; Junior Sagamore, Louis Smick; Prophet, William W. Nace; Chief of Records, Charles F. Hardie; Keeper of Wumpum, Samuel Strout and representative to the Grand Council, William Carl.

Wyalusing Tribe, which assembled every Friday night in Odd Fellows Hall, at Ridge and Midvale avenues, was instituted on July 16th, 1861. In 1883 the officers were: Sachem, George Kinton; Senior Sagamore, Giles S. Stafford; Junior Sagamore, Robert Tweedie; Chief of Records, Theodore S. Marley; Keeper of Wampum, Edward Foster.

There were other fraternal organizations, beneficial, and temperance societies, all of which had large enrollments. Among these were Cicero Lodge No. 73 K. of P., of Manayunk; the Sons of St. George, Collingswood Lodge No. 17, of Manayunk; Manayunk Division No. 54, Sons of Temperance; St. John's T. A. B. Society, of which Patrick Curran was president; St. John's T. A. B. Cadets, with Charles McCoy as its 1883 leader; St. Bridget's T. A. B. Society, William Conery, President; Sons of Joshua, Loyal Orange Lodge No. 555, of Wissahickon; St. Peter's Beneficial Society, of Manayunk; the Rev. David Mulholland Society, of which Levi Hendricks was president; the Washington Beneficial Society; the Manayunk Beneficial Society, St. Timothy's Yearly Beneficial Society, with J. V. Merrick as president; the St. Joseph's Society and others of lesser prominence, to which most of the men and boys of this area belonged in a day when diversion was largely found in the lodge room and similar meeting places.

SCCAFF

2/9/33

Now and Then

People often stop to admire the lines and the stonework of the parish house at St. James the Less Church, on Clearfield street, in the Falls of Schuylkill, and wonder as to its age and history.

The building was erected in 1917. It was dedicated in December of that year, on a Saturday afternoon, by Bishop Thomas Garland, assisted by the Rev. Edward Ritchie, in the presence of a large congregation of people.

It was made possible by Mrs. H. Wilson Catherwood, of Philadelphia, as a memorial for her daughter, Mrs. Alfred Tucker. The site was donated by Mrs. Elizabeth Dobson Riddle, and her niece, Mrs. Walter Jefford. The building is of Gothic style and contains a large assembly room, a fully equipped gymnasium and numerous other rooms. It is on Clearfield street, near 33rd, and opposite the old parish house, rectory and sexton's house. The old parish house was built about 1887, by the late John Dobson.

There are still many frequenters of Fairmount Park who remember "Bob" Tweedie, one of the Park Guards, who once patrolled the walks, drives and woods of the world's greatest playground.

Tweedie was born in Ireland, on April 30th 1854, and came to this section in 1872, where he settled at the Falls, and continued to reside there until 1916, when he moved to West Philadelphia.

At the Falls he was first employed at the Dobson Mills, and in the laboratory of Powers & Weightman, until 188, when he was appointed to the Park police force. He served with this body until 1917, when he retired and went on the pension list. He was widely known throughout this vicinity and when his death occurred in January of 1918, his loss was sadly mourned by a great host of friends.

And old letter, tells a local story of the freshets which used to occur along the Schuylkill river in the old days, which have seldom been witnessed by the youth of today.

The missive, sent by a former resident of this neighborhood, to a friend, much younger in years, who still resides here, reads as follows: "I'm glad that I didn't live near the river in my young days, and while

I do not want to be regarded as an alarmist, let me tell you that if there should happen to come a rapid thaw, or a heavy rain, the Schuylkill river, as tame as it seems, is a real danger. I witnessed the freshet of September 1850, when the Domino lane, or Flat Rock, bridge went down the river and knocked out the western span of the old wooden bridge at the Falls. I also saw the freshet of 1869, and others since then, but any winter that a real freeze and break-up comes is likely to equal any of them. Ice freshets are as near an irresistible force as anything I have watched, and with ice more than a foot thick on the upper dams, one may look for something appalling, unless there should be a gradual breaking up following a severe winter."

As he drove past the new buildings of St. Bridget's Church, in East Falls, one day recently, a man remarked to his companion, "I know an interesting tale about the old church which stood in the rear of the modern structure, which is worth passing along. My father told me about it."

It appears that the father of the man who was speaking had attended the laying of the cornerstone of the old church, which still stands on Stanton street. He said that the stone had been laid by the late Archbishop Wood. It was a long time before the edifice was completed, but services were held in it soon after the roof was put on.

"Rev. James Cullen", related the man, "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 Rev. Thomas Fox. At the time of the laying of the cornerstone, the parish adjoined that of St. John the Baptist, Manayunk, and St. Stephen's, in Nicetown, and took in a large territory west of the Schuylkill river."

SCCAFF.

Now and Then

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Eighty-five years ago, Powers, Weightman & Harrison, came out from Ninth and Parrish streets, purchased ground in the Falls of Schuylkill, from George Shronk and James Spence, upon which they built their chemical laboratory, and the rows of dwellings on the hill, for the families of the workmen.

The entrance up the little valley passed a row of ancient dwellings which were torn down in 1847, and the present row erected. Back, on the south slope of the valley, was the old farmhouse in which John Roberts was the last farmer to reside. On the brow of the hill, just above the present livery stable, a square building, which is now dwellings, was erected for a school. This was done at the order of Mr. Harrison, for the benefit of the children of the men who were employed at the laboratory. In it there was also a library and reading room for the grownups.

The school and library continued until 1853, when Mr. Harrison withdrew from the firm, and shortly afterward the structure was made into dwellings. A Mrs. Twiggs was the first teacher of the school. She was succeeded by James Finley, who taught at the place, until it closed.

There are still plenty of people who remember Dr. William J. Hall, Falls of Schuylkill physician and apothecary, who established the drug store at 35th and Indian Queen lane.

Dr. Hall was a kindly man, and held the highest respect of his neighbors in the Falls. He died December 22nd, 1895, following an illness of several weeks. Dr. Hall was born in England, in 1864, and graduated from the Jefferson Medical College in the Class of 1886. In February of 1890 he was married to Miss Minnie A. Gee, who, with two children, William and Grace, survived. Mrs. Hall continued the drug store, for many years, after her husband's demise, before she, too, was claimed by death.

Sometime, when you are fretting and fuming about having to wait a few moments for a busy telephone line to be cleared, think of the conditions which prevailed in 1895, which according to a report in a newspaper of that year was as follows:

"With the exception of one public telephone, residents of Manayunk, Roxborough, Wissahickon and the Falls of Schuylkill, are without telephone service after 6 o'clock in the evenings and on Sundays. The Manayunk station (exchange) with which the other telephones are connected, closes on the minute of 6 o'clock. Persons having telephones in their offices are desirous of knowing why they are deprived of service while the public station is continued in use all night and on Sundays. The matter will probably be brought before the managers of the telephone company at an early date." And then be patient!

SCCAFF.

3/24/92
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9/9/34

Now and Then

"Main street, in Manayunk," said an old man standing in front of the firehouse of Truck 25, "is a far different place than it was 65 years ago.

"The storekeepers of that day are all dead and gone. Towers Ogle, who kept the grocery store on the corner of Green lane and Main street, and Doctor Uhler's drug store, on the opposite corner, and across the way the little old office on the end of the wooden Pay Bridge that was carried away in the flood of October 4th 1869, have all disappeared.

"I can remember the old toll gate keeper at the bridge, Johnny Owens. He was a jolly old chap, who was never at loss for a joke. He had a voice that could be heard at the other end of the bridge in West Manayunk when he whispered. The only man who had a louder voice was Elmer Rawley. Rawley was in the lime business, as was also Lew Hagy and Old Man Dager. I can readily recall one time when Elmer came over the old bridge with a load of hay that he had purchased from Billy Howell, over on the west side. Elmer complained to Johnny Owens about the price Billy had charged him. Johnny, of course, was very sympathetic. Elmer, a little hard of hearing, thought that he must speak loud for Johnny to hear him. And Johnny knew that Elmer was partly deaf. Well, the ruckus they raised made the police lieutenant, at the Station House, which was then down in back of Masonic Hall, send two officers up to the Pay Bridge to see what was causing the riot. They returned with smiles on their faces.

"Warner Roberts lived over in West Manayunk, almost at the top of the hill on Belmont avenue, where he had several acres of farmland. It is now part of a cemetery. Roberts was fond of coming over to Main street of a Saturday night and stopping to gossip a little with the storekeepers, all of whom he knew very well.

"I can still bring back to mind many of the old time merchants. There was Johnny McVey, who sold dry goods and notions; who had two of the cleverest daughters, Julia and Kate, you ever did see. They were both good-looking. I, and many another local lad, often bought things in that store that we didn't want, just to stop in and have a few words with one or the other of those girls. I one time bought seven yards of fancy-looking goods that I took home to my mother for a dress. She laughed until I thought she would die, when she saw it. She told me to take it back and exchange it for something she could wear without fear of being arrested for donning the American flag for a dress. So I lugged the package back to John Baer's shoe store and swapped it for a pair of shoes for 'the mother.' I was afraid to take it back to McVey's in fear that the girls would laugh at me.

"Jim Frazier was the local under-

taker in those days. With Jim a funeral was an event. He used to say that he was looking forward to the time when he could bury George Tappen, the latter, but that jest-desire was denied him, for Tappen outlived the undertaker.

"I can even recall the store that stood on the corner of Main and Levering street, where Howard Kerkeslager's is now, before Neil McGlinchey had his place there. It was a notion store, kept by Mrs. Rowbottom. John Bowker's millinery store was on the other corner, where the bank building is. Bill Entekin shot photographs across the street, and one time sued Jim Milligan, editor of the Chronicle for libel.

"Yes, the old street has changed!"

When the people up in the most recently built-up section of Midvale avenue, near and above Henry avenue, found that the piece of ground on the northeast corner of Midvale and Henry avenues was not restricted for commercial purposes, they soon assembled and bought the land, and later it came into possession of the Fairmount Park Commission.

Recently it was graded and placed in park-like condition by men given work under Federal moves to eliminate unemployment as much as possible. Today it presents a most pleasing appearance.

Up until May of 1902, the site offered a very different appearance. Most of the land was in a deep ravine, and at the upper end of the tract was a deep pool of water in which a two story house could have been completely submerged. The hillside ran up toward School House lane. Cedar lane, now gone, found its way from the crest of the hill to School House lane, about a square above what is now Henry avenue.

There was an old two-story stone house just about where the little frame building stands at the

corner of Henry and Midvale avenues today. In its latter days it was occupied by an Italian family named Delassio. The structure is supposed to have been erected in the early seventeenth hundreds, and was a roadhouse on a trail which led from Ridge avenue to the King of Prussia Tavern, on Germantown avenue, about where the Germantown Theatre is now located. The old inn, along the course of Midvale avenue, was managed by a widow who afterward married the proprietor of a similar tavern in Germantown. Afterward the place became a private house, and several prominent Falls families resided there. Still later it became part of the Warden property, and thus became a part of the Queen Lane Manor development.

One of the old-time business men of the East Falls section was George Matson, who conducted a dry goods store. He had been born in England and came to this country and ended his days here. Three of his nieces were Mrs. Clifton Tasker, Mrs. Eli Emsley and Mrs. Edward Hayes, all of whom resided here.

SCHAFF

1933

52

Now and Then

A resident of Roxborough, on Friday sent us the following letter concerning Frederick R. Peterman, who once had charge of the stone work done on Reading Railroad projects, who was her grandfather.

"Dear Sir:

A few weeks ago there was an article in THE SUBURBAN PRESS about the Wissahickon bridge. In looking through a box of old newspaper clippings I found the enclosed, taken from the Manayunk Chronicle.

You will notice that Frederick R. Peterman, (my grandfather) erected the abutments of the bridge. I have at the present time a large picture of the bridge taken just after it was finished. Your articles of historical interest are greatly enjoyed and usually kept for future reference.

Sincerely yours,

A Regular Reader"

The clipping which was enclosed in the envelope reads as follows:

"I received a letter last Friday from Mrs. James L. Marlin, of 4717 Fowler street, Manayunk, in which she informed me that her father, Frederick Peterman had erected the abutments of the Reading Railroad bridge on Ridge avenue, above Scotts lane, and that I had made a mistake in calling him Jacob Peterman in an article on the bridge, in a recent issue of the Chronicle. In the letter was this interesting data regarding the High Bridge which spans the Wissahickon Creek.

"My father built the first abutment and then it was given out on contract to Nolan Brothers. William Lorenz was the chief engineer; C. W. Buckholtz assistant engineer. The dimensions are: Length, 540 feet; 5 arches with seventy feet span each; 4 arches with ten feet each. The height from the Park drive to subgrade is 80 feet; from the bottom of the foundation to rail, 103 feet. I remember one time saying to my father, I wished that he could have finished the bridge, as it would be a great monument to have, when he replied, "There is something more to be proud of than building the bridge, and that is the laying of the foundation, for if the foundation is poor the work will not be good." He was superintendent of masonry for the Reading Railroad for 38 years."

R. R. S."

Stuart Hunt, of the Laurel Hill Cemetery Company, is another who sent a letter to this office on Friday, which says, in part: "I read with pleasure and interest your article in THE SUBURBAN PRESS, about the notables buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery.—Perhaps you would find interesting the fact that in this cemetery, that lacks but two years till it reaches the century mark, are buried thirty-five soldiers and patriots of the Revo-

lution. Ten of Philadelphia's most outstanding mayors chose this spot as their final resting place.

"Several years ago a Mr. Joseph Jackson, wrote to the Public Ledger selecting a list of one hundred names of Philadelphians who had gained the greatest national repute. Of these twenty-four were buried in this cemetery. I am enclosing this list."

The enclosure contained the names of Charles Thomson, David Rittenhouse, Richard Rush, Sarah Josepha Hale, George Gordon Meade, Thomas Buchanan Read, George Henry Boker, George William Childs, Horace H. Furness, Edwin J. Houston, Richard Dale, William Duane, Thomas Sully, John Bouvier, Thomas Godfrey, Sr., Adam Seyfert, Robert M. Bird, Paul B. Goddard, Henry Beck Hirst, George Rex Graham, Wil-

liam Henry Fry, David Scull Bispham, Boles Penrose, and William Weightman.

In 1850 Cornelius De Groot, a marble cutter, came to the Falls and for a short while worked in the Reardon Brothers marble works at Laurel Hill before starting in business for himself. Mr. De Groot was a noted singer having a baritone voice of unusual volume. He organized and taught a singing class in the Falls Baptist Church, and formed and led the choir. In those days there was no accompanist so he took the key note from a steel tuning fork. He subsequently became a member of the church. He was a School Director and a Past Master of Roxborough Lodge No. 135, F. and A. M. It was he who erected the imposing entrance to Mount Vernon cemetery. Mrs. De Groot was also a singer and sang soprano. She, however, could never master the notes, singing by ear. He would softly whistle her parts and she would go through an anthem without an error. They had two sons, Cornelius, Jr., and Charles Abbot De Groot. The latter adopted his father's business, and at one time worked for Peter Bechtel in Roxborough.

SCCAFF

6/24/33

Now and Then

While riding along Ridge avenue, in a Route "R" bus, the other day, a middle-aged man stated that his father had told him of the time when there were but two houses on the west or Park side of the thoroughfare between Midvale avenue and within a short distance of the Wissahickon Creek.

That was going back a long way, for according to all available records such a condition has never existed since 1845. At that time the house of William Griffith was being altered by Bobby Evans into what he called Fountain Park Hotel, and which was the nucleus of the buildings long known as the Cafe De Riviera, which was recently torn down.

The other dwelling was the Shronk homestead, now used as a

storehouse by the Merck Chemical Company.

In 1845 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 dwelling on the upper part of the recovered property. The rest he parcelled 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 property. At the lower end was a 20 foot wide street known as Shronk's fishing lane, adjoining the Riviera property, of which a title clause said: "to be used forever by the family 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's Hall. This is now the Primary Department of the Grace Reformed Sunday School. The part south of the bridge was sold at public sale and was bought for \$850 by William Stehle, a Manayunk baker, who in 1850 built his home and "bake" shop. William and Peter Shronk each built their homes in 1849. Prior to the deciding of the case in equity the grounds of the Shronk homestead were noted for the apple, pear and cherry orchards of which one or two of the old apple trees remained until about 20 years ago. Along the river was located the once celebrated fishery owned and conducted with marked success by Godfrey Shronk, until the constructing of Fairmount dam in 1841 put a stop to the run of shad and herring up the river.

Few people know how newspapers and newspapermen came to be known as "the Fourth Estate," which came about because of the great influence of the press in government and public affairs in England. In Great Britain, as well as France, the Church, the nobility, and the common people were called the three estates of the realm. Who first described the press as the fourth estate is a disputed question. In "Heroes and Hero Worship" Thomas Carlyle says: "Burke said there were three estates in Parliament; but in the reporters' gallery yonder there sat a Fourth Estate more important far than they all."

It is not quite clear whether Carlyle intended to quote the exact words of Burke. At any rate the phrase does not appear in any of Burke's published writings. Three years before Carlyle published the book mentioned he published "The Fourth Estate." It contains the sentence: "A Fourth Estate of Able Editors, springs up." Macauley had used the same phrase as early as 1828.

Only recently Charles Gilliard, of Rector street, Roxborough, brought to mind in a conversation, William B. N. Gifford, who many years ago published a newspaper at the Falls of Schuylkill.

The paper was a splendid success and was called The Falls Advertiser and Riverside Gazette. The office was located on Ridge avenue

and was sold in 1884 to Warren Watson who challenged its name. Gifford came to the Falls a few years after the end of the Civil War and being a practical nurse, made a living by sitting up with sick members of beneficial societies being paid by the members whose turn it was to sit up. He was a carpenter and for a time was employed in the Powers & Weightman laboratory. Mr. Gifford was a consistent member of the Methodist church and one of the best men who ever came to the Falls, consequently everybody had a strong regard for him and his manly qualities. Had he retained possession of the paper he might have made it a financial success. His last employment was in Dobson's mills as a carpenter and there met his death by being wound around shafting in the dye house, an event that caused a widespread sorrow.

SCCAFF

6-8-33

Now and Then

With the death, last week, of Mrs. Hampton L. Carson, an old Falls of Schuylkill family is recalled.

The husband of the recently deceased woman, was Hampton L. Carson, former Attorney General of Pennsylvania, and president of the Pennsylvania Historical Society. He was born in Philadelphia, on February 21st 1852, being the son of Dr. Joseph B. Carson, whose local estate is occupied by the present Samuel Breck Public School.

Dr. Carson, who spent a great deal of his latter days at the Falls, was for more than 25 years the professor of materia medica at the University of Pennsylvania.

One of the maternal ancestors came over on the "Welcome," with William Penn, and another was a judge in the state of New Jersey.

Hampton L. 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 offices of William H. Tilghman, later becoming 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 joined with J. Levering Jones, of Roxborough ancestry, and William Redding in forming the law firm of Redding, Jones and Carson. He also became one of the editors of the Legal Gazette. His death occurred several years ago.

The passing away in June of 1895, of such a man as H. H. Houston, of Chestnut Hill, was a public loss. He was a man of large views and had the courage of his convictions—as witness his generous expenditures in the line of vast enterprises in which the people had a share. It is well known here that he was the originator of the plan—still unfulfilled—of a great concourse, reaching from Chestnut Hill to Rosemont or Ardmore, on the western side of the Schuylkill; and also that he made considerable

purchases of property in upper Roxborough with that end in view, and also looking to another great improvement—also halted for all time—of a steam road from the city along the eastern border of Roxborough. A contemporary said of him:

Mr. Houston whose ancestry traces back to the chivalrous days of Scotland, was the son of Samuel Nelson Houston, and was born near Wrightsville, York county, October, 1820. His early life was spent at Wrightsville and Columbia, and in 1856 he married Miss Sarah S. Bennell. Upon leaving school he engaged in mercantile pursuits, and soon after became connected with the iron furnaces in Clarion and Venango counties.

In 1847 he entered the office of D. Leech & Co. in Philadelphia, who were prominent in canal and railroad transportation. He attended to the important interests of this company in Philadelphia and New York and throughout Pennsylvania until 1850. During this time he carefully learned the business of transportation in general and in detail.

Col William B. Patterson, then President of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, selected Mr. Houston to organize and manage the freight business of the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh line. In this position he proved himself to be the right man in the right place, and continued in charge of the freight department until 1856. Mr. Houston had been a successful investor in the oil regions of Pennsylvania, and in the gold and silver mines of Colorado and Montana. He was for fourteen years a director of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company was interested in many educational institutions, and was a prominent member of the Episcopal Church.

He was a trustee of Washington and Lee University of Lexington, Va., and a trustee of the University of Pennsylvania, to which he gave \$100,000 to be devoted to the purpose of erecting a building to be known as Houston Hall, a memorial to his son, Henry Howard Houston, Jr., who died years ago of Roman fever while traveling in Europe.

SCCAFF

6-15-1933

Now and Then

Another anniversary that never fails to elicit interest occurred on Tuesday, the natal day of John Fanning Watson, author of the "Annals of Philadelphia" which have been a source of delight and instruction to lovers of history lore for more than a century. Publication of the original single volume edition in 1830 was of more than local significance, for it marked the first serious attempt to gather source material of local history in America and was widely regarded as a model to be duplicated in all of the larger cities of the Eastern seaboard.

While it has become a habit, in recent years, to depreciate Watson

as a historian because of his lack of the critical faculty, the Annals, expanded to two volumes in 1842 and later appearing with a supplement containing the notes of Willis P. Hazard, continue among the best sellers dealing with Philadelphia history. The author, who resided in Germantown and was a bank cashier, made no pretension of being a historical scholar; he contented himself with collecting every scrap of information that came within his purview bearing on the life of the Quaker City and its inhabitants. To this labor of love he gave all of his leisure hours for more than thirty years, taking particular pains to interview every aged person with whom he came in contact. Many of the errors into which he was led in his enormous compilation of notes, sketches and anecdotes arose in placing implicit reliance upon the imperfect recollections of old age.

Whatever its shortcomings—and they are far outweighed by its merits—the fact remains that Watson's Annals represents the first attempt to record the story of the Birthplace of the Nation and that it provided the inspiration that led Thompson Westcott to begin the researches that resulted in his authentic narrative of two centuries of Philadelphia history.

Churches are beating the depression. Gains in membership and attendance are practical proofs of it. More convincing still is the testimony of a heightened interest in church work and a definite gain in spiritual values.

A survey of the depression status of representative churches, conducted by a national church editor verifies what many have noted—a disposition of many harried by the blows of depression to seek the solace of religion.

Financially the churches are having their troubles. Subscriptions for the support of the church vie with doctors' bills in slow payment. These congregations which built costly homes on the strength of probable trends in suburban growth are meeting the same obstacles which harass secular investors.

Budgets generally have been curtailed, but most of them are balanced. Clergymen's salaries are down, and frequently hard to collect. But most pastors are no strangers to poverty, even in the so-called prosperous years. Now, as always, they accept the burden patiently and cheerfully, rewarded by the fact that empty pews are fewer.

Churches of every creed are obeying the scriptural injunctions to help the needy. They are assisting members of their own congregation and in a great many instances assuming large additional burdens. Thus the churches are leading, both in their local fields and in the larger task of helping world and nation to meet the painful adjustments of a disturbed era.

SCCAFF

6/19/33

54

Now and Then

Next Tuesday will be the glorious Fourth of July, Uncle Sam's 157th birthday.

Some of the readers of the Suburban Press remember the Fourth of Julys of the Civil War, particularly the one of 1863, when the militia were in the neighborhood of Gettysburg. On that eventful day the people of this and other parts of the city knew that a great battle was in progress and the result uncertain. The Sunday Schools held their usual picnics but there was little if any gladness. In fact they were more like funeral gatherings than picnics. It was not until late in the night that the news came of the defeat of the invading Confederate forces. That news was like the breaking forth of the sun through dense clouds.

The late Dr. Charles K. Mills in his military history of the Falls incidentally mentioned Drs. Wm. M., Harry N., Jonathan K., and Algernon Uhler, among the physicians of this vicinity. Four noble men they were. Walter M. was manager and chemist at Powers & Weightman's Laboratory at the Falls of Schuylkill; Jonathan Knight came here as a graduate from the University of Pennsylvania about 1855 and opened an office in the home of Peter Shronk, Ridge avenue opposite Calumet street. He soon built up a large and lucrative practice, was indefatigable in his service. Later he removed to Queen lane in the house now owned and occupied by John Hohenadel. In 1869 he bought the Smith mansion from John Dobson, after marrying Miss Cauffman, of Roxborough. He died suddenly when in the height of his popularity. Harry N. became widely known in Manayunk, where he had a large practice, kept a drug store and became interested in Republican politics. Algernon, the youngest of the brothers, died when a young man. He was possessed with a wonderful memory, could listen to a sermon or lecture and repeat it almost verbatim. They had two sisters, Eliza and Rebecca, neither of whom married.

Few men every did more for the spiritual good of the Falls of Schuylkill than did the Rev. John M. Richards. While he never was a member of the Baptist Church, although a resident of the Falls, he ministered to the church as a supply pastor when it met in the Old Academy Building, and on several occasions after it had moved into the present building between pastorates. He was a powerful speaker and spent most of his time in organizing churches. The First Baptist Church of Germantown; Milestown Baptist Church at Oak Lane, and Nicetown Baptist Church all of which became strong organizations were brought into existence through his efforts. He also organized Enon Baptist Church, which met at

20th and Oxford streets, but which merged with Gethsemane church, 18th and Columbia avenue.

In his early manhood he married Sarah Evans, daughter of the late Griffith Evans. She was a sister of Dr. Horace Evans and Charles F. Abbot. They had three children born to them in the Richards mansion, Summit Place, which once adjoined the home of Mrs. James Dobson.

As an evangelist Dr. Richards had few equals. He preached and labored most zealously without thought of monetary consideration. While laboring in the Old Academy Building he baptized many converts in the Schuykill, at the mouth of Mifflin run or what is now the foot of Midvale avenue.

SCCAFF

14/12/33

Now and Then

"How many people," asked an old resident of East Falls, who in his youth gained his elementary education in the "Old Yellow Schoolhouse" on the Carson estate, "know the origin of the names of the months? Very few, I'll wager. But in my boyhood we had to learn such ordinary things as these by rule and rote."

And inasmuch as the year is nearing an end and a new one about to start, the topic seemed a timely one for this column.

The information gained from the old man was as follows: January was named by the Romans, after Janus, a double-faced deity, who was presumed to look both into the old year and the new, and in this month a great festival was held in his honor. Our custom of New Year's gifts was derived from the Roman festivals of this month.

February, the second month in the year, is derived from "februus" meaning to purify, or cleanse. February was not in the calendar of Romulus. It was added to the year by Numa, who gave it the twelfth place in the calendar. The Decemviri transferred it to the place in which it now stands.

March was named by Romulus in honor of his supposed father, Mars, the god of war. Until January and February were added to the calendar, the Romans made it the first month of the year. It was called by the Saxons "Lenet-monat", or "length-month", because in this month the length of the day begins to exceed that of the night. It has been said that "Lenet" signifies spring, and that therefore it was called the spring-month. As our Saxon ancestors observed the custom of fasting after they embraced Christianity, and as the period of this observance usually fell in Lenet-monat, it was called the Lenet fast, hence, by corruption, our modern word "Lent".

April is derived from the Latin "aperio", to open, and was no doubt bestowed in allusion to the season.

There is some doubt about the origin of May, because although the Romanus offered sacrifice to Mala,

the mother of Mercury, upon the first day of this month, yet it appears fairly evident that the name was fixed long before the time of Romulus.

Opinions differ as to the origin of June. Some claim that it comes from Junius Brutus; others assert that it is considered as the month for young persons. The most probable opinion is that it derives its name from the goddess, Juno.

July was originally called "Quintilis" being the fifth month of the old Latin year. In consequence of the alterations made in the calendar, it became, as now, the seventh month, but still retained its name of Quintilis until Marc Antonv changed it to Julius, in compliment to Julius Caesar.

August received its name from Augustus Caesar, to whom it was dedicated in honor of his being created consul in this month.

September, being originally the seventh month in the calendar, derived its name from "septem", seven, and "imber", a shower of rain. Notwithstanding its numerical change in the order of the months, its ancient appellation still adheres, although manifestly improper.

October, the eighth month of the old Roman calendar, derived its name from "octo", eight, and "imber", a shower of rain.

November was derived from "novem", nine, and "imber", a shower of rain.

December, as the name implies, was the tenth month of the calendar of Romulus, and like the case of the three preceding months, still retains its old name although the numbering has been altered.

An old book contains the following interesting reference to the Wissahickon: "From the earliest days of the colony the heavily-wooded crags inclosing the Wissahickon were the abiding places of hermits. There seems to have been a good deal of competition in this business, for as early as 1700, no fewer than four hermits—John Seelig, John Kelpius, Bony and Conrad Matthias—were living on the Wissahickon at the same time. Hermits appear to have been plentiful supply all over the country at that time. One anchorite, Benjamin Ley, added to the attractions of the neighborhood by establishing a cave near Branchtown. But the Wissahickon, 'well-wooded and well-watered' was pre-eminently the headquarters for hermits, who at all times and in all countries have proved themselves connoisseurs of landscape scenery. The existence of this Thebaid is still kept in mind by the names of some of the lanes

in the vicinage. The remains of a monastery are still standing which is said to have been built by a brotherhood of forty German Pietists who arrived in America in 1694, to 'live a single life in the wilderness'. The hermit, Kelpius, is said to have a hand in its construction; but it is also ascribed to Joseph Gorgas, a Tunked-Baptist, whose name is yet rather numerously known in the vicinity."

SCCAFF

8-16-34 Now and Then

One of the most remarkable publications ever printed in America, was Poor Richard's Almanack, as printed by Benjamin Franklin.

The Almanack was continued by Franklin & Hall, and by Hal & Sellers. Another book, "Father Abraham's" was to some extent styled after the Poor Richard, and was printed by Dunlap, the editor being Abraham Weatherwise. Taylor's Almanack was earlier even than Franklin's. It was calculated by Jacob Taylor and in 1702 James Logan spoke of this individual as "a young man who had wrote a pretty Almanack for this year."

In these days of comparatively cheap writing, when encyclopedias and digests are at the command of everyone, it is hard to realize the important part the almanac bore in the everyday life of our forefathers. To them it was a cook-book, family physician, prophet, poet and historian. Many a lesson of morality has been conned with its warning precepts, and more than one Lyncurgus has begun his studies with it. Strung on a cord, and hung by the side of the kitchen stove for easy reference, the number increased by the issue of each succeeding year. They formed a Handy Series, which defied for a time the enterprises of published. Stained with dirt and smoke, dog-eared and imperfect, they have come down to us, puzzles to bibliographers, delights to antiquarians, and horrors to librarians. But, unsightly as they are, the future writer of American folk lore will be unable to pass them by in silence.

Having just finished reading Samuel Clemens' laughable "Puddin' Head Wilson," we paused to wonder why he ever selected "Mark Twain" as his pen name.

Curiosity impelled us to search out the answer, and strangely enough it is contained in a letter written by a Philadelphia Navy officer. It reads as follows:

"Philadelphia Club, May 12th, 1881.
"Dear Friend,

"The enclosed will give you the information in regards Mark Twain. In the days of the old man-of-war tars there was something impressive in the song of the leadsmen as he announced the result of each cast:—as 'By the mark, twain;—' 'And a quarter-five;—' 'By the deep, four,' etc. etc.

"I remember once hearing an English tar use the expression, 'By the mark, trine; 'but this was not common.

"Mr. Clemens selected his nom de plume from the two-fathom mark of the leadsmen's song; the word 'twain' being used by the old-time tar as a more euphonious song than 'two.'

Your's sincerely,
Thomas G. Corbin."

One who has a hobby can never tire of life. He always has something of passionate interest. Sometimes the hobby is within the scope of one's vocation. But for the great mass of men it cannot be. In none

of the three fundamental types of hobbies (the acquiring of knowledge, the acquiring of things, the creation of things) do the daily tasks give opportunity of self-development or for contributing to the happiness or welfare of others. Most fortunate are they whose vocations allows them the scope and fervor of an avocation.

A few years ago we took to cameras, pigeons, or carpentry around the house as a sort of pastime. Most likely many of us still do. In fact there has recently been established such an institution as the Leisure League of America, with branches in various cities.

Leisure, of course, is a fine art and always has been. Curiously enough in our days of stress and uncertainty, it has become both a boon and a benevolence when to all intents and purposes hobbies have appeared like pastimes without much constructive purpose or use.

Many of the great ranks of the unemployed have found, and are finding every day, they can try their usefulness in occupations that were relegated to the attic or cellar or the back yard in days when the job risk was unheard of and these pastimes were being developed as a source of relaxation from the routine of our tasks.

Those of us who are fortunate enough to be blessed with work need have no hesitancy about engaging in hobbies. Life is curious and tricky at times. The hobby of today may be the occupation of tomorrow. Long days and messy evenings in the stench and blackness of the improvised-darkroom has given many a man a position behind a moving picture camera, or a studio portrait lens.

The human animal is a patchwork being, made up of hundreds of likes and tendencies, dislikes and tempers. He must find an outlet for a number of these desires, as many at least as he can gracefully handle.

Foster your hobbies and do not give them up, unless you find more interesting ones to take their places. Very often our hobbies really are an index toward that which we are best suited for.

SCCAFF

6-1-33

Now and Then

The changing of the name of the Hotel Mayberry at Ocean City, New Jersey, to "The Emeline" brings back to mind its founder Samuel H. Mayberry who resided in the Falls of Schuylkill for so many years.

Mr. Mayberry settled in the Falls about the close of the Civil war, and with his brother-in-law, engaged in the grocery business in "Downing's Row" on Ridge avenue, near Calumet street. Later he erected a larger store and dwelling at Ridge and Midvale avenues, on the site of the present bank building, where he built up a large wholesale and retail trade.

When the property was taken for opening Midvale avenue

through to the River Drive, he sold the building to William Leech, who had it moved to what is now 4174 Ridge avenue.

Mr. Mayberry then became interested in the development of Ocean City, where he erected the large hotel which bore his name until this season.

While residing in the Falls of Schuylkill he was much interested in the Falls Presbyterian Church and Sunday School, and was one of pioneer Christian Endeavor workers in Philadelphia. He was married to Mary Beatty, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Beatty, the former who gave his life to his country during 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, it is said "that to know him was to love him". He was, according to old time friends, diligent in business and fervent in serving the Lord. Just before the close of his life, which was on September 6th 1916, at Ocean City, in his 70th year he made his winter home in West Philadelphia, at which time he was survived by his wife, a son and three daughters.

Lyle avenue, over in West Manayunk, gets its name from the Lyle family, which traces its ancestry back beyond the Colonial period in American history.

One of its most active members was Stewart L. Lyle, who traveled on to a Greater World, at the Unversity Hospital, in August 1893.

Stewart L. Lyle was born in Trenton, N. J., on October 31st 1821, but when he was quite young his parents moved to Manayunk, where he was educated. While still a lad he obtained employment in the old Ripka Mills, and for a time was engaged in canal boating on the Schuylkill, a vocation at which he was very successful, and at one time he was the owner of several lime and canal boats. He acquired a competency from this source and lived the last sixteen years of his life retired from business, in his mansion in West Manayunk, which he had purchased from Dr. Conry, a well known 21st Ward physician.

Mr. Lyle was also the owner of a handsome property in Cecil County, Maryland, where for a number of years he spent his summers.

In 1861 Mr. Lyle enlisted in one of the Civil War emergency regiments and served for three months, which was the full term of enlistment. He was a cousin of the late Colonel Peter Lyle, and the late David Lyle, who was known as the chief of the old Philadelphia Volunteer Fire Department.

Mr. Lyle was married in early manhood, to Miss Susan Adams, of Roxborough, who preceded her husband in death by several years. Of their children, two sons, two daughters, and sixteen grand children survived the couple. Mr. Lyle was a member of the First Baptist Church of Manayunk and

at his funeral the services were conducted by Rev. S. Z. Batten, with the burial being made in Leverington Cemetery.

The death last week of William Shingle, who served for more than 30 years as a park guard along the banks and drives of the Wissahickon brought back to mind another old-time park guardian, who is still remembered by many old residents of this locality.

Reference is made to the late Charles S. Albany, who was born in Manayunk, on November 4th 1842, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Albany. In his early youth he joined the Ebenezer M. E. Church, and was a member for more than sixty years. Even as a park guard, Mr. Albany found time to pursue his religious work, and served as a local preacher in many of the churches of this vicinity. When the Philadelphia Methodist Conference met at Bethlehem, Pa. in 1898, Mr. Albany was ordained to the ministry, and had charge of the Blue Bell Mission, for more than 20 years.

In his early manhood Mr. Albany had been a painter, and on May 1st 1876 was appointed a park guard and for many years was stationed at Ridge avenue and the Wissahickon Drive, but at the close of his services was night sergeant at the Sedgely Guard House. At the time of the Civil War he served during the emergency campaigns.

Mr. Albany was widely known and highly esteemed throughout the northwestern section of Philadelphia. He and his wife were the parents of two daughters, Mrs. Joseph Schofield and Margaret Albany, the latter who held a remarkable record for attendance at the Ebenezer Sunday School which extended over forty years.

SCCAFF.

P-2-1934

Now and Then

Politicians and their ways sometimes exert an influence that has peculiar results. Read, the following concerning a local lad, which was told by a good-natured physician in confidence, so no names are mentioned: It happened in April, when the Spring Fever was just beginning to spring. Said the doc, "A boy called on me one evening. 'Say, Doctor,' he said, 'I guess I've got the measles, but nobody knows it except the folks at home, and they're not the kind who talk, if there's any good reason to keep quiet!'

"I was puzzled," said the doctor, "and I supposed I looked it."

"Aw, get wise, Doctor," my visitor suggested. "What will you give me to go to school and spread it among all the kids in the neighborhood?"

But, nevertheless, a sign was plastered on the door of the youngster's home.

Lightning having struck the Roxborough Trust Company Building,

at Green lane and Ridge avenue, in a recent storm, brings to mind a tale that was printed in the Manayunk Chronicle and Advertiser, of August 24th 1872. The story was published in this manner: "Mr. Charles Lyle, gate-keeper on the turnpike road between King of Prussia and Norristown, who was an uncle of Mr. John Lehman, builder of Roxborough, was instantly killed by lightning during a recent thunder storm while sitting upon the piazza surrounding his dwelling. A Mr. Franklin Bernard who was sitting there at the same time was severely stunned by the shock, but afterward recovered. The Norristown Daily Herald says: "In preparing the body for sepulchre, Mr. Mewday, the undertaker, could distinctly see where the electric fluid had entered and left the body. It appeared to have commenced at the left shoulder and taking a downward course, crossed the breast to the right side, descending the right leg, leaving an abrasion of the skin between two of the toes. But what is quite wonderful in connection with the matter is the fact that upon the right breast was the print of a leaf found on the floor of the piazza at the dead man's feet. The leaf was from an allanhus tree in the yard, and with the stem measured about five inches in length. The ribs, veins and cellular texture of the leaf were perfectly printed upon the skin, the whole having a red appearance. Mr. Lyle died in a sitting posture upon a chair, and when found his head inclined to one side. As his clothing was not disturbed in the least it would appear impossible for the leaf to have come in contact with the skin. In comparing the leaf found with the impression on the body, the two were exactly alike in size and development. How the impression was made on the skin is the mystery."

On February 7th, 1893, a charter was issued at Harrisburg to the Belmont Avenue Railway Company, of Philadelphia, "the line of which runs on Belmont avenue from a point at or near its intersection with Elm avenue to the western end of the bridge across the Schuylkill river at Manayunk; thence across the bridge to a point at or near its eastern end, returning by the same route. A part of the route, from City avenue to the western end of the bridge is in Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County, and the other in Philadelphia. The capital is \$18,000 and the incorporators and officers are: President, George B. Roberts; Directors, D. E. Williams, John S. Gerhard, James A. Logan and G. Brinton Roberts."

The project would still be a good one!

How many 21st Ward people are left who can remember "Mox" Righter, who prior to 1897 had driven an omnibus, horse cars, cable cars and for a while was motorman on the trolley cars of the Union Traction Company?

Not many, is our opinion. Righter was born about 1818, and at 80 years of age was still work-

ing for the Traction Company. He was at that advanced age, about the last of the old Roxborough-Norristown stage-drivers. The only break in his experience as a transportationist, covering a fifty year period, was during the Civil War, in which he served three years as a private.

The difficulties being experienced by the Philadelphia Orchestra to continue its concerts at Robin Hood Dell, brings back to mind how the site of the band shell received its name, and some of the family which was first connected with the old Robin Hood Hotel, which once stood at Huntingdon street and Ridge avenue.

The Robin Hood Hotel was maintained for many years by Joseph and Mary Lake, whose descendants still own property in that section. A daughter of this old couple, Catherine Lake, married James Nuneviller, of a next door family, which afterward moved to Nicetown lane, in the Falls of Schuylkill. He was well-known at the Falls, where he had resided for more than 40 years. He was a noted gunner and for many years sponsored pigeon shoots on his property at the lower end of the Falls. In politics he was a Democrat, and during President Cleveland's first term, held a position in the U. S. Custom House. He was one of the original members of the old Monroe Democratic Club.

SCCAFF'

8/24/1933

Now and Then

Not more than two or three people live today, who remember Jacob Shuster's stage coach line which ran down the Ridge road to the centre of Philadelphia.

Shuster first established his line, which ran from the Ship Tavern, at Port Royal avenue, Roxborough, to Philadelphia and afterward was guaranteed a payment of \$65 to run his stage through Manayunk. Shuster found the change a profitable one, and procured additional horses and rolling stock.

John Crawford, who resided in a building which still stands, adjoining the old Roxborough-Barren Hill car barn, seeing Shuster's success, started an opposition line. The latter ran from Norristown to Philadelphia, by way of Ridge road to Shur's lane, thence to Rittenhouse lane to Germantown and down Germantown avenue. This route continued until the Manayunk and Roxborough Inclined Railway started operations about 1870.

Johnny Small also drove a stage coach regularly to the city from Manayunk until the advent of the Ridge avenue horse cars which started running to Manayunk from 23rd and Columbia avenue in the fall of 1859. These continued until the Union Traction Company took the line over, and to the present time under the management of the PRT Company.

Local philatelists may be interested in knowing that the first

post office established in this section was in Manayunk. Charles Valerius Hagner, in his history of this vicinity, says: "I do not remember the exact date of establishing the post office in Manayunk, but I think it was in 1824, or 1825. This was exclusively my own act, in opposition and contrary to the wishes of many of my neighbors. We were then in the habit of getting our letters and packages from the city, by stages. I, however, applied to the department from the office and recommended James Renshaw, who kept the hotel built by Silas Levering. He held the office three months and then resigned, and was succeeded by a young man named Stott, an apothecary, who rented a small frame building in Renshaw's yard. He then held the office for several years, until he left Manayunk."

Among others who had charge of the Manayunk post office, which afterward served the Falls of Schuylkill and surrounding territory, were Michael Snyder, George W. Davis, Harry K. B. Ogle, James McGlinchey, William Dawson, John Haugh, John D. Shoemaker, who was succeeded in 1869 by his sister, Mrs. E. V. Storey; Charles Barlow, Joseph Riley, Daniel W. Taylor, James H. Gallagher, Robert Moore, the latter who served up until about 1909, or 1910.

The dredges which are clearing the lower Schuylkill of the mud which has accumulated through the years, bring back to the minds of the older folk of this part of the city, particularly, and others less forcibly, the days of canal boating as it was practiced here.

Soon after the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, in 1870, leased the Schuylkill Navigation Company's canal, probably to get rid of a competitor in hauling coal from the mines, canal boating began to decline. Company boats were put on the canal, and independent craft "squeezed out" of business.

Associated with the best days of the canal are the names of Harry Dawson, Billy McFadden, Chris. Reamshart, Frank, Thomas, John and Bob Ward, John Wolfington, Joe and Grif Yarnall, Jack Wheeler, Patrick Nulty, David Wallace, George Armitage, Frazier Bailiff, William Laycock, Bill and Jim Beatty, "Hump" Bailiff, Jim Johnson, John and Benjamin Minnich,

Aaron Boud, and the Hoigates.

The Wissahickon Creek has been the theme of many stories and songs, which have been read and praised in many far corners of the earth, but to Hon. William D. Kelley, a Philadelphia Congressman, of the 1875 period, goes the credit of having arose in the halls of the Nation's Capitol, at Washington to laud the stream which runs almost in front of our door-steps.

Kelley used the verses, which follows, in his plea for National aid for the Centennial Exposition.

A Lament for the Wissahickon
The waterfall is calling me
With its merry gleesome flow,
And the green boughs are beckoning me.

To where the wild flowers grow,
I may not go. I may not go.
To where the sunny waters glow
To where the wild wood flowers
blow;
I must stay here in prison drear,
Oh, heavy life, wear on, wear on,
Would God that thou were done.

The busy mill wheel round and
round
Goes turning with its reckless
sound,
And o'er the dam the waters flow,
Into the foaming stream below,
And deep and dark away they glide
To meet the broad bright river's
tide,
And all the way thou murmuring
say,
Oh! child why are thou far away?
Come back into the sun, and stay
upon our mossy side.
I may not go, I may not go
To where the gold green waters
run
All shining in the summer's sun,
And leap from off the dam below
Into a whirl of boiling snow,
Laughing and shouting as they go.

The soft spring wind goes passing
by
Into the forest wide and cool;
The clouds go tramping through the
sky,
To look down on some glassy pool.
The sunshine makes the world re-
joice,
And all of them with gentle voice
Call me away, with them to say,
The blessed, livelong summer day.
I may not go. I may not go
Where the sweet breathing spring
winds blow,
Nor where the silver clouds go by
Across the holy deep blue sky,
Nor where the sunshine warm and
bright,
Comes down like a still shower of
light.

SCCAFF

9/1/33

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 28th and March 1st 1902, but there were some aged persons whose memory carried them back as far as 1894, and even to 1869.

As far as the Schuylkill river is concerned its highest and lowest waters, according to available records was in 1869. Observant persons, however, claim that the low mark was made possible in 1869 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 1869 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 18th 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 & Weightman 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. 135 F. and A. M. He was married in February of 1893 to Miss Eliza Garrison Newcomb, who died in 1879. 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 23 years as the pastor of Grace Reformed.

Born in Ireland, February 10th 1829, 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 plied his trade as a seaman. When but 23 years of age he built a lighthouse, 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 Aidan Park Manor and others of the

nearly 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 deeded by William Penn to John Lowther and Anne Charlotte Lowther, jointly, and comprised 5000 acres. In 1731 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, 1827, 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 Craig, who married Miss Jane Josephine Biddle. The place was sold to Cornelius S. Smith, in May of 1840.

SCCAFF

Now and Then

Slowly, but surely, the first unit of the great Episcopal Cathedral is assuming form, up on the hill in back of the old Crawford tavern in Upper Roxborough.

The ground breaking exercises for this undertaking was made on June 25th of last year, with Bishop Taft officiating. This first building is to be known as the St. Mary Chapel and marks the beginning of the long discussed building plans of the Cathedral Foundation of the Diocese of Pennsylvania on the more than 100 acres of land which has been acquired by the church, principally under the leadership of the late Bishop Garland.

Roxborough residents of all denominations, are rather anxiously awaiting the furthering of all the plans, for with the growth of this project there is little doubt that the community, as a whole, will be greatly benefited.

One of the former residents of the Falls of Schuylkill, whose name was brought to mind recently, was Franklin Snyder, who expired at his home, 3417 North 11th street, on November 4th, 1913.

Born at Whitmarsh, Montgomery County, on December 12th 1831, Mr. Snyder learned the trade of carpenter at Norristown and was employed at that work when the Civil War broke out. At the first call to arms he enlisted in Company "B," of the Pennsylvania Cavalry, which regiment was credited with capturing more Confederate battle flags than any other like unit in the conflict aroused over State's rights.

Among the battles participated in by Mr. Snyder, were Cedar Mountain, Fredericksburg, Brandy Station, Culpepper Courthouse, Gettysburg, Rappahannock Station, Rapidan Station, Second Bull Run, Gainesville, Cross Keys, and Drainsville. His regiment, while marching to take part in the engagement at Antietam, was attacked by the rebels and a fierce battle took place, and the regiment was so badly scattered that it never reached the main fight.

After the war, Mr. Snyder settled at the Falls, and followed his trade as carpenter and builder. In 1869 he was married to Susan Stuart Shaffer, of the Falls. He was for many years choirmaster of the Falls M. E. Church, and was an active worker in the early days of that congregation's existence. Mrs. Snyder died in 1906, seven years before her husband. Incidentally Mr. Snyder, up until the time of his demise had been the fourth oldest member of General G. K. Warren Post No. 15, Grand Army of the Republic, which had its headquarters at Manayunk.

"Good Morning, Dear Teacher, Good Morning to You!" must have a most delightful sound to ears of many of the thousands of young women who trained for positions as school teachers, in Philadelphia, on the first morning after they receive a permanent appointment. If there happens to be more

girls who are eligible for positions than there are jobs to be filled. But it wasn't always so! As the following excerpt, clipped from a newspaper of April 1st, 1881, proves:

"All persons desirous of becoming applicants for the position of teacher in the public schools of this section, are requested to forward their names and residences, together with date of certificates, to the secretary of the Board of School Directors. This request includes also those who have already filed an application.

"Examination will take place at the Fairview School Building, on Friday afternoon, April 8th, and application should, therefore, be sent in at once.

W. Clark Johnson,
Secretary,
21st Section."

And while on the subject of schools, another clipping turns up, dated May 5th, 1832, which refers to a meeting of the Manayunk and Roxborough School Board, reading as follows:

"At the regular meeting of the School Board, on last Friday evening the time was largely taken up in hearing reports from the directors of the various schools, upon which to base estimates for the annual requisition for fuel, heaters, repairs, furniture, etc., for 1833, the schedule of which will have to be furnished to the Secretary of the Board of Education on Monday next.

"Under the head of new business, Mr. William P. Hill moved that Miss Kate Conway, who had made application for the position, and who is at present the virtual principal of the Fairview Primary School, be transferred to the Primary School about to be started at Wissahickon.

"The motion was opposed by Controller Ed T. Steel, who objected on the ground that a superior teacher was needed at the Fairview Primary to keep that department up to the average of efficiency as compared with the others. Mr. Hill responded that the testimony as to Miss Conway's exceptional efficiency furnished additional grounds for putting her at the head of the new enterprise, where her services will be more adequately compensated.

Mr. Maurice F. Wilhera supported Mr. Hill's view of the subject; and after further debate, the subject was on motion of Mr. John G. Brooks, laid over for a special meeting to be held on Thursday evening next, May 13th."

And still another school subject displays itself in a news article date January 23rd 1885, in reference to the "MODERN?" Samuel Breck School, at East Falls, which was formerly known as the Forest School. It reads:

"A new schoolhouse—(this the present red brick building)—is to be erected at this place in the immediate future. The new building will be three stories high and will contain fifteen division rooms when finished and will occupy the site of the Old Yellow building. This is rather sad news for the many men and women of the Falls whose schooldays were spent in that struc-

ture, and the removal of the old familiar house will be regretted. The preliminary work is being arranged and as soon as completed the work of building will be commenced. When completed there will be ample room for accomodating many, if not all, of the children of our neighborhood, who are able to secure educational advantages. To let the old schoolhouse stand would add to the accomodations and would not overcrowd the grounds belonging to the school. The new building will likely cause quite a scramble for the position of janitor, or will one janitor have charge of the two buildings containing 28 divisions?"

SOCAFF

10-12-1933

Now and Then

Germantown which celebrated the landing of its founders, last week, glories in the age and history of its community, while the little old humble Falls of Schuylkill can trace its beginnings and happenings, through the records of the old Upland Court, far past the first landing of William Penn.

On a map, published by John T. Garber, showing the early settlements on the Delaware, the Schuylkill river is plainly marked and with it, "the Falls." These were originally Swedish settlements and are dated as early as 1633, three hundred years ago.

The approach of the Roxborough Symphony Orchestra's concert, brings to mind some of the early music of Philadelphia. Writers have mentioned that the first orchestra in this country was that of the Wissahickon Hermits, who played stringed and wood-wind instruments at a service in the old Swedes Church. All authentic accounts of Philadelphia agree that in the early days, when the principle of the Friends were the predominating influences in the city, music was not cultivated to any great extent, in fact, was rather looked askance as a "vain and ungodly pursuit." In 1716 it is recorded that the Yearly Meeting advised against "plays, games, lotteries, music and dancing."

In the churches, however, notably in the Catholic Church, which has always fostered music, music had a home—a rather bare and chilly one in some of those early churches, but still an abiding place.

But it could not stay forever in the churches alone. It began to spread its wings somewhat about the middle of the 18th Century, and though frowned upon, found a foothold and clung tenaciously to the vantage ground it had gained.

In 1759 the first adequate public musical performance in Philadelphia was given in Southwark, by Hallam's troupes of players. It was called "Theodosius, or the Feast of Love," which was followed by Gay's celebrated "Beggars Opera," which created such an excitement in London when it was produced there in 1728.

The songs in this "Beggars Opera" were 69 in number and they were set to old English, Scotch and Irish ballad airs, some of them of considerable antiquity, or the tunes of popular songs of the period.

This opera held the stage for a long time and some of the airs still sur-

live, particularly the familiar:
"How happy could I be with either
Were t'other dear charmer away
But while you thus tease me together
To neither a word I will say."
Then came the ballad operas until
about 1765, before which musical
and theatrical entertainments were
joined together. After that date
concerts were given alone. In 1770
Signor Gualdo gave a concert of
Italian music, followed by a ball, in
a lodge room in Lodge Alley.
At the outbreak of the Revolution,
stringent laws were passed against
"theatrical performances and other
vain diversions," and were in opera-
tion until 1789. In the latter year
the law was repealed.

When the new theatre in Chestnut
street was opened in 1793, the enter-
tainment was a concert of vocal and
instrumental music given by a strong
and talented company. Reinagle, a
musician noted in our early annals,
led the orchestra.

In this company was Mrs. Old-
mixon, the wife of Sir John Old-
mixon, a violin player. Mrs. Old-
mixon had won fame in London be-
fore she married, as Miss George.
She was the first to sing in Phila-
delphia, the Scotch ballad, "The Blue
Bells of Scotland," in which she was
encored night after night. Mrs. Old-
mixon settled permanently in Phila-
delphia and after retiring from the
stage opened a seminary for girls in
Germantown.

The sonata, "Battle of Prague,"
composed by Kotzwara, was first
played here in 1794, by an orchestra
led by the noted George C. Schetky.
Benjamin Carr, an Englishman
who afterward made his home here,
was one of Philadelphia's earliest
musicians. His services in Catholic
and Episcopal churches was always
in demand. He composed many
chants for the service of the church
and published, about 1820, "The
Chorister," a collection of sacred har-
monies, selected, arranged and com-
posed by himself. He was also the
leader of the Musical Fund Society
Orchestra, and conducted its first
concert in Washington Hall, in 1821.
He led the organization at the first
presentations in Philadelphia of se-
lections from the oratorios of "The
Messiah" and "The Creation." This
was a most important musical event
in this city, and took place in St.
Augustine's Church. Associated with
Carr, in guiding the musical taste
of the time were Raynor Taylor,
George C. Schetky, Charles Hupfeld
and Benjamin Cross. Carr died in
1831 and was buried in old St. Peter's
graveyard at 3rd and Pine streets.

The traffic policeman at Green
lane and Ridge avenue, a trifle ex-
asperated by the seeming ignorance
of rules shown by passing motorists
was attempting to analyze the reason
for the unthinking attitude of those
who drive automobiles past his sta-
tion.

"This must be the oldest road in
Roxborough," he philosophized, "and
was laid out as a cow-path. Other-
wise, why didn't they (the surveying
engineers) make this street cross

Ridge avenue like any normal street
should?"

Ridge avenue, of course, is the old-
est highway in Roxborough. School
House lane, is the second in age, in
the old township. Green Lane ranks
third and was first opened as a private
lane through the Levering farms.

"It was not," according to the late
Carl A. Sundstrom, who was district
surveyor here for many years, "de-
clared a public highway until 1679.
In the early history of Lower Merion
and Roxborough there had been a
ford over the Schuylkill River below
the present Manayunk (Green Lane)
Bridge, behind the old Ripka Mill
(opposite the Manayunk Police sta-

tion).
"It was called Levering's Ford, the
younger son of Wigard Levering, the
pioneer settler, owning the land on
both sides of the river."

Hermit lane was opened in 1804,
east of Ridge avenue. Main street
from Wissahickon to Shur's lane was
opened in 1809, and later constructed
up to North Manayunk. Umbria
street came into existence in 1822.
Hippie's lane, now Fountain street,
was constructed a year later, in
1823. Shur's lane, (now East Wal-
nut lane) was opened in 1825 as a
public road. Shawmont avenue (once
Green Tree lane) was opened to a
forty-foot width in 1829 and in the
same year Cinnaminson lane was open-
ed to a width of 20 feet.

Mapatawna avenue, from Ridge
avenue to Hag's Mill Road, was open-
ed in 1855. Leverington avenue
came in 1854.

"But," went on the traffic cop,
"while this is all very interesting,
why didn't they run Green lane right
straight across Ridge avenue. Then
an automatic, or corner-controlled
signal could have been placed here,
so these dumb clucks would know
their stop and go rules. The road-
makers, the drivers, or rule manu-
facturers, are cuckoo!"

SCAAFF.

11/2/1933 Now and Then

Veterans of the Philadelphia
area are elated over the success of
Congressman George P. Darrow in
having a new Naval Hospital erect-
ed in Philadelphia. And those of
the 21st Ward particularly happy
because he is their 'own' represen-
tative in the halls of the solons at
Washington. Now the men who
served Uncle Sam in a military
manner can get the hospitalization
that is needed by and justly due
them.

The dilapidated old structure in
"the Yard", at League Island will
soon be a thing of the past. The
one that preceded this medical cen-
tre, housed in frame buildings, was
the old Naval Home, on Gray's
Ferry avenue. And thereby hangs
a tale with a probable local angle.

The Gray's Ferry road grounds
were purchased by the United
States for the purpose of a naval
asylum and navy school, in 1826.
The buildings were commenced in
1830 and they were formally occu-
pied December 1st, 1831. The Uni-
ted States Naval Academy was es-
tablished within this old building,
before it was removed to its present
location at Annapolis, Maryland, in
1845.

Upon the portico of the Gray's
Ferry Road Naval Home there re-
posed for many years two small
brass cannon. As far as we know
they are still there. Three stories
are connected with these ancient
pieces of armament, the latter of
which we, personally, like to be-
lieve. They are said to have been
captured by Commodore Charles
Stewart, of the Frigate "Consti-
tution", in an engagement with the
British Ship "Levant", on February
25th, 1815. Another account says
that they were captured from Bur-
goyne at Saratoga, on October 17th,
1777, and the third tale has a local
angle in that they were captured
by Lafayette in his first fight with
the Americans at the Battle of
Brandywine.

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The revered Old Liberty Bell was
used after the first steeple was
taken down only upon particular
occasions. It was rang in honor of
the news of the passage of the act
of British Parliament emancipating
the Catholics in 1823. It was rang
on Washington's birthday in 1832,
in honor of the 100th anniversary
of the birth of America's greatest
patriot. It was cracked on the
morning of July 8th, 1835, while
tolling at the death of Chief Jus-
tice Marshall, who had died in
Philadelphia on the 8th of that
month, and whose remains were
being removed, attended by City
Councils and many citizens to a
steamboat wharf to be transported
to their last resting place in Rich-
mond, Virginia. The bell, thus
cracked is believed to have been
used on after-occasions which in-
creased the fracture. It became
hopelessly useless, for anything ex-
cept a loved relic, after having
been tried upon the observance of
Washington's birthday on February
22nd, 1843.

The bell, from the time of the
convention for delegates from the
thirteen original States, was hung
on a temporary pedestal awaiting
the erection of a permanent
monument commemorating the
Declaration of Independence.
Afterward a handsome wooder-
pedestal, with embiamatic carvings
and decorations was prepared, upon
which the bell was placed, and
there it remained until 1873, when
its setting was again changed.

The old Assembly-calling bell
(not to be confused with the Liber-
ty Bell) and the original clock of
the first tower was sold to the
Catholic Church of St. Augustine,
at Fourth and Vine streets. These
were destroyed when fire ravished
the place of worship in 1844. Isaac
Lukens, a watch and clock-maker
of Philadelphia made the clock for
the Independence Hall steeple that
was erected in 1828-29.

SCCAFF.

3-2-33 Now and Then

"Things have certainly changed
around Ridge and Midvale av-
enues, since I was a boy," remarked a man
who was waiting for a Route 52
trolley car one day last week. The
man was evidently an old resident
of the Falls of Schuylkill, for his
knowledge of "men and things that
were," around the Falls disclosed
this.

"Over there," he said, "where
that hardware store is now, Adam
Mettinger had his headquarters for
men's furnishings. And what an
interesting old fellow he was! He
once told me that he was born in
Nictown on July 26th, 1834, and
that his parents brought him to
this vicinity when he was five
years of age. The family took up
their residence in a farmhouse on
Plush Hill, and young Mettinger
was sent to the Old Academy, on
Indian Queen lane. At thirteen
years of age Mr. Mettinger obtain-
ed employment at Simpson's Print
Works, then at West Falls, and
later went to work in the glass

house at the laboratory of Powers and Weightman.

"Not long afterward, however, he started in the men's furnishing business, which he conducted and prospered in for more than 42 years, until he retired in 1913."

A trolley had come and gone while the man was talking, but he rambled along into other reminiscences, all of which were most interesting.

"Another of the men who started work in Simpson's old mill, over the river," went on the man, "was John McCarty, who when he died in 1913, held the distinction of being one of three of the oldest inhabitants of this neighborhood.

"McCarty was born in Donegal, Ireland, and when he was ten years of age came to America with his parents and settled at the Falls. Until he was old enough to learn his trade he worked at Simpson's. He afterward learned the trade of carpenter, at which he worked for many years. Some of the buildings at the Falls which he helped to erect are the Dobson mansion, at Henry and Abbottsford avenues, the Hutchinson house, which stood at 35th and Allegheny avenue, the Clock Mill, on Scott's lane, and the old Falls railroad station which stood along the Norristown division tracks near Indian Queen lane. He also worked on the historic Chain Bridge, which crosses the Potomac River just outside of the District of Columbia.

"Mr. McCarty, in young manhood, married Anna Love, of Germantown."

"I understand that Albert Fiedler has passed to the Great Beyond" went on the old resident, "but that his son, Jimmy, carries on the drug business, as of old.

"I remember, back in 1913, when Jimmy and his brother 'Al', sons of A. R. H. Fiedler, completed their courses in pharmacy at Medico-Chirurgical College. At the time, in addition to receiving his diploma in pharmacy, Jim was especially honored by getting a Bachelor of Arts degree from the Roman Catholic High School, from which he graduated in the Class of 1910."

An interesting little clipping of an advertisement which appeared in a newspaper dated July 1st, 1882, announces that the "33rd annual excursion of St. Mary's German Catholic School, Manayunk, to Arnholt's Schuylkill Falls Park, will be held on July 4th, 1882," the tickets of admission were 25 cents and the ad stated that "all friends are invited. Should the weather prove unfavorable the Excursion will take place the next fair day." Can you imagine anyone calling the ten-minute ride from Manayunk to the Falls, today, an "excursion"!

"Not long since," said a friend, "I chanced to stroll through one of the large cemeteries in the city of Lancaster. The burial place is one of the finest in Eastern Pennsylvania, and it serves as the last resting place of a great number of Lancasterians, among them the late Congressman Griest.

"All at once I paused before a certain tomb. It attracted my attention in the first place because of

the rusted iron enclosure about it; in the second place by the unkempt state of the grass surrounding it. I read the inscription upon the tombstone. It was the last resting place of none other than James Buchanan, once a President of the United States.

"It is unfortunate that Pennsylvanians do not realize the fact that the only one of their number who ever attained the highest office in the nation, lies in obscure grave in Lancaster, with nothing but an unpretentious monument to mark his remains, while all around him stand stately private mausoleums and marble tombstones of the lesser citizenry.

"It is argued that the dead are dead, so why should a fuss be made

about their graves? President Buchanan was the only son of Pennsylvania to guide the Ship of State, and he should be remembered.

"We have visited the tombs of Washington, Lincoln, Roosevelt, Wilson, Harding and other Presidents, so why shouldn't we honor our own son?"

SCCAFF.

2/23/1933

Now and Then

Many readers of "The Riversons," a novel relating to the Wissahickon Valley and the Rittenhouse family, are inclined to believe that a man named Umstead, a cousin of the Rittenhouse's, wrote the book, rather than S. J. Bumstead, whose name appears on the fly-leaf as the author.

These, however, are wrong. The story was written by Dr. Samuel J. Bumstead, of Decatur, Illinois, who had formerly resided in this section.

He was the son of Rev. Dr. Bumstead, who died about 1894 at the age of 94, and who in his younger years had preached at the Roxborough Presbyterian and Fourth Reformed Churches.

It was in February of 1895 that a petition was circulated in Roxborough, Manayunk, Wissahickon and the Falls of Schuylkill, requesting the Fairmount Park Commissioners to make an artificial lake for skating in winter, on the low-lying portion of land between the Wissahickon Creek and the Queen Lane Pumping Station. The lot was known as "the Meadows" and was a mosquito-breeding swamp that with every rain collected sufficient water to form a pond.

It was a contractor named Michael McManus, who in 1895, started the erection of the Blue Stone Bridge, over the Wissahickon Creek, at Rittenhouse street, to replace the former Red Bridge, of wooden construction, which stood there.

The bridge, as built by McManus, has a single span, and is 105 feet in length. The span is formed of a ten-rib skew arch, similar to the arches in the Reading Railroad Company Stone Bridge at the

Falls. The arch has a rise of 11 feet to the base of the keystones, which are 17 feet above the ordinary level of the water. It is built of dressed blue stone from the old Rittenhouse quarry, which is but a short distance away, along the Lincoln Drive, and from tests made at the time was found to be the finest stone in this section of the country.

The bridge, including the footwalks on either side, is forty feet wide and is surmounted by a handsome stone railing ornamented with posts.

The five large blocks of stone on the Garfield Monument, along the East River Drive, were also taken from the Rittenhouse quarry and set in place by McManus. One of these is 19 feet long, 3 feet wide and 12 inches thick. Two others are 13 feet long, while the other two are quarter circles with a radius of 5½ feet; other dimensions being the same as the first.

They are finished in ten cut bush hammered work and were tested by Messrs. Booth, Garrett and Blair, chemical experts and found to be composed of quartz, hornblend and feldspar, which combination forms true granite. A two inch cube stood a crushing test of 89,000 pounds, the highest test of any stone that had been found near Philadelphia up to that time. The stone is susceptible of a bright polish and is almost black when the full polish is brought out.

At a meeting of the Fairmount Park Commissioners on Friday, July 11th, 1896, the committee on Land Purchases submitted a report on ground taken for park purposes the previous autumn on the west side of the Schuylkill river bet-

the Falls Bridge and City avenue. The properties were owned by the estate of Joseph Rubicam, the estate of Isaac Roberts, and the Reading Railroad Company.

Chief Webster, of the Bureau of Surveys, raised the point that the city should have the front on the river all the way to City avenue. However, it was decided that the city and park authorities could protect the waterfront, and a resolution was passed to purchase the land.

In October of 1896—the same year—bids were received by the Commissioners of Fairmount Park for the construction of the drive through Roberts' Hollow, which is now familiar as Neil Drive. The road was named for John J. Neil, who left a legacy for the planting of trees, and shrubbery in Fairmount Park.

The drive brought into use the new addition to the Park, which was a strip of land varying in width extending along the river above the Falls. The drive is winding in its course and is about three-quarters of a mile in length connecting the boundary of the Park—City Line—to the West River Drive.

The road jury which was appointed to ascertain the value of the properties taken for this purpose made a report in which the following amounts were awarded: Estate of Joseph Rubicam, deceased, \$62,617.25 for two tracts of land, one

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containing 24 and 135-1000th acres, and the other of 2 and 95-100th acres. Estate of Algernon Roberts, deceased, \$7,500 for a plot of 1 and 4-tenths acres. Estate and heirs of Isaac W. Roberts, deceased, \$20,209.80, for a tract containing 7 and 772-1000ths acres. In all the city was recommended to pay the sum of \$90,327.05 for a fraction over 35 acres, or about \$6,010 per acre.

SCCAFF

10/26/33

Now and Then

Very few are the Civil War Veterans who are still living here who can remember the late Colonel George P. Eldridge, who died in Atlantic City, on August 17th, 1917.

Col. Eldridge made his first appearance in this section, at the Falls of Schuylkill, in 1859, as the supervising principal of the old Forest School, which has since been re-named the Samuel Preck School. He succeeded Rev. Robert Mackie.

When the Confederates invaded Pennsylvania in September of 1862, he was the first to express the thought of raising a military company in the Falls. He organized the company and being trained in war tactics, started to train the men. Officers were selected and John Dobson was named Captain, which was in accordance with the wishes of Eldridge. The latter was made first lieutenant. Thus Company I of the Blue Reserves came into existence, and it served in two emergencies, in 1862 and 1863.

Eldridge left the school after the war, to engage in the book publishing business, in partnership with a man named DeSilver. After retiring from business he removed to Atlantic City on account of ill health. He was a member of General Meade Post of the G. A. R.; an able teacher and is reported to have been one of the most genial men in the community.

An oldest, standing at the foot of Wissahickon Hill, waiting for a "Z" bus, last Friday, broke into conversation with the remark: "Do you happen to know what it is to be away from the place in which you were raised for years, and then come back and note the changes that have taken place?" Upon receiving a negative reply, he said: "Consider yourself fortunate, for such an experience is very trying to one's nerves. I was born and raised in Manayunk and spent much of my boyhood at the Falls of Schuylkill. I left for Illinois soon after becoming of age and this is my first visit back to Philadelphia. I expected to see some changes, but there have been so many that little of the old-time conditions are left. Of all the men I knew in Manayunk less than a dozen are left. A sad part to me was that most of them did not remember me. I walked down Main street, and the only thing I found

unchanged was the gas works, although they have been greatly enlarged. I looked in vain for the Crow's Nest, a little frame building that stood at the bottom of the railroad embankment below old Buck Hill. Jones' lumber yard and the large old barn at Wissahickon have disappeared, as have the old saw mill and logwood mill. At the Wissahickon drive, Jonathan Robeson's home, enlarged into a hotel, retains some of its old-time appearance, but things have happened to Strelzie's home and cooper shop, just below. The shop was turned into two dwellings and one of these have been torn down. I looked in vain for the little yellow frame house just below School lane, in which Jesse Evans and his family lived at the time I left. The Falls of Schuylkill has lost most of its old landmarks, and but few of my old-time acquaintances are living. Such is life, and I am sorry I came to see things so different from what I expected them to be."

One of the kindest men it has ever been our experience to know was the late Joshua Batty, of Wissahickon, who in the time we knew him was a master mechanic employed at the Dobson Mills, at the Falls of Schuylkill.

Mr. Batty, at that particular period, was an aged white haired man, and such contacts as we had with him are always of pleasant memory.

He was a senior elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Manayunk, and for many years, in his younger days, the superintendent of the Sunday School there. He also belonged to the Roxborough Lodge of Masons and to the Odd Fellows.

Mr. Batty died at his home on March 15th 1916, being at that time survived by his wife, one daughter and two grandchildren.

SCCAFF

2/14/33

Now and Then

The snowstorm of last Friday night and Saturday morning was far from being the worst that has been experienced in this vicinity, according to old newspaper reports.

Boniston's Advertiser, of January 26th 1831, contained an item which reads as follows: "We are informed that in twenty-four hours after the late heavy fall of snow a complete traveling path was cut along the Ridge turnpike, being a distance of 23 1/4 miles from Philadelphia to Perkioming, and such was the depth of this snow that it employed the labor of 300 hands to accomplish it.

"This credible exertion on the part of the company it is hoped will meet with its reward in an increase of traveling, particularly as we learn that some of the hills on that road were considerably reduced last fall, adding much to the comfort of those who frequent it."

It is strange how some little article in the newspaper will start

a conversation on subjects which seem of small account. Last week there appeared in this column a little tale concerning the ice jams in the Schuylkill river, and sure enough an aged man stopped us to relate more stories of the "ice age" in these parts.

This old fellow wanted to tell us about the worst gorge he had ever seen in the Schuylkill, and although he didn't look the age, he stated that it occurred in 1874. He said that in that year the ice was piled nearly eight feet high on Main street, below Shurs lane. Owners of horses in Manayunk and other nearby communities had to take their teams up Shurs lane to Ridge avenue, in order to reach the centre of the city. The Ridge avenue horse cars could only run out as far as Wissahickon. Persons using the cars to get to and from their work threatened to take legal steps against the company to have its charter revoked. Then a force of men were put to work opening a road through the huge cakes of ice. The gorge, large as it was, went away without causing any of the much-expected damage.

The women members of any or all of the churches in this neighborhood always seem to be the persons who lead in the movement to raise money to keep the various places of worship in existence. It has always been so, evidently, for we recently ran across an old newspaper clipping, dated August 1893, which stated:

"The brilliant glow of one gross of Japanese lanterns illuminating two gross of merry people in summer costumes, was the spectacle which attracted the gaze of passengers on the Roxborough horse-cars at Ridge and Fairthorne avenues, on Thursday evening, the 3rd instant. 'Lawn Fete!' you conjectured, and lawn fete it was, the good ladies of St. Alban's taking that method of bringing their friends together and enjoying a royal time.

The grounds were found to be spacious and beautifully clean and level, and from the trees and other points of vantage swung lines and clusters of quivering lights, as though the shining globes were sentient with the spirit of the hour. Tables were set at wide intervals containing seasonable refreshments, and a number of bonnie lassies darted hither and thither, taking your order and delivering the goods as though they had been born to do that very thing and rather enjoyed it. Chairs and benches were scattered about in convenient niches and if ilka laddie did not have his lassie it was certainly no fault of the lassie, for she was willing as could be (Can you beat that? And these modern girls think they know their stuff!)

"As the night wore on music was added to the other enchantments of the hour, and by the time for

closing the affair was voted a sorts of a success."

As one goes about his own business of the day he very rarely pay any attention to the work being accomplished by his neighbor.

This was brought to mind by the experience of a clergyman who once labored in Roxborough, who ran

into a youthful physician from Texas, as both were guests at a house party far out in the country. The medico was enroute to an army post in the Philippines. The clergyman and the doctor fell into conversation, and the former happened to mention the name of Dr. Matthew Beardwood, of Wissahickon.

And then the young army surgeon went into a long string of praise for Dr. Beardwood, who it appeared had been one of his instructors at the Medico-Chi College, when he was studying for his life's work. He said that as an authority and teacher of chemistry the 21st Ward physician was considered one of the finest in the medical profession. And upon returning to his home the clergyman looked up Dr. Beardwood in the "International Who's Who" and found this concerning him: "Engaged in general medical practice, received degree of Medicine, Medico-Chiurgical College; took post graduate course at the University of Pennsylvania, and the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. One time resident physician at the Medico Chiurgical Hospital. Professor of General Chemistry and Toxicology at the Chiurgical College; expert toxicologist; has given expert testimony in courts in poison cases; professor of Chemistry, Ursinus College; received degree of Doctor of Science from Ursinus College, June 7th 1916; a member of several medical and scientific societies; author."

And the clergyman also found out that many of the best things about Dr. Beardwood are not to be found in the "International Who's Who," but can only be discovered by personal contacts with the Wissahickon physician.

SCCAFF

9-28-1933

Now and Then

To the older residents of this section the name of Winpenny is a familiar one. It was recalled by a recent visit to North Laurel Hill Cemetery, where the name was seen upon a gravestone, bringing back to mind, Mrs. Mary W. Winpenny, the widow of William Winpenny.

This lady was the daughter of Frederick and Mary Witt, and was born April 19th 1833, in Malvern, Chester County, Pennsylvania. In her early womanhood she was married to William Winpenny, the only son of Samuel and Elizabeth Winpenny. The couple subsequently moved to Manayunk, where Mrs. Winpenny became a member of the First Baptist Church. Afterward the family removed to the Falls of Schuylkill. Two children, Elizabeth, who married Dr. F. N. Pampanilla, and Samuel, who married Eliza Shronk, were born to the Winpennys.

The son, Samuel, followed his father in a sea life and became chief engineer in the employ of the United States, in the Gulf of Mexico. He died at the height of his manhood.

The mother, Mrs. Winpenny, succumbed on September 20th, 1915 and was buried in North Laurel Hill Cemetery.

11/26/1933

Now and Then

East Falls has had newspapers and newspapers, the names of many which come readily to mind, probably the best and longest-lived being The Weekly Forecast, which was published for some 21 or more years by the Carwardines.

But how many are there who can remember William Middleton and William B. N. Gifford, who printed a "weekly" in the Falls, about 1881?

Gifford was the uncle of Middleton, and at the advice of Rev. Alfred Free, pastor of the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church, began the publication of a small paper, which was made in four impressions on a hand press. The paper grew and grew and an old Franklin press was purchased. Then the business was removed from Gifford's home, on Haywood street, to Ridge avenue near Ferry road. And then, for some cause which has been forgotten in the past, the business diminished and the paper was sold to Warren Watson, who gave the "sheet" a new name, that of "The Falls Advertiser and Riverside Gazette" being changed to "The Falls Star." Later the late Dr. Eli S. Beary became owner and Gifford was restored to the management, only to finally cease publication.

Whenever the military academy at West Point, N. Y., is mentioned it brings to mind a tale which connects that Hudson River community with this section.

There are not many people who would recognize in the name of Samuel Wheeler a person who did valuable service for the Nation at the time of the Revolution. But it was he who made the famous chain which was stretched across the stream, beneath the surface of the water, to prevent the British war ships from ascending the Hudson. At that time General Washington was puzzled about a means to defend the river and to make it impossible.

"I wish I could get a chain made; but I suppose that is impossible," he said, and General Thomas Mifflin, who resided in the Falls of Schuylkill when he was not campaigning with the Army, who overheard the remark, exclaimed, "A townsman of mine, one Wheeler, can make such a chain as you describe."

Wheeler was brought to headquarters and Washington asked the machanic if he could make the long series of links.

"I can!" said Wheeler, "but I cannot do it here." "Then," said Washington, "I will gladly give you permission to leave the army to do so, for badly as we need such men as you, I cannot afford to keep you from performing this task."

The chain was made, the links stretched across the Hudson, and the story connected with it is now a part of history, with little thought of the Falls being related to it in any way.

Members of the Masonic fraternity in this vicinity have to be pretty

well along in years to remember Cornelius De Groot, who was at one time a Grand Master of Roxborough Lodge, No. 135.

In 1850 he settled at the Falls, and worked in the marble works which were owned by the Reardon family, near Laurel Hill. He was possessed of a rich baritone voice, and taught a singing class in the Falls Baptist Church, and formed and led that congregation's choir. In those days there were no instrumental accompanist, so he took the key-note from a steel tuning fork.

He was active in almost every community affair, and took particular interest in school affairs, and served for a term or two as a director. It was he who erected the imposing entrance to Mount Vernon Cemetery.

His wife was also a good singer with a soprano voice which was flute-like in its notes. She, however, seemed never to be able to master the written music, singing entirely by ear. He would softly whistle her parts and she would go through an entire anthem in this manner without an error.

The couple had two sons, Charles Abbott De Groot and Cornelius, Jr. The former adopted his father's business and at one time worked for Peter Bechtel, of Roxborough.

It is often said that "history repeats itself." And lots of times we find verification for the remark. For instance: every Manayunk person realizes the dangers which exists at the corner of Cresson and Levering streets, since the erection of so many supports for the elevation of the railroad tracks which makes it difficult for motorists and pedestrians to get a full view of the crossing.

Back in May, 1872, the same corner was discussed in a newspaper, about the hazards which prevailed there, as follows:

"With the increasing traffic on Levering street, at Cresson street, it does seem to us as though the city ought to vacate the lot now owned by Mr. Peter Heidinger, on the northwest corner of Levering and Cresson streets, for the purpose of widening the latter at that point. It is folly to wait until some terrible accident forces attention to the subject, and the contiguous property would be made more valuable if the alteration were made."

SCCAFF.

1/12/1933

Now and Then

One of the best remembered newspapermen who ever wrote up the happenings of this neighborhood was Robert Roberts Shronk, who passed from the Fourth Estate to the Greatest Estate in 1921.

For many years he penned articles for the Manayunk Chronicle, the Philadelphia Record, the Public Ledger and other newspapers.

He was born on Friday, October 18th, 1844, in the old Scott Mansion on Ridge avenue, below Indian Queen lane, in the Falls of Schuylkill, being the second son of Daniel and Elizabeth—Roberts—Shronk.

On his paternal side he traced his ancestry from the great fisherman of the Falls, Godfrey Shronk, who was mentioned by John Fanning Watson, on his "Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania," who owned the property on Ridge avenue, near the Merck Chemical Company's laboratory, and resided there. On the river front of this property, Godfrey Shronk had a valuable shad fishery.

"Bob" Shronk's maternal forebears were John and Gainor Pugh Roberts, who came to this country with the Pencoyd Welsh colony in 1682, from Bala, Merionethshire, Wales, and settled on a section of land procured from William Penn, in what is now Montgomery County. John Roberts and Gainor Pugh afterwards became attached to each other and were the first persons to be married in the ancient Friend's Meeting House, at Montgomery avenue and Meeting House lane, Lower Merion. Subsequently they settled in Pencoyd, then written "Pencoid." The old homestead was afterward occupied by one of their descendants, George J. Roberts, a president of the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Godfrey Shronk, the storied fisherman died in the latter part of the 1830's and was buried, with other members of his family, in Hood's Cemetery, Germantown.

Robert Roberts Shronk, after an early schooling at the old Forest School, in the Falls, began to work when less than 13 years of age in William Simpson's silk handkerchief print works, at West Falls, and afterward was employed in various departments of the same print works. After leaving Simpson's, Mr. Shronk learned the trade of painting, but was obliged to give this up on account of his health. In 1873 he was appointed a letter carrier and in the latter part of the same year became the Falls correspondent of the Manayunk Sentinel, over the nom de plume of "The Observer." This was his first attempt at writing for newspapers and he continued with the Sentinel until 1877, when he accepted a similar position on the Chronicle, and from that time until after the World War his letters appeared weekly in that paper. He also contributed to various other publications. He joined the Falls of Schuylkill Baptist Church in 1863 and at the time of his death had been one of the

deacons there for many years. In 1881 he accepted the task of giving secular instruction at the Eastern State Penitentiary, and was afterward made librarian in that institution, a position which he held until 1892 when he resigned.

In 1876 he married Mrs. Emma V. Story, a widow, whose maiden name had been Shoemaker. Mrs. Shronk was a daughter of Jesse and Mary A.—Wenzell—Shoemaker. She was a descendant of Charlotte Est, who it is said, was the original Lydia Darragh, and rode from Kensington to General Washington's headquarters and apprised the American general of a plot she had heard British officers make, in her father's home.

Throughout the territory covered by THE SUBURBAN PRESS, and among the older downtown newspapermen, the name of "Bob" Shronk invariably starts a reminiscent conversation, with the local writer being praised by those who knew him personally.

According to an old newspaper item, that section of the 21st Ward which is familiar to us of today as "Wissahickon" started developing about 1880. The news article reads as follows:

"Wissahickon avenue is the name which some give to that portion of what has been known as Manayunk avenue, running down from the Ridge road to the Wissahickon Creek. That neighborhood will present a scene of unusual activity when the spring opens. The lots offered for sale on the Camac property have found many purchasers who are getting ready to build. Messrs. Harmer and Gillet have a number of buildings contracted for. The Messrs. Dobson have arranged for the building of four more blocks of double houses, eight in all, and Mr. James Christie has bought a lot on the southeast corner of Rochelle avenue. The two handsome brick dwellings in one block, on Sumac street, built for Mrs. Bromley are nearly ready for occupancy, and she and her family will move into one of them in about a month from now, holding the other for rent to a good tenant.

The completion of the new stone bridge over the Wissahickon (the Reading Railroad bridge), the moving of the railroad track, and the building of a new station, will all contribute to the stir and bustle and business-like activity which is ready to burst forth. All the indications point, therefore, to a rapid growth and development of that quarter, and it will be found that the location of St. Timothy's Working Mens' Institute, the planting of two or three mission churches, and the movement to secure a public school building have not been in any sense premature.

A few years ago, Tom Daly, newspaper columnist and author of one of the best books on the Wissahickon Valley, burst forth in song as follows:

"Why mind the jibes
Of scornful scribes
Who deal in jestful junk?
When every gawk

Has ceased to squawk
And his last wink is wunk,
And every tongue
That lashed and stung
Is shriveled up and shrunk,
There still will be
This song from me
In praise o' Manayunk.

"How oft I've stood
In solitude
Like any hermit monk,
Among those hills
When splendor spills
On many a mossy trunk,
And treetops hold
The sun's slant gold
Long after he has sunk!—
Yet, oh how weak
These words I speak
In praise o' Manayunk!"
And we like the rhyme, the
writer and the region of which he
sings.

SCCAFF

12-7-1933

Now and Then

As has been mentioned in this column before, there were at one time two of the 21st Ward voting divisions in the Falls of Schuylkill. These were both on Ridge avenue, one at the Calumet street entrance to Fairmount Park and the other in the old Dove and Swan Tavern, which stood on the Ridge road this side of old Nicetown lane.

And the recent election when all nine of the Falls Division went Democratic, wasn't the first time that the voters of that section registered their approval of the candidates of the party symbolized by the Donkey.

Charley Whalley, in the old days of the post-Civil War period was well-known as a Democratic political leader. He held a position as an alderman. He once told the following tale. At the time there was rule that if the election officers did not get through counting the votes in time for the last train to the City, they were to carry the ballot boxes to the nearest alderman, and leave it in his charge until the next morning. Whalley was the return judge. A late count at the old Dove and Swan made this necessary on one occasion. So with Joseph Smith, a Republican, Whalley carried the box up to the... Placing the box down on the floor of Albright's parlor, the election officers said, "Mr. Alderman kindly keep your eye on this box till we call for it in the morning.

At 8 the next day, Whalley and Smith found Albright seated beside the box, where they had placed it the night before, leaning with his arms on a table, glaring wide-eyed at the ballot box. "I'm mighty glad you've come," he said, "I'm getting blamed sleepy and blamed tired watching that box."

It appears that Albright, with a conscientiousness which is little to be seen in these times, had sat there through the long night, but his eyes glared on the bal-

let boys

64

A Manayunk school teacher who is not exactly deliriously happy over the historical significance of last Tuesday, was greatly shocked a few weeks ago.

One of her pupils, a lad who came to this section several years ago from Poland, was asked to write a composition telling of his experiences while on shipboard. The little fellow gave a complete account of the trip from the day he entered the stowage of the vessel until it docked at New York. He told of the amusements he had taken part in, of the days he was so sick he thought he would never see land again, and of there being a smaller number of immigrants than usual on the ship.

Then came the statement which startled the teacher, almost as much as her recent pay cut. "We had plenty of rum on deck, and so had lots of fun," wrote the youngster. The boy was plied with plenty of questions concerning the statement. He replied, "That's all right, teacher, there was plenty of rum on deck for us to play." He was then asked to spell the word "Room," and spelled it "r-u-m." This relieved the teacher, who after a good laugh, showed the lad how both words are spelled.

SCCAFF

5-24-1934

Now and Then

With Memorial Day about to be celebrated on Wednesday of next week, the writer began a search for some references to war-time happenings in this vicinity, and came across several letters written by the late Robert Roberts Shunk, Public Ledger reporter for this part of Philadelphia, which give an insight to local conditions as they existed during 1917 and 1918. They read as follows:

"September 14th 1917.

"Soldiers who enlisted in the army and navy with a number of drafted men were given a public patriotic demonstration on Saturday evening, under the auspices of the citizens permanent patriotic committee, at East Falls.

The men numbering about 200 gathered at Ridge and Midvale avenues, and paraded up Ridge avenue to Calumet street, then down to Crawford street, back to Queen lane, and up to Dobson's athletic field at Cresson street. Councilman Benham was marshal. Besides the soldiers the line included a platoon of mounted policemen, the Kilties Band and Citizens. A mass meeting was held in the field at which Charles L. Dykes presided. Addresses were made by Rev. Charles L. Seasholes; Col. Sheldon Potter; State Senator Owen B. Jenkins and Judge Raymond MacNelle. There was music by the Kiltie Band, and the Falls Male Chorus, Joseph Smith leader.

"At the conclusion of the meeting

the soldiers and others repaired to America Hall, where they were given a concert by the Male Chorus and Kiltie Band, with a vaudeville performance, followed by a supper served by the Ladies Auxillary, prominent among which are Mrs. Elizabeth Dobson Altemus, Mrs. Robert Boardman, Miss Maude Gamble, Mrs. Charles West and Mrs. Alfred Byrnes. It is the purpose of the committee and auxillary to provide comforts for the soldiers as long as the war lasts."

December 7th, 1917

"Everything here, as in other parts of the country, is centered upon upon the soldiers and sailors, and it is surprising to see the many service flags that are waving from the homes from which the "Boys" have gone into the army or navy. Each church and other organizations also display service flag, showing by the number of stars how many of their numbers are serving Uncle Sam. The "White House" on Ridge avenue, East Falls, in which the good women meet to sew, knit and plan for the welfare of the absent ones, has proven itself to be one of the best organizations the place has ever known. In addition to the good work of providing it has also brought about an almost sacred fellowship among the many women interested. How long this work will have to be continued no one can conjecture. I had a talk last Friday with a man of German extraction who told me of a talk he had a few days previous with an American citizen who recently returned from Denmark. He said that most of the stuff published in the newspapers about Germany's poverty is not true. The Germans are constantly receiving supplies from Copenhagen, to which port they always ship products of their various industries and from their farms. This sounds pro-German but it is not intended as such but is given only to show what this man observed or else lied about."

"January 4th, 1918.

"The year 1917 has gone into history with its joys and sorrows. It marks the first year in which the United States has shipped an army to Europe to join the allies in the war against Kaiserism. Thousands of young men have been drafted and taken away from their homes and are now in the military camps or in the trenches. It was a year of material prosperity, principally on account of the war, in the manufacture of munitions. Many of the homes here and elsewhere have been saddened by the departure of loved ones to the army or navy. It was also marked by usual activities in providing comforts for the absent ones. Never in this old world has there been such a display of self-sacrifice in giving time or money for the Red Cross movement. During the year the grim reaper has taken loved ones in his embrace. In these are included many of my personal friends, among whom were Captain A. W. Givin of Roxborough; Rev. Charles E. Burns, D. D., of Bryn Mawr, a long and devoted minister of

the First Presbyterian Church of Manayunk; William Mattis of Roxborough; Alfred Bowen of Wissahickon, and James Downing of the Falls. The latter passed away after being a lifelong friend and one of the few school-mates in the Forest school. Aged 73 years he was born in Ravenwood, the home of Wm. Weightman on School lane, in March, 1844, and spent his entire life here at the Falls, where for over 54 years he was a faithful employee of the laboratory."

SCCAFF.

5-18-1933

Now and Then

A contemporary of The Suburban Press. - - - The Germantown Telegraph - - - in its issue of May 20th 1881, fifty two years ago, printed the following news item: "Edison All Right. - - - If anybody has any doubt as to the absolute and complete success of Edison and his electric light, we are not, nor ever have been, among the number. He will have work so far progressed as to be ready to light cities by the first of July. The metres (meters) are being turned out 500 per day, and the lamps 2000 per day. He wants to have everything in perfect readiness before he starts, in order that there shall be no public disappointment."

And we cannot help but comment, that there is nothing disappointing about electric lighting today, except the savings users enjoy since the last reduction in rates.

One of the early members of the Grace Reformed Church, who died at her home "Ravenswood" on School House lane, on November 15th 1895, was Mrs. Anna Matilda Powers, the widow of Thomas H. Powers, of the chemical manufacturing firm of Powers & Weightman. The final twenty-two years of her life Mrs. Powers spent as in invalid, and as such she is well remembered by older residents of the Falls of Schuylkill.

Mrs. Powers maiden name was Cash. She was born in 1815 in Philadelphia, and her father, Thomas Cash, was for a number of years connected with the U. S. Custom House. In her early life, particularly after her marriage, she evinced strong interest in philanthropic endeavors and continued to do so until she was physically unable to do more.

The origin of her infirmity was sad. Her son was lying in bed sick, where he had been for a long time and was extremely weak. His death was momentarily expected, but despite this when his mother went into his room and found him dead, the shock was too great, and she fell fainting to the floor. When she regained consciousness it was found that her right arm was palsied and until her death it caused her discomfort.

It was largely through the efforts of her husband that Grace Reformed Church owes its existence, and at one time he was a vestryman there. His wife had been a member of Holy Trinity P. E. Church, but she worshipped at the

Falls of Schuylkill Church until after her husband's death, when she returned to Holy Trinity, and whenever possible attended services there.

It is said that she had no financial interest in the firm of Powers & Weightman, her holdings having been purchased after her husband's demise, but despite that fact, her income was a large one. She was the owner of much valuable real estate, including properties in the vicinity of 21st and Chestnut streets, and with large sums of money at her disposal she was able and did accomplish many good things.

Out in Chicago industrial, civic and other leaders will open the Century of Progress Exposition - - - a modern world's fair - - - on June 1st.

May 10th, just past, was the 57th anniversary of the opening of Philadelphia greatest fair - - - The Centennial of 1876. For despite the wonders of the more recent Sesqui-Centennial it was somewhat of a dud.

There are still living in this vicinity men who worked in some of the marvelous exhibits at the Centennial which was held in Fairmount Park. Weavers, creelers, spinners and other textile workers of this section displayed their skill to the thousands who came from all over the world to Philadelphia. Even Roxborough, Manayunk and the Falls of Schuylkill joined in the enthusiasm of the opening day and flags and bunting were seen on practically every building. None could have been more enthusiastic over the great event than William P. Hill, the Falls of Schuylkill correspondent, if you please, of The Manayunk Chronicle and Advertiser, who penned his thoughts on the subject with considerably more frills than is apparent in the writings of newspapermen today. And very possibly some of those living today will recall the Sesqui when it can be viewed 57 years in the past. But they would have remembered it with far more respect if it had been held somewhere "out of The Neck" where the very site aided in keeping it from gaining the success it could have attained.

SCAFF.

7/20/1935

Now and Then

There is little doubt that the present financial situation which exists throughout the country is the greatest through which the American people have ever had to go. This statement is made despite the memories of old folk who attempt to make a comparison between their experiences in other "panics" and the present economic condition which is without parallel.

But with everything as it is, there is a spirit of liberality among the greater part of the men and women, than has ever been evidenced before.

Proof of this is found in the report of the Memorial Hospital lawn fete, which was published in this newspaper last week. Katherine L. Cochran, treasurer of the Ladies Aid, of the Hospital, the group which annually conducts the great outdoor carnival, sums up of re-

ceipts for last month's lawn party at \$2,977.13.

Back in 1916, during boom years when the factories of the United States were running full tilt making war supplies for the Allies, and wages rising weekly, no such success was registered. For the report of the lawn party of that year discloses that the total receipts were \$1,936.23.

And as a sort of explanatory note at the bottom of the statement was the following paragraph: Special thanks are due to the Philadelphia Electric Company, United Gas Improvement Company, Glen Willow Ice Manufacturing Company, Manayunk police, Boy Scouts, Adams Band, Kester's Orchestra, St. Timothy's Mens' Bible Class, William P. Stroud, James Eckersley and every friend of the Hospital who contributed to make this affair the splendid success it was."

* * * * *

'Twas back in January of 1917 that the first public appeals for the erection of a High School in Roxborough were made. In an editorial one newspaper stated: "Nearly three hundred from this (21st) Ward are attending High School. Doubtless there would be many more if a High School were located here. Germantown wants an annex to their High School building, and partly because they expect more pupils from this ward in February Will we pay tax to build and annex in Germantown and keep mum? Will we quietly submit to pay car-fares for hundreds of our boys and girls, and with the lack of transportation facilities which shame this ward? Are not the boys and girls morally safer at home than on these long trolley trips? Will you continue to quietly submit to these impositions and let other parts of the city enjoy all the advantages? Do you expect the authorities to come and ask us what we want?"

And now that High School, which came into being through united efforts of a determined people is too large to care for the small number of senior high school students, and far too small to accommodate the great junior high school population. The pupils should be segregated. That means another high school for the seniors. And this should be located nearer the centre of the Eighth School District - - - somewhere in Wissahickon - - - where taxpaying residents of East Falls may send their children without having to pay car-fares. Then there would probably be sufficient room for the Junior High students at the

Ridge avenue and Fountain street building. Incidentally, it is believed that the Roxborough High School is the only combination education centre in the city.

* * * * *

With dissatisfaction creeping through the ranks of the dyed-in-the-wool political workers, there will more than likely be an upheaval in political circles this fall. And if not then, there will be next year. Mark that down as a prediction. For the independent voters are arousing themselves and preparing to go on the war path.

And their fight against the regularly organized forces can be suc-

cessful. It has been done before.

Back in the days, after the United States entered the World War, when patriotic feelings ran high, there was one grand upset in the 21st Ward, which is still remembered. This was in the days of the old Town Meeting Party, which on Election Day in November of 1917, swept the Ward, as it was never done before nor since.

The Town Meeting Party was made up of voters of the independent Republican and Democrat groups, with the Councilmanic candidates from Roxborough, Wissahickon and Manayunk being Dr. Richard L. Entwistle for Select Councils; James Stott and Thomas Martin for Common Councils.

The Republican candidates were Tom Mackleer, for Select Councils; and Messrs. Dorwart and Anderson for Common Councils.

The Twenty first Ward, then made up of 30 Divisions, gave Entwistle a majority of 500 votes, more or less, over Mackleer. Stott's figures were 2884, Martin's 2825 and the vote for Anderson totaled 2437 and Dorwart came through with 2360.

In the old 16th Division, Entwistle polled 169 votes to Mackleer's 69, while the 11th Division, was the latter's stronghold, giving the Republican 124 votes to the Town Meeting candidate's 108.

The 11th was also Anderson's best bet, for the balloters there rolled up a count of 131 for him. Dorwart's strongest division was the 21st, which gave him 135 tallies. Tom Martin, the Democratic Town Meetinger rolled up a splendid vote in the old 16th Division, 157 voters there marking their O. K. on his candidacy. Stott, too, was a popular choice in the 16th, he registering 167 votes.

And with the unrest that is now prevalent, there is little telling what may happen when the next election rolls around. Or if not the next one, it will be very soon. For the customs, habits, reasoning and concern of the average voter is changing, and sooner or later there is bound to be felt the effect, of all this, at the voting places.

SCAFF.

11/30/1935

Now and Then

When the older residents of this section stand at the eastern end of the Falls Bridge, over the Schuylkill River, and remember back a half-century, they are struck with the thought of change which has taken place in that vicinity, since the days of their youth.

In place of the old willow-lined, broken and irregular river banks, among which idlers spent their time fishing, there is now the gently curving river wall with its terraced and sodded embankment; at the top of the banks, a cedar-posted tubular iron fence. Beside the fence is a wide sidewalk, flanked on either side by rows of hardy trees. Next to the sidewalk is a splendid hard-paved driveway upon which thousands of motorists travel each day.

The old willows have gone. And so, too, is the old wooden bridge

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which crossed the Schuylkill at the Calumet street entrance to the Park.

The present iron structure was thrown open to the public in June of 1895, by Director Thompson, after Chief Engineer Webster, of the Bureau of Surveys, had declared the specifications of the contract had been complied with by the contractors, Porter & Company. Director Thompson relieved the company's watchmen from further duty, and placed the bridge in charge of John J. Somers, of 1904 North 22nd street, as day watchman, and William Neely, of what used to be Spencer street, as night watchman.

The steel-work of this bridge was originally painted buff, light blue and red. The floor, or driveway, was first of sheet asphalt laid upon bituminous concrete (whatever that is). When first constructed the bridge was illuminated at night with gas and electric lights. The former have gone. On either end are two bronze tablets, bearing the inscriptions: "Built by the City of Philadelphia, 1895, Edwin S. Stuart, Mayor; James H. Windrim, Director of the Department of Public Works; George S. Webster, Chief Engineer. Filbert, Porter & Company, Contractors, followed by the description: "Total Length, 1171 feet, three spans, 187 feet each; width of lower deck, 30 feet, width of upper deck, 60 feet. Substructure masonry; superstructure steel. This bridge, in addition to its own weight, is designed to carry on each deck (the upper one never completed) a load of 80 pounds per square foot and a concentrated load."

The upper deck, which to date has never been placed in position, was planned to extend from the hillsides, above the former Weightman chemical laboratories, on the east side of the river to the present approach along the East River Drive, and on the west side of the stream the upper deck was to span the approach to the lower deck and the Reading railroad tracks and extend to the top of the Falls road.

SCCAFF

1933 Now and Then

Down in Mount Vernon Cemetery lie the remains of Charles Albert Fechter, the eminent French actor, who spent the last five years of his life in this vicinity.

Fechter was ranked among the great thespians of the 19th century. Born in London, in 1824, of French parents, he was educated in Paris, and there, in 1840 he made his first appearance at a private theatrical entertainment in the Salle Moliere. His parents desired him to be a sculptor, and after a brief experience on the boards he returned to Paris, from a trip with a strolling companion through Italy, and attended the Academie des Beaux Arts from which he graduated in 1844, winning the highest honors of the school. But he again turned to the stage and, becoming a member of the troupe at the Theatre

Francais, attracted the favorable attention of the Parisians. Melodramatic roles were his favorites, and soon he was heading a company of his own. While so engaged, at the Vaudeville Theatre in Paris, where he played from 1852 until 1858, he created the role of Armand Duval in Dumas' "La Dame aux Camellias."

Paris accepted him as one of its players before he made his first appearance in English drama, in London, in 1860. Ten years later he came to New York, where he first appeared at Niblo's Garden, in "Ruy Blas." His success in this country was almost as great as that in Europe. Selwyn's Theatre, renamed the Globe, in Boston, was turned over to his management. Later the Lyceum Theatre, in New York, was built for him. But he retired from the stage, although appearing at intervals in 1877 and 1878, in renewals of three of his notable roles, in "Monte Christo," "Hamlet" and "Ruy Blas."

For the last five years of his life he lived on a farm near Quakertown, in Bucks County, with his wife, the former Lizzie Price, who had appeared with him at the Park Theatre in New York.

Down at Ridge avenue and Ferry road, in East Falls, workmen have been demolishing the former Young Women's Christian Association building exposing to view the old Hagner Drug Mill, which is hidden behind a store adjoining the structure once used by the women.

In the early days of the Falls of Schuylkill there was a waterfall in the Falls Creek, close to this mill; that being the reason for the erection of the building at that place. Before the Hagner Mill there stood on the site a paper mill, which had been built before 1775, by Joseph Potts, gentleman; Isaac Parrish, hatter, and Benedict Dorsey, merchant. It was these men who had the dam constructed in order to furnish power for the mill. The water flowed through a culvert under the Plymouth road (now Ridge avenue) to a forebay along to a tail race and under another little bridge into the Falls Creek and thence into the Schuylkill.

The paper mill was subsequently turned into a chocolate mill and as such was known to people of that section prior to the Civil War.

The Hagner Mill became the property of Winabald Nagele, a well known butcher, who in 1869 erected a meat store in front of the former drug manufactory.

The new electrically operated cars of the Reading Railroad System speed along silently through East Falls, Wissahickon, and Manayunk, with a reduction of time which is indeed pleasing to the people in this age of hurry.

How different from the methods of the line when it first came into existence in 1834? On October 18th of that year, the first cars ran out this line from the city. It was a Saturday, and the train was made up of four handsomely painted cars, each with a lower and upper deck, and each drawn by two fine horses. The new system of transportation went into effect when the train left

Ninth and Green streets and ran out to Shur's lane, Manayunk, where the bridge crossing that lane was still in the course of construction. Aboard were 130 passengers, who were escorted to the Fountain Hotel, on Main street, and treated to a fine dinner.

On August 15th 1835, the first locomotive ever seen in this vicinity drew a train of cars to Norristown, and thousands of people gathered at various points along the line to see the marvelous iron horse.

There are still a great many old folk who lived in Manayunk and Roxborough who remember Joshua C. Bartley, who was one of the early engineers at the Shawmont Pumping Station, and who passed on to "His Reward" in July of 1896.

Mr. Bartley was born of Irish parents, aboard a ship enroute to America, in 1818. In his early boyhood he was apprenticed to the firm operating the Bushkill Iron Works, at 16th and Spring Garden streets, and served his time as a machinist. Later he entered the employ of I. P. Morris & Company in Kensington and was sent by them to Cuba as engineer of one of the sugar-making plants installed by the firm on that Island; and for 13 years he went South during the sugar season, and returned to his home at its close.

In 1859 Mr. Bartley entered the city's Water Department and served continuously until his death, principally at the Spring Garden and Roxborough stations. He was married twice, his last wife dying in 1894. When Mr. Bartley died, three daughters and one son survived him.

SCCAFF

12-21-1933

Now and Then

Ray Ratcliffe, of West Oak Lane, drove into the centre of the city on Wednesday of last week, and parked his car. Then he went to a department store and bought a pair of skates for a Christmas present for his son.

The sleet storm had, in the meantime, changed the streets into an ice rink. Ray, wisely decided that motoring would be too risky, strapped on the skates and skated home.

He streaked up the East River Drive to Midvale avenue, out Warden Drive to School House lane, out Wissahickon avenue to Limekill Pike and home. At least, so says one of our daily papers.

One of the officials of a local bank was also among those who had an unforgettable experience on Wednesday of last week. Being a resident of Roxborough, this gentleman has to negotiate the hills of this section to reach his home from his place of employment.

When ice covered the streets on Wednesday of last week, he was caught "flat-footed" at the office without any chains on his car. By clever driving he managed to reach

his hilltop domain. And Friend Wife, anxiously awaiting the home-coming of her spouse, waved a relieved greeting from one of the front windows, as she saw his car enter the driveway.

But the old saying of "there's many a slip twixt the cup and the lip," was brought home with great force, when said husband had safely stowed his car away and attempted to navigate the distance between the garage and the back door. As he near the latter his feet rose heavenward, and he dove headlong into the housewall, striking the back of his head and bouncing back into a barberry hedge.

For a moment he lay there stunned, the blood oozing from a bruise on the back of his head, and barberry thistles piercing his ear.

The hedge will be replaced by California privet next spring.

The name Shakespeare, divided into "Shake" and "Spear" gives four and 6 letters, or 46. By turning to the 46th Psalm, and counting from the first word you will find the 46th to be "Shake" and counting from the last, you will find the 46th to be "Spear."

In a well-written volume, entitled "Historic Germantown," compiled in 1908, by David Spencer, D. D., a fine reference is made to Roxborough as follows: "Wigard Levering, his wife and four children settled here in 1685. For seven years this was their home, but in 1692 they removed to what is now Roxborough, where he bought five hundred acres of land and became one of the founders of that community, with whose history his descendants have been so prominently identified.

"It was his grandson, William," who built the first hotel in Roxborough, known as the 'Leverington Hotel.' Through his exertions the first schoolhouse on that town was erected, on land which he gave in 1748. The earliest efforts for the establishment of religious services there were made by the Levering family, whose ancestry first lived in Germantown. They were the founders of the historic Baptist Church in that community, and gave the ground on which its meeting houses were erected. This church was organized in 1789, and from its constitution to the present time there have always been one or more of the descendants of Wigard Levering serving it as a dea-

con, as well as in other offices of honor or trust. It was during the pastorate of the author of this book, from the beginning of 1865 to the latter part of 1877, that the old meeting house, back in the graveyard, was torn down and the present magnificent structure erected. The bell in the spire of this church took the prize at the Centennial Exposition in 1876.

"From this noted family in Roxborough, whose first home in this country was in Germantown, have gone members who have been identified with the building up of villages, towns and cities in other parts of this country. Notably is the case with the Levering family, of Baltimore, Md., among whose

honored names stand today the brothers, Eugene and Joshua Levering. The same might be said of Lafayette, Indiana, where the brothers, John and William, sons of Abraham Levering, became so distinguished in their day.

"All the renown and achievement of this family, through all these two hundred and sixteen years in the marvelous outreach, may be traced back with ever-deepening interest to their original settlement in Germantown."

SCCAFF

1/21/1934

Now and Then

Several of the great throng of people who visited the Leverington Cemetery, in Roxborough, on Memorial Day, evinced sufficient curiosity to seek out the grave of the late Richard Harding Davis, America's first and probably greatest war correspondent, which is located under a small pine near the rear-centre of the burial place.

And some of these folk inquired about the great writer, whose first literary effort "Gallegher," was written while he was a member of the staff of the old Philadelphia Press.

Davis died suddenly in April of 1916, at his home in New York. He was remembered by many people who lived in this immediate vicinity. His father Lemuel Clarke Davis, spent part of his boyhood as a resident of the Falls of Schuylkill, and later married Rebeca Harding, who was the daughter of a once well-known Manayunk paper manufacturer.

The body of Richard Harding Davis was cremated and the ashes interred in the burial lot, not far from that of his grandfather, David Davis. His brother, L. Clarke Davis, who died in 1904, was for many years the managing editor of the Public Ledger. His grandfather, David Davis, has married Mrs. Harriet Froese McEwen, whose granddaughter Miss Uretta Johnson, was for many years a school teacher in the Forest and Breck School at East Falls.

Workmen beginning to repair and paint the Strawberry Mansion trolley bridge brings to mind the death of Paul Brownworth, son of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Brownworth, of East Falls, which occurred about twenty-five years ago.

Young Brownworth, a daring youth, was at the time 20 years of age. He was employed as a painter on the span over the Schuylkill. One day, at lunchtime, he was urged by companions to leap from the structure, instead of laboriously descending by means of ladders. He took the jump, but struck a submerged rock in the water, or probably hit the water in such a position to be knocked unconscious, and drowned. Two fellow-painters, who also made the jump, swam to the shore safely.

Brownworth's body was recovered by Park Guard Doran, and when taken to the banks of the river, two

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physicians labored in vain to revive the lad.

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 2nd 1916.

Mr. Harris was born at Frazer, Chester County, Pa., in 1840. He studied law at West Chester, and at Washington D. C. When the Civil War broke out he accepted a Lieutenantcy 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 cruise.

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 1607 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 once-time glories of Abbottsford, now the site of the Women'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 Philadelphia 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 Fitler, 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 Midvale avenue.

Samuel Judson Abbot, a son of Charles F. and Elizabeth Abbott, lived until he was 68 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 Whelen.

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

Samuel Abbott'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.

SCCAFF

6/28/1934

Now and Then

The time was late afternoon of July 4th, 1776. Great crowds assembled along Ridge avenue. The observer, passing one group heard the following remarks: "Well, I see they signed her up!"

"They're a set of dumbbells. There's going to be trouble before this thing is over. If I've said so once, I've said so a dozen times."

"I'd bet the Big Boy won't like it. The last time I saw him he didn't look so well. I said to Frank, 'He'll never get away with it!' and Frank said, 'I don't think so, either!'"

Another voice chimes in to say, "I told Ben Franklin that he'd be a fool to put his name to that paper. Stay out of it, Ben! I warned him, 'this here fellow Clarence Darrow will rip her all to pieces!'"

And back comes the following remark, "The trouble with Ben is, he's not very smart. Him and me used to be as close as two peas in a pod, but we kinda drifted apart when he kept on acting so dumb. He thinks Jefferson and his Democrats are regular people. Oh, Ben's all right in some ways, but he's a second guesser, anyhow."

"Now, this fellow, Darrow", goes on another voice, "They say he's a doddering old man. That a great bunch of propagandists are using him, and his past reputation for keenness, just as a knocking board against the NRA. Maybe, that's true?"

"Well", goes on another, "I've made up my mind about one thing. These fellows who signed that paper can do the fighting if there is to be any."

"Do you think there'll be any fighting?" asks a little short man. "That would be terrible. Suppose Europe won't lend us any money!"

"They say all men are born free and equal. That's a lot of bologna!"

"Oh, you have to take that with a grain of salt, like the State Liquor Board report. They'll make a profit, I suppose, but not nearly as great as what was expected."

"What's Kelly going to do about it?" asks a bald-headed man.

"Oh, he'll get 'em to harmonize, you wait and see!"

A schoolmarm, waiting for a bus, overhears the conversation and butts in to say, "Phooie, phooie, on him! What's to become of our social order?"

The bus receives its passenger, leaving the men with their mouths open for a moment, before one starts the chatter again with, "It's all a piece of foolishness. Those fellows are not practical. They're not good business men. I don't believe there's a good business man in the whole outfit. I said to Coun-

cilman Whitefreeze, who's our representative, I says, 'Council, you're a business man. Why don't you use your influence? This thing could be fixed up if somebody would go at it right.'

"They say, this Thomas Jefferson, who penned the document, opposed the repeal. Is that so?" asks a young citizen.

"Well, I hear he is a great deal of a rounder and says 'raddio' instead of raydeech, and that he likes Joe Penner's programs," says a newcomer. "I was introduced to him once, up at the Mexton Club, but it was in a crowd. It was some party. About all I remember was that we didn't get home until three o'clock in the morning."

"Oh", answered a man with a squeaky throat, "I know Jefferson. Even if he is a Brain-Truster. If you leave it to me, he's badly over-rated."

"The idea of saying everyone is born free and equal. I'd like to know what the world's coming to!"

"Well," puts in a man who has hitherto been silent, "When I read

the thing this afternoon, I said to myself, 'So this is what they spent almost 16 months getting up! Here they've been fattening at the public crib all this time, and this is the result.'"

"What I object to is that it is not statesmanlike. It's unconstitutional. It isn't dignified. Fletcher will tear that to pieces, and Jim Farley'll know he's been in a battle when it's all over."

"But what could you expect from such people. So few of them have any social standing."

"What I'm thinking of is, who's the special interests behind the thing? Who is interested in separating this country from Great Britain? I'll bet it's the bankers. They've been taking it laying down for a long time. They're quiet about something, I'll tell you."

"You guys are all wrong! I have a hunch that Pinchot knows a lot about this thing!"

"I said to Robert Morris, yesterday, 'Bob' you're going to hurt business if you put out that script. Bob's intentions are all right, but he lacks good business brains. He can't look ahead. When he gets an idea he can't think of anything else."

"What is the RFC going to do do about it?" asks a shoemaker.

"What can they do?" we hear in answer. "Babe Ruth's Boys' Club have squelched them with their new password 'Hi, Keed!'"

"You fellows don't stop to reason things out properly", says a wise guy. "Now take a look at this here John Hancock. I think he's at the bottom of all this. I never did trust him. I think he's a lunk-head and a troublemaker."

"I want to be around when they go to raise their army. It will be a great joke if nobody joins."

"But they don't really mean it. They couldn't!"

"You mark my word, if they attempt to enforce this Declaration of Independence, there's going to be trouble. And they can't say I didn't warn 'em. I told 'em so, right to their faces."

"I'm afraid it's going to spoil our summer. Now we'll have to stay

home to keep up with all the news reels. But there's going to be trouble, wait and see."

And they say the world has changed.

Pish, and also tush!

SCCAFF.

4-6-1933

Now and Then

Not many people are aware of the fact that the piece of land bounded by Midvale avenue, Henry avenue, Coulter street and McMichael street, is under the jurisdiction of the Fairmount Park Commission, but according to records of City Councils, this is a fact.

In an ordinance numbered 227, signed by Mayor Harry A. Mackey, of the 29th of June, 1929, Section I, of the act, states: "The Council of the City of Philadelphia ordains, that the lot of ground acquired by the City for park purposes bounded by Midvale avenue, Henry avenue, Coulter street and McMichael streets, is hereby placed under the care and management of the Commissioners of Fairmount Park."

"I wonder who wrote that old song?" asked a man who was sipping a cup of coffee in a local restaurant, as a singer launched out into the words of "The Old Oaken Bucket," over the eating-house radio set, one rainy evening last week.

The man's query aroused our curiosity, and upon reaching home, we looked up some facts on the subject. Here they are:

Samuel Woodworth wrote the words of "The Old Oaken Bucket." He was born in Scituate, Plymouth county, Massachusetts, January 13, 1809. In Helen Kendrick Johnson's book, "Our Familiar Songs," we read this account:

"The Old Oaken Bucket" was written in the summer of 1817, when Mr. Woodworth, with his family, was living in Duane street, New York City. One hot day, he came into the house and pouring out a glass of water, drained it eagerly. As he set it down, he exclaimed, "That is very refreshing, but how much more refreshing would it be to take a good long draught from the old oaken bucket I left hanging in my father's well at home."

"Selim," said his wife, "wouldn't that be a pretty subject for a poem?"

"At this suggestion, Woodworth seized his pen and as the home of his childhood rose vividly to his fancy, he wrote the now familiar words. The name of Frederick Smith appears as composer of the air, but he was merely the arranger, as the melody was adapted from Kjalmark's music written for Moore's "Araby's Daughter."

Aside from any other angles concerning smoking, girls and women, and boys and men as well might receive a thought from the following figures concerning tobacco: "By smoking fifteen cents worth of cigarettes a day, principal and

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interest, for ten years will amount to \$745.74; for twenty-five years, \$3,110.74. The expense of three ten-cent cigars, or thirty cents a day in other forms of smoking, at the end of ten years amounts to \$1,471.56; for twenty-five years, \$6,382.47. And at the end of fifty years, or the ordinary life-time it will reach the sum of \$54,162.14. Thus, we see, that just to satisfy a nervous habit, many people throw away a comfortable fortune.

Whether Tom Moore, the great Irish poet ever lived along the banks of the Schuylkill river, or not, is uncertain, but in a volume of his works there is evidence that he knew and loved this, the lesser of Philadelphia's two big streams. The poem reads as follows:

"Alone by the Schuylkill a wanderer roved,
And bright were its flowery banks to his eyes;
But far, very far, were the friends that he loved,
As he gazed on its flowery banks with a sigh!
"Oh Nature! though blessed and bright are thy rays
O'er the brow of creation enchantingly thrown,
Yet faint are they all to the lustre that plays
In a smile from the heart that is dearly our own!
"The stranger is gone—but he will not forget,
When at home he shall talk of the toil he has known,
To tell with a sigh what endearments he met,
As he strayed by the wave of the Schuylkill alone."

Down at Ridge avenue and Ferry road, on the site of the building long occupied by the Young Women's Christian Association, which is being demolished, was born on July 4th, 1830, James Girvin Maree, who was well known in Manayunk and the Falls of Schuylkill. When he was twenty-one years of age, Maree established himself as a jeweler in Manayunk, marrying and settling in that locality.

One of Maree's great talents was that as a singer and musician, he having a baritone voice of unusual timber. Later Mr. Maree moved to Germantown, but he is still recalled by a great number of the older people who still reside here.

Plenty of old-timers at the Falls of Schuylkill remember when Midvale avenue was known as "Dutch Hollow," but few are able to explain how the name came to be applied to the one-time ravine.

In 1853 there came to the Falls, an energetic German stone mason, Henry J. Becker. He purchased the ground in "the Hollow" and erected rows of dwellings and the large brewery which afterward became the property of the Hohenadel's. The ruins of this can still be seen at the end of Arnold street. This caused the name "Dutch Hollow" to be given to that part of the little valley.

The site of the East Falls station of the Reading Railroad, once belonged to Patrick Dougherty, then to the Whichle estate and finally sold to the Warden estate, who turned the land over to the Reading Railroad Company as the location of its station.

Arnold, Judge Michael,	Forecast	4/30/03
Brehony, Rev. James,	Forecast	3/7/1907
John J. Costello,	Forecast	11-27-1901
Davitt, Michael,	Forecast	6-7-1906
Delahunty, Thomas,	Forecast	2-18-04
	"	3/3/04
	"	3/10/04
	"	3/31/04
Evans, Robert	"	3/14/1901
Ford, Andrew	"	7/2/03
Hess, Jacob M.	"	4/5/1906
McCann, John,	"	7/27/03
XXXXXXXXXX		
McGowan, Stephen	"	2/1/06
Montgomery, Thomas	"	10-19-05
Morison, Franklin	"	1/23/02
Moore, Thomas	"	11/1/1900
Montgomery, Wm	"	8/14/1902
Philips, Joseph	"	Vol. 2 1/10-1901
Manley, Robert	"	3/15/06
Merrick, J. Vaughan	"	4/5/06
Riggall, Kirk	"	12/12/01
Ring, William	"	2/7/1907
Ross, John	"	3/9/1905
Schofield, John Seville	"	Died Feb 1903 Footprints
Sloan, John P.	Forecast	1/18/06
Smithies, John E.	"	12/12/01
Thompson, Alexander	"	9-17-03
Walker, Joseph B.	"	2/23/1905
Weightman, Wm.,	"	9/1/1904
Weiss, Max	"	2/22/06
Wilde, Simeon,	"	2/22/06

Deaths:

Albrecht, William	Forecast	12/31/1903
Arnold, Judge Michael	"	Vol 8 No 11,
Clark, Margaret	"	1/7/04
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		3/10/04
Land, Anna M.	"	1/21/04
MacIndoe, Wm.,	"	3/31/04 4/7/04
Mathison, Albert	"	xxx/xxx 12/24/03
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expenses for ten years will amount to \$743.74; for twenty-five years, \$1,119.74. The expense of three or four cigars, or thirty cents a day in other forms of smoking, at the end of ten years amounts to \$1,471.80; for twenty-five years, \$3,682.47. And at the end of fifty years, or the ordinary life-time, it will reach the sum of \$54,162.14. Thus we see, that just to satisfy a nervous habit, many people throw away a comfortable fortune.

Whether Tom Moore, the great Irish poet ever lived along the banks of the Schuylkill river, or not, is uncertain, but in a volume of his works there is evidence that he knew and loved this, the lesser of Philadelphia's two big streams. The poem reads as follows:

"Alone by the Schuylkill a wanderer roved,
And bright were its bowery banks to his eyes;
But far, very far, were the friends that he loved,
As he gazed on its flowery banks with a sigh!
"Oh Nature! though blessed and bright are thy rays
O'er the brow of creation enchantingly shown,
Yet faint are they all to the lute that plays
In a smile from the heart that is dearly our own!
"The stranger is gone—but he will not forget,
When at home he shall talk of the toil he has known,
To tell with a sigh what enchantments he met,
As he strayed by the wave of the Schuylkill alone."

Down at Ridge Avenue and Ferry Road, on the site of the building long occupied by the Young Women's Christian Association, which is being demolished, was born on July 4th, 1830, James Grein Maree, who was well known in Manayunk and the Falls of Schuylkill. When he was twenty-one years of age, Maree established himself as a jeweler in Manayunk, marrying and settling in that locality.

One of Maree's great talents was that as a singer and musician, he having a baritone voice of unusual timbre. Later Mr. Maree moved to Germantown, but he is still recalled by a great number of the older people who still reside here.

Plenty of old-timers at the Falls of Schuylkill remember when Middle's avenue was known as "Dutch Hollow," but few are able to explain how the name came to be applied to the one-time ravine.

In 1853 there came to the Falls, an energetic German stone mason, Henry J. Becker. He purchased the ground in "the Hollow" and erected rows of dwellings and the large brewery which afterward became the property of the Holsenrads. The ruins of this can still be seen at the end of Arnold street. This caused the name "Dutch Hollow" to be given to that part of the little valley.

The site of the East Falls station of the Reading Railroad, once belonged to Patrick Dougherty, then to the Whittle estate and finally sold to the Warren estate, who turned the land over to the Reading Railroad Company as the location of its station.

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John J. Costello,	Forecast	11-27-1901
Davitt, Michael,	Forecast	6-7-1906
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XXXXXXXXXX		
McCowan, Stephen	"	2/1/06
Montgomery, Thomas	"	10-19-05
Morison, Franklin	"	1/23/02
Moore, Thomas	"	11/1/1900
Montgomery, Wm	"	8/14/1902
Philips, Joseph	"	Vol. 2 1/10-1901
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Riggall, Kirk	"	12/12/01
Ring, William	"	2/7/1907
Ross, John	"	3/9/1905
Schofield, John Seville	B	Died Feb 1903 Footprints
Sloan, John P.	Forecast	1/18/06
Smithies, John E.	"	12/12/01
Thompson, Alexander	"	9-17-03
Walker, Joseph B.	"	2/23/1905
Weightman, Wm.,	"	9/1/1904
Weiss, Max	"	2/22/06
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MacIndoe, Wm.,	"	3/31/04 4/7/04
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