

July 27th 1933

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EARLY ROXBOROUGH MILL-OWNER



PETER ROBESON

Thomas Sully's painting of Peter Robeson, 1748-1833, and also the "Crag," on Robeson's Knoll, Sumac Park. This is a great loose boulder, weighing many tons, still resting on other rocks, near the northern approach to the City avenue bridge, along the East River Drive.

The Robeson And Vanderen Mills of The Wissahickon

Interesting Tale to Be Found in History of Ancient Industrial Venture at Mouth of Much-Storied Stream

By JAMES F. MAGEE, JR.

Sumac Park, a 500 acre tract of land, was the southern part of the eleven divisions of land granted to the first settlers of Roxborough township.

Robert Turner, a Quaker, native of Cambridge, England, later "a Linen Draper," of Belfast, was with William Penn and others, one of the Proprietors of the Province of East New Jersey, February 1st, 1681-2.

"William Penn by ye grace of God and King, Proprietor of the Province of Pennsylvania, 20th day of first month 1684" granted to Robert Turner, 500 acres of land called Sumac Park in Penn's Manor of Springetts-berry (now Roxborough) at a yearly rental of 1 shilling for each 100 acre.

A street in this section is now named Sumac street, and the sumac tree grows profusely on the hills above the Wissahickon.

Robert Turner was also part owner, in 1690, of William Rittenhouse's first paper mill.

On June 19, 1686, Robert Turner leased for 101 years, 50½ acres along the Wissahickon to Joshua Tittery, a broad-glass maker, and Richard Townsend, a millwright, late of London, the partners agree-

ing to build mills and improve the property.

Richard Townsend embarked for Pennsylvania in the "Welcome" with William Penn, and stated that he brought with him the material for a grist mill all ready to erect, also the mill stones.

The grist mill, saw mill and dwelling were erected between 1686 and 1689 as they are mentioned in a deed of 1689 when the new owners sold a third interest in the mills and land to John Tysack, a broad-glass maker, of London.

The grist mill with three pairs of stones under one roof was to the south of the Wissahickon (marked Flour Mill on accompanying map) and the saw mill on the north. In 1690 and 91, the several partners sold the two mills and land to Andrew Robeson, Sr., of West New Jersey, and Charles Saunders, a millwright.

As the Robeson family for over one hundred and fifty years owned

the mills, and the Robeson Mansion is still standing, on Ridge avenue, their biography is of interest.

Andrew Robeson, Sr., with wife Elizabeth, and nephew Andrew, 2nd, arrived in West New Jersey in 1676; in this same year William

Penn conveyed to him one share of the Proprietary rights in West Jersey. He is mentioned in the deed as "late of London, Merchant, now of Clonmellin, Ireland."

In 1699, the heirs of Andrew, Sr., left most of his estate to his two brothers, Thomas and David, in the Kingdom of Scotland, so it is probable that the Robesons were originally of Scotch ancestry.

In 1676, Andrew, Sr., was Surveyor General of West Jersey and in 1686 was appointed one of three Surveyors to lay out the line dividing East Jersey from West Jersey.

He settled in the County of Gloucester and was one of the "First Council Proprietors of West Jersey" in 1687.

On June 15th, 1685, he purchased from Thomas Rudyard 5000 acres of land in Pennsylvania, and in 1690 he removed to Philadelphia, and in 1693 became a member of the Governor's Council.

In 1691 Robert Turner sold to Robeson and Saunders the remaining 449½ acres of Sumac Park.

Andrew Robeson, Sr., died in 1694, he, his wife and son Samuel, were all buried in the Friends' Burying Grounds at 3rd and Arch streets, although they were not Friends.

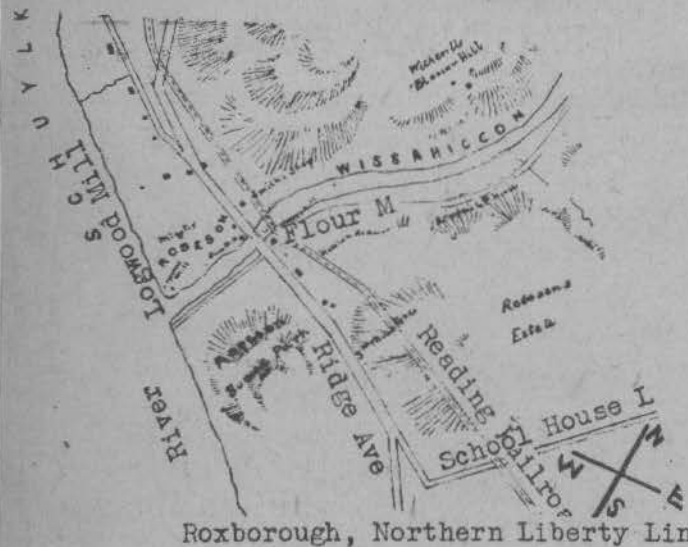
In 1696, Samuel Robeson, executor, sold his half interest in the 200 acres of western Sumac Park, and the mills to his cousin, Andrew Robeson, 2nd. The 300 acres of the eastern section were sold to Joseph and Benjamin Morgan. In 1703, Sara Saunders, widow, wished to sell her half interest in the 200 acres and mills to Andrew, 2nd, but the Court decided that the 8 acres at the mouth of the Wissahickon could not be divided, so she retained her half interest in the 8 acres but sold another 96 acres to Andrew, 2nd. At this date the Corn Mill and Saw Mill were mentioned as "The Wissahickon Mills."

Of the twenty-five Colonial mills erected on the Wissahickon and its branches in Roxborough and Germantown Townships, but one building remains today, and that is the famous mill built on the above mentioned 8 acres of land at the junction of the Schuylkill River and Wissahickon Creek.

This mill was built before 1733 and then called the Wissahickon Grist and Bolting Mill, but before 1748, it was known as "the Roxboro Mill." From 1703 until 1748, the 8 acres were owned jointly by the heirs of Andrew Robeson, 2nd, and Charles Saunders. The mill is first mentioned in the will of William Saunders in 1733, "A Grist Mill—two pair stones under one roof—named the Wissahickon Mills erected on 8 acres of land." In 1748 the mill was rented to Thomas Tillberry.

In a deed of 1752, an interesting description is given of the Roxboro Mill, now "Colony Castle," the headquarters of the Philadelphia Canoe Club. "A certain Water Corn, or Grist Mill, (being two grist mills with two pairs of stones under one roof) sometimes called Wissahickon Mills now Roxboro Mills.

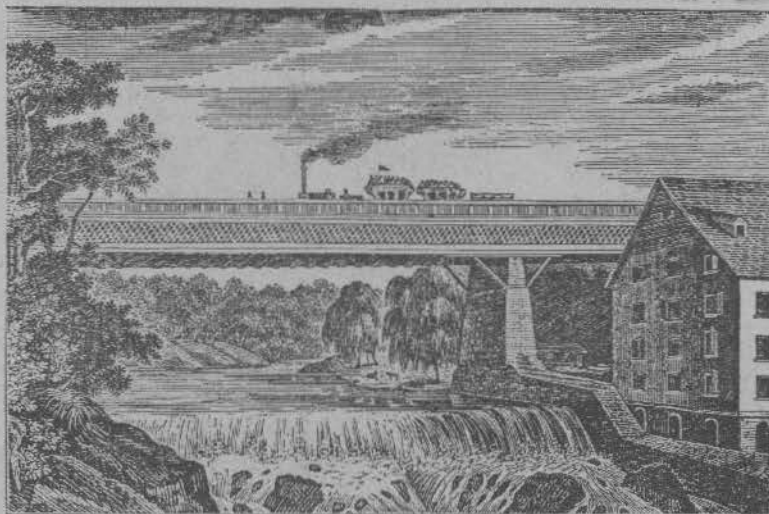
OLD SURVEY MAPS AND FIRST WISSAHICKON RAILROAD BRIDGE



Roxborough, Northern Liberty Lin

SECTION SURVEY OF 1850: ROXBOROUGH TOWNSHIP

The western 200 acres of the 500 acre tract at the mouth of the Wissahickon Creek. Note the position of the Hessian redoubts. "William Penn, by the grace of God and King, Proprietor of Pennsylvania," granted this land to Robert Turner, on "the 20th day of the 1st month," 1683, for an annual rental of one shilling a year for each 100 acres; 500 acres called "Sumac Park" in "his manor of Springettsbury, (afterward Roxborough township.)"



OLD-TIME RAILROAD VIADUCT

Robeson's Grist Mill, 1686-89. Showing the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown railroad bridge, built in 1834. The first locomotive passed over this bridge October 20th, 1834, running from 9th and Green streets, to Manayunk. The passengers, out on the upper decks of the cars, are probably viewing what Baedeker aptly termed "the miniature Alpine gorge of the Wissahickon."



SECTION SURVEY OF 1681

Section of Molmes' Map of Philadelphia county in 1681-1688, giving the names of the eleven purchasers of land in Roxborough Township. Robert Turner's grant was the lower one, and extended considerably below the Wissahickon Creek. The four Rittenhouse mills were on the Vicaris tract.

Which 8 acres of land, with consent of former owner, was left for necessary use of the said mills, messuages, stables, mill house, Boh-ipp Mills, buildings and improvements, thereon erected, dam banks, water courses, mill race to said mills, also a half acre on the west side of the Dam of said mills, to take away enough sand and rock to repair the said mill dam or dams."

At this time there was no road leading into the hidden valley of the Wissahickon; a great mass of rock formed a natural dam just above Ridge avenue. A mill race over 500 feet long carried the water from the dam through the mill and emptied into the Wissahickon near the Schuylkill river.

The part of the mill that contained the water wheel is now a large cellar-like stone room under the first floor of the Canoe Club. Even in the last few years the waters of the Wissahickon have risen above the top of the wheel room. From the Club House porch at low water, can be seen a stone in the middle of the creek marked with a circle. Tradition states that this stone was so marked by the Indians to indicate that fishing was very good in this locality.

In 1755, John Vandéren purchased the mill and 8 acres.

A. C. Chadwick, Jr., editor of the Suburban Press, and historian of The Wissahickon Valley Historical Society, says:

"There is a legend of the Revolution connected with this Mill. Doane and his seven brothers, the outlaws who terrorized the inhabitants of Philadelphia and Montgomery County by their despredations, were said to have used the old building as a rendezvous."

And verses, penned by the same writer, go on to say:

"COLONY CASTLE"

"Revelers gather within the walls,
Of a structure old in years,
Which once vibrated with toil-
some sounds,
And the crunch of meshing
gears.
For the waters, that pass its
aged doors,
Were harnessed to drive the
wheels,
For a miller, who ground the
garnered grain,
Or a wright with his tensiled
steels.

"An ancient heap of stones, 'tis
true,
But romantic tales are told,
Of events, enacted inside its
rooms,
By men who were brave and

bold,
It served, one time, as a hid-
ing place,
For a crew of thieves, who
planned
To make the wealthy neigh-
bors fear
The Doane Boys outlaw band.

"And sometime later, the fish-
ermen,

Of the State in Schuylkill
Club,
Assembled under its fabied
roof,
And made the pile their hub.
And epicures, 'round the fes-
tive board,
Were wont to eat their fill,
Of fish, and fowl, and viands
rare,
In the old and vine-clad mill.

"Though many years have run
their course,
It stands as though 'twas
new,
In use by water-loving youths
Who ply the light canoe.
Where Wissahickon's spring-
fed stream,
Joins with the Schuylkill's
flow,
Old Colony Castle conquers
Time,
While mortals come and go."

Mr. Chadwick states that this Mill was the first cut nail factory in America, and also later the rolling mill of Amos Jones. In the Survey of 1850, it is called a Log-wood Mill.

In 1869, the Mill and 8 acres were purchased by the city and is now part of Fairmount Park. From 1877 to 1887, the famous "State in Schuylkill" founded in 1732, occupied the building before moving to its present quarters at Andalusia, on the Delaware River.

Now let us return to the Robeson Grist and Saw Mills on Ridge avenue.

Andrew Robeson, 2nd, (1654-1719) married in 1685 Mary Spencer. She is buried in Gloria Dei (Old Swedes) Church yard, Philadelphia. He was Judge of Gloucester County, West Jersey, in 1692, and Chief Justice of Pennsylvania from 1693 to 1699. After 1702 he

lived near the mills at Sumac Park, where he brought up his eleven children.

He was a large land owner, purchasing over 100 acres at the Falls of Schuylkill. Later, on this land was built the home of Dr. William Smith, the first provost of the University of Pennsylvania; Fort St. David's Fishing Club; Powers and Weightman's Chemical plant, and John and James Dobson's mills.

In 1714, he purchased 1500 acres of iron ore land near Reading, in Berks County. His daughter, Magdalena, married Thomas Potts, and Andrew and his son-in-law helped to promote the newly developed iron industry in that region. His son, Andrew, 3rd, remained in Roxborough, and continued the business of the Wissahickon Mills.

Judge Andrew Robeson, 2nd, and his wife, attended the Swedish Church. He died in 1719, and was buried in the church yard of the Swedish Church of St. Gabriel's, near Douglassville, Pa.

In 1706, a primitive road was laid out from Robeson's Mills to the city following an old Indian path-way.

Andrew, 2nd, willed his Sumac Park lands and the mills of the Roxboro Milling and Bolting Com-

pany, to his eldest son, Andrew 3rd, (1696-1740.) The latter married Magdalen Rudman the daughter of the Rev. Andrew Rudman the first minister of Swedes' Gloria Dei Church.

The heirs of Andrew 3rd, in 1752, sold the Wissahickon Grist Mill and Saw Mills, also the Roxboro Mills to Henry Shellenburg. In 1755, John Vandéren bought the three mills and added considerable adjoining property to this estate.

Before 1772, Nicholas Rittenhouse and he owned jointly "The New Mill" (below Hermit lane). In 1783, Rittenhouse sold his half interest to Vandéren—37 acres, corn or grist mill, bolting mills, mill dam, etc. This mill was on the original Sumac Park tract, and stood on the site of the Maple Springs Hotel, in 1794, Michael Rittenhouse being the sole owner.

An important engagement between the American and Hessian troops took place at the Ridge avenue bridge and Vandéren Mills during the battle of Germantown, on October 4th, 1777.

Captain Ewald, of the Hessian forces, gave the following account of the engagement, "The alarm of Washington's approach having been given a battalion of the German Jagers was hurried to the bridge over the Wissahickon. The Jager Corps was attacked by 4,000 men with four 6 pounders.. (General Armstrong's account states they had but 1500 men and two field pieces).

"So the Corps was forced to leave the bridge, but took position on the hill opposite and defended this post with its rifles against the repeated attempts of the enemy to force it. The enemies' four cannon played constantly on the Jagers, while our 3-pounders could not reach the enemy. Meantime the firing became general and very strong on the right wing, until about nine o'clock when Lieutenant General Knypshausen sent us word that the enemy's left wing was beaten. Hereupon, Lieut. Colonel Von Wurmb attacked the bridge again and drove the enemy both from there and from the opposite heights under a heavy fire. As the attack had to be made through a long defile, the enemy had time to retire." (Note position of the Hessian redoubts in the survey of 1850). The mills were considered of great value by the British army, and that their right wing was around the Lukens' mill, on the Wingohocking, and their left on the hills above Vandéren's mill, is a coincidence, for both had been built by Richard Townsend about 1686.

Before 1786 John Vandéren was the sole owner of four mills in Sumac Park: the Roxboro Mill, the Grist and Saw Mills on Ridge avenue, and "The New Mill" below Hermit lane. In this year he placed a mortgage for 2500 pounds sterling on the mills and 200 to 300 acres of land with Peter Care, the owner of the Monastery Mill, at Kitchens lane.

On June 6th 1798, the mills and lands again came into the possession of the Robeson family.

At a sheriff's sale, Peter and

Jonathan Robeson purchased the fourteen adjoining pieces of property, in all 263 acres, for 5900 pounds sterling, subject to Peter Care's mortgage reduced to 2000 pounds. The land included the western part of Sumac Park, Falls of Schuylkill in Northern Liberties, and 20 acres across the river in Lower Merion township of Montgomery County.

Peter and Jonathan were the great grand sons of Andrew Robeson, 2nd. In 1795, The Duke de la Rochefoucault, Liencourt, a Frenchman, and Caleb Lownes, a brother-in-law of Peter Robeson, set out on horse-back from Philadelphia through Ridge road to Norristown. They were entertained at the Robeson Mansion and in his diary the Duke gives the first account we have of the falls of the Wissahickon, as it was before 1826 when a great mass of rock was removed, where the Reading Railroad Bridge now crosses the Creek. The diary reads:

"The Wissahickon flows between hills which are high and covered with wood. A fine waterfall of about 7 or 8 feet, and as broad as the bed of the rivulet, supplies Robeson's Mill with more water than would be required for running many more mills.

"The banks of the Rivulet bear a wild and romantic appearance, and the brook meanders in the most beautiful manner through the woods and rocks, forms a grand yet gloomy prospect, which catches and delights the eye, and disposes the mind to pensive reflection.

"Robeson's Estate consists of 250 acres; four oxen and two horses do the work of the farm. He is a skilled miller.

"The water from the Wissahickon turns twenty-five other mills before it reaches Robeson's. The mill has three separate mills, two for manufacturing and one for the public. He grinds yearly 45 to 50 thousand bushels of corn, which is procured from Virginia and New York and some from Pennsylvania. The mill will hold 10,000 bushels of corn. Six horses are continuously employed in carrying meal to Philadelphia and bringing back corn in return. The water of the Wissahickon is never frozen, nor does the mill ever cease working."

The water that ran the mill was carried by a mill race that ran from the dam that is several hundred feet above the present one at Ridge road.

In 1832, Fanny Kemble, the actress, wrote of her horseback rides along the Wissahickon, and of the great beauty of the mill, dam, bridge, etc. "I stopped for a long time opposite the Wissahickon Creek. The stone bridge with its grey arch, mingled with the rough blocks of rock on which it rests, the sheet of foaming water falling like a curtain of gold over the dam among the dark stones below, on whose brown sides the ruddy sunlight and glittering water fell like splinters of light. The bright rich tufted cedars breaking in the warm glow, the picturesque mill, the smooth open field, along whose

sides the river waters, after receiving this child of the mountains into their bosom, wound deep and bright and still, the whole radiant with the softest light I ever beheld, formed a most enchanting and serene subject of contemplation".

The bridge she describes must have been the Ridge avenue bridge as the railroad bridge was not commenced until 1833, and the dam was not the artificial one we see today.

Peter Robeson's brother, Jonathan, and his father, Jonathan Robeson, were all members of Friends' Meeting. Upon the death of Jonathan, his brother, Peter, purchased his half-interest in mills and lands.

In the early 1800's, Peter Robeson built and gave to his son, Andrew, 4th, as a wedding present, "Milverton" a double dwelling with large central hall, surrounded with unusually fine trees. It was afterwards known as the Riverside Mansion, a public hostelry.

Peter Robeson married, first, Martha Livezey, daughter of Thomas Livezey, of "Glen Fern", now the home of the Valley Green Canoe Club; second, Elizabeth Heath, also of the Livezey family, she was an able preacher in the Friends' Meeting.

Peter Robeson died November 9th, 1833, and willed his mills and land to his sons, Andrew, 4th, and Jonathan.

Andrew Robeson, 4th, settled in New Bedford, Mass., and was a manufacturer of cotton goods and connected with the whaling industry. His sister, Catharine, married Dr. John Moore; a sister Sarah married Joseph Lee; and his Aunt Margaret married Caleb Lownes; and the daughter of the Lea's married George Minister. The Lees lived at "Milverton" until 1845, and the Ministers until 1880. After the death of Peter, the Lownes lived in the Robeson Mansion.

About 1834, one of the relatives of Peter Robeson made a black and white sketch from the Montgomery County side of the Schuylkill, of the mouth of the Wissahickon, showing the Roxboro mill, the long approach and wooden bridge of the Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown R. R. To the left is shown Milverton, with seven of the Lea children on the porch.

August 13, 1862, the Robeson Mill was destroyed by fire. At the time it was owned by Andrew, 4th, and rented to John and James Dobson, who were making blue woolen cloth for the soldiers of the Union Army. Shortly after this the Dobsons purchased the property and erected a large modern stone woolen mill. It was in the center of the present Wissahickon Drive.

In 1869, the city purchased for Fairmount Park all of the land through which the Wissahickon flowed, and removed the Dobson Mill.

Fortunately, the Roxboro Mill was left standing as a reminder of the early industries and Colonial Days.

In closing let us refer again to the glories of the Robeson Mansion

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and the superbly designed railroad bridge.

It is very probable that a dwelling was erected on the site of the present Robeson Mansion, as early as 1689—a deed of that year mentions a building, grist mill and saw mill. A dwelling is again mentioned in deeds of 1703 and 1733. Scull and Heaps map of 1750 give the position of the dwelling just below the Robeson Mill. The house is also mentioned in many other deeds down to the present time.

Another descendant of Peter Robeson drew a black and white sketch in about 1834 of the Grist Mill and Robeson Mansion; in front of the dwelling is passing a covered Conestoga wagon and to the left is a large oak tree. For over one hundred and fifty years, many of the Robeson family were born, lived, and died in the old homestead.

In the early 1870's, Mr. and Mrs. James Dobson resided there. It was afterward sold and conducted as The Highbridge Hotel, and is now known as Barnett's Gardens. The dwelling has been greatly added to and modernized, but the third story and hipped roof are the same as it appeared in the sketch of just 100 years ago.

The Philadelphia, Germantown and Norristown Railroad Bridge over the Wissahickon, was constructed for September 25th, 1833. The first bridge was completed in October 1834. Regular traffic to Manayunk began October 20, 1834. The first locomotive and passenger cars started from 9th and Green streets.

The account of the first trip, as related in the Germantown Telegraph, is as follows:

"Cars at length approached that magnificent structure over the Wissahickon at Robeson's Mill. The construction of this viaduct in the firm and substantial manner in which it appears to be built is certainly an extraordinary undertaking; and has been accomplished in a manner which has given entire satisfaction to the Railroad Company. Height is about 70 feet above the surface of the water, and length 473 feet, and cost of construction about \$30,000."

The bridge was of wood with trellis work frames on the side resting on stone piers.

Extract from Annual Report, November 1st, 1842:

"A tract of edgerail, supported upon continuous bearings of white oak timber has been laid upon the Wissahickon Bridge, together with a new floor of hemlock planks; and that important structure, about which so much solicitude was felt has been greatly strengthened by additional braces, by arches of white pine in all the spans, added on the outside of the lattice frames and secured to them by screw-bolts. This work has rendered the bridge abundantly strong and a good coat of whitewash has improved its appearance.

"On the afternoon of August 12, 1862, the bridge over the Wissa-

hickon Creek was entirely destroyed by fire. The bridge took fire from the mill adjacent, known as Roberson's Mill. An arrangement was immediately made with Mr. Stone for the erection of a trestle-work as a temporary bridge. The whole work was satisfactorily completed in thirteen days; and in nineteen days the trains were regularly passing over the bridge. Proposals having been invited for the construction of an iron bridge. The bids were few and exceedingly high (Civil War times) owing to the increased price of iron and the present difficulty of procuring it . . . and instead passed a resolution authorizing the erection of a substantial wooden one."

The present Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Bridge was commenced in 1872 and proceeded therewith to build a double track stone railroad bridge over the Wissahickon Valley.

The bridge was completed in 1875 in time for the opening of the Centennial the next year.

In 1927, extensive repairs and renewals were made to the bridge and in 1932, electrification was completed.

Locally this bridge is called "The High Bridge" and in his manuscript "Songs of the Wissahickon"—A. C. Chadwick, Jr., dedicated this verse to the structure:

"Five arches, each of vaulting length

Leap o'er the little river's vale,
To form a roadway, high and strong,

Sustaining on its floor, the rail
Which locomotives speed upon.

But beauty too is in each span,
And causes passers-by to praise—
The genius of the human clan."

In "The Wissahickon Valley" by Mr. F. B. Brant, he describes the bridge as "A scene crowned by a magnificent span of arches worthy of a Roman gauseway."

William Rittenhouse, Senior, (1644-1708) was born near Mulheim, in 1673, he was a paper maker in Amsterdam. We first learn of him in America in 1687, when he purchased 50 acres of land in Germantown where the Mennonite Church is now located.

He arrived with his two sons, Nicholas (Claus, Klass) and Garrett, also daughter Elizabeth, who married Heivert Papen.

In New York City, Nicholas Rittenhouse married Wilhelmina Dewees, the sister of William Dewees, who reected the second paper mill in America on the Wissahickon, near the Springfield Township line. The marriage record states that Nicholas was, "A young man of Arnheim, living on the Delaware River."

In 1689, William Penn granted the 446 acre tract adjoining Sumac Park on the North to Richard Vickris, (or Vicaris), of Chemagua, England; on this land the five Rittenhouse Mills were erected.

Before the coming of Penn to Pennsylvania the land in which Roxborough and Germantown are located was occupied by the Indian Chiefs—Neneshicken and Malebore.

By treaty late 14th day of fifth month, 1683, William Penn purchased from the Chiefs all of their title and interests in the lands betwixt Manalunk (Schuylkill) and Pemmapecka (Pennyback) so far as the hill called Conshohocken on the River Manalunk and from there by a Northwest line to the river of Pemmapecka. The consideration paid the chiefs was: 150 fathoms of wampum, 15 guns, 15 blankets, 3 great kettles, 15 small kettles, 15 coats, 15 shirts, 60 yards duffils, 6 drawing knives, 20 gimlets, 7 pair of shoes, 15 pair of stockings, 15 pair of scissors, 31 pounds of powder, 15 aules, 18 small glasses, 10 boxes, 6 capps, 3 papers of beads, and a paper of red lead. The Treaty was with the Leni-Lenape or Delaware Indian Tribe.

In describing the five Rittenhouse Mills we will number them as follows:

No. 5. Nicholas Rittenhouse, 2nd, Grist Mill, 1746.

No. 6. William Rittenhouse, 2nd, Grist Mill, before 1772.

No. 7. Jacob and Abraham Rittenhouse, Paper Mill, before 1760.

No. 8. William Rittenhouse, Sr., Paper Mill, 1690.

No. 9. Henry Rittenhouse, Grist Mill, 1751.

No. 5 and No. 9 were on the Wissahickon and Nos. 6, 7, and 8, on Paper Mill Run, called by the Indians, "Monoshone."

In this article we will give only the history of the first paper mill in America (No. 8) and the Rittenhouse dwelling now on Lincoln Drive, near Rittenhouse street. (At a later date we hope to give the history of the other four Rittenhouse Mills.)

In 1690, Samuel Carpenter owned a part of the Vickris tract and 20 acres of this land he leased for 999 years at a yearly rental of 5 shillings and one pepper corn to Robert Turner (of Sumac Park), William Bradford (First Printer in Pennsylvania) Thomas Tress and William Rittenhouse, Sr. The agreement was that they should erect a paper mill.

The 20 acres ran from the Wissahickon, in Roxborough, 110 perch to the Germantown Line, and 35 perch on this line, which included both sides of Paper Mill Run.

This partnership of William Rittenhouse, a practical paper maker, and William Bradford, the first printer in Philadelphia, insured the success of the infant industry.

It was agreed that Bradford should each year receive a certain quantity of writing printing and blue paper for his exclusive use. In 1697 he was to have all the printing paper made for a period of ten years at ten shillings per ream.

A quaint doggerel by John Holmes, 1693, mentions the mill:

"The paper mill is here hard by,

And makes good paper frequently.

Kind friends when thy old shift is rent

Let it to the paper mill be sent."

Also Richard Frame, printed by William Bradford, in 1692:

"Where lives High-German

People, and Low-Dutch,
Whose Trade in weaving
Linen-cloth is much,

From Linnen rags, good paper
doth derive,

The first Trade keeps the
second Trade alive."

"Without the first, the second
cannot be,

Therefore, since they two
can so well agree.

Also when on our backs it is
well worn,

Some of the same remain
ragged and Torn.

Then of those Rags our paper
it is made,

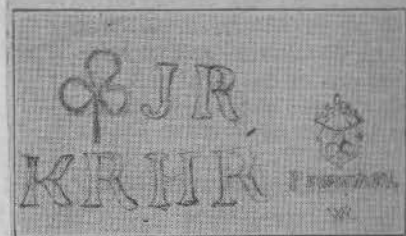
Which in process of time
doth waste and fade,

So what comes from the Earth,
appeareth plain,

The same in Time returns to
earth again."

About 1700 the paper mill was washed away by a great freshet, this was during the second visit of William Penn to Philadelphia. A certificate in his handwriting states that William Rittenhouse and Claus, his son, part-owners of a paper mill, had sustained a very heavy loss by a violent and sudden flood, which carried away the said mill, with a considerable quantity of paper, material and tools, whereby they were reduced to great distress, and therefore it is recommended to such persons as should be disposed to lend and to give the

WATERMARKS



Tracing made from original watermarks in Rittenhouse paper. The "WR" was used before William, Sr's. death in 1708. The "KR" with the cloverleaf, was used by Klaas (Claus or Nicholas) Rittenhouse, on paper used for the "American Weekly Mercury" in 1719. The "JR" and "HR" were trade marks after the death of Nicholas, Sr., in 1734.

sufferers relief and encouragement in their needful and commendable employment as they were desirous to set up the paper mill again.

William Penn generously headed the list of subscribers with a contribution of 25 pounds.

It is interesting to know that last month, August 24th, 1933, another great and violent storm visited Paper Mill Run, and washed away the bridge and concrete walls of the run, between the Rittenhouse dwelling and where Mill No. 7 once stood.

The paper mill was rebuilt in about the same location. An indenture of 1705-6 states that the other three partners sold out their interests in the paper mill and 20 acres to William Rittenhouse, Sr. William Rittenhouse, Sr., was a

preacher in the Mennonite Church and in 1701 was ordained the first Bishop of that faith in the Colonies.

Rittenhouse, during his life, sold a three-quarter interest in the mill to his son Nicholas, and upon his death in 1708, (he died intestate) his son became sole owner.

David Rittenhouse wrote that "For the Manufacturing of the paper in the mill they carried the rags in bags on the backs of horses from School House Lane (earlier called Robeson's Mill Road) and returned the paper in hampers in the same manner. The rags were brought from Philadelphia, in carts, and the paper returned to the City"

The exact location of the first paper mill of 1690, and the one that replaced it in about 1702 at the same place is determined from old deeds and surveys. It was built 330 feet above the present Rittenhouse dwelling along Lincoln Drive, on the opposite side of Paper Mill Run,

on a tract of land marked 9 1-2 acres on a survey of William Rittenhouse, 2nd, (Oldest Son of Nicholas, Sr. made in 1772. This lot was south west from the Germantown line including Paper Mill Run and the mouth of the little stream that runs from the south side into Paper Mill Run. The first paper mill dam was just below this juncture about 115 ft. above the first paper mill, west of the 9 1-2 acre lot was an 8 1-2 acre plot marked Jacob Rittenhouse (1722-1811—here was his paper mill No. 7 built before 1760. To the south of this, was a 14 1-4 acre tract, marked Nicholas Rittenhouse 2nd (1719-1787) upon which was erected in 1707 the Rittenhouse dwelling. There was never a paper mill on this 14 1-2 acre lot, many writers claim that the stable or smoke house near the Rittenhouse dwelling was the first paper mill, but this is not correct.

Nicholas, Sr. (1666-1734) increased the production and quality of the paper manufactured and both the "American Weekly Mercury," Philadelphia, 1719, and "New York Gazette" 1725, were printed upon paper showing the water mark of Nicholas. We reproduce a tracing from the "Mercury,"—on one sheet was the clover leaf and on the other the initials K. R. (Klaas Rittenhouse) The other water mark W. R. is from "History of Paper Making" by Weeks.

In the possession of the writer there is a piece of paper marked "H. R." (Henry Rittenhouse, died 1768) dated 1745 He must have had an interest in Mills Nos. 7 or 8, before he built the Red Covered Bridge Grist Mill (No. 9) in 1751.

Nicholas, Sr., died in 1734, he will- ed the 20 acres and old paper mill to his eldest son, William, 2nd.

William, 2nd., (1691-1744) owned at different times over 220 acres in the Vickris and Jannet tracts.

In all deeds of transfer he calls himself a paper maker, as does his son Jacob, the other three sons, Henry, Nicholas 2nd, and Abraham were also named paper makers, until they built their Grist Mills.

Benjamin Franklin, diplomat, inventor, ambassador, and holder of many great honors and degrees, in his will calls himself simply "printer," so these early Rittenhouses in

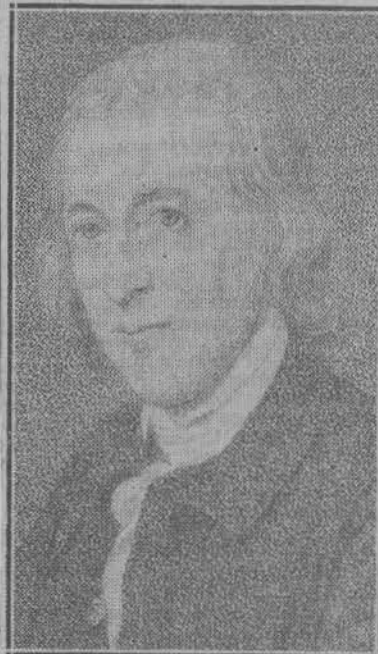
PAPER MILL SITE



Upper: Location of First Paper Mill in America, on Paper Mill Run, 330 feet above the Rittenhouse dwelling on the Lincoln Drive, but on the opposite side of the little stream. The mill was built in 1690; washed away in a freshet, 1700; and rebuilt the following year on the same spot.

Lower: The first dam, providing water for the mill was about 20 feet in front of the little wooden bridge shown above, and about 100 feet above the old mill. A raceway conveyed the water to the mill.

AMERICAN SCIENTIST



DAVID RITTENHOUSE
Mathematician, astronomer, surveyor and first Director of the United States Mint, who first saw the light of day in the accompanying pictured little house which still stands on the Lincoln Drive in Roxborough. The likeness, printed above, is a reproduction of a steel engraving made from a Charles Wilson Peale painting of Rittenhouse, which was made in 1772, when the noted scientist was 40 years of age.

deeds and wills were proud to state they were "paper makers."

Before 1760 there were two paper mills on Paper Mill Run, the old Mill No. 8 and the later Paper Mill No. 7. We suppose the Old Mill became out of date, and the new more modern mill No. 7 was built.

After the death of Nicholas, Sr. in 1734, the paper mill or mills, were continued by his son, William 2nd, and grandsons, Jacob, Nicholas, Henry and Abraham. Jacob was the only one who remained a paper maker, the water mark used was the clover leaf, J. R. He was a member of the Minute Men of 1776 a generous contributor to the Mennonite Church and a prominent citizen.

November 21, 1760, William 2nd, sold to his sons Jacob and Abraham 18 acres of land (old paper mill lot of 9 1-2 acres and mill No. 7 tract of 8 1-2 acres).

The old yearly interest on ground rent of 5 shillings and one pepper corn was to be paid to the heirs of Samuel Carpenter now for only 920 years.

The deed mentions the old paper mill and in several other places mills—they were also to have the water rights of the two small streams running into the 9 1-2 acre lot they were also to have the privilege of cleaning out and keeping up the height of the water as it always had been, and when there was more than enough water to run the mills, the owners below were to have enough water to flood the meadows. The 18 acres were a part of the original 20 acres.

In 1769, Jacob was assessed for paper mill and 30 acres, Abraham for paper mill and 30 acres. In 1783, Jacob, Paper Mill and 31 acres. In 1785, Jacob and Abraham sell the 9 1-2 acres containing the old paper mill to William Rittenhouse, 3rd, but the deed specified that Jacob was to retain the old paper mill with land upon which was built, also privileges to pass and repass, right of mill dam, mill race, also rights of the two small streams running into Paper Mill Run.

A deed of 1815 states the

dam for the Mill was to the N. W. of where the two, small streams ran into Paper Mill Run.

The illustration of the "Dam of the Rittenhouse Paper Mill on Paper Mill Run, near Rittenhouse Town, in Roxborough Township" was published in Lockwood's trade Journal.

Mills 7 and 8, also Henry Dewees' plant, were the only paper mills in Roxborough or Germantown townships during the Revolution when there was such a great shortage of paper.

In July 1776, the paper makers of Philadelphia County wrote the Committee of Safety, "That if all the Paper Makers, Masters, Apprentices, and Journeymen within the ages aforesaid (16 to 50 should now leave the trade and follow the camp, then all the paper mills in Philadelphia County, making the majority of the Paper Mills of this continent must immediately be shut up and of course, in a few weeks, the printing offices, even Cartridge Paper, would soon fail."

August 9, 1776, the Continental Congress enacted the following.

"The Honorable Congress having resolved that the Paper Makers in

BIRTHPLACE OF MATHEMATICIAN



Dwelling which still stands between the Lincoln Drive and Paper Mill Run, in the Wissahickon Valley, in which David Rittenhouse was born. This house occupies a site west of the original Roxborough Township Line, and is what is now the 21st Ward of the City of Philadelphia.

Pennsylvania be detained from proceeding with the Associators to New Jersey, all offices of this State are required to pay strict regard to same."

The American Philosophical Society offered a prize of 25 pounds Sterling, to the person who collected the greatest quantity of linen rags for the paper mills, in order to excite them to greater diligence.

Jacob died in 1811 without issue and Enoch and Samuel, the sons of his brother Abraham, inherited the Mill. Enoch Rittenhouse died in 1855 and the Mill, or a least the Mill Site, passed into the hands of his cousin Peter Rittenhouse. After 1880, the twenty acres was purchased by the Park Commission. We wonder if they still have to pay the heirs of Samuel Carpenter, the yearly rental of 5 shillings and one pepper corn on the old ground rent for another 747 years.

Two other descendants of the first paper maker, Martin and W. H. Nixon, through their grandfather Martin Rittenhouse, were until comparatively recent the owners of the largest paper mills in Manayunk.

"History of Paper Manufacturing in the United States" 1916 by L. H. Weeks, gives an interesting account of the paper industry of the first mill and as it was in the United States in 1916.

"Altogether there is an amazing comparison between the solitary Rittenhouse Mill of 1690, worth a few hundred dollars, employing three men, producing annually, perhaps, fifteen hundred reams of paper and supplying only the needs of a small community and, at the other end of the line, the great business of the twentieth century.

The seven hundred establishments of 1916, with paper and pulp mills, represented an investment in capital of more than \$550,000,000; employing 100,000 persons; a daily capacity of about 20,000 tons of paper,

and annually produced to the value of nearly \$350,000,000."

The Rittenhouse dwelling on Lincoln Drive, built by W. C. R. (William and Claus) in 1707, is still standing, and it was there that David Rittenhouse was born in 1732.

William, Sr., and Nicholas, Sr., lived and died there - the latter in 1734. William willed his entire estate to his eldest son, William, 2nd, (1691-1774).

In 1746, he sold the dwelling and 14 1-4 acres to his son Nicholas, 2nd, and in 1802, his son Martin purchased the same, but in these deeds there is no mention of a Mill on this lot.

After 1880, the Park Commission purchased this land.

In 1769 Philadelphia County included the present counties of Chester, Delaware and Montgomery.

A tax list of that year records 317 mills run by water power from the stream emptying into the Schuylkill and Delaware rivers, in the old county of Philadelphia.

They were paper, saw, grist, oil, flour, fulling and powder mills. Of these 169 were in Chester, which included Delaware County; 96 in Montgomery County, and 52 in the present county of Philadelphia.

As the story of the first (Rittenhouse—No. 8) paper mill has already been given to readers of this paper, we will continue with the other Rittenhouse mills. Mill No. 5 was that of Nicholas Rittenhouse. It was the second grist mill built in 1746, and located on the east side of the Wissahickon Creek, erected on a low strip of land about four hundred feet above the recently erected Henry avenue bridge.

On the opposite side a great mass of rocks and trees ascended the hills for more than 200 feet,

and near the summit overlooking the ravine, was the great promontory known as Lovers' Leap, with its fabled Indian superstitions and Colonial tradition.

Below Lovers' Leap, was the Hermits' Glen, where Kelpius and his followers practiced their strange religious beliefs.

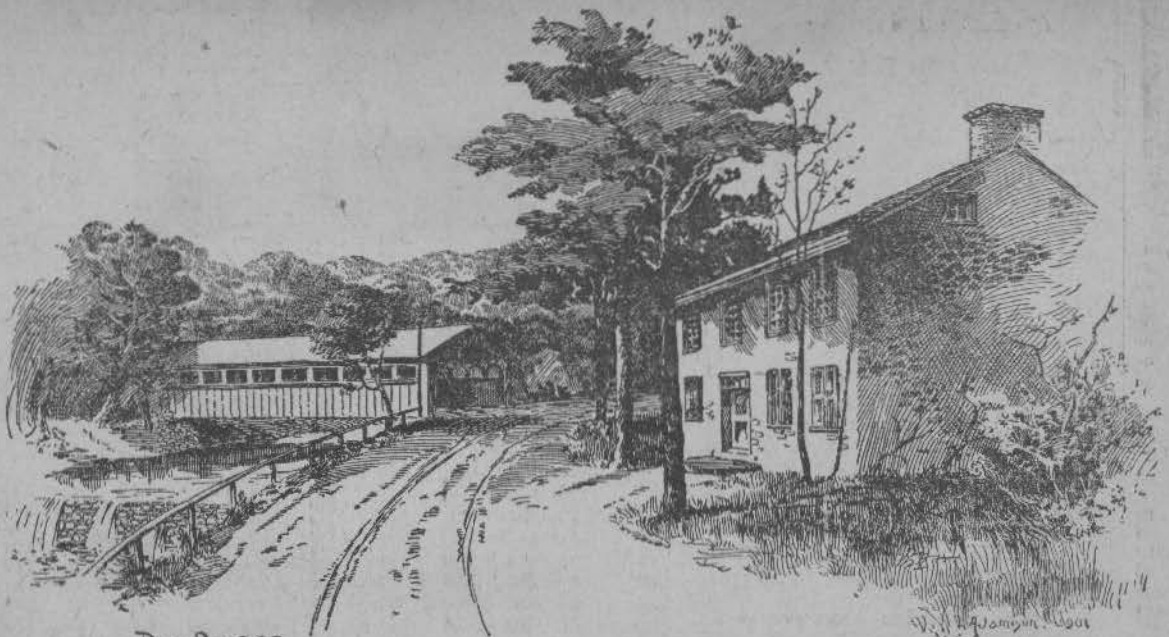
On June 4th 1746, William Rittenhouse 2nd, the grandson of the first papermaker, sold to his son, Nicholas 2nd, also a papermaker, who married Catherine Nice, 44 1-2 acres of land beginning at the Sumac Park line and extending up the Wissahickon to include the mouth of Paper Mill Run. In the same year Nicholas 2nd sold a half interest in 32 acres of this land to M. O. Hogermeed, Sr., a wheelwright, who built the grist mill, and in 1767 his heirs sold the half interest to Nicholas 2nd.

In 1785 N. Rittenhouse sold the mill to his son, Martin, for 2000 pounds sterling. In a survey of 1772 the mill is drawn as a three story building, with a mansard roof. It was the largest of the five Rittenhouse mills at that time. Nicholas Rittenhouse's mill road ran from near the Rittenhouse dwelling on Paper Mill Run, down the creek nearly to the Sumac Park line. About 160 feet below this line was Mill No. 4, built by Nicholas Rittenhouse and John Vandaren in 1772, and called "the New Mill" but the road did not extend to the mill. In 1774 Martin Rittenhouse was taxed for a grist mill and 18 acres of land. It may be that he rented Mill No. 7, which belonged to his Uncle Jacob, as that mill was on an 18 acre tract. In 1797 Martin sold the mill to his brother, Nicholas third.

In 1864 Nicholas 3rd and other heirs, sold Mill No. 5, which had been altered into a three-storied woolen factory, with mansion and eight tenement houses, and nine acres of land, to Sarah Greenwood. In 1873 this woman sold the mill and lands which included a fire-ruined factory, to the Fairmount Park Commission for \$42,500. The Greenwood mills had been destroyed by fire on June 24th, entailing a loss of \$20,000.

Mill No. 6 was built by William Rittenhouse 2nd, before 1772. In that year he sold the grist mill and ten acres of land on Paper Mill Run to his sons, Jacob and Abraham Rittenhouse. It was below the building properly marked as the birthplace of David Rittenhouse, which still stands along the Lincoln Drive, and about 350 feet above the mouth of Paper Mill Run.

In 1785 the brothers sold the mill to a William Rittenhouse, with wife Ann, and in 1789 these in turn sold the property to another William Rittenhouse, with wife Margaret. In 1811 Matthew McConnell, a paper maker, bought the mill, when it became a paper mill. The next owner was Philip H. Nickel, a book seller. This was



RED BRIDGE
& OLD HOUSE

Rittenhouse dwelling and covered wooden bridge over the Wissahickon Creek, at the foot of old Shur's lane, as it appeared about 1845. The building has been removed and the span replaced by a modern skew-stone structure by the Fairmount Park Commission, and that part of Shur's lane—once known also as Rittenhouse street—abandoned since the erection of the Walnut Lane Bridge connecting Roxborough and Germantown.

in 1813, on July 2nd 1853, James Lord, Jr., bought the ten acres of land and the mill. In 1864 he sold the factory and outbuildings to Holmes Ammerdown, of New York City, for \$75,000. The following year title passed to E. H. Ammerdown. This included the factory buildings and tenements. In 1872 the Commissioners of Fairmount Park purchased the property for \$115,000.

Mill No. 7 was a paper mill on the 8 1-2 acres just across the Paper Mill Run from the birthplace of David Rittenhouse. It was sold by William Rittenhouse 2nd papermaker, to his sons, Jacob and Abraham, on November 21st 1760. In 1772 Jacob was the sole owner. He lived to be nearly 90 years of

age and died in 1811 without issue. He willed the mill to Enoch and Samuel, the sons of his brother, Abraham Rittenhouse. It is said that the mill was rented at one time by Jacob Markle, a papermaker—from whom Markle street, in Roxborough receives its name—who had married the widow of Isaac Rittenhouse, a brother of Jacob.

In 1855 Enoch willed the mill—then a woolen factory rented to Alexander McKell and brothers—to Peter, a son of his cousin, Peter Rittenhouse.

An oil painting shows the mill to be a three story building with mansard roof, as it was before being demolished by the Park Commissioners, after they had purchased it in 1891.

Mill No. 9 was the Henry Rittenhouse grist mill. Henry was a son of William Rittenhouse 2nd. The mill stood on the Wissahickon Creek, near the old Rittenhouse

covered bridge, which has since been replaced by the handsome Blue Stone Bridge, at old Rittenhouse street.

Henry Rittenhouse built the mill in 1751, but before this date he is mentioned as a papermaker. He had a wife, Mary, and six children. The date-stone of the mill, is now possessed by the Germantown Historical Society, and reads, "built in 1751, enlarged in 1787, rebuilt by Nicholas Rittenhouse 1859." In 1768 a road was confirmed from Henry Rittenhouse's mill, joining Holgate's mill road, thence up the hill to Roxborough. Later the road became known as Abraham Rittenhouse's mill road, then Rittenhouse street, and just before its abandonment, "Shur's lane."

Henry died in 1769 his estate was taxed for a grist mill and 33 acres, also, in 1783 for the same mill and 30 acres. After this date the mill was sold to his brother, Abraham (1723-1815) who lived to be 92 years of age. He in turn willed the property to his three sons, the eldest son, Enoch, afterward purchasing the shares of his two brothers. Enoch, afterward purchasing the shares of his two brothers. Enoch left the mill to his son, Nicholas 4th who rebuilt the mill.

The red covered bridge, with the dam just below, the old mill with the dwelling close by, made a very attractive scene, which is partly seen in the illustration which accompanies this article.

The Park Commission purchased the mill and 26 acres for \$46,000 in 1873.

A. C. Chadwick, Jr., editor of "The Suburban Press," kindly loan-

ed me a copy of "The Riversons," a novel written around the members of the Rittenhouse family, by S. J. Bumstead, a one time pastor of the Fourth Reformed Church, Roxborough, which was published in 1892. The story is an old time love romance, describing the mill road, the nearby Rittenhouse dwelling and the red covered bridge as they were in 1845. A great many families of Roxborough and vicinity are woven into the fabric of the tale, with their amusements, pleasures and trials, all told in a most interesting manner.

A young girl, "Marian Riverson"—or Rittenhouse—lives in the dwelling near the grist mill. She is the daughter of "Colonel Riverson," the former owner of the mill. Upon the death of the grandfather, it was found that he had left his family a very small estate. One chapter is entitled "Marian Finds More Gold and a Lover."

The girl is a somnambulist and in the morning upon awakening she finds in her pocket several gold pieces. This occurs quite often and to stop the gossip of evil-minded persons suggests that she obtains the money dishonestly, her fiance follows her as she leaves her home at midnight. Marian enters the old mill and descending to the lower floor, removes a stone in the wall and takes out a handful of gold, and places it in her pocket replaces the stone and returns home.

In the morning Marion, her family and lover, go down to the mill and discover the hiding place of the Colonel's \$20,000 in gold. So many banks had failed that he placed the gold in the mill for safe keeping.

After solving the mystery of the gold pieces the lovers were married and as all story tellers put it, "lived happily ever after."

So far we have given some of the history of the mills on the lower Wissahickon at Paper Mill Run, and so will now continue with Mills No. 10 and 11.

Concerning Holgate's Fulling Mill (No. 10) which was in existence about 1700; John Jannett, one of the original purchasers from William Penn, in his manor of Springettsbury (now Roxborough) bought 200 acres of land in 1683, which was patented to him in 1685.

The tract adjoined the Vickris—Vicaris—plot on the north and extended from the Schuylkill river to the Germantown line, across what is now the central part of Roxborough. The Wissahickon creek ran about 1250 feet through the property, the southern line crossing the stream about 750 feet northwest of the present Blue Stone bridge at old Rittenhouse street.

In old records it is stated that on the "16th day, 3rd month, 1698". Jannett sold the 200 acres to Matthew Holgate. He came from England, sailing on the "Rebecca," from Liverpool, and arrived in Philadelphia on the 31st day, 8th month, 1685, with his daughter, Mary. Shortly after arriving he erected a fulling mill (used for removing the oil and grease from raw wool) said to be the first in Pennsylvania, on the west bank of the Wissahickon near where the present Walnut lane bridge now spans the Creek. A. C. Chadwick, Jr., of the Suburban Press, states that the indentations of an old log bridge support, can still be seen in the natural boulders at this point. In a survey of 1772, the mill is drawn as a two-storied building with a peaked roof.

The Holgates were for four generations (Matthew, Sr., Matthew, Jr., John and William) owners of fulling mills on the Wissahickon and Cresheim Creeks.

In 1720 Matthew, Sr., conveyed 100 acres and the mill to his son, Matthew, Jr.

In 1729 a petition was presented to the Court, asking for the confirmation of a road passing the mill. "There has been for many years a road leading from Ridge

road over a ford on the Wissahickon called Holgate's Ford, running up over the hills to Germantown. The said road by long experience has been found very convenient and necessary to said inhabitants." Again in 1768 "road over the Wissahickon to Holgate and Snyder's fulling and leather mill, through Holgate's land and road leading to Henry Rittenhouse's mill to Roxborough."

Part of the ruins of the Holgate mill were standing in 1860 and at this point, there was once a much-used road which was at the time a direct highway between New York and Baltimore. Traces of it can still be seen on the top of the hill.

In 1762 Matthew Holgate, Jr., conveyed the mills and land to his son, John, who sold half an interest to Christian Snyder, a skin dresser. In 1769 John Holgate was taxed for a fulling mill and 130 acres and in 1774 for the same and 145 acres and in 1779 Holgate and

Snyder for the fulling mill.

Christian Snyder also conveyed a fulling mill and grist mill with 36 acres in Germantown in 1769. In 1782-83 the mill was sold to William Rittenhouse 3rd, and in 1783 he was taxed for a fulling mill and ten acres. In 1784 William Rittenhouse sold the mill to Abraham Rittenhouse who changed it to a grist mill. At this same time Abraham also owned the Red Covered Bridge (No. 9).

By will he left the mill to his three sons, one of whom Jacob, became sole owner in 1817. After this date the height of the mill dam for the mill No. 9 was raised, so that Mill No. 10 was deprived of water power and the site was rendered useless.

William Holgate, the son of John in 1770, purchased from the heirs of John Conrad, the fulling mill on Cresheim Creek and in 1804 it was transferred to Jacob Holgate.

We have designated John Gorgas' grist mill, as Mill No. 11. It dates from about 1747.

It stood on a site that is most romantic, historical and interesting. On the hilltop above it, was the Monastery, built by Joseph Gorgas before 1752. The baptisms

of the Dunkards took place in the Wissahickon near where the present Kitchen's lane bridge crosses the stream. Before 1860 a lovely old red-covered bridge stood here, and in 1844 Edgar Allen Poe wrote that his favorite approach to the Wissahickon was "down the lane from Ridge road" in this section. This is now Roxborough avenue, but has had many names since it was first opened. Here Poe received the inspiration to write his "Morning on the Wissahickon," and here, while "floating in a skiff on the bosom of the Wissahickon" he wrote the story of the elk.

Just below the Gorgas Mill was "Mom Rinker's Rock" upon which John Welsh erected and gave to the Fairmount Park Commission "Toleration," the noteworthy statue of William Penn, which when the foliage disappears from the trees, can be readily seen from atop the Walnut lane bridge, on the eastern hills.

It is recorded that on "the 25th day, 2nd month, 1684, William Penn sells to Francis Fincher, 500 acres of land. Mary the widow, disposes of 200 acres to Thomas Hill, in 1687. He sells the same in 1691 to Weckard Levering." In 1701 Levering transferred 160 acres to Peter Conrad whose son John sold it to Benjamin Shoemaker, and in 1746-47, 27 acres passed to John Gorgas, Jr., a skin dresser of Germantown.

On November 27th 1747, Gorgas with his wife Mary, sold a quarter interest each to Michael Pelsner and Jacob Simon, millwrights, of Lancaster County. These built the grist mill.

John Gorgas, Jr., was a great grandson of William Rittenhouse, Sr., who built the first paper mill, through his son, Nicholas Rittenhouse. He was also a grandson of Wilhelmina Dewees, sister of William Dewees, who built the second

paper mill, as she married his grandfather, Nicholas.

The Gorgas family owned in part or entire, at different times, more than six mills on the Wissahickon and its tributaries. John, Sr., in 1713 purchased a quarter interest in the second paper mill he and William Dewees, on about the same location. In 1728 he started manufacturing of a paper resembling asses' skin, from a species of rotten stone. Probably an early asbestos product, or similar to it, Joel Munsell in his "History of Paper Making," Fifth Edition, states that this was the third paper mill in the Colonies. Before his death in 1741, he built and owned a fulling mill on Cresheim Creek. His son, John Gorgas, Jr., owned a grist mill and an oil mill on Oil Mill Run, which empties into the Wissahickon at Gorgas lane, this is also above Mill No. 11.

There is Gorgas street, in Germantown, and Gorgas lane, in Roxborough, and also the Gorgas Park, adjoining the Roxborough High School, which was presented to the residents of that section by the late

Susan Gorgas, and the Dr. Gorgas, who contributed so much to the success of the building of the Panama Canal, who is said to be a descendant of this great family. Yet there has never been written a complete history of this interesting family.

In early days the Gorgas' were members of the Mennonite Meeting, but later joined the Dunkard, or Seventh Day Baptists. In 1741, Mary, the sister of John, Jr., was living in the monastery at Ephrata, in Lancaster County, when the Brotherhood of Dunkards established their famous paper mill and printery. John's three brothers, before 1749 followed their sister. Benjamin and Jacob were paper makers, and Joseph a skin dresser. They resided in the Brotherhood settlement.

Joseph Gorgas returned to Roxborough and in a deed of 1752, it is stated that before that date, Joseph Gorgas (brother of John, Jr.) had erected at his own cost and expense a three storied stone

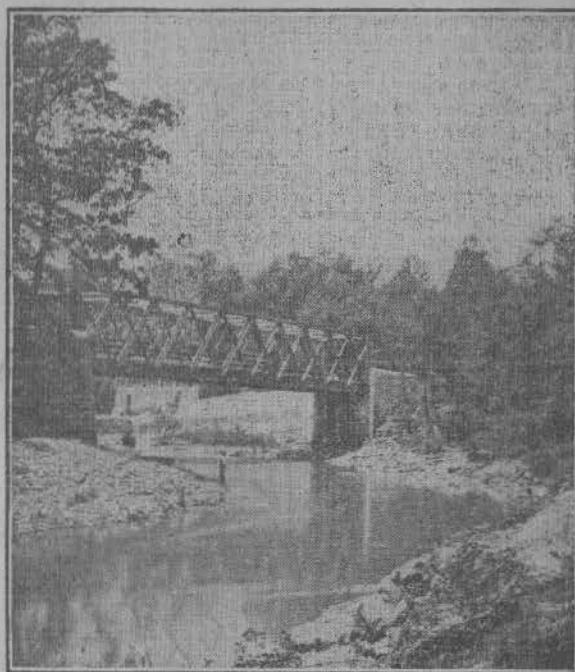
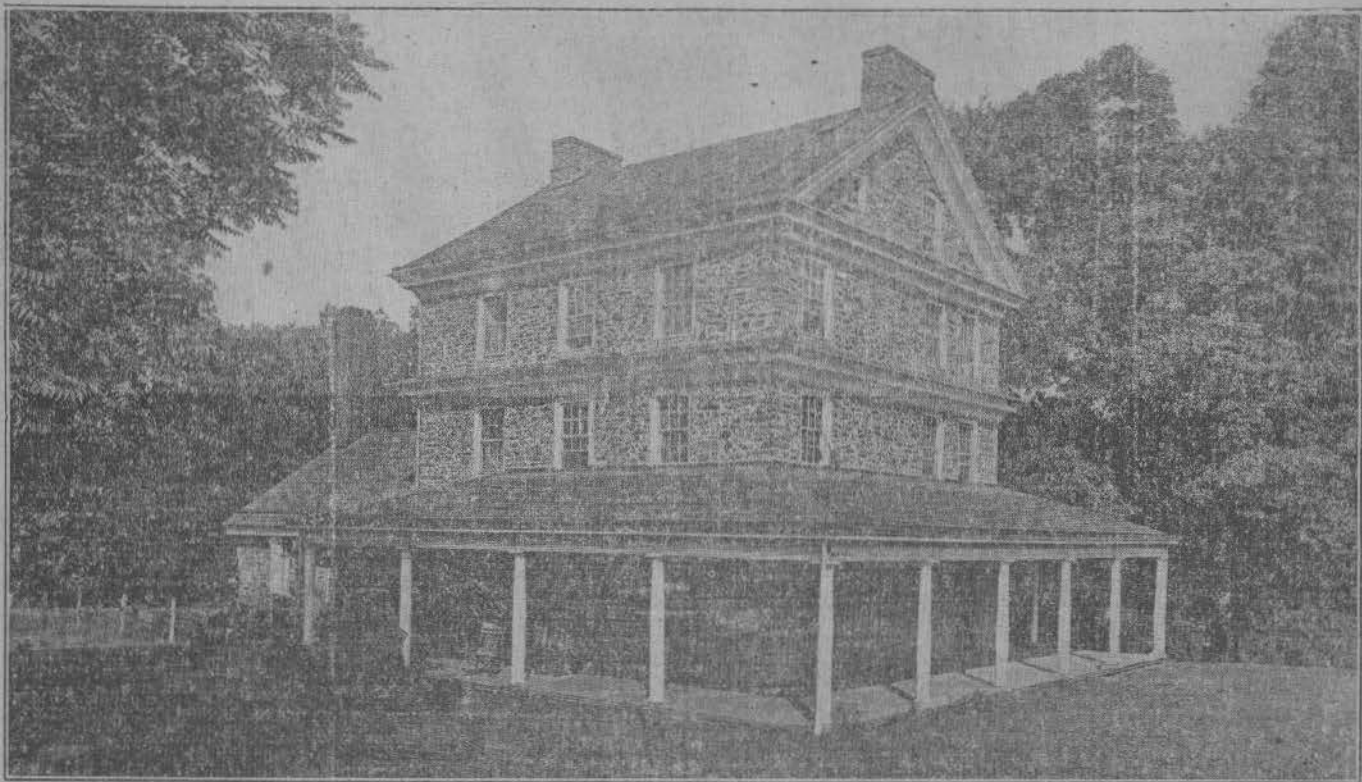
building. This building was the Monastery, erected on a two-acre tract, part of the 27 acres. We suppose this two acres was the site of the old John Gumre homestead. In 1752 John Gorgas, Jr., sold his half interest and Simon, and the Widow Pelsner their quarter interests, in the two acres and three storied building to Joseph Gorgas. At this time Joseph was the leader of a group of Dunkards, or Seventh Day Baptists, who held their religious meetings in this Monastery.

The Gorgas Mill was operated by water power from a small stream running into the Wissahickon, above Kitchen's lane bridge.

In 1752 Joseph bought a quarter interest in the grist and saw mill and also 33 acres of land. In 1759 he bought his brother John's half interest in the mill and by 1761 he possessed the whole property. In

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SCENES ALONG THE WISSA HICKON CREEK AND VALLEY



"Toleration," the great statue of William Penn, erected by John Welsh, of Centennial Exposition fame, is well known to local residents as being located on "Mom Rinker's Rock." The pictures accompany a story of the Holgate and Gorgas mills, in this issue of *The Suburban Press*, which was penned by James F. Magee, Jr.

The bridge is the present one at Kitchen's lane, a road which has had many names, the first probably being "Holgate's Fulling Mill" road.

The upper picture is of "the Monastery," which stands on the heights above Kitchen's lane, on the east side of the Wissahickon. The building has attached to it, many historical and legendary traditions.

this year he, "late of Roxborough, but now of Germantown" sold the mill and land to Edwin Milner. Jacob died in 1766 leaving a widow, Juliana, but no issue.

In 1761, Edwin Milner's mill road was confirmed. It started at the Roxborough, or "Wissahickon Great Road (now Ridge avenue) toward Philadelphia," along the present Roxborough avenue, over the Wissahickon Creek to the mill and then up to Germantown avenue, over the present Kitchen's lane and Carpenter streets. The survey gives a diagram of the Monastery and the mill with a large water wheel. The Wissahickon is colored silver, and the new road is in red.

Edwin Milner, the new owner of the mill, was a land speculator. During the Revolution he purchased in 1780 from the court the confiscated 378 acres, dwelling

house, grist mill, saw mill, powder mill and oil mill, from the estate of the late John Roberts, miller of Mill Creek, Lower Merion Township. It is said that the proceeds of the sale went to the University of Pennsylvania for educational purposes. In looking up the deed, however, we find that the University only received "67 9-10 bushels of wheat every six months forever" and within four days Milner transferred the property to a syndicate.

In 1775 Peter Care bought the grist, corn or merchant mill. John Livezey became the owner in 1792, with elevators and all conveniences for manufacturing flour on an extensive scale. In 1803 John Conrad, a book seller, changed the mill into a paper mill. In 1815 it was sold at a sheriff's sale for \$17,000 to Gavin Hamilton, then another sheriff's sale, with 82 acres it became the property of the Pennsylvania Co.

It passed through several hands until 1852 when it was purchased by William G Kitchen, who in 1873 sold the same to the City of Philadelphia for Fairmount Park purposes.

Returning to our story of the mills of the Wissahickon Valley and vicinity, we now take up the thread of our narrative, with reference to the Gorgas Grist Mill (designated as Mill No. 12) and the Gorgas Oil Mill, (designated Mill No. 13).

These mills and the Thomas Livezey mill were all erected upon the tract of 500 acres that William Penn sold to James Claypoole in 1684. Claypoole was one of Penn's commissioners; his brother, Sir John, having married Elizabeth, the daughter of Oliver Cromwell.

In 1695 Hugh Roberts, of the Welsh Tract, in what is now Lower Merion Township, bought the property for 40 pounds sterling. Roberts was one of the founders of the Merion Meeting House, and a large speculator in real estate. His 625 acres in the Welsh Tract adjoined the present Meeting House Lane, where the Belmont Racetrack was formerly located. In 1750 this road, on the west side

of the Schuylkill was called "Levering's Mill Road," and connected Merion Meeting with Jacob Levering's mill, on Gully Run, in what is now known as West Manayunk.

In 1705-06 the Roberts heirs sold 400 acres to George Evans. In 1708 John Linderman secured 143½ acres for 20 pounds; and in 1738 John Bald purchased some of the land.

In 1746 John Gorgas, Jr., purchased 85 acres, with a dwelling, on the corner of the great road "by Livezey's land on the Wissahickon."

In reference to Mill No. 12—the John Gorgas Grist Mill, of the Wissahickon in 1746-1764—this mill was erected on 42 acres of the above 85 acres, and was powered by the waters of Oil Mill Run, a small tributary of the Wissahickon which flows into the larger stream at the foot of Gorgas Lane, Roxborough.

A blue print of 1833 shows the mill race running from Oil Mill Run to a corner of the mill and then into the Wissahickon. The mill was built between 1746 and the confirmation of Gorgas Lane.

In 1764, as the grist mill is mentioned in the deed of this road.

Horatio Gates Jones, historian of Roxborough, stated that the land extended from Ridge road to the Wissahickon, and the dwelling house conveyed, was most likely that which was situated back some distance from Ridge road and in 1861 occupied by Lewis Hinkle. Gorgas Lane, after reaching the Wissahickon, crossed the creek on a low bridge; the square holes in the rocks that held its support being still observable to the eye of the visitor to the storied stream, above Allen's Lane bridge, on the Germantown side of the creek.

It is said that iron chains were attached to the bridge so that when it was attacked by freshet waters, it would not float too far away, down the stream. Later a red covered bridge spanned the creek high above the waters of the Wissahickon.

John Gorgas, Jr., was the great grandson of Wilhelmina Dewees, who had married Nicholas Rittenhouse, Sr.

The last testament and will of this woman (Mrs. Nicholas Rittenhouse, Sr.) written in 1737, in the Holland language, gave to her grandchildren several interesting family heirlooms, as follows: "I give to Peggy Rittenhouse my spinning wheel. To Susanna Gorgas, I give a tea pot and china. To Mary Gorgas, I give a sugar bowl and small iron pan. To Cynthia Gorgas I give the under feather bed and a pillow, also a brass kettle."

The will was written on Rittenhouse paper, containing the watermark of the clover leaf.

John Gorgas died in 1781 and willed the mill to his son, Benjamin Gorgas, who had married Julia, the granddaughter of Peter Rittenhouse, who owned the Cresheim (1700) grist mill. (Peter Bechtel, 1817).

In 1783 Jacob and Benjamin Gorgas were each taxed for a half interest in the mill. In 1795 Benjamin sold the mill to his brother, Jacob, who had married Catherine

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Horter, daughter of Jacob Horter, Sr., and Marie Magdalene Rauch. On April 1st, 1796, the mill was sold to John Wise, Sr., and his son-in-law, George Horter.

Hortler street, in Germantown, was named after George Horter's brother, Jacob Hortler, Jr., who spelled his name with two "t's."

In 1800 George Horter, who in 1806 owned the old Evans (1744) mill in Gwynedd Township (Montgomery County) on the Wissahickon, sold his half-interest in Mill No. 12 to John Wise, Sr.

The name of Wise is included in the tax list of Roxborough in 1774. He married (about 1771) Catherine, the daughter of his employer, Horter. In 1774 Wise purchased from George Hocker, a grist and saw mill on the Wissahickon, in Upper Dublin, for which he paid 1750 pounds sterling.

Tradition states that he had a brother who settled in Virginia and that John was in reduced circumstances, until he married Catherine, a daughter of the Roxborough miller.

Through marriage the descendants of the early Wissahickon millers retained their interest in the industry. Through many years these families all inter-married. Rittenhouse, Dewees, Farmer, Robeson, Gorgas, Paul, Livezey, Streeper, Wise, Horter, Bechtel and Street, were some of the old family names of Wissahickon millers.

A quaint advertisement of March 8th, 1803, reads: "\$30 reward. Ran away from the subscriber in the night of the 6th inst., a German servant named Joseph Veleker, new wool hat, blue coated, olive coloured velvet pantaloons, and took with him sundry other clothing. He carried a sword cane, and a silver watch, with a tortoise-shell case; is by trade a miller, and speaks very little English. Roxboro, John Wise."

Old stories have it that Wise was a Mennonite preacher and the account of his death in the mill, on July 15th 1803, is from Poulston's American Advertiser: "On Thursday last Mr. John Wise, a reputable miller on the Wissahickon Creek, eight miles from this city, in examining the spindle of the trunnel wheel in the mill, when in motion, his head was caught between the great cog wheel and wallowers which after closing upon it, gave sufficient space for his body to pass below. His son, who was near the mill, observed the works to be deranged; closed the water gate, and on searching for the cause found his father's body."

John Wise, Jr., purchased the mill, which he sold in 1812 to Peter Adams. Jacob Wise, John's brother, became owner in 1815, and upon his death in 1828, it was sold to Thomas Yardley. In this year the property was advertised for sale: "The improvements are a large grist and merchant mill, stone dwelling, barn, number of out-buildings, about 8 miles from Philadelphia."

There were four principle reasons why the Wissahickon creek industries decreased at this time: fires, the steam engine, freshets, and sheriff's sales.

In 1834 the sheriff sold the mill



An old photograph of the dwelling of Thomas Livezey, member of the Provincial Council of Pennsylvania, located along the Wissahickon Creek on ground referred to in an article on the early mills of the Wissahickon, penned by James F. Magee, Jr., which appears in this issue of The Press.

to George Moyer, then another sheriff sale turned the property over to William H. Weighley in 1847. The entire mill was destroyed by fire in 1856. J. Edgar Thomas bought the land in 1860 and re-sold in 1866 to Matthew W. Baldwin, of Baldwin Locomotive Company.

In 1864 John Livezey purchased the property. At this time his family owned all the land on the west side of the Wissahickon from here up to Wise's Mill Road.

The Gorgas Oil Mill (No. 13) was built upon 43 acres of the 85 acre tract purchased by John Gorgas, Jr., in 1746. It was probably erected in the 1750's, about 400 feet above the Wissahickon Oil Run and Gorgas Lane.

The caves of the Wissahickon are upon this property, the largest one is north of Gorgas lane, about 300 feet above the Wissahickon. "Oyl Mill Run," as it is called on an old map, rises in a valley running up to near Shawmont avenue and Wise's Mill road, above the 8th milestone on Ridge avenue, and was named after the Gorgas Oil Mill.

The historian, Jones, states that the Gorgas Mill was called "the Haunted Mill" and that while owned by Matthias Gorgas, the mill and dry house of his cotton factory had been on fire thirty five times, and that the factory itself wholly, or in part, was burned eight times.

John Gorgas, Jr., married first, Mary, and then Regina (Rachel). He had nine children and upon his death in 1781 he left the oil mill to his son, John, 3rd. The mill was owned for more than 130 years by the Gorgas family. John 3rd changed the mill to a grist mill. For many years Joseph Carr, of

Cresheim (who owned the Pleasant Mills, on the site of the ancient 1700 Cresheim grist mill, built by Gerard Rittenhouse 1674-1742) owned the Gorgas Oil Mill. Later on Matthias Gorgas changed it into a cotton wadding factory. Mr. Jones, in his accounts, said, "The old mill with its ancient mansion, situated at the base of a hill covered with laurel, with the small stream running in front of it, was quite picturesque, and I am glad to know that Mr. John Gorgas, of Wilmington, Delaware, has a fine oil painting of the old mill as it stood before the hand of modern improvement depleted it of its ancient beauty."

In the Park Survey, of 1868, the Gorgas Mill buildings are given and adjoining are the vineyards of Mathias, who greatly interested himself in the cultivation of the grape.

The mill lands were just beyond the property purchased by the Park, and in 1886, J. G. Haley's Dye Works were located there, and as a sort of evidence that the mill was really "jinxed," it was on December 17th 1886, again entirely consumed by fire with a loss of \$20,000.

Continuing the story of the Wissahickon mills, we have given the designation of Mill No. 14 to Thomas Livezey's Grist Mill (Thomas Shoemaker 1745-46). This mill was built on a 500 acre tract of land deeded by William Penn to James Claypool in 1684. It was on the east side of the Wissahickon, a few hundred feet below Cresheim Creek, the Livezey colonial dwelling, which still stands, being at present the headquarters of the Valley Green Canoe Club.

The title of the property reads as

follows: Claypool to Hugh Roberts, 500 acres, 1695; Roberts heirs to George Evans, 400 acres, 1705-06; Evans to Jonathan Conrads, 82 acres, 1709; Conrads to Johannes Gumrie, 82 acres, 1719-20; Gumrie to Henry Sellen (1716. He owned the first oil mill in the Wissahickon Valley, on Cresheim Creek and in 1801 it was Peter Bechtel's paper mill) 44 1/2 acres, 1733.

In this deed a building is mentioned for the first time, so that the foundations of the present Livezey House may date back to that period. Henry Sellen sold to John Harmer, messuage and plantation with over 100 acres in 1739 for 205 pounds sterling; Harmer to Thomas Shoemaker, 20 acres and 3 acres and 18 perches, 1745-46 for 106 pounds. Thus Thomas Shoemaker built the mill before October 10th, 1747, as on that date he sold to Thomas Livezey, 3rd "the said Thomas Shoemaker hath erected a certain water grist mill with two pairs of stones, under one roof on the tract."

In later years the Livezey family owned over 500 acres in the valley of the Wissahickon, but from a survey of 1833, kindly sent by John T. Campbell, of the Germantown Survey District, we learn that the 20 acres mentioned above is the only parcel of the land of interest to us in this series of articles. On this 20 acres are drawn the corn mill, dwelling, smoke-house, coach house, barn, ice house, garden, mill race and bridge across the Wissahickon.

We have so far traced the 20 acres from William Penn to Thomas Livezey 3rd, so let us pause for a moment to take up the ancestry of Thomas Livezey, 3rd, as he was

by far the most interesting member of this very illustrious family.

Charles Harper Smith, of Hatboro, the historian of the Livezey family, has kindly provided part of the following data: Thomas Livezey, Sr., the progenitor of the family in America, came from Morton, County of Chester, in England, about May 1680. He purchased from William Penn 750 acres of land in Lower Dublin Township, with a house lot in Philadelphia, which was on the south side of Chestnut street between 4th and 5th streets. In 1683 Thomas, Sr., and Hugh Marsh sold this lot containing a house (it must have been a log cabin) for 46 pounds and 10 shillings. March 3rd, 1681, William Penn deeded to Thomas Sr. (Lease and Release) 250 acres, but the exact location of the land was not noted, until patented later. On the fourth month, 20th, 1686, Livezey paid one shilling a year for each

hundred acres. Under the release of the 250 acres, Livezey was required to pay one peppercorn yearly and five pounds. The 500 acres tract is located on Holmes Survey of 1681-88 on Dublin Creek, known to the Indians as "Pennepack". It was along the southern line of Abington Township.

Thomas Livezey, Sr., was a member of the Grand Jury, January 11th, 1682, at the first court held in Philadelphia. He died in 1692. In his will of 1691 he left to his son, Jonathan, a life interest in 250 acres for his grandson, Thomas 2nd, (1689-1759). This Thomas 2nd, married Elizabeth Heath. They had ten children, of whom the eldest, Thomas 3rd, bought the Wissahickon Mill in 1747. He is mentioned in a deed as a miller of Cheltenham Township. He was an apprentice there.

Thomas Livezey, 3rd, was born the first month, 25th, 1725, and married Martha Knowles of Abington Meeting in 1748. His sister, Mary, married Joseph Paul; his daughter Martha married Peter Robeson, of the Sumac Park mills, and his second cousin, Susanna Livezey, was wed to Joseph Magarge, the grandfather of Charles Magarge, of the famous Magarge Paper Mills. The Paul family, of which his brother-in-law was one, owned at different colonial periods over ten mills in Philadelphia County. Later, in giving the histories of the Dewees', Paul, Wise and lower Margarge paper mill at Wise's Mill Road, we will include the story of the Paul family.

Thomas Livezey, 3rd, was a prominent man in his day, being a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly from 1765 to 1771 and a member of the American Philosophical Society.

The June term of Court, in 1746, confirms a road beginning at Paper Mill road in Roxborough. This was a road below the present Wise's Mill Road, that in 1742 was confirmed and laid out, connecting with the paper mill of York & Maris, later the Magarge Paper Mill.

The road leading to the new mill was, and is Livezey lane. It ran

down to the Wissahickon and over a bridge to the Shoemaker mill, and continued out to what is now Allen's lane to Creshelm street. The deed states that at this corner there was "a log house, lately built." It was specified that Shoemaker should keep the road in repair. It was more than likely confirmed to give better access to the mill.

In 1747, 1748 and 1749, Thomas 3rd, sold a quarter of his mill and 20 acres to Captain Jacob Leach, a quarter to Widow Debora Paul, and a quarter to Wallace Moore.

October 5th, 1765, Thomas Wharton wrote to Benjamin Franklin, then representing the Colonies in London, that seven of their party had been elected to the Pennsylvania Assembly including Thomas Livezey. October 15th, 1771, the Pennsylvania Assembly appointed

Benjamin Franklin agent in Great Britain for the ensuing year; also Thomas Livezey on the committee of correspondence.

On November 18th, 1767, Thomas 3rd, wrote to Benjamin Franklin, in London, informing him that he was sending him to Captain Falkner twelve bottles of wine made from wild grapes on his own place. And also "Pespair of a change of government until after the death of Thomas Penn; wishes he could be prevailed on to die for the good of the people, and thus make his name as immortal as Samson's death did his."

On February 2nd, 1768, Franklin replied: "I received of Captain Falkner your welcome letter of November 18th, with a very welcome present of another dozen bottles of your wine. The former has been found excellent by many good judges, my wine merchant in particular, was desirous of knowing what quantity of it might be had and at what price."

From "Thomas Livezey, Roxborough Township, Philadelphia County to B Franklin, London, November 18, 1769"—"Though I have not the happiness of an intimate acquaintance with thee, yet time, I hope will alter that circumstance and bring us better acquainted; I only know thee from some of the writings, the author of which I greatly esteem. As thou art one of the agents of this Province in Great Britain, I sent a dozen American wine by Captain Falkner the last time he went from here to London, which I am pleased to hear, was safely delivered. It was made by myself, from our small wild grapes, which grow in great plenty in our woodland, and as I have some of the same sort now on tap which I think is rather better, I have sent a dozen more? I heartily wish it may arrive safe and warm the hearts of every one who tastes it, with a love for America, and would it bring about a change in government but one month sooner, I would gladly send all I have.

"However, I do not despair of the change yet, it will take place at the death of Thomas Penn.

"I do not know whether some people in this province will not be the same condition as a German

wife in my neighborhood lately was, who said 'nobody could say she wished her husband dead,' but said she wished she could see 'how he would look when he was dead.'"

Thomas Livezey was in 1769 assessed for a grist mill and 106 acres and in 1783 for the mill and 75 acres.

In 1770, John Potts, of Valley Forge, sold to Joseph Paul and his wife, Mary, 163 acres of land in Whitmarsh Township and across the Schuylkill in Lower Merion (including the famous Spring Mill, built by David William in 1715) on December 21st, 1770. Paul sold one half interest in the land and mills to his brother-in-law, Thomas Livezey, 3rd. In 1777, when the American troops were encamped at Valley Forge, General Washington frequently purchased flour for his military family and grain for his horses at this mill (History of Montgomery County, by Bean).

In 1783 the Spring Mill passed into the possession of Thomas Livezey, 4th.

There is a stone built into the ruins of the Livezey mill, said to contain a date of the early 1700's, but there is nothing on the stone which is really legible.

Horatio Gates Jones (Roxborough historian) wrote in 1888, "Mr. Livezey was a member of the Society of Friends and when the British were in Philadelphia, and our troops used to go about seeking provender, he sunk a number of barrels of wine in his dam in the Wissahickon, where it remained until the close of the war. Some of the wine was bottled and preserved by the late John Livezey, a grandson of the said Thomas, until a short time before he died in 1878. He gave me a small bottle of this Revolutionary wine, which I shall deposit in our society, (The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.)

There are several Revolutionary traditions regarding Thomas Livezey, 3rd, one of which states that he sat on a fence at the top of the hill, near his home, and watched the Battle of Germantown; another, that he cared for wounded soldiers in his house; and still another, that a party of fourteen Hessians were lined up in front of his garden wall and shot.

The facts were that Thomas and his two older sons were arrested by Washington's troops the second night before the Battle of Germantown and he was not permitted to return home for eight months.

During the war there was very unjust persecution against those who were conscientiously opposed to war.

Thomas 3rd died in 1790, leaving Widow Martha and son, Thomas 4th, Samuel, Joseph and John. To the two latter he gave his mills and land in Roxborough.

In 1833, Joseph and Thomas 4th d.ed. A survey made of the land showed that this totaled 235 acres.

In 1864 one of the mills is listed as an oil mill and in 1868 is called the "Glen Fern Mills". In the 1870's a large suspension bridge carried a water pipe line connecting Germantown homes with the reservoir in Roxborough. This pipe

line passed high in the air over the Wissahickon Creek, before the present underground system was installed.

The Suburban Press, of October 22nd, 1931, presented such an interesting account of the removal of the old pipe bridge, which crossed the storied stream just above the Livezey mill, that we beg permission to quote a few of the incidents. The bridge became unsafe and a contractor, George W. Schultz, offered to pay \$1500 for the privilege of removing the same, and he was permitted to have all the old iron, etc., which composed the structure.

"We placed six sticks of dynamite on each of the plates and packed them over with wet clay, running the wires out to a small stone base high up on the hill, behind which we hid. I gave the battery a couple of turns, but no result. Furlong grabbed the handle and spun it hard, when there was a tremendous bang! with echoes, and I was delighted to see the entire end of the span detach itself from the pier and began to sink.

"The trees under it were skinned like telegraph poles. It seemed to rain iron for minutes, with an awful rending and crashing sound. When all finally came still, we ventured down to the drive in a haze of smoke and dust, where we found huge eye-bars driven into the roadway two feet deep. The rustic fence was smashed, likewise a lamp post, while a tangle of angle iron and cast iron pipes lay down to the water in a pile 10 feet high and 200 feet long. Putting the men to work, we had the drive cleared and passable by six o'clock. Sledging the cast iron pipes into pieces and cold chiseling the wrought iron bolts. A milkman came along and called out, 'When did it fall? I heard it but thought it was a boiler explosion. I never drove under the thing without feeling nervous.' I cautioned the men to say nothing to anyone about dynamite. Then a pair of bays dashed around the curve and I recognized John Lowber Welsh, by his Napoleon III mustache and goatee, sitting in his four-wheeler on his usual drive to town alone.

"He pulled up and after starting, at the devastation before his eyes, he shouted:

"Who's responsible for this infernal outrage? What's going on here? I stepped up and said 'Good morning, ah-uh-this part of the old bridge dropped about 5 o'clock, and we are clearing away the debris—you can drive on safely.' He replied: 'I'm chairman of the park commission. Look at those trees. Look at that fence. Look at that lamp and our fine road. I'm going to see about this! Giddap!'"

A red covered bridge crossed the creek, near the Livezey house, until about 1905. In the loft of the old house is the original date stone of the red-covered bridge, bearing the inscription, "1839".

The old dam still remains and also the ruins of the grist mills and piers of the old bridge. The Valley Green Canoe Club, as has been stated, occupies the old Live-

zey House at this time.

In writing of the Livezey House, F. B. Brandt says: "What is it that conspires to make the ravishing charm of this old Colonial stone structure, hidden in the heart of the glen, adopted companion of friendly trees, and held in the embrace of clinging vine and shrubbery, would be difficult to say. But Livezey House surely, for stately rusticity is matched only by the rough-hewed wilderness home of John Bartram."

Over 100 acres of the Livezey lands through which the Wissahickon flows, were taken over by the Park Commission in 1873.

Theodore A. Bechtel, of Roxborough, the grandson of Peter Bechtel, owner of two paper mills on Cresheim Creek, in the early

1800's, has kindly loaned the writer a diary written by his father, Jacob Horter Bechtel, in 1839-41. The latter was born in 1822, so that he was only a young boy of seventeen years when starting the journal of his personal experiences.

The diarist, in his boyish way, sketched many of the incidents described in the journal, and the illustrations are colored. In this interesting book is found the earliest known picture of the old Livezey House and mill. Under date of Sunday, May 31st, 1840, he writes:

"This evening I went across the creek and with chairs for desks took off a picture of the place (Livezey house and mill) which I have now in my possession. The drawing is in black, blue, brown and red ink, finely executed as are the other score of illustrations depicting scenes along the Wissahickon and Cresheim Creek that would make an appeal to the humour of a young lad

Later on, in describing the Peter Bechtel mills, we will endeavor to reproduce several of the quaint old drawings.

Harven C. Hammes, of 316 Dupont street, Roxborough, as a labor of love, has constructed the most unique model of the Livezey house, grounds, etc., which I have seen, and which he has spent many years in making. The house can be readily taken apart in sections, thereby permitting the viewer to see how each room is furnished, in detail. It is a remarkable reproduction of the most interesting and ancient of all the buildings still left standing in the hidden valley of the Wissahickon.

Continuing our searches of the old paper mills along the Cresheim Creek, we find that Mill No. 16, was in 1700, known as Gerard Rittenhouse's mill, and as Peter Bechtel's Upper Paper Mill, in 1817.

Matthias Zimmerman's map, of 1700, diagrams this mill as a two-and-a-half storied building, just west of Cresheim road; and Scull & Heap's map, of 1751, called it "The Cresheim Mill."

In Germantown there was considerable confusion about the granting of the land in the early days of that community. There were two commissioners; one granted the tract of land involved in our story, to Gerard Rittenhouse, but the other granted the same tract to Hans Graff. But in 1715 the latter conveyed the land

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to Rittenhouse. The piece of ground extended over a mile and a half, from the Roxborough township line, to the Springfield township line. The name of Rittenhouse, on early deeds and maps, is spelled "Gerard," but his descendants followed the style of "Garret."

Gerard Rittenhouse was the son of William Rittenhouse, Sr., and was born in 1674, in Holland, or the German border, dying in 1742. He erected his grist mill at a very early date—about 1700. The mill was situated just below where the present McCallum street bridge spans Cresheim Creek, and the dam was between the mill and the bridge.

His will, dated 1742, written at the age of 68 years, records that he was aged and indisposed of body. He bequeathed to his eldest son, William, all of his land situated northwest of "the Highway leading from the road to North Wales." (This is now Germantown avenue.) His youngest son, Peter, and wife Anne, received a life interest in his grist mill and the plantation, where he then lived, in "Creesham," from Germantown avenue to the "Roxborough" Township line.

After the death of Peter and Ann the land and mills were to pass to Gerard's six grandchildren. The executors' account shows that at this time the mill was rented to a tenant. The will is in English, and in the inventory there are mentioned seventeen small Dutch books.

Peter Rittenhouse was born in 1696 and died in 1748. He lived on the west side of Germantown avenue, near Mt. Airy. Within a year of Peter's death, his widow, Ann, married Peter Heysler, and he operated the mill for the heirs.

Susan Rittenhouse, one of the six grandchildren, married Justus Rubincam. Their children continued the old tradition of intermarrying with the families of other early millers. Catharine married a man named Sheets, the father of Gen. Henry Sheetz, who owned the Farmer-De-wees-Clever Mill, on the Wissahickon below Flourtown. Margaret married John Gorgas 3rd, and Julia married Benjamin Gorgas, who in 1817 sold this Mill No. 16 to Peter Bechtel.

Concerning the shares of the two grandsons, Jacob and Garret Rittenhouse, 2nd, Jacob and his wife, Susanna, in 1749 sold to Lewis Stephens, of Frederick County, Virginia, a miller, one quarter of the grist mill and 103 acres. The deed mentions grist mill, mill dam, mill pond, mill race, mill house, bolting mills, and buildings, purchase price 150 pounds sterling.

In December 1749-50 Garret 2nd, sold his quarter interest to Lewis Stephens for 150 pounds. In 1750 Lewis Stephens borrowed 125 pounds on a mortgage on his half interest from Thobold End, of Germantown, a saddler.

In 1771 the Court was asked to confirm a new road from Mill No. 16, east of the Cresheim Creek to a new grist mill just erected, called "Hinkel's Mill." The road was then to turn north passing the mill and joining Paper Mill Road and Cresheim Road. A survey of the road made the Hinkel Mill near where the present Pennsylvania Railroad bridge crosses Cresheim Creek. It also shows a very long mill race, running from the new road and the Hinkel mill, at least 300 feet south between the creek and the new road, to Cresheim Creek Mill No. 16.

At a much later date the dam above the mill must have been made much higher, as in the 1900's Carr's great mill pond covered much of the land through which the race for Mill No. 16 ran in 1771.

Ann Heysler, the widow of Peter Rittenhouse was still living in 1761, and her husband, Peter, was con-

tinuing the operation of the mill. From this date until 1782 there were many heirs interested in the other half of the mill.

Mary, one of the daughters of Peter Rittenhouse, married Lewis Stephens, then of Stephensbury, Virginia. She inherited one-eighth interest in the mill and 103 acres of land.

On October 14th, 1778, Stephens and his wife, Mary, sold five-eighths of the property to Isaac Zane, iron-master of Marlborough Iron Works, in Frederick County, Virginia, for 1000 pounds. Zane must have secured the other three-eighths later, as on February 9th, 1782, he sold to Jacob Gominger, a miller of Cheltenham Township, for 829 pounds, the mill and 50½ acres of land "to be called the Peter Rittenhouse mill tract, with all mills and mill rights."

In 1783 Jacob Gominger was assessed for a grist mill and 52 acres. On February 9th, 1781, Zane sold to Jacob Lash, Germantown powder maker, 13 acres along the Cresheim, part of the late Peter Rittenhouse's mill tract, with privileges of a road up Cresheim valley, through Zane's other land, to Peter Rubicam's Oil Mill Road, to be laid out later. In 1774 Jacob Lash was taxed for a powder mill and 10½ acres. This lot was in Roxborough township, south of Mill No. 15.

The mills were so close together on Cresheim Creek that the millers often held conferences, or brought suit, so that one could not raise the height of his dam, thus cutting off the water power of the nearby mills.

Jacob Gominger, William Wilson and John Rickard settled their troubles in this way: "William Wilson's present water wheel to be 2 inches longer and to come 2 inches nearer the floor at the bottom than originally. The upper side of the top sill of said mill dam to be levelled ¼ inch lower than a certain mark to be made with an auger hole in rock N. W. side of dam, the centre to be the height of said mill dam, and to remain forever. Also agreed that the said banks shall not be less than 22 feet in case of high water."

On September 1st, 1800, Jacob Gominger sold to Benjamin Gorgas, of Germantown, for 2225 pounds a stone dwelling, grist mill, and four pieces of ground.

Gominger must have greatly improved the property, as the price paid was a large one for that time.

After the purchase Gorgas converted the mill into a paper mill and on April 1st, 1817, he and his wife, Julia, sold the land and paper mill, for \$9100, to Peter Bechtel, Sr., paper maker, who was also the owner of the lower paper Mill No. 15.

The Rickard Mill, up stream, was then owned by William Wilson, and in 1817, it was David Hinkel's grist mill.

Peter Bechtel, Sr., died in March 1883 and on April 4th, 1839, his widow, Margaret Hortter, sold the paper mill and five lots of land, to Joseph Carr, of Roxborough, for \$6000, subject to a mortgage.

There is a map of Roxborough and Germantown, dated 1851, in the Free Library, on the Parkway, on the sides of which, forming a sort of frame, are illustrations of old landmarks. One is a splendid sketch of this mill, marked "Pleasant Mills, Cresheim, Joseph Carr, Proprietor." Three mill buildings are given, with a large dwelling.

Joseph Carr changed the buildings into a cotton mill. The writer possesses five illustrations of this mill, showing the ruins, with the last one depicting nothing but the great mill wheel standing.

Although there was no paper mill here until after 1800, one print

states "Here the paper used in printing the Declaration of Independence was made." This was evidently an error on the part of an early historian who did not search deeply after his facts. A post card showing the wheel and part of the dam, just below the McCallum street bridge, reads, "Blankets were made here during the Civil War."

About twenty years ago we took a photograph of Carr's mill pond, which very clearly shows that this body of water must have covered several acres, and was a favorable skating place for the young people living in the locality.

It is believed that the Houston Estate purchased this property prior to the time it became a part of Fairmount Park.

Researches into the past history of the Wissahickon Valley mills, now take us to Mill Number 17, which was located on Cresheim Creek, and known as John Gorgas' Fulling Mill. This manufactory was northwest of the Gerard Rittenhouse mill, which was described in the previous article.

It was erected upon a very interesting parcel of land, part of the Frankfort Land Company tract. This company, be it remembered, was formed by a group of purchasers from Frankfort-on-the-Main, Germany. Francis Daniel Pastorius was the selling agent for the company, but in 1700 three other agents were appointed and Pastorius resigned. Then two of the agents refused to act and one, D. Falckner, said to have been a very unprincipled man, was appointed sole agent. He sold the land still in the hands of the company, to J. H. Sproegell. Many of the settlers of Germantown were uncertain of the titles to their properties, so a friendly suit was brought against Sproegell, to test his title. The Court decided in his favor.

The first record we have of John Gorgas, Sr., residing in Germantown, is in 1703, when his name appears with many others, as being naturalized. This was done to give these persons the right to hold and enjoy land and plantations in the Province.

The log church of the Mennonites, on Germantown avenue, was built about the same year, and Johannes Gorgas was one of the early members. William Rittenhouse, the first paper maker, Gorgas' wife's grandfather, was the preacher.

J. H. Sproegell sold a tract of land along the Cresheim to Ludwig L. Sproegell, and in 1718 he sold to P. C. Zimmerman thirty acres, with a dwelling thereon. In 1725 Zimmerman sold to John Gorgas, Sr., "a skin-dresser," the land and house.

A skin dresser, it is explained, was a tanner. An inventory of Gorgas' estate included 37 dressed buck skins and several deer skins.

In 1713 Gorgas, with his father-in-law, Nicholas Rittenhouse, and two other men, bought the paper mill of William Dewees, on the Wissahickon near the Chestnut Hill City Line. He built between 1725 and 1741 the fulling mill (No.

17) on land on the southwest side of Cresheim road, near where the McCallum street bridge now spans the creek. The land was in the form of a very narrow strip, stretching from the Roxborough Township line, more than a mile past Cresheim road, being only 205 feet wide.

In 1728 William Dewees and he "manufactured an imitation of asses' skin paper, from a species of rotten stone, for memorandum books, which was well executed." Joel Munsell, in his "History of Paper Making," states that this was the third paper mill in the Colonies. We believe that this mill was on the same tract of land, if it were not the same paper mill, as William Dewees' plant which was erected in 1710 and sold in 1713.

Frank J. Kelley, Conservator of the Mineralogical Section of the Academy of Natural Sciences, says that he believes the rotten stone used to make the paper was a species of feldspar, called "anthophyllite." A strata of this rock crops out of the hills above the Wissahickon in the Cresheim region.

John Gorgas, Sr., died in 1741, leaving to his three sons, Jacob, a clockmaker; Benjamin, a paper maker; (both of Lancaster County), and Joseph, who built "The Monastery," on Kitchen's Lane; the fulling mill.

Before 1766 Joseph Gorgas purchased his brothers' shares in the property.

The fulling mill stood upon a small tract of 1 acre and 35 perches. It was evidently not large in size for in 1766 it was valued with the land at only 105 pounds sterling.

Joseph Gorgas died in 1766, leaving his wife, Julianna, surviving, but no issue. The mill is not mentioned again, following the death of Joseph, and so it is imagined it was dismantled.

Mill No. 18, of our series, was also located on the Cresheim Creek. It was above the Gorgas Mill, and was utilized for grinding grain, being erected and owned in 1769 by John Conrad, Jr.

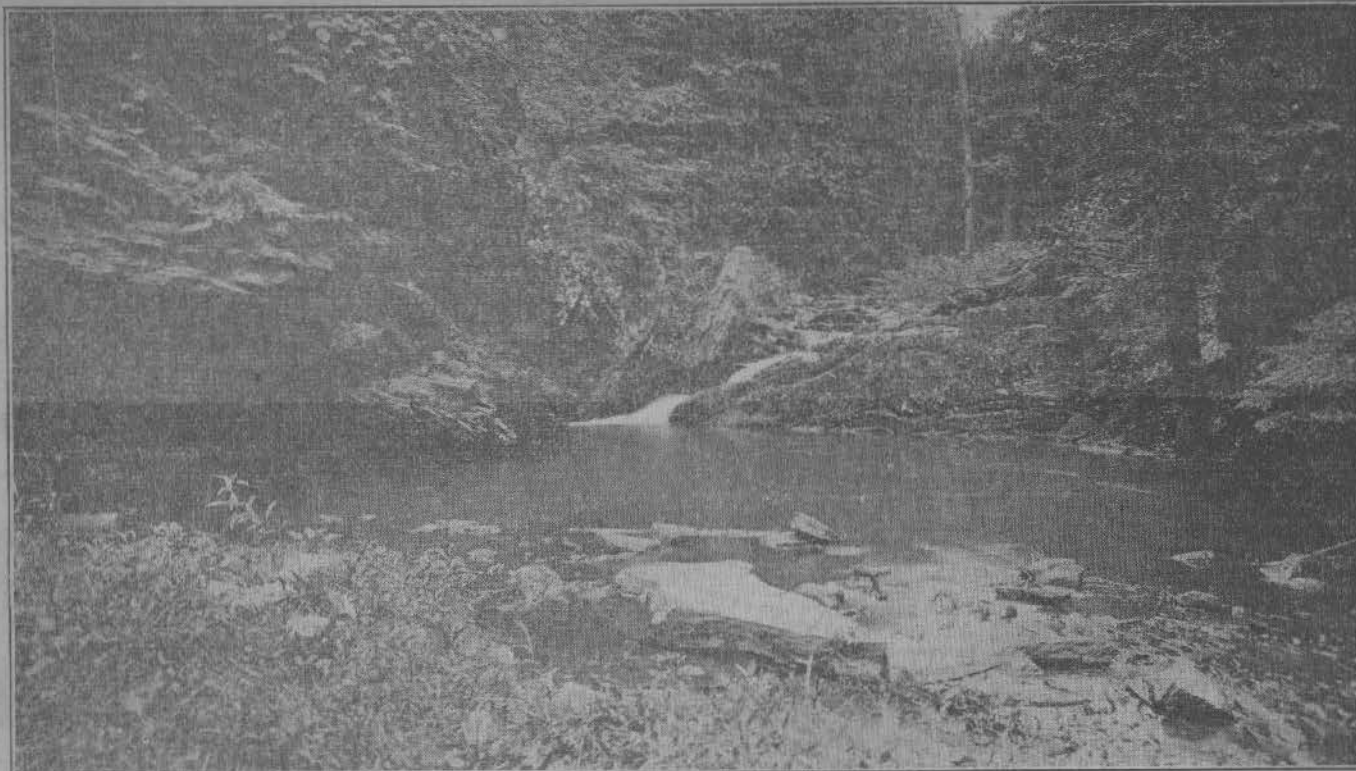
This early industrial plant was located near where the Pennsylvania Railroad bridge crosses the tiny stream.

Before 1700 Cornelius Sevirt owned 75 acres in the old village of Cresheim, beginning at the Springfield-Germantown line and running over 3500 feet southwest along

Mermaid lane to the mill-lands of Gerard Rittenhouse.

In 1718 Sevirt sold the tract to John Conrad, Sr., who died in 1756, willing the property to his son, John, Jr. The latter died in 1769, at which time another grist mill was being erected on a lot of 10 1-2 acres. After his death, his widow, Barbara, in 1770 sold the partly erected grist mill to William Levering, of Roxborough. In the same year Levering sold one-half interest in the place to John Hinkel (or Hinkle.)

In 1771, this pair made a petition



With this week's article concerning the mills of the Cresheim Valley, James F. Magee, Jr., completes his narrative of the early manu- factories on this little tributary, and next week will continue with the old industrial plants of the greater stream. The illustration shows the storied pool, at one of the Wissahickon's most beautiful stretches.

to the court, stating that there was no road to the new mill erected by Hinkel and requested that such a thoroughfare should be laid out. It was to be an ell-shaped road, running northeast from Mill No. 16, then north to the new mill and connecting with Cresheim road.

It was agreed that this mill and William Holgate's Mill, above, should have equal power rights from the waters of the Cresheim Creek.

In 1774 Levering and Hinkel sold the mill to John Rittenhouse (1742-1796) the deed stating the water grist mill was then complete and included mill dam, mill race and forebays.

John Rittenhouse was a brother of Nicholas Rittenhouse, Jr., and also of William 3rd, Jacob, Abraham and Henry, well-known millers of Paper Mill Run and the Wissahickon.

Rittenhouse, in 1783, sold the grist mill to William Wilson, of Germantown, for 900 pounds. In that year Wilson is recorded as having paid taxes for the "grist mill and land."

At a sheriff's sale in 1788 John Rickard, of Montgomery County, purchased the property for 675 pounds, it being described as follows: "A large two-story stone messuage and a water grist mill on land in Germantown, corner of W. Holgate's Fulling Mill land, to late Peter Rittenhouse's land, 10 1-2 acres."

In 1804, John Rickard sold to Joshua Hallowell, who in 1809 transferred the grist, or merchant mill, with 7 acres, for \$2900 to David Hinkel (or Hinkle.)

John and David Hinkel, in 1863,

sold the property to France Brothers, who established on the place, their carpet and dye mill, after having sold their former mills (described as Mill No. 19) that stood on the west side of Germantown avenue.

Mill No. 19 was originally the Conrad, Holgate fulling mill. The pedestrian who walks down the

Cresheim Creek, from the bridge in the 7700 block on Germantown avenue, which is just below the Cresheim Road Drive, will obtain a most beautiful view of the sylvan dell in which this mill was erected prior to the American Revolution.

It was built upon the same 75 acres as had been Mill No. 18, and belonged in 1700 to Cornelius Sevirt. In 1719 it was the property of John Conrad, Sr., who expired in 1756, when the mill is first mentioned. It contained 33 acres and in 1769 John Conrad, Jr., was taxed for the fulling mill.

In 1770 Barbara Conrad, the widow of John, Jr., sold the mill and 22 1-2 acres of land to William Holgate, clothier, of Roxborough, for 500 pounds. The deed states that the mill was on the west side of the "Great Road from Philadelphia to Chestnut Hill."

As stated in the description of Mill No. 10, this William was of the fourth generation which was employed in the fulling industry.

During and after the Battle of Germantown, the landowners of Chestnut Hill and the Cresheim valley and village met with heavy losses. The British troops sacked the dwellings and barns of valuable property, including live stock

and provender and then burned the buildings. Later the American government re-imbursed the owners for their losses. Holgate's Fulling Mill received 123 pounds. The record does not state whether this sum covered the loss of buildings, live stock or cloth. Tradition states that there were several severe skirmishes "near the Livezey Mills but there was no financial loss." The heaviest loser was Julius Kerper, who in 1783 owned Mill No. 15. Kerper's loss was 1750 pounds, a large amount of money for that day. Wigard Miller, the father-in-law of John Wise, Jr., who owned 100 acres between Willow Grove and Cresheim Road, was reimbursed with 680 pounds.

William Piper, of the Piper family who later owned the William Streeper Grist Mill, now through the generosity of the Morris family, the Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania, received 250 pounds. The Rev. Michael Schlatter, who in 1750 owned the paper

mill on Paper Mill Road, near Chestnut Hill, received 501 Pounds for the burning of his home.

On Germantown avenue, near Mermaid Lane, opposite the Holgate mill land, was the old Mermaid Hotel that was used as a public inn after 1795. It was on the original 75 acres belonging to John Conrad, Sr.

In 1804 William Holgate sold the 20 1-2 acres and mill, that is by this time a grist mill, to Jacob Holgate, who was to have equal water rights with the owner of Mill No. 18.

Jacob Holgate, in 1817, transferred the mill and 22 1-2 acres to William Weaver, a gentleman from

Northern Liberties, for \$7950. The mill has now become a cotton factory. In 1837 Weaver became ironmaster of the Buffalo Forge, of Rockbridge County, Va., and sold the cotton and carpet factory, called "Cedar Dale" to John and Ervin France, of Germantown.

Advertisements in the old numbers of the Germantown Telegraph, placed by J. and E. France, announce to country dealers and the public that they "keep continually on hand at the manufactory at Cedar Dale, Chestnut Hill, a general assortment of domestic carpeting, flax, tow and cotton carpet chain of assorted colors, suitable for carpet weaving. Also cotton yarn, candle wick and cotton laps. Wholesale or retail." The brothers sold the factory in 1860 to David Hey.

At this point in our lengthy narrative, it is only fair to state that the "History of Early Chestnut Hill," by the late John J. MacFarlane, has been of great assistance to the writer in compiling the chapters relating to the Cresheim and Chestnut Hill Mills.

In the next article, we will continue our searches into the past along the Wissahickon Creek.

In delving into the past history of the mills along the Wissahickon, the story would not be complete without adding some facts concerning those industrial plants which were situated along its tributaries, and so every manufactory on the Wissahickon watershed has been included in this series of papers.

The continued course of our story, therefore, brings us to Mill No. 15, which was the Henry Sellen's Oil Mill in 1715 and in 1801, the paper mill of Peter Bechtel, located on Cresheim Creek.

Cresheim Creek, as is generally known, rises in Springfield Township and flows uninterrupted for several miles to the Wissahickon. It passes under Germantown avenue, in the 7700 block at Cresheim Road Drive, and afterward under the McCallum street bridge of the Pennsylvania Railroad, finally emptying into the Wissahickon at

A. C. Chadwick, editor of the Suburban Press, has penned in verse a story of the legend of the Devil's Pool, which is herewith presented:

The Devil's Pool

Where little Cresheim adds its song
To Wissahickon's greater voice,
There is a depth called "Devil's Pool,"
Which makes all artists' hearts rejoice,
It's canopied by arching trees,
And lined by laurel, rocks, and fern,
And in that cauldron; nature-formed;
The freshest waters seeth and churn.

Close by a rustic bridge lends charm
To scenes of which Weir Mitchell wrote,
While penning lines of quaint
"Hugh Wynne."

Or, on which Peterson would gloat
In "Pemberton;" a drama old;
Presented many decades since,
To please the lovers of the stage,
From lowly slave to social prince.

Back in a dim and distant age,
When red men visited the pool,
They claimed that Spirits walked the earth;
The Good, the Wise, the Evil; Fool.
The God of Good had gone afar
To save a soul, the legend states,
While Evil, he at home held sway
And taught the men to cherish hates.

The Angel came and saw the ills,
Wrought while he'd been engaged elsewhere,
And straightway sought the Evil One,
Beside the Pool; his favored lair;
He hurled a boulder at the Imp,
Who fell into the waters, clear,
To sink to nether regions, dark,
Away from this terrestrial sphere.

And ever since that storied day,
The Imp, imprisoned down below,
Has vowed his vengeance on the Gods,
While basking in Hell's lurid glow.
But up around the charmed pool's rim,
Is calmness, solitude and peace,
Which shall be ours forever more
Through Fairmount's everlasting lease.

In Colonial times there was a large amount of water flowing through this most beautiful Cresheim dell, or valley, and about six mills were here located.

On May 2nd, 1684, a warrant was issued to Francis Daniel Pastorius for 5700 acres of land forming Germantown township. This was divided into four villages, Germantown, Cresheim, Sommerhausen and Crefeld.

The village of Cresheim (or variously spelled "Kriesheim," "Creesam," etc) lay east and west between Wistar street and the Roxborough township line (now Wissahickon avenue) and north and south between Mermaid lane and Mount Pleasant avenue. The tract contained 1166 acres.

Dr. Naaman H. Keyser's "History of Germantown" states that 297 acres of the northern part of this village was owned by Gerhard Rittenhouse, the youngest son of William Rittenhouse (the first paper maker). Matthias Zimmerman's survey of 1700, located 175 acres of this land as belonging to Hans Graf.

Cresheim Road existed as early as 1700, as it is marked as running nearly parallel with Germantown Road, and strange to say, there were thirteen housts drawn on Cresheim road, as compared to but one on the Germantown road.

In 1715 J. H. Sprogel conveyed to Henry Sellen 100 acres of land at the western part of the tract through which the creek ran, and in another deed of 1717, Sellen is mentioned as an oil-miller, so he must have built the mill about 1715, it being the first oil mill in the Wissahickon Valley.

These early oil mills extracted oil, through grinding processes, from flax, or linseed. Considerable flax was grown in Roxborough and Germantown, from which the womenfolk spun a very fine quality of linen cloth. The oil, therefore, was a profitable by-product.

The title of the property, involved in this chapter, from Sellen to Peter Bechtel, runs as follows: 1736 Sellen, 50 acres and oil mill to Matthias Weaver; 1741 to M. Barenstine; 1769 to Jacob Nice (the Nicetown section of Philadelphia received its name from this old family); 1773, Peter Rubicam; 1783, Julius Kuper; 1792, Jonathan and Titus Yerkes; 1793, Michael Billmeyer (the well-known printer of Germantown). He erected a grist mill on the property. In 1801 Billmeyer sold the two mills to Peter Bechtel, Sr., a paper-maker from Lower Merion township, and the latter changed the plant into a paper manufactory.

Peter Bechtel, Sr., was, I believe, descended from John George Bechtel, who settled in 1743, near Pottstgrove, now Pottstown. It cannot be definitely ascertained that Peter ever owned a paper mill in Lower Merion, but in 1798 he purchased 13 acres of land there, next to John Righter's property, upon which Jonathan Robeson built a paper mill, and it is possible that he was employed and learned the business in that mill.

Peter, Sr., operated this Cresheim Creek mill and after 1817, the upper paper mill, also. The latter had been the ancient 1700 grist mill of Gerhard Rittenhouse, which later became the Joseph Carr cotton factories.

Peter Bechtel, Sr., died at, or in the vicinity of the mill, in March 1838. His son, Peter, Jr., came into possession of the paper mill. He married Margaret Rex Hortter, daughter of Jacob Hortter, Jr., and Ann Rex, of Chestnut Hill. In a survey of 1833 the paper mill is given as a substantial two-story-and-a-half building, on Paper Mill Road, that ran southeast into Livezey's Mill Road, near Allen's Lane. In the opposite direction it ran from the mill north to Cresheim Road, near where McCallum street bridge now passes over the creek.

Peter Bechtel, Jr., expired in 1842, at the age of 45 years, and for a time, a firm named Hogan & Thompson, paper dealers in Philadelphia, sold the product of this mill and later they were the owners, until after 1852.

The Bechtel family was a large one, and in a deed of 1839 it is found that those who were paper-makers were: Jacob, Henry B., Paul J., Joseph B., William and

George Bechtel.

The one we are most interested in, as far as this narrative is concerned, is the son of Peter Jacob Hortter Bechtel, born 1822, and who was employed at the age of seventeen in

mill and also in the office of Hogan & Thompson, in Philadelphia.

In October 1839, Jacob H. Bechtel started his very interesting diary, which is now in the possession of his son, Theodore A. Bechtel, of Roxborough. The diary is beautifully written, considering the observant writer's youth, and he illustrated it with about thirty humorous drawings in colored ink. The book, of 208 large pages, is dedicated to his brother, George Hortter Bechtel.

Under date of January 4th and 5th, 1840, the young diarist, drew a picture of the great water wheel of the Cresheim Creek mill, covered with ice. It is shown as an overshot wheel. At one side of the great wheel is "Father" Bechtel, with an axe, cutting away the ice, and at the other side, an iron pipe from the mill boiler is conveying steam to the wheel, a procedure which was followed to thaw away the ice.

Some of the interesting items, found in the journal, are as follows: "January 28th 1840: Attended church, the sermon was especially for young men, but so many women were present, most of the men, including myself, had to stand."

"February 1st, 1840: This evening I took passage in the big sleigh, and arrived in Germantown almost crushed to death by the number (23) who had to find room on four seats holding four persons each; sleighing delightful."

On May 16th 1840, the diarist made a good drawing of the Bechtel home, near the mill. He states that he did not reach home until midnight and finding the house locked, he is pictured entering via an upper story window, by aid of the roof of a lower annex.

On May 31st, 1840 the lad, and his brother George, in the evening went across the creek, and drew in red, blue, black and brown ink, an attractive sketch of the Bechtel dwelling and paper mill. The smoke stack was at that time all brick, but it must have been rebuilt later, as stone is the material from which the stack, still standing, is made. It stands at least 50 feet high.

On June 18th, 1840, says the journalist, "A large meeting of Whigs took place at the State House (5th & Chestnut Streets), upward of ten thousand attended. Everything seems to be for Harrison; Log Cabin breast pins, hard cider buttons, Tippecanoe canes and handkerchiefs." Then the diarist gave drawings of some of the campaign emblems.

On June 21st 1840, Jacob wrote in his annals, "I attended Grace Church (in Philadelphia) and heard the same preacher and the same sermon that I heard four weeks ago, at Christ Church."

"June 24th 1840: I attended a meeting of Mormons, opposite our house. After the meeting was over I stopped to speak with an

old schoolmate who had joined them."

"July 3rd 1840: After supper we began to set off our fireworks, rockets, etc. At 11 o'clock we dismissed a large balloon." The accompanying drawing shows the two brothers on a foot bridge over the Cresheim Creek, with the balloon and a new moon in the sky.

"September 20th 1840: Brother George and I walked to Roxborough. A heavy wind and rain-storm overtook us and we went into a farmhouse, until evening. They handed us a lantern as it was pitch dark." The sketch near this entry depicts the two lads with the lantern, approaching the old covered bridge at Livezey's. Incidentally, the bridge at that time was only a year old, as it had been erected in 1839.

"October 4th 1840: Attended church in Roxborough; the S. J. Bumstead preached. is now the Fourth Church, at Monastery yunk avenues, and was the author, or author of "The romantic story and the old along the V the erection Reformed structure worsh Jose in

bered, was in Roxborough township.)

"October 13th 1840: The great election commenced and continued until midnight, the turbulent spirit is such that persons had to fight their way to the ballot boxes." (The final result was Harrison 234, Van Buren 60.)

"October 30th 1840: About midnight the Harrison headquarters were attacked by a gang of rowdies and almost torn to pieces."

The January 21st, 1842 entry states that his father, Peter Bechtel, Jr., had died after a short illness. The lad gave a drawing of the sad scene, such as we see in so many old prints, of the family in great distress, gathered around the bedside.

Jacob Bechtel, in his very interesting diary, provides us of today, with some splendid descriptions of visits to Girard College, the Academy of Natural Sciences, Franklin Institute, which is about to be installed in the new building on the Parkway, Laurel Hill Cemetery, and other places, ninety years ago, when those places were vastly different from what they are today.

One of the quaintest drawings in the journal is one of a visit to

Girard College, with his little sister, on June 2nd 1842. "And taking Siss by the hand, we jogged along. We arrived at Girard College. Siss was tired, and perceiving a swing (in a building) when we had got to the 3rd story, under the roof, wished me to give her a swing, which I did, and she appeared to enjoy it highly."

Before getting away from the diary, we would like to state that

Jacob Bechtel was a very broad-minded churchgoer, he apparently having attended every church of every denomination in Philadelphia County. Here are a few notes from his book: "The church was packed to the doors, I had to stand, the seats were all occupied. This morning attended Christ Church; in the afternoon St. John's Catholic Church (this must have been the one of 13th street, opposite the present Wanamaker Store) and in the evening Dr. Albert Barnes First Presbyterian. The sermons were all excellent and the attendance large."

Now let us return to the paper mill of Peter Bechtel, Jr., Hogan & Thompson continued the paper

mill for many years. In 1871 Joseph Hill owned the mill.

Samuel F. Houston, who holds title to a large amount of real estate in the 21st and 22nd Wards (Roxborough and Chestnut Hill) informs the writer that his father, the late H. H. Houston, bought this property from the George Hill Estate, and a man named Keely remodeled the factory as a paper mill, supplying Buchanan & Company, near 5th & Market streets, Philadelphia, with what we would call today, building paper.

Mr. Houston, also tells me that as a youth he often skated upon the ice of the Bechtel Mill pond, and also on the Carr Mill Pond, farther up the Cresheim, where McCallum street bridge now crosses the stream. The high wall of the Bechtel dam is still standing.

It is due, almost entirely, to the Houston family, that the valley of the Cresheim, from the Wissahickon to Germantown avenue, a distance of nearly two miles, is today, a part of beautiful Fairmount Park. In Colonial times the little valley possessed six industrial plants.

Last week we finished the history of the Cresheim Creek mills, and now are ready to continue our search into "the past of the industrial plants" of the Wissahickon. Our journey, therefore, takes us along the greater stream, beyond Cresheim Creek, along the western bank, passing Valley Green inn and the Springfield avenue bridge, with our story being continued from a point at the Hartwell avenue span.

At this point, there is a triangular plot of ground, of 45 acres in extent, starting from the west side of the Hartwell avenue bridge, then "running 2900 feet northwest along the Roxborough-Germantown line, up the steep hill to a heap of stones, 600 feet above Philadelphia's first drinking fountain" (Pro Bono Publico). The second leg of the triangle is from the heap of stones, northeast 1700 feet to a point on the Wissahickon from where pedestrians can see the Rex avenue bridge and the stone effigy of Tedyuscung, the Indian chief.

The third leg of the triangle is from this point along the east bank of the creek to the place of beginning.

The heap of stones mentioned, was a surveyor's mark on the Roxborough-Germantown Line, which divided the villages of Somerhausen and Crefeld. All the measure-

ments in this locality started from the heap of stones. It is first mentioned in a deed of 1702, then again in all transfers through 169 years, when it is again recorded in the Magarage deed transferring the 45 acres to the Park Commission in 1871. The writer has spent many hours in attempting to locate the heap of stones, without success; as the entire hillside is covered with rocks. Incidentally the name Roxborough, was first called "Rocks-burrow," in 1704.

The 45 acres we are discussing, are largely located in the old village of Somerhausen, which was named after the town in which Francis Daniel Pastorius, was born. The little town was comprised of 975 acres, belonging in 1689 to the Frankfort Land Company. In 1792 they were sold to Rittenhouse. In 1731 William De-

wees purchased the northwest corner of the village and on this 45 acres, for which he paid 42 pounds sterling, he built a paper mill which we designate Mill No. 20.

This was the fourth paper mill that he had erected in Germantown township. Dewees was prominent and respected in state and church activities.

In April 1736 he conveyed the paper mill to his son, William, Jr., who married Rachel Farmer, the daughter of Edward Farmer, whose family owned two grist mills on the Wissahickon, and 5000 acres of land comprising the greater part of Whitemarsh Township. In the early 1700's the Farmers gave the land to St. Thomas' P. E. Church, where the present place of worship is located.

William Dewees, Jr., in 1749 purchased from his brother-in-law, Peter Robeson, one of the Farmer grist mills, near Flourtown, and later he was elected sheriff of Philadelphia.

On February 1st 1732, William Dewees, Jr., sold the paper mill buildings, wheels and gears to Colonel Thomas York, of the French and Indian Wars, and Matthias Maris, a paper-maker. Colonel York possessed extensive landholdings and was a great admirer of the Robeson girls, and married three of them—an aunt and two nieces. Maris married Magdalena Levering, the niece of Jacob Levering who owned the grist mill on Gully Run, in West Manayunk, in 1750.

At the January Court of 1742, York and Maris petitioned the Court, setting forth that they "sometime ago erected a paper mill on Wissahickon Creek, and are under difficulties to get their paper from said mill to the city; and rags from there to said mill—that a common road may be laid out from the mill to Roxboro Road that leads to Philadelphia; without injury to anyone," the distance being about a mile and very little, if any, improved lands between the said roads. The September Court of 1742 states that the road had been laid out between the Wissahickon and end of a rocky hill, then four courses up the hill to Roxboro Road. Nearly 200 years later, (1933) this little pathway leads through the woods between

THE PAUL-WISE GRIST MILL



When Charles Magarge conducted the mill and changed it into a paper manufactory. The above illustration forms the frontispiece of a book of poems, composed by Mrs. Sylvester Megargee. Her son, S. Edwin Megargee made the sketch.

Wise's Mill Road and the Hartwell avenue bridge, with no improvements even today, along the path of the hill to "the Ridge."

About 1748 the mill was sold to Peter Kock, who owned several hundred acres in Somerhausen.

Peter Kalm, a native of Sweden, in his "Travels into North America," refers to this mill, as follows:

"September 21st 1748, in the afternoon, I rode with Mr. Peter Kock, who was a merchant, born at Karkscron in Sweden, to his

country seat, about nine miles from the town, to the northwest. The country on both sides of the road was covered with a great forest. The trees were covered with annual leaves, and I did not see a single fir or pine. Most of the trees were different sorts of oak. But we also saw chestnut, walnut, locust and apple trees."

"October 10th. Mr. Kock had a paper mill, on a little brook, (Wissahickon) and all the courser sorts of paper manufactured in it. It is now annually rented for fifty pounds Pennsylvania currency."

Peter Kock lived until 1749, and in June 26th 1753, the 45 acres and the paper mill were sold by the sheriff to John Johnson, the highest bidder, for 329 pounds. Kock owned also two other lots of adjoining land. These he sold to John Gardner and Henry Schleydon, and before the sale the three buyers agreed to turn over for the purpose of a two-perch road, a strip of land called Paper Mill Road, running down to the paper mill on the Wissahickon. The road was to be opened at all times and seasons for horses, cattle, carts and carriages. This road until 1852 was called Wise's mill lane, but the bridge is known as the Hartwell avenue bridge. Later on more will be told of the present-day Wise Mill Road.

On December 6th 1757, John Johnson sold to Nicholas Hasselbach, a paper-maker, the 45 acres "with message and mill building and improvements now there erected," and all wheels, gears and implements to the paper mill. The deed is signed in German, by Nicholas and his wife, Catherine Louisa.

A deed, dated 1761, mentions the

road leading to "a paper mill now also a grist mill, late Peter Kock's, then John Johnson's, now N. Hasselbach's." The latter was the first printer in Chestnut Hill and in 1763 he printed a German Almanac for the year 1764. The late Dr. MacFarlane states that the Almanac was printed in the Barge

House (John Barge owner of the Spruce Paper Mill No. 21), now at 3502 Germantown avenue. It is also supposed that Samuel Sauer, son of Christopher Sauer, Jr., used the Barge House as his printing office in 1790.

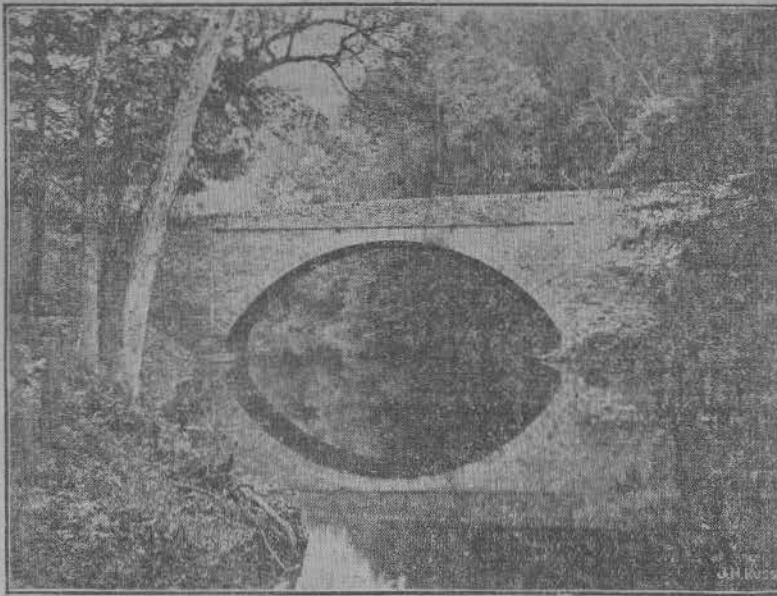
In 1757 Hasselbach bought 17 acres of land in Whitemarsh and erected a paper mill, which he sold in 1760 to Henry Katz. The mill adjoined the paper mills of Jacob Hagy. These mills were on the stream that runs into the Schuylkill river at Miquon Station. Near the latter railroad station, on this site, there stands today the great paper making plant of William C. Hamilton & Sons. The founder of this present-day plant was at one time manager of the Magarge Paper mill.

In 1766, Nicholas Hasselbach, "late of Germantown, now of the Province of Maryland," sold the paper mill to Joseph Paul, 3rd, of Whitemarsh, miller, for 1450 pounds. Besides having an interest in the Spring Mill Mills, he was the largest taxpayer, at this time, in Whitemarsh township. Joseph Paul, 3rd, was born in 1727 and married in 1761, the widow of Samuel Bolton, (Mary Livezey) the sister of Thomas Livezey 3rd. Joseph Pauls, 3rd was the grandson of Joseph Paul, Sr., of Iminster, near Taunton, Somersetshire, England. He arrived in America in 1685, and purchased nearly 1000 acres of land in Oxford and Lower Dublin. His was a large family and owned many forges and mills in Pennsylvania. Joseph Paul 3rd's brother, Jacob, in 1794, purchased from Isaac Potts, the historic Washington headquarters at Valley Forge.

Upon purchasing the property in 1766, Joseph Paul 3rd changed the plant into a merchants' and grist mill. In 1752 the mills of Philadelphia exported 126,000 barrels of flour and in 1774, 165,000 barrels.

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THE BRIDGE AT SPRINGFIELD AVENUE



A few hundred feet northeast of this stone structure, is the Hartwell Avenue bridge, which is referred to in this week's article of the Paul-Wise Mill.

Owing to the large quantities of flour manufactured in the mills along the Wissahickon, it was no uncommon sight to see on the various mill roads, a long line of teams carrying the flour to the city.

In 1783 Joseph Paul and his brother-in-law, Thomas Livezey, 3rd, made a petition to the Court for a reconfirmation of the road from their mills to Roxborough; "that the said road had become very useful for transporting of large quantities of wheat brought from back countries to said Joseph Paul's mill, as well as large quantities of firewood, stove coal, etc. to the inhabitants of Germantown."

Paul added many acres to his holdings adjoining his other mill lands on the Wissahickon, in Roxborough. These lands included what is known as Dunroamin Farms, the estate of the late Thomas E. Mitten, whose genius created the Mitten, Men and Management which so successfully conducted Philadelphia's transportation system for many years. Dunroamin Farms lies principally along Wise's Mill Road. On the top of the hills overlooking the Wissahickon, Mr. Mitten built several buildings, including an outdoor swimming pool, lined with green tile. His son, Dr. A. A. Mitten now resides on this structures for hobbles, which included the breeding of prize chickens and pointing dogs. These Roxborough lands were granted by William Penn, in 1681, to Charles Jones; 1711 to Edward Shippen; 1730 to Samuel Powell; 1768 to Joseph Potts, and in 1770 to Joseph Paul, 3rd.

Joseph Paul 3rd expired in 1805, and left his mills and lands to his nephew, Joseph 4th, son of his brother, Jacob. On April 1st, 1812, Joseph 4th sold to John Wise, Jr., the mills and 80 acres of land in Roxborough and Germantown for \$21,000. Wise also added to his

holdings, including a lot on the Schuylkill River, upon which he built a warehouse to give the mill better facilities for receiving grain, from up the river and shipping the flour to the city.

Domino Lane, just below the 8th milestone, on Ridge Avenue, can still be traced in its course down to the Schuylkill River at Flat Rock dam. It is said that the drivers of teams often had long waits at Flat Rock until canal boats arrived, and while resting played dominoes, in an inn which stood on the banks of the Schuylkill. The house became known as the Domino House, and the lane, too, received this name. Domino House is still standing and is occupied by Winfield S. Gules, the veteran weather-forecaster for the State and National government.

John Wise, Jr., (1774-1839) married Mary Miller, daughter of Wigard Miller. They lived at the E. Corner of Germantown and W. low Grove avenues. Ann, the sister of John Wise, married William Streep, whose father owned the Streep mill on ground now known

as the Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania. This old Revolutionary grist mill, just over the county line adjoining the Whitmarsh Country Club, was rebuilt in 1834, but the mill race of 1761 is today carrying water to turn a wheel that pumps water from a nearby well to the University buildings.

John Wise's older sister, Catherine, married George Hortter, who owned two mills on the Wissahickon, and his brothers, Joseph and Jacob, were both owners of mills.

There must have been a ford, or low bridge over the Wissahickon in the time of William Dewees, near the mill, and in 1820 Wise petitioned the Court to rebuild the bridge at this place. He stated that the year before the bridge was washed away by a freshet and that

twice before it had been destroyed built the bridge at a cost of \$3,000. in the same way. The county re-\$3,000.

Some time after 1742 the York and Maris paper mill road was abandoned, and a road nearer the mill and much less hilly was opened up to Ridge Avenue. This was, and is, the present Wise's Mill Road.

John Wise, Jr., was an expert miller and carried on an extensive flour business. He had previously owned his father's mill (No. 12) at Gorgas Lane.

In 1826 he sold to Isaac Shoemaker, four lots of land, the grist and merchant mill, all buildings, dams, mill race, etc for \$22,750. He died in 1839 and was buried in the churchyard of St. Michael's Lutheran Church, Germantown Avenue and Phil-Elena Street.

On December 4th, 1843, the Bank of Germantown took over the two mills and 80 acres from the estate of Shoemaker. In 1844, Charles Magarge rented the property and converted it into a paper mill. In 1848 Magarge was elected president of the Bank of Germantown. In 1841, John Fanning Watson, the author of Watson's Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania, was cashier of this bank.

Tradition states that the Magarges came to Pennsylvania, from Belfast, Ireland, and in early deeds, the name is spelled Magargel. Charles Magarge's grandfather was Joseph Magarge, who married Susanna Livezey, daughter of Jonathan Livezey.

Joseph Magarge, in 1794, bought a grist mill on the Townsend tract. Which one of those two mills, both on the original Townsend estate in 1731, was the first Townsend grist mill, is difficult to ascertain.

Charles Magarge's father, Samuel, was a paper dealer and paper maker, from Bristol Township. His

wife's name was Mary.

Charles, Jr., was born September 30th, 1804. In 1834 he married Ann Hicks, and in 1844 was again married, this time to Lydia D. Knorr. He was the father of two sons, Edward and Henry C. The latter was the superintendent of the Wissahickon paper mill.

The writer has a memorandum which states that Charles Magarge also operated the Rose Glen Paper Mill, on Mill Creek, Montgomery County, which was destroyed by fire; but has been unable to verify this statement.

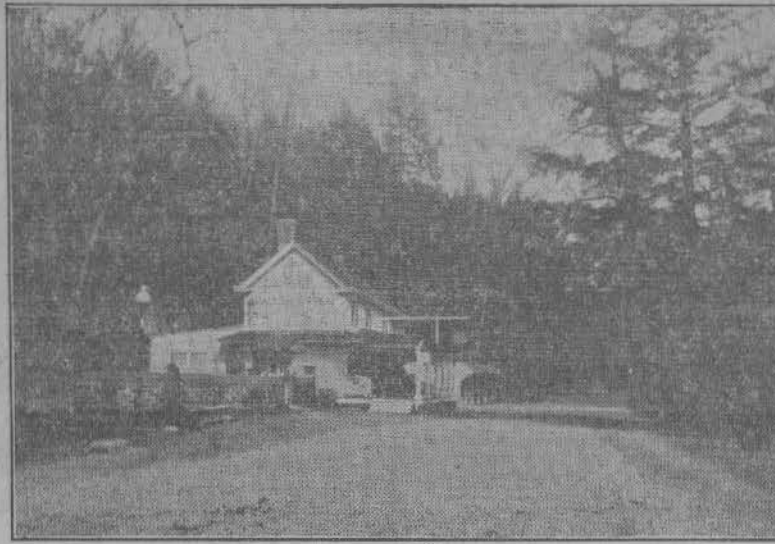
In the fall of 1844 William C. Hamilton, who had been the manager of the Willcox Ivy Mill, on Chester Creek, installed the paper making machinery in the Magarge

Wissahickon Mill. Charles Magarge was the financier and organizer of this project, Sylvester Megargee (note difference in spelling of name) distributed the product and Hamilton, as manager, equipped the mill with the most up-to-date machinery. The plant soon became the best-provisioned and most noted paper mill in Pennsylvania. This did not occur until after 1835 when Charles Magarge & Company purchased the property outright from the Bank.

The Germantown Historical So-

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LOCALE OF MILL STORY



Picturesque and romantic Valley Green inn, along the Wissahickon, just above which, is the old mill property described in this week's story of the early mills of the locality, by James F. Magae, Jr.

city possesses a large oil painting of the Magarge Paper Mills, and warehouses. On the right, is shown the little office building, the only one of which is still standing.

The roof is partly caved in and the windows broken, but it is hoped that when "ole man Depression" leaves us the Park Commission will repair the structure. A date stone, in the walls of this little building reads: "C. M. 1857."

In the painting, back of a large tree, in the foreground, is the old Paul-Wise peaked-roof mill.

A reproduction of this old mill is the frontispiece of a charming book of poems composed by Mrs. Sylvester Magargee, the wife of one of the partners in the paper-making firm. The first poem in the collection is entitled "The Old Paper Mill," and reads:

"They may sing you lays of all that is bright,
In the blushing morn and the star-lit night;
They may tell of wonders beyond the sea,
Of fragrant flowers they may whisper to thee;
But I'll sing you a song with right good will,
One you've ne'er heard—of the old paper-mill.

"It is there you will see the garments old,
Of the gentle maiden and soldier bold,
The fragments of linen the rich man wore,
And the coarser rags that poverty bore,
Together heaped up, like some mammoth hill,
Within the walls of the old paper-mill.

"And there they are washed until white as snow,
In the cleansing waters these old rags grow;
When next they appear they're a pulpy mass,
Which is spread on rollers of steel or brass;
Then soon it will be when

snowy sheets fill
The large press-room of the old paper-mill.

"And thus you will find, in this dreary life's span,
Heaped up together, the actions of man;
Some are dyed deeply with guilt's darkest hue,
Others are pure, but alas! they are few;
Together they mingle, this earth to fill,
Seeming like rags in the old

paper-mill.

"But ere men can reach his bright home above,
His soul must be filled with sorrow and love;
From aught that can stain each thought must be freed
And he become pure in word and in deed,
As sparkling waters from gurgling rill,
Or snowy sheets in the old paper-mill."

In 1854 Charles Magarge built, above the dam, the first public drinking fountain in Philadelphia, marked "Pro Bono Publico. Este Perpetua." The writer's personal friend, William F. Dixon, says that he remembers, when a very small

lad, of seeing the masons build the fountain. His father was employed in the Magarge mill from 1844 to 1860. In 1858 an ice gorge swept away the Hartwell avenue bridge. The Dixons lived on the east side of the Wissahickon just above Hartwell avenue. The creek was so high that Mr. Dixon could put his hand out of the second story window and touch the ice as it floated by.

Mr. Dixon, Sr., placed a plank out of the second story bay window so that the boys could leave home to go to school in Chestnut Hill. William F. Dixon also told me that in the early 1860's H. J. Hartwell was the most popular man, with the

boys, in Chestnut Hill. The race track there was enclosed with a high fence, and there were big trees on Hartwell's property, which adjoined, and he permitted the boys to climb the trees and see the thrilling horse races, without paying any admission.

There are on the old Magarge property, two very clear springs, one on the east side of the Wissahickon, above Hartwell avenue, and the other on the west side of the stream just below Wise's Mill Road.

A settling tank to collect the pure water for making white paper was built at each stream. The water from the east side spring was piped under the Wissahickon and ran direct into the mill building. Years afterward when the city dismantled the plant, Mr. Dixon had the contract to remove these pipes.

So that the soot and ashes would not settle over the white paper, a tunnel ran from the boiler house away up the hill to a great stone stack. This stack and the one at the Peter Bechtel mill on Cresheim Creek, are both standing today.

In 1851 Edwin R. Cope was a member of the Magarge firm. In 1853 Charles Magarge bought from the Bank of Germantown the mills and 51 acres of land for \$30,000. The deed shows that Owen Sheridan was to have permission of crossing the creek and right to a bridge near the line of John Peter's land, also erecting a dam below the said bridge, not exceeding 6 feet, also to cut ice on the Paper Mill dam.

Charles Magarge was the president of the Bank of Germantown (in 1864 the National Bank of Germantown and now the Germantown National Bank and Trust Company) from 1848 to 1866, when he resigned. "A Retrospect," published by the bank reads: "Mr. Magarge's ripe experiences and ability having started the business in the onward course, his resignation was received with regret, and resolutions of a highly complimentary character were tendered to him by the board."

Weeks "History of Paper-Making" states that among others Magarge Bros., were in 1853 the first to use wood pulp in the manufacturing of paper in the United States.

Two of the grandsons of early members of the firm tell me that they did not believe that wood pulp was ever used to any great extent.

L. H. Weeks, also writes: "The

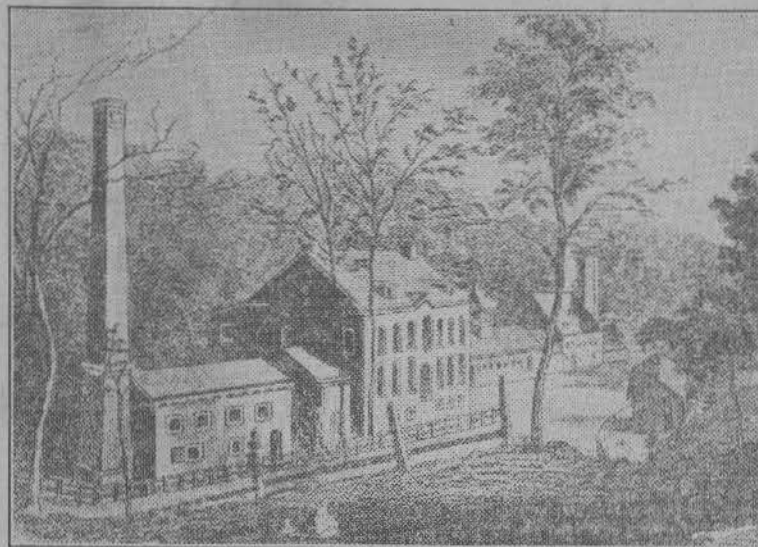
house of Charles Magarge was established in 1830, and was one of the most flourishing concerns in business. The Magarge Wissahickon Mill was one of the finest of its time. It had a very lone and honourable career, passing through many hands before it came into the possession of the Magarge's about 1850.

J. Leander Bishop, in his "History of American Manufacturers, from 1608 to 1860" says:

"In 1845 Mr. Magarge then as now extensively engaged in the sale of paper on commission finding himself unable to fill orders for paper of unusual sizes, determined to supply this want and purchased a plain substantial structure

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MAGARGE'S OLD PAPER MILL



Famed old Wissahickon mill of Charles Magarge, with additions and improvements after he purchased the property from the Bank of Germantown.

175 by 50 feet situated on the Wissahickon Creek and converted it into a paper mill. The motive power is supplied by water from a stream, having a head and fall of 16 feet, but as a precaution against any deficiency that might arise from low water, there is in the mill a 50 horse power engine, and another of 10 horse power for the mill machinery. This mill contains one large washing and two beating engines, and requires for its supply about 4000 lbs. of rags per day and produce 3000 lbs. of first-class paper.

In 1853 Mr. Magarge built at an expense of about \$80,000, a much larger mill adjoining the old one and supplied it with all the appliances of a first-class Fourdrinier Mill. The main building is 78 feet, 6 inches long by 54 feet deep, two stories high and attic, with a rotary boiler house, connected as a wing 26 feet by 15 feet, 6 inches, an engine room 17 feet long by 40 feet deep, a boiler house 40 by 25 feet and chimney 100 feet high, 10 feet at base and 5 feet at top. The Fourdrinier Paper Machine is 72 feet long and 62 inches wide, and supplied with three 36 inch diameter iron dryers, and ten 8 inch diameter copper dryers and two sets of calendar rods. There are three washing and five beating engines of large capacity. The machinery is propelled by a Corliss engine of 80 horse power and the mill is supplied with pure spring water by means of costly reservoirs on the hills adjacent, from which the water is conducted into the vats by 1200 feet of 8 inch pipe and 900 feet of 6 inch pipe. Some of the reservoirs are 50 feet higher than the factory. The weekly consumption of rags in this mill is about 33,000 lbs. and the production about 24,000 lbs. of paper. The expenses per week of these two mills for raw material and labor are about five thousand dollars.

The warehouse of this firm is located on the corner of Sixth and Jaynes streets and was built by Mr. Magarge in 1855. It is five stories

in height, and has a front of 50 feet on Sixth street and extends back 66 feet. The first story of brown stone and the remainder of the building is of pressed brick. The walls are no less than 20 inches thick.

"The partners in the firm are Charles Magarge and William Bargh, who in an extended business career have attained a high mercantile reputation. 'Like some tall palm, the noiseless fabric grew.'"

In August 1871, the City of Philadelphia purchased from Charles Magarge the mills and 51 acres of land. \$65,000 was paid, in cash, and \$100,000 more was to be paid when he vacated the premises anytime within ten years from date.

The Magarges continued the business until the early 1880's when the City took over the property, and demolished the buildings. Charles Magarge died about this time.

The only reminder of past glories left standing since William Dewees erected his paper mill in 1731, on the 45 acres, are the picturesque Wise Mill dam; the "Pro Bono Publico fountain of 1854; the Magarge Paper Mill office of 1857; the great chimney stack on the top of the hill and the path below the present Wise's Mill Road that in 1742 was the York & Maris Paper Mill Road.

The Friends of the Wissahickon, a meritorious organization which has done much to take care and publicize the Wissahickon Valley, have been informed that the vale through which the Wissahickon flows is 90,000,000 old. Some of the rocks, today, form peculiar shapes, such as a bear's head, an Indian head, and the huge boulder at Robeson's knoll, near the Schuylkill is known as "the Quaker bonnet" and also as "the Sphinx."

In the Jellet collection, at the Germantown Historical Society, is a print of the "Goddess of Liberty," below the Pro Bono Publico fountain. It is silhouetted in black

and white on the east bank of the Wissahickon, but can only be seen from the west bank of the creek at a point opposite the apple tree below the Magarge Quarry. I have inquired among many old time residents of the sections, and Park Guards, just where the Goddess of Liberty can be seen, but I have never been able to locate the last emblem of Liberty.

In our travelogue of the Wissahickon mills, we have now reached Mill No. 21, which was known many years ago as "the Upper Magarge Paper Mill."

This early industrial plant was on the west bank of the Wissahickon, below Spruce Mill Road, which was Barge's Mill Road until 1784 and is now familiar as Thomas Mill Road.

The last of the old red-covered bridges, spanning the storied creek, is still standing here, and

we trust it will never be replaced with a modern structure. All of the other, former, Wissahickon covered bridges have been dismantled and are gone; the Rittenhouse street bridge above Paper Mill Run, the Kitchen's lane-Monastery bridge, Allen's Lane, and the one which stood at Livezey's lane.

Let us here insert some verses concerning the Thomas Mill Road bridge, which were written by A. C. Chadwick, Jr., historian of the

Wissahickon Valley Historical Society.

The Bridge at Thomas Mill Road

As I come to the bridge at Thomas Mill Road,

Where for years Wissahickon's waters have flowed,

I gaze on the timbers, which once painted red,

Made easy access over the creek's rocky bed,

For the men and their beasts, who hauled grist to the mill,

And although they have passed, the bridge is there still,

A sturdy reminder of the things which have gone

And a sign of the progress of men struggling on.

The trees of the forest gave wood for its beams,

To carry the weight of the grain-laden teams,

Which carted the loads to the ponderous wheels

Of the old Thomas Mill, to be ground into meals,

Its sides are still boarded, its roof casts a shade

O'er the splintered old roadway, which artisans laid

With many a thought of the droughts to be borne

And the strain which men-made structures are torn.

Now it's concrete and steel, which are used for the spans,

That cross streams and lowlands when men make their plans,

And the day of the bridge, which was once formed of wood,

Has left us forever, as Time willed it should,

But the reverence I feel, for

OLD WISSAHICKON MILL



Upper Magarge Paper Mill, at Thomas Mill Road, Wissahickon Creek. The photograph was taken in the early 1870's, a few days after a great freshet had demolished the red, covered, bridge leading to the mill. The picture is reproduced through the kindness and courtesy of a grandson of Charles Magarge.

the things that are old,
Crowds into my heart when the
story is told

Of the old covered bridge,
which at Thomas Mill Road,
Still stands where the waters
of ages have flowed!

After leaving the village of Somerhausen and the Lower Magarge Mill, we now journey up the Wissahickon, pass the Rex avenue bridge and the stone effigy of Tedyuscung, and find ourselves in Crefeld, now Chestnut Hill, the upper village in Germantown township.

Crefeld is the name of the town in Germany from whence came the thirteen Mennonite families which founded Germantown. They sailed for this country on July 24th 1683 and reached Philadelphia on October 6th. Last month, the 250th anniversary of the settlement of Germantown was observed and the committee in charge of the ceremonies received the following cablegram from Professor Dr. Rembert, of the Meimat Museum, in Crefeld, Germany: (Translation) "The people of Crefeld held a public meeting on October 6th to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the arrival of the Crefeld settlers at Philadelphia. Prof. Dr. Rembert delivered an address which was broadcasted by radio."

Between the lower and upper Magarge Mill we pass through the deepest gorge of the Wissahickon. On the Chestnut Hill side of the creek, the hills rise 400 feet, and to nearly the same elevation on the Roxborough side.

Here is the title of Mill No. 21, and the 147 1-2 acres of land on which it was located. 1689 Frankfort Company, 1708 John H. Sproegell 11, 1712 Thomas Tress, ironmaster. In 1690 Tress owned one quarter of the William Rittenhouse (the first) Paper mill. In

1717, Mill No. 21—that of the present article—was owned by Thomas Carvel, Sr.

Originally it was a grist mill and was built between 1717 and 1736 and in 1737 Thomas Carvel, Jr., sold the mill and land to Joseph Woolen, Sr., a miller of Germantown.

In 1737 Joseph Woolen applied for a road from Roxborough to Chestnut Hill, to be known as Spruce Mill Road. He stated that he had recently erected a new grist mill and wished the road, already in use, to be confirmed. The petition was granted.

In 1738, Woolen and his wife, Mary, stated that John Barge (the son of the aforementioned Mary by a previous marriage) had been of great assistance and help, a trust beformed for two years, and Andrew Robeson, 3rd, of Sumac Park, and Jonathan Robeson be made trustees, and at the end of that period, one half of the grist mill, bolting mill, and land was to be given to John Barge. John Barge married Elizabeth, the daughter of Joseph Woolen, Sr. The latter died in 1739, so that the other half of the estate passed to Joseph Woolen, Jr.

Let us leave this mill, for a moment, to describe the "Historical Map of Chestnut Hill," designed and drawn by Joseph P. Sims, architect. All the early roads, with dates of confirmation, the four Chestnut Hill mills along the Wissahickon, the ancient houses, including the positions of the dwellings of John Barge, Rev. Michael Schlatterer, which built the paper mill on Paper Mill road, in 1759; John Piper's barn, when the Indians were holding their pow-wow at Council Rock were given food and shelter; the farm of 1742 that included the 45 acre tract on the old Mill Road, now Highland avenue and various other landmarks, near Mill No. 21 are on this map.

Several other interesting features

of the map, farther away from the mill, include General Washington and his staff are seen proceeding down the Bethlehem Pike, through Chestnut Hill, to attack the British in Germantown; a fanciful drawing of the William Dewees paper mill, of 1710, with a great under-shot water wheel in the foreground; the arms of Penn and Pastorius; and to these Joseph P. Sims has added scores of other historical data.

In 1739 the grist mill was owned by John Barge and Joseph Woolen, Jr. In 1750 the latter married Debora, the widow of Jonathan Paul, of Mill No. 22. As stated before, she had an interest in three of the Chestnut Hill mills, and also the Thomas Livezey mill, in Roxborough.

The widows and daughters of these old-time Wissahickon millers were largely accustomed to marrying young and often. The millers were the largest owners of property in the neighborhood. At times a very nice dowery went with the bride, as in the case of the Widow Debora Paul.

In 1754, Joseph Woolen, Jr., became embarrassed and at a sheriff's sale, his brother-in-law, John Barge, purchased one quarter interest in the mill (No. 22) and 61

acres of land, containing a grist mill, house, etc., for 335 pounds sterling. Also 194 acres and one half an interest in the Grist Mill (No. 21), for 905 pounds sterling.

John Barge died in 1755 and in his will mentions the Spruce Mill, which was a paper mill, and 243 acres of ground, which he left to his widow, Elizabeth, and their children.

He left his house (in Chestnut Hill), at 8502 Germantown avenue, where Nicholas Hasselbach and Samuel Sauer later conducted their printing establishment, to his mother, Mary, if she stayed away from her, then-living, husband. She seems to have done better in her first two marriages than she did in the third.

In 1766 Mary Dewees, wife of Farmer Dewees, and daughter of John Barge, sold a quarter interest in this mill and land to Joseph Mather, who had married Elizabeth, the widow of John Barge. In 1774 Joseph Mather was taxed for the mill and in 1783 the place was taxed as a grist mill, one quarter to Joseph Mather and three-quarters to Andrew Barge, the son of John.

In 1784 the heirs sold the property to Daniel Thomas, a miller from Moreland Township. The present name of Thomas' Mill road takes its name from this purchaser. The mill was owned by the Thomas family for more than fifty years, and in 1839 it and 25 acres were sold to Franklin A. Comly. A sheriff's sale in 1844 passed it into the possession of William Lukens. An earlier William Lukens, of this same family, was the ancestor of President Theodore Roosevelt, and the present Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, wife of the Nation's present Chief Executive.

In 1851 the property was purchased by Edwin B. Cope, a paper



A ten-dollar bank note issued by the Bank of Germantown, in 1848. Charles Magarge, Wissahickon mill owner, was a Director of the bank from 1841 to 1868, and President from 1844 to 1866. John Fanning Watson, author of "Watson's Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania," was the cashier. Note the portraits of bank officers.

maker, who in the same year was a partner in the firm of Magarge & Cope. In a map, dated 1851, the firm was also given as Magarge & Cope, in verifying this statement.

In the early 1850's Cope left Magarge and bought the Riverside Paper Mills, at Lafayette (now Miquon), in Whitmarsh Township. He sold this plant to W. E. Hamilton, in 1865. In 1859 the sheriff sold the Cope Wissahickon paper mill to Charles Magarge and in 1867, the latter sold it to his brother, Edwin Magarge. The widow of Edwin, Sarah R. Magarge, sold the holding to the city in 1872 for \$77,500.

The old mill dam is just above the Thomas Mill Road bridge. The springs on the adjacent hills supplied the water to make the paper. This spring water was stored in reservoirs from which it was conducted into vats by means of 2100 feet of pipe. Some of the reservoirs were fifty feet higher than the mill, and their ruins are still traceable on the paths leading along a small stream which flows into the Wissahickon just above the mill road. The product of this paper mill was noted for its extreme whiteness, due to the purity of the water used in its manufacture.

In the early 1870's the red-covered bridge was washed away in a freshet that created great damage along the Wissahickon. (See illustration).

Tradition has it that this mill was named at the time it was the upper Magarge Mill, the "Hanwell" mill, after that section of England from which the Magarges originally came. However, it may be that one of the wives of the Magarges came from Hanwell, but the family itself were of Irish extraction.

As mentioned earlier, the grandparents of Charles Magarge were Joseph and Susanna Livezey Ma-

garge. In 1794 the former purchased a grist mill on the Wissahickon, that in 1731 had been a grist mill on the Robert Townsend property of 1685-86. Hugh Roberts, after 1794, also purchased a grist mill, that in 1731 also been erected on the same property.

The father of Joseph Magarge was Patric Magargel, a native of Ireland, who came to Pennsylvania early in the 1700's. He married Margaret Waterman, a descendant of Captain Humphrey Waterman, of the Barbadoes and was subsequently a large landowner in Abington and Lower Dublin townships. Margaret Magargel died the "10th Month, 10th, 1739" and in 1741 her widower gave a mortgage on 33 1-2 acres of land in Abington Township. At this time no wife was mentioned.

But before 1747 he had married Rebecca, as her name appears in a mortgage of that date, in Lower Dublin. Magargel and his wife, Rebecca, deeded this land to their son, John, in 1770. In 1783 the Orphan's Court granted administration of his estate to Jacob Magarge.

Three of the sons of Patric Magargel, Sr., were in the Pennsylvania Militia during the American Revolution. These were John, Jacob and Joseph Magarge.

In a mortgage dated 1752, Patric Magargel (with the name so spelled in the mortgage book) signed the deed before Benjamin Franklin, who was a justice in that year.

Many of the later Magarges resided in Bristol Township, near the mill on the Wingochocking Creek. Miss Mary Anna Jones, a descendant of Joseph Magarge, writes to this chronicler: "My mother, when a little child, lived in a house, still standing, on Church Lane, across the road from the Roberts Mill."

Two of the grandsons of members of the firm of Charles Magarge & Company, in 1850, are today members of the firm of Curtis

Paper Company, of Newark, Delaware, and Mount Holly Springs, Pa.

In the illustration of the ten dollar note of the Bank of Germantown in 1848, there will be noted the likenesses of Charles Magarge, the bank president, and John Fanning Watson, the cashier, the latter being the author of the famous "Annals."

In closing this article it is but just that we extend our thanks to Samuel F. Houston for the accompanying illustrations, which have greatly added to the interest of the Lower and Upper Magarge Mills, and also for other parts of the Wissahickon mill narrative which are to follow.

In last week's article we visited the site of Paul's grist mill, at Bell's Mill road, and before continuing our journey up the Wissahickon Creek to visit Henry Dewees Mill (our No. 23) let us return for a few brief moments to the Lower Magarge Paper Mill.

On Sunday, November 19th, 1933, in company with the editor of the Suburban Press, we made a search for the lost "Goddess of Liberty" as depicted in the rocky formations along the romantic Wissahickon. We found this elusive lady on a huge boulder facing almost due south on the west side of the stream, between the Pro Bono Publico fountain and Wise's Mill Dam.

It requires, however, a great deal of imagination to recognize anything which resembles our great emblem of liberty.

We also secured excellent photographs of the path through the woods, just above the Hartwell avenue bridge on the Roxborough side, that in 1742 was the York & Maris

Paper Mill Road; and the old Magarge mill smoke stack, which stands surrounded by the decaying fall vegetation, about 300 feet above the old Magarge Mill office, which is fast falling into dilapidation.

And now to resume our "hike" along the Wissahickon, from Bell's Mill Road northeastward. After a short walk of about half an hour, we come to a sharp bend in the creek. The Andorra Nurseries are on the left side of the road. Lehman's map of Crefeld (1751) shows the position of the old Henry Dewees Mill, about 200 feet farther up the creek, than the location shown on Sims' Historical map, as reproduced on these pages last week.

Henry Dewees owned a farm and dwelling, over the county border in Springfield Township (Montgomery County) on the road to Barren Hill. Today three golf courses; those of the Roxborough, Marble Hall and Whitmarsh Country Clubs; with their greens, fairways and attractive club houses; are

located on the old farms and add greatly to the scenic appearance of the countryside.

The one-time paper mill was located on a small tract of one half an acre, with a frontage of 66 feet on the Wissahickon, and ran back about 450 feet. This small parcel of land would not permit of a mill dam on the Wissahickon, so the mill must have been erected on the smaller stream which empties into the Wissahickon, and flows down from Whitmarsh to this point near the Andorra Nurseries, at Northwestern avenue.

The half acre we are describing was on the old Crefeld village part of an 81 acre tract that Thomas Trees purchased in 1703. This he sold, in 1734, to Peter Knous, and in 1747 Garret Dewees purchased 42 acres of it. Garret was the son of William Dewees, Sr., who inherited half of his father's mill on the Wissahickon. This mill, which we have numbered 26, will be described in a future article.

On December 9th 1747, Garret Dewees, a miller, with wife Agnes, sold to his brother, Henry Dewees, a paper maker of Springfield Township, one half acre, and it was here, before 1751 that Henry Dewees built his paper mill (No. 23).

The 1747 states that Henry was a papermaker, and Dr. MacFarlane, Chestnut Hill chronicler, records, in mentioning the Clever Mill, near Flourtown on the Wissahickon, "the adjoining tract belonged to Henry Dewees, who had a paper mill there before the one which he built at the bend of the Creek."

Henry Dewees, of 1716 to 1801, and his wife, Rachel, had six sons, one of whom, Henry, Jr., we will discuss later.

Henry Dewees, in making a petition for a road, stated that he owned two tracts of land not far distant from each other: "the one where the dwelling house standeth is situated in Springfield Manor and the other on which a paper mill is built, in Germantown township"

Henry Dewees was taxed in Springfield, as follows: 1769, Paper

Mill and 120 acres; 1774, 180 acres.

The Dewees Family Book states that in this mill Henry manufactured cartridge paper during the Revolution, for the use of the American patriots.

In reference to the shortage of paper at the time of the Revolution, L. H. Weeks, relates; Printers and publishers paper stock, used and unused, was drawn upon and a great deal of hot shot was poured into the ranks of the enemy wrapped in equally hot sermons, tracts and political addresses."

Weeks also mentions a large number of sheets of paper, from Fox's Book of Martyrs and the last edition of the Sauer Bible, of 1776, were confiscated and used for the same purpose.

There were also confiscated about twenty-five hundred copies of a sermon upon "Defensive War," discovered in the garret of a house where Benjamin Franklin had previously conducted his printing business.

In 1767 and 1768 Henry Dewees purchased about 30 acres of land adjoining the half-acre mill land.

In 1792 Henry Dewees, Jr., sold the above 30 and one-half acres of land to Mary Paul, the widow of John Paul (of our Mill No. 22). The Chestnut Hill Riding Academy and Driving Club, now has a large stable and other buildings on a portion of this land.

This deed, of 1792 mentions buildings, but no paper mill, on this half acre, so we suppose this mill at the "bend of the Wissahickon" was discontinued prior to that date.

And now for Mill No. 24, which was the second paper mill in America; that of William Dewees, dated 1710.

The Sims Historical Map, which was printed in The Suburban Press, on November 23rd, gives the location of the 100 acres of land on which this old industrial plant was located.

The one-time Dewees plantation is now familiar as the grounds of Mount St. Joseph's College, and is bounded by the Wissahickon Creek, Germantown avenue, and Northwestern avenue.

In 1634, the 100 acres was owned by Jacob Felner and Dirk Sipman. In 1701-02 Heivert Papen purchased the tract. Papen was born in 1655, came to America in 1685, and about 1690 married Elizabeth Rittenhouse, the daughter of William Rittenhouse, the first paper maker on the American continent. Papen died in 1708.

Dewees purchased of the Papen heirs, in 1710, that 100 acres of land that is located 500 feet east of where the Wissahickon Creek crosses the present City Line, and ended about 300 feet west of Germantown avenue.

It is said that William Dewees and his brother-in-law, Nicholas Rittenhouse, were apprentices in the first paper mill, on Paper Mill Run, Roxborough.

Dr. J. J. MacFarlane states that "The existence of this mill as early as 1710 is shown by extracts from the records of the personal accounts of Rev. Paulus Van Sleet, a Dutch Reformed minister in Pennsylvania." The following records

are scattered through the church records of the congregation, beginning with December 18th 1710: "Received from William Dewees 4 quires of paper at 7-3 cents per quire. Fine paper, 10 at 9 cents per quire. 5 quire of paper at 6 cents per quire. 5 quires of paper at 7 1-2 cents per quire, etc."

We have mentioned William Dewees, Sr., before, when he built the paper mill on the 45 acres in Sommerhausen, that later became the lower Magarge Paper Mill.

Dewees was born in 1677 in Lievwarden, Holland. He arrived in New York in 1688 and soon after settled in Germantown. In 1704 he was sheriff of Germantown.

In early 1710 or shortly thereafter there were but three dwellings in Crefeld (Chestnut Hill) one of which was that of Dewees. It stood on the west side of Germantown avenue, between City Line and the Wissahickon. After 1890 it was demolished. Plymouth settlers spoke of having to go "through the wilds of Germantown" on their way to the city.

The Whitmarsh Reformed Church, organized in 1710, was the first congregation in Chestnut Hill, and for forty-three years held meetings in the house of William Dewees, who was one of the early elders. In 1711, his wife, Christine Meels, was recorded as a member.

What is now Germantown avenue was opened in 1687 as a cart road from Front street, Philadelphia, to Plymouth Township. This latter

township lies west of Whitmarsh Township, along the Schuylkill river.

A low bridge, more than likely, carried the cart road across the Wissahickon at an early period.

On March 3rd, 1729-30, William Dewees and others petitioned the Court, as follows: "The humble petition of William Dewees and other inhabitants of the County of Philadelphia, humbly sheweth that your petitioner, William Dewees has been an inhabitant in German Township for many years by Past and has been an encourager of trade and benefactor to the county by his mills, constantly going to furnish part of the city and county about him; that not only the employees of the said mills, but your petitioner's communication with the neighborhood in the upper parts of the county is much hindered by the stoppage in an old accustomed road hereafter mentioned for many years by past far travellers traveling these parts to the great damage of your petitioner's and the county within some miles of the said place.

"That your Petitioner, with several others, hath by voluntary subscription erected a bridge over the Wissahickon Creek, near unto Dewees Mills for the convenience of said road and better accommodation of Travellers that travel in this part of the country, which is thought to attribute much to the country's good; that that your petitioners having been at great charge and expenses for the convening of the said road humbly requests the Honorable Court to appoint a jury to lay the said road open; its leading out of North Wales, or Plymouth Road, on Chestnut Hill, down to said mills and from thence to Andrew Robeson's, or Rocksboro

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Road, and leading up to Manatawny and the upper parts of this county, and to make the same an established road, etc. etc., and your Petitioners as in Duty Bound will ever pray."

In 1713 Dewees sold the mill and 100 acres to Nicholas Rittenhouse, W. Streeper, A. Tunis, and John Gorgas. The first three were the executors of the estate of H. Popen, from whom Dewees had bought the 100 acres in 1710.

Gorgas married Psyche Rittenhouse, the daughter of Nicholas Rittenhouse.

We know nothing of the history of the paper mill from 1713 until 1729, in which year Dewees again purchased 93 acres of the 100 acre tract that he secured in 1710, which contained a paper mill, grist mill, etc.

In his petition for the road in 1729, Dewees stated that his mills were "constantly going to furnishing part of the city and county about him."

From this we would suppose that from 1713 until 1729 Dewees continued to carry on a paper mill and also added a grist mill.

But in an article which will follow, we will learn that Dewees purchased the property in 1729 and that he and his son-in-law, Henry Antes, apparently built a new paper and grist mill, on the 93 acres just mentioned.

It is the belief of the writer that the site of the 1710 paper mill was adjoining, or on the same spot, as the mills of 1729.

Sims' Historical Map, Lehman's Chestnut Hill Map of 1750, and the latter's Crefeld Township Map of 1751, all locate the mill and the mill race, north of the Wissahickon and Germantown avenue.

The spectator, who today stands on the Germantown avenue bridge over the Wissahickon, between the mill race and the storied stream, will see, about 150 feet northwest, a square mill-house, marked 1753-1369. The waters of the old Dewees mill race now turn the wheels of a pump in this old structure, which also contains a well and provides water for buildings of the Mount St. Joseph College, which are on the hillside to the left. This pump-house surmounted by a shrine, is shown in an accompanying illustration.

Atop of the pump-house and shrine, is a weather-vane formed like a fish. This, very possibly, may have adorned one of the old mills. Lehman's map of 1751, shows the mill with a weather-vane which might be a fish.

The cat-fish is so often mentioned in connection with the Wissahickon Creek, that the emblem may have some local significance.

A. C. Chadwick, Jr., of the Suburban Press, pointed out to me the cupola of the Falls of Schuylkill branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia, at Midvale avenue and Warden Drive, on which the architects in planning the library building very thoughtfully placed a weather-vane fashioned like a catfish, in compliance to the early history of the neighborhood.

The next chapter of our Wissahickon Mills story will relate the known facts about the Chestnut

A LANDMARK



Shrine, canopy and interesting weather-vane on ancient well at the grounds of Mt. St. Joseph's College, along the Wissahickon, at Chestnut Hill

Hill mills of 1729.

Errata: In last week's article, mention was made of the early iron works of Thomas Rutter and Samuel Savage. The word "bridge" was used, instead of "forge" which should have appeared.

The Author

Our story of the Wissahickon Mills now carries us to Mill No. 28, which was the paper mill of the Rev. Michael Schlatter. This plant was erected on the stream rising east of Chestnut Hill and crosses Paper Mill Run. (which receives its name from the mill), Bethlehem Pike, near the Wheel Pump, and through "Compton," as described last week, and empties into the Wissahickon near the old Dewees' Dam.

The mill was located in Springfield township, Montgomery County, and on Holmes' Survey of 1681-68, it is marked "Gulielma Maria Penn's Manor of Springfield." It is said that William Penn visited here at the time he gave the tract to his wife.

At an early period H. Groethausen settled on 500 acres here, without a deed. To obtain title he journeyed to London and interviewed Madam Penn, and she instructed the court in Pennsylvania to grant him a deed to the property. Henry Schleydern purchased 135 acres of this tract. He owned several other large plantations in Somerhausen and was one of the three owners of land there, who in 1735 dedicated a two-perch strip of land for a road that later was called Wisers' Mill lane, that is now familiar as Hartwell avenue.

In 1759 Schleydern sold the 135 acres to his son-in-law, Rev. Michael Schlatter. The latter was a native of St. Galle, Switzerland, educated in Holland, and in 1746 was sent to Philadelphia to organize the Reformed congregation in America. He was minister of the Market Square German Reformed Church, Germantown, from 1746 to 1749. His dwelling, named "Swerland" was burned by the Brit

PLY MINISTER



REV. MICHAEL SCHLATTER

Prior to the creation of the United States of America, Michael Schlatter was the rector of the Market Square German Reformed Church, Germantown. It was he who owned the Wissahickon Creek paper mill which was built by John Sheetz, in 1759, on Paper Mill Road, above Chestnut Hill.

and to furnish the same with proper utensils for making paper, after the Battle of Germantown, and the American Government later re-imbursed him for the loss, amounting to 501 pounds sterling.

In 1759 Schlatter leased for sixteen years, 2 1-2 acres of this land to John Sheetz, a papermaker, of Springfield, with the understanding that he was to erect a paper mill

In 1760 the paper mills was partly erected, but Sheetz, to complete and equip the mill placed a mortgage on the property for 300 pounds, with Jacob Hagy, a papermaker from Whitmarsh Township. In 1764 Hagy owned two paper mills, and a saw mill in Whitmarsh, adjoining the paper mill of Nicholas Hassenbach (1758) and Henry Katz (1760). Jacob Hagy, in 1769 also purchased a paper mill on Mill Creek, in Lower Merion Township, formerly the paper mill of Christopher Robins, who in 1758 petitioned the court for a road from the mill to the Conestoga Road, and also another road over the Schuylkill to Norristown road. After 1769 these roads were named Hagy's Ford Roads, and are so-called today. One begins at the old Gulph road, back of Narberth, between the properties of S. S. White and the Magee Farm, then to Mill Creek and out the same to the Schuylkill river, where in the old days Hagy's Ford permitted access to Roxborough. It then ascended the hills on the eastern side of the river to what is now Port Royal avenue (once Ship Lane) to the ninth milestone on Ridge avenue. In 1850 four residences of the Hagy family were located in this section. In the illustration of the Episcopal Cathedral, in an article of November 23rd, Hagy street is in the foreground, parallel with Ridge avenue. Bushrod W. Hagy, Jr., of Kingston, Tenn., a descendant of

Jacob Hagy, Sr., penned the writer a letter in which he stated that his great grandfather, John Hagy, in 1814, resided at the 9th milestone on Ridge avenue, and that he believed he owned the old Ship Hotel.

Now let us return to the Paper mill of Rev. Michael Schlatter, which had been rented for sixteen years to John Sheetz. On March 3rd, 1761, a petition was made to the court praying that a lane be opened from the road to William Dewees' mill (at Germantown avenue) to Great Road leading to North Wales (Bethlehem Pike) to Church road, "leading the way to church." (St. Thomas's Church).

Before 1765 the road, now Paper Mill Road, had been laid out and in the Road Docket Room, at City Hall, a very interesting survey is on record, giving this road, trees, and houses, but no mill is designated. John Sheetz died in 1768 and I cannot trace the mill after that date. A map of 1874 gives a saw mill on this stream, just before it crosses Bethlehem Pike near the Wheel Pump.

If any of the readers of this article can provide any further information regarding this old paper mill, the forwarding of it to The Suburban Press, will be greatly appreciated.

We are now getting well up into Whitmarsh township, of Montgomery County, in our story of the old mills of the Wissahickon, as we come to Mill No. 29, which was the lower Farmer Mill, located about a mile and a quarter above the Streepers-Arboretum Mill No. 27.

On January 31st, 1683, Major Jasper Farmer, of the British Army, residing in Cork, Ireland, who was a personal friend of William Penn, bought from the latter, 5000 acres of land, which formed the greater part of what is now Whitmarsh Township.

The Major died before sailing across the Atlantic, but his widow, Mary, his son, Edward, and other children and servants to the number of fourteen, arrived in Philadelphia in 1685.

They settled on their plantation, and cultivated the land. They erected dwellings for themselves, lived in great affluence and were associated with the best people of the Colonies. For many years the plantation was named "Farmer-town." An Indian village was located on the tract, and Edward

Farmer acquired a knowledge of the Indian tongue, and was often employed as an interpreter by the government.

John Fanning Watson, in his "Annals," states that in the minutes of Councils, it is recorded: "21st of 5th month, 1685, several Indians made complaint, that the servants of Jasper Farmer's plantation made them drunk and laid with their wives, and then quarrelled with them all. A warrant was issued for their appearance, but the messenger returned, having lost his way in the woods! Trial was put off and when time arrived, the servants being present, found no accusers, for all the Indians had

been made drunk at home."

The lower Farmer and the Upper Farmer (at Skippack road and Bethlehem Pike) grist mills were built in the early 1700's. Great quantities of lime were also quarried here, and Edward Farmer, from 1735 until his death in 1745, furnished flour and lime to Thomas and Rachel Farmer, at Springetts-

bury. In 1703, the "Great Road to North Wales"—now Bethlehem Pike—was ordered opened. This road was from the lime kilns in Whitmarsh to Germantown avenue, in Chestnut Hill. In the early 1700's, Edward Farmer gave the land to the vestry of the church on Bethlehem Pike, where St. Thomas' Church now stands.

Edward expired, as has been stated, in 1745. His son-in-laws Peter and Jonathan Robeson, were the executors of the will. These were the sons of Andrew Robeson, 2nd., who owned Mills No. 1, 2, and 3, near the mouth of the Wissahickon.

William Dewees, Jr., married Rachel Farmer, another of Edward Farmer's daughters.

In 1747 the executors for Edward Farmer sold to Col. Thomas York, proprietor of Mill No. 20, 952 acres of land for 3000 pounds sterling, in Whitmarsh and Springfield townships, adjoining the land of William Streepers and Henry Dewees. The Wissahickon ran 2600 feet through the property. The day following the sale, it was placed in the name of Peter Robeson, an inn holder.

In 1750 William Dewees purchased the old grist mill, dwelling, improvements and 218 acres of land. In this year the Court accepted a petition to open a road (Blue Bell) from Bethlehem Pike, below the present Flourtown, crossing the Springfield-Whitmarsh township line, westward passing Dewees' grist mill, through the land of Joseph Farmer, to Peter Robeson's road. The son of William Dewees, Jr., Col. William Dewees, 3rd., was the owner of the Valley Forge flour mill, at Valley Forge, during the American Revolution.

In 1764, William Dewees, Jr., and his wife, Rachel, sold the grist mill and 17 acres to Joseph and Richard Mathers. Joseph Mathers was the son, who married the widow of John Barge, and owned a quarter interest in Mill No. 21, at Thomas Mill Road.

In 1767, William Dewees, Jr., sold 201 acres, the balance of his land in Whitmarsh, to Jacob Katz.

The "Pennsylvania Packet," for March 1789, advertised the mills for sale, as follows: "Valuable merchant mill, on the Wissahickon, 12 miles from Philadelphia, between Bethlehem and Reading road. Two pairs of stones (French burr) all in order for making flour, 20 acres, apply to Peter Robeson, living at Vandaren's Mill."

About 1800 Nicholas Kline bought the property. The mill then passed through the ownership of Daniel Morgan, Daniel Beckel, Henry W. Schultz, and then to Silas Cleaver. The Cleavers rebuilt the mill which became one of the finest in Whitmarsh township.

On a map of 1851 it is marked

"Cleaver's Mill" and on one of 1871, as "J. & S. Cleaver."

In 1906 the mill was destroyed by fire. We have a photograph of the ruins taken in 1909.

Harven C. Hammes' fascinating reproduction of the colonial Livezey House, along the Wissahickon, is now on exhibition in the window of J. B. Chappell, painter's supply house, at 6123 Ridge avenue, Roxborough, where it will remain until New Year's Day.

The description of the display in the window reads: "This model of the Livezey House has 15 rooms and an attic, 4 fireplaces, 2 window stairways, book case, library, etc. The kitchen is equipped with a cupboard, a sink, a drop-leg table, and chair. The bake oven is outside at the rear of the house. The large barn has horse and cow stalls, ladders to get to the hay-mow, and a feed entry. The spring house has a place for milk, buckets, and an attic for tools. The smoke-house is on the hill and there is a drinking fountain under an arbor."

After leaving the Dewees' Mill, on the property of Mount St. Joseph's College, described last week, we follow the Wissahickon Creek past Northwestern avenue, and enter Springfield Township of Montgomery County to visit the site of the Streepers-Piper Mill (No. 27) on land now the Morris Arboretum, of the University of Pennsylvania.

William Penn gave this Penn's Manor" of Springfield, to his wife, Guillelma Maria Springett. It is so marked on Holmes' map of 1681-1683, as indicated on survey printed in Suburban Press of July 27th.

Madam Penn requested an outlet from her manor to the Schuylkill River, and a strip about 250 feet north of Germantown and Roxborough was given to her. On this strip, about 200 feet north of the City Line, William Streepers, Jr., built, before 1761, a grist mill and saw mill.

Miss Lydia T. Morris died January 24th, 1932, and willed to the University of Pennsylvania the tract of 73 acres of "Bloomfield" in Springfield Township, which contains the Streepers mill, and also 85 acres of "Compton" south of the City Line, extending to Hillcrest avenue, Chestnut Hill. The gift is known as the "Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania." A description of the gift, printed in 1932, mentions the old mill. On the east bank of the Wissahickon, on that portion of the estate known as "Bloomfield", stands a picturesque grist mill on the site of an earlier mill which antedated the Revolution. Driven by a huge water-wheel, this old mill, up until recently, ground the grain supply for the cattle on the farm of the estate.

The "Compton" plantation in Chestnut Hill was also a part of the Streepers grant of 1684 and the Fapen tract of 1701. It is on this tract that the Arboretum is located. The printed account reads: "The Morris Arboretum at its very birth was a full-fledged botanical garden.

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The University of Pennsylvania was, it is said, the first university in this country to have a department of botany, has, as it builds upon this new foundation, potentialities in this field such as few educational institutions have ever been given at a single time."

Today a turbine motor, driven by the waters of the Wissahickon passing through a mill-race, gives the power to turn the wheel, and pumps the water from a nearby spring, or well, into the farm buildings used by the Arboretum tract of the former "Bloomfield" and "Compton."

This is today one of the very few of the 48 Wissahickon mills that are still running.

William Streep, Sr., was one of the founders of Germantown. He came from Crefeld, sailed on the "Concord", and reached Philadelphia on October 6th, 1683. He received from his brother, Jan, 100 acres of land. The brother did not come to the colonies. James Claypoole, one of Penn's commissioners said of the passage, "The blessing of the Lord did attend us so that we had a very comfortable passage, and had our health all the way."

On August 3rd, 1683, Daniel Francis Pastorius arrived in Philadelphia and at first used a half-cave house along the banks of the Delaware, later making his way to what is now Germantown. An agreement signed by William Streep and six others, in October 1683, reads in part: "As well as we ourselves, in the cave of Francis Daniel Pastorius, at Philadelphia, did cast lots for the respective lots which they and we then began to settle in Germantown."

William Streep, Sr., died in 1717. In his will he called himself "of Somerhausen", Germantown. He left 250 acres each, in adjoining properties in Whitmarsh, Germantown and Springfield Townships to his sons, Peter and Lenert, and also 50 acres in Crefeld, "along the Swamp", to his son John.

In 1684 William Streep, Sr., owned 50 acres, and in 1698, 116 acres of the Crefeld village, bounded by the present Stenton and Northwestern avenues.

"Compton" is an ideal location for an arboretum as two good sized streams flow through the plantation, the one to the north rises in Cheltenham township, and crosses the land on Paper Mill Run, where in 1759, Rev. Michael Schlatter erected his paper mill. Just east of Bethlehem Pike and the Wheel Pump, there was a saw mill on this stream, and where it joins the Wissahickon, just south of Northwestern avenue is said to be the site of William Dewees' first paper mill, of 1710. The second small stream irrigating "Compton" starts near the Pennsylvania Railroad station at Chestnut Hill. Temple and Swan Ponds on the arboretum estate utilize the waters of this stream and adds to the charm of the natural surroundings.

In 1685 Streep had married the widow of John Simons. Their son, John, married Elizabeth Arets, whose son, William 2nd, married

Magdalene Castner. They were the owners of the land in Springfield township, where before 1761, William 2nd, built the grist and saw mill and 250 acres of land.

Tradition has it that this mill supplied General Lafayette and his soldiers with flour when he was encamped at Barren Hill, which camping ground was between the mill and Ridge road, in Whitmarsh Township.

In 1763 the widow of William Streep, Jr., was assessed for the same mills and 100 acres of land. In the same year the heirs of Streep sold the mill and 19 acres to one of the sons, George Streep, who settled in Charleston, S. C., and a daughter, Hannah, who married John Piper. In 1789, John Piper purchased the mill. Piper survived until 1844 when he died. The grist mill was rebuilt during his ownership, as the date-stone on the present mill reads: "Springfield Mills, 1834". In 1846 Henry A. Piper continued as the owner, until his death in 1881. In 1892 Howard Ritter sold the mill to George C. Thomas for \$10,000. In 1909, (the year of the accompanying illustration) the turbine wheel beside the mill pumped the water from a well into the pond in the foreground. Trout were hatched and raised here for the markets and sold to the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, the Union League and other prominent clubs and hostleries, at 50 cents per pound.

George C. Thomas sold 100 acres of his holdings to the Whitmarsh Country Club, and a part of the Wissahickon flows through this golf link.

Thomas sold other portions to Judge Mitter, of Norristown, and then it passed to John T. Morris, and next to his sister Lydia T. Morris.

As the University now owns the old Colonial mill, through a gift, let us give a short history of another colonial grist mill, which the trustees purchased as an investment.

At a meeting of the Trustees of "The College, Academy, and Charity School", on October 3rd, 1776, Dr. William Smith, whose dwelling still stands on Indian Queen Lane, Falls of Schuylkill, who was chairman of the Board, acquaints this group "in consideration of the difficulty which they find in investing the large sums of money which lately have been paid in to them by borrowers, and desiring to save interest, he had lately purchased for the college from Col. John Bull, for 6000 pounds sterling, that valuable plantation and grist mill at Norriton," (now Norristown).

The mill had been formerly owned by Charles Norris, and it was agreed that John Jones, a millwright, be employed to repair the mill, that was on Stoney Creek and the Schuylkill river.

This mill had only one pair of stones and on expensive dam to keep in repair, so it was suggested that it would be more profitable to enlarge and improve the mill.

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it was also proposed that they would try and rent the mill for 250 bushels of wheat and the same rental for the plantation. A certain amount of chestnut logs could be used for heating the college buildings during the winter.

In 1779 the charter of "the College" was withdrawn by the State Assembly, and the "University of the State of Pennsylvania" was incorporated.

The "History of Montgomery County" by Bean, gives this history of the mill, "Charles Norris had built a grist mill here several years before 1771. It was propelled by water from the Schuylkill river, by means of a dam erected from the north shore to Barbadoes Island. It later passed into the hands of Col. John Bull, who made additional improvements, so that at the sale thereof to Rev. William Smith in October 1776, it was stated to include a grist mill, powder mill and other buildings, which were all burned by the British. Later, it was sold to John Markley. In 1801 it contained merchant, flour mill, saw mill, besides two extra mill sites."

In 1784 it was proposed by members of the new University that they move the institution to the site of the mill and plantation at Norriton. They had so much trouble trying to obtain a revenue from the plantation that they evidently believed it would save money by permanently locating there.

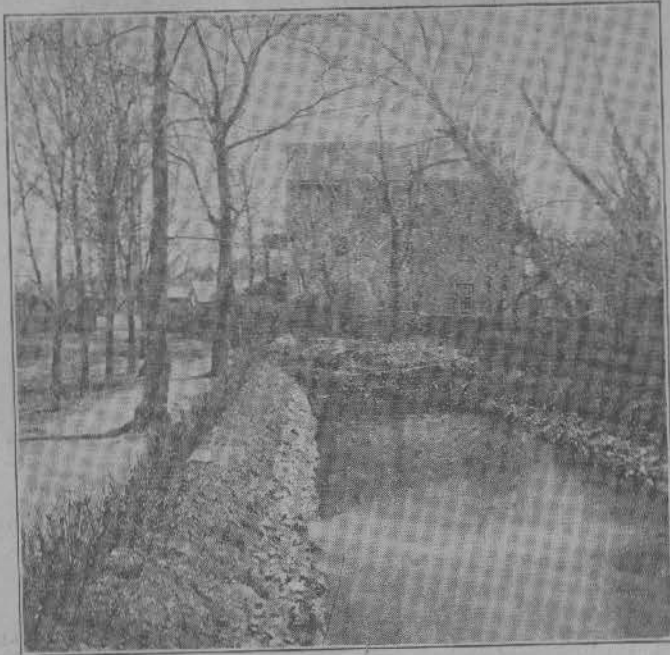
After the Assembly virtually confiscated the College, they added to the funds of the new corporation a large amount of money received from the sale of confiscated property, but in 1789 they restored the charter again to the College, and in 1791 the University of Pennsylvania was formed by the union of the old College and the Pennsylvania State University.

In 1790, Edward Milner, owner of our Mill No. 11, at Kitchen's lane, purchased the confiscated mills and lands of John Roberts, of Mill Creek, Lower Merion, the deed states that the University of the State of Pennsylvania was to receive forever "67 and nine-tenths bushels of wheat every six months".

Many of these rentals and confiscated estates were later returned to the original owners.

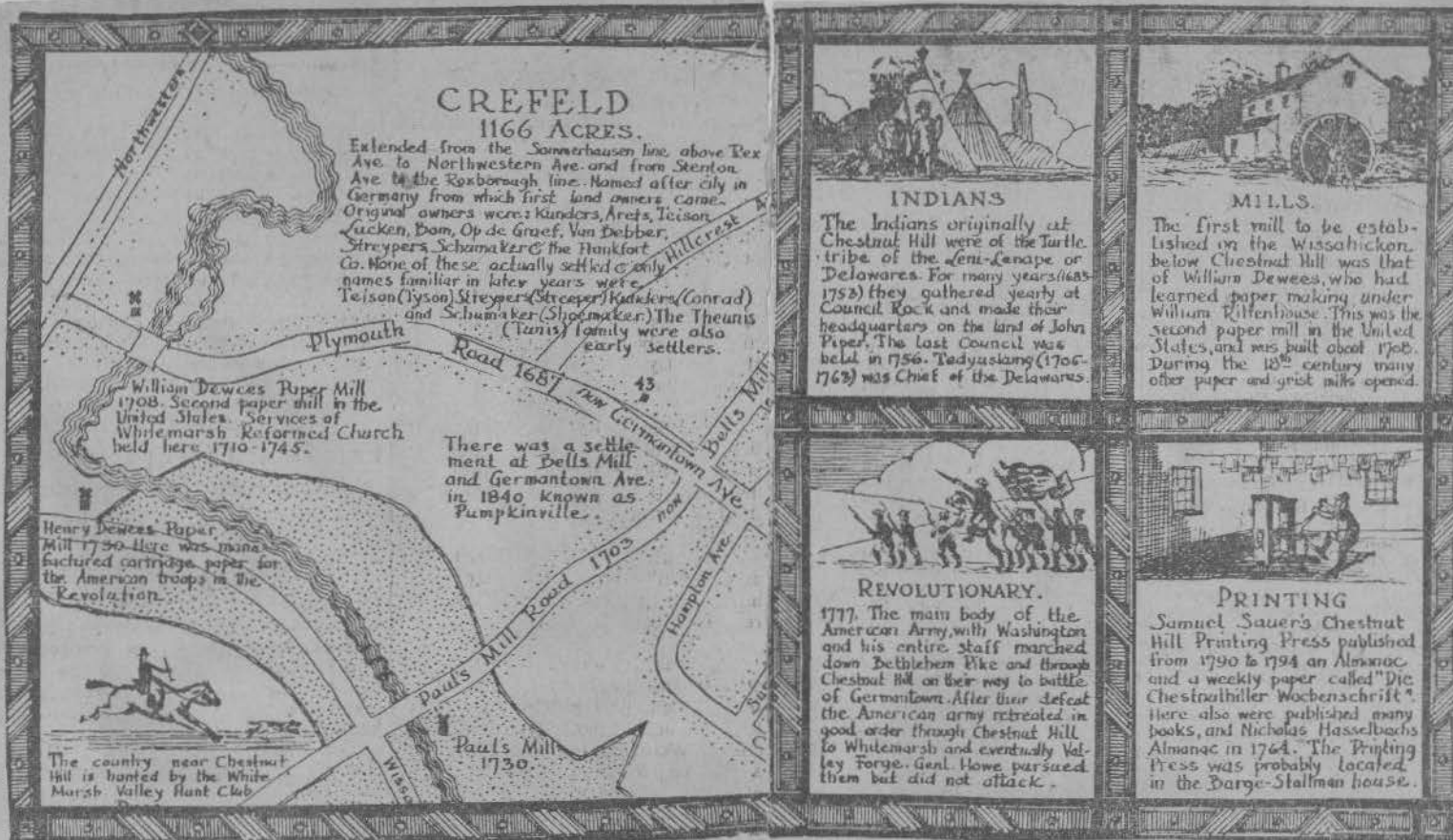
Errata: In article of December 7th, the date of the Dewees-Gorgas mill should read 1728 instead of 1720. Of the Dewees' paper and grist mill, 1729 instead of 1739; Joseph Middleton sold in 1858, not 1838; and datestone reads "1753-1869", not 1867.

ALONG THE WISSAHICKON



Site of 1761 Streeper grist mill. Photograph taken in 1909, when the property belonged to George C. Thomas. A turbine wheel pumped the water of a nearby well into the trout stream in the foreground.

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Drawn by Joseph P. Sims, of Chestnut Hill, which pictures incidents and places mentioned in current articles concerning the Wissahickon Mills, which are weekly features in the Suburban Press.

In our story concerning the Wissahickon mills, we now come to Mill No. 22, which at various times was known as Jonathan Paul's Grist mill, and the Tedyuscung woolen and cotton factory.

After leaving the upper Magarge paper mill, which was described last week, we proceed a quarter of a mile farther up the Wissahickon, through the deep, rocky gorge, and around the bend in the stream to what is familiar today, as the Bell's Mill road bridge.

Here, the pedestrian will find but few automobiles, and everything is quiet and restful. The miniature illustration which accompanies this article shows quite a collection of buildings near the span crossing the stream. These were the buildings of the Tedyuscung Mill, of 1870, which stood on the site of the ancient Howell grist mill, of 1710. In the background will be noticed how the secluded Wissahickon Valley opens out into the plains of Springfield in Whitmarsh Township, "once a beautiful farm country, but now covered with greens, fairways, and attractive club-houses of several golf clubs.

A move has been made by influential people, that is endorsed by residents of Roxborough and Chestnut Hill, that another great high bridge, similar to those at Walnut lane and Henry avenue, thrown across the Wissahickon Creek at this section, which with another structure over the Schuylkill river would form a convenient by-pass for New England traffic around Philadelphia, on the way to Washington and points south.

In the future when the great Cathedral Church of Christ, of the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania, now being erected in Roxborough just beyond the 9th milestone on Ridge avenue, overlooking the valleys of the Schuylkill and Wissahickon, is completed, better thoroughfares will be required to reach what is at present one of the most beautiful but inaccessible spots in Philadelphia.

Frank R. Watson, architect of the Cathedral Church of Christ, now under construction in Roxborough, informs us that the church site is 417 feet above sea level, one of the highest points in Philadelphia county. Lady Chapel, near Ridge avenue, is about completed, as far as the exterior is concerned, and from the windows of this structure can be seen the Delaware river Bridge, Bryn Mawr, and the Schuylkill and Wissahickon Valleys, as well as Whitmarsh Valley. When completed, the church tower will be 220 feet high from the floor to the nave.

If the old-time Indians, who once were housed in John Piper's old barn, could return to their haunts along the Wissahickon, they would doubtless be horrified to see such modern improvements as golf courses and cathedrals on the site of their happy hunting grounds.

In the small section of J. P. Sim's large map of "Historic

Chestnut Hill," that is herewith reproduced, the reader will find the exact location of this old Paul mill, and a description of the village of Crefeld, the upper one of the four original divisions of Germantown. It will also be observed that the fox hunter is following the hounds down the hills from Roxborough, and is about to pass over what we now call "Bell's Mill Road bridge," and also the old settlement of 1840 which was known as Pumpkinsville.

The other four inserts of the Dewees Mill, General Washington, Sauer's printing office and the Indian encampment, have the explanatory text under each.

And now to take up our search among the musty old deeds and surveys which tell us the early history of the grist mill.

In 1894, J. I. Van Bebber was granted 61 acres of land in the village of Crefeld, from the Springfield (Northwestern avenue) line to the Somerhausen line. Nearly all of the grants in Germantown were long narrow parallelograms. This particular one, of Van Bebber's, was about 6750 feet long and only 400 feet wide. The Wissahickon Creek and Bell's Mill Road bisected the tract.

In 1704 Van Bebber sold the plantation to Thomas Rutter and Samuel Savage. The former is said to have built "at Manatawny, in 1717" the first iron bridge in Pennsylvania. It was attacked by Indians in 1728, the redskins were repulsed with great loss by the workmen.

The next owner of the mill property was Daniel Howell, in 1710, and he it was who erected the grist mill. His son, Benjamin purchased the mill in 1730. He married Catherine Papen, the daughter of William Rittenhouse, Sr., the first paper maker.

In 1733, a petition for the confirmation of the line of a road to Benjamin Howell's mill, stated that a grist mill and "been in existence for more than twenty years," where this road crossed the Wissahickon, "that the road is now obstructed" and asked that the thoroughfare be confirmed from the north side of Chestnut Hill to Robeson's, or Ridge road. The petition was accepted. The road has had many names, among them being, Howell's Mill Road, Paul's Mill Road, Widow Paul's Road, Bell's Mill Road, Thorpe Lane and now again, Bell's Mill Road. The present bridge was built by Isaac Bell in 1820.

In 1738 Howell sold the mill and 61 acres for 1800 pounds sterling to Jonathan Paul, son of John and Mary Paul, of Abington. Jonathan married Debora Kenton. Paul died in 1748 and his widow re-married in 1750 to Joseph Woolen, Jr.

In 1739 Jonathan had sold one-quarter interest in the mill and land to Jacob Leach, and in 1758, the latter sold the same interest to Thomas Livezey, 3rd. In 1739, Jonathan Paul had also sold one-

quarter interest to Charles Heaply, who sold this, in 1752 to Joseph Woolen, Jr. 146

The first mention of a school in Crefeld (Chestnut Hill) was in 1745. It was on Paul's Mill road, about 800 feet west of the mill, and was for the accommodation of the inhabitants of Germantown, Whitmarsh, Springfield and Roxborough townships. Four of the millers were trustees: Jonathan Paul, John Barge, Garret and Henry Dewees.

At the time of a sheriff's sale in 1754; Woolen, Jr., to John Barge, the latter purchased one-half of this mill.

The deed of sale states that John Vandaren was occupying this mill in 1754. In the next year Vandaren purchased the Roxborough Grist Mill, at the mouth of the Wissahickon, and the old Robeson Grist and Saw mills (our Mills numbered 2 and 3) on Ridge avenue.

Jonathan and Debora Paul had a daughter, Mary, who inherited one half an interest in the mill. She married her cousin, John Paul, who was the brother of Joseph, who owned Mill No. 20. In 1759, the Livezey quarter interest was sold to John Paul. In 1769 the latter was taxed for the grist mill and 272 acres of land; and in 1774 for the mill and 183 acres.

The Suburban Press, of June 22, 1933, published a short account of this Mill No. 22, but the article referred mostly to the fact that General John Armstrong led his Pennsylvania Division of Washington's Army down over the bridge at Bell's Mill Road and along Ridge road, on October 4th, 1777, to participate in the Wissahickon flank

of the Battle of Germantown, which was guarded by the Hessians.

While on the subject of the Revolution, it might be well to mention the losses sustained by the millers of the Wissahickon Valley and Wingohocking Creeks, in this battle of October 4th, 1777, and the amounts the American Government re-imbursed them after the war. George Dannehower, who owned the grist mill on the Wingohocking Creek, and who guided General Armstrong's division on the morning of October 4th, 1777, 434 pounds sterling; Peter Hinkle, who owned

the Cresheim Creek grist mill, 256 pounds; Jacob Lash, (or Losh), the powder maker of Cresheim Valley, 239 pounds.

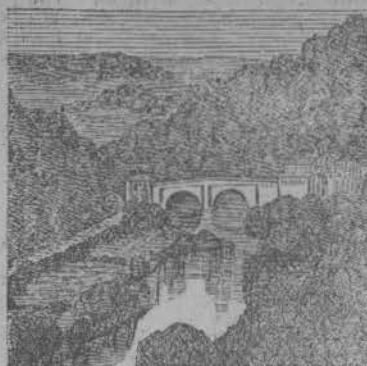
Having mentioned Piper's barn several times, we beg to quote Dr. J. J. MacFarlane, as follows: "For seventy years after the settlement of Germantown, the Indians gathered at Council Rock, and while engaged in their pow-wows, which sometimes continued for a month, they made their headquarters at the barn of John Piper, whom they considered their friend, and who

TEDYUSCUNG



Stone effigy of the Indian diplomat of the Lenni Lenapes, much-mentioned in Pennsylvania history, which stands overlooking the Wissahickon Creek, above Rex avenue.

AN ANCIENT BRIDGE



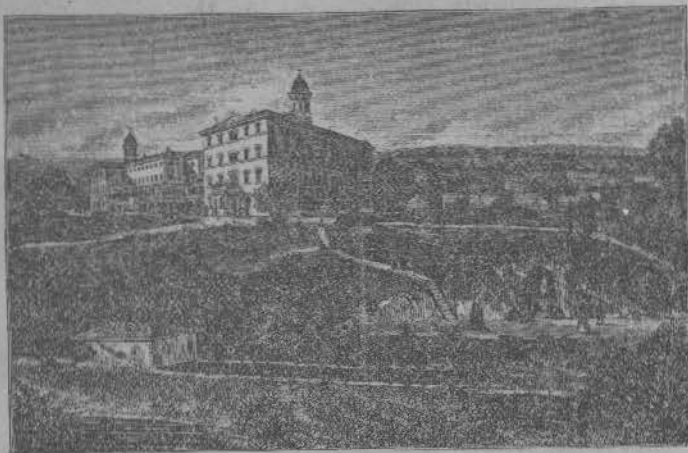
Bridge and mills, at what is now Ball's Mill Road and Wissahickon Creek, have been known under several names, at different times, as is explained in the accompanying story.

gave them both food and shelter. The Piper property, later owned by C. A. Newhall, was between Chestnut Hill avenue and Rex avenue, west of Seminole avenue.

John Paul, the owner of Mill No. 22 died in 1783, and he willed the mills and 204 acres of land to his sons, John and Joseph M. In 1801 they sold the merchant mill and land to James and Isaiah Bell. In 1835 a sheriff's sale disposed of the property to William and Samuel Bell, and they transferred it to Catherine Thorp, wife of Isaac Thorpe, and in 1844 the mill and 140 acres was sold to John M. Thorpe. Another sheriff's sale passed the estate back again to Catherine Thorpe. At this time it was a large three-storied calico printing, dyeing and bleaching establishment. There were also other houses and dwellings.

On Smedley's map of 1862 the mills are called "Teyuscung Wool and Cotton Factory." In 1864 the plant was purchased by Bishop & Kelly. Then another sheriff's sale in 1866 passed it on to John B. Bishop, and about 1870 the city purchased and dismantled the mills and added the land to the Fairmount Park property.

MT. ST. JOSEPH COLLEGE BUILDINGS



An early picture of the educational centre for girls along the Wissahickon Creek at Chestnut Hill, which is the site of this week's historical narrative of the storied stream's early industrial enterprises.

Our Wissahickon mill article this week is devoted to the one owned by William Dewees and John Gorgas, of 1728, which has been designated Mill No. 25, and that of Wm. Dewees, of 1739, known as Mill No. 26.

Before the writer is a United States geological map, showing the contour lines of the twenty miles of valley through which the Wissahickon creek flows on its way to the Schuylkill river.

At the confluence of these two streams, where Mill No. 1 was located in what is now the Philadelphia Canoe Club, the height above tidewater is given as 25 feet. Seven miles beyond this, at Northwestern avenue, were Mills numbered 24, 25 and 26, on the present Mt. Saint Joseph's College property. Here the Wissahickon is in the 140 foot level.

Up nearer the source of the Wissahickon, in the neighborhood of Lansdale, the height is put at 360 feet above tidewater, so that the fall from source to mouth, through the twenty miles, is about 335 feet.

A peculiar feature of the Wissahickon is that it reverses Nature's general formation of a stream. Instead of starting in a rocky, hilly country and flowing to its termination through almost level areas, it rises and meanders in a sluggish manner for fourteen miles, until it reaches Bell's Mill road, and then enters the deep, cliff and hill-lined gorge which it follows until it empties into the Schuylkill.

Last week we told the facts concerning William Dewees' 1710 paper mill. Joel Munsell states that it was erected "on a small stream that empties into the Wissahickon Creek near the Manor of Springfield."

This is the stream that crosses Paper Mill road and the Bethlehem pike, and enters the Wissahickon near the Dewees Dam, which still exists. On this creek and the present Paper Mill road, in 1769, the Rev. Michael Schlatter built Paper Mill No. 28.

We know that in 1713, Dewees

sold the paper mill to four men, one of whom was John Gorgas. So we suppose that the mill (No. 25) was the one where Dewees and Gorgas manufactured paper made from rotten stone. In 1729, when Dewees asked for the confirmation of the road past his mills, he stated that the mills were "constantly going", so that he must have continued operating the mill after selling it in 1713.

Paper made from asbestos is mentioned by a Jesuit priest in 1646 and in 1727 a German naturalist had four of his books printed on that material. In 1854, E. Maniere obtained a patent, in England, for fire-proof paper. The asbestos was rendered very fine and pulpy, and was mixed with a pulp of rags.

Isaiah Thomas, the first historian of American printing, wrote that "as early as 1720 William Dewees and John Gorgas had a mill on the Wissahickon, where they manufactured an imitation of asses' skin paper, for memorandum books, which was well executed." Also "John Brighter, an aged paper-maker, who conducted a mill for more than half a century in Pennsylvania and who gave this account, observed that this kind of paper was made of rotten stone, which is found in several places near and to the northward of Philadelphia, and that the method of cleaning this paper was to throw it in the fire for a short time, when it was taken out perfectly fair.

The Academy of Natural Sciences has a specimen of asbestos, at least twelve inches long, from the Lieper Quarries near Chester, Pa., showing that this peculiar natural fire-proofing element is found in the vicinity of Philadelphia.

Another interesting case of adding a mineral with paper, is that on which was printed money of the American Colonies, as early as 1750 by Franklin and Hall; and also Delaware and Maryland notes, 1770 to 1776.

1770 to 1776.

If the person who gazes on this old money turns it around in the sunlight, he will see that it is alive with glinting particles of mica, or isenglas. This mineral was added to make the note difficult of counterfeiting, and the notes had printed on them "to counterfeit is death."

In 1774 the Colonies were on the gold standard, and a dollar note printed in Annapolis, Md., could be exchanged in London for gold and silver at the rate of four shillings, six pence per dollar.

William F. Wilcox, of the Wilcox-Ivy Mill family, on Chester Creek, Delaware County, tells me that some of this old Colonial paper, showing the mixture of mica was made in the mill of his ancestors.

Inasmuch as so much mica is found in the rocks along the Wissahickon, it is very probable that some of the mica-mixed paper was also made in the mills along this stream.

At a much later period the Wilcox-Ivy Mills also manufactured the note paper used by the Government and also the American Bank Note Company, in printing bank and treasury notes, but then strands of silk were worked into the paper, in order to frustrate the counterfeiter.

It is unfortunate that there are no deeds and surveys, mortgages or wills, that can provide any positive information regarding the history of this paper Mill No. 25, between 1713 and 1728.

Now to go on to Mill No. 26, which was known as the William Dewees Paper and Grist Mill of 1739.

On March 26th, 1729, the heirs of Hievert Papen sold to William Dewees, Sr., 93 acres of land, grist mills, two pairs of stones, a paper mill, and tract of land, message, or tenement, and mill buildings. This land was a part of the 100 acres that Dewees bought in 1710 and sold in 1713. An agreement made February 2nd, 1730, between William Dewees and his wife, Christiana Meels, with Henry Antes (son-in-law of Dewees) arranged for the erection of the mills at an equal cost and expense to William Dewees and Henry Antes. Digging and making dams and mill race, providing gears for the paper mills, were charged to William Dewees. For money and labour, expended by H. Antes and 25 pounds sterling, he received one-half interest in two acres and mills. The paper mill was to be only run with the surplus water, when this was more than enough to supply the grist mill. Antes sold, in 1738, his half interest in the grist mill, bolting mills, and mill house at the corner of the bridge, "extending by land of late William Dewees, with two acres of mills races and sufficient standing place and accommodations for horses, carts, carriages, beasts of burden, wheat, flour casks timber or other things, for use and service of said mills not to exceed two acres, to Joseph Wollen, Jr., a miller of Germantown." After selling his interests in the mill, Antes

bought a mill near Perkiomen Creek in Hanover Township.

Quoting again from Dr. MacFarlane's "History of Early Chestnut Hill", we note that "William Dewees was a man of noble character and considerable force—in Germantown he held almost every office in the gift of the people. Henry Antes, his son-in-law, was one of the most prominent men of his time and was active in all religious and philanthropic movements, that took place in the eastern part of Pennsylvania. His associates were such men as Zinzendorf, Whitefield, Muhlenberg and Weiser, Whitefield, who preached

at his home on Swamp Creek, in Frederick Township, in 1740, called it 'a Dutchman's plantation'".

Rev. Dr. Dubbs, in speaking of Antes, says:

"He stood by the side of Whitefield,

And prayed in a German tongue,
When the marion voice of the preacher

O'er the hills of Frederick rung.
They knew not each other's language,

Nor did they need it then,
For the one cried 'Allelujah'

And the other said, 'Amen'".
William Dewees died in 1745, and was buried, as were later his wife, Christiana, and sons, Garret and Henry, in the Upper Germantown Burying Ground.

He willed one-half of his mills and land to his son, Garret, and the bequest also reads: "the running gear of the paper mill for so long a time as the heirs shall think fit to keep up a paper mill there in the mill house." The other son, Henry, may have managed this paper mill, as when he bought a half acre of land and erected Paper Mill No. 23, at the bend of the Creek, in 1747, he was named in the deed as a papermaker.

For a few years, now, we will find that these mills (No. 26, are owned, one-half by Garret Dewees and one-half by Joseph Wollen, Sr. Let us dispose of the Dewees interest first.

Lehman's map of Chestnut Hill, 1750, marks the location of Dewees' mill, a one-storied building, with a large pointed roof.

Garret Dewees married Agnes Streeper, the sister of William Streeper who owned Mill No. 27, just over the Northwest avenue, that is now the property of the University of Pennsylvania. In 1751 Garret sold to William Streeper all of the mills and lands. He only had a half-interest, however, and in 1760, Streeper sold the two half-interests to Nathaniel Sheppard. In 1761 it was discovered that Streeper had only the right to sell a half-interest, so the deed was corrected and Sheppard only received title to the half-interest which Streeper was entitled to sell. In Lehman's map of Creffield, 1751, the mill is marked "Streeper's Mill" and on the top of the mill is a weather-vane, spoken of in last week's article.

In 1767, Sheppard sold his half-interest, at auction, to Jonathan Paul, brother of Joseph Paul, who owned Mill No. 20, at Wise's Mill road.

The notice of sale read as follows: "To be sold at the Coffee House (Front and Walnut streets, Philadelphia), one equal half of a stone grist mill, dwelling house and stable, with about two acres of land, thereunto adjoining, lately called or known as Dewees' Mill. Also one tract of 44 acres, a part of which has good meadow and in which is a good orchard, situated on the north side of the Wissahickon Creek about 11 miles from Philadelphia, bounded by the Great Road leading from Philadelphia to Reading.

"Likewise one tract or piece of land situated on the south side of said creek and adjoining the above described premises in which is a good stone house and a going young orchard containing about 9 acres.

"The whole will be sold together or separate to suit purchasers. The two tracts of land and the moiety of the mill are under lease at 85 pounds sterling per annum."

In the deed of transfer the land sold was 124 acres, and a half-interest in the mill and 2 acres. The price paid was 1008 pounds sterling.

The "good stone house" mentioned in the auction sale, may have been William Dewees' dwelling where for thirty-three years the services of the Whitemarsh Reformed congregation were held. It was torn down after 1890.

Now let us return to 1738 and follow the disposal of the other half interest in the old mill. It would appear that Henry Antes only owned a half-interest in the mill and two acres of land. Joseph Wollen Sr., bought Antes' share. In 1750 Wollen's son, Joseph, Jr., who inherited the half-interest, and Debora Paul, widow of Jonathan Paul, entered into a marriage agreement, with the wedding shortly to take place.

For five shillings, Wollen deeded to Debora, or her heirs, one-half interest in the grist mill, bolting mills, mill house, and one-half of two acres, as the marriage settlement. The tax list records of 1769, show the Jonathan Paul grist mill with 115 acres. In 1774, same, 50 acres. In 1783, Jonathan Paul, half of grist mill and 60 acres, John Trump estate, half of grist mill.

Debora Kenton-Paul-Wollen married before 1773, John Trump, of Upper Dublin, as in that year they

placed a mortgage with the "Corporation Relief of Destitute Master of Ships", on the half-interest in a grist mill and two acres; bolting mills, mill house, dams and mill race. The mortgage and interest was paid off in full, in 1776.

In 1800 Jonathan Paul sold his half interest for 3000 pounds sterling to his brother Jacob Paul, miller of Germantown; (Jonathan, Jacob and Joseph were all brothers). A stone message, grist mill and other land is also mentioned.

Jacob Paul, be it remembered, was the person, who in 1794, purchased from Isaac Potts, General Washington's headquarters, at Valley Forge.

Jacob Paul must have also purchased the other half-interest in the old mill, belonging to the Trumps, as in his will of 1806 he

left the entire mill and land to his son, Samuel Paul. A nephew, Jacob Paul Jones, iron merchant, in 1839 sold to Joseph Middleton, of Germantown, the message, mill and three lots of land of more than forty-three acres, dam rights; said mill to keep dam up to the mark it was in William Streeper's time.

Joseph Middleton built, in 1839, an attractive dwelling on the hill above the mill and named it "Monticello", after the home of Thomas Jefferson. The dwelling occupied the site of the centre college building, at Mt. Saint Joseph's, with the porches on the first and second floors. These buildings are shown in an illustration in other columns. The small one-story house in the foreground on the left, was the site of the old William Dewees paper and grist mill of 1729. Today the mill race carries the water down from the ancient Dewees' dam into the mill building, and turns a wheel that pumps the water from a nearby well, which was illustrated last week. Middleton rented the mill, as on a map of 1840 it is called "Ely's Mill", and on a chart dated 1854, "Halloway's Mill."

In 1838 Joseph Middleton sold the mill and three lots of land for \$15,750 to the officials of McSherrytown Academy. In 1867 this institution was chartered as the Mount Saint Joseph's Academy, and is today known far and wide as Mt. St. Joseph's College. During the winter season, 1100 young girls received an education here, and in the summer the same number of Sister-teachers attend.

Over the doorway of the pump-house at date-stone reads: "1753-1867".

The writer understands that one of the Sisters, a member of the teaching staff at Mt. St. Joseph's College, is preparing a history of the college in which is included many interesting facts concerning the old mills along the Wissahickon in that vicinity.

In order to make a complete compilation of facts concerning old Roxborough-Germantown-Chestnut Hill families, the Christian name of one of the Wise's is found necessary by the writer. About 1853 or 1854, a Mr. Wise of Roxborough, married Emma R. Repsher, who was the daughter of Leonard Repsher, of Camden, N. J. It is the first name of this Mr. Wise that is desired. Any information on this man's genealogy will be greatly appreciated.

Mill No. 30—the Paper Mill of Henry Dewees—is the subject of this week's article on the old mills of the Wissahickon Creek.

This paper mill was along our much storied and romantic stream in Springfield township, of Montgomery County, between the Streeper Mill (No. 27) and the Farmer-Dewees Mill (No. 29).

Henry Dewees was the second son of William Dewees, Sr., and Anna Christine Meels. He was born in Germantown in 1716. In 1738, at the age of twenty-two, he purchased from the proprietors, John, Thomas and Richard Penn, 120 acres of land in the Manor of Springfield.

This plot of ground started at a corner of Edward Farmer's land, on the Whitemarsh line, then southwest along this line for 3465 feet to the corner of Henry Snider's land, then southeast 1518 feet to Germantown line, thence on this line 3465 feet northeast, and then northwest 1518 feet to the place of beginning. Some time before 1747 Henry erected his paper mill. On July 14th, 1768, he borrowed, on a mortgage, from Peter Turner 200

pounds sterling, which was repaid, with interest, in 1772, on the two lots of 120 acres in Springfield, and the one-half acre in Germantown which he had purchased in 1747. The mortgage recites these improvements in the security: "Houses, barns, stables, garden, orchard, ways, woods, trees, creeks, dams, mills, mill houses, water courses, meadows and marshes."

When petitioning for a road (in the 1700's) he mentioned the dwelling house in Springfield Manor, and a paper mill in Germantown township.

In a deed of 1747, the mortgage of 1768, and a deed of 1788, he is described as a paper-maker, but in his will of 1800, he called himself a yeoman. A re-survey of the 1738 purchase records 128 acres in this tract. No paper mill is mentioned and he only left 100 acres and dwelling in Springfield township, so that between 1772 and his death, he must have sold 28 acres and the paper mill.

Henry Dewees' tax list reads "Springfield, 1769, 120 acres and Paper Mill, 1774, 160 acres." (No mill mentioned. On a list of 1781 and 1783, he is not mentioned. In 1781 Christian Friend, a paper-maker) owning 40 acres, and in 1783 a paper mill and 94 acres in Springfield is recorded on the tax list. It is therefore possible that Friend first rented and then purchased the Henry Dewees' paper mill, but this writer cannot find any record of such a sale.

In Dewees' will he left his son, Henry, Jr., "a quarter interest in a four-acre lower island, and shad fishing rights, situated below Rees Ap Edward's ford in the Schuylkill river, opposite the land of David Davis, and Hugh Roberts with boat and fishing tackle."

The Edwards' ford was from the mouth of Mill creek, in Lower Merion township, across the Schuylkill

to the Roxborough side. This island was surveyed in 1767, at the request of Cols' William Dewees, 3rd, and Jonathan Robeson. Henry Dewees, Col. William Dewees, 3rd, and Peter Streeper, in 1788 made the purchase, "from the late Honourable Proprietors, John and John Penn, Jr., for 70 pounds."

Henry Dewees died in 1801, leaving a widow, Rachel, three sons and five daughters. The inventory mentions a wind mill, and old paper moulds, out of fashion, etc.

In 1802, Charles Dewees, executor of his father, Henry, sold to John Huston the Dewees dwelling on "the Great Road from Chestnut Hill to Barren Hill, called Manatawby Road."

Henry Scheetz, Sr.'s paper mill (No. 31) was on the Wissahickon Creek in Wissahickon Township, about one mile above the Cleaver Mill (No. 29) and a half mile above Flourtown, just to the west of Bethlehem pike.

As Henry Dewees, (of Mill No. 30) and Henry Scheetz, of this mill (No. 31) have both included in the inventories of their estates a wind-mill, let us digress for a moment and take up the subject of mills propelled by this sort of power.

The first industrial establishment in what is now Pennsylvania, was a wind-mill for grinding corn, erected by the Dutch (Hollanders) before 1643.

This first wind-mill was built on Cobb's Creek at a place now familiar as 70th street on Woodland avenue, Philadelphia, by the Dutch, before the Swedes, under Governor Printz settled on the Delaware in 1643.

In 1646 Printz erected here a water grist mill, and in a report to the West India Company, he wrote in 1647, "This place I have called 'Mendal,' building there a water-mill, working it the whole year long to great advantage for the country, particularly as the wind-mill formerly here before I came, would never work and was good for nothing."

One hundred years ago, in the low countries of Sussex, Essex and Kent, in England, there were over 100 commercial wind mills. In "Old Water Mills and Wind Mills," by R. Thurston Hopkins, the writer relates "More than this, on a shadowy autumn morning I have stood on the brow of the Sussex Downs and watched the twirling sails of nearly 30 windmills, against a background of green and purple, under a blue sky, in which white ships raced, while the southwest wind stirred my blood."

From City Line to Whitemarsh, the Wissahickon flows through a very flat country, with no hills; and just the place for windmills.

The two small windmills, belonging to Dewees and Scheetz, were not commercial, but used probably to pump water into the

dwelling or barns.

Dr. Johannes Jacob Schutz, the progenitor of the Scheetz family, did not come to the Colonies, but in 1634 purchased 428 acres of land from the Frankfort Company.

The first miller of this family was a Conrad Schutz, whose grist mill is shown as in Lower Merion Township, on Scull and Heaps map of 1750.

Conrad purchased in 1748 this fulling mill, from David Davis, and made it into a paper mill. It was on Mill Creek. In 1769 he was taxed for two paper mills. Tradition states that paper for the Continental currency was made in the Scheetz Mills. Conrad was a brother of the Henry Scheetz, whose mill we are now discussing.

Nicholas Scull, one of the early surveyors for the Penn family, received large grants of land in payment for services rendered.

One of these tracts, of over 320 acres, was in Whitemarsh Township. In 1721 and 25 he sold 100 acres of it to Benjamin Charlesworth and in 1741 Joshua Thomas and others purchased ground, who in 1751 resold it to Henry Scheetz, Sr., a papermaker from Springfield Township. The 100 acres bordered the Wissahickon-Springfield line for more than 3100 feet and extended about 1100 feet, from the Cleaver Mill to well above Flourtown, near the Bethlehem pike.

The pike was the result of a petition made in 1693 by Michael Scull, connecting the limekilns at Whitemarsh with what is now Germantown avenue, at Chestnut Hill. The road was opened in 1703.

Scheetz erected here a paper mill, soon after 1758, to which he added a saw mill. Henry Scheetz, Sr., married Catherine Rubicam, the granddaughter of Peter Rittenhouse, of Creshiem Mill No. 16, who was the grandson of William Rittenhouse, the first papermaker.

In 1774 Scheetz was taxed for a paper mill and 190 acres of land. He died in 1793 and left his Whitemarsh paper mill to his son, General Henry Scheetz (1761-1848) and his Springfield township paper mill to his second son, Justice, who was sheriff of Montgomery County for several years. The General's mill was valued at 2450 pounds sterling, and that of Justice at 2125 pounds.

Henry Scheetz, Jr., was a General in the War of 1812, and a prominent citizen of Montgomery County. He died in 1848, and left his old farm of 60 acres, dwelling and mill, to his sons, Jacob and George. A silver mounted, smooth-bore, rifle is listed in his estate of \$40,000.

The mill, then a grist plant, was sold to his son-in-law, Jonathan Wentz, who was an expert miller. The property then passed into the ownership of John Shafer, who built a modern mill; Isaac Yeakle; Jacob Day, who owned the mill in 1851; Joseph B. Comly; William Ambler; Chakley Ambler and by 1909 the mill had been dismantled.

In the early days large deposits of lime were burned for commercial purposes in the lime kilns on the Scheetz property.

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In this story of the Wissahickon mills, we have now reached No. 32, known as the Farmer-Morris-Edge Grist Mill. This plant was first mentioned in 1708, and is one of the oldest in Montgomery County. Situated on the Wissahickon about a mile above the Cleaver Mill (No. 31), it stood on Skippack road, just west of Bethlehem Pike; Church road and St. Thomas' church, adjoined, on the east.

Holmes' Map of 1681 to 1688, locates the 5000 acre tract as the Major Jasper Farmer plantation.

The Wissahickon on this chart, is called Whitpain's Creek, after Richard Whitpain, who owned large portions of land in what is now Whitpain Township. The Farmer tract ran from the Wissahickon, west to the Schuylkill river, including Conshohocken.

Major Jasper Farmer purchased from William Penn, in 1681, 5000 acres of land to be laid out later, in Pennsylvania. He died before sailing from his native land, but his widow, Mary, sons, daughters, and numerous servants arrived in Philadelphia in 1685.

John Scull, brother of Nicholas Scull, one of Penn's early surveyors, preceded the family by a few months and was appointed overseer of the Widow Farmer's plantation.

There were large deposits of lime on the Farmer tract, and Nicholas Scull and others made a petition to the Council, held at Philadelphia, May 19th 1698, requesting that a road be allowed from the lime-kiin, for carting lime to Philadelphia, extending

from the said lime-kiins into Plymouth Road, near Cresheim, "where there is neither improved land, hills, or water to impede."

The Umblicamense Indian tribe had a settlement on this plantation, and in visiting the Indians William Penn, with surveyors and friends on horseback, passed through the dense forests that then covered this particular region.

The Court records of Germantown state that on March 9th, 1702, a committee was appointed to confer with Edward Farmer, of Whitemarsh, concerning the cost of a road to Philadelphia.

In 1703, what is now Bethlehem Pike, was confirmed, and shortly opened. The grist mill was built just afterward, and by 1713 the mill had an extensive reputation. The eldest son, Edward, inherited the mill, and 3750 acres of the plantation.

May 12, 1712, a council of Indians was held at Edward Farmer's dwelling, and Indian chiefs present requested Farmer to act as interpreter for the aborigines.

In 1808 the settlement was known as Farmer Town. Edward was fourteen years of age when the family first arrived in Philadelphia. After becoming of age he was a member of the Pennsylvania Assembly and a prominent citizen of Whitemarsh.

In 1713 the inhabitants of Skip-

pack asked for the confirmation of a road "down to the wide marsh," or Farmer's Mill. Here was a broad expanse of meadow, generally subject to overflows and from its miry, wet nature, was known as

"the wide marsh." The present name of the township, Whitemarsh, is an improvement of that early appellation.

In 1722 a well-traveled path from Neshaminy Creek, through Graeme Park, the residence of Governor Sir William Keith, led down to Farmer's Mill.

Last summer we had the pleasure of visiting the Keith mansion, one of the best preserved and most historical Colonial houses in Pennsylvania. The weather-vane upon the house was marked "W. K. 1722."

Two great brick chimneys divide the house into three sections, so that each room has a fireplace. Two iron fire-backs still remain in the fire places, dated about 1750. Mr. and Mrs. Welsh Strawbridge, who now own the mansion and large plantation, told us that an expert had made the borings of the plates, to test the percentage of silica, magnesia, etc., in the iron and that it agreed with the grade of iron that was used in the Oxford Furnace, of Oxford, N. J. The Oxford Furnace was erected in 1741, by Jonathan Robeson, who married Elizabeth, the daughter of Edward Farmer. Jonathan was the son of Andrew Robeson, 2nd., who owned the mills near the mouth of the Wissahickon.

The slaves of Governor Keith's plantation probably ground the corn for the use of Sir William and his family, and for other farm requirements, inasmuch as in front of the house is a large stone pestle weighing several hundred pounds, which had been revolved in a stone mortar to crush the grain.

The wainscoting lining the walls of the rooms, is wonderfully well preserved, and a few years ago a snug sum of money was offered for the same, by the officials of a well-known museum.

Sir William Keith was Queen Anne's Surveyor-General of the Royal Customs, in the American Colonies, and afterward Deputy Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania. His step-daughter married Dr. Graeme.

General Washington was entertained, October 21st 1777 in the Keith Mansion, by Elizabeth Graeme, and Dr. Benjamin Franklin was also a visitor there upon several occasions.

But, to return to the story of the mill.

In 1744 Henry Bartles, of Upper Dublin, petitioned the Court, saying that his father forty years before had purchased land in Whitemarsh, from Edward Farmer, "on the Side of the Wissahickon, settled and improved the same and has now lived there about twenty years." He also stated that he had the use of the fording place and road, over the creek and other land of Farmer's, into the Great Road leading to

North Wales and Philadelphia. He went on to say "Farmer has stopped the road" and moved his passage-way to a more difficult place, which Bartles used for about ten years. Now Farmer has also stopped that passage and the petitioner was obliged, "at great expense in cutting down a great bank where the water was so deep that in small freshets he could not pass." He cited these difficulties which he had labored under for many years, and stated that there was no access to the mill or markets.

Edward Farmer died in 1745, his daughters marrying as follows: Elizabeth to Jonathan Robeson; Sarah to Peter Robeson; and Rachel to William Dewees, 2nd., the owner of Mills No. 20 and 29. His son, Joseph, and sons-in-law, Jonathan and Peter Robeson were executors of the will, and the large plantation was divided and sold.

Peter Robeson, in 1746 bought the Farmer dwelling; the grist mill was sold to Samuel Morris, and upon his death in 1772, the mill and 350 acres passed to his brother, Joshua Morris.

Jacob Edge operated the mill for the Morris family, and in 1774 he purchased the same. It was in his possession during the Revolution and on a map, of 1777 is marked "David Morris and Jacob Edges' Mill." In a tax list of 1774 Jacob Edge is given as the owner of the mill, and 228 acres. Edges Mill is mentioned in the military report of the Battle of Germantown. To the west of the mill, on the Skippack Road, was the house of John Wentz. General Washington occupied the Wentz House on the day and early evening of October 3rd, 1777, planning the Battle, and the army was encamped in the immediate neighborhood.

Here is a translation from a German inscription on the wall of the Wentz dwelling:

"Jesus come into my house,
From thence never depart;
With Thy blessed favor come,
And bring peace into my heart."

On the evening of October 3rd, the American forces took up their line of march down Skippack road, past Edges' Mill, to the Bethlehem pike, to the Battle of Germantown, which took place the next day.

Jacob Edge died in 1784, and his widow, Mary, and brother-in-law, Jacob Paul were executors. He instructed that the mill be sold. The estate then contained 183 acres of land. He left four daughters, but no sons. The inventory mentions five spinning wheels; one for each daughter as well as one for the widow. Isaac Mather, the son-in-law of Joshua Morris, purchased the property and erected the present mill. In 1837 a tornado spent its force here, scooping up the water in the mill dam, breaking trees and damaging the mill. The plant then passed through the ownerships of William Miller, Samuel Comly, W. H. Witts, and Charles Oterson.

The mill is still standing, in well-kept condition, with attractive grounds adjoining the home of the present owner. It has not been in use for many years.

Last week we gave the story of the Farmer Mill (No. 32.) at Skip-pack Road and Bethlehem Pike, thus concluding the narratives of all of the thirty-two mills along the Wissahickon Creek, and Valley, from Mill No. 1, at the mouth of the romantic stream, to the lower end of Montgomery County.

As there were fifty mills, all told, in Colonial times, along this highway of industry, we still have eighteen more establishments to describe.

However, the writer has been unable to compile the history of all of the mills, according to the order of their location, and will have to take recourse in telling the tales of those mills, the record of which have been completed.

After leaving the Farmer Mill, the Wissahickon Creek passes through Whitmarsh, Upper Dublin and Whitpain, into Gwynedd Township, and it is here that Mill No. 46 is located, and which we are about to describe.

The fulling and saw mills were on Swedesburg Road and Wissahickon Creek, just north of the Whitpain-Gwynedd Township line, and about one mile south of North Wales.

Gwynedd was an early Welsh settlement, and in 1681 William Penn patented 5000 acres here to Robert Turner. The latter had at one time over 10,000 acres in Pennsylvania, including the 500 acre tract at Sumac Park, in Roxborough, a quarter interest in William Rittenhouse's first paper mill and land, and also William Penn's Governor's Grist Mill at Upland, on the Chester Creek.

In 1703 Turner sold 1034 acres of the Gwynedd tract to Thomas Ap Evans (1651-1738.) at Welsh Quaker.

A Sarah Evans, niece of Thomas married at the Gwynedd Meeting in 1711 John Hank, of Whitmarsh. Their son, John Hank, Jr., removed to Fayette County, Kentucky, when his daughter married Thomas Lincoln, and here was born their child, Abraham Lincoln, twice President of the United States.

Thomas Evans and his three brothers were born at Merionethshire Wales, and all settled in Gwynedd before 1700.

The Gwynedd Meeting was founded in 1699, and the addresses were made in both the Welsh and English tongues.

In 1713 Thomas sold to his son, Evan Evans, 226 acres of his plantation on the Wissahickon at the Whitpain line. Evan was a preacher in the Gwynedd meeting and it was he who built the fulling and saw mill between 1713 and 1744, as in that year Evan conveyed to his son, Abraham, 29 acres, including a two-perch wide, 98 perch long strip, for the purpose of digging a race to carry the water to a saw and fulling mill. Evans died in 1747, and the two mills passed to Abraham.

Of the fifty ancient mill sites in the Wissahickon Valley, the present Mumbower's Grist Mill, is the

only site containing a mill, still continuing in business grinding wheat and corn for the farmers of Gwynedd Township.

The mill sites of the Streater-University Mill (No. 27) and the Dewees-Mt. St. Joseph College Mill (No. 26) are today using water from the old mill races, to turn turbine wheels, but these are not for commercial purposes.

In 1756 Abraham Evans built a hip-roofed dwelling near the mill, which stood for 98 years, and was demolished in 1844. Shortly after 1744 the mill became a grist mill, and before 1762 the 29 acres and mills were owned by Jesse Jones, who in that year sold the property to Z. Neiman. In 1765 Martin Tyson purchased the place. In 1766 he sold the mills and 76 acres to Peter Troxell, a German miller. In 1771 John Troxell owned the mills. In 1777 Samuel Wheeler, a Philadelphia cutler, who is said to have forged swords here during the Revolution, purchased and improved the property. In this year he added an iron forge, and in 1780 rebuilt the grist and saw mills, also adding to his plantation, so that he then owned 224 acres. The grist and saw mills were taxed as follows: Peter Troxell, 1769; John Troxell, 1774; Samuel Wheeler, 1783. In 1782 Wheeler dug a well through 24 feet of solid rock adjoining the dwelling.

Wheeler supposed that coal might be found upon the land, and deeds reserved the right to mine coal if it were discovered. Troxell continued operating the mills after selling to Wheeler. In 1798 Wheeler sold the mills and 111 acres of land to Christian Weber, who in 1806 resold to George Horter (1769-1840), of Upper Dublin. Horter was eight years of age at the time of the Battle of Germantown, on October 4th 1777, and then lived in Germantown. His mother took her five children, the youngest only four years of age, on the day of the battle, into the woods of the Wissahickon, and returned home in the evening. A Hessian soldier watched over them and compelled the family to bake bread for the Hessian soldiers.

Horter paid \$8866 for the grist and saw mill, including the dam, mill race, flood water gates, etc. In 1793 he married Catherine Wise, daughter of John Wise, Sr., who owned Mills No. 12 and 37. Her brother, John, Jr., owned the Lower Margarge mill, from 1812 until 1836.

In 1814 George Ingel purchased our Mill 46, and he resold in 1823 to John Keef. Keef rebuilt the mills, as it is today, the date-stone reading "J. & E. Keef, 1835."

The mill was sold at a Sheriff's sale and in 1856 was owned by Henry Mumbower, a miller from Bucks County. He died in 1898, and his son, David, now owns the grist mill and five acres of land.

The Mumbowers placed a steam engine on the lower floor to furnish power when the mill race was

filled with ice and snow.

The present water-wheel is about 80 years of age. When it was first installed it had about 45 horsepower, but is now not over 40. With this, can be ground two tons of wheat or corn daily.

We have not visited the mill within the past 15 years, so that the facts given above describe the early industrial plant as we found it in 1919.

After having temporarily jumped out of our numerical order, last week, to discuss Wissahickon Mill No. 46, we now return to tell of Mill No. 33, which has been known at different times as Daub's Grist Mill, and Conrad's Augur Works, which is now used as headquarters by William Boulton Dixon Post No. 10, American Legion, at Fort Washington.

This old mill is on the Sandy Run, the largest tributary of the Wissahickon, just east of Bethlehem pike, in Whitmarsh Township. A datestone, set in the wall of a spring house, which is now part of the mill, is marked "1714".

Through the patriotism of the late E. E. Dungan, the old mill has been preserved and the neighborhood American Legion Post now occupies the building.

In 1684 William Penn patented to Thomas Harley 5000 acres of land in Pennsylvania. He sold the patent to Thomas Farmer, deputy of the Surveyor General, and in 1708 Elias Pryor purchased 200 acres of this tract in Whitmarsh and Springfield Townships.

In 1755 Pryor sold to Joseph House, a carpenter, of Springfield, 50 acres in Whitmarsh and 5 acres in Springfield. There were buildings and improvements on both lots, and the consideration was 100 pounds sterling as a mortgage. No mill was then mentioned.

On August 16th, 1770, the House estate was sold by the sheriff; four tracts of land in Whitmarsh, about 49 acres in all. One 11-acre lot, mostly woodland, containing a wooden dwelling, bounded by the "Great Road (Bethlehem Pike)", 13-acre lot containing a small dwelling, and a 13 acre lot having a spring house thereon, was sold. John Kinner, by the name of Kinnard, a tavern-keeper, being the highest bidder, secured the property. He established here a "messuage commonly called Sandy Run Tavern".

The tavern was the wooden dwelling on the wooded lot, and was on the east side of Bethlehem pike. The Sandy Run Inn was in 1801 rebuilt and again enlarged, and is at present a well-built graystone building. The date stone on this structure reads "H. C. D. 1801, rebuilt 1858, Sandy Run", the H. C. D. standing for Henry Daub and wife Catherine.

Scattered along the highways these wayside inns were a great convenience for the weary traveler journeying, either for business or pleasure.

The first regular stage line pass-

The Daub Mill on Sandy Run



Through the thoughtfulness of the late E. E. Dungan, this old grist mill has been preserved and it is used as headquarters by William Beulton Dixon Post No. 10, American Legion. It is located on the largest tributary to the Wissahickon Creek, above Fort Washington.

ing through Chestnut Hill was that of George Kline, of Flourtown, which in 1763 ran from Philadelphia to Bethlehem. It started from the King of Prussia Hotel, on Race street, and ran to the Sun Hotel, in Bethlehem, according to the "Early History of Chestnut Hill."

The Sunday Public Ledger, of January 20th, 1934, presented a very interesting sepia sketch of the Bethlehem coach, as of 1820, in front of the hay scales at Market Square, Germantown. The picture appeared in the rotogravure section.

What a Godsend the Sandy Run tavern must have been to Washington's army, from October 30th until December 11th, when it was encamped at Fort Washington a few hundred feet below the tavern!

In 1791 Kinnard sold the Sandy Run Tavern and plantation of fifty acres to Henry Daub, Sr., an innkeeper, and he erected there a grist mill, between 1791 and 1813, Henry Daub's will, dated in 1813, mentions a "house, corn mill, and other improvements." He died in 1816, and the property remained in the family until 1835, when Henry Daub, Jr., sold 35 acres and the grist mill to Levi Wentz, for \$4313.

In 1837 George Kenderdine, a millwright, purchased 27 of these acres and the grist mill, mill dam, mill race on Sandy Run, and also the water rights of the mill race that flows through the adjoining property of Dr. George Martin.

He sold the grist mill in 1848 to William H. Ball, for \$8000 and in 1864 Ball's executors sold the same to Albert Conrad, an augur manufacturer, who for many years conducted a successful business there.

Sandy Run is a peculiar stream, clean and refreshing, the bottom appearing to be filled with a substance resembling sand, but as it flows through a lime district, in Upper Dublin Township, where in 1693 Thomas Fitzwater worked the lime quarries, it is more than likely particles of lime which can be seen on the creek bed.

During the Whittemarsh camping, General George Washington made his headquarters, in the fall of 1777, at the Emlen house, near

Oreland, which was part of the original Fitzwater tract, but as the latter family had a very early grist mill (Our No. 36) here, near the source of Sandy Run, we will go into more details concerning this point in a later article.

E. E. Dungan, before 1930, purchased the old mill and every Memorial Day a parade and services are held here at Fort Washington.

The Sons and Daughters of Liberty, Order of Independent Americans, Boy Scouts and public schools all participate in these annual exercises.

We here quote from the American Legion Post No. 10, Bulletin, published in 1931, the following paragraph: "From October 30th, 1777, until December 11, 1777, the American Army, under the command of General George Washington, was encamped along the hill stretching from Fort Washington eastward along Camp and Edge Hills. The redoubt at Fort Washington, where we hold our memorial services, was thrown up in defense against the British army in control of the city of Philadelphia, after the Battle of Germantown. We hold these exercises upon this historic spot to commemorate the noble deeds of the American patriots who fought to establish and perpetuate this government in the War of the Revolution, War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish War and the recent World War.

"Let us ever be mindful of the great and valiant services rendered by these men in the cause of American Liberty.

"Thus this old Fort in its silence Speaks to us while here we pause;

Tells us of men who brave, undaunted, Struggled e'er in Freedom's cause."

If, in motoring out Bethlehem Pike, the visitor to this section is interested in the quaint old mill and relics of the late World War, the American Legion Post men there will gladly extend every courtesy in exhibiting them.

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Mill No. 34 in this series of Wissahickon Mill stories, has been known at various times as Sheetz' Whittemarsh Paper Mill (1769) and J. Gillingham Fell's Grist Mill (1865).

It was one of the four industrial plants in the valley of Sandy Run. The stream, over six miles in length, rises near Rubicam, Abington Township, then passes through Fitzwatertown, settled by Thomas Fitzwater, who arrived on the good ship "Welcome" with William Penn, in 1682. On the passage over the Atlantic, Fitzwater's wife and two children died of small pox.

Fitzwater established in Montgomery County a grist mill (Mill No. 36 in our narrative) and worked the lime quarries.

Sandy Run then continues through the Manufacturers' golf links and the George Emlen plantation, once called the Mistfield Farm. Washington had his headquarters, for a time, in the Emlen dwelling.

On the adjoining Spring Dell Farm, was the ancient Jacob Colli-day paper mill (No. 35) of 1743. The run then passes under the North Penn Railroad bridge, near Camp Hill station, and crosses Valley Green Road, into Whittemarsh Township, thereafter crossing the 100 acre "Old Mill Farm"

where the early manufacturing plant we will describe today, was located. Continuing, the run passes Dreshertown road, under the Pennsylvania Railroad's "Trenton Cut-off", circling the bridge and Fort Hill, and empties into the Wissahickon Creek, just beyond Bethlehem Pike, where Mill No. 33 and Sandy Run Tavern were situated.

The north branch of Sandy run rises in the farm of Arthur McCalls Frazer, at Garrett Town, and meets the main run near Fort Hill.

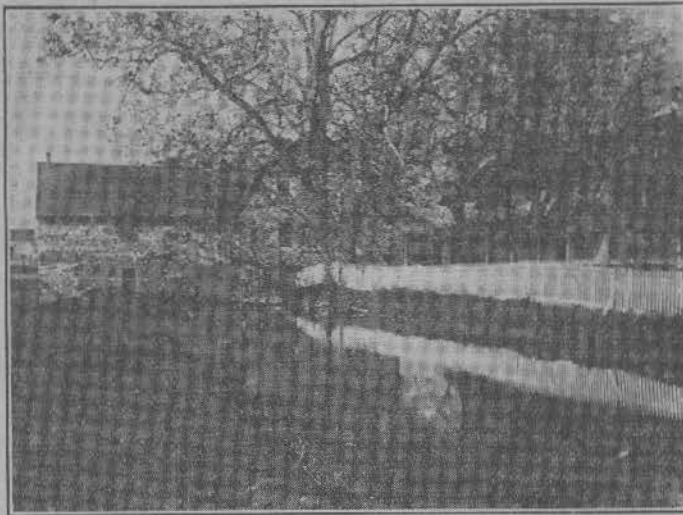
So much for the low valley near the four mills. Surrounding this area are nature-formed hills, starting at Fort Hill, 280 feet; Camp Hill, 320 feet; present site of the Manufacturers Club house, 380 feet, extending to Willow Grove, 420 feet, making more than five miles of continuous hills.

About half a mile above Mill No. 34, on the top of a circular hill, 320 feet above tidewater, is Camp Hill, where a part of Washington's Army was encamped during the Whittemarsh campaign. The hill is the point where Whittemarsh, Springfield and Upper Dublin townships intersect. On the top of the height is Camp Hill Hall, the residence of the Fell-Van Rensselaer family.

From a window in the Hall, on a clear day, can be seen the white marble cross in the family burial lot at St. Thomas' Church.

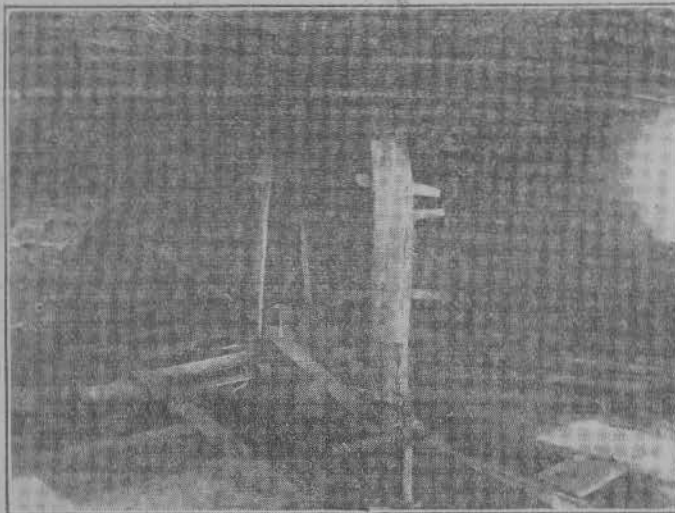
The heights, Camp Hill, Fort Hill and Fort Washington, where the General's troops were encamped in the fall of 1777, on the north above Sandy Run, almost became the Valley Forge of the winter of 1777-78. The troops were more or less harassed by the British while encamped at Whittemarsh, so it was decided best to remove the

SHEETZ-FELL MILL, BUILT IN 1769



Remarkable photograph of one of the early Wissahickon Valley Mills, the paper manufactory of Henry Sheetz, Sr., which later became the Fell grist mill. The foundation of the dwelling, to the right, was built before 1758. The old buttonwood tree, beside the mill race, is still standing.

INTERIOR OF SHEETZ COLONIAL PAPER MILL



A picture of the interior of the one-time Sheetz paper-Fell grist mill. About five years ago, members of the Van Rensselaer family permitted Boy Scouts of the Whitemarsh vicinity to use the mill as a rendezvous, and while in possession of the Scouts the mill was entirely consumed by fire.

camp to Valley Forge.

Now, let us return to Henry Sheetz' paper mill, built in 1796, according to the datestone in the west gable of the old structure.

The old mill tract of 100 acres was sold by William Penn to Nicholas Scull. Much of the surveying, establishing of boundaries and roads, was done under the supervision of Nicholas Scull. The family burying ground of this man is located on the side of Camp Hill, a square plot, surrounded by a stone wall. It is still retained in good condition. In 1721 Scull sold the tract to Benjamin Charlesworth, and in 1741 Joshua Thomas purchased it, and in 1758 re-sold to Henry Sheetz, Sr., a paper maker of Springfield Township; who built

the paper mill in 1769.

The members of the Sheetz family owned five paper mills in Montgomery County; Conrad two in Lower Merion, on Mill Creek; John, the mill on Paper Mill Road, above Chestnut Hill; and Henry, this mill, No. 34, and in 1786, Mill No. 35.

Sheetz purchased the property from this adjoining neighbor, George Emlen, Jr., for 100 pound sterling, on a mortgage, the deed mentioning buildings and improvement.

Before erecting his paper mill in 1769, Sheetz managed the adjoining Mill No. 35 for Lynford Lardner.

The extreme northeast angle of the 100 acres bordered on Upper

Dublin and Whitemarsh Townships, and included the crest of Camp Hill, and also the present Camp Hill Hall. Sheetz was deputy sheriff of Springfield in 1767.

Henry Sheetz, Sr., died in 1793, and the mill was inherited by his oldest son, General Henry Sheetz, Jr., of the War of 1812. In 1850, Jacob and George Sheetz, executors of the General, their father, sold the mill and lands to John Shaffer, and in 1865, the mill, then used for grinding grist, and 59 acres of land, was sold to J. Gillingham Fell.

In 1881 the heirs sold the property to H. C. Cochran, who in the same year sold the mill and 58 acres for \$20,000 to John R. Fell.

The 1800 foot-long mill race started in Springfield Township just below Valley Green road, then ran south through the center of the mill and joined Sandy Run at the Dreshertown road.

The mill continued to grind corn for the Fell farm requirements. There was a large wheel within the mill, as was the practice of the old manufactories of that type.

About five years ago, the Van Rensselaers gave the Boy Scouts of Whitemarsh the privilege of using the mill as a rendezvous and meeting place, and while in use as such was entirely consumed by fire.

The topography of the land where this mill stood is considerably changed, the great long mill and tail race have been filled in, and the ground has also been raised, but an old buttonwood tree, by the side of the mill is still standing, showing the scars and burned branches of the fire.

Near the site are two of the old grinding stones, bound with iron ties.

Readers of this narrative are indebted to Gouverneur Cadwalader, of Camp Hill, for the two illustrations of the old industrial plant, as is the writer, who is also grateful for the loan of a blue-print of the vicinity, giving the positions of the mills, races, farms, Camp Hill, etc. of the John R. Fell plantation.

Last week we described Wissahickon Valley Mill No. 34, and due to the topographical lay-out of the section of the country, we find that we once again will have to skip a few numbers, and tell of Mill No. 39 before going on with those in between. So, for this article we will confine our remarks to Mill No. 39, which was known at different periods as the John Wise, Sr.—Jacob Reiff Grist and Saw Mill.

This mill, rebuilt in 1843, is still standing, but has not been running for many years. It is located on Butler Pike, Ambler, in Upper Dublin Township, where the Rose Valley run enters the Wissahickon. On the adjoining farm of James Morris, one mile west of the mill, between the Skippack pike and Morris road, can still be seen "Dawesfield", the headquarters of General Washington, in late October of 1777.

The mill was operated by the waters of Rose Valley Run, where a number of springs supply the water to form a large pond, now

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used by the Keasbey & Mattison asbestos works.

On a map of 1852, the road to the mill is called "Clover Mill Road."

The springs gave this run a continuously large flow of water, many of the old deeds making mention of the sources of the water. The best known spring in Montgomery County, was the "Great Bubbling Spring," also called "Great Fountain" or "Mill Spring", at what is now familiar as Spring Mill, near the Schuylkill River, in Whitmarsh Township. The grist mill, erected there in 1715 by David William, and owned by Joseph and Thomas Livezey during the Revolution, was of special value, as the water from this spring never froze, a circumstance which still holds true.

"Bubbling Spring" on account of its volume and purity, was and still is, of considerable commercial value. William C. Hamilton later purchased this spring and carried the water through an eight-inch underground pipe to the present Hamilton paper mill, at Miquon, a distance of at least two miles.

The extreme southwest corner of Upper Dublin Township, in which Mill No. 39 is situated, was purchased from William Penn, by William and George Harmer, before 1688.

The grist and saw mills were built before 1768, as in that year Lewis Reynear sold the property to George Hocker, and the deed reads, "messuage, grist mill, saw mill and plantation, all buildings, improvements, bolting mills, mill pond, mill dams, banks, races, streams of water and springs, 82½ acres in Upper Dublin and Whitpain Townships, crossing creek to east end of bridge, by fulling mill land."

On March 12th, 1774, George Hocker sold the above mills and acreage to John Wise, Sr., of Roxborough, a miller, for 1750 pounds sterling. This was the identical John Wise, Sr., who with his son-in-law George Horter in 1795, purchased the Gorgas grist mill (No. 12). John Wise added to his land by shortly purchasing 98 acres in Gwynedd, adjoining his other property. John Wise, Sr., was a private in Lieutenant William Dean's Phil-

adelphia company of militia, recruited from Upper Dublin Township, in 1777.

Within a mile and a half from the Wise mill, there were at least eight other mills; in the early days there must have been an extremely larger flow of water than there is at present. We have not as yet been able to trace the titles to these mills, but will make every effort to do so later.

Let us make an imaginary sign of the Latin cross, to get an idea of the location of these mills. With the center of the cross lying in a north and south position (top northward) and the arms extending east and west, the Wise Mill (No. 39) was located at the intersection, in the southwest corner of Upper Dublin. The right arm of the cross, represents Rose Valley Run, on which was Evan's grist mill at the Bethlehem Pike. The Wissahickon Creek forms the north and

south arms of the cross. On the south was Grist Mill No. 38, given to James Morris in 1771, and below this the Joseph Lukens Mill, No. 37. On the west arm, represented by Pine Run, in Whitpain Township, was grist mill No. 40, built in 1777 from lumber taken from the trees that were cut down by the American army to build fortifications and log huts. On the north arm, of our imaginary cross, were Thompson's Mill, Mather's grist and saw mills, and Wheeler's mill and Forge, (No. 46). Arthur Broades fulling mill also adjoined the Wise mill property, but we have not yet been able to properly describe it.

There are several authentic statements that many of the trees on the farms in this section were cut down for military purposes, and the Wise and Mather saw mills must have been working to full capacity in 1777.

General Washington wrote from his headquarters of October 30th, 1777, "The long residence of the army in this quarter has proved very distressing to the inhabitants, as forage must be drawn from their substance."

Between the north and west arms, of our cross, was the 350 acre plantation of James Morris, later a Brigadier General. Here was the mansion, "Dawesfield", built in 1736, which was used by the Commander-in-chief of the American forces, during the Whitpain encampment, from October 20th to 31st, 1777. At the Court Martial of General Wayne (who was acquitted with the highest honors) the army officers heard the case at "Dawesfield". The court was formed of General Washington, Major Generals, Sullivan, Greene, Stephen, Lafayette and Brigadier Generals, Maxwell, Knox, Muhlenberg, Conway and Pulaski.

A letter, written at this time by Washington, was headed "October 25th, Skippack Road, 15th Milestone". This stone was about one mile south of headquarters.

On October 30th, the headquarters and encampment was removed from Dawesfield to George Emlen's "Baronial Hall", near Sandy Run on the south side of Camp Hill, which is now the property of the Fells-Van Rensselaer estate.

On this date Washington wrote two letters, the first headed "Headquarters, James Morris, 17 miles from Philadelphia, Skippack Road"; and the second, "Headquarters, near Whitmarsh, 15 miles from Philadelphia."

Next week, in telling of Mill No. 35 that adjoined the headquarters at Camp Hill, we will give an illustration of Emlen Hall, showing the Sandy Run and mill race, in front of the mansion.

The Wise Mill (No. 39) received its water power from a long head-race passing between Rose Valley Run and Butler Road.

In 1789 Wise rebuilt the old dwelling, on Butler Road, a double three-story stone house. Under the eaves a datestone reads, "J. C. W., 1797". In 1909, these buildings were in good condition, but since Keasbey & Mattison purchased the property they have been demolished.

John Wise, Sr., was accidentally killed in his Wissahickon Mill (No. 12) in Roxborough Township, in 1803.

In 1804, Mill No. 39 was valued at 3175 pounds sterling, and was purchased by John Wise's second son, Joseph.

The oldest son, John, Jr., purchased the former Gorgas Mill (No. 12) and in 1812 he also purchased the one-time Paul Mill (No. 29) which was also possessed by the Magarge.

Joseph Wise (1780-1816) married in 1805 Mary Reiff, and in 1813 he sold the mill to his brother-in-law, Jacob Reiff, for 5000 pounds. Wise's widow, Mary, later married Joseph Lukens, of Mill No. 37. Reiff rebuilt the grist mill as it is today, a large four-story stone, modern mill. The datestone reads "Jacob and Ann Reiff, 1843."

In 1786, Jacob Reiff purchased Mill No. 37, which was sold in 1838 to Joseph Lukens, his brother-in-law.

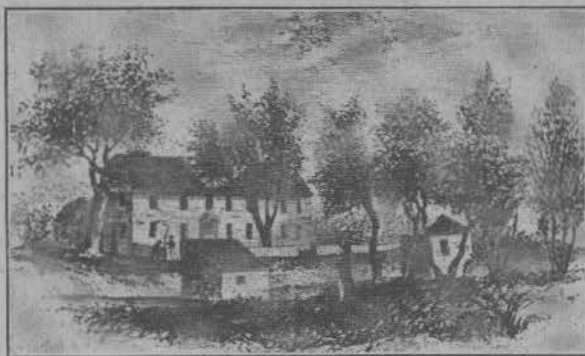
It is ten years since we have visited this old mill, and it was then occupied by Italian families. The mill race had been filled in and the other buildings and barns demolished. The site is now a part of Ambler.

In visiting this locality today, where in the Revolutionary period at least nine industrial plants furnished the three Townships with flour, corn meal, lumber and dyed linen or woolen cloth and yarn, and probably forged metals, including swords, from Mill No. 46, one can hardly believe that here in October of 1777, ten thousand American patriots were encamped in log huts, barns and farmhouses of the inhabitants.

Since penning the tale of the ancient Evans-Wheeler-Horter-Mumbower mill and forge (No. 46) which appeared in The Suburban Press of January 25th, we have come across an interesting advertisement in the Pennsylvania Gazette for January 28th, 1770. It reads "Samuel Wheeler, cutler, at the 'Sign of the Scythe, Sickle and Bar Iron, at his shop in 2nd Street, a few doors above the church, opposite Mr. Whilliam Whitehead's Tavern, makes and has for sale for the ensuing harvest, a quantity of good scythes and sickle, likewise steel yards, scale-beans, steel stamps, ironwork for mills of any kind, for carts, wagons, and ploughs, iron axels, and bill books for West Indies, spades, hoes, shovels and tongs. Smith's work for houses, also makes and grinds razors, cleans and repairs instruments, etc. He undertakes any kind of iron work that any business require. N. B. Any of above articles may be had at his house, in Church Alley, at the Sign of the Scythe and Sickle."

Samuel Wheeler did not buy Mill No. 46 and set up his forge there in 1777, but Peter and John Troxell, German millers who owned the mills in 1766, and worked the mills for Wheeler after he purchased it, were very likely the practical iron and forge workers.

WASHINGTON'S HEADQUARTERS



Headquarters of Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, near Whitemarsh, at what is now familiar as Camp Hill. The picture shows the house as it was in 1848. The interior has been greatly improved since, and is now the stately home of Mr. and Mrs. Radcliffe Cheston. The exterior has been preserved according to its Revolutionary appearance. The millrace in front of the building is almost 200 years old and still carries the waters of a nearby stream which flows into the Wissahickon.

Reverting back to Mill No. 35 in our narrative of the early industrial plants of the Wissahickon Creek and its tributaries, we will now discuss what has been known at various periods as the Jacob Colliday paper mill (1739); Henry Friend's paper and grist mill (1776), and is now the Fell-Van Rensselaer Mill.

This is the oldest paper mill in Montgomery County, and is still standing in good condition, today. Until about five years ago it was used to grind grain for the Spring Dell farm requirements.

The ancient structure is located on Sandy Run, in Springfield Township, near the Dreshertown road and Camp Hill station, of the North Penn railroad, on part of the Fell-VanRensselaer property.

This township, on Holmes' old map, of 1681-88 is marked "Gulielma Marie Penn's Mannor of Springfield." The manor was given by William Penn to his wife. In 1738 Richard Penn still owned there 1600 acre, which had not then been sold by the heirs of Penn.

In 1739 Jacob Colliday bought from the Penn heirs, 94 acres of land containing the Royal lime quarries of the Proprietors, south of the Springfield-Upper Dublin line, and in 1740 he secured 200 acres adjoining the other tract, north of the above line in Upper Dublin.

In tracing the title of the Spring Dell Farm (Mill No. 35), we found that the original deed was in Harrisburg, and as this writer's friends, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Henry Fehr, reside there, they copied the document for use in this article, which heads as follows: "John, Thomas and Richard Penn on November 10th, 1783, by virtue of a warrant issued to Edward Farmer, 94 acres of land within our Manor of Springfield, allowing 6 acres for roads." June 16th, 1739, by a deed poll Farmer sold to Jacob Colliday, the 94 acres and the latter "prayeth that the Penns will be pleased to present him with a confirmation thereof." This they did for a con-

sideration of 50 pounds sterling, and a yearly rental of a halfpenny, on each acre, payable in London or Philadelphia.

The proprietors also claimed "three full and clear fifths parts of all Royal mines, free from all deductions and reprisals, for digging and refining the same, and also one-fifth part of all other mines delivered at the pit's mouth, only excepted and hereby reserved."

In another deed the property is named in "manor Springettsbury" and in another as located "in Germantown."

After buying the mill tract, in 1739, Colliday built the paper mill and greatly improved the property. In 1746 Colliday sold the mill, lime kilns, houses, mill houses, quarry of limestones, dam, mounds, mill

race, flood gates, sluices and plantation of 94 acres (for 607 pounds sterling to Lynford Larnier, attorney and deputy for Richard Penn. In 1754 Colliday lived at Germantown and Highland avenues, in Chestnut Hill. In 1745 Colliday sold his 200 acres holding in Upper Dublin to George Emlen, Jr., a Quaker merchant of Philadelphia, for 625 pounds sterling. The mill race, over a mile in length, ran mostly through the Emlen tract, so that in 1746 Larnier purchased from Emlen the mill pond and mill race, including one perch on each side of the pond and race, so that he could control the water rights to conduct his mill.

Larnier died in 1777, but before this time the mill was sold on a mortgage of 1200 pounds sterling to Christian and Henry Friend, paper makers. The will stated that if the mortgage and interest were not paid promptly, the mill and plantation should revert to Larnier's son, John.

Before the Revolution a portion of the paper mill was used as a grist mill, for in 1776 Henry Friend was taxed for a paper mill and grist mill. In 1783 Christian Friend was taxed for a paper mill only. It is probable that during the war a part

of the plant was used for preparing grain for the rations of the American patriots.

As Washington headquarters were less and half a mile from the mill, and the mill race passed in front of Emlen's hall, it would appear a certainty that Washington, during his six weeks' residence at Camp Hill must have visited and inspected this mill, and also Mill No. 34, which was nearby.

About 1786 Henry Sheetz, Sr., purchased the paper mill, as it is recorded that when he expired in 1793, he left it to his son, Justice Sheetz, sheriff of Montgomery County. The inventory at that time gave the value of the Mill as 2125 pounds.

The military strategic value of the hills to the north of Sandy Run, was evidently the reason that Washington selected this locality for a stopping place for his army, but at least a dozen grist mills on the nearby Wissahickon and its branches, were also a great asset to an army.

Before 1760 the British placed a heavy tax on all Colonial-made paper, so that the American markets were flooded with English goods, and the papermakers so impoverished that many of their mills were altered to grind grain. After the Revolution papermaking was revived and in 1787 there were in Pennsylvania, 48 mills and in Delaware, fifteen more.

Justice Sheetz acquired his mill in 1793. It was later changed to a grist mill, and the property remained in the Sheetz family for almost a century. James A. Sheetz, the last heir, died in 1881, and he appointed his sister Emma C. Van Winkle, as executor of his estate. In a modern deed the 1746 water rights, that Larnier purchased from Emlen, are mentioned.

On July 15th, 1886 the Spring Dell Farm and mill were purchased by John E. Fell, and are owned by his heirs today.

Accompanying this article is an illustration of the ancient paper mill as it looks in 1934. It is a long three-story building, to the right of the headrace over a mile long which brings the waters of Sandy Run to the pond or forebay in front of the structure. The great wheel was at least sixteen feet above the cellar of the mill, where after the water had turned the wheel the tail race carried the water 600 feet further on, where it once again joined Sandy Run.

In recent years a turbine wheel replaced the old over-shot wheel. About five years ago the waters backed up in the mill, so that it was necessary to shut the plant down, but the gears, shutes for conveying grain, and all the apparatus required for such a mill are still in the building.

As today is Washington's Birthday, we beg to include in the story of Mill No. 35, a short history of Washington's headquarters during the Whitemarsh encampment period, from October 30th to December 11th, 1777. Colliday, the Germantown miller, owned the 200 acre plantation from 1740 to 1745, upon which most of Washington's army was camped. George Emlen,

OLD REVOLUTIONARY MILL



A picture of Jacob Colliday's ancient paper mill, of 1739, the oldest paper mill in Montgomery County. During the conflict for American liberty, grain was ground in this building for the Continental troops encamped nearby.

Its great water wheel was on the right end of the mill, with the headrace and forebay to the left and front.

Jr., built, about 1747 his "Baronial Hall," sometimes called "Emlen's Folly." Today, Mistfield Farm, on which the Emlen hall was located, is the property of Mr. and Mrs. Radcliffe Cheston, Jr.

In 1740 Jacob Colliday purchased from Edward Farmer, the 200 acres of land, including a dwelling and lime quarries on both sides of Sandy run. The deed states in Germantown, but it was in what is now Upper Dublin Township, north of the Springfield line. In 1745 George Emlen, Jr., bought the 200 acres and built his handsome colonial stone mansion. The present date stone, in the third story wall, is much weatherworn, but the last figure looks like a seven, so the dwelling was erected in either 1747, or 1757.

Emlen was a very large land speculator, and bought and sold over one hundred properties during his business career. This mansion was his summer residence. B. J. Lossing, the historian, states that "Emlen, its wealthy owner, at the time of the Revolution, dispensed hospitality to all who came under its roof."

Washington's headquarters, from October 20th. to the 30th. 1777, was at James Morris' dwelling in Whip-pain, about two miles west of what is now Ambler.

On October 30th. the army moved down to near Whitemarsh, in the locality now known as Camp Hill. There were supposed to be about ten thousand men in the encampment. These generals were with the army at that time: His Excellency the commander-in-chief; Sullivan, Greene, Stephens, the Marquis de Lafayette, Brigadier Generals Maxwell, Knox, Wayne, Muhlenberg, Conway and Pulaski.

The first letter written by Washington from the Emlen House was dated October 30th. 1777, and heads "Headquarters near Whitemarsh."

It was addressed to Major General Gates and said, "By this opportunity I do myself the pleasure to congratulate you on the signal success of the army under your command in repelling General Burgoyne and his whole army to surrender, etc."

A record in the Quarterly Book reads, "Since the General left Germantown in the middle of September he has been without his baggage, and on that account is unable to receive companw (Whitemarsh headquarters) in the manner he could wish. He nevertheless desires the Generals, field officers and brigadier generals of the day, to dine with him at 3 o'clock, November 7th, 1777."

Washington wrote several letters to General Howe, who was in Philadelphia, regarding the exchange of prisoners. He also suggested to Congress the Marquis de Lafayette should be given a higher grade in the army. This was agreed to and the youthful Frenchman was given the command of a division.

November 8th; If we can get our ragged and half-naked soldiers clothed, I think General Howe may be forced out of Philadelphia."

"November 11th; Upwards of 2000 men remain unfit for service, for the want of clothing."

General Washington crossed the Schuylkill river and viewed in person the enemy's position before Philadelphia, and at a council with his generals, was advised against the attack. Eleven Generals were opposed to the attack, while four were in favor of immediate action.

Of the affair, Washington said, "I have had officers out for the purchase or voluntary collection of necessities without success. Our distress still continues and is growing greater. General Howe has withdrawn himself close within his lines near Philadelphia, and we have fallen down, with the main body of the army, to this place

about 13 miles from the city. Our light parties are much nearer and cut off all communication between county and city."

On December 2nd, he wrote, "I am about fixing the winter cantonment of the army, but find so many objections to each proposal made."

December 10th: I am happy of informing you that in the past week from many sources I have reason to expect that General Howe is expected to give us a general engagement".

"Accordingly on Thursday night he moved from the city with all his forces, and arrived the next morning in Chestnut Hill, within three miles of our right wing. On Friday night the enemy changed their ground, and moved over to our left wing, a mile from our line, where they remained quiet the whole of the next day. On Saturday they moved still farther to our left. In this maneuver their advance and flanking parties were attacked by Colonel Morgan. On Monday afternoon they filed off from their right in full march to Philadelphia."

"December 11th; General Howe making great preparations to drive us beyond the mountains, came out with his entire force, but after maneuvering departed very hurriedly for Philadelphia."

The above quotations were all written in letters from the Emlen House, and headed "Headquarters, near Whitemarsh." While staying in this house, Washington offered a reward of ten dollars to "any person, who shall by nine o'clock Monday morning, produce the best substitute for shoes, made of raw hides."

Lydia Darragh, when she overheard British officers plotting to surprise Washington at Whitemarsh, conveyed a message to an American officer, who notified

Washington of the British attack. When the British marched to the attack on December 5th., 1777, they found Washington prepared.

Sally Wister, a bright and charming Quaker girl, sixteen years of age, kept a diary of the happenings during this period of the Revolution. She was visiting at the Faulke residence, adjoining the ancient William Faulke grist mill (No. 47), along the Wissahickon near where Penlynn station is now located. This was in Gwynedd Township, just half a mile above Samuel Wheeler's mill (No. 46) which during the Revolution was used as a forge, where it is said swords were fashioned.

Miss Wister wrote in her journal, under date of December 5th. 1777; "Oh, gracious; Debby I'm all alive with fear; The English have come out to attack (as we imagine) our army. They are at Chestnut Hill; our army only three miles away this side. What will become of us, only six miles distant? We are in hourly expectation of an engagement, I fear we shall be in the midst of it. Heaven defend us from so dreadful a sight, etc."

December 7th.; "In the afternoon, we distinctly heard platoon firing. Everybody was at the door; I, in the horrors. The armies, as we

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judged were engaged. Very composedly, says the Major (Major Stoddard) to our servant, 'will you be kind enough to saddle my horse? I shall go.'

On December 14th, Washington from his headquarters wrote: "on Thursday we marched from our old encampment to pass the ford at Mattison's ford." (Conshohocken)

After the event Washington made the statement which passed into history: "you might have tracked the army from Whitemarsh to Valley Forge by the blood of their feet."

In February 1778, Miss P. Fishbourn, the sister of Mrs. George Emlen, spent a week with Sally Wister, writer of the famous diary. "After enjoying a week of her agreeable company at the Mill, I returned with her to Whitemarsh. We went on horseback, the roads were bad. I think Sally Emlen, (Mrs. George Emlen, Jr.) is one of the most beautiful women I ever saw etc."

First Day Eve. February 1778: "This morning my charming friend and self ascended the barren hills of Whitemarsh, from the tops of which we had an extensive prospect of the country round. The traces of the army which encamped on these hills are very visible - - - ragged huts, imitations of chimneys, and many other ruinous objects, which plainly showed they had been there."

The illustration of the Emlen headquarters at Whitemarsh, which appears with this article, was made in 1848, and appears in the "Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution," by B. J. Lossing, 1859.

Some time in the 1850's Lossing visited the Emlen dwelling, and his account, in part, follows: "arrived at the spacious stone mansion, tot-

tering with age and neglect, where Washington made his headquarters. The house stands upon the edge of a wet meadow, at the head of a fine valley, and was a sort of baronial hall in size and character, when Emlen, its worthy owner lived there, the roof was falling in when I visited it. The old steps are of fine scap-stone, neatly wrought and in many particulars the beauty exhibit marks of fine elegance.

"The American encampment was upon the hills north of Emlen's mansion, its right wing rested upon the Wissahickon and the left wing upon Sandy Run. They had no other entrenchments than two small redoubts one on each hill near the headquarters."

Early this month, this writer paid a visit to the historic old mansion. Mr. and Mrs. Radcliffe Cheston, Jr., the present owners, showed me two photographs of the dwelling as it was in 1902. It was then called "Devereux House." The structure then looked just as it did in 1848, except that a front porch had been added.

Today the house has been modernized and greatly added to, but the exterior of the old mansion remains as it was during the Revolution. Washington is supposed to

have slept in the second story front room.

The ancient mill race that has been carrying water to Mill. 35 for nearly 200 years still flows in front of the house, as it did in 1848. Now mallard ducks make their habitat on and near its clear placid waters.

Stoney Run is south of the race, and when the onlooker stands on the terrace and gazes at the mill race, it appears as though it were running uphill, but the race leaves the run at least half a mile above the house and flows on a level, while the run descends the hill and at this point is ten to twelve feet below the race. At the mill, a half mile below, there is still a greater distance in height between the race and the run.

On the floor of the terrace there is an attractive colored tile showing Revolutionary soldiers, marked 1777. It was designed and manufactured by Joseph H. D. Allen, of Paper Mill Road.

The west room of the first floor contains a very fine old fire place, and some of the original wainscoting of the walls is well preserved. F. B. Brandt, in "Byways and Boulevards", reproduced two illustrations of Mrs. Cheston's beautiful sunken garden, in full blossom, but when I saw it, all was covered with snow and ice.

To Mrs. Cheston this writer is indebted for an inspection of her mother's copy of that now quite rare volume of "Sally Wister's Journal."

Following up the history of the early industrial establishments along the Wissahickon Creek, our narrative carries us, this week to Mill No. 47, known as the Foulke Grist Mill, in Gwynedd Township of Montgomery County.

This mill was erected in the early 1700's and remained in the Foulke family for nearly 200 years before it was demolished in 1896.

It was located along the Wissahickon, near the present Penlynn station of the Reading railroad, and about half a mile above Samuel Wheeler's mill No. 46. Edward Foulke (1651-1741) came to Pennsylvania in 1688. Gwynedd Township was settled very early by Welsh Quakers. In 1681 Penn granted by patent 5000 acres in this section to Robert Turner, and in 1684, 2500 acres to John Gee. In 1698-99 the tract of 7500 acres was

sold to Thomas Evans (of Mill No. 46) and William Ap John. From these two owners, Edward Foulke purchased 400 acres and a re-survey showed that it contained 712 acres, and in 1702 Foulke paid for the surplus acreage, 57 pounds sterling to William Penn.

H. M. Jenkins, of Gwynedd, is quoted as follows: "Edward Foulke, in 1702, wrote an interesting account in Welsh, of his emigration and of his line of descent from a Welsh chieftian of the 12th. Century, Rhirid Flodd, Lord of Penlynn, in Merionethshire."

Edward Foulke probably built the grist mill and Foulke dwelling before his death in 1741. The dwelling was a short distance east of the mill. Swedesford road passes by the Evans-Wheeler mill (No. 46) and close to the Foulke Mill, Bethlehem pike, said to have been an Indian trail before the coming of Penn, was a mile and a half to the east.

When William Dewees, in 1729, petitioned the court to confirm the road that had been opened for many years over the bridge at the Wissahickon to his mills (No. 24, 25 and 26) he stated that this road connected with that of North Wales or Plymouth Road. The road also passed near the Foulke Mill.

In 1739 the court was requested to open another road through Gwynedd, which was granted within a few years. This road was over ten miles long and connected Garret Clement's mill, on the Skippack Creek, in Salford Township, with the mills of Samuel Morris, (later Wise Mill No. 39) and Mill No. 38, on Butler road, at Ambler.

The petition states that the road passed through Salford, Towamencin, Gwynedd and Upper Dublin Townships. This, we believe, was the Morris road, over which Washington's army passed within a half mile of the Foulke mill, on October 19th, 1777, when the troops moved their encampment from Skippackville to "Dawesfield", James Morris' dwelling in Whitpain township.

In the early days of the settlers, most of the roads were opened to give better access to the mills, meeting houses, fords, lime kilns, and to bring rags to the paper mills

and take produce to Philadelphia.

William Foulke, a grandson of Edward, owned the mill in 1775, and his widow, Hannah, and son, Jesse then came into possession.

In September of 1777, Sally Wister, who kept a diary of the times, as described in last week's article, while visiting Hannah Foulke, at her home in Gwynedd township, often refers to the nearby Foulke grist mill.

Sally Wister's Journal, as published by Albert Cook Myers, of Philadelphia, in 1902, relates most of the story which follows:

After the defeat of the Americans at Brandywine, Sally left her home in Germantown, and resided for several months at this secluded place along the Upper Wissahickon, among the hills of Gwynedd.

"To the Foulke mansion came General Smallwood, commander of the Maryland troops; Colonel Wood of Virginia; Major Ogden, of New Jersey; three future Governors of their respective States—and many other important figures of this crucial period in the Nation's history. Generals, colonels, majors, captains, resplendent in red and buff and blue, and glittering in sashes, swords and epaulets, pass and re-pass before the unaccustomed and dazzled eyes of the Quaker maiden, and are quaintly portrayed in her pages."

"In spite of her Quaker training she takes not a little worldly pride in her dress and appearance. We are fully informed of her various costumes and we thus gain a very valuable picture of the dress of a young girl of that day. When she hears that officers are coming to the house she and her friends put their dress and lips in order for conquests. The next day she wore her 'chintz and looked smarter than the night before'. She is much mortified to have Captain Danbridge find her wearing her greenish skirt and dark, short gown. Provoking! She is skilled with the needles and intends to be mightily industrious. She is darning an apron. One day she rises at 'half past four in the morning and irons industriously until one o'clock'. Her evenings are spent in reading and chatting.

"That part of the house which was standing at the time of the Revolution, is built of stone, now coated with plaster, and is two stories high. It was probably erected by Hannah's husband, William Foulke (1708-1775) and occupies the site of an earlier dwelling built by Edward Foulke."

A short distance to the west of the house, near the Wissahickon, was the ancient Foulke mill, so frequently mentioned by Sally. It finally fell into disuse, and was removed in 1896. When A. C. Myers visited it, in 1902, all that remained to mark the site were a great opening in the earth and two stone mill-burrs.

The following are more quotations from Sally's Journal: "Sept. 25th, 1775: About seven o'clock (evening) we heard a great noise. To the door we all went. A large number of waggons, with about three hun-

dred of the Philadelphia Militia. They begged for drink, and several pushed into the house. One of those that entered was bit tipsy, and had a mind to be saucy. I then thought it time for me to retreat; so figure me mightily scared, as not having presence of mind enough to face so many of the (military) running in at one door and out another, all in a shake with fear; but after a while, seeing the officers appear gentlemanly, and the soldiers civil, I called reason to my aid. My fears were in some manner dispelled, though my teeth rattled, and my hands shook like an aspen leaf. They did not offer to take their quarters within; so, with many blessings, and as many adieus, they marched off.

"September 25th. Owen Foulke came here in the evening and told us that General Washington had come down as far as Trappe, and that General McDouglie's brigade was stationed at Montgomery, consisting of about 1600 men.

"September 26th: I was standing in the kitchen about 12, when somebody came to me in a hurry, screaming, 'Sally, Sally! Here are the light horses! They rode up to the door and halted, and enquired if we had horses to sell; he was answered negatively. 'Have you not, sir, two black horses?' 'Yes, but I have no mind to dispose of them.' What made us imagine them British was they wore blue and red which to us was not common.

October 19th: Now for new and uncommon scenes. As I was lying in bed, and ruminating in past and present events, Liddy came running into the room and said there was the greatest drumming, firing and rattling of wagons that ever she heard. What to make of this we were at loss. We dressed and went downstairs in a hurry. Our wonders ceased. The British had left Germantown, and our army was marching to take possession. We went about half a mile from the house, where we could see the army pass. They will stare at my going, but no impropriety in my mind, or I would not have gone. We made no great stay, but returned with excellent appetites for our breakfast."

In this march to the Whitpain headquarters, the army probably turned down the Swedesford road, passed Mill No. 46, and then went east on the Morris road to the headquarters.

"October 19th: Cousin Prissa Foulke and myself were sitting at the door; I, in a green skirt, dark short gown, etc. Two genteel men of the military order rode up to the door; 'Your servants, ladies, etc.' and asked if they could have quarters for General Smallwood. Hannah Foulke thought she could accommodate them as well as most of her neighbors, said they could.

"One of the officers dismounted, and wrote 'Smallwood's Quarters' over the door, which secured us from straggling soldiers. After this he mounted his steed and away.

"Oct. 20th: Well, here comes the glory, the Major, so bashful, so famous, etc. I, at first thought the

Major cross and proud, but I was mistaken. He is about nineteen, nephew to the General, and acts as Major of brigade to him; he cannot be extolled for the graces of person, but for those of the mind he may justly be-celebrated: he is large in person, manly, and engaging countenance and address." (The Major was William T. Stoddert, of Maryland, one of Sally's special admirers, but Captain Alexander S. Dandridge, whom she met in June was her best friend.

June 2nd: The first officer marched up and down the entry, Prissa Foulke came in. What's the name of this man? What does he say? Why, that he would kiss me when he had dined. Singular, I observed, on so short an acquaintance. His name is Alexander S. Dandridge. His person is more elegantly formed than any I ever saw; tall and commanding. I can't better describe him than by saying he is the handsomest man I ever beheld. He asked if I knew Tacy Vanderen. Said he courted her, and that they were to be married soon. Observing my sampler, which was in full view, wished I could teach the Virginians some of needle wisdom; they were the largest girls in the world. We sat down in a sort of a summer house. He asked, Miss Sally, are you a Quaker? Yes. Then you are a Tory. I am not, indeed. Then flying away from that subject, "Will you marry me, Miss Sally?" No, really, a gentleman after he has said he has not sufficient to maintain himself, to ask me to marry him. "Never mind what I say, I have enough to make the pot boil, etc'.

Tacy Vanderen, to whom Dandridge said he was engaged, was the daughter of John Vanderen, who during the Revolution, owned mills No. 1, 2, 3 and 4, near the mouth of the Wissahickon Creek. Tacy married Thomas Smith, and Dandridge married Anne Stephen, daughter of General Adam Stephen. Sally Wister returned to Philadelphia after the evacuation of the British, and remained single throughout her life.

Her "Journal" as publicly presented by A. C. Myers, is a beautifully illustrated book, and the reproduction of the ancient Foulke mill is especially pleasing, a great fruit tree, in blossom, towers above the four story structure. It also contains a portrait of Mrs. George Emlen, Jr., the hostess of General Washington, at the Whitmarsh headquarters.

Sally Wister visited the Emlen house in February of 1778, and she wrote in her Journal: "I think Sally Emlen is one of the most beautiful women I ever saw, agreeable, affable, sensible in the true sense of the words." On March 1st, 1778, Sally penned her location, as "at my old habitation at the mill."

As stated before, the mill was demolished on 1896. The old Foulke house, which still remains in a good state of preservation, was for its time a large and imposing mansion. In 1902, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Caldwell were the occupants of the Foulke mansion, at Penllyn, Pa.

Since June 22nd, 1933, we, in "The Suburban" Press, have been telling the stories of some 38 old-time mills in the Wissahickon Valley, and this week, would like to provide some additional information concerning the mills already described.

Concerning Mill No. 33, now occupied by Post 10, American Legion, on the Sandy Run, at Fort Washington, we would add that Mrs. Ada C. Mammel, the daughter of Albert Conrad, who owned the augur industry there, writes: "The lower story of the mill, bordering on the Sandy Run, was where they started the augurs and bits, cutting the desired lengths from long bars of steel, heating them red hot at the forge, then flattening them under the tilt hammer, a large hammer worked with a lever, then they were sent upstairs to be polished and ground out in the emery wheel. The large wooden waterwheel was on the opposite side of the picture of the mill I am enclosing. I remember the wheel was discarded long ago, and a new turbine waterwheel installed in place of the old one."

At the time of the Centennial Exposition, in Philadelphia, during 1876, the firm of A. and I. Conrad had a display of their augurs and bits there. They received a first prize and also a medal. Of the Vanderen Mills (Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4) at the mouth of the Wissahickon, it may be added that Mill No. 2 and saw mill (No. 3) were erected between 1686 and 89, and were the oldest of the 50 mills along the Wissahickon and its tributaries, and the old Robeson dwelling on Ridge avenue, just below the grist mill had the foundation laid as early as 1689. Any additional information of these mills and buildings will be of interest.

During the Revolution, John Vanderen owned the four mills. He was a large land speculator, of Roxborough and North Penn Townships. In 1785 he became mentally deranged and his mills and lands were sold at a sheriff's sale, in 1789, to Peter and Jonathan Robeson.

Vanderen had died in 1788 and his will, dated 1785, mentioned the ancient Robeson Mansion and garden. He gave his wife Susanna the use of the best parlor and the chamber above, her choice of furniture, including "all my plate and tea urn, one good, new single horse chaise, the upper half of the flower garden and the front part of the kitchen garden or garden over the way, the plantation wherein I now live and the mill thereon erected, my chaise horse and the chaise house."

The inventory mentioned "an old Bible with needlework covering."

Vanderen left six children, the youngest "Tacy", becoming the wife of Thomas Smith.

Last week, in quoting Sally Wister's Journal, under the date of June 2nd, 1778, we noted that Captain Dandridge who was staying at the Foulke Mill, stated that he was courting Tacy Vanderen and that they were to be married soon.

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Anent the Sheetz Mills, Nos. 28, 34 and 35, Benjamin Franklin gave financial aid to Conrad Sheetz. Henry Sheetz, who owned the two paper mills on Sandy Run was a brother of Conrad Sheetz, who owned two paper mills on Mill Creek, Lower Merion Township.

They were both the grandsons of John Jacob Schutz (Sheetz).

In early Colonial times the great scarcity of English and Dutch paper in America induced the printers to assist the paper makers in erecting their mills and they agreed to purchase their products.

William Bradford, the first printer in Philadelphia, owned a quarter interest in the William Rittenhouse paper mill of 1690, and he was the largest consumer of the paper from this first paper mill in America.

It is doubtful whether Christopher Sower, Sr., the noted Germantown printer ever owned a paper mill, but his son, Christopher, Jr., built a paper mill on Falls Creek near Ridge avenue (4110 Ridge avenue) at the Falls of Schuylkill, as told in a "Scaff" article in this newspaper last week.

Sower, the elder, was one of the leaders of the Dunkard faith, and purchased most of his paper from the Zionistic Brotherhood paper mills at Ephrata, Lancaster County, Pa. The paper used in printing is 1743 Bible, the first printed in America, shows the water marks of the Ephrata Mills. Part of this old Sower Mill, at the Falls of Schuylkill, which later became the Hagner Drug Mill, is still standing.

Russell L. Davis, of the Franklin Institute, informs this writer that the institution is in possession of one of the Sower Bibles, printed in Germantown in 1743, and also a Bible printed at Ephrata, and also exhibits the original printing press upon which the Ephrata Bibles were printed.

Conrad Sheetz in 1748 purchased a fulling mill and 100 acres of land on Mill Creek, Lower Merion, (later the Dove Paper Mill) from David Davis, where he erected a paper mill. To finance the erection and purchase of machinery he borrowed, in 1749, from William Allen, 100 pounds sterling.

On February 7th, 1752 to increase his production of paper, he again borrowed from Benjamin Franklin and David Hall, printers, another 100 pounds sterling. The property then contained 100 acres, a paper mill and other improvements. The deed states that the paper mill had been lately erected in Upper Merion.

The printing firm evidently invested the money in the paper mill to secure paper. Franklin and Hall obtained paper from the Sheetz mill the following year, as on July 23rd, 1753, Franklin wrote to his son, from Boston: "I hope the Co. Ream paper, law size No. 2, which I ordered from Schutz (Conrad Sheetz) to make for Mr. Hollemok, here, is come from the mill before this time. Send it per first vessel to that gentleman."

Franklin and Hall, for those times, were large book publishers, and in the 1750's they received the

contract for printing the Colonial paper money. This was printed on the paper containing mica or isinglas, to prevent counterfeiting. Tradition states that the paper used was made in the Conrad Sheetz paper mill, and the above facts would seem to prove the statement. Conrad Sheetz died in 1771 and there is no record of the loan having been paid.

Franklin wrote from London, on October 7th, 1772, "I am surprised that Sheetz has paid nothing of what I furnished when here. I am afraid I do not grow wiser as I grow older."

On January 20th, 1773, Richard Bache, Franklin's attorney, wrote to him, "Fears he will have to sue Sheetz' estate for the amount of Franklin's note."

L. H. Weeks, in his "History of Paper Manufacturing in the United States," says: "Franklin patronized those in Pennsylvania, in every way that he could, as a private individual and as a public official. De Warville, in his account of travels in the United States, relates that Franklin told him that he had been instrumental in starting eighteen paper mills."

Referring again to the Old Rittenhouse Paper Mill (our No. 7), on Paper Mill Run in Roxborough Township and the dwelling which still stands there, where David Rittenhouse was born in 1732; there is today an exhibition of these buildings at the new Franklin Institute, on the Parkway at 20th street. In the reproduction there is the old paper mill, Paper Mill Run, the mill race, trees, etc. A motor inside the little mill propels the over-shot wheel.

This remarkable exhibition has just been completed by H. C. Hammes, of Roxborough, who also created a model of the old Thomas Livezey buildings, along the Wissahickon, where Mill No. 14 was located.

On the same floor of the Franklin Institute there is a miniature Fourdriner paper manufacturing machine, where paper is made, passing from pulp to finished paper, and those in charge pass out samples of the product of the machine.

At Franklin Institute there is also on display, some of the original Rittenhouse paper, showing the clover leaf watermark on 1729, and also samples of the Colonial paper money printed by Benjamin Franklin, on paper made at the Conrad Sheetz mill.

John Barges' Mill (No. 21) which later became Megarge's Upper paper Mill, at Thomas Mill Road, also has some addition angles which should be discussed.

John Barge died in 1755 and was buried in the churchyard of St. Thomas' Church, along the Bethlehem pike at Church Road.

On his tombstone is the following inscription:

"Life is a cheat
And always shows it,
I thought so, once,
And now I know it."

Dr. Mary P. H. Hough, of Am-

bler, writes: "I have nearly finished the history of nine mills which once existed in the present locality of the Borough of Ambler. Two were on the boundary line. One of them was converted into a silk mill, a history of which I have. When I complete the work, I will be glad to give it to you."

There were so many mills, along the Wissahickon, in this part of Upper Dublin, due probably to the great number of springs furnishing large volumes of water, that it is difficult to tell the exact location of each, and so hope the Doctor's history will provide the desired information.

Of the Gorgas Mills (Nos. 12 and 13), on the Wissahickon at Gorgas lane, we have just seen the mortgages that give us a better idea as to where the mill was erected. A John Gorgas deed, of 1752, mentions a fulling mill and an oyl mill; a mortgage of 1754 records a fulling mill, oyl mill and a grist mill; so that the grist mill (No. 12) was built in that year.

In next week's issue of The Suburban Press, we hope to continue our story of the Wissahickon Mills.

Retracing our steps to Mill No. 38, which was at various times known as the grist manufactory of William Harmer, Daniel Morris and Joseph Detwiler, we find that it was erected before 1731 along the Wissahickon Creek near the present southwest corner of Butler Pike and Morris Road, in Ambler, Upper Dublin Township of Montgomery County.

William Harmer built the mill on the Richard Whitpain tract which included the present townships of Whitpain, Upper Dublin and Whitemarsh.

A deed, of 1693, states that the Susquehanna road passed through the plantation, but it could only have been an Indian trail at that time, as there was no such regular road then in existence.

A later deed mentions the same thoroughfare as "the road to North Wales," so the way must have been part of what is now the Bethlehem Pike.

The tract was named "Whitpain Creek Land," and included the Wissahickon, Rose Valley Run and Pine Run. Eight mills (our numbers 37 to 43) were later located on this parcel of land. All early maps and deeds before 1700 give the name of the Wissahickon Creek, as "Whitpain Creek," it being called after Richard Whitpain, who was a close friend of William Penn.

Whitpain's first house, on Front below Walnut street, in Philadelphia, is mentioned in a letter written in 1687 by William Penn to Robert Turner, owning the Sumac Park area of the Wissahickon, near the stream's mouth, as follows: "Taking into consideration the great expenses of Richard Whitpain to the advancement of the Province, and the share taketh here (in England) on all occasions for

its honour, I can do no less than recommend to you for public service (meetings of the Pennsylvania Assembly) his great house in Philadelphia, which being too big for a private man, would provide you a convenience above what my cottage affords."

In 1714 John Whitpain conveyed to William Harmer, 202 acres mostly in Upper Dublin, but partly in Whitpain and Whitemarsh Townships. Harmer died in 1831 and before that date he had greatly improved the 100 acres of the aforementioned tract by erecting a dwelling, water corn mill, or grist mill, bolting mill, fulling mill, mill ponds, mill dams, etc. With all of these improvements it is only reasonable to suppose that at least one of the mills was built before 1731.

In 1733 his executors and trustees sold the 100 acres and mills for 400 pounds sterling, to Morris Morris, of Abington Township. In 1734 Morris also purchased from the Harmer estate 308 acres of land adjoining, in the plantation known as "Whitpain Creek Land," now the township of that name.

We believe the fulling mill mentioned above was our Mill No. 41, that in 1769 to 1783 was owned by Arthur Broade, and one of the other mills may have been the Wise Mill (No. 39). In 1734 Morris sold a quarter interest in the 408 acres and mills to John Dillwin. In 1746 he made a verbal gift of one-half of the same to his eldest son, Samuel Morris, who owned Mill No. 32, at the Skippack and Bethlehem Pikes, in Whitemarsh, and one quarter interest in mills and land to his youngest son, Daniel Morris.

In 1739, a petition was made and granted by the Court to log out a road from Garret Clements grist mill in Salford Township to Samuel Morris' mill (No. 38) in Upper Dublin.

Samuel Morris sold his half interest in the estate for 1000 pounds sterling to his brother Daniel, and John Dillwin also his quarter interest, so that upon Daniel's death, in 1756, he owned the entire 408 acres and the mills thereon.

Daniel's widow, Tacy, and his brother, Samuel, were instructed to dispose of the estate, and in 1759, with grist mill No. 38 was sold on a mortgage to John Stevens, and eighty-two and one-half acres, in Upper Dublin, and grist mill No. 39, were sold to Winkle Wideman. The fulling mill (No. 41) we will discuss later.

In 1771 John Stevens sold the grist mill and bolting mill to Joseph Morris, a grandson of Anthony Morris, Jr., of Philadelphia.

Anthony Morris, Jr., a Philadelphia brewer, in 1725 owned a grist mill in Moreland Township.

James Morris (1751-1795), a son of Joseph, lived in the ancient dwelling near the grist mill. He married, at the Gwynedd Meeting, 10th month, 1st, 1772, Elizabeth, the daughter of Abraham Dawes, Jr., who owned the adjoining plantation, "Dawesfield," where General George Washington had his headquarters in October of

WILLIAM HARMER'S EARLY GRIST MILL



One of the Wissahickon Valley mills, which was erected before 1731 and demolished in 1887. It was built on land granted to Richard Whitpain, whose name was first given to the stream now familiar as the Wissahickon. The old mill was located at what is now Morris road and Butler pike, Ambler, Pa.

1777.

An interesting story is told of the first meeting of James Morris and his future wife.

"One day, whilst riding along the Morris road, James Morris was met by a lady coming from the opposite direction on horseback, who tried in vain to prevent her horse turning around to go in the opposite direction James Morris was going. Blushingly she apologized for the conduct of her horse, and after explaining that it was its habit to go the same way as any other horse it might meet, she asked him to oblige her by escorting her as far as her father's house. The young man gladly and gallantly complied with her request and the acquaintance with Miss Dawes thus accidentally formed, ripened into a friendship which speedily resulted in their marriage in 1772."

The couple lived in the old mansion until 1775 or 76, when they removed to Dawesfield. James Morris was a lieutenant in the Pennsylvania Regiments in 1777, captain of Montgomery County Light Horse in 1782; presiding Judge of the Court in 1785, and a Brigadier General of Militia in 1793.

In 1775 Joseph Morris sold to Joseph Detwiler for 2000 pounds sterling the 84 3-4 acres, dwelling, water corn or grist mill, and mill plantation, etc.

Samuel Morris had died in 1773 and in his will left a bequest and half acre of land to establish a school near his mill (No. 32) at Skippack and Bethlehem Pikes. Of the trustees appointed to manage the school three were owners of the mill; Henry Sheets, Jacob Edge and Joseph Lukens.

The Detwiler family owned the grist mill for several generations. It was demolished in 1887, but the

family resided in the old homestead until quite recently.

As time passes additional information concerning the Wissahickon Mills, which we have already discussed, comes to hand. So such facts as have come to us, we are adding here.

Mill No. 20: The William Dewees Paper Mill, later Megarge's lower mill, at Wise's Mill Lane. On January 26th 1739, William Dewees, Jr., wrote to Benjamin Franklin, "I sent you last week a quantity of paper, and now send you by some bearer, more, to be placed to your credit."

On account of the great shortage in paper Franklin, in 1747, tried to buy from Spanish mills. In 1754 paper, it seems, became more plentiful, as William Daniell, of Kingston, Jamaica, wrote Franklin, "acknowledging the receipt of 10 reams of paper, and asking for 50 more, as he is really in much want."

Mrs. Boyd Nixon, who is interested in collecting historical data for the State of Pennsylvania library, at Harrisburg, has introduced the writer to Barry Hepburn, a Philadelphia attorney. He has a collection of over 800 letters and papers, written by Admiral Barry, and other Revolutionary heroes and Philadelphia merchants. These letters show at least 400 early paper water-marks, on American made paper of the Colonial period. Mr. Davis, of the Franklin Institute, on the Parkway at 20th street, has agreed to exhibit the choicest examples in the room where the paper making machinery is located.

Of Mr. Hepburn's 800 specimens, about half are early American, the balance English, Dutch and Spanish.

The American papers contain the

watermarks on papers produced in the Rittenhouse, Wilcox, Katz, Brandywine, Delaware, Levis, Matthews, Turkey, Butler and other early paper mills.

One of the Gilpin, Brandywine water-marks is that of a plow, marked "work and grow rich." The most interesting one, to this writer at least, is that of the early German paper maker, Henry Katz. The design is a tulip plant in full bloom, growing out of a very ornate urn. The paper is dated 1780.

Before the Revolution Henry Katz and Jacob Hagy owned adjoining paper mills on the little stream running into the Schuylkill river near the present site of the Hamilton Paper Mills, at Miquon, in Whitmarsh Township.

We are indeed sorry that these very interesting mills are not in the Wissahickon Valley, so that we could include them in this series of stories of the early industrial plants.

WRITING HISTORY

It may be interesting to readers of these Wissahickon Mill stories, to know that James F. Magee, Jr., the author of the tales, who has expended much time and effort in the research and compilation of the articles, is preparing a complete set of the various chapters of the narrative, which have appeared first in THE SUBURBAN PRESS, to be added to the history of the State of Pennsylvania and placed in the library at Harrisburg.

THE EDITOR.

This week's article on the Wissahickon mills of olden times, concerns Mills No. 37 and 37-A, known at different times as the John Burk (1744) Edge-Paul (1749), Jacob Reiff (1785), Joseph Lukens, (1838), and Flues' Silk Mill 1864).

It was at first a grist mill, erected upon a little parcel of thirty acres of land in Upper Dublin township, into which the Wissahickon Creek enters, passing the Whitmarsh township line near the present town of Ambler just below our Mill No. 38.

In 1688, Zachariah Whitpain, the son of Richard Whitpain, of London, who owned the great house at Front and Walnut streets in Philadelphia, possessed several thousand acres here in what is now Montgomery County, and in 1688 he sold a tract to Nicholas Scull, who was the overseer for Edward Farmer's plantation, nearby. The deed states that the land was "on the Susquehanna Road, on the west side of Wesseheguen Creek". In 1698 Scull sold to Edward Burk, 3000 acres of the land, containing a house, for "four score pounds sterling."

In 1733 Edward Burk, "on account of the natural love and affection" he bore his son, John, sold the land and a dwelling to the said son, for five shillings, but at that time no mill is mentioned.

The first mention of the grist mill is made in 1744, when John

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Burk made a petition to the Court to open a road "past the mill he has lately erected."

In 1848, the heirs of John Burk sold the mill and thirty acres to Jacob Edge and James Paul. The latter was of the family that owned so many mills and forges in Pennsylvania.

In the same year Archibald McClean also sold to the partners 15 3-4 acres adjoining, in Whitemarsh Township. In 1755 James Paul sold to Jacob Edge 183 acres, adjoining on the south, and also his half interest in the other two lots and Mill No. 37. Paul and Edge were brothers-in-law, and both attended the Gwynedd Meeting.

On a tax list of 1774 Jacob Edge was taxed for a grist mill in Upper Dublin and 228 acres of land.

It is regrettable to have to state that the writer erred in stating, in a previous article, describing the Farmer Mill (No. 32) that Jacob Edge once owned that ancient industrial plant. The five paragraphs in the Mill No. 32 article, all should refer to Mill No. 37.

The Farmer Mill story should have read "Joshua Morris sold the mill to his son-in-law, Isaac Mather."

Spencer Bonsall's map of the Battle of Germantown, drawn September 1877, one hundred years after the conflict, marks the mill at Skippack and Bethlehem pikes, as "Daniel Morris and Jacob Edge's Mills." We have since learned that neither one of them were owned this particular mill. This is how the error happened and these added facts are given in explanation.

Rev. Francis Heyl, in "The Battle of Germantown" states, "Here they remained until evening and at 7 o'clock took up their line of march down the Skippack road past Edge's Mill to the Bethlehem turnpike."

Now, Edge's Mill was on the Morris Road, near Bethlehem pike, over a mile above the Skippack road, so if the army did pass by Edge's Mill, it must have come down Morris road, and not the Skippack road.

From 1755 until 1784, Jacob Edge was the sole owner and after his death, which occurred in the latter year, his heirs, in 1785, sold the property to Jacob Detwiler, Sr., who owned Mill No. 38, and Jacob Reiff, Jr. This latter individual was the son-in-law of Detwiler, and brother of Mary Reiff, who married, first, Joseph Wise, of Mill No. 39, and, second, Joseph Lukens, of this No. 37 mill. In 1813, Reiff also purchased Mill No. 39.

The inventory of Edge's estate mentions five spinning wheels, one for the widow and one for each of the four daughters. There were no sons.

In 1790, Joseph Detwiler, Jr., sold his half of Mill No. 37 and the land, to Reiff.

Some time between 1790 and 1838 the old stone mill (No. 37) is said to have "gone to decay", and a new grist mill (No. 37-A) was erected farther down the Wissahickon, in Whitemarsh Township, on the land that Edge and Paul had purchased in 1748.

In 1833 Detwiler and Reiff had a

dispute regarding Reiff's mill dam being so high that the water from Detwiler's tailrace did not flow properly. Arbitrators were appointed and a friendly settlement made.

In 1838, Reiff sold to Joseph Lukens the 30 acres in Upper Dublin (upon which was the grist mill, now gone to decay) and two lots of land in Whitemarsh, upon which the new mill (No. 37-A) had been erected. One of the clauses in the deed says that Lukens was allowed to use the stone of the old mill to repair his dam if so desired.

The consideration paid was \$18,100, which included a mansion house, merchant grist mill, and saw mill, 89 acres in Upper Dublin and Whitemarsh, but all the buildings were in the latter township.

Joseph Lukens and wife, Mary, lived in the mansion house very happily for many years. No one could have been kinder to the six wise children, that his wife brought with her from her first marriage, than Lukens. They were treated exactly as though they were his own.

On January 14th, 1863, Joseph Lukens and wife, Mary, sold Mill No. 37-A, a merchant grist mill and a saw mill, to Amos Heller for \$10,000 subject to a mortgage of \$8,000. It was on a public road joining land of Jacob Wentz, and the Wissahickon Creek passed through the property for more than 1750 feet.

In 1864 Amos Hellen sold the mill and 89 acres to Eberhard Flues, of New York City, and here the latter established a silk mill.

When Dr. Mary P. H. Hough, of Ambler, publishes her history of the Flues Silk Mill, we will thus receive facts that will bring the tale of this mill up to date.

In running through a book, looking for old paper mill water marks, the writer came into possession of some interesting facts concerning Admiral John Barry, the father of the American Navy.

Admiral Barry's statue stands in Independence Square, Philadelphia. After the Revolution, in 1787, he was in command of the merchant sailing ship "Asia", owned by Willing and Morris, which plied between Philadelphia and Canton, China.

The letter book is one of 100 pages and gives the record of voyages and business transactions. It belongs to Barry Hepburn, a Philadelphia attorney. Mr. Hepburn was surprised to find that 50 pages of the book contains English watermarks, and the other 50 pages of the same grade of paper carried American watermarks, of T. M. W. with the dove carrying a sprig of ivy in its bill. This paper was from the Dove-Ivy paper mills of Thomas and Mark Willcox (1729) at Concord, on the Chester Creek, in Delaware County.

When Thomas Amies, former superintendent of the Willcox mills purchased the old Conrad Sheetz (1749) paper mill, on Mill Creek, in Lower Merion Township, he also took the name of the Dove Mills, and the Willcox's watermarks of the dove. We have many watermarks of the Amies Dove Mills.

Benjamin Franklin, printer and patron of the paper-makers, if quoted correctly, gave support to eighteen paper mills, mostly in Pennsylvania. We know that in 1752 he made a loan to Conrad Sheetz, and now learn that even earlier he made a loan of 100 pounds sterling to the owner of a little paper mill, in Berks County, which in 1749 was a part of Philadelphia County.

In March 1749-50, Daniel Womelsoof, paper-maker, of Amity Township, secured 100 pounds sterling on a mortgage from Benjamin Franklin, printer of Philadelphia. Womelsoof must have built the paper mill between 1736 and 1749, as on the first date he purchased 200 acres of land upon which the mills were erected, from Edward Reese.

In 1736, on a deed, his name is spelled "Womeldorf", occupation a smith. As Amity township was rich in iron ore, he more than likely worked in a forge.

The Hollander paper maker was honest, as he repaid the mortgage and interest in full, in 1752.

If Franklin made loans to paper-makers in Massachusetts, New Jersey, or Delaware, they would be recorded in those states, but if he made other loans in the old county of Philadelphia, which took in nearly all of southeast Pennsylvania, we will very doubtless find them.

Judge Andrew Robeson 2nd, who owned Mills No. 1 to 3, at the mouth of the Wissahickon, in 1714 purchased 1500 acres of iron land, near, or in Amity and Robeson Township. Robeson died in 1719 and was buried in the churchyard of the Swedish Church of St. Gabriel, in Berks County.

It may be of interest to readers of these Wissahickon Mill articles to know that complete collections of the various stories, as printed in The Suburban Press, can now be found in the following libraries: Historical Society of Pennsylvania, 13th and Locust streets; Montgomery County Historical Society, Norristown; Germantown Historical Society, Germantown; State of Pennsylvania Library, Capitol, Harrisburg, Pa.; Free Library of Philadelphia, 20th street and the Parkway; Manayunk Branch, on Green lane; Falls of Schuylkill Branch, Midvale avenue and Warden Drive; and the William B. Stephens Memorial Library, Krams avenue, Manayunk.

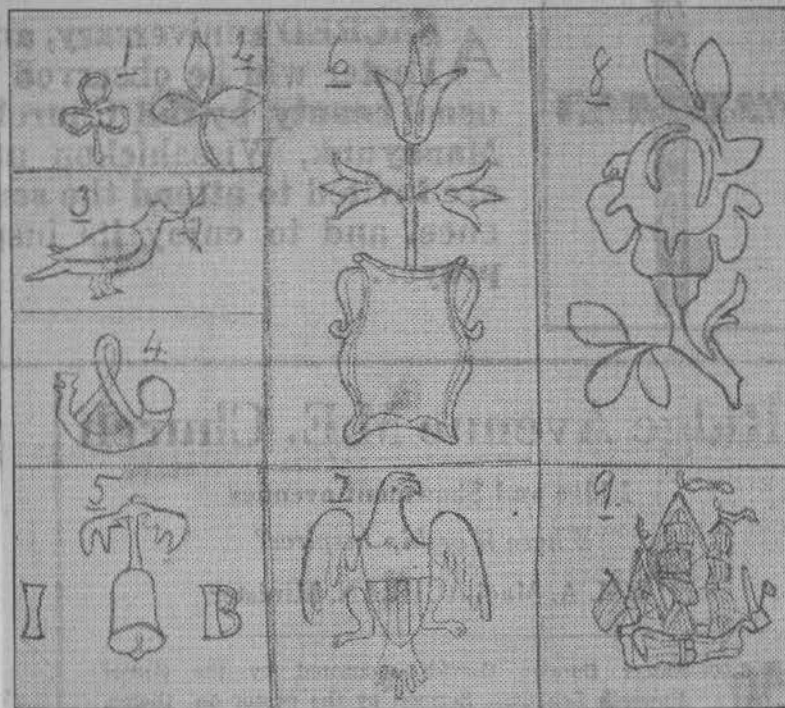
Not having had time enough to collect all of the facts concerning the next of the old Wissahickon mills, through the past week, we ask our readers to forgive us if we digress for this issue of The Suburban Press, to write of some of the early water-marks on American made paper.

The illustration of these strange trade-marks, which accompanies this article, was made from a tracing made from one of those in the collection of Barry Hepburn, and this writer.

Water-marks are impressed in the paper by means of a fine light wire, with a wire-woven pattern.

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OLD PAPER WATERMARKS



Trade emblems of early American papermakers, which are described in an accompanying article on the subject.

This is placed over the wire gauze upon which the pulp is spread when the paper is being made.

Today, watermarks are registered in the U. S. Patent Office, but in older times several paper mills often used the same design.

In the illustration, those marked No. 1 and 2 are the clover leaf design used by the Rittenhouse paper mills on Paper Mill Run, in old Roxborough Township. No. 1 is the handwork of Nicholas Rittenhouse, the son of William Rittenhouse, who erected the first paper mill in America, in 1690. It is in paper written upon in 1729. The same device occurs in an invoice written by Benjamin Franklin, stating the amount of paper (329 reams) he had purchased from June 1740 until March 1741. The grades purchased were large printing, small printing and large coarse.

No. 2 is in a receipt, dated 1730, from the Rittenhouse mill, which was the third, built about 350 feet below the mills of 1690 and 1702.

The clover leaf is also the emblem of the town seal of Germantown.

Benjamin Franklin, in 1737, purchased paper from the William Dewees, Sr., paper mill (No. 26) along the Wissahickon where Mt. St. Joseph's College is now located. The receipt reads: "Philadelphia, October 17, 1727. Received of Benjamin Franklin, on account of Mr. William Dewees, the sum of 40 shillings. (signed) Henry Anty."

Until 1738 Henry Anty was the partner of Dewees. The receipt is on a piece of coarse white paper, without the lines of the wire gauze showing, and contains the watermark of the Dewees mill, two sin-

gle line circles arranged horizontally, with a line connecting them on top. It looks like a pair of eye-glasses.

Watermark No. 3, is that of the Willcox Ivy, or Dove Mill, built by Thomas Willcox in 1729, on a branch of the Chester Creek, in Concord Township, Delaware County, Pa. The dove holding the sprig of ivy in its bill is in one sheet, and in the other is "TMW", referring to Thomas Willcox and his son, Mark.

The paper containing the dove emblem is dated 1779, an invoice made out to the owners of the schooner "Hawke". It mentions ten quires of cartridge paper, two hundred weight of grapt shot, one St. George and one Spanish jack plug.

The bill was paid by Mr. Richard Somers, who was a colonel in the militia during the Revolution. He fitted out, with others, at least ten privateers, from Philadelphia and Egg Harbor, N. J. They captured British vessels on the high seas, and divided the profits among the owners. Their cargoes consisted mostly of extra sails, rigging, rudders, powder, cannon balls, pork, bread and great quantities of liquor and rum.

Before the Revolution, Franklin sold to Captain Sibbold, for the great cannon, 123 pounds of double cartridge paper and seven quires of single.

Another Dove watermark "MW" (Mark Willcox, the son of Thomas, who died in 1779) is dated 1731. This is another statement of Somers' privateering, and shows a nice profit made by the schooners "Rattlesnake", and "Benj. Franklin".

In 1760 the British placed a

heavy stamp tax on Colonial paper, so in avoiding this tax the Pennsylvania papermakers "bootlegged" English watermarks, which they used in their American-made papers. This accounts for so much of the American made paper of that time, containing English watermarks.

Watermark No. 4 is the posthorn, marked "PB" (Peter Bechtel) Bechtel's mill, it will be recalled, was our paper mill No. 15, on the Cresheim Creek, in Germantown. This was the lower paper mill, that in 1715 had been the oil mill of Henry Sellen. Bechtel owned the mill from 1801 until his death in 1838. Our tracing is from a document, dated 1805, affirming that a cargo about to be shipped from Philadelphia to Canton, China, is the property of Taylor and Newbold.

The ruins of the great dam, and the stack of the old Bechtel mill, are still standing.

No. 5 shows the letters "IB", with a Liberty Bell between them. This watermark is in a letter dated July 26th, 1776, and states that C. Roope, of Great Egg Harbor, Gloucester County, has sold to Job Somers, for 72 pounds sterling, an eighth interest in the good sloop "Guenetz" of 65 tons.

In old deeds the letter "I" is often used for a "J", so the paper may have been made by James Eeles, of Milton, Mass. His first two mills were destroyed but his third was in operation from 1771 until 1782, when it was again burned.

In the collection there are watermarks of liberty bells, from the mills of Samuel and William Levis, 1783, whose manufactories were located in Ridley Creek, Chester County, Pa.

No. 6 is a tracing of the tulip plant and urn. It is marked "HK", 1780. Henry Katz was the well-known German paper maker of Whitmarsh Township, who in 1760 purchased from Nicholas Hoesenback, the first printer of Chestnut Hill, the paper mill that the latter had erected in 1756.

In July of 1776, Henry Katz was chairman of a committee of Pennsylvania paper makers who sent a petition to the Committee of Safety, "That if all the papermakers, masters, apprentices, and journeymen should now leave the trade and follow the camp, then all and every paper mill in Philadelphia County making the majority of paper mills on this continent, must immediately be shut up, of of course, in a few weeks, the printing officers, even cartridge paper, would soon fail." Shortly after this Congress ordered the papermakers to leave the army and return to the paper mills.

The paper of 1780, containing the Katz watermark, is an inventory of the cost in Continental money of fitting out the American sloop of war "Hornet." William Moore, commander. Here are the values of some of the equipment: 20 dozen cartridges, \$300; liquor for the people \$306; one bag of bread, \$300; 15 gallons of rum \$1756; one square sail, \$350; one barrel of pork \$600; and 127 bar-

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rels of tar \$12,000.

The total expense of equipping the "Hornet" was \$110,000.

On February 6th, 1777 the Continental Congress, Marine Committee, John Hancock, appointed Robert Robinson an officer on board the sloop, "Hornet."

W. Moran, December 6th, 1777, wrote from Dunkirk, Scotland, to Benj. Franklin. He sailed from Philadelphia as a first lieutenant of board the "Hornet", a Continental sloop, and was captured, and imprisoned by the English. He escaped from prison and straightway appealed to Franklin for aid.

On August 10th, 1778, J. Leveux, from Calais, wrote to Franklin, informing him that Edward Leger, lieutenant on the "Hornet", escaped from an English prison. The writer of the note paid the Lieutenant's expenses to Paris, and begged that Franklin give him aid.

Watermark No. 7 is an eagle "PW", Peter Wallover, 1807. Wallover was a papermaker of Lower Merion Township. In 1802, Paul Jones sold to George Helmbold, a paper mill in the "Tenure of Peter Wallover" and 19 acres of land in Gulley Run, near the present West Manayunk. This mill was just above the grist and saw mill (1752) of Anthony Levering, at the mouth of Gulley run. This mill later became the Ashland Paper Mills, which manufactured paper for the Philadelphia Record, when owned by William Singerley. Still later the plant was known as Rudolph, Heft and Dixon's. A mortgage of 1758, calls the Run, "Gellie Run". This was evidently the Welsh name of the stream.

In 1807, Blair McClenachan sold to Peter Wallover, a paper mill on Mill Creek, Lower Merion. This mill had been the property of the confiscated estate of John Roberts, the Tory miller who was executed in Philadelphia, in November of 1778. At that time it was agreed that the buyer should pay to the University of Pennsylvania, for educational purposes, 68 bushels of wheat every six months forever.

The sheet of paper, containing the eagle watermark was made either in the Gulley Run Mill, or the Mill Creek mill.

We are indebted to Charles K. Barker, who penned for the Penn Magazine, in 1925, "Old Mills of Mill Creek, Lower Merion", for information relative to these two mills.

The eagle was a very popular emblem among the Pennsylvania papermakers just after the Revolution. In the collections are many eagles from the Delaware (1801) and William Levis mill (1802) on Ridley Creek.

A letter, containing the eagle, of 1807, was written by William Montgomery, of Philadelphia, to Captain Hays, of the brig, "Superior", instructing him upon reaching Havana to exchange ten bales of

Flemish linen for good coffee at not over 22 cents, or good quality of new crop sugar at 12 reals, or brown at 8½ reals.

Sketch No. 8, in the illustration, bears a rose watermark. It is dated 1789, by "B. P. and G. F." We do not know who these paper-makers were. It occurs in the paper upon which was printed "The Perpetual Law of Mass." The printer to the court was Captain Thomas Adams, owner of the Independent Chronicle of Boston. He was a second cousin to President John Adams.

Joseph Hergesheimer in "The Foolscap Rose" now appearing in the Saturday Evening Post, tells a fascinating story of a paper mill in Chester. Being a paper journeyman and a mill owner, he mentions a rose watermark in this interesting romance.

A peculiar incident occurs in the book of Massachusetts Laws, 1789.

All of the nearly 500 pages contain the rose watermark, except two sheets. One of these has a picador mounted on a prancing steed, armed with a lance, and in the other is the watermark of a ferocious bull, head down, charging to the attack. This bull-fight emblem is evidently in paper from a Spanish mill.

Watermark No. 9 is that of a two-masted square rigged ship of the olden times. The letter "B" in the centre of the ship is more than likely the first letter of the name of he who made the paper, and the flag flying at the stern is more American than Spanish. It is found in paper, not dated, but written in Havana, about 1800. The specimen we have seen was a letter to Captain John Barry, who commanded the American Navy during the Revolution, and who died in 1803. His nephew wrote that he was leaving Havana in a few hours and that an embargo had held their good brig, "Sally" in port for twenty-four days.

With this diversion from our story, of the mills themselves, we hope to get back to the main narrative next week.

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The next Wissahickon Creek mill which we will talk about is that known as the James Morris (1777), Adam Wertsner, (1798) Albert Wertsner (1868) Grist mill, which we have designated Mill No. 40.

This mill as in Whitpain Township, on Pine Run, that rises about 2 1-2 miles southwest of Ambler. Pine Run, a tributary of the Wissahickon, flows into the larger stream opposite where Rose Valley Run also joins the storied creek, near Butler pike.

This mill stood on a small plot of 14 3-4 acres, on the Whitmarsh and Upper Dublin dividing line.

The little parcel of land was a part of the great tract of 4000 acres that William Penn granted to his friend, Richard Whitpain, of London.

Whitpain, be it remembered, died in London and his estate in Pennsylvania, consisting of the Great Mansion, 60 by 56 feet, near the banks of the Delaware, and a acreage of 4000 along Whitpain Creek, 100 acres of the Libert Lands, in Philadelphia, 2500 acres in Chester County, and 500 other acres "not yet laid out." Portions of the estate were possessed by his son, Zachariah, grandson, John Whitpain, John Blackal, a linen draper, and William Aubrey. Both of these latter were also of London.

About 1716 the entire estate, with the exception of the 500 acre tract was sold to Reese Thomas, a Welsh Quaker, of Merion, and Anthony Morris, Jr., of Philadelphia. Morris was the grandfather of Joseph Morris, who owned Wissahickon creek Mill No. 38. Reese Thomas married the daughter of William Aubrey, the executor of the will of Richard Whitpain.

In 1725 Thomas and Morris sold to Abraham Dawes, Sr., 350 acres of the Whitpain Creek plantation. In 1775 Abraham Dawes Jr., sold the tract to James Morris, his brother-in-law, who built this Mill No. 40, in 1777.

On this plantation was Dawesfield, the dwelling that Washington used as his Whitmarsh headquarters in 1777.

The Morris genealogy relates that the mill was partly constructed from wood taken from the trees that were cut down by the American troops in constructing fortifications and huts for use when the Army was encamped in the vicinity in 1777.

James Morris died in 1796, and in 1798 Elizabeth his widow, and their daughter, Hannah, sold to Adam Wertsner, for 1000 pounds sterling, the water grist mill and 14 3-4 acres of land.

The deed mentions the grist mill, dam, mill pond, and mill race over 1600 feet long.

The Morris estate placed certain restrictions on the property; the water gate from the mill race was to be kept in good order, and any excess of water required for running the mill, was to run over the meadows of the Morris property; a small notch was cut in a corner-stone in the west side of the mill and the water was never allowed to rise above that point.

Either Adam Wertsner, or his father, had been a soldier in the Hessian Army, and after the Revolution decided to remain in Whit-

pain and not return to the domain of the Electorate of Hesse.

Adam Wertsner was well educated and an experienced miller. He purchased several other parcels of land in Gwynedd and Upper Dublin; a second grist mill (No. 40-A) and a town house in Philadelphia, in 1795, at the southeast corner of 6th and Cherry streets.

He died in 1831, and left two grist mills; one on 17 acres (No. 40-A) to his son, Joseph; and the other (No. 40) to his son, George, in trust for his heirs. At the time of his death George Wertsner was residing on the mill property and conducting the business. This death occurred in 1867, and the mill and 14 3-4 acres were sold in the following year to Joseph Detwiler, of our Mill No. 38. In the same year (1868) Detwiler sold the mill for \$7000 to Albert G. Wertsner, the son of George, and grandson of Adam. The mill was demolished in 1887.

Last week, our friend, Barry Hepburn, Philadelphia attorney, saw a very interesting paper-mill water-mark, with a spouting whale, and another in which a mail carrier, mounted on a horse, was sounding his post-horn. The name of the papermaker was Andrew Rogge. The letter, on sheets in which both of the marks were shown, was dated in 1776 and written by Robert Morris, the financier of the Revolution.

This week we will discuss three more of the Colonial mills of the Wissahickon Valley. These are known as Harmer's Fulling Mill, (No. 41) and Harmer Grist Mill (No. 42), both erected before 1731, and also Haage's grist mill (No. 43).

The more one studies the history of once-called "Whitpain Creek land", of Upper Dublin and Whitpain Townships, through which the Wissahickon creek and its small branches pass it would appear that a mill of some description must have been erected on each bubbling spring in the locality.

We have still to account for five more mills in these two townships, owned by Conrad, Drescher, Thompson, Tyson and Mathers.

The fulling mill, No. 41, following the ancient Matthew Holgate fulling mill (No. 10) which was in Roxborough Township about 1700, is the second oldest cleaning, dyeing, yarn and cloth fixing mill in the Wissahickon Valley.

This mill of William Harmer's was on the same parcel of land that contained his other three mills. (Nos. 38, 39, and 42.)

John Whitpain, in 1714, sold one hundred acres of land to William Harmer. The latter died in 1731, and two years later his executor sold to Morris Morris 100 acres in Upper Dublin, containing a dwelling, water corn-mill, bolting mill, (flour) and a fulling mill. These mills were built by Harmer sometime between 1714 and his death, in 1731.

Before 1756 Daniel Morris, the son of Morris Morris, owned the hundred acres and the mills of 1731.

In 1759 Tacy Morris, the widow of Daniel Morris, sold to Arthur

Bradis (Brode or Broade) the fulling mill and 24 acres of land.

The mill was on the Rose Valley Run, which enters the Wissahickon near Butler pike and Morris road, where Wise's mill (No. 39) and Morris' mill (No. 38) were located.

The following year Bradis placed a mortgage for 100 pounds sterling upon his purchase, the deed stating that the property ran to the Gwynedd Township line, adjoining the lands of John Trump and Edward Burk, and that the race to the mill was 300 feet long.

The fulling mill was taxed as follows: 1769 Arthur Broades, 34 acres; 1774, 25 acres; 1783, 24 acres.

In 1787 the present Montgomery County was separated from Philadelphia County, so after this date it is necessary to go to Norristown to continue the search of the titles on the properties.

After the tax list of 1783, we have been unable to find any further record of the fulling mill.

Grist Mill (No. 42) was also one of William Harmer's industrial plants, built before 1731 on the 100 acre tract in Upper in Upper Dublin Township. The mill was on Rose Valley Run, as were also Mills 39 and 41. In 1755 it was jointly owned by Daniel Morris, his wife Tacy, and John Trump and his wife, Anna. John Trump was a mill-wright, of Upper Dublin, the son of Henry Michael Trump.

John Trump married for a second time before 1773, Debora, the widow of Jonathan Paul, who owned the Paul Grist Mill (No. 22) at Bell's Mill Road, on the Wissahickon. Through her second marriage to Joseph Wollen, Jr., she received as a dower a half interest in the ancient William Dewees mill (No. 26).

John Trump, and wife Debora, were both living at an advanced age in 1798 at Upper Dublin.

In 1755 Morris and Trump each sold their half interest in Mill No. 42 with 80 acres in the plantation to Lewis Stanert (Stewart). He is given under various names on the tax lists from 1769 to 1783 as owning the grist mill and 80 acres.

Lewis Stanert died in 1794, and he appointed his son, John, a school teacher living in Germantown, as executor of his estate.

In 1795 the executor sold to Andrew Gilkeson, an inn-keeper of Upper Dublin, the ancient grist mill and 80 acres of land for 2850 pounds sterling.

Andrew Gilkeson had a daughter, Edith, who married Jacob Wise, son of John Wise, who owned Mill No. 39.

Gilkeson's inn was at Gilkeson's Corner, which a branch of Rose Valley Run crosses Bethlehem pike, in Ambler. Andrew Gilkeson expired in 1814, but his will makes no mention of the grist mill.

Haage's Grist Mill (No. 43) is located on a may of 1852, as being on Rose Valley Run, when the main stream crosses the Bethlehem Pike, over half a mile above the Gilkeson Mill.

In 1815 Haage purchased from Louise Brooks, eight acres on the east side of North Wales Road, and on the west side of the run. Here he built a grist mill. He was of the Haage family (Hagy) which owned paper mills in Whitmarsh and

Lower Merion Townships.

George Haage died in 1824. In 1846 the mill was sold to Justus W. Acuff, who resold it two years later to Jacob S. Evans for \$6200.

Our wandering this week to the old mills of the Wissahickon takes us to near the source of the stream in Upper Gwynedd Township, above North Wales.

These mills were in the so-called Gwynedd Welsh Tract, where William Penn's friend, Robert Turner, one of the wealthiest and best known of the early settlers, owned over 100 acres of land. In 1703 Turner sold his plantation to Thomas Ap. Evans (of Mill No. 46) and William Ap John.

The two mills we will describe are grist mill No. 48 and the adjoining saw mill No. 49, both of which were on the Wissahickon.

The grist mill was built by George Howell between 1737 and 1750. Benjamin Rosenberg was the next owner of the mill and 18 1/2 acres of nearby land.

In 1762 Rosenberg sold the mill to Jacob Seifed, who in 1775 passed it on to Bernard Beaver.

By 1783 Beaver had added to his property, so that he owned 59 acres. A very long mill race carried the water to the mill.

Dr. Mary P. N. Hough, of Ambler as has been stated before, is writing the history of the Ambler mills. She states that she is preparing a map on which will be located the exact location of the mills and the mill races that supplied them with water for power. She says:

"The course is easily defined in some places, but uncertainties arise because one race in some cases supplied two or three mills, and in one case we think replaced the natural course of the water stream. The map will show the country as it was when the mills were all in operation."

Grist Mill No. 48, in the course of the later years, passed three times through the hands of the Sheriff of Montgomery County. In 1822 it was sold to Peter Garner for \$710 subject to the payment of the dower right to Susannah Beaver, the widow of Barnabas Beaver. The 19 acres is mentioned as containing a small grist mill. In 1827 Garner sold the mill and 18 acres for \$1500 to Henry Pruner, and in 1844 the property was purchased by Silas Garner, at a Sheriff's sale. It was later bought by Samuel Gross. In 1847, J. N. Baker was appointed by the Court as guardian to the minor children of Samuel Gross, and stated that the mill "is in a state of dilapidation and decay", so he was given the right to sell the same. The widow Elizabeth Gross bought the property for \$2200. In 1849 she disposed of one-half of the mill to Enos Stillwagon, who also rented the remainder of the interest in the mill. In 1852 the mill was once more sold, by the sheriff, to Henry Freedley.

In 1854 Levering Heist purchased the mill, paying \$2400 for the same. In 1884 the mill was in op-

eration and good repair.

Saw Mill No. 49 was built upon 25 acres, part of a tract of 136 acres that David Cummings sold in 1762 to Abraham Dannehower. The mill was not built however until after 1793, in which year Henry Dannehower, the son of Abraham, purchased the 25 acres.

In 1831 Henry Sr., sold the saw mill and tract to John S. Dannehower, the deed also mentioning log wagons, hook bars, and machinery

for the mill. A road leading from North Wales Meeting House to Philadelphia, passed through the land. In 1864 the saw mill was sold to George H. Hollman, for \$4500. The next owner was Henry S. Rosenberger, who in 1866 sold to Jonathan Lukens, a lumber merchant, who owned large holdings in that locality.

The deed mentions several privileges that the buyer is to enjoy, such as running his mill race and keeping the channel of the Wissahickon cleaned, that flowed through adjoining property. This plant afterward was owned by Allen Thomas and was called the West Point Steam Saw Mill. It was on the turnpike, northwest of West Point Avenue.

For this week's Wissahickon Valley mill article, we leave the early industrial plants of Gwynedd and Ambler, and return for the nonce to Fort Washington.

Arriving here we trek along the Wissahickon, and up its tributary, Sandy Run, through the Camp Hill property of the Fell-Van Rensselaer Family, where Mills 33 and 34 are located.

We walk along the mile-long mill race of Mill No. 34, past the one-time headquarters of General

Washington, and finally reach Fitzwatertown, which is in Upper Dublin Township, about three miles east of Fort Washington, to visit what we term Mill No. 36, from which we had to divert in our earlier narratives.

We have now arrived at "Mill-house", the attractive home of Dr. and Mrs. Leighton F. Appleman, which is shown in an accompanying illustration. The Appleman's purchased the ancient Fitzwater grist mill, on Sandy Run, in

1926. The roof and floors had fallen and in converting the building into a dwelling, they used the four original stone walls of the structure, so that the present exterior of their residence is the same as was that of the old mill.

Thomas Fitzwater, Sr., was the first of the family of that name to settle in Pennsylvania. He was born in Hanworth, in Middlesex, England, southwest of London. He, with his wife and several sons, sailed from Deal, on the "Welcome", with William Penn and 116 other passengers. Before reaching the capes of the Delaware, small pox broke out on the vessel, and thirty of the immigrants expired, among them Mrs. Fitzwater and two of the couple's children.

Fitzwater purchased from Penn

a large tract of land in what was then Bucks County, but is now Upper Dublin Township, of Montgomery County. He also purchased 100 acres of land in Philadelphia, on the Delaware river, and here, on Front street, he erected his dwelling.

John Fanning Watson, author of "Watson's Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania", says in his book, that the Orphan's Court met in Philadelphia "4th day, 1st month, 1693", and among those present were, the Governor, William Penn, and five justices, one of whom was Thomas Fitzwater. The latter died in 1699.

Thomas Fitzwater, Jr., inherited the Upper Dublin property, and what afterward became known as Fitzwatertown was named for this individual. In 1705 he petitioned the Court, asking that a road be laid out from his lime kilns to the Pennypack Mill, but this request was not complied with until 1725.

Dr. MacFarlane, in his "History of Early Chestnut Hill," states: "As early as 1693 there was a road from the lime quarry of Thomas Fitzwater in Upper Dublin to Haines street, Germantown. This was what is now Limekiln Pike."

Dr. Appleman, the present owner of the old Fitzwater mill, states that the remains of the old lime kilns are readily discernible on the farms adjoining the mill property.

Thomas Fitzwater, Jr., died in 1748, and was interred in the Fitzwater burial grounds, at Fitzwatertown.

The mill may have been erected prior to his death, but if it was not, then his son, John, who inherited the property, done so, shortly afterward. John Fitzwater was taxed from 1769 to 1783 for 300 acres of land and the grist mill. John was born in 1715 and expired in 1794. The property then passed to his son, Matthew, who operated the mill. Matthew Fitz-

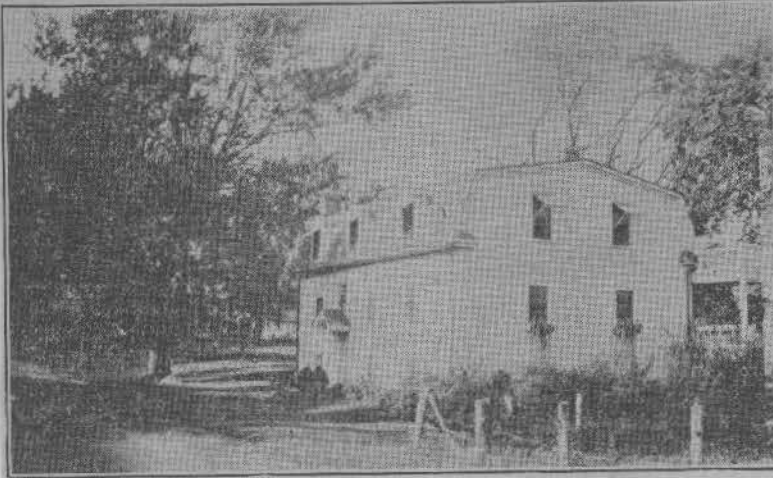
water enlisted in the 4th Battalion of the Pennsylvania Militia, and saw service at Trenton, Brandywine and Germantown.

Before 1826 the grist mill and 118 acres came into the possession of George Fitzwater, as in that year it was sold for \$9,000 to William Jarrett, after whose family Jarrettown was named.

The deed mentions "the right to raise the water in the mill race at the mill, to two certain marks on the mill wall, on the south side of the sluice which carries the water from the mill race on to the water-wheel, the one a cross marked on a stone in the wall, and the other an iron driven into the wall."

Jarrett died the following year, leaving five daughters. One of these, Mary, married Israel Hollowell, who operated the mill for the heirs. In 1852 they sold the mill and 75 acres to John Price, an Upper Dublin miller. Price subsequently sold the place to Catherine A. Price, wife of William W. Price for \$5,000. William Price, in 1869, sold the property to Samuel Conrad. After running the mill for 33

OLD WISSAHICKON VALLEY MILL



Old Fitzwater Mill, a Colonial grist-grinding plant, which has been converted into a dwelling and is now the attractive summer home of Dr. and Mrs. Leighton F. Appleman, along the upper reaches of the Wissahickon.

years Conrad became financially embarrassed and the sheriff disposed of the property to the Bucks County Trust Company, and in 1908, for \$2550, they passed it on to Charles L. Martin, who in the same year found a purchaser in the Urban and Suburban Real Estate Company.

Some time during these various transfers, the great overshot water wheel was disposed of, and the power supplied by a hydraulic wheel, such as is in use at Mount St. Joseph's College (Mill No. 26) and the University Arboretum, (Mill No. 27.)

In 1926, Edith W. Handshunk bought the dismantled mill and five and a fraction acres of land, and in the same year it was purchased from her, by the present owners, Dr. and Mrs. Leighton F. Appleman.

The Doctor showed the writer several photographs of the old mill and the four stone walls of the ancient building, which now constitutes the exterior of the dwelling.

The mill race can be traced through the property, although there is no water running through it today.

Miss Margaret R. Fitzwater, of Chestnut Hill, has agreed to send some additional historical facts concerning this mill which will be printed later.

Dr. and Mrs. Appleman are certainly to be congratulated for creating the attractive summer home and retaining the walls of the old mill, thus preserving this Colonial landmark of Montgomery County.

Just as The Suburban Press was about to go to press, we received a letter from Mrs. Appleman, containing the following additional notes:

"In 1810, the limeburners of the country formed themselves into an association. Alexander Crawford was president and John Fitzwater, the secretary."

"Fitzwatertown is situated in the

southern part of Upper Dublin Township, in Limekiln Pike, in the midst of the fertile valley of Sandy Run, abounding in limestone and iron ore. At one time it contained a store, hotel, wheelwright and blacksmithing shops, grist mills, and about 12 houses. The post office was established in 1858."

"The Fitzwater burying ground is on our farm—on the hillside. Most of the dates on the old stones are worn smooth, but I believe that each generation from the first is there."

"John Fitzwater, a descendant of this family, was an extensive lime burner and real estate owner. He died at Fitzwatertown, May 13th, 1857, in his 84th year and is buried in the family plot. He was the owner of a portion of the Emlen estate, on which is a large mansion, once used by George Washington as his headquarters, while the Army lay in the vicinity of Whitemarsh."

To the grist and saw mills which before 1769 were owned by Bastian Houpt, and in 1781 by George Dresher, we have given the designation—Mill No. 36—A.

These were two very successful country mills, situated in a good farming district, and through the nearly two hundred years of their history we find no reference to sheriff's sales, as prevailed in the causes of most of the other small plants.

After leaving the Fitzwater mill, which we discussed last week, we travel north on Limekiln Pike, which is mentioned in one deed as "the road to Jenkintown;" over the 300 foot high hills to the north of Sandy Run, and down the vale to the ancient Susquehanna road that passed from Germantown to North Wales.

Here we come to Dreshertown, where the ancient mills are nestled down snugly on a branch of the Sandy Run. To the west of the mills

an old cart road ran northward to the Horsham Meeting House, or as another deed names it, "the road to Oxford Church."

It must have been quite an engineering proposition for the first settler to go into a wilderness, dig a mill race almost a mile long! erect two small and one great dams, and conserve the water flowing from the bubbling springs, and erect two mills with their equipment.

In the Register of Wills office, at Norristown, we found a survey of the mill tract. Both the mills were one-story frame buildings; the saw mill was quite small, but the grist mill was long and on the front of it were two doors and five windows. The plants received their power from the same mill race. The great dam was on the branch of Sandy Run; one small dam on a tiny tributary which flowed from the west, and another small dam, on little more than a trickle called "Mine Run," running from the east into the mill race near the saw mill.

Every gallon of water in the locality was utilized to run the mills, but today the bubbling springs appear to have dried up and there is very little water in the streams so carefully marked out on the survey.

These mills were built by Bastian Houpt, in Upper Dublin Township, some time before 1769, as in that year Houpt was taxed for a grist mill and saw mill, as well as a plantation of 20 acres.

In 1774 Conrad Gerhart owned the mills and 2 acres of land, and also the mill race, including one perch on each side of the race that runs through the land of John Robeson. In the same year Henry Berger, of Gwynedd purchased the property. Subject to a mortgage for 375 pounds sterling, held by Bastian Houpt. In 1777 Jesse Trump, of Upper Dublin purchased the mills and in 1781 he sold the same to George Dresher. The settlement known as Dreshertown, and the road connecting the mills with Whitemarsh, were and are still called after George Dresher.

Dresher died in 1804, and the property went to his sons. In 1834 Abner Spencer and John Fitzwater purchased the place and in the same year sold the property to Levi Dresher. Levi died in 1834, and the mills and 14 1-2 acres were sold to Charles S. Conrad for \$3785. The following year Cornelius Conrad,

father of Charles S. Conrad, secured the mills. In 1858 Isaac Conrad paid \$5750 for the investment.

We are informed that the ancient mill buildings are modernized into an attractive home. In a later article we will try to describe the present condition of these old industrial plants.

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In telling the story of Wissahickon Mills Nos. 44, 44-A, and 45, this week, we return to the plantation of the bubblings springs, which in 1688 was called "the Whitpain creek lands". They included parts of Upper Dublin, Whitpain and Gwynedd Townships of Montgomery County.

Here, within a area of four miles there were on the Wissahickon and nearby streams, in the old days, more than fifteen mills. In several places one mill race supplied the water to run two or three mills.

In 1769 the water power derived from the many streams in what is now Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties created such a hive of industry that over 317 water mills were producing paper, flour, ground grain, oil, powder, fulling of wool and yarn, and also iron and steel implements from the forges.

We have compiled the list of these early mills from the tax list of 1769, so that the record must be authentic.

The mills of this present story—44, 44-A and 45, were in their order, Thompson's grist mill; Tyson's grist and saw mills, and Mathers grist and saw mills.

Mill No. 44 was the grist mill mentioned in the will of Adam Wertsner, the Hessian soldier who remained in Pennsylvania after the Revolution and became a very worthy and successful citizen.

Wertsner died in 1831 and left this mill and 17 acres of land to his son, Joseph, and Mill No. 40 to his younger son, George.

We gave the title to the land, in a previous article describing Mill No. 40, but when Anthony Morris and Reese Thomas purchased it in 1716 from the estate of Richard Whitpain, from the great land holdings of the latter, it appears that Zachariah Whitpain objected as one of the heirs, to the sale, and later was given one-third of the plantation. This Whitpain's widow, Sarah married Charles Saunders, a millwright, who with Andrew Robeson, in 1690-91 purchased from Robert Turner the 500 acre tract of Sumac Park, near the mouth of the Wissahickon, in Roxborough Township, where Mills No. 1 to 4 were erected. In 1775 Abraham Dawes sold his 350 acre Whitpain tract to James Morris. Sometime before 1800 Adam Wertsner purchased from the Morris heirs 17 acres of this piece of land, and erected the grist mill which was inherited by his son, Joseph. Before 1835, John Hoover, purchased the mill, as in that year he is recorded as having sold the same to Samuel B. Davis, a miller of Whitpain Township. In 1838 Davis sold the 17 acres and mill to Thomas Thompson, a miller from Upper Dublin, for \$4000. Certain dams and water-rights are mentioned in the deed. Thomas Thompson, Jr., was the owner of the mill before 1891, as in that year he died and left the grist mill and 17 acres to his son, John G. Thompson.

The Tyson grist and saw mills (No. 44-A) were in Gwynedd Township, on a small stream rising in the high hills near Upper Dublin, about a mile and a half north of Ambler, which flowed south and entered the Wissahickon in Whitpain Township.

This mill was on a tract that was a portion of the great plantation that William Penn granted to Robert Turner in 1681. In 1698-99 this particular piece of land was sold to Thomas Evans and others, of Mill No. 46.

In 1761 John Holman sold to Mathias Tyson, on a mortgage of 250 Pounds sterling, 56 acres of land, mostly in Gwynedd, but partly in Whitpain Township. Upon this land Tyson built a grist mill and a saw mill. The Mortgage states that Cornelius, the father of Mathias, who owned a mill on Stoney Creek in Norriton (now Norristown) was also bound by the deed. In 1767 the mortgage was increased to 422 pounds on account of the improvement which had been made.

In 1774 John Tyson owned the grist mill and 161 acres. In 1776 Jonathan Tyson was taxed for the mill and 123 acres.

The mills remained in the Tyson family for more than 100 years, as a map of 1871 locates the grist mill, on the same stream and owned by Dr. John L. Tyson, which died in 1898.

Mathers' grist and saw mill (No. 45) in Whitpain Township on the Wissahickon, was west of the Thompson mill. These (No. 45) were built in 1809 by Charles Mathers. The land was owned at first by Richard Whitpain, as part of his "Creek land."

John Whitpain sold in 1714 three hundred and eight acres to William Harmer, whose heirs in 1734 conveyed the plantation to Morris Morris. Daniel Morris, son of the latter, died in 1756 and in 1759 his widow, Tacy Morris, sold 90 acres of this tract to John Roberts. The son of this man, Job Roberts, inherited the place and in 1809 Job Roberts' son-in-law, Charles Mathers purchased the tract, but no mill is mentioned in the old deed.

Certain water rights are mentioned in this conveyance and "right of a mill race and three dams now erected on the other land of Job Roberts to bring the waters of the Wissahickon and one other small creek, through the hereby granted land for the purpose of driving such mill or mills as may hereafter be erected."

Mathers' grist mill was well built and equipped. It was also well managed and became one of the most noted mills in this section of the country. It remained in the Mathers family for several generations, being owned later, by Job Mathers, and then Job R. Mathers.

This week's Wissahickon Creek story is confined to two saw mills, which we have designated Mills Nos. 50 and 51.

These plants were quite small and not far from the source of the Wissahickon. Matthias Lukens' mill (No. 50) was on the Wissahickon east of North Wales and south and west of the present railroad in Gwynedd Township.

Before 1769 Lukens owned the

saw mill and an 80 acre plantation, and was also taxed for the same as late as 1774.

Before 1783 Joseph Shoemaker, calling himself a sawyer, owned the mill and 96 acres. Shoemaker died in 1823, and his son Jesse inherited the property. In 1830 Jesse Shoemaker sold the place to Emanuel Stittle, a blacksmith. It is said that about this time John Pennypacker sawed logs here. The mill was demolished many years ago.

Mill No. 51 was in Montgomery Township, Montgomery County, between Lansdale and Montgomery Square.

The only history of the mill that we can discover is that Cadwalader Roberts owned a saw mill and 50 acre plantation as related in the tax lists of 1769, 1774, and 1783.

This article completes the histories of more than fifty mills that existed at various times in the Wissahickon Valley. The series started in the Suburban Press in its June 22nd 1933 issue, nearly a year ago, and has appeared continuously in each issue since.

The writer expresses his thanks to the editor of The Suburban Press, A. C. Chadwick, Jr., for the encouragement and valued assistance he has rendered the author in compiling the narrative.

Before closing we beg to mention several mills in the valley that we have not been able to locate.

In 1783 George Bisbing owned in Whitpain Township, an old mill, located on a plantation of 200 acres. Bisbing died in 1808, but the mill is not mentioned in the inventory of his estate.

In 1762 Matthias Tyson sold to Valentine Shearer, a water grist mill and 50 acres in Whitpain Township. In 1769 and 1774 Shearer was taxed for the grist mill. He died in 1808, but further trace of the mill cannot be found.

In reference to the Scheetz grist mill (No. 31) we would make a

correction. This mill was in White-marsh Township, about a half mile above Flourtown, and west of the Bethlehem pike.

Moses Hall built a grist mill here, on a plot consisting of 79 acres of land, before 1771. In that year he sold the same to Robert Wain. It remained in the family for many years and in 1812 one of the heirs, Ann Morgan, sold the mill and land to General Henry Scheetz, (son of Henry Scheetz, Sr. who owned before his death, Mills Nos. 34 and 35) and Daniel Hitner the same year Hitner sold his half interest to General Scheetz.

The mill then passed through the ownership of Jonathan Wentz, John Shafer, Isaac Yeakle, Jacob Day, Joseph B. Comly, William Ambler, and in 1895 was owned by Chalkley Ambler.

The ruins and foundation of the mill still remain, showing that at one time it was a large industrial flour and grist mill.

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Mr. A. C. Chadwick.

My dear Mr. Chadwick:

Enclosed please find another copy of Colony Cook's
to send Strutz, although he already has a copy in my Robinson
article I sent him.

John Lower Merion T. article has a lot of meat
in it. Penn purchase from the Indians is new to
me and very interesting.

If you have not yet published his purchase from
the Indians of land between Rewis Manacunk and
Perrin purchase so far as the belt called Conshohocken the
etc. please do not do so as I am finding it in
my next article of the 5 Rittenham Mills.

Please answer about the "Reverend" then tell I lay
Pepe Bridge. W. M. M. 10-22-31, if you copy please
send me one.

You sent me an article on Capt John Towers, which
interested me greatly, it refers to his two mill sites
on Bully Run, also Helmbold's paper mill, Lutz paper
Paper mill and Severing just S.W. at mouth of Bully Run.

Bully Run starts in a spring house in a 303 acre
farm that my grandfather bought in 1851 and
80 acres of the same one still owned by us.

We publish a small monthly of the district
Penn Valley News, and our Pres Mr Fuller (V. P.
Curtis Publishing Co) has asked me to make up an

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article regarding the mills on Bully Run that places
into the Schupill at W. Maney into. On an old map of
1852 I also find the Ogles Mill on Bully Run.

Can you tell me when I can look up matter
relating to Bully Run Mills. Hope you can
give me some light on this, anything before
1887 in transfer of property made at City Hall
which I can look up, but after that date it
would be in Norristown.

Had a nice communication from the Sec. of the
Phila Canoe Club, sending thanks for article re-
garding their old property.

Best res.

James F. Muzee Jr.

After I finish and return to you, your scrap
book I will be delighted to have another.

Sunday I am going with a photographer to
take photo of the mill stone and Remickson site
of 1st Paper mill, if you want to go along
will be delighted. Will be at Phila Canoe
Club - out about 9.30 if clear.

COLONY CASTLE

Revelers gather within the walls,
 Of a structure old in years,
 Which once vibrated with toilsome sounds,
 And the crunch of meshing gears.
 For the waters, that pass its aged doors,
 Were harnessed to drive the wheels,
 For a miller, who ground the garnered grain,
 Or a wright with his tensiled steels.

An ancient heap of stones, 'tis true,
 But romantic tales are told,
 Of events, enacted inside its rooms,
 By men who were brave and bold.
 It served, one time, as a hiding place,
 For a crew of thieves, who planned
 To make the wealthy neighbors fear
 The Doane Boys outlaw band.

~~And sometime later the fishermen~~

And sometime later, the fishermen,
 Of the State in Schuylkill Club,
 Assembled under its fabled roof,
 And made the pile their hub.
 And epicures, 'round the festive board,
 Were wont to eat their fill

(2)

Of fish, and fowl, and viands rare,
In the old and vine-clad mill.

Though many years have run their course,
It stands as though 'twas new,
In use by water-loving youths
Who ply the light canoe.

Where Wissahickon's spring-fed stream,
Joins with the Schuylkill's flow,
Old Colony Castle conquers Time,
While mortals come and go.

A.C.C.

8-30-1933

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My dear Mr. Chadwick:

Please find beneath an account of the 1st Paper mill, to be followed later with an article describing the other ^{4 Rittenhouse} paper mills.

I am hurried too illudely to make to go with article on site of the first paper mill that I took Sunday week, and the other of five meter marks of early Rittenhouse paper, both of these will be the width of a single column.

I am in hopes that you can add the line cuts you used in "Lancaster Press" of April 7, 1932
Birth place of S. Curtis and David Rittenhouse

The one under each is OK for this article.

You will receive my two cuts by Saturday morning.

Thank you for enclosed Tills in book, I will return you scrap book a little later.

You certainly did me a favor in putting me in touch with Mr. Sickinger, he sent me three scrap books an even containing the most interesting matter.

I must have but did not know how to thank him for all the trouble he went to.

Can you send me from your files a copy of James Family came to this Station before the arrival of W. Penn in 1822. The artist is by Sickinger but not dated.

This article interested me greatly as our old form of
303^{ans} from this Arthur James, as per enclosed
article I wrote a few yrs ago which please return.

I am like my car else hard up and I do not want
to have this article typed unless I have too.

The other day I missed a taking, made some 4, next
week I will have my mother in law drive me out the
Ridge and take photo of 11 & 12 and any other stores
beyond. Can't you let me know when I
can take a photo of 6, you think you have located
you said.

Best regards
James F. Magee J.

Passim Hallen by your press was a peacti he
sent me an extra column.

9-29-33

My dear Mr. Chadwick!

Thank you for adding the three pictures to the Holgate. Keep as Mill article they will readily fit the level of the same.

Thanks for plan of Hager mill, and my great pleasure story in Kent Tel.

Enclosed please find Mill 12 & 13 article. I had hoped to send you two illustrations, but have been able to secure as yet the photo of mill 13 I expected.

So can afford you mill 12 to publish without picture.

I visited the ^{Bryce} McMoran station out ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~area~~ ^{area} and saw the great collection of slides and negatives they have there, a wonderful collection.

Best resp. J. F. Mayes

Thank you for the copies of S. Press.

⁴ I see in Meyers History of Vermont that Daniel
 Patten, Johann Gault and Hermit Peppercorn
 were appointed agents for the Friends of Lib.

Can you tell me anything about the Goddess
 of Liberty rock below the Pro Bono
 Fountain on the Maypole property, I suppose
 it was the marking on the rock looking
 like a Goddess of Liberty

The Mill stone marked 1733 with
 an arrow is very interesting

When the Ridenhous Red Rock Bridge
 Mill was torn down when Park Co
 was purchased it, the date stone was
 removed to Vermont Historical Society,
 photo of & took of some records.

Ridenhouse Mill built 1751, enlarged
 1787, rebuilt by H. Ridenhouse L.S.P.

I believe this arrow 1733 mill
 must have come from one of the
 other near by mills.

Here please find a short account
 of the former Massachusetts Mills.

No 1. Roberson the first Mill on the Massachusetts
River on a paper = 1689.

Jan 19, 1686 Robert Turner 50 1/2 acres to
Joshua Tittery, glass maker and Rich-
ard Townsend, wheelwright.

1689 John Tyack, glass maker of
London sells a third interest he had
brought from T & T in a first mill
& 50 1/2 acres of land.

Mill no 2.

In 1703 Sarah widow of Charles Sandee
sells her 1/2 interest in 2 1/4 acres of land.

To Andrew Roberson 2nd.

By 1691 a Roberson 2nd and Charles Sandee
are joint owners of 500 acres of common
tract and mill at mouth of Massachusetts.

In 1703 wife Sarah retains the interest
in 8 acres of mill land on Massachusetts
at Ipswich Lane. In 1733 a mill was
erected on this 8 acres, two staves
under one roof was owned by Andrew

Roberson 2nd, and heirs of Charles Sandee.

In 1748 Joshua Whitpain heir of Charles
Sandee sells his 1/2 in land & mill to

Magdalena Roberson widow of Andrew 2nd.

6 2. cont.

1752 May when Rotherham mill was sold 1/2 into
at to Henry Shelburne & others. Corn
a hand mill 2 first mills, with 2 pair
stones under one roof called the water
mills near Dunbar Mills also 1/2 in
2 pairs upon which mill is worked.
Mill no 1 is also mentioned as 3 stones
under one roof, mill no 2, two stones
under one roof.

In 1755 John Vandoren is sole
owner of mills 1 & 2.

Mill 3. See evidence Rotherham division
of land 1772. This mill is mentioned as
mill owned by Nicholas Rotherham &

John Vandoren, it was before the
Lords. In 1773 N. Rotherham sold his
Newport mill & 37 ac. John Vandoren
Daly for 26227. Says the mill of John
Vandoren & Emoch Rotherham was built
for James Vandoren's Lane.

No 4. See Rotherham 1772 map. Muckea
Nicholas Rotherham old mill
1746 N. Rotherham 3rd sold to his son
Nicholas Rotherham. 32 acs. Muckea sold 1/2
entire to merchants Adam Hofer & Co. Sr.
whenever it, he build the 1st mill in
1746.
1767 Area of Hofer & Co. sold 1/2 Muckea
to Nicholas Rotherham, & in 1785 Muckea
sold mill & land to his son Muckea
for 2000 £.

No 5. Joint Rotherham & Co. after 1700
paper mill then a 1st mill. Built
on land Muckea (1772) joint Rotherham
& Co. see Paper mill run.

No 6. 1st Paper Mill 1690 on (1772 map)
marked above. Rotherham 9 1/2 acs.
Mill built on deed of 1785. Joint
Rotherham Paper mill & brother Abraham sell
to Brooke Ellison 9 1/2 acs of the Paper Mill
run but joint return the old Paper
mill and to be allowed energy & water
to run the same.

8
No 7. ? Abraham Rittenhouse paper mill
last 1769 30 acres. I am uncertain
about this mill?

No 8. Red Cane Bridge Henry Rittenhouse
date stone built 1751 enlarged 1767
Rebuilt 1759 Moses Rittenhouse.

Nichols in '59 inheriting the paper
in Pennsylvania 1705 must have
known the history of the mill.

In 1769 Henry & Isaac paper mill
& 30 acres. In 1715 Abraham Rittenhouse owned
the mill then in son Jacob then to brother
Enoch by his will in 1755 to Nichols.

9. Matthew Halpate. Pulling Mill.
See 1772 map of Rittenhouse town. In 1698
he buys adjacent ground of Penn to
John Jannet ~~in~~ In 1768 pulling
mill owned by John Halpate grand son
of Matthew Sr. and his partner Christian
Snyder.

10. ~~George's~~ ~~the~~ Mill on Left Mill
River Monksy Mill Nicholas Lane.

So the mill run in enclosing 9
 those in Gyl Mill Run, and
 western creek there are 49 all
 told make paper the Revolution.

Mill no 22 upper Magazine
 at N. W. Mill Road is the
 one I have done the most work
 in research, I enclose you a rough sketch
 of about a quarter of the mill
 I have pathed relation to it.

Any thing you find out about
 the mill will greatly interest
 me.

Please let me have the two
 books and your manuscript of
 the songs of the Revolution for
 about a week longer, as I wish
 to copy many which I have
 in them.

Please return me promptly

all of this evidence blue print 10
I think you are per all the
articles and photos in Amos I was
we and loved My are I really appreciate

But respect
J. P. Magee J.

October 13, 1933

My dear Friend (Gladwin)

I beg to thank you for the care you went to in having the Levey's mill article given so attractively and for the additions etc.

I wrote to the Hagg party in Tarrytown, about the maker's marks.

I suppose some of the Levey's descendants will be a bit sure that I remembered about the arrest of friend Thomas in 1777, but it was no disagree and we may as well have the facts.

My next lot of mills are up the Christiana creek the first two of Peter Beckels' Paper Mill are very interesting, so much has turned up lately regarding the mill 15

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I mean a lot of matter relating
 to some paper mill since the mill
 is done also the fine mill near
 the farm on half way, but
 is take time to look them all up
 at City Hall over there them 011.
 I wonder if it is under the same
 Government for me to come out over
 see I was not I was, I want to
 show the thing before returning to
 T. A. Rooble, he is about 6200
 Ridge, was under him land by the
 one then I want to see him
 I would also bring mill 15
 which will in
 Thanks again
 Yours F. M. Mager J.

that is mill make a way to make
 I want know how the thing will
 at the end of our best I think must
 ground advantages and description
 it should make good a bit.
 My class make some I
 Rowston, in I want information in
 the machine make mill, so his
 father H. H. bought most of the
 land then that contains the
 about I old mill
 the map of road side in front
 for the it has been built if the
 would have had work in two
 would have I see in the title
 to the property I would help
 as for my work.

My dear Friend Chadwick;

I thank you for Christmas mail in 16 articles I know it will please Houston and his friends who live in Eastern Valley.

I have never seen much that is authentic written about these mills.

I am marking now on 20 mill the Lower Maysara Mill, it should make a fine edition story, now about illustration, here, in a cut of the Lower Maysara mill, drinking fountain, Harkness and Bridge or bridges of Liberty formation of rock opposite the Fountain, I hope to let this article go to print as I have done an immense amount of work on it without illustrations.

Let me know please by return if you have any cuts that could be used.

Best rep.

J. F. Magee Jr.

These two of Valley Green & Roberts mill could be used if you have them.

10-4-1933

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My dear F. New Chamberlaine.

Your letter from B. W. Hagg received and I am sending you to send to Mr. Hagg. "Old Mills an Mill Creek" All him to return promptly. Pags 13 + 14 in the account of the Hagg mill emergency Robinson paper mill.

Mr. Hagg may remember in Jacob Hagg's mill in White Marsh Township on a creek flowing into the Schuylkill below Narvinstain.

- Jacob Hagg's 1769 grist mill + 2 paper mills 150
- 1774 grist mill 142 acre
- 1781 paper mill
- 1783 Paper mill & grist mill.

Hagg's mill was acquired the ^{grist} mill of Henry Katz which he purchased in 1760 from Nicholas Hasselbach first partner of Chestnut Hill. He ^{with H.} purchased the paper mill on the Wasshocken that later became the Chas. Magee & Lowe Paper Mill.

Please ask Mr. Hagg to send you as a loan the piece of paper showing water mark of J. Robinson. All him ^{you} will show it to a water marks expert and return safely promptly. Any other water marks paper would be kind and please as a loan, I have a fine collection of water marks paper.

As ever

J. F. Magee

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My dear Mr. Chadwick,

Enclosed please find Zwerg's mill in 14 notes.

By enclosed you can see when I have gone to considerable
trouble to try and locate the 1/2 acre of land
upon which C. Scriver's Paper Mill & Saw mill were located
between 1771 and 1779 when he was deputy of the 1/2 or 3/4 a
C. J. W. & P. M.

As I like of the 1804 photo I sent you ^{is} of Scott Lane so
it is marked at Bellevue Spring, not shown on this map
parallel to the North. Do you suppose Scott Lane in 1804 **(No)**
was differently located from what is shown in your map.

*the
mill yard*

Hague mill as you have it on your map is too far North
of the present Scott Lane to be the same 1/2 acre I
have described from the deed.

Please return your map with any suggestions you
may study out.

*Old
Smiles
(Dane means)*

Also at Leaman please return enclosed. Scull & H. of
map 1750 (reproduction). Note that a saw mill is shown
at this early date on Schuyler hill just above Falls creek, also
Sickle Mill east of Ridge Ave. and south of Falls creek.

Have you any information regarding these two early mills.
If I could find the first name of Sickle I would look
him up at deed office.

Robison mill and mill on all N. m. Bittman Paper mill
are present, also Zwerg's tavern.

Hope you can give illustration of Zwerg's House in 1814 mill

article, but don't follow - see in any of them
by Tho Shumaker, and then buried in 1696, location possibly 1613. 181

There is no proof that a man of my name was in the 20 census
before 1733.

Best reg as ever

J. F. Magee J

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My dear friend Chadwick!

I sent you to day per your collection a photo steel print of Sims map of "Historic Chestnut Hill" I hope it is near to your Giverson please print article for Mill 21.

I am Kristan has agreed to give me \$27.00 to illustrate the magazine mill and take article at \$3.00 each. I should be able to get nice price for this.

I am sending you tomorrow two cuts for this article they should reach you Friday.

In this article I left out the post number near Bell's Mill Road I did this especially as I am using it for mill 22. Also send the cut of your Tedges camp for mill 22 as that mill was called the Tedges camp Nawl & Cotton Mill.

I had a devil of a time to day visiting the Federal Reserve Bank and Secret Service Dept at Post Office to secure permission to reproduce the \$10 bank note of the Bank of Montreal, ¹⁸⁶⁴ containing party of C. Mayaguez and J. F. Nelson of Nelson Mill.

At last they gave me permission as it is not a U.S.A. note, so all O.K. to print.

Please send me 25 copies of each of the magazine articles as so many have asked me that I have promised to send them copies.

Best of

J. F. Magee Jr.

12-16-1903

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My dear friend Chastance,
Enclosed please find mill 25+29
article for Dec 21st.

I will by and send you a set
of the Revenue Machine I shall go
along with the same.

The only picture I have of the
Cleaver mill no 29 is of the ruin of
1909.

Best regards,

J. T. Magee Jr.

12-11-1935

My dear friend Chudnoff;

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You will receive about Thursday the cut
for the mill 28 article.

Rev. Michael Schlatter rector of Market
Square German Reformed Church. He owned
the paper mill built by John Sheets in 1759
on Paper Mill Road above Chestnut Hill.

Yours truly as ever

J. F. Magee.

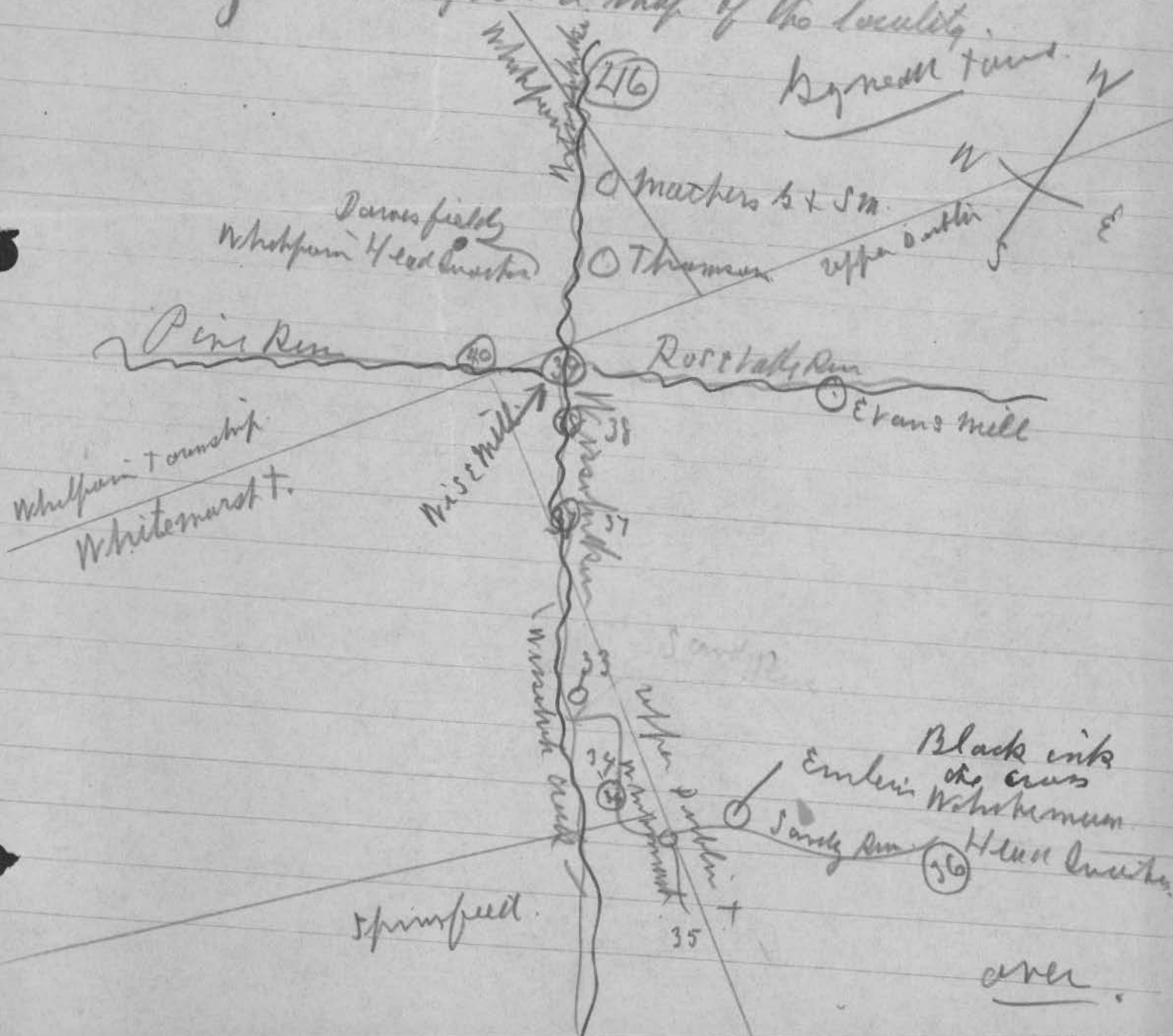
2-4-34
185

My dear friend Chackwick;

Enclosed please find mill 39 outside por
issue of Feb 15th

I have tried to describe the position of the 9
mills here by suggesting they may be in the shape of
a Latin cross +

So that you will understand what I mean I
today I draw you a map of the locality.



I am afraid this supposed map on other side
will suit up more than ever.

Take in week mill some out of Emley
Hall for Feb 22 output of mill 35.

Best re,

J. F. Magee Jr.

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2-18-34

My dear Emma Chadwick,

Enclosed please find \$1.00 for
for the 1st Scribner Press.

My friend Mr. Fraser is driving
me up to Norristown on Feb 22nd.

Would be glad to have you join
us on Thursday as your off day.

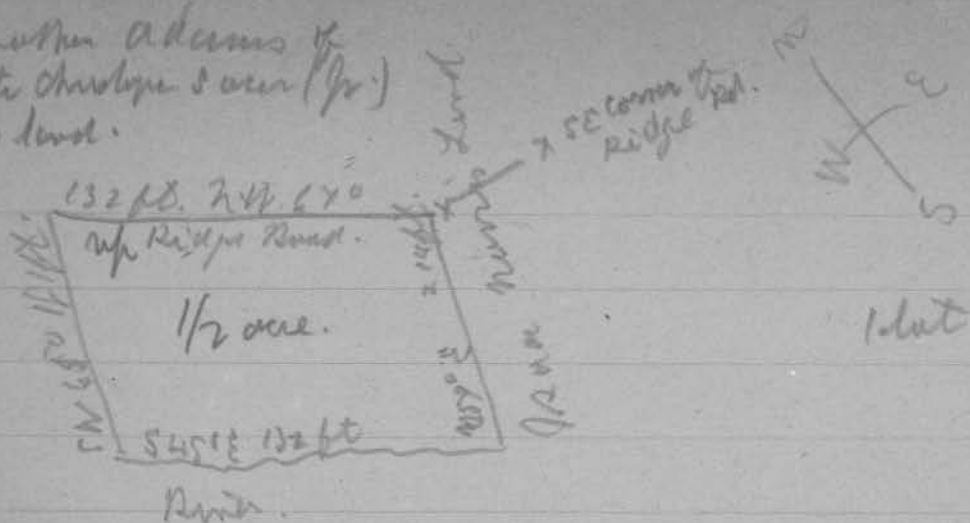
Mr. Hammer has loaned him
this reproduction of Everying House
also a number he has just
made for me of the Retirment
Paper mill. We stop for them
at his home about 10 o'clock.

I hope you go with us let
me know and we will stop
for you at 6100 Ridge Ave. at 9.50
The drive in Norristown.

Let me know if you can
go and bring a few copies of 222
1st Press along.

Best
J. F. Magee

1771 deed Jonathan Adams of
Northampton to Charles Swan (jr)
330 ± 2 ps land.



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With use of stream crossing road out of cutting or digging
a run or ditch from side of said Road (Northampton Rd. Ridge Cr.)
over 1/2 of NE corner of lake I am now part of thought
desirable or necessary for work or works for mill or mills
at any time to be needed.

2nd lot NE side Northampton Rd (Ridge Cr.) down road 570 E
20 ft (330 ft) by land Wm Smith the 77 1/2 sq perch.

Privilege of keeping water in the stream as high as a certain mark
on a rock all buildings & improvements 3/4 a + 37 per.

Title to 1st lot. Isaac Norris Sr 6 a Northampton at Falls
of Schuykill 1733 to Wm Palmer 1743 to Stephen Pookhall
1767 to Jonathan Adams 1768 to 1771 to C Swan (jr)

There are no mill mentioned until the lot in 1741
but when C. Swan had this some 1/2 a 3/4 a 37 per
are comprised a paper mill & saw mill are operated
on the 1/2 acre lot.

Title of 2nd lot. 3/4 a 37 per.

Palmer to J. Norris the elder 6 a Northampton at Falls 1733 to
Peter Zuger 1741 to Wm Palmer jr. to Stephen Pookhall 1767 to
Jonathan Adams. 3/4 a 37 per. 1772

intentionally
left
blank

Kin of One-Time Owner of Wissahickon Mill Tells of Widow Paul And Old Bridge

Span at Bell's Mill Road Was Used By General Armstrong
and His American Troops At Time of Battle
of Germantown



Old crossing of Wissahickon Creek, used in early part of 18th Century, with the bridge being erected for convenience of millers whose plants utilized the waters of the storied stream.

James F. Magee, Jr., of West Philadelphia, recently compiled many interesting facts concerning the Widow Debora Paul's Mill, which stood along the banks of the Wissahickon, many of which may be new to readers of this paper.

Mr. Magee says: "The Bell's Mill road and bridge over the Wissahickon are of historic interest, as it was over this thoroughfare and bridge that General John Armstrong at the time of the Battle of Germantown, led his division of Washington's army from Chestnut Hill to the Ridge Road, to engage the Hessians soldiers, which were encamped near the mouth of the Wissahickon at John Vandaren's mill.

"Before the Battle of Germantown, on October 4th, 1777, the British army was posted along School House lane and Church lane. Vandaren's mill was located at the left end of the line, and the old Richard Townsend mill, 1686; Luke's mill, 1731-57; Joseph Megargee mill; 1774-1815, later known as the Robert's Grist mill on the Winghocking Creek, in Bristol Township, was on the extreme right. At this mill a redoubt protected the right and a battalion of light infantry was thrown forward on the Limekiln Pike, near to Washington Lane.

"On the evening of the 3rd, the American army was divided into

four divisions. They passed Edges Mill (Farmer's Mill, 1703) and St. Thomas' Church, on the Bethlehem Pike, then separated; two divisions passing down Church lane to Limekiln road; the other two divisions continuing down Bethlehem Pike to Chestnut Hill. One of these last two divisions, under General Armstrong with the men of the Pennsylvania Militia, accompanied by artillery and guided by George Dannehower, (who owned the grist mill on Duey's lane, on the Winghocking) a Continental soldier and a native of Germantown, crossed over to the Ridge road and down the same to attack the Hessians at the mouth of the Wissahickon.

"The present Bell's Mill road, over which the Continental troops passed in going from Chestnut Hill to

Ridge avenue, was at least a foot-path as early as 1710, as in that year Daniel Howell erected a grist mill at that point on the Wissahickon, and in 1733 the road was confirmed by the courts as Howell's Road. In 1738 the road was named after the new purchaser, Jonathan Paul, 'Paul's Mill Road.' Lehman's map of Chestnut Hill in 1750 records the road as the Widow Paul's road, being the first highway in that section to be named after a woman.

"Most of the millers of the Wissahickon received their mills and mill sites through purchases, but the Widow Debora Paul received her interests through marriage. She was the daughter of Thomas Kenton, a miller, of Oxford Township. Before the death of her first husband, Jonathan Paul, she was given the above mill. In 1750 she married Joseph Wollen, Jr., and as a wedding shower she received a half-interest in the William Dewees paper and grist mill, built 1729, on the Wissahickon creek, near City line, which is now the site of the Mount St. Joseph's Academy. Joseph Wollen died shortly after the marriage and through him, his widow inherited a half-interest in the Carvel grist mill, built before 1738, and in 1755 the Barge Source Paper Mill, which afterward became the well known (upper) Charles Megargee paper mill at Thomas Mill road.

"After the death of her first husband, Jonathan Paul, she also received a quarter interest in the Thomas Livezey grist mill, on the Wissahickon, on the site now occupied by the Valley Green Canoe Club, through permission of the Fairmount Park Commission.

"The Widow Debora married for the third time, to John Trump, a miller, and her daughter, Mary, married John Paul, a first cousin. Until 1780, through her husband John Trump, and son-in-law, John Paul, she retained her interest in four of the important mills of the Wissahickon.

The present bridge, over the Wissahickon, at Bell's Mill road, was built in 1820 by Isaac Bell but a bridge across the creek at this point was erected as early as 1738.

Tells of Relic Of One-Time Paper Mill

Collectors Tore Bits From
Specimen of Ritten-
house Laid Paper

MADE AT LOCAL MILL

First Papermaker Died in
House Nearby in
1708

There is in existence a specimen of laid paper made at Claus Rittenhouse's paper mill in 1690, on Paper Mill Run, Roxborough Township, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania. Lovers of the antique made an onslaught upon the time stained sheet, and bits here and there cut out indicate the extent of curiosity. Members of the trade have in every instance "swiped" a piece of the highly prized paper while the owner's attention was drawn to other matters. One slip of paper is of the first roll of paper made in the United States. Upon its begrimed surface is written a receipt by Nicholas Poarfo for five reams of brown paper delivered June 23, 1705.

Said Morris Nixon, of Dayton, Ohio, who spoke instructively and entertainingly: "William Rittingbuysen, an emigrant, was the first Mennonite preacher in Pennsylvania. He, with his two sons, Gerhard, or Garret, and Klaas, or Nicholas, came from Broich, in Holland. His forefather had long carried on the business of manufacturing paper at Arnheim and in 1690 he built the first paper mill in America on the Wissahickon. It is a remarkable fact that the introduction of the manufacture of paper into America by the Rittenhouses was about as early as the time at which they took root in America. A biographer of one of the Rittenhouses rightly stated that the enterprise marked a union of capital, intelligence and activity at that time rare in the colonies. Germantown, now so thickly settled, was then a cluster of woods. Back from the Germantown road ran long and narrow strips of land, each with its quaintly and sparsely furnished farm houses. In the outlying townships of Cresheim and Crefeldt lay great blocks of land—hilly, rich, well watered and timbered and miraculously productive. The German pioneers lived on the fat of the land in those days.

"It was in Roxborough township that William Rittenhouse built his paper mill, upon the stream ever after called Paper Mill Run, which joins the Wissahickon by Poor House Lane, and known as Rittenhouse street. Here was made the paper used by William Bradford and in the old farm house nearby

William Rittenhouse died in 1708 aged 64. According to a mode of inheritance practiced among the settlers from Holland, and which has a distinct place in the history of the development of the modern community, farm house and paper mill descended from William Rittenhouse to the younger sons Nicholas and from him to his younger son Matthias, each of these two in turn prosecuting the business after the decease of his parent."

Mr. Nixon is a lineal descendant of the Rittenhouses, and curiously enough when he was united in marriage he succeeded in winning the heart of a Miss Rittenhouse, who traces her ancestry in the same lines of kinship. Coincidences are coincidences, verily.

One of our local writers has been unearthing some old books, one of which by Gabriel Thomas alludes to the Rittenhouse Paper Mill, the first in America (A. D. 1690).

"All sorts of very good paper," he says, "are made in the German-Town; as also very fine German Linen, such as no Person of Quality need be ashamed to wear."

This so important manufacture is duly recorded by another writer of the same period:

"From Linnin Rags good Paper doth derive,

The first Trade Keeps the second Trade alive;

Without the first the second cannot be,

Therefore, since these two can so well agree,

Convenience doth approve to place them nigh,

One in the German-Town, 'tother hard by.

A Paper Mill near German-Town doth stand."

Early Paper Mills Were Located In Roxborough

Second Manufactory, as Well as Rittenhouse's First, Was Situated in The Wissahickon Valley. — Third and Fourth Mills Were Also Near Philadelphia

One hears and reads plenty concerning the Rittenhouse Paper Mill, as being the first of its kind in America. This old mill stood along the present Lincoln Drive, near the dwelling which is familiar as having been the birthplace of David Rittenhouse. It is a matter of Roxborough history for the mill was on this side of Wissahickon avenue, which marks the old German Towne township line.

But little is heard of the second paper mill in this country, which was a direct outgrowth of the Rittenhouse mill. It was built in 1710 by William DeWees, on the west side of the Wissahickon Creek, somewhere near the Devil's Pool. This, too, was in Roxborough township, although it is usually placed in Crefeld, an old sub-

division of Germantown.

William DeWees was a native of Holland, where he was born in 1677. He was brought to New York by his parents, Garrett Hendrick and Zytlan DeWees, in 1688. His sister, Wilhelmina DeWees, in 1689, at the Reformed Church of New York, was married to Nicholas Rittenhuysen, or Rittenhouse, who was then entered on the records as "a young man of Arnheim, living on the Delaware River." This fact is recorded in Vol. X, Page 131, of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record.

The marriage was followed by the moving of the DeWees family to this vicinity, where William became an apprentice in the paper mill of his brother-in-law's father, probably remaining there until he started his own mill. In 1713 he sold this plant, with a hundred acres of land, to Abraham Tunis, William Streep, Claus Rittenhouse and John Gorgas for one hundred and forty-five pounds sterling. In 1729 he entered into a business agreement with Henry Antes, his son-in-law, the two to run a combination grist and paper mill. This mill was also located somewhere along the storied Wissahickon.

An indenture of February 20th 1731, describes the land purchased by DeWees in Crefeld, in March 1729, and the two bolting mills and mill house, "built and erected, found and provided, at the joint and equal cost and charge of William DeWees and Henry Antes." The digging and making of the dams of the mill race and the providing and putting in the gears of the paper mill were at the charge of DeWees. For the money and labor expended by Antes and cash of twenty-five pounds sterling, a one-half interest in the mills and ground was conveyed to him. If

was also provided that the paper mill should be served only by the over-plus of water after the needs of the grist mill had first been met. This is verified by Deed Book "F," 5; Page 197 of the Philadelphia Recorder's office.

William DeWees parted with his mill before he died in 1745. His will of November 22, 1744, did not mention it specifically, although he bequeathed to his son Garrett, his "dwelling house, grist mill, land and plantation, with the buildings." But his son, Henry DeWees, succeeded him as a paper-maker. On a map of Philadelphia, made in 1746, "Hy DeWees Paper Mill" is properly located. During the Revolution Henry DeWees made cartridge paper for the Continental Army.

The first historian of American printing wrote that as early as 1728, William DeWees and John Gorgas had a mill on the Wissahickon, where they "manufactured an imitation of asses-skin paper for memorandum books, which was well-executed. In support of this statement it was added that:

"John Brighter—or Righter—an aged paper maker, who conducted a mill for more than half a century in Pennsylvania, and who gave this account, observed that this kind of paper was made of rotten stone, which is found in several places near and to the northward of Philadelphia, and that the method of cleaning this paper was to throw it into the fire for a short time when it was taken out perfectly fair." This quotation was culled from the pages of Isaiah Thomas' "The History of Printing in America."

The description, above, would seem to indicate an asbestos product. Thomas also says that William DeWees, Jr., operated a paper mill along the Wissahickon in 1736.

But there is no record of this in the history of the DeWees family, which, on the contrary, says that comparatively little is known about the younger William DeWees.

The third paper mill in Pennsylvania, and probably America, was in Concord Township, twenty miles from Philadelphia in Chester County. It was run by an Englishman named Thomas Willcox, who settled in Chester County about 1725, or earlier.

The fourth—Pennsylvania mill, which followed the first Rittenhouse mill by forty-six years and the Willcox mill by seven or more years, was erected at Ephrata, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

Another earlier Philadelphia paper maker was Christopher Saur, of Germantown; who built a paper

mill in 1744; which is erroneously recorded as being "on a branch of the Frankford river, near the Falls of Schuylkill." A Philadelphia historian gives an account of the confiscation and sale of the forfeited estate of accused Tories in December of 1779, by the American government confiscation agent, and quotes this entry among the records of such sales: "Christopher Saur, house, paper mill, saw mill, mill dam, etc., Wissahickon road, Roxborough, sold to Jacob Morgan, Jr., for five thousand, one hundred and fifty pounds sterling.

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